

# CRAWLEY POOL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

## 1. **NAME**

The organisation will be known as the Crawley Pool League, hereinafter referred to as the League

## 2. **OBJECTIVES**

1. To promote and organise the game of pool in Sussex in an area covering seven miles in all directions from Crawley town centre.
2. To manage 2 seasons per year; Winter Season & Summer Season.
3. To ensure the game is played in a sportsmanlike manner.
4. To be a non-profit making organization.
5. To be fully affiliated to the English Pool Association through the Sussex County Pool Association.

## 3. **MEMBERSHIP**

1. Membership is open to all pool players (if under the age of 18 years they may not be permitted into certain venues) providing they are not suspended by the Committee of this League or any other League affiliated to the English Pool Association.
2. Membership is open to all teams from pubs or clubs within the prescribed area.
3. A minimum number of players are required to be signed for a team. In the Winter Season that is 7 players and for the Summer Season that is 5 players.
4. Application for team membership must be made on the Registration Forms provided and received by the League Secretary by the date published and must be accompanied by the applicable non-refundable fee.
5. All players wishing to take part in any of the league competitions must complete and submit a competition entry form by the published closing date. Entries received after the closing date will not be included.
6. A team may add a new league signing to its team at any time up to six weeks before the last scheduled match night of the Winter Season or 4 weeks for the Summer Season. In the Winter Season a maximum of 15 players may be registered to play for a team at any one time. For the Summer Season a maximum of 10 players may be registered. New members may only play for a team after 3 days have elapsed from registration for either Season. Once the maximum number of players have been registered for a team any new signings will involve the de-registering of a player and will be subject to a £5 fee. Any new signings must be submitted on a new player form after the start of the league.
7. A player may transfer only once in any season for a fee of £5, but this may only be up to the end of the first half of the season. Transfers after that will only be permitted if the Committee of the League grants such transfer under special circumstances. Transferred players may only play for a new team after 3 days have elapsed from the date of the transfer providing the transfer's fee has been paid. Transfers prior to the start of the league season will not be subject to a transfer fee but must be received 3 days prior to the league start.
8. A player wishing to transfer must inform their current Captain of the transfer prior to their new team making an application for transfer. The appropriate transfer form must be submitted for all transfers after the league start.
9. Players who are suspended by the League Committee may not take part in any League event until the suspension is lifted or has expired.
10. Two registered players from each team are entitled to a vote at an AGM. All registered players are entitled to vote at an EGM.
11. The League shall pay part or full entry into the Champion of Champions Tournament at the discretion of the committee. The League Champions and the Men's and Lady's 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.

## 4. **MANAGEMENT**

1. The management of the League will be vested in a committee elected each year at the AGM.
2. The Committee will consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Treasurer, League Secretary, Competition Secretary and up to 5 general members (minimum of 2 must be appointed).
3. All Officers and Committee Members must stand down at the end of each year and may stand for re-election if they so wish.

The main duties of the Officers of the League are as follows: -

### **Chairman's Duties.**

- To ensure that the main objectives of the League are achieved.
- To give advice at meetings and to league members.
- To improve League standards.

### **Vice-Chairman's Duties**

- To stand in for the Chairman when called upon to do so.
- To give advice at meetings and to league members.
- To improve League standards.

### **General Secretary's Duties**

- To oversee both Secretary's and the Treasurer's duties.
- To give advice at meetings and to league members.
- To improve League standards.

# CRAWLEY POOL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

## **Treasurer's Duties**

- To maintain the League Accounts and to keep an updated record of all income and outgoings.
- To sign all cheque's along with a counter signature from either the Chairman or League Secretary.
- To present an annual Balance Sheet to the AGM.
- To give advice at meetings and to league members.
- To improve League standards.

