

# Cardiff and District Table Tennis League

## **RULES** (Revised 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010)

### **Name and Constitution**

1. The League shall be called "The Cardiff and District Table Tennis League" and shall be affiliated to the T.T.A. of Wales. **The following rules do not apply to a Community Club or Junior Division organised by the League.**
2. The League shall be open to all Table Tennis Clubs. A General Meeting shall have the right to refuse admission to the League to any Club or team which is considered unsuitable. Teams must have a table complying with T.T.A. of Wales Rules and should also have a reasonable lighting and run back (it is recommended that there should be a run back of at least eight feet and four feet on each side of the table). Should any objections be raised by a visiting team to the playing conditions, the match shall be played and a report made to the Management Committee.
3. The League shall be composed of Divisions formed at the Pre-Season Meeting. Promotion and Relegation – normally two teams to be promoted and two teams relegated from each Division.

### **OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

4. The Officers of the League shall be the President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Match Results Secretary, Tournament Secretary or Secretaries and Treasurer. These and the Auditor, shall be elected yearly at the Annual General Meeting.
5. The League Shall be governed by a Management Committee consisting of the Officers and eight Representatives from affiliated Clubs to be elected at the Pre-Season General Meeting. No more than two of the elected representatives shall be from any one club. The Management Committee (which shall have the power to co-opt additional members if deemed necessary) normally shall meet during the first week of each month, and shall have powers to decide all matters not provided for by existing rules and also questions that may arise as to the interpretation of such rules. A copy of the Minutes of every Management Committee Meeting shall be sent to each Club.

### **MEETINGS**

6. A General Meeting shall be held at the commencement of the season. The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 31<sup>st</sup> May in each year. At least fourteen clear days notice shall be given of the Annual General Meeting.
7. A Special or Extra-ordinary General Meeting will be held if requested by the Management Committee or at least a third of the teams in the League.
8. At General Meetings of members, each team may be represented by one member of that team. If a team member cannot be present at a General Meeting, the team may be represented by another person provided that person is nominated in writing and the written nomination is accepted by the person "chairing" that General Meeting. A club not represented at a General Meeting shall be fined £5.
9. No amendment, or alteration or addition to the Rules of the League shall be made, except at the Annual General Meeting (or Special General Meeting). Any suggested amendment, alteration or addition to the Rules must be made in writing, and must reach the General Secretary prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> April for inclusion on the Agenda, which shall be presented to Clubs prior to the Annual General Meeting.
10. The financial year of the League shall end on the 31<sup>st</sup> May each year and a balance sheet made up to that date shall be presented at the first General Meeting for the following season. A copy of such balance sheet shall be presented to Clubs at the first General Meeting.
11. Ten persons must be present at a General Meeting and five persons at a Management Committee Meeting to form a quorum.

12. All League Officers and members of the Management Committee must be affiliated to the T.T.A.W.

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

13. The Annual Subscriptions shall be agreed at the Annual General Meeting for both teams and cup. Team entry fees must be paid before the first match. In the event of such fees not being paid before the first match, further matches will be cancelled and points awarded to their opponents until such time that the fees are paid.
14. A Club will pay a Guarantee Fee as agreed at the Annual General Meeting. This Guarantee Fee is payable with application for membership and is returnable provided all teams belonging to that Club shall fulfil their fixtures.
15. A League registration fee per player agreed at the Annual General Meeting shall be paid in addition to affiliation fees to be set by the T.T.A. of W. and the Glamorgan County Association. A free copy of the League Handbook will be given to each team.  
*Note: affiliation to both associations is compulsory.*
16. A Player who is under eighteen years of age on the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan in any year shall be classified as a junior player for the subsequent season.
17. No player may play in a League game until they have been registered for three days, except in the case of the team's first league game, for which they may be registered prior to such game. No player may be registered for more than one team at any one time. No player may be registered after the 31<sup>st</sup> January in any year without the special consent of the Management Committee.
18. During a season a player may play as reserve for a higher or lower lettered team, even for a team in the same division four times only providing the player that is replaced by a player of the same or higher handicapped player than the original team player. After playing four times as reserve approval of the Management Committee must be obtained should the Club wish to play the player other than in the registered team.

When a Club has more than one team, it shall register a minimum of three players for each team.

A player may play for a team in a lower division permanently irrespective of his/her handicap if he/she misses two consecutive games of the team in which he/she is registered but cannot thereafter play any games for any other team.

