

RULES

NAME AND OBJECT

1. The name of the League shall be "Reigate, Redhill and District Table Tennis League".
2. The object of the League shall be to further the interests of competitive table tennis and to encourage the game generally.

AFFILIATION

3.
 - (a) Affiliation to the League, subject to election, shall be open to all table tennis clubs within such distance of Reigate and Redhill as the Executive Committee may decide.
 - (b) All Clubs affiliated to the League are also affiliated to the E.T.T.A. and S.T.T.A.
4. The Annual affiliation fee for Clubs entering teams in the League competition shall be £14.00 per team League fees plus S.T.T.A. affiliation fee (£11.50 for 2005/6) and plus E.T.T.A. affiliation fee (£16.08 for 2005/6). For a Club with no teams entered in the League competition the Annual affiliation fee shall be £5.00 plus E.T.T.A. affiliation fee (£28.14 for 2005/6).
5.
 - (a) Each affiliated club shall deliver to the General Secretary, not later than 31st July, an application form duly completed stating the number of teams to be entered for the ensuing season, together with other details requested on the form and the annual affiliation fee.
 - (b) New clubs seeking election to the League shall deliver to the General Secretary an application form at the time and in the manner specified in Rule 5(a). Election shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee
 - (c) The Executive Committee shall have power to consider application forms submitted after 31st July on the payment of a late application fee of an additional £5.00 per club. Such fee may be refunded at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

GENERAL MEETINGS

6.
 - (a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 30th June to receive the report of the Executive Committee, to receive the audited statement of accounts for the financial year ending 31st May, to elect the Officers and up to 7 Committee Members, to appoint an Auditor and to transact any other business.
 - (b) A Special General Meeting may be convened by the Executive Committee at any time or shall be so convened on receipt of a request signed by not less than 20 persons entitled to vote.

- (c) Notice of General Meetings shall be sent to the secretaries of all member clubs:
 - i. In the case of the Annual General meeting, at least 21 days before the date fixed for such meeting.
 - ii. In the case of a Special General Meeting, at least 7 days before the date fixed for such meeting.
- (d) Any such Meeting shall be open to Officers of the League, Members of affiliated clubs and invited representatives of new clubs. Each affiliated club shall be represented. Voting shall be on the basis of one vote per officer or registered player present, the Chairman having an additional or casting vote. A quorum shall consist of 10 persons entitled to vote.
- (e) Any proposed alterations to rules shall be sent in writing to reach the General Secretary not less than 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. The General Secretary must give notice thereof to the secretaries of all member clubs not less than 7 days before such meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

- 7.
 - (a) The Honorary officers of the League shall be President, Life Vice-Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary, Treasurer and Match Secretaries. All Officers, except Life Vice-Presidents, shall retire at the Annual General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election.
 - (b) The affairs of the League shall be administered by an Executive Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretaries and the members elected at the Annual General Meeting.
 - (c) The Chairman, General Secretary, Treasurer and one elected member of the Executive Committee shall form a Standing Committee which shall make decisions upon matters which cannot await the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
 - (d) The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill casual vacancies and to add to its number.
- 8.
 - (a) The Executive Committee shall meet not less than five times during its term of office and a quorum at any such meeting shall be 5 members.
 - (b) The Executive Committee may delegate any of its duties to a sub-committee, the Chairman of which shall be a member of the Executive Committee who shall be responsible for interpreting its directives and report back.

- (c) The Executive Committee shall have the power to decide on the interpretation of the rules and any matter not specifically provided for therein. Any affiliated club or registered player concerned in any dispute or breach of rules shall be entitled to be heard at a meeting of the Executive Committee. Any decision shall be binding on such club or registered player, subject to the right of appeal to a Special General Meeting.
- (d) At any meeting of the Executive Committee voting shall be on the basis of one vote per member present, the Chairman having an additional or casting vote.