## **League Secretary's Duties**

- To handle all correspondence pertaining to the League.
- To ensure that the minutes of all meetings are recorded.
- To maintain a list of all teams and registered players.
- To share responsibility with the Treasurer to collect all monies for the League from whatever source.
- To set the League schedule for the season, to maintain League Tables and update the web-site.
- To process all new registrations and transfers.
- To inform the Chairman of any disputes and inform team Captains and/or players of the date of any meetings called to settle such disputes.
- To organise and keep the website up to date with league documents & procedures and to act on the League's behalf when obtaining new sponsorship for League events.
- To give advice at meetings and to league members.
- To improve League standards.

## **Competitions Secretary's Duties**

- To set all tournament dates and venues and issue such information to team Captains via Facebook and Website.
- To inform the Chairman of any disputes and inform team Captains and/or players of the date of any meetings called to settle such disputes.
- To update the competitions pages on the web-site.
- To ensure all draws are made on time using a random selection spreadsheet.
- To give advice at meetings and to league members.
- To improve League standards.

## **5. COMMITTEE RULES**

1. At least 5 members of the Committee must be present at any meeting to form a quorum.
2. The Committee may remove any member, from the Committee who has been deemed to be acting against the best interests of the League or for persistent non-attendance of meetings.
3. The Committee may co-opt new members to replace those who have been removed or who have withdrawn.
4. No member of the Committee, who has a direct interest in decisions to be made at a meeting, may sit at that meeting.
5. The Committee will decide on all disputes or complaints concerning any team or member of the League. Their decisions will be final and binding.
6. All complaints must be sent to the League Secretary in writing. Verbal complaints cannot be entertained.
7. All complaints will be put before the committee at the nearest committee meeting following the complaint being received in writing. Most committee meetings are held on the first Monday of every month.
8. Any team or player that has a proposal for the League Annual General Meeting (AGM) must present the same in writing to the League Secretary by the published date but not less than 1 month before the next AGM. This will then be made available on the Crawley Pool League website at least 2 weeks prior to the next AGM to allow the members to fully understand and consider how they wish to vote at the next AGM. There are 2 votes per team and 2 representatives MUST be present at the AGM to register those votes.
9. Proposals duly voted in at an AGM will be implemented within the next start of the relevant season.
10. An Emergency General Meeting may be requested in writing by any team or player for a specific matter relating to the League. At least 5% of the registered players of the League must sign such a request, which must give a detailed account of the matter needed to be discussed. Only the matter in question will be discussed at the subsequent EGM when it is called.
11. The Committee can make decisions where necessary even if in conflict with the constitution if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the league and its members. Any decision to be published on the website.

## **6. MATCH RULES**

1. The League will play all matches, for both Seasons, on Wednesday evenings and matches must start at **8.00 pm**.
2. The 'Start' of the league is considered as the first Team game or event of that season.
3. For the **Winter Season**: Matches will consist of 13 single frames. One point is awarded for each frame won. The 'home' team must complete the names for players 1-7 and provide the card to the 'away' team by 7.50pm. The 'away' team must then add their players for 1-7 by 8pm to allow games to start at 8pm. The 'home' team must then fill in players (8-13) prior to the 'away' team completing their player list. In Team Competitions at neutral venues cards will be completed and swapped at the same time to remove any advantage for either team. Winning teams on league matches will attract an additional point.

