

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.
6. To aim to raise money for local charities via Presentation Night(s).

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. New teams wishing to enter the league must ensure that they have full cueing room without obstruction around the table to be considered.
4. All venues are expected to provide food for both the home and away teams in both Winter and Summer leagues.
5. The minimum number of players required to be signed for a team is 7 players in the Winter Season and 5 players for the Summer Season.
6. Application for team membership must be made on the Registration Forms provided and received by the League Secretary by the appropriate date published and must be accompanied by the applicable non-refundable fee.
7. A player may only be registered to play for 1 team at any one time.
8. 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 with the correct fees. Entries received after the closing date will not be included.
9. A team may add a new signing up to six weeks before the last scheduled match night of the Season. In the Winter Season a maximum of 20 players may be registered to play for a team at any one time. For the Summer Season a maximum of 15 players may be registered. New members may only play for a team after 24 hours 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 using the correct forms.
10. A player may transfer twice in any season for a fee of £5 up to 6 weeks before the end of the season and can only play after the transfer fee has been paid and 24 hours has elapsed from the date of transfer. Transfers after that date will only be permitted by the Committee under special circumstances. Transfers prior to the start of the league season will not be subject to a transfer fee. Any player wishing to transfer must inform their current Captain of the transfer prior to their new team making an application for transfer.
11. Players who are suspended by the League Committee may not take part in any League event until the suspension is lifted or has expired.
12. Two registered players from each team MUST ATTEND and are entitled to a vote at an AGM. One registered player per team is entitled to vote at an EGM.
13. The League shall pay part or full entry into the Champion of Champions Tournament at the discretion of the committee. Any fees paid will be refunded to the league should they not take their places.

4. 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 unless agreed in advance by the committee.

5. 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 & 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.

6. 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.

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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.
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 matches/tournaments. The committee encourages teams to talk to their landlords to try to ensure tables are clean and level.
7. To ensure that two team representatives attend the A.G.M.

7. 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 2 up / 2 down system for both the Winter Season and Summer Season when possible.
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.

8. COMMITTEE 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 – To; ensure that the main objectives of the League are achieved, oversee and chair committee meetings, give advice at meetings and to league members and improve league standards.

Vice-Chairman's – To; stand in for the Chairman when called upon to do so.

General Secretary's - To; oversee both Secretary's and the Treasurer's duties.

Treasurer's - To; maintain the League Accounts and to keep an updated record of all income and outgoings, sign all cheques along with a counter signature from either the Chairman or League Secretary and present an annual Balance Sheet to the AGM.

League Secretary's - To; handle all correspondence pertaining to the League and ensure all committee members are made promptly aware of any issues, work with the rest of the committee to maintain team lists, website, league schedule, registrations, transfers, and league tables, ensure that the minutes of all meetings are recorded, share responsibility with the Treasurer to collect all monies for the League from whatever source and act on the League's behalf when obtaining new sponsorship for League events.

Competitions Secretary's – To; manage competitions in line with agreed formats, set all tournament dates and venues and issue such information to team Captains via Facebook and Website, update the competitions pages on the website and ensure all draws are made on time using a random selection spreadsheet.

9. COMMITTEE RULES

1. A majority of 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 will decide on all disputes or complaints concerning any team or member of the League. Their decisions will be final and binding.
4. All complaints must be sent to the League Secretary in writing. Verbal complaints cannot be entertained.
5. All complaints will be put before the committee at the next committee meeting following the complaint being received in writing.
6. 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.
7. An Emergency General Meeting (EGM) 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.
8. 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.

10. MATCH RULES

1. The League will play all league matches on Wednesday evenings and competitions on other evenings as advised - matches must start at **8.00 pm**.

