



# MID SUSSEX / TARRATT POOL LEAGUE



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## RULES AND REGULATIONS – SEASON 2011/2012

1. The League shall be known as the Mid Sussex Tarratt Pool League and shall be open to teams playing within a 10 mile radius of 'The Heath', Haywards Heath.
2. The League shall be governed by a Committee comprising a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, League Secretary, Fixtures Secretary, Competitions Secretary, Treasurer, and 3 general co-opted members as elected at the A.G.M. No venue shall supply more than three Committee members (including Officers). This will endeavour to give as broad a range of opinions as possible. All Officers shall be voted in for a period of 3 years. Any Committee member missing more than three meetings in a season will be removed from the Committee.
3. **League rules** can only be changed at the A.G.M. Any proposed alterations must be received in writing by the end of the season (Presentation Evening) and all members notified of same prior to the A.G.M. Any proposed alterations that are considered to be incorrectly worded can be altered verbally at the A.G.M.
4. All registered players at the A.G.M are entitled to vote.
5. The Committee have the right to interpret any rule to facilitate (using sportsmanship/common sense). The committee's decision on all disputes is final.
6. The League is sponsored by Tarratt Tables and any new teams entering the League shall play on such tables unless approved by Tarratt Tables.
7. All sponsorship monies to be paid 14 days before scheduled start of competitions. Failure to do so will lead to the sponsor being ineligible for future sponsorship.
8. The Competitions Secretary shall receive a £100 Honorarium.
9. The League Secretary shall receive a £100 Honorarium.
- 9a. The Fixtures Secretary shall receive a £100 Honorarium.

- 9b.** Anyone taking on multiple roles will qualify for multiple honorariums.
- 10.** The Treasurer shall receive a £100 Honorarium.
- 11.** The Website facilitator shall receive a £50 Honorarium.
- 12.** The Competitions Secretary and the League Secretary shall have their telephone line rentals paid by the League.
- 13.** All games will be played under World Rules as decided at the A.G.M. The 60 second time rule will **not** apply.
- 14.** M.S.T.P.L shall affiliate to the Sussex County Pool Association, if in the opinion of the Committee there is any gain to be made by League members doing so.
- 15. Winter League.** Each team will pay an entry fee of £60 inclusive (no matter how many members) per season which will include entry for all competitions organised by the League and must be paid one week prior to the commencement of the season. This will be £70 for those teams that do not have a representative at the A.G.M – See rule 44.
- 16. New player registration.** Players will be eligible to play 24 hours after the League Secretary has received their name in writing. If the name is noted on the front of a league match result card they will be eligible to play the following Thursday providing the result card is received on time – (see rule no 39). No player can be registered over the telephone, however electronic registrations via e-mail are deemed acceptable, providing they are sent at least 24hrs prior to the scheduled start time of match. (Also see rules 31, 32)
- 17.** Each division will comprise of no more than 12 teams. The first two teams in each division will be promoted and likewise the last two relegated. However it is at the committee's discretion if it deemed necessary to relegate or Promote a team.
- 18.** Each match will be best of five games, each game to be best of three frames. Players toss for choice of break in the first and third frame.
- 19.** Each team will play two matches, one home and one away against all other teams in their division.
- 20.** All league matches shall be played on Thursday evenings commencing at 8.00 p.m. Failure to start by 8.10 p.m. - loss of one frame. Failure to start by 8.20 p.m. – loss of first game. Failure to start by 8.30 p.m. – loss of entire match.
- 21. The method for order of play** is as follows – Home Captain will start by nominating and writing their first player name on the result card. Visiting Captain will then enter the name of their first player. At the end of the first game, the Visiting Captain will enter the name of their second player, the Home Captain does likewise. This system continues until the end of the match. Any team knowing that they do not have five players for the match shall play all players they have before entering a bye on the result card. In Cup Competitions, the playing format will be the same as the league format. Further details issued with the draw.  
**Please note,** If neither team has 5 players the byes must be entered on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> game. A bye cannot play a bye, as there cannot be a draw.

**22.** Men or Ladies may play in any team with each registering as many players as they wish. No person can register for more than one team. Any team playing an unregistered player will lose that match 5-0 Games/10-0 Frames and be deducted 2 league points.