LEAGUE COMPETITION

- 9.
 - (a) For the purpose of conducting a League competition between affiliated clubs there shall be divisions consisting of not more than 14 teams, including a Premier Division if the Executive Committee consider this appropriate.
 - (b) Subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee, at the end of any season in the event of there being a Premier Division the top team in the first Division shall be promoted to the Premier Division and the bottom team in the Premier Division shall be relegated to the first Division, the top two teams of each Division other than the Premier and the first, shall be promoted to the next higher division and the bottom two teams of each Division other than the Premier and the last, shall be relegated to the next lower division.
 - (c) In the event of a tie between two or more teams on numbers of sets won, where championship, promotion or relegation is involved, League positions shall be decided by
 - i. Set difference or, if still tied,
 - ii. Number of matches won or, if still tied,
 - iii. Number of matches drawn or, if still tied,
 - iv. Number of sets won in matches between the teams concerned or, if still tied,
 - v. A play-off between the teams concerned arranged by the Match Secretary.
 - (d) The winning team in each division shall hold a cup for 12 months and its players shall be given individual awards.
 - (e) Should any team withdraw from the League before fulfilling its fixtures its records shall be deleted from the League table and the records of other clubs in the same division shall be adjusted.
- 10.
 - (a) Except as provided in class (b) of this rule, all matches shall be played in accordance with the fixture list printed in the handbook, unless the clubs concerned mutually agree to play a match before the end of the week shown in the Fixture Chart.

- (b) Postponement of matches will not normally be permitted. If in exceptional circumstances a postponement is required it will only be considered if the following conditions are complied with before the original fixture date in the order stated:
 - i. The secretaries of both teams concerned must request a postponement and both secretaries must notify the Match Secretary of the circumstances.
 - ii. The permission of the Match Secretary must be obtained not less than 48 hours prior to the fixture date.
 - iii. Within 14 days of the original fixture date a new date for the match must be agreed by the two teams. The new date should be within 8 weeks of the original fixture date, or within 2 weeks of the end of the season, whichever is earlier.
 - iv. The Match Secretary must be notified of the amended fixture date by both team secretaries. The Match Secretary shall decide whether or not postponement should be permitted, dealing with each application on its merits.
 - v. Notwithstanding the previous provisions of this sub-clause, the Match Secretary shall have the overriding authority in all matters concerning postponements.
- (c) If a match is not played in accordance with this rule, a full explanation must be sent by both team secretaries to the Match Secretary within 72 hours of the fixture date. The defaulting club or clubs shall forfeit the points.
- (d) No team shall concede a match.
- (e) Any breach of the previous provisions of this rule shall incur a fine in accordance with Rule 19.

MATCH PROCEDURE

- 11. (a) Each League team shall consist of 3 players. There shall be a captain who need not be one of the players.
- (b) Prior to the commencement of a match the team captains shall exchange score cards showing their respective orders of play and such score cards shall be duly completed. The home team's score card shall be delivered or sent to the match Secretary by first class post within 24 hours of the Match being played. The away team shall retain its score card for production if required.
- (c) Unless otherwise agreed between the teams concerned matches must commence by 7.45 p.m. If at least one player of each team is then present play shall begin. If two players of a team are then present the other player shall be allowed until 8.15 p.m. to attend but failing this, all three players must be present by 8.00 p.m. A breach of this rule may involve the sets of any player not present at the specified time being awarded by the Executive Committee to the opposing team. If only two players of each team play in a match the odd set shall be void.

- (d) A fine will be imposed where:
 - i. a team does not attend at all;
 - ii. a team does not attend by the time stated in the preceding rule;
 - iii. only one player of a team attends;
 - iv. a score card is not sent or delivered as required by Rule 11(b).
- (e) Each player shall play all three opponents and two players of each team shall play a doubles.
- (f) Unless otherwise mutually arranged, the order of play shall be:
 1v1 2v2 3v3 2v1 1v3
 3v2 2v3 3v1 1v2 and doubles
- (g) Umpiring should generally be undertaken alternately by members of each team and in the event of an objection to an umpire another shall be agreed by the two captains.
- (h) All matches shall be played with a ball currently approved by the E.T.T.A.
- (i) Every match shall be played to a finish and each team will be awarded 1 point for each set it wins.
- (j) Playing conditions shall conform as closely as possible to those recommended for clubs by the E.T.T.A. Any complaint about playing conditions shall be investigated and dealt with by the Executive Committee.

