

Chelmsford and District Pool League Constitution

1. LEAGUE- Control of:-

- i) The League shall be known as the Chelmsford and District Pool League (CDPL). Hereinafter referred to as the League.
- ii) The League shall be governed by a League Committee consisting of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and up to five other members who shall have sole responsibility in all matters relating to the League.
- iii) The League shall be affiliated to the English Pool Association (EPA) and the committee shall be responsible for disseminating all information for the benefit of registered teams and players.
- iv) Meetings to be held on a monthly basis details of which to be published on the League website.
- v) An Annual General Meeting for the benefit of all registered Teams will be held at the end of each season. Each team present will be allocated one voting card for voting on any issues raised at the AGM. Notice of any issues to be raised at the AGM must be received in writing, by the Chairman at least fourteen days prior to the AGM.

2. LEAGUE -Structure of :-

- i) The League shall be run on a divisional basis, the number of which will be determined at the beginning of each season. Divisions will consist of a maximum of twelve. Promotion and relegation will be on a three up three down basis, with the three relegated teams from the lowest division seeking re-election to the League for the following season.
N.B. In the event of insufficient teams reregistering to any particular division the number of promotions / relegations from a division may be extended.
- ii) Team registration will take place prior to the commencement of each season at a fee per team payable to the league that shall be determined at each AGM. Team organisers must have a phone number and email address for two members of the team. The teams must include the name of the Venue and a one word or letter suffix to distinguish between teams playing from the same venue.
- iii) Each team must register players on the official League registration form. There is no restriction on the number of players that may be registered per team. Players may only register for one team. League membership is open to individuals over fourteen years of age. Teams with players under the age of 18 must gain consent from the home team landlord prior to the match.
- iv) Additional players may be registered during the season but are not eligible to play unless the player's details have been forwarded to the committee and countersigned by two committee members.
- v) Transfers are allowed within the League but require the signatures of both the captain of the original team and the captain of the new team. The transfer is not valid until two committee members have countersigned it. If the original captain refuses to sign the transfer form the matter should be referred to committee for approval.
- vi) A player may only play for one team in cup competitions. If the player transfers to another team they will be "cup tied" in any cups they have already played in.
- vii) Registration to the League shall include :-
 - a) Entry to :-
 - League Competition (Par. 3(i) refers)
 - Divisional KO Cup (Par. 3(ii) refers)
 - 9 A-Side KO Cup (Par. 3(iii) refers)
 - Essex KO Cup (Par. 3(iv) refers)
 - b) Eligibility for :-
 - Chelmsford Closed Singles (Par. 3(v) refers)
 - Chelmsford Closed Doubles (Par. 3(vi) refers)
 - Chelmsford Closed Ladies Singles (Par. 3(vii) refers)
 - Chelmsford Closed Mixed Doubles (Par. 3(viii) refers)
 - Chelmsford Closed Captains Cup (Par. 3(ix) refers)
 - Chelmsford Closed Three Man Cup (Par. 3(x) refers)
- viii) A Pool Team for League matches will consist of 8 players with a minimum of 4 being required before a team is allowed to compete. A team playing with a 4 man team against a full side or one with 7, 6 or 5 players shall concede 4, 3, 2 or 1 frame(s) as appropriate.
- ix) Unplayed or unfinished frames are not counted by either side (except in the case of rule 2(xiv)). The League's existence depends on the goodwill and co-operation of the various landlords and stewards in our pubs and clubs and it is their right to determine whether a match can continue after the legal closing time. Their decision is final and must in no way be questioned. A team captain should, at the beginning of the match, establish a finishing time if they are unable to play beyond a set time. If a finishing time has been established remaining frames will not be counted by either side. If a finishing time has not been established the remaining frames will be awarded to the team who wish to continue. Bear in mind that no team is obliged to play after 11.00 p.m.
- x) Results cards must be completed and forwarded by the winning team to the Divisional Officer to arrive within three days of the match. Failure to do so will result in the loss of the two point winning bonus. Result cards are available for download from the League website. Alternatively, a digital copy can be provided via email if requested.
- xi) When attending a fixture the away team is advised to make their presence known to the opposition or bar staff/steward.
- xii) Competing players must be nominated on the result card prior to the commencement of their frame. The surname and initial of each player should be clearly printed with his/her signature alongside. The home team will nominate their player first and pass the card to the away team for the opponent. The exception to this is where games are played at a neutral venue in the closing stages of cup competitions. Here a toss of the coin will give the winning captain the choice of nominating for the first frame; thereafter the selection is alternated for each frame played.
- xiii) Teams will be responsible for referees for alternate games on match nights. Referees must be registered players with the League and be fully conversant with the WEPF Rules and his/her decision is final. It is the responsibility of team captains to ensure a high standard of refereeing from their members. There is no limit to the number of frames an individual may officiate on behalf of their team during a match.
- xiv) Any protest against any decision shall be put in writing to the League within 48 hours of the match being played for consideration by the committee.