**23.** The winning team of each match will score two points in the league table. In the event of a draw at the end of the season, most games won then frame difference will decide the winner.

**24.** The home team will provide referees for all games. Following any dispute where a referee was proved to be absent or negligent, i.e. not paying attention, the frame shall be deemed null and void.

**25. The League Competitions** will produce the following winners – Mens Singles, Ladies Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Team Knockout, Plate Knockout, 101+ Memorial Cup and the Masters. Also the player in each division with the best playing record – this is decided by most games won. In the event of a draw then frame difference will decide the winner.

**26.** Ladies may not compete in the Mens Singles and vice versa.

**27.** Doubles can include male and female combinations.

**28.** Any new teams seeking inclusion into the League will generally be placed in the lowest division. The Committee reserves the right to depart from this rule.

**29.** All perennial Trophies to remain in the keeping of the winning pub or club. All trophies must be signed for on collection at the Presentation Evening. If the trophy is damaged upon return to the League the cost of repair will be paid for by that team and the responsibility for payment will rest with the team captain named on the entry form. The players registered for that team will not be able to play in the League until this payment has been made. If damage is not repairable a new perennial trophy will be purchased and paid for as above.

**30.** In all Competitions (referees as per rule no24) there is an absolute time limit of 30 minutes in which to make an appearance from the start times published. Games can and should be claimed thereafter. Any player(s) or team who fail to appear for a competition fixture without suitable notice being given, will be suspended from said competition for the following season.

**31. Registered Players, non-resident**

Teams may register as many players as they wish, from anywhere! But will be restricted to playing one non-resident player only per match. The Committee will adjudicate in any dispute. In the event of any query regarding a player's residential qualification the Committee will require one of the following as proof of address – a) Full Driving Licence and/or b) Any utility bill.

### **31a. Transfers**

Players may transfer only once during the course of a season, prior to the commencement of the second half of the season. Any transfer application must be made to the League Secretary in writing 24 hours before their proposed first match. If the player transferring has played for their previous team in any of the three Cup Competitions, the Team Knockout, Plate Knockout and 101+ Memorial Cup, then he/she will be deemed cup-tied and ineligible to play in future rounds. No player may re-register for any other team. Should a complete team change venue part way through a season the original venue will be compensated providing that the venue paid the cost of team registration. The team may not play at their new venue until this compensation has been paid.

### **32. Postponements**

**League;** Emergencies ONLY are acceptable, shortage of players is not an emergency. The League Secretary must be contacted if you need to arrange an emergency postponement and not directly with the opponents. The match must then be played within 28 days of the original date or the committee will decide on result/outcome. No league match can be played after 7 days following the last scheduled league game of the season. The five day rule will only be waived in very exceptional circumstances – contact the League Secretary for advice.

**Competitions;** Again as with the rule on league postponements. The Competition Secretary must be advised in all circumstances.

**33.** Teams will be expelled from the league for failing to fulfil fixtures on more than two occasions. This includes failing to attend a venue or not appearing with 3 or more players.

**34.** Any players registered with an expelled team will automatically be withdrawn from all Competitions that season.

**35.** Results of expelled/withdrawn teams will be deemed null and void. Player's records will only stand if they transfer to a team in the same division as that of the team which has been expelled.

**36.** Any team expelled that wish to rejoin the League would do so at the discretion of the Committee and could be subject to a fine.

**37.** Teams/Individuals found guilty of falsifying results, interfering with same or being party to such activities shall be deemed to have lost that match. All personal records for that match will be null and void and they will face expulsion from the League. If it is proved that a player, who is registered for another team, plays as unregistered he/she will be removed from all Competitions that season.

**38.** League result cards must be received by the Fixtures Secretary within five days of the match date – by post or scanned email. All cards must still however be received by end of season. This is the responsibility of the winning team. Failure to do so will result in the winning points being withheld subject to payment of a £10 fine. Late result cards will be noted on the results sheets and the website and the offending team will have 14 days from the date the League Secretary contacts them, or lose the points. Competition result cards must be received by the Competition Secretary within the period specified on the draw sheet. Failure to do so will mean a bye being entered into the next round.

**39.** Competition matches must be played only over the specified number of frames written on the draw sheet. Players found not to have complied with this will be withdrawn from the Competitions.

