

WINCHESTER AND DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

RULES - 2019/20

NAME

1. The Association shall be called the Winchester and District Table Tennis Association and shall be affiliated to and governed by the rules and regulations of the Table Tennis England and the Hampshire Table Tennis Association.
2. The Association shall consist of all clubs within a radius of ten miles of Winchester Guildhall, or at the discretion of the Executive Committee, willing to affiliate and conform to the rules of the Association.

OBJECTIVES

3. The objects of the League shall be to arrange a Table Tennis League or Leagues, Tournaments, Competitions and anything deemed necessary to foster the game.
4. The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary General Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary League Secretary, Honorary Tournament Secretary, Honorary Team Cup Secretary, Honorary Match Secretary, Welfare Officer and Data Protection Officer. All officers shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting of the Association. The Executive Committee shall have power to fill any office becoming vacant in the season.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

5. Each club shall pay £2.00 initial entry fee and an annual subscription of £20.00 for one team in the League and £20.00 for each additional team. This will include the affiliation fees to Table Tennis England and H.T.T.A. All subscriptions shall be paid to the Honorary League Secretary by the commencement of the season. All players taking part in a League match must be registered with the Winchester & District Table Tennis League within three days of playing in their first match. The registration fee of £5.00 for each player, £2.00 for juniors under 18 years of age on December 31st during the current season, shall entitle the player concerned to a copy of the Winchester League Rules and Fixture List. The registration fees shall be remitted to the Honorary League Secretary. Cheques should be made payable to the Winchester and District Table Tennis Association. All league players must be registered and fully paid individual members of Table Tennis England in order to play in League matches.

MANAGEMENT OF THE LEAGUE

6. The affairs of the League shall be managed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Officers of the League (except President and Vice-Presidents) together with up to 6 other registered members of the League. The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt any number of non-voting members it deems necessary. Five members shall form a quorum. No one club shall have a majority of members of the Executive Committee.
 7. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fine any club found guilty of breaking the rules of the League. It shall have the power to decide anything on which these rules are silent. At least seven days' notice shall be given of all meetings.
8. The Chairman and Honorary General Secretary shall be ex-officio members of all sub-committees as will the Honorary Treasurer of all sub-committees dealing with finance.
9. The Financial Year of the League shall end on 30 April in each year and the Honorary Treasurer shall submit an audited balance sheet at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
10. The funds of the League shall be lodged at a bank and all cheques drawn on the account shall be signed by any two of the Honorary Treasurer, the Chairman and the Honorary General Secretary.
11. The Annual General Meeting shall be held during the month of May each year for the purpose of:
 - a The election of Officers, Executive Committee, Representatives of H.T.T.A. and Table Tennis England and two Honorary Examiners.
 - b Receiving the Annual Report and audited statement of accounts for the preceding year.
 - c Deciding on such resolutions as may be submitted.
 - d Any other business proposed to the Honorary secretary at least 28 days prior to the meeting. All such proposals must be included in the agenda and circulated prior to the meeting. No any other business shall be accepted after the agenda has been circulated.

The Agenda shall be circulated to all affiliated members at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting. Any affiliated club which is not represented at an Annual General Meeting shall at the discretion of the Executive Committee be fined £5.00 and affiliation for the following year will not be permitted until such fine has been paid.

12. A Special General Meeting of the League shall be convened on a resolution of the Executive Committee or within 28 days of receipt by the Honorary General Secretary of a resolution signed by the authorised representatives of at least half of the affiliated clubs. Rule 11 respecting circulation of notices etc. shall apply as to the Annual General Meeting.
13. Voting power at any meeting shall consist of one vote for each member affiliated to the Association and present at the meeting.
14. No alteration, addition, or revision of Rules shall be effected unless at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose. All resolutions in respect of the Rules must be passed by at least 75 per cent of members voting in favour. Any proposed additions to, or alterations of, the rules shall be submitted in writing to the Honorary General Secretary at least 28 days before the meeting or together with the demand for a Special General Meeting.
15. The Executive Committee shall have the power to make, amend or delete Regulations at their discretion.

EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

16. Members of the League whose conduct is inappropriate or who decline to abide by any of the Rules or Regulations may be expelled or suspended by a resolution passed at a meeting of the Committee where their entrance fee and subscriptions may be forfeited. Members shall have right to appeal in person to the Committee with regard to any decision affecting themselves, provided that such notice of such appeal be submitted to the Secretary, in writing, within seven days of notification of the decision.