### **CONSTITUTION OF TEAMS etc.**

19. Normally In all divisions each team shall consist of three players, each playing three opponents the best of five games of 11 points. Also that one doubles match be played as the fifth event when a fourth and a fifth player may be used if required. For the 2009/2010 season Div 1a should be renamed division 1, as previously. Division 1b shall be names the WIS division. Division two and three named remain the same.

Where the three players on the one side are letters A, B, C and the three players on the other side are letters X, Y, Z playing order is 1<sup>st</sup> A v X, 2<sup>nd</sup> B v Y, 3<sup>rd</sup> C v Z, 4<sup>th</sup> B v X, 5<sup>th</sup> doubles, 6<sup>th</sup> A v Z, 7<sup>th</sup> C v Y, 8<sup>th</sup> B v Z, 9<sup>th</sup> C v X, 10<sup>th</sup> A v Y.

The home team shall be A, B, C and the away team X, Y, Z. Each captain shall name the team allotting a letter to each of the three players. The order of play thus determined may only be altered by mutual agreement between the two captains. In the event of a nominated player not having put in an appearance when requested to play, a reserve can be substituted in the place of the nominated player. Other placings will remain unaffected.

Method of scoring. That in all matches one point be awarded in each individual match for each game won. The league position will be determined by adding all points won in each match.

If two teams have the same number of points, the team with the lesser number of points won (and awarded) against it will be considered to be in the higher position in the division.

Should a player not conclude their games then their opponents will be awarded the event that is one point for each game unplayed.

20. Normally all teams shall play one home and one away match with every team in the same Division.
21. For each event an Umpire shall be appointed alternatively by each team.
22. All rackets must have the surface bright red on one side and the other side in black. Rubbers must not be painted or 'inked'.  
All rubbers must be on I.T.T.F list. Any player playing with an illegal racket shall automatically lose any points won with that racket.
23. That Clubs must use 40mm table tennis balls which are authorised by the Cardiff & District League but which are sanctioned by the I.T.T.F. These authorised balls are: Schildkrot, TSP, Imperial Blue, Imperial Black, Friendship, Nittaku and Lion and Joola.
24. All matches must start not later than 7.15pm.

#### **MATCH RESULTS**

25. A score card for each match, signed by both Captains shall be forwarded by the home team and must be received by the Match Results Secretary by the Saturday of the week following the playing of the match. Any Club failing to do this shall automatically be fined £2.00.

#### **TRANSFER OF PLAYERS**

26. Any registered player wishing to transfer from one Club to another must complete a transfer form signed by the player and secretaries of the two Clubs concerned, and shall be eligible to play for the new Club immediately upon receipt of an acknowledgement from the General Secretary (but see Rule 30). No application for a transfer of a player can be entertained after 31<sup>st</sup> January, unless any special circumstances arise, when the Management Committee shall have the power to grant such applications it thinks fit. A player changing Clubs between seasons does not require to be transferred, but any objection raised by a club against a player signing for another Club shall be considered by the Management Committee, who shall have the power to cancel such registration.

#### **PROTESTS**

27. All protests and disputes must be made in writing to the General Secretary for consideration by the Management Committee. No protest relating to a particular match shall be considered unless received by the General Secretary within seven days from the date of the match.

#### **BREACH OF RULES**

28. A Club playing unregistered players shall be fined £10.00 for each offence, and their opponents will be awarded league points at the discretion of the Management Committee.
29. Except as provided for in Rule 18 any player who plays for a team other than that for which he or she is registered shall be suspended for the remainder of the season. The Officers have the right to implement this rule immediately the offence has been reported.
30. (1) Teams must fulfil fixtures in accordance with the fixture list. If the Club Room is unavailable or the fixture clashes with a cup game, the League Secretary and the Secretary of the opposing Club must be informed at least 48 hours before such match date.

(11) No match can be conceded. A team must turn up for a match unless Rule 30(1) applies or there are other exceptional extenuating circumstances approved by the League Secretary.

NB: The League Secretary would expect a team to attempt to play a match before the due date and/or to use any available reserves before requesting a postponement on the grounds of difficulty in raising a team.

(111) Whatever the reason, if a match is not played by the date shown on the printed fixture list, both clubs must write to the League Secretary within 7 days of the date of the match explaining the reason why the match was not played and informing him of the date agreed for the match to be played.”

(1V) A team may be fined £10 on each occasion and consideration given by the Management Committee to awarding points in the event of non compliance with Rules 30 (1), 30(11) or 30 (111).