# CRAWLEY POOL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

4. For the Winter Season if a team is short of players then that must populate the 7th (13th) positions first with the missing player and then 6th (12th) and so on. A team may not select where they wish to play a non-attendee. For the Summer Season this rule applies to 5<sup>th</sup> place then 4<sup>th</sup> place.
5. For the **Summer Season**: Both teams will fill in the 5 players for that evening and then exchange those names, this constitutes a 'blind draw'. Each player will then play a 'best of 3' format otherwise known as a 'race to 2'. A point is awarded for each frame won. Winning teams on league matches will attract an additional point.
6. The 'home' team are responsible for table costs
4. Once a player's name has been entered on the result card no alterations can be made unless agreed by both Captains. If a player is called to the table to play and is not present he/she must be given a 5 minute 'grace' period to arrive, after which time the frame shall be forfeited. This rule applies to a team that is not ready to start at 8.00pm as noted in 6.1.
5. Any changes to the format of either Season can be changed at the AGM and will be introduced at the beginning of the next Season where applicable.
6. For the Winter Season four players must be present to constitute a team. For the Summer Season 3 players must be present to constitute a team. Failure to have the minimum number of players present will result in the match being referred to the committee (see rule 7.3).
7. The break will be determined by a 'Lag' completed at the beginning of each frame for single frames and on the first frame for multiple framed games.
8. If competition or tournament rules require a lag for break then the following procedure should be used:  
Each player should use balls of equal size and weight. With the balls in baulk, one player to the left and one to the right of the table, the balls are struck simultaneously to the foot cushion and back to the baulk end of the table. The player whose ball is the closest to the innermost edge of the baulk cushion wins the lag. The lagged ball must contact the foot cushion at least once. Other cushion contacts are immaterial, except as prohibited below.

It is an automatic loss of the lag if:

- (1) the ball crosses into the opponent's half of the table,
- (2) the ball fails to contact the foot cushion,
- (3) the ball drops into a pocket,
- (4) the ball jumps the table,
- (5) the ball touches the long cushion,
- (6) the ball rests within the corner pocket and past the nose of the head cushion, or
- (7) the ball contacts the foot cushion more than once.

If both players violate automatic-loss lag rules, or if the referee is unable to determine which ball is closer, the lag is a tie and is replayed.

If one player strikes the ball, the other player has to strike his ball before the opponent's ball reaches the foot cushion in order to have a simultaneous lag. If this is not the case and the referee feels that the player who played second wanted to get an advantage out of that, then the lag has to be replayed.

9. For the Winter Season: Ranking points will only be awarded on the result of your first frame played. Any additional frames will be awarded a match point but will not be recognised in the rankings. Player of the year rankings is calculated by the total of the 1<sup>st</sup> game wins followed by the highest percentage of 1<sup>st</sup> game wins. If tied the winner will be decided by a play-off of all tied players in a best of 9 play off. Players will only attract a ranking point if they play an opponent whether that is in the first set or 2<sup>nd</sup> set.
10. Ranking points will be awarded when a team attracts an average score due to opponents are unable to field a team.
11. For the Summer Season: Ranking points will be awarded as follows:  
2-0 win attracts 3 ranking points  
2-1 win attracts 2 ranking points  
2-1 loss attracts 1 ranking point  
2-0 loss attracts no ranking points
12. Any team found playing a non-registered or a suspended player is liable to lose that frame to their opponents. The Committee will decide on what action is to be taken after taking all relevant matters into consideration. This may result in team suspension, points being taken away or any other action deemed appropriate. If a captain has doubts over the eligibility of an opponent's player they should ask the opposition's captain as soon as they have any concerns and not leave it until after the match.
13. A player may only be registered to play for 1 team at any one time.
14. The 'home' and 'away' team Captains are responsible for getting a copy of the result card posted to the Facebook group or emailed [crawleypoolleague@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:crawleypoolleague@yahoo.co.uk) by the Thursday after the Wednesday night match (excludes postponed & rearranged matches).
15. Failure to submit a result card, within the time stated, will result in a £5 penalty being imposed.
16. In addition to the £5 fine there will be one extra point deducted for every 'subsequent' occasion a team fails to submit the result card on time. This will mean for a 2<sup>nd</sup> offence 1 point deducted, 3<sup>rd</sup> time 2 points deducted, 4<sup>th</sup> time 3 points and so on, increasing by 1 point on each and every further occasion.
17. The fine must be paid within 4 weeks of issue. If the fine is not paid before this time the matter will be brought before the committee and the team will be suspended until such time as the fine is paid. If a team is suspended the Committee will, at the same time, determine the action to be taken regarding matches not played during the suspension.