REGISTRATION

- 12. (a) Only players registered with the League shall be allowed to play in League matches and the Executive Committee shall have power to accept or reject any registration.
- (b) Registration shall be completed annually by each club completing a registration form stating the team for which each player is to be registered. Such form, duly completed, shall be forwarded to the Match Secretary together with a fee of £2.50 for each player. As soon as the form has been accepted and copies of the League Handbook issued, the players listed shall be considered registered.
- (c) A player must be registered for at least 7 days before he is permitted to play in a League or Cup match.
- (d) Applications for registration received after 31st January in any season will not be accepted unless authorised by the Executive Committee or Standing Committee.
- (e) Any player having played for teams senior to that for which he is registered on a total of more than three occasions shall not be allowed thereafter to play for his original team, but shall become a registered player of the next higher team for which he is eligible. No player shall play for a team lower than that for which he is registered, except as hereinafter provided.
- (f) A player may be transferred to a team lower than that for which he is registered only on written application to the Match Secretary. Subject to approval of the transfer by the Executive Committee or Standing Committee, the player shall be eligible to play for his new team after the expiration of 7 days from the receipt of his application or the date when he last played for the higher team, whichever is the later. Such player shall not thereafter be permitted to play for any higher team for the remainder of the season.

- (g) No player shall be registered for more than one club. A player may however make written application to the Match Secretary to change his club. If there is no objection from his present club and the Executive Committee or Standing Committee approve, the transfer shall be permitted. Such player may not play for his new club until notified that the transfer has been approved. A player shall be allowed only one transfer, which must be effected before the 31st December in any one season.
- (h) A team playing an unregistered player or ineligible player shall be fined.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 13. (a) The Executive Committee shall arrange individual championships annually.
- (b) Subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee, they shall be open only to registered players who have played in at least five League or Cup matches or played in at least 50% of possible League or Cup matches in the current season, whichever is the lesser, by the closing date for entries to the Championships.
- (c) For the purpose of defining eligibility:
 - i. a Cadet must be under the age of 14;
 - ii. a Youth must be under the age of 17;
 - iii. A Veteran must be over the age of 40; and
 - iv. an Over-50 must be over the age of 50 on the 31st December immediately preceding the date of the championships.
- (d) Trophies and prizes shall be provided.

E.N. PAY CUP AND CARTER HANDICAP TROPHY COMPETITIONS

- 14. (a) The Executive Committee shall arrange these competitions annually.
- (b) Both competitions are open to teams from all divisions.
- (c) The entrance fee shall be £2.00 for each team for each competition.
- (d) The draw shall be made by or under the direction of the Executive Committee. Matches in each round shall be played by the date stipulated by the Executive Committee who shall have power to scratch and/or fine either or both teams in case of default. If the match is not played by the date stipulated by the Executive Committee both teams shall submit a written explanation to the Match Secretary within 72 hours of the stipulated date. In each case the team drawn first plays at home unless it is otherwise mutually agreed. The home team shall offer reasonable alternative dates to the visiting team who shall accept one of them, not less than three days before the date selected.
- (e) No team shall concede a match.
- (f) Handicapping for the Carter Handicap Trophy competition shall be carried out under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- (g) The E.N. Pay Cup may take place if a format is agreed by the Executive Committee.

15. (a) Registered players only shall be allowed to participate and they shall play only for the club for which they are registered. A player shall be permitted to play for only one team in each of these competitions but need not play for the same team in both competitions.
 - (b) Teams for the Carter Handicap Trophy shall consist of three players. Only players who have played a minimum of five League matches since the start of the previous season shall be eligible for the Carter Handicap Trophy or for the E.N. Pay Cup.
 - (c) Teams and reserves for the Carter Handicap Trophy competition shall be nominated. After the handicaps have been allocated any fresh nomination shall incur an additional handicapping penalty.
 - (d) Any team playing an ineligible player shall be fined.
16. (a) In the Carter Handicap Trophy matches shall consist of nine single sets, each to be the best of three games. The team winning the majority of sets shall be the winner and shall proceed to the next round.
 - (b) In all handicap matches, ends shall be changed in the third game when either player has scored one half of the number of points required to win, fractions being disregarded.
 - (c) All matches shall be played to a finish.
 - (d) Score cards shall be completed and submitted in accordance with Rule 11(b) unless otherwise specified by the Executive Committee.
17. The teams winning the competition shall hold the trophies for one year and the players shall be given individual awards.
18. Rule 11 shall apply where these rules are silent.

PENALTIES

19. (a) Any affiliated club found guilty of a breach of rules shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £5.00 for each offence and/or forfeiture of sets or points as determined by the Executive Committee.
- (b) Any affiliated club not represented at the Annual General Meeting shall be fined £5.00.
- (c) Fines levied on clubs shall be paid to the Treasurer within 28 days of notification.
- (d) The Executive Committee shall have power to suspend or expel any team or club.