

BEBINGTON SNOOKER LEAGUE RULES

(Revised June 2024)

1. Name and Affiliation.

- (i) The league shall be known as the Bebington and District Amateur Snooker League.
- (ii) The league shall only be comprised of sports and social clubs within a 5-mile radius of the league headquarters, being the Lyceum Club.
- (iii) All new applications for membership must fall within the above criteria to be considered.

2. Right of Refusal

The league reserves the right to refuse registration of any club or individual without stating a reason.

3. Fees (League and Competitions)

Affiliation Fees (per club)	£10.00
Snooker League (per team)	£ 8.00
Player Registrations	£ 8.00
Charity Shield (per team)	£ 8.00
Five a-side Comp	£10.00
McDermott Trophy	£10.00
First Division Knock-Out	£ 8.00
Second Division Knock-Out	£ 8.00
Margerison Scratch	£ 3.50
Individual Handicap	£ 3.50
Snedker Pairs (per pair)	£ 7.00
Captain's & Secretary's Cup	£ 3.50
Benevolent Fund (per team)	£ 3.00

Payment of the league subscriptions are payable on or before the January Executive Meeting. Failure to pay will result in a 2 point penalty to each team within the offending club.

Clubs failing to pay their league subscriptions by the February meeting will have a further 2 point penalty imposed.

Should the issue extend to the March meeting the club's membership will be terminated, resulting in their teams and players being removed from all league competitions

4. Management

The affairs of the league shall be controlled by the Executive Committee which consists of the Officers under Rule (5) together with one delegate from each club. The Executive Committee shall govern the league in accordance with any business not specifically covered by the rules. Five members shall form a quorum eligible to conduct business.

5. Officers

The Officers of the league shall comprise of President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon Treasurer, Hon Secretary, Hon Results Secretary and Hon Competition Secretary. The Officers shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. Offices becoming vacant may be filled at an Ordinary Meeting of the Executive Committee.

6. Hon Competition Secretary

The Hon Competition Secretary will be responsible for the organisation and running of all cup competitions and will have authority to make draws outside the normal monthly Executive Meetings. The semi-final draws will be made at the April meeting unless otherwise determined.

7. Voting Powers and Voting

Each Officer with the exception of the Chairman and each club delegate shall have one vote. The Chairman shall have the casting vote if necessary. No Committee Member, Officer or Delegate, shall be allowed to vote on a matter that affects his or her club or a member of their club.

If the Chairman's vote is concerned then the Vice-Chairman or other independent member shall temporarily take the chair to deal with the case.

In all matters a decision shall be reached by a straight vote.

8. Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer

The Hon Secretary shall keep a record of all business transactions by the league and shall convene meetings as required. The Hon Treasurer shall keep a record of all finances and shall submit a balance sheet, duly audited annually.

9. Trustees

All monies shall be vested in three Trustees. The Chairman, Hon Secretary and the Hon Treasurer any two of who shall sign the cheques. All the surplus cash is to be paid into the bank monthly, a reasonable amount only to be kept in hand for working expenses.

10. Bankers

The bankers shall be the Lloyds Bank, Liscard.

11. Auditors

Two auditors, being league club members, shall be elected annually. They shall audit the accounts of the league at the close of the season and shall submit their report at the Annual General Meeting.

12. Annual General Meeting

(i) The Annual General Meeting shall take place in June each year when all registered players are eligible to attend and vote. Notices of Motion for inclusion in the agenda for the meeting have to be submitted in writing, duly proposed and seconded to the Hon Secretary on or before 10th May of each year. (The only notice of this closing date shall be by rule above).

(ii) The Hon Secretary shall give 14 days notice of the Annual General Meeting by circulating the agenda to all clubs. The agenda shall give details of the Notices of Motion.

13. Extra-Ordinary General Meeting

An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting shall be called at the request of three league officers, or at the request of any five clubs.

Such request should be in writing, stating the business to be dealt with and shall be submitted to the Hon Secretary who shall then call the meeting to immediately precede the next available Ordinary Meeting which allows the clubs at least 14 days notice. The notice calling the meeting shall give details of the business to be dealt with.

14. Executive Committee Meeting

(i) To be held on the first Monday of each month. The dates of the meetings shall be printed in the handbook and no further notice shall be given. Additional meetings when deemed necessary for the welfare of the league may be called by the Chairman or Hon Secretary.