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2. **Winter Season:** Matches will consist of 14 single frames and one Scotch doubles to end the evening. 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. Frames 8-14 and the doubles are input in the same manner after frame 7. In Team Competitions at neutral venues cards will be completed and swapped for neutrality. Winning teams on league matches will attract an additional point.
3. Winter and Summer Season - players must be entered in numerical order, with any blanks filling the later numbers in each set - a team may not select where they wish to play a non-attendee.
4. **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.
5. The 'home' team are responsible for table costs.
6. 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 10.1.
7. Any changes to the format of either Season can only be changed at the AGM after a proposal has been submitted and if voted in, will be introduced at the beginning of the next Season where applicable.
8. For the Winter Season four players must be present to constitute a team. For the Summer Season three 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 11.3).
9. 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.
10. When lagging 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. 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. For automatic losses of lag refer to 'the break' section of the International Rules.
11. Ranking points: Winter Season: will now be awarded on the result of any frame played with the exception of the doubles. Player of the year rankings will be calculated by the total of frame wins followed by the highest percentage of frame 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. Rankings Winners must have played a minimum number of games within a season. Minimum percentage of games played must be greater than 30%
12. Ranking points will be awarded when a team attracts an average score due to opponents are unable to field a team.
13. Ranking points Summer Season: 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.
14. Any team found playing a non-registered or a suspended player will 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 removal, 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.
15. 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 by the Thursday after the Wednesday night match (excludes postponed & rearranged matches, these are to be posted by the Saturday).
16. Failure to submit a result card, within the time stated, will result in a £5 penalty being imposed followed by points deductions or suspension for repeat offenses (at the committee's discretion).
17. 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'.
18. 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 encouraged 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 or blue/grey cloth.
19. If one of the two Captains asks for referees and/or stopwatches, then it is the responsibility of BOTH teams to referee/time alternate frames.
18. 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 International Rules.
20. 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.
21. Scotch doubles – all doubles played are Scotch doubles i.e., players play alternate shots. It should be noted that: playing out of turn is ALWAYS a foul, the lag does not count as a shot and the same player can then play first for their pairing, conferring is allowed after the break but is NOT allowed between shots (it is allowed between visits). Any conferring including suggestions for the next

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shot, verbal or otherwise (pointing, for example) are deemed a foul and should be called as such. To avoid out of turn fouls it is acceptable for the referee, opponents, or spectators to point out whose turn it is when necessary.

11. POSTPONEMENTS

1. 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.
2. Emergencies & Exceptional Circumstances are acceptable reasons for a postponement, but shortage of players is not.
3. All postponed matches must be played within 4 weeks of the original date.
4. 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.
5. 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 10.15).
6. All arrangements, agreed upon by both team Captains regarding a postponement must be made known to the League Secretary as a matter of courtesy.
7. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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 are encouraged to ensure both the committee and their opponents are made aware in advance if they are unable to attend.
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.
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 1st 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. Teams are not be allowed to change team Captain or Secretary to accommodate entry into this competition
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 are encouraged, and tables should be covered with a green or blue/grey 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 13.14 above:

Competition	Winter	Summer
Knockout Cup	Yes	Yes
Consolation Shield	Yes	
Three Person	Yes	Yes
League Singles	Yes	Yes
League Doubles	Yes	Yes
Divisional Singles	Yes	Yes
Chairmans Cup	Yes	
Ladies	Yes	Yes
Mixed Doubles	Yes	Yes
Seniors	Yes	

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16. Competition Entry Fees

Competition	Fees
Knockout Cup	Not applicable
Consolation Shield	Not applicable
Chairmans Cup	Not applicable
Three Person	£6 per team
League Singles	£2 per person
League Doubles	£4 per pair
Divisional Singles	£2 per person
Ladies Singles	£2 per person
Mixed Doubles	£4 per pair
Seniors	£2 per person

14. COMPETITION FORMATS

1. All Competitions will follow the 'Lag' format for deciding the break as detailed in 10.9 and 10.10.
2. All competitions will see table costs shared equally among players or teams.
3. Failure to attend the preliminary rounds or 1st 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 15 frames as per league matches. The Final will be played as best of 30 frames, with a one frame playoff in the event of a draw, the player to be selected by the team captain. These are 'blind' draws.
5. Summer Season Team Knockout event will be played as 5 games of 'best of 3' frames. In the event of a draw [in the final] the Captains will nominate a player to play a single frame to decide the winner. The players will 'Lag' for the break. These are 'blind' draws.
6. All losing teams from the preliminary and 1st round of the Knockout Cup will go through to the Consolation Shield for the Winter Season.
7. All singles, doubles, 3-person etc formats can be changed by the committee depending largely on entry numbers.
8. Divisional Singles will be played as the best of 5 with a best of 7 semi-final & best of 9 final.
9. Mixed Doubles. Scotch doubles format to be played as best of 3 with a best of 5 final.
10. Doubles. Scotch doubles format to be played as best of 3 with a best of 5 final.
11. 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.
12. Ladies Singles. All eliminating rounds to play best of 3 with a best of 5 final.
13. Three-person. Home Team to play 123, 123, 123 Away Team to play 123, 231, 312.
14. League Singles will be played as the best of 5 with a best of 7 semi-final & best of 9 final.
15. Seniors will be played as the best of 5 with a best of 7 semi-final & best of 9 final.

15. PLAYING RULES

1. The playing rules for the League will be the amended International Rules as laid out www.crawleypoolleague.co.uk.

16. 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.

17. REFEREES

1. If requested by either team, all frames must be refereed in League Matches with the 'home' team going first and alternating thereafter unless agreed otherwise.
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.

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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.

18. 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.