DISSOLUTION

17. If at any General Meeting of the League, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the League, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the League to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
18. If at that Special General Meeting, a resolution is carried by at least two thirds of the Full Members present at the meeting, the General Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realize the assets of the League and discharge all debts and liabilities of the League.
19. After discharging all debts and liabilities of the League, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the members of the League, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having objectives similar to those of the League.

REGULATIONS - 2019/20

1. Every match shall consist of two teams of three players for the singles, with the option of a fourth player to take part in the doubles match only.
 - a. Each of the three singles players is to play every singles player of the opposing team one leg, best of 5 games. In addition, a doubles pair which can be made up from each team of 3 or 4 shall play one leg, making 10 legs in total.
 - b. Each game shall be won by the player or pair first scoring 11 points. Where both players, or pairs, score 10 points the game shall be won by the player or pair first scoring subsequently 2 points more than the opposing player or pair.

2. All members shall register as a member of their club and must also be paid up members of Table Tennis England within 7 days of playing their first match in the league for the current season. Failure to comply with this will result in their results being removed from the record and their own matches forfeited. No player may play for more than one club during a season unless authorised to do so by the Executive Committee. Should a player do so without permission, all his or her legs will be awarded to the opposing team. Any player wishing to transfer from one club to another in the middle of a season must make written application to the Honorary League Secretary and the Executive Committee shall have the power to authorise such transfer, or otherwise, after considering the views of the club for which the player is registered. No club may sign a player for a particular team after 75% of that team's fixtures have been completed, except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

3. A club must grade its teams in order of merit, i.e. The 'A' team must be the Club's strongest team. Players shall be registered for one team in a club. A player must not play for a lower lettered team except that a player initially registered with one team in a club may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be demoted and re-registered for a lower lettered team providing:
 - a. No such re-registration for teams having fewer than 25% of scheduled matches left to play will be permitted.
 - b. Once such a re-registration has occurred the player may not play any legs for a team of higher lettering.
 - c. A player may play a maximum of three matches altogether for teams other than the one for which he is registered without losing his original team status. A player playing four matches for teams other than the one for which he is registered shall adopt the status of the team he played for in the fourth match. Should the player subsequently be required to play for a higher lettered team, he shall then be considered as being promoted to that team from his original team. In no circumstances will he be allowed to play for any other team after such internal promotion.
 - d. Players shall not play up at the expense of the team for which they are currently registered such that this team can not fulfil its fixture on the same evening.
 - e. The requirements of regulation 3(c) shall only apply to matches in which a player has competed in the singles, and not where a player has competed in the doubles only. The fourth player shall play in the doubles only for the team for which he is registered.

4.
 - a. Both teams must be represented by any two singles players and ready to commence the match by the scheduled start time, and the full team must be present by one hour after the scheduled start. Failing the appearance of the third singles player by one hour after the scheduled start time his legs will go by default to the opponents.
 - b. If a fourth player is to be used for the doubles only, the player's name must be declared before the commencement of the match and the player must also be present by one hour after the scheduled start time or he will not be allowed to participate in the match. If in the event of the third singles player not being present by one hour after the scheduled start then, in these circumstances only, the fourth player will be permitted to become one of the three singles players; if this occurs no replacement fourth player will be allowed.