# CRAWLEY POOL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

18. If a team withdraws or is suspended from the League then all points from previous matches involving that team will be withdrawn (subject to committee approval) and the match night will become a 'bye'.
16. Crawley Pool League expects each team/venue to provide a "standard" set of pool balls for competitive matches which will consist of seven reds, seven yellows, one white and one black ball. The standard Pro-Cup balls are permitted for league matches and the use of a permitted set of balls is the responsibility of the 'home' team. Tables should be covered with a green cloth.
17. Each match must have a referee. The 'home' team will referee the first match and then alternate with the 'away' team.
18. Use of a stopwatch during a team match. Either Captain may request a stopwatch be bought in at any part of the match for use from the start of the next frame after that request. For rules regarding the stopwatch please refer to the World Rules.
19. Late Running Matches – with full consideration of the Venue Management, either team Captain can request that any remaining games be played on any other available League used tables in the same venue to ensure a timely conclusion to the match being played that evening.

## **7. POSTPONEMENTS**

A team may request a postponement of a match by giving at least 48 hours' notice to the opposing Captain. The exception to this is a postponement on the evening of a match due to it not being practical to play because of another event at the venue (e.g. football on TV not allowing enough room to play). Both Captains can agree to postpone the match as long as the match has not begun.

1. Emergencies & Exceptional Circumstances are acceptable reasons for a postponement but shortage of players is not.
2. All postponed matches must be played within 4 weeks of the original date.
3. Any Match not played will go to the Committee, who will decide what action is to be taken. The Committee's decision will be final & binding.
4. No team may request a postponement of a match within the last 4 weeks of the season however matches may be rearranged for another evening within the same week. (Result cards must still be submitted by the Saturday as per 6.13)
5. All arrangements, agreed upon by both team Captains regarding a postponement must be made known to the League Secretary as a matter of courtesy.
6. If a Team does not fulfil a fixture and does not go through the correct procedures, that Team will incur a £20.00 fine, which must be paid within 4 weeks of being issued. On failure to do so or committing the same offence twice will result in expulsion from the League.

## **8. SUSPENSIONS**

1. Teams who have been suspended or who withdraw from the League or fail to pay any fine(s) will not be permitted to rejoin the League for one season. Only special dispensation by the Committee can alter this.
2. Players who are suspended by the League Committee may not take part in any League event until the suspension is lifted.

## **9. COMPETITIONS**

1. Competition formats will be decided by the committee and are based on number of entrants and calendar requirements.
2. All individuals are responsible for their entry into each competition. Individuals who fail to attend and fail to inform their opponent, opponents Captain or the venue will be banned from entering competitions in the following season.
3. All competitions must be played on or before the advertised dates. Rearranged matches must have the full agreement of all entrants within that group. Competition results must be posted to Facebook on the evening after they have been played.
4. Entry Forms for competitions will be found in the team folders and will be available from the League Secretary and available from [www.crawleypoolleague.co.uk](http://www.crawleypoolleague.co.uk).
5. All members of the Three-Person Team must be from the same registered League Team.
6. In Doubles/Mixed Doubles competitions any 2 registered players of the League may enter as a team.
7. In Doubles/Mixed Doubles competitions if a partner is unable to play then a replacement is permitted but only prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> Round or Preliminary Round if applicable. Thereafter the replacement player must remain in the partnership.
8. In Doubles/Mixed Doubles both players must be present when called to play.
9. In the Chairman's Cup the competition is restricted to Captains and Secretaries only.
10. All draws to be done by the Competition's Secretary using a random selection spreadsheet.
11. Crawley Pool League expects each team/venue to provide a "standard" set of pool balls for competitive matches which will consist of seven reds, seven yellows, one white and one black ball. Pro-Cup balls may be used with prior agreement between both Captains. Tables should be covered with a green cloth.
12. Once any league member has played one or more frames for any team in either the Knockout Cup or the Consolation Shield (or both) he or she shall be considered "Cup-tied" and cannot play in either event for any other team for the remainder of that season.
13. Once a player has been allocated a position within the Divisional Singles Draw they will remain within that Division throughout that season's Divisional Singles regardless of any team transfers and regardless of if they have actually played or not.
14. Competitions must receive a minimum number of 8 entrants, otherwise the competition may not be run that season.
15. The following competitions will be played in each season subject to 9.13 above:

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Winter Season</b>	<b>Summer Season</b>
Knockout Cup	Yes	Yes
Consolation Shield	Yes	
Three Person	Yes	Yes

# CRAWLEY POOL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

League Singles	Yes	Yes
League Doubles	Yes	Yes
Divisional Singles	Yes	Yes
Chairman's Cup	Yes	
Ladies	Yes	Yes
Mixed Doubles	Yes	Yes
Seniors	Yes	

## 16. Competition Entry Fees

### **Competition**

Knockout Cup	N/A
Consolation Shield	N/A
Three Person	£6.00 per team
League Singles	£2.00 per entry
League Doubles	£4.00 per pair
Divisional Singles	£2.00 per entry
Chairman's Cup	N/A
Ladies	£2.00 per entry
Mixed Doubles	£4.00 per pair
Seniors	£2.00 per entry

## 10. COMPETITION FORMATS

1. All Competitions will follow the 'Lag' format for deciding the break as detailed in 6.8 above.
2. All competitions will see table costs shared equally among players or teams.
3. Failure to attend the preliminary rounds or 1<sup>st</sup> rounds of the Winter Season Knockout Cup will result in the team being excluded from entry into the Consolation Shield event.
4. Winter Season Team Knockout Cup & Consolation Shield events will be played as the best of 13 frames. The Final will be played as best of 26 frames, with a one frame playoff in the event of a draw, the player to be selected by the team captain.
5. Summer Season Team Knockout event will be played as 5 games of 'best of 3' frames. In the event of a draw the Captains will nominate a player to play a single frame to decide the winner. The players will 'Lag' for the break.
6. All losing teams from the preliminary and 1<sup>st</sup> round of the Knockout Cup will go through to the Consolation Shield for the Winter Season.
7. Divisional Singles will be played as the best of 5 with a best of 7 semi-final & best of 9 final.
8. Mixed Doubles. Scotch doubles format to be played as best of 3 with a best of 5 final.
9. Doubles. Scotch doubles format to be played as best of 3 with a best of 5 final.
10. Chairman's Cup will be played with 4 frames; with each captain and secretary playing each other. In the event of a draw there will be one double match decider.
11. Ladies Singles. All eliminating rounds to play best of 3 with a best of 5 final.
12. Three-person. Home Team to play 123, 123, 123 Away Team to play 123, 231, 312
13. League Singles will be played as the best of 5 with a best of 7 semi-final & best of 9 final.
14. Seniors will be played as the best of 5 with a best of 7 semi-final & best of 9 final.

## 11. PLAYING RULES

1. The playing rules for the League will be the amended World Eight Ball Pool Federation Rules as laid out [www.crawleypoolleague.co.uk](http://www.crawleypoolleague.co.uk).

## 12. CONDUCT

1. All players should conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.
2. The Team Captain will be held responsible for the conduct of team members and supporters at all times. This rule also applies to Presentation Evening.
3. Team Captains must inform their players/guests that smart dress only will be permitted at the Presentation Evening.
4. Team & Individual conduct on Social Media websites must not be defamatory to anyone or team or Sponsor and therefore deemed to bring the league into disrepute. Anyone or Team found to breached this will be subject to a review by the Committee and could be suspended, fined or expelled from playing within the Crawley Pool League.

## 13. DUTIES OF CAPTAINS AND SECRETARIES

1. To inform their players of all fixture dates and venues for League matches. They should also inform their players of tournaments, entry dates and playing dates.
2. To arrange for all appropriate Registration Fees to be paid for their team entry into the League, these should be delivered to the League Secretary before any relevant closing dates.
3. Winter teams must have a minimum of 8 registered players to a maximum of 20. Summer teams must have a minimum of 6 registered players to a maximum of 15.