Chelmsford and District Pool League Constitution

- xv) Matches should start at 8.00 p.m., any team without a player available to play by this time will forfeit the first frame. At 8.15 p.m. the second frame will also be forfeited with the match being forfeited at 8.30 p.m. The result card must be completed and signed in full by any team claiming a match. Any match claimed would result in a 6 point win (plus 2 bonus points) for the claiming team and a 5 point penalty for the offending team. In the event of a team not turning up a £10 fine will be imposed by committee which will be passed to the landlord / captain of the venue to reimburse food costs.
 - xvi) The singles session is complete when a team has no more players **ready** to play. At this point the match should progress to the doubles. No singles games can be played once the doubles have commenced.
 - xvii) It is important to remember that the full version of the WEPF rules include only taking 60 seconds from when the balls come to rest until you play your next shot. This rule is **NOT** currently implemented by the League. Captains are however asked to ensure players are not taking an excessive amount of time between shots, whether they are playing a singles or a doubles game. This is to ensure that all frames are completed by the end of the evening whilst maintaining the *spirit* of the game.
 - xviii) Any team failing to fulfill more than one League fixture during the season, excluding cup fixtures, will be expelled from the League.
 - xix) Players are only initially allowed to register with one team during the course of a season; i.e. no player can play for both 'A' and 'B' teams. Any breach of this rule will result in the player being suspended from the League and the team being fined £10 with additional point's penalty to be decided by the disciplinary committee (fine to be paid within 28 days).
 - xx) Any team found playing unregistered players shall be fined £10, with additional point's penalty to be decided by the disciplinary committee, per non-registered player payable to the League within 28 Days. Match points will be awarded to the opposing team.
 - xxi) In the event of teams withdrawing from the League or failing to complete the season for whatever reason the following rule will apply:-
 - a) Withdrawal during the first half of the season.
All matches will be declared void that were contested by the team concerned. Divisional tables will be amended accordingly.
 - b) Withdrawal after completion of the first half of the season.
All matches played in the first half of the season will stand. Matches contested in the second half of the season will be declared void. Divisional tables will be amended accordingly.
Scheduled matches still to be played that are affected by a team's withdrawal will be notified by the League Committee as cancelled.
 - xxii) Teams are responsible for providing adequate facilities in terms of a standard 6', 7' or 8' table in good condition with adequate lighting and sufficient space for players and spectators. Balls are to consist of one white, seven yellow, seven red and one black. With the exception of black ball which is to be marked with the number eight, no other ball is to have any graphics or markings. Short cues must be provided where necessary and rests must be available.
 - xxiii) The Pool table will be of a suitable appearance at all times and contain no flaws either in presentation or function. Any such cause that may prevent a League match from being played should be notified to the opposing team and a member of the League Committee, preferably in advance of the game's scheduled date. If a table should fail to operate immediately prior to or during a pool match, both team captains should decide on the following :-
 - a) Can the table be repaired in time for all games to be played?
 - b) The table is beyond repair and the match be made void and replayed at a later date.
If (b) the Divisional Officer should be notified within 48 hours of the scheduled date of the match. The home team is liable for the table fees and will provide refreshments for the traveling opposition (food is only required for League matches).
 - xxiv) No team shall be allowed to incur more than £20 in fines and/or penalties. Any team reaching this maximum of £20 must pay within 28 days or face possible suspension from the League.
 - xxv) Teams applying for membership of the League who still have fines outstanding from previous seasons will be required at the discretion of the League Committee to pay all or part before new membership is considered see rule 4 (xii).
 - xxvi) The following will apply to teams who, having competed in the preceding year, disband either during the season or during the closed season. Previous divisional status shall be retained by the original venue used unless two thirds or more of the previously registered players remain together and reregister at an alternative location. The committee will have the final decision on whether this rule has been applied to the best benefit of the League. The committee in some instances may vary this rule if it is thought that the League itself will suffer as a result of its strict interpretation.
3. *LEAGUE- Competitions (to be controlled by the League Committee):-*
- i) League Competition
League matches will consist of 11 frames (8 singles and 3 doubles).
A point is awarded for each frame won and a bonus of 2 further points to the winning side. The winning team to qualify for the bonus must gain a minimum of 6 frames. The League trophy is awarded to the teams with the highest number of points gained from League matches in their division. In the event of a tie the team with the best frame difference will be awarded the title. Where this also results in a tie the record of games between the two teams will be taken into account. If this still fails to identify a winner a one leg playoff at a neutral venue will be used to determine the winner. Where a neutral venue is used to determine the final League placing selection of players will be as stated in rule 2(xii).
The League Winners of each division will receive a championship plaque and individual winner trophies. League runners-up will receive individual runners-up trophies.