5. Order of play, wherever possible, is to be (between teams ABC and XYZ for example): AvX, BvY, CvZ. Doubles is to be played as the sixth leg.
6. One point to be awarded for winning each leg.
7. The positions in the League tables will be decided by the number of points won. In the case of a tie, scores in matches between 'tying' teams are considered. The higher position will be given will be given to the team winning the most matches, or if a tie prevails, the most games.
8. If a team withdraws from the League before fulfilling its fixtures, the record shall be deleted from the League Tables.
9. Matches must be played on the dates specified in the fixture list, except that a match may be brought forward or put back by mutual consent between the teams concerned. The League Secretary must be informed by both teams of any postponement within 7 days of the scheduled date of the fixture. The teams are required to inform the League Secretary, within 3 weeks, of the revised fixture date. If the League Secretary has not been notified within the three week period, the Executive Committee may either award the points or declare the match void at their discretion. In the event of the mutually agreed postponement, the Home team must offer their opponents at least two alternative dates for the match to be played. In any case, all matches must be completed by the last week of the Fixtures List. In the event of a team being unable to fulfil a fixture, they shall give their opponents a minimum of 48 hours notice and shall be liable to forfeit the points. If a team fails to arrive for a fixture and the opponents have not previously been notified then the team may forfeit the points and will be fined a minimum of £1.00 at the discretion of the Executive Committee. In the event of no score card, notice of postponement or notice of re-arranged date being received by the League Secretary the match may be declared void. Any team wishing to appeal against any decision in any of the circumstances detailed in this regulation should do so in writing to the Executive Committee.
10. The captain of the HOME team will be responsible for ensuring that the electronic score card showing the match result is received submitted on-line within 72 hours of the match. In the event that the result is not submitted within 72 hours, the club responsible will be fined a minimum of £1.00 at discretion of the Executive Committee. Any team wishing to appeal against any of the circumstances detailed in this regulation should do so in writing to the Executive Committee.
11. The umpire for each game must be agreed upon mutually and umpiring should generally be undertaken alternately by a member of the home team and visiting team. In case of a dispute as to who should umpire, the visiting team have the choice. In the case of a disputed point, the umpire's decision is final.
12. The home team shall provide refreshments for both teams, where the venue permits.
13. a. The first team in each division shall be promoted to the next higher division and the bottom placed team relegated to the division below, where this exists. Second placed teams, in all but division 1, will play a one-off match at a neutral venue against the penultimate team in the next higher division; the right to a neutral venue may be waived by agreement. This match shall be played in the same format as a league match with the exception that the doubles will be omitted. The winners will be placed in the higher division and the losers in the lower division for the following season. Costs of such play-off matches shall be shared between the two teams. The dates for play-off matches shall be published at the commencement of the season.
13. b. However, if the club concerned decides that its team is not now of a sufficient standard to justify such promotion the club should make representation to the League Secretary in writing, well in advance of the commencement of the new season. The Executive Committee shall have power to relegate the bottom team in the 1st Division to the 2nd Division, and so on if more than two divisions exist.
14. Any new team entering the league will normally do so in the lowest division unless decided otherwise by the Executive Committee. The number in each division may be adjusted by the Executive Committee promoting teams next in order to top before a season is commenced, to ensure whenever possible that division will consist of a minimum of ten teams.

15. All holders are responsible for the safe custody of trophies and they must be returned to the Honorary Tournament Secretary when requested. The cost of engraving shall be paid by the League.
16. The Executive Committee shall have power to award a League badge to any registered player. Badges will normally be awarded after playing for the League in three representative matches, whether the matches be in a competition or otherwise.
17. Team entries to the Hampshire Inter-Town competitions for the succeeding season shall be agreed by the Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee shall determine ranking lists. The Town Match Secretaries shall only select teams from the highest ranked players available. (NOTE: Under H.T.T.A. rules Town Match players must have played four matches in the current and last season.)
18. Expenses for Town Matches shall consist of petrol for 1 car and reasonable refreshments expenses to away matches and the cost of any boat trip to the Isle of Wight. Home venue expenses shall be paid for by the League.
19. All matches shall be played in accordance with the rules of Table Tennis England and with a ball adopted by that Association.

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. The Executive Committee shall arrange and conduct annually an individual closed championship, a team eliminating competition and such other competitions as may be decided upon by the Executive Committee. Entry fees for Championships shall be £3.00 per event, or as decided by the Executive Committee.
2. Entry to all events shall be opened to all registered players who have played in at least 5 League matches, as a singles player, by seven days before the date of the tournament heats; other players may be entered only at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The handicaps for the handicap singles event shall be fixed by a sub-committee to be appointed for this purpose by the Executive Committee.
3. All events will be played throughout on the knock-out principle providing the number of entrants is sufficient otherwise a group system may be adopted. The Veteran Singles event is open to all members of 40 years of age prior to 30th June of the current year. Divisional singles event, one for each Division below the 1st division and each open to all registered players qualified for that division by seven days before the date of the tournament heats.
4. Dates and Venues for all events shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

TEAM ELIMINATING AND CONDER-WINNALL HANDICAP COMPETITIONS

5. Both competitions are open to all clubs. Players shall play in one team only in each competition and for the club they are registered with.
6. Entries shall include a list of eligible players from which the team will be chosen throughout the course of the competition. No additional player will be allowed to play in the team without the consent of the Executive Committee, except that a player may be allowed to play up from a club's lower team provided that they have not played in that competition during the current season. The legs won by any ineligible player will be awarded to the opposition.
7. The entrance fee shall be £5.00 per team.
8. The draw will be made by the Executive Committee or its appointed sub-committee. Teams may be seeded at the executive committee's discretion. In all rounds and semi-finals the team drawn first shall have the choice of table and shall be responsible for arranging the match within the time laid down for the round. The final match shall be played on a neutral table unless mutually agreed by the

teams concerned.