(ii) A club must be in full attendance during the meeting, failure to comply will be deemed to be a non-attendance. A club whose representative's team plays on the night of the Executive Committee Meeting must send a replacement to the meeting.

(iii) A club failing to attend two successive meetings shall have each of its teams deducted TWO points as penalty, a further TWO points will be deducted for every non-attendance thereafter.

15. League Finance Accounts

The league shall comprise of three parts.

- (i) The League Fund
- (ii) The Charity Fund
- (iii) The Benevolent Fund

The League Fund shall comprise of all the team fees, competition, registration, affiliation fees and donations.

The Charity Fund comprises all the receipts of collections, raffles etc, and donations specifically given to charity.

The Benevolent Fund shall comprise of monies received from the levy of 5p per team for each league or cup game with the exception that any balance in excess of £50 shall be held available for transfer to the League or Charity Fund at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

16. Alteration to Rules

Alterations to the league rules can only be made by a Notice of Motion. This motion must be proposed and seconded by different clubs at an Annual General Meeting or an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting.

17. Breaks

Any player in a league or competition game who makes a break high enough to be recognised by the EASB is entitled to receive the association's certificate. The cost of which shall be met from the League Fund.

Prizes awarded by the league for individual breaks shall include all league, cup and individual competitions sponsored by the league, no player to receive more than one break prize in league matches within the same season.

18. Prizes

- (i) The value and number of prizes awarded to be decided by the Executive Committee.

All prizes awarded can only be received on the Presentation Night.

- (ii) Team or club prizes can only be received by a registered player of the team or club that has won the prize.

- (iii) Where an individual cannot attend, they may nominate a registered player from their club to receive the award on their behalf.

19. Fixtures and Handicaps

Handbooks comprising of rules, fixtures and players together with their handicaps are to be given to each club for each registered player.

20. Use of Clubrooms

Clubs who are granted league membership are expected to meet the reasonable requests of the Executive Committee for permission to use their clubrooms for league events.

21. Conduct

All teams shall be in the charge of a captain who shall be responsible to the Executive Committee for the conduct of his players and club members.

22. Rules of Play

All games shall be governed by the rules of the EASB. A copy of which shall be available in the clubroom of all competing clubs.

23. Registration

- (i) A player can only take part in matches if they are registered with the Hon Results Secretary.

- (ii) Closing date for league registrations shall be the first Ordinary Meeting of the Executive Committee following the Annual General Meeting that is in June.

- (iii) Lists of registered players shall be submitted to the Hon Results Secretary on or before the closing date.
- (iv) A club entering more than one team shall indicate six players per team, who will be eligible for that team only.
- (v) Each club shall be allowed to submit late registrations up until the 31st December.

24. Reserves

- (i) Reserves will be eligible to play for any of their club's teams but is not allowed to play for two different teams in league matches in the same week. Should a team(s) default, the team(s) defaulting after the first appearance will be penalised TWO points as a result.
- (ii) A reserve player cannot play in the semi final or final of the Division Play Offs unless they have played a minimum of FIVE league games for the qualifying team.

25. Teams

- (i) For the benefit of a match six players form a team, one-point per-game. Should a team fail to field six players, the opposing team shall be awarded a point for each missing player and the defaulting team shall be penalised TWO points for each missing player (up to a maximum of SIX points only) for failure to fulfil the fixture to its required level.
- (ii) Any team(s) found trying to disguise a fixture where either or both teams do not have the necessary number of player's will be dealt with by the Executive Committee.

26. Handicaps

- (i) All league matches shall be played on an individual handicap basis.
- (ii) Handicaps shall be done by the Hon Results Secretary after the first Ordinary Meeting following the Annual General Meeting and reviewed anytime at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- (iii) Club secretaries and team captains shall be responsible for suggesting a true and fair handicap for every new player entering the league from their own club.
- (iv) New players entering the league will be allocated a handicap of no more than 20 unless otherwise advised and will be classed as a New Registration for two seasons.
- (v) Once a new player's playing record requires a handicap change, that change will be made forthwith.
- (vi) New Registrations shall continue to have their handicap reviewed up to and including week 22 or whichever week the Executive Committee decides upon.
- (vii) Handicap changes will be adjusted on a difference of 4 between wins and losses.
- (viii) New Registrations from the previous season who haven't played enough games so as to have had their handicaps adjusted shall continue to be treated as New Registrations until such a time they have had their handicap adjusted.
- (ix) The maximum start a player may receive in a single frame is 45 points.
- (x) Any member that plays off a handicap that is found to be false will have all points deducted and any further penalty the Executive Committee decides upon.
- (xi) The Hon Results Secretary shall provide a record of past performances at each meeting for guidance.