31. If a team wishes to withdraw from a division and is given permission to do so, no person who has played for that team during the current season may play for any other team in the League without first obtaining permission of the Management Committee.
32. Clubs failing to pay fines within fourteen days shall forfeit any points won by the offending team during such period of fourteen days, and the said team shall be prohibited from playing any further matches until the fines are paid and the points in respect of such unplayed matches shall be awarded to their opponents.

#### **TIES etc.**

33. Teams tying for the top place in any division shall be considered joint winners.
34. That no time out will be allowed in Cardiff & District League Matches.

#### **AWARDS**

35. The league shall award medals (or such mementoes as the Management Committee decide) to Clubs winning the Championship of each division. Awards shall also be made to the runners-up of each division.
36. Clubs holding trophies of the League must provide proper security for the safe-keeping of the same and must return them when requested to do so. Trophies will be insured out of League funds.

#### **SELECTION COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVE GAMES**

37. For the purpose of choosing any representative men's or women's teams, a Selection Committee shall be formed, consisting of members of the Management Committee. All players representing the League in representative matches must be registered with the Cardiff and District League.
38. All players representing the League in representative matches must wear regulation dress as determined by the Management Committee.

#### **GENERAL**

39. Should a Club or team retire from the League for any reason during the season, no money shall be returned. All matches played by such Club or Team shall be ignored.
40. A playing shirt, shorts or skirt shall be mainly of a uniform colour other than white.
41. The League Clubs shall be guarantors of the League.
42. Any Club changing its Secretary, Headquarters or home match night during the season, must immediately notify each Club affected by the alterations, and must also inform the League Secretary of the change.
43. A senior player from a higher division can also play for a team in the lowest division as a chaperone providing the team consists of 2 players under 15 years of age. However the senior player must play all their matches using their handicap set by the Management Committee. The senior player would also be allowed to play for another team in a higher division.

#### **OPEN AND CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS**

44. An open Tournament may, at the discretion of the Management Committee, be organised each season.
45. Closed Championships, and such other events as the Management Committee shall decide, shall be organised each season by the Management Committee. To be eligible to play in these Championships, a player must have played in at least 50% of

scheduled matches at the closing date of entries, or be accepted at the discretion of the Management Committee.

Players are not eligible to play lower than the Divisions for which they were originally registered.

46. A tournament Handicapping Committee shall be elected at the first Management Committee Meeting of the season who shall handicap individual players for handicap events and supervise the draw.

**“W.G. CLEMENT”, “MONTAGUE BURTON”  
and “D.G. FOWLES” CHALLENGE CUPS**

47. The Management Committee will decide what Cup Competitions are to be played in a particular season and the rules of those competitions.
48. Teams first drawn have choice of venue, except in the Semi-Finals and Finals, which shall be played on neutral tables at such place as the Management Committee may direct.
49. Each competing team must submit a list of players and shall be handicapped as Rule 46. Names may be added to or deleted from the list submitted prior to the “draw” being made for a particular round. Such amendments shall not be effective for any particular round unless received by the first post on the Monday following the date fixed for the competition of the previous round. A player cannot play for more than one team in any one season.
50. In cup competitions where games are counted towards the results should a match be drawn then a countback will take place and the team winning the greater number of events will be declared the winner.

Score cards must be posted to the Cup Competition Secretary within three days of the match being played. Any Club failing to do so will be fined £2.00.

51. In Semi-Finals and Finals, the toss of a coin will decide who is A,B,C or X,Y, Z.
52. The Tournament Committee will make the “draw” for all events.
53. Umpires shall be appointed as for league matches and a representative to attend the Semi-Finals and Finals will be appointed by the Management Committee.
54. In the event of a Club not fulfilling an engagement, its opponents will be awarded the match.
55. The League shall present Challenge Cups (which may be held for 10 months) and medals or awards to the winners and runners-up. All Challenge Cups are to be returned to the General Secretary by the 1<sup>st</sup> March of the following year.
56. All protests must be sent to the Cup Competitions Secretary within three days of the match for submission to the Tournament Committee and their decision shall be final.
57. Seven days before the last date of each round, the Clubs shall notify the Cup Competitions Secretary of the agreed date, or of their inability to agree a date. In the latter event, the Cup Competitions Secretary shall fix a date which shall be adhered to. Once a date for any game has been agreed or fixed, no cancellation will be permitted.