Chelmsford and District Pool League Constitution

ii) Divisional KO Cup Competition

This Competition will be contested by all registered teams within the division, and competed for as follows: -

All rounds including final will be played over one leg, the best of 11 frames (8 singles and 3 doubles). Eight separately registered players must be played. The League Committee will make a draw at the beginning of each season. Where practical, teams drawn first will be the home team. In the latter stages neutral venues will be used. Neutral venues will be organised by the League Committee. In exceptional circumstances the committee may use its discretion in the implementation of this rule. Where a neutral venue is used selection will be as stated in rule 2(xii).

Winners will receive a championship plaque and individual winner trophies. Runners-up will receive individual runners-up trophies. Signing in must be completed as for normal League fixtures. Rule 2 (x) refers).

iii) The 9 A-Side KO Cup

This Competition will be contested by all registered teams irrespective of division, and competed for as follows: -

All rounds including final will be played over one leg, the best of 9 individual singles frames. Nine separately registered players must be played. The League Committee will make a draw at the beginning of each season. Where practical teams drawn first will be the home team. In the latter stages neutral venues will be used. Neutral venues will be organised by the League Committee. In exceptional circumstances the committee may use its discretion in the implementation of this rule. Where a neutral venue is used selection will be as stated in rule 2(xii).

Winners will receive a championship plaque and individual winner trophies. Runners-up will receive individual runners-up trophies. Signing in must be completed as for normal League fixtures. (Rule 2 (x) refers).

iv) Essex KO Cup Competition

This Competition will be contested by all registered teams irrespective of division, and competed for as follows: -

All rounds including final will be played over one leg, the best of 11 frames (8 singles and 3 doubles). Eight separately registered players must be played. The League Committee will make a draw at the beginning of each season. Where practical, teams drawn first will be the home team. In the latter stages neutral venues will be used. Neutral venues will be organised by the League Committee. In exceptional circumstances the committee may use its discretion in the implementation of this rule.

Winners will receive a championship plaque and individual winner trophies. Runners-up will receive individual runners-up trophies. Signing in must be completed as for normal League fixtures. (Rule 2 (x) refers).

v) Chelmsford Closed Singles

All registered players in the League who have either competed in six frames (League, 9 A-Side or Essex Cup) during the current season or the previous season will be eligible to enter this competition. Where a player has not satisfied this condition their entry is subject to approval by the competition organisers. This ruling is not intended to penalise bona fide League players but is to be used to enforce the competitions aims i.e. that it is for legitimate Chelmsford Pool League players and not an "open" competition. Games will be a minimum of three frames.

Entry forms, will be forwarded to all registered teams by the League Committee. Forms together with the appropriate fee must be returned by the date stated on the entry form. Failure to do so will preclude the team / individual from the competition.

The committee will set an entry fee payable by each player entering the competitions each season. All monies raised by the competition will be used to provide trophies for the competition. Cross subsidies will only exist in exceptional circumstances.

Only those players who have paid the required entry fee by the draw date will be eligible to participate in the competitions.

All dates are shown on the league fixture sheet These dates should not be altered without the permission of the league secretary.

All games are scheduled for an 8.00 p.m. start. Any player(s) not in attendance by 8.30pm, without the permission of the competition organisers, will be eliminated from the competition.

Where a referee is available (and willing to do so) at an individual competition, they must be used if one of the players wished to use a referee.

If necessary extra dates will be set to ensure that the competitions will end by the presentation evening. If this is necessary the players will be given at least two weeks notice.

It is the responsibility of the winner on any competition day to ensure that the result sheet is forwarded to the league secretary.

All entrants must be registered Chelmsford Pool League players.

The competitions will be held under World Eightball Pool Federation Rules.

The winner will receive a non-returnable winner trophy; the runner- up will receive a non-returnable consolation trophy. Other trophies may be issued depending on entry levels.

vi) vii) Chelmsford Closed Doubles

All rules are as per the Chelmsford Closed Singles with the following addition:-

Both partners must currently be registered for the same League team to be eligible to take part in this competition.

vii) viii) Chelmsford Closed Ladies Singles

All rules are as per the Chelmsford Closed Singles.

viii) Chelmsford closed Mixed Doubles

All rules are as per the Chelmsford Closed Singles with the following addition:-

Both partners must currently be registered for the same League team to be eligible to take part in this competition.