# CRAWLEY POOL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

4. Captains must sign Result Cards for each match after checking that the details are correct both Captains' must initial any alterations. Team Captains/Secretaries are responsible for getting their match results, and the delivery of Result Cards, to the League Secretary. Posting results to the Crawley Pool League Facebook page is considered as delivery to the League Secretary.
5. To ensure the eligibility of their team members.
6. To inform the Landlord/Landlady/Manager of their home venue of any dates that the League has arranged for the use of their venue for any tournaments.
7. To arrange through their Landlord/Landlady/Manager that the pool table(s) to be used are clean and level.
8. To ensure that two team representatives attends the A.G.M.

## **14. NEW TEAMS**

1. New teams are entered in an appropriate division (where possible) at the discretion of the committee.
2. Any team that has 5 or more players (Winter Season) or 3 or more (Summer Season) from the previous season's team may not enter as a new team. They may, however, be allowed to enter under a new team name and/or from a new venue.
3. New teams who have entered the League in the lowest division because they have less than 5 or 3 players from the previous season may not, at a later date, register other players from that previous season.

## **15. DISPUTES**

1. All disputes arising during a match will, in the first instance, be decided by the referee (thereafter team captains) calling both players ONLY together to try and settle the dispute. Failure to arrive at an agreement must result in the frame being stopped and the matter should then be reported to the League Secretary who will consult the Committee for a decision. The match can continue.
2. The Committee shall rule on any disputes and their decision shall be final.
3. The Committee will not get involved in any disputes with a Landlord/ Landlady/ Manager where a player is refused entry into a pub or club.
4. Some pubs/clubs do not allow junior players and if a team has a junior player (under 18 years) then the Captain must clarify in advance with whoever is in charge of the venue they are visiting.
5. If a team is refused entry to a venue on match night, the two Captains must set a new date for the match to be played and decide at which venue. Such matches must take place within 4 weeks of the original date.

## **16. REFEREES**

1. All frames must be refereed in League Matches with the 'home' team going first and alternating thereafter.
2. It is desirable that tournaments should also be refereed. In the past, where referees are not called upon, disputes have arisen and the League will not enter into any disputes where referees are not used.
3. Any players, asked to referee, should be conversant with the playing rules.
4. The referee's decision is final, unless a playing rule is in doubt. In which case the referee should attempt to get in contact with the League Secretary, or any other League Official, for guidance.
5. A player can ask the referee for a ruling before playing a shot but the referee should only give that ruling and not give any other advice about the shot to be played or any other advice that can be construed as coaching. (Refer to Referee guidelines and duties).
6. A referee should not allow a player to waste time over a shot or a visit.

## **17. PERPETUAL TROPHIES**

1. All perpetual shields or trophies will remain the property of the League and must be returned to the League Secretary at least 4 weeks before the close of the season
2. Failure to return such trophies will result in charges being imposed on teams/individuals to cover the cost of replacement. Failure to pay such costs will result in the team/individual not being allowed to rejoin the League.
3. Perpetual shields /trophies may be displayed in a safe place at the winner's venue.
4. The team is responsible for team trophies whilst the individual is responsible for any individual trophies.

## **18. DIVISIONS**

1. The League will be constructed of Divisions according to the number of teams who have registered in any one season.
2. Promotions or relegations will depend on the number of entries for the season but the League Committee will endeavor to maintain a 3 up / 3 down system for the Winter Season and a 2 up / 2 down system for the Summer Season.
3. If at the end of all league matches any teams are tied on points & wins, in a division, and a play-off is required, then this will be played in the allocated 'play off' week. A 3-way tie will be referred to the committee to arrange the necessary matches.
4. Where possible, based on team entries, the Committee will attempt to avoid the inclusion of 'bye' nights by starting divisions on a different start date. Where a team folds too close to the start of a season or during a season 'bye' nights may be included.