27. Match Times

- (i) All league and cup matches shall commence at 7.30pm.
- (ii) The late penalty start shall be applicable to each table in use, if a table or tables are not started by 7.45pm the opposing captain can claim the penalty for each table involved.
- (iii) Once the match has started the table or tables must not be kept waiting. The waiting penalty must be applied for every interval of 10 minutes.
- (iv) No match shall start after 8pm.

28. League Match Procedure

In league matches the home captain will name players first. Away players will have the choice of break.

29. Postponement of League Matches

- (i) Applications for postponements must reach the Secretary or representative of the opposing side at least 14 days before the fixture and the Hon Results Secretary informed immediately. The defaulting team must then meet the reasonable requirements of their opponents for the new date.
- (ii) All postponed matches must be re-arranged and played within 28 days of the original date.
- (iii) No postponements will be allowed during the last month of the season.

30. Failing to fulfil a League Fixture

Should a team fail to fulfil a league fixture they will be deducted SIX points and the match replayed as per Rule 29 (ii).

31. Fixtures

- (i) Each team shall play every other team within their division, one match at home and one match away. Any fixture not played shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee.
- (ii) Should a division of the league comprise of an odd amount of teams a team having a Bye week will be awarded 3 points so as to keep the league table balanced throughout the season.

32. Tables

Where a club has two or more tables, two tables shall be used for all team competitions under the jurisdiction of the League and priority must be given to Bebington Snooker League requirements.

33. Promotion / Relegation / Ties

- (i) Promotion will be on the basis of four up and four down.
- (ii) The top three teams will be automatically promoted to the division above and the bottom four teams will be relegated to the division below.
- (iii) In the event of two or more teams having the same number of points the league placing shall be decided upon the basis of wins, draws and losses, if still level on the league results between the teams and if still level a play off will be arranged.
- (iv) The fourth promotion place will be decided by a play off between the teams finishing from fourth to seventh places.
The fourth placed team will be at home to the seventh and the fifth will be at home to the sixth.
- (v) The finalists will play off at a neutral venue.
- (vi) In order that the number of teams within each division is equal as far as possible, the Executive Committee has the power to balance the divisions when necessary.

34. Results

- (i) Home captains are entirely responsible for returning the match cards, together with claims for the highest break, to the Hon Results Secretary within four days of the match being played. The home team will be penalised THREE points for each failure to comply.
- (ii) Home captains must also ensure that the total points scored by each player are recorded on the match result card (not won or lost). Failure to comply will result in the home team being penalised ONE point.

35. Penalties

A team to forfeit TWO points for each absentee (up to a maximum of SIX points only).

36. Ineligibility

Any player not registered with the Hon Results Secretary or contravening Rule 23 shall be deemed ineligible. A team playing such a player shall be penalised TWO points and the club dealt with by the Executive Committee. Where an ineligible player is played, the frame will be deemed void and the point awarded to the opposing team.

37. Neutral Tables

Are deemed to be tables other than those on which a member or members of the team concerned regularly play.

38. Appeals and Decisions

Should any team, club or league member wish to take a point further, the Hon Secretary must be informed in writing within three days of the incident concerned, giving brief details. The matter will be dealt with at the next Executive Committee Meeting. Those involved, or their representatives, must attend the meeting to state their case to the Committee, whose decision will be final.

39. Cup Competitions

- (i) All competitions shall be run on a knock-out basis with proper draws made for each round. In all rounds up to and including the semi finals the team/player drawn first will be the home team/player.
- (ii) A player can only take part in competition matches if he/she is registered for the league. Competition entry forms are to be returned no later than the June Ordinary Meeting of the Executive Committee.
- (iii) Late Registrations shall not be eligible for Pairs, Individual Handicap, Margerison Scratch or Captain's and Secretary's competitions.
- (iv) In all competition matches where specific dates are not set by the Executive Committee it shall be the responsibility of the home team/player(s) to arrange the match. Unless a specific date has been set by the league or opponents have already agreed a date, the home club/team/player(s) must give their opponent(s) a minimum of 14 days notice and at least two convenient dates for the game to be played. If no direct contact has been made with the opponents by the home team/player(s) prior to the closing date, then the away team/player(s) can claim the game. No games unless otherwise agreed between teams/player(s), can be played on the closing date. Players must be present at the venue by 8.30pm.
- (v) In all team competitions the first nomination to the table shall be decided by the toss of a coin. Thereafter, the nomination alternates for each game. Away players will have the choice of break.
- (vi) The winner(s) of the match must ensure that the result is reported to the Hon Competition Secretary within 48 hours of the closing date. If neither, a result or claim is received then both/all players/teams will be scratched.
- (vii) If a game is not played or there is a dispute, players or their representatives are entitled to be present at the appropriate Executive Committee Meeting, where based on the evidence available the decision will be final.

