
Hammersmith & Districts Pool League

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. League Introduction

- 1.1 The name of the organisation is the Hammersmith & Districts Pool League, thereafter called “the League”.
- 1.2 The objectives of the League shall be:
- a) To promote and foster the game of pool in accordance with the playing rules of the English Pool Association.
 - b) To organise pool events for competition by member teams and players with prizes being awarded as determined by the Executive Committee.
 - c) To endeavour to organise competitive events with other Pool bodies.
 - d) To organise social events for the enjoyment of members of the League and their guests.
- 1.3 The League shall elect the following officers: Chairperson, General Secretary, Treasurer, Fixtures/Competition Secretary plus at least one member from each Division.
- 1.4 The officers shall be collectively known as the Executive Committee.
- 1.5 The Executive Committee shall hold office for a period of one year.

2. The Executive Committee

- 2.1 The Executive Committee shall have the authority to make any decisions concerning the League, that in their opinion will be beneficial or necessary for its members, whether covered by the Constitution or not.
- 2.2 The Executive Committee shall have the right to alter any fixtures or advertisements as they deem necessary.
- 2.3 Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held on a monthly basis.
- 2.4 A quorum for conducting business at Executive Committee Meetings shall not be less than four officers.
- 2.5 Any member of the Executive Committee may call a meeting after giving at least seven working days notice. Any such request must be sent to all Committee Members stating the reasons for the meeting.
- 2.6 The Treasurer together with the other Trustees will be responsible for the finances of the League. All cheques must be signed by two Trustees. The Trustees being the

Treasurer, Chairperson and General Secretary. The Trustees will check all Income and Expenditure accounts. Normal banking procedures will be adhered to at all times.

- 2.7 All Expenditure will be vetted by the Executive Committee. The League will reimburse all reasonable expenses incurred by any member of the Executive Committee whilst conducting business on the behalf of the League.
- 2.8 The Treasurer together with the other Trustees shall provide a proper balance sheet at the end of each season.
- 2.9 The Executive Committee shall have the right to suspend or expel any member team or registered player thereof for any breach of rules.
- 2.10 All members of the Executive Committee standing down or being voted out of office shall be required to hand over any paperwork or documents relating to the League within fourteen days of leaving office.
- 2.11 Any complaint has to be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee within seven days of the alleged offence. If the complaint is lodged outside the seven days period it will not be entertained by the Executive Committee. If any complaint is found valid then the offending team shall be dealt with appropriately and a decision will be made by the Executive Committee as regards the offending team remaining in the League if there are three or more valid complaints in one season.
- 2.12 The Executive Committee may if necessary call upon each member team to contribute equal sums as it may deem desirable for the maintenance of the League.

3. The Council

- 3.1 The Executive Committee plus one member from each team shall be known collectively as the Council.
- 3.2 Council members:
 - a) The Council shall have the right to appoint any other member of the Council to stand for any position that may become vacant on the Executive Committee.
 - b) At the discretion of the Council, persons who have contributed a valued service to the League over the past years may be nominated as Honorary Life-Presidents or Life Vice-Presidents who shall have the powers as members of the Executive Committee.
- 3.3 Meetings of the Council shall be held on the first Sunday of the month. Dates and venues will be determined by the Executive Committee and sufficient notice given to Council members.
- 3.4 Any member of the Council may call for a vote of no confidence in any member of the Executive Committee. To defeat any such official, a majority of 67% must be attained. For a vote to take place at least 75% of the full Council must be present.
- 3.5 Each team which is a member of the League shall be entitled to one vote only.
- 3.6 Observers from member teams may attend meetings of the Council, but shall not have voting powers or be allowed to speak.

- 3.7 Not more than two observers from each member team shall be allowed at any meeting.
- 3.8 All Council members will be responsible for informing their own teams of the League's activities.
- 3.9 The captain, or team representative, must attend all Council meetings. Each team is allowed one absence per season. The second and each subsequent absence will result in the loss of one point.

4. Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings

- 4.1 At an Annual General Meeting that will be held by the League each season, an election of officials will take place. All posts will be deemed open for election. All retiring officers will be eligible for re-election.
- 4.2 The Executive Committee reserve the right to arrange an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time.
- 4.3 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened upon written request to the General Secretary from a member of the Council with the support of at least 75% of the other members.
- 4.4 Any alterations or amendments to the Constitution may only be made at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- 4.5 Any member of the Council wishing to have any item discussed at the Annual General Meeting must inform the General Secretary, in writing, at least fourteen days in advance.

5. League Format

- 5.1 Divisional Trophies:
 - a) The top team in each division shall receive a team trophy that must be returned to the League after each season.
 - b) The top two teams in each division shall receive individual trophies or cash prizes or both, which will be decided upon by the Executive Committee in accordance with the funds available.
- 5.2 In general, the top two teams in each division (except the "A" Division) will be promoted and the bottom two teams in each division (except the lowest division) will be relegated where the numbers of teams from one season to the next remains the same. On other instances, the number of teams relegated and promoted is subject to Executive Committee decision.
- 5.3 No team may play in any other Public House or Club without permission of the Executive Committee.
- 5.4 Any team winning the 'A' Division Trophy three seasons running shall be awarded on the third presentation a team trophy to keep and the original one shall remain the property of the League.

5.5 In the event of a tie on points at the end of the season, the order to determine a winner will be as follows: Legs difference, Legs for, Legs against then Count back. If still level a play-off will take place at a neutral venue to conclude result.

6. League Membership

- 6.1 Membership of the League is open to all teams throughout Hammersmith and the surrounding areas. All applications must be made to the Executive Committee.
- 6.2 The Executive Committee reserve the right to refuse any applications that they consider to be harmful or injurious to the League for any reasons whatsoever.
- 6.3 The annual subscription for the League shall be set by the Executive Committee.
- 6.4 There will be no discrimination between men's and women's teams.
- 6.5 Any member team or registered player thereof shall be afforded every opportunity to defend themselves or explain any breach of rules before rule 2.9 is implemented.
- 6.6 Any player who is expelled from a member team may not enter any competition organised by the League. The player may not play for any other team in the League during the remainder of that season.
- 6.7 Any team which expels a player must inform the Executive Committee, giving the player's name and reason for expulsion.
- 6.8 Any team which is expelled by the League shall forfeit the whole of their subscription / bond for that season (Rule 6.14)
- 6.9 Any member team may request the Executive Committee to arbitrate in any dispute they may have with any other teams in the League. The Executive Committee's decisions will be final and binding.
- 6.10 Players are eligible to compete in the League and knockout competitions only if they have been duly accepted as a playing member of the team to be represented and have signed a league registration form, subject to Executive Committee discretion.
- 6.11 Any team playing a non-registered player will have a 5 point deduction from the current score table. The non-registered player will be banned from the league for the remainder of the current season. Any subsequent offence will result in the team being expelled from the league.
- 6.12 All member teams and registered players thereof must abide by the Constitution and rules of the League and entrance into the League shall deem as their acceptance of such Constitution and rules.
- 6.13 Any team expelled from the current season will not be allowed to re-enter the League, if there are more than four of the original registered players still in the team and/or if the team captain is re-elected.
- 6.14 Any Pub/Club entering a team in the new season which did not enter the previous season, or was expelled from the League the previous season under rule 7.9, shall be asked to pay a bond of £40.00, plus Entrance fee. This bond will be forfeited if the team fails to fulfil their fixtures for the new season. The bond will be returned if the team's fixtures are fulfilled.