Each team must consist of one male and one female player.

Chelmsford and District Pool League Constitution

- ix) Chelmsford Closed Captains Singles
All rules are as per the Chelmsford Closed Singles.
- x) Chelmsford Closed Three Man Cup
All rules are as per the Chelmsford Closed Singles with the following additions:-
Three man teams must comprise of a minimum of three players and a maximum of four players who are all registered with the same league team.
At the end of either the first set or the second set of three games, teams have the option to replace any player with their reserve player. The incoming player takes on the playing position of the outgoing player. This option may only be used once in a match. ie a player who played in the first set of three and was then replaced for the second set of three will not be able to come back for the third set of three.
- xi) Superleague
 - a) The League is entitled through it's affiliation to the E.C.P.A. to enter a team or teams to represent it in the Essex Superleague competition.
 - b) Eligibility -League players will be advised of qualification requirements by the Committee at appropriate times, the prerequisite for eligibility is that players must have attended at least 50% of League games prior to the start of the Superleague season.

4. *LEAGUE- General*

- i) The League season shall commence in September and end in May / June dependant upon competition entry levels.
- ii) The designated night for League matches is Monday.
- iii) Choice of break is decided on a toss of a coin. The winner of the toss can elect his opponent to break if he/she so wishes.
- iv) Coaching from the sidelines is not permitted and where such instance occur the referee must warn the offending team. If coaching is persistent a report should be submitted to the committee (see rule 4(vi)).
- v) A minimum of 72 hours notice is required for rearranging any fixture. Failure to do so will constitute a failure to fulfill a fixture (Rule 2(xiv) will be applied)
- vi) All disputes and complaints must be notified in writing to the appropriate Divisional Officer, preferably within 48 hours. After thorough investigation the committee will arbitrate and its decision will be final and binding. Reference to the monthly meeting will be at the committee's discretion.
- vii) It is important that the procedure for disputes regarding games or matches is followed carefully. The correct procedure is for both teams to complete the result card as normal. All persons except the captain must sign the result card; the captain may or may not sign the result card depending on how strongly he/she feels. If a captain signs the card he/she is not forfeiting his/her right to appeal against the result. The appeal procedure is detailed in rule 4(vi).
- viii) Any team who withhold a result card illegally or refuse to sign a card as described above will face a 10 point penalty. In addition to this their dispute will not receive a favorable reception at committee.
- ix) Should the League receive complaints about a table and such complaints have been verified by committee teams will be given one months notice to bring the table up to standard. Should they fail to achieve this, the League will instruct the team that all future games are to played at neutral venues until the table quality is rectified. Should a table quality fail again within the same season, no notice period will be necessary and the team will be instructed to play at a neutral venue immediately.
- x) Teams who fail to collect their trophies at presentation night, unless with good reason, may forfeit their entitlement to the trophies allocated. Subject to suitable storage facilities being available, trophies will be kept for a maximum of 14 days after the presentation evening. During these 14 days, teams / individuals may arrange to collect their trophies at the discretion of the committee. If suitable storage can not be found then trophies may not be available after the presentation night.
- xi) Violent And Intimidating Conduct
Where a player(s) is physically violent the player(s) involved will receive an indefinite ban from Chelmsford Pool League with a minimum date for reapplication depending on the severity of the case. Before the case reaches committee we expect the team to have expelled the player from their own team if they wish to be dealt with leniently. We would also expect a team to break up any acts of violence initiated by their players, failure to do so will result in an indefinite ban for the whole team. Where a whole team is banned all registered players for that team would also receive indefinite bans, if individuals within the team wish to "clear their name" they would be required to appeal to committee.
A series of team point's penalties and/or temporary bans on players involved in intimidating behavior will be set by committee as cases arise. These points' deductions could affect promotion, demotion or receipt of trophies depending on where in the league table the team is placed. The player bans will be used in conjunction with this and will mean that a player may be banned for anything between one and eleven matches with a possible indefinite ban for particularly serious offenders.
- xii) Teams or players banned or suspended from the league will forfeit any entitlement to Presentation Evening tickets for the relevant season(s).
- xiii) Registration of teams and players implies total acceptance of the constitution and rules of the Chelmsford Pool League and of it's approved match play rules. Copies of these should be displayed in a prominent position near to the playing area and all members should be fully conversant with their contents.
- xiv) The League has approved all rules laid down in this sheet. The committee reserves the right to amend, alter or omit any such condition that it has made should the need arise, and only for the good of the league. All amendments, alterations & omissions will be circulated to all teams at the earliest opportunity.

August 2008