40. Charity Shield

- (i) All registered teams must compete.
- (ii) Six players are to form a team. A player may only play for one team as per Rule 23 (i). Once a reserve has played for a team, he is then deemed to be cup-tied and cannot play for another team in a later round.
- (ii) In all rounds the first nomination to the table shall be decided by the toss of a coin, thereafter, the nomination alternates for each game. Away team will have the choice of break.
- (iii) A team shall forfeit one point for the frame and 147 points for each absentee. Seven points are at stake, one for each frame and one for the aggregate score, which is used to decide the winner in the event of a 3-3 draw.

(iv) Should the frames and the aggregate score be level then the entire match shall be replayed.

41. Five A-side Trophy

- (i) Each registered club shall compete unless specific dispensation is granted from the Executive Committee to opt out.
- (ii) This competition is played off scratch. Five players form a team, one point for each frame.
- (iii) In all rounds the first nomination to the table shall be decided by the toss of a coin, thereafter, the nomination alternates for each game. Away team will have the choice of break.

42. McDermott Trophy

- (i) Each registered club shall compete unless specific dispensation is granted from the Executive Committee to opt out.
- (ii) This competition is played off individual handicaps. Seven players form a team, one point for each frame played.
- (iii) In all rounds first nomination to the table shall be decided by the toss of a coin, thereafter, the nomination alternates for each game. Away team will have the choice of break.

43. Division Knock-Out Competitions

- (i) This competition is for first and second division teams.
- (ii) Each registered team in each division shall compete unless specific dispensation is granted from the Executive Committee to opt out. Five players form a team, one point for each frame played.
- (iii) In all rounds the first nomination to the table shall be decided by the toss of a coin, thereafter the nomination alternates for each game.
- (iv) A reserve player must have played a minimum of 5 league games for the team qualifying to be eligible to play in the semi finals and final.
- (v) Once a reserve player has played for a team in any of the divisional competitions, he/she is deemed cup-tied and cannot play for another team in the competition.

44. Margerison Scratch

- (i) An individual competition played off scratch.
- (ii) Open to all registered league players upon payment of an entrance fee.
- (iii) Up to the semi-finals each round is the best of three frames.
- (iv) The semi-final will be the best of five frames and the final the best of seven frames.

45. Individual Handicap

- (i) An individual competition played off league handicaps.
- (ii) Open to all registered league players upon payment of an entrance fee.
- (iii) The match is played over two frames, aggregate score to count. Handicaps to be doubled for each player (The maximum start a player may receive is 90 points).
- (iv) The player who pots the black in the first frame continues and therefore breaks in the second frame. In the event of a tie, the black ball is re-spotted.

46. Snedker Pairs

- (i) Each pair must be registered with the same club.
- (ii) The match is played over two frames, aggregate score to count and the combined handicaps of each player count once only. (The maximum start a pair may receive is 90 points).
- (iii) The order of play shall remain the same throughout. The player who pots the black in the first frame continues and therefore breaks in the second frame. In the event of a tie, the black ball is re-spotted.

47. Captain's and Secretary's "Millennium" Cup

Open to all team Captains, Secretary's and Executive Committee members only. Entry is by application only and is played under the same rules as the Individual Handicap (see Rule 45).

48. Play Offs

- (i) Matches are to be played using the Charity Shield format (see Rule 40). Seven points are at stake, one for each frame and one for the aggregate score, which is used to decide the winner in the event of a draw.
- (ii) A reserve player must have played a minimum of 5 league games for the team qualifying to be eligible to play.
- (iii) The first nomination will be decided by the toss of a coin, thereafter the nomination alternates for each game.
- (iv) The losing captain of the toss will choose the players to play on each table. Each team shall have the choice of break on a selected table. (This rule only applies if final is played on two tables).
- (v) Should the frames and the aggregate score be level then the entire match shall be replayed.