7. League Fixtures

- 7.1 Any team vacancies occurring in the League shall be filled from the applications of new teams elected by the Executive Committee.
- 7.2 Any team vacancy occurring during the season shall be filled at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The new team shall pay a subscription fee pro-rata to the remaining period of the season.
- 7.3 Any team withdrawing or expelled from the League during the first half of the season will occasion all points to be withdrawn from teams played.
- 7.4 Any team withdrawing or expelled from the League during the second half of the season will occasion all points for the first half to stand and those from the second half to be withdrawn from teams played.
- 7.5 Matches shall be played on a home and away basis.
- 7.6 If for any reason your team cannot play on the date set then a minimum of three days notice (seventy-two hours) shall be given to the opposing team.
- 7.7 Postponement of matches:
 - a) A team may only postpone ONE match per season, subject to Executive Committee discretion.
 - b) If any matches are postponed please telephone the Fixtures Secretary to prevent any points being deducted. Postponed matches to be arranged by the postponing team. If no decision can be reached then a date will be set by the Fixtures Secretary.
- 7.8 Any team failing to turn up on the set date (except where rule 7.7 applies), will lose seven-nil and two points will be awarded to the opposing team.
- 7.9 The failure by a team to turn up for matches three times in a season (except where rule 7.7 applies) may result in its expulsion from the League, subject to Executive Committee discretion.
- 7.10 The Executive Committee shall not be held responsible for ensuring the competitors in any competition are notified of the date and venue of each round after the initial fixtures have been published, except in cases where such fixtures are altered by the Executive Committee.
- 7.11 If through the fault of the home team, a match has to be replayed, the Executive Committee shall have the right to order the venue to be changed.
- 7.12 The Fixtures Secretary shall provide an up to date table of team positions on weekly basis. However, a period of time, determined by the Executive Committee, towards the end of the season, these tables and results shall not be publicised or communicated in order to prevent advantage being taken of their publication. Fixtures will only be published on a monthly basis to avoid confusion during the season.

8. Match Nights

- 8.1 The match can be played with a minimum of four players on either team. Players can only play 1 frame in each session.
- 8.2 All matches will consist of twelve singles. Each team may play six reserves in the second session of singles if it wishes, providing the names are on the board prior to the start of the match.
- 8.3 A match may be started provided there are four names from each team on the board. These names must be up by 8.15pm.
- 8.4 There is no limit as to how many players may register for one team.
- 8.5 No player of any team may play for any other team in the League without the Executive Committee's consent.
- 8.6 The home team captain appoints the MATCH referee for the first game, while the away team captain appoints the TIME referee. Match and Time referees will alternate thereafter for the remainder of the match. Match referee's decision will prevail at all times.
- 8.7 All matches shall be played in accordance with the playing rules of the League. (Rule 1.2(a))
- 8.8 All teams must take the necessary precautions to keep their tables in good condition.
- 8.9 The scheduled time for the commencement of each match shall be 8.15pm and no later than 8.30pm.
- 8.10 In the event of a team not putting the names of their players on the board by 8.40pm and/or not being ready to play at that time then that team shall forfeit the first frame. In the event that the names are not on the board by 8.50pm two frames shall be forfeited and if the names are not on the board by 9.00pm the match shall be forfeited. If the team which forfeits one or two frames subsequently arrives and has less than six players present, the names of the players present must be put on the board to fill the top position first, then subsequent positions thereafter. All forfeits are subject to the discretion of the opposing team's captain.
- 8.11 Visiting teams shall be allowed a practice period of 10-15 minutes provided that they arrive by 8.00pm. Teams arriving late will forfeit the right to practice time as all matches must start on time.
- 8.12 The orders of the players' names on the board and the result sheet/card should be the same. The players' names shall not be altered after 8.15pm without the agreement of both team captains. If two or more players have the same first names then the initials or surnames are to be written on the board, this includes reserves.
- 8.13 All matches must be completed. In the event of any match not being completed due to circumstances beyond both teams' control, the Fixtures Secretary must be informed as soon as possible. The Executive Committee will investigate to reach a conclusion.
- 8.14 Each team captain shall be responsible for the conduct of his team.

- 8.15 Home captains shall be responsible for the match result sheet/card immediately before each game.
- 8.16 All results must be phoned into the Fixtures Secretary at the end of every match on the MONDAY NIGHT by 11.30pm by the HOME TEAM. Failure to do so will result in the HOME TEAM forfeiting one point. The only exception to this rule is if there is a late finish to a match then results must be in by 1.00pm TUESDAY or points will be deducted as normal.

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Life President

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J. Combes
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