9. The decision of the Team Cup Secretary shall be final in the case of a dispute.

TEAM ELIMINATING COMPETITION ONLY

10. Teams shall consist of three players. Matches to commence at 7.30 pm (unless mutually agreed otherwise) and to consist of 9 legs (6 singles and 3 doubles) as follows:

Singles No. 1 to play Nos. 1 and 2 of the opposing team.
 No. 2 to play Nos. 1 and 3 of the opposing team.
 No. 3 to play Nos. 2 and 3 of the opposing team.

Doubles Nos. 1 & 2 to play Nos. 1 & 2 of the opposing team.
 Nos. 2 & 3 to play Nos. 2 & 3 of the opposing team.
 Nos. 1 & 3 to play Nos. 1 & 3 of the opposing team.

Clubs are required to play players in order of merit.

11. Each game shall be won by the player or pair first scoring 11 points. Where both players, or pairs, score 10 points the game shall be won by the player or pair first scoring subsequently 2 points more than the opposing player or pair.

CONDER WINNALL HANDICAP COMPETITION ONLY

12. Teams shall consist of 3 players. Matches shall consist of 9 legs (all singles) played in the same order as a League Match, omitting the doubles leg.
13. Individuals will be handicapped by the Executive Committee or by its appointed sub-committee prior to the start of each round. Handicaps will apply to each game of each leg. At the start of each game the two opponents will compare handicaps and the player with the lower handicap will start each game in that leg at nought.
14. The other opponent will start with a handicap equal to the difference between his / her handicap and that of their opponent - i.e. Opponent 1 has a handicap of 4, Opponent 2 has a handicap of 7. Therefore Opponent 1, having the lower handicap, will start at nought and Opponent 2 will start at 3 (i.e. the difference between 7 and 4).
15. Each leg shall be won by the player first scoring 21 points. Where both players score 20 points the game shall be won by the player first scoring subsequently 2 points more than the opposing player. Matches will be the best of 3 games.

HURSLEY SHIELD COMPETITION ONLY

16. The Hursley Shield Competition is open to teams in all Divisions except Division 1. Teams shall consist of 3 players. Matches shall consist of 9 legs played in the same order and in the same format as the Team Eliminating Competition.
17. The entrance fee shall be £5.00 per team.
18. The draw will be made by the Executive Committee or its appointed sub-committee. Teams may be seeded at the executive committee's discretion. In all rounds and semi-finals the team drawn first shall have the choice of venue and shall be responsible for arranging the match within the time laid down for the round. The final match shall be played on a neutral table unless mutually agreed by the teams concerned.
19. The decision of the Team Cup Secretary shall be final in the case of a dispute.

THE "OWEN BOOKER CUP" REGULATIONS

This cup shall be awarded annually to the player in the Winchester and District Table Tennis League who obtains the highest average in any of the League's Divisions. All of the player's League matches in the Division, regardless of team, are included in the calculation. The number of League matches in the calculation must be at least 75% of the number of League matches scheduled for any one team in the Division.

THE ARTHUR RICHARDS CUP

This trophy, presented in memory of Arthur Richards, Patron of the Winchester and District Table Tennis League, is awarded for the outstanding performance of the year. This cup shall be awarded for a performance or performances which, in the opinion of the Committee, display the qualities, enthusiasm and sportsmanship associated with Arthur Richards.

This award may therefore be made for something other than actual playing ability. Administrative service to a Club or to the League, in fact, any single act or series of acts which displays the qualities mentioned above, may qualify. Club Secretaries will be asked to forward details to the Honorary General Secretary, of any performance which in their opinion deserves consideration. All nominations must be received by the last day of February in order to be considered for the current season. The Executive Committee reserve the right to make further enquiries where necessary, but initially all reports will be treated as confidential. The Executive Committee will make the final decision on awarding this cup.

COLIN SLY GIANT-KILLER CUP

This cup, presented in memory of Colin Sly, is awarded to the player who achieves the most surprising win of the season. This is measured by the difference in averages between the two players in a League match. To be eligible, each player in the match must have played at least 3 League matches in the relevant division.

POINTS TO NOTE

Club Particulars: Notification of change of club secretaries, addresses, club rooms, etc. should be sent to the Honorary General Secretary, Honorary League Secretary, Honorary Team Cups Secretary and Webmaster immediately.