**39a.** All draws to be done by the competitions secretary in the presence of at least 1 other member from the current elected committee

**39b.** Competition matches should be played on or before the specified date, but no later than 7 days after the specified date - If you wish to rearrange a game please advise the competitions secretary by phone or email.

**39c.** Competitions Secretary is to publish next round games on website no later than 10 days before the next scheduled game. Any outstanding results not received by this time will be forfeited by the team/players and a BYE will be entered into the next round.

**40.** Any complaints must be made in writing to the appropriate Secretary, League or Competitions. No verbal complaints will be accepted. The party about which the complaint has been lodged must then be informed of the complaint and asked to put their side in writing. Each party should then receive all relevant information – they will then be invited to attend the next available Committee meeting. A decision will then be made; the Committee reserves the right to deviate from this procedure in exceptional circumstances.

**41.** If a player (or team) is found by the Committee to be guilty of serious misconduct or other behaviour that may bring the M.S.T.P.L. into disrepute, offenders may be immediately expelled from the league. This expulsion may be for a defined or indefinite period at the discretion of the Committee. The M.S.T.P.L. reserves the right to refuse entry to any person or venue.

**42.** There should be no less than 3ft.6in. clearance from the edge of the table. (This means there is to be no obstruction what so ever around the table). The Visiting Captain shall be satisfied that the table is fit for the match and there will be a box on the front of the result card where they can sign to attest to this. If they are not happy with the table the home team will have 15 minutes to try to correct this. In the result of the table not being acceptable the League Secretary should be notified that evening and the Committee will arrange for the game to be played A.S.A.P on a corrected table or if necessary at a neutral venue. The Captain having signed any result card agreeing to the result then forfeits the right to complain. Likewise, any difficulty that arises during the match should be resolved before the game continues. Failure to do this may have implications on any subsequent complaint.

**43.** All venues must provide adequate equipment, i.e. a rest and a short cue should this be relevant.

**44.** If a team or individual cannot attend the end of season Presentation Evening they must contact a Committee Member, before that night, to arrange collection of their trophies. If they fail to turn up, or make contact, their trophies will be withheld and used for next season. All teams must have one of their players at the A.G.M. Failure to do so will mean a fine of £10 which must be paid with the £60 registration fee.

**45.** Each venue shall display current copies of the Mid Sussex Tarratt Pool League & World Rules in order to play in the League.

46. All players joining the League waive their rights under Data Protection when results are posted on the League's website.

47. All teams not turning up for the first two rounds of the Team Knockout will not be admitted to the Consolation Plate competition unless suitable notice is given in accordance with rules and / or Committee decision.

48. Premier Division sides do not enter the Team Knockout Competition until Round 2.

49. E-Mail messages are acceptable as written requests/applications to the relevant secretary. E-Mail addresses can be found on the website. ([www.midsussexpool.co.uk](http://www.midsussexpool.co.uk))

### **50. Competitions – Doubles/Mixed Doubles**

Doubles and Mixed Doubles competition will be played to the *Dutch Doubles* format. Players alternate 'Shots', not 'Visits'. Following completion of a visit, both players will retreat from the area of the table. Players are allowed **unlimited conferring** at any time during the match. Each doubles player must take a turn to break and alternate until conclusion of the match.

**Failure to adhere to the Dutch Doubles format will result in expulsion from competition.**

50a. In Doubles/Mixed Doubles competitions if a partner is unable to play then a replacement is permitted but only prior to the 1st Round or Preliminary Round if applicable. Thereafter the replacement player must remain in the partnership.

51. The league shall pay part or full entry into the Champion of Champions Tournament at the discretion of the committee. The League Champions, Mens Singles and Ladies Singles winners will be entered. In the event that those entered do not attend this tournament the league shall be entitled to ask for reimbursement from the players in question.

52. Committee meeting minutes are available to any team/or registered player upon request.

### **53. Code of Conduct**

It is intended that players and teams should play eight ball pool in the spirit of the game and in a sporting manner. Members of the Mid Sussex Pool League are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and refrain from making any undue noise while a match is in progress, or from distracting (or attempting to distract) any player by word or act. 'Gamesmanship' is not expected as part of a match and will not be tolerated within the league.