

South Norfolk Pool League

GENERAL RULES

1. Name

The League shall be officially known as **South Norfolk Pool League**.

However, the league will be branded as **snpool** in short form.

Any Pub or Club with a Pool Table is eligible to join provided that their application is accepted by the League Management Committee. It is recommended that the Pool Table(s) at the venue are supplied by a reputable supplier of Pool Tables (i.e. SX Leisure) and that they have a maintenance contract attached to the supply. Tables will be inspected by League Officers before applications are approved and any venues where tables drop below the recommended standard may not be accepted into the League in subsequent seasons.

2. Officers

The Officers of the League shall be the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Minutes Secretary and Treasurer who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

3. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the 30th July each year. Notice of any Proposals to be submitted at the A.G.M. must be in writing to the League Secretary two weeks prior to the meeting each year. Each Pub/Club must be represented at the Annual General Meeting where the voting will be on a basis of one vote per team.

The venue to be chosen for the Annual General Meeting will be at the Committee's discretion.

3a Election of Officers

All Officers will be elected for a 2 year term of office as follows:-

The Chairman, Treasurer and Minutes Secretary to be elected on even years.

The Vice Chairman and Secretary to be elected on odd years.

3b Election of Working Group

The Working Group shall consist of up to 4 members to be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

4. Management

The League shall be administered by the Management Committee which shall consist of the Officers and up to 4 Working Group members elected at the Annual General Meeting.

These members shall be allowed to vote at ALL meetings except the Annual General Meeting.

The Management committee shall have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the League whether specifically provided for in the rules or not. The Management Committee has the power to adjudicate in all matters within the League. Their decision in each case will be final and no appeals will be allowed, except against suspensions or fines, provided the appropriate fees have been paid. Appeals would be purely at the discretion of the Management Committee and within a certain time period.

The Management Committee shall meet on a frequency they see fit. A meeting will be held at least twice a season. If a member of the Management Committee fails to attend three consecutive meetings, they will have deemed to have resigned and a replacement will be sought.

5. League Fixtures

The League Secretary will be responsible for all the fixture arrangements and all matches are to be played as per fixtures at the time stated. This rule applies to all competitions.

Any breach of these arrangements without at least NINE days notice to the League Secretary will be forwarded to the management Committee for a decision. The League does not accept responsibility for any error or omission on the fixture list. ALL teams should check their fixture list for any such problems and contact the League Secretary if they are not clear.

6. Referees

All referees should adopt the current playing rules and their interpretation. The League reserves the right to send neutral referees to any match which it deems necessary. The decision of the Referee in any match is final unless there is a protest when the frame shall be abandoned and the facts reported to the Management Committee.

7. Protests

All protests must be sent in writing and forwarded with the appropriate fee to the League Secretary within 48 hours of the incident, otherwise the protest will not be heard. The Management Committee may hold its own investigation into the circumstances of a particular incident without the necessity of a protest.

8. Registrations

All players must be registered to play in the Winter League. Registration is triggered by playing for a team and entering their name on to the score card. Transfers must not take place without permission from the Management Committee for which an application must be made using the correct transfer form and enclosing the fee of £10.00. Any Team or Player not adopting the correct transfer procedure will be expected to appear before the Management Committee.

8a Unregistered/Untransferred Players

Any team fielding a player during any competition in any season, who has participated for another team but not transferred correctly will be deducted all team points and frames gained in which this player has participated.

9. Alterations of Rules

No alterations can be made to the rules except at the Annual General Meeting or a meeting (EGM) convened for that purpose.

10. League Fees

All fees etc. for the administration of the League are recommended by the Management Committee.

The Management Committee reserves the right to fine a team if necessary (e.g. expenses). Individuals can also be fined by the Management Committee.

11. Cup Matches

All cup matches will be played under the same terms and conditions as League Matches. In a two-leg affair, if the scores are level after both legs, a deciding singles frame must be played at the second venue. Each Team will nominate one player who has played on the night to represent them.

12. Singles/Doubles Matches

These matches will be on a best of five, seven or nine frames basis at a neutral or convenient venue for both players. All players must be at the venue by the time their match is designated to begin. Those players who do not inform the League Secretary of their inability to play before their match is due to commence will be dealt with by the Management Committee. Players are expected to be playing in the League on a regular basis if they wish to enter the Singles/Doubles competitions. No inquest into the selection of venue will be entertained.

12a

Should two players (or Pairs) be drawn together that play at the same venue, they wherever possible, will be drawn to play at their home venue.

13. Replaying of Matches

The League Management Committee have the authority to replay matches if deemed necessary.

13a

Match dates may only be changed provided the opponents agree and the League Chairman and League Secretary are advised. All matches must be played on or before the date given on the fixture list. No matches are to be played after this date. Matches may be rearranged for a date prior to the "play by" date noting the following clauses:

13b

The team not responsible for the cancellation shall provide two alternative dates for the rescheduled fixture to be rearranged – but it must take place before the original scheduled date. These dates must be different days and not a scheduled league night.

13c

Failure to accept an alternative date offered will result in the match being awarded to the team not responsible for the cancellation.

The team awarded the match will be credited with a whitewash score of 12-0 (15-0 in Premier Division).

14. Promotion and Relegation

The two top teams in Division One and all lower Divisions at the end of the Winter League season shall be promoted to the next higher Division. The bottom two teams in the Premier Division and all lower Divisions (except the bottom Division) will be eligible for relegation. The Management Committee reserves the right to amend the Promotion or Relegation issues for all Divisions if necessary (especially if teams withdraw from the League).

If League points and frames for are level, then the number of matches won will determine the higher placed team. If this is also the same, then head to head results will determine the league position. If both teams have won a fixture each then the aggregate frames will decide. Should this also be the same, a Play-Off match will take place at the discretion of the committee.

14a Champion of Champions Qualification Criteria

Qualification for the Champion of Champions competition will be available to the Winter League Premier Division Winners and the Winners of the Main Winter League Cup Competition. Should it be the case that both of the qualifying competitions are won by the same team or in the event that one of the qualifying teams is unable to commit to the Champion of Champions competition, the Premier Division runners up will be offered the opportunity to represent the South Norfolk Pool League at the Champion of Champions competition. Entry fees for two entries will be paid by The South Norfolk Pool League.

The opportunity for the South Norfolk Pool League to enter a third team into the Champion of Champions competition will be left **solely** to the discretion of the Champion of Champions competition organisers and will depend upon the availability of any additional entry spaces. In the event that a third team entry is made available, the winner of the South Norfolk Pool League (Summer League) will be eligible for entry into this competition. In the event that the winners of the South Norfolk Pool League (Summer League) are unable to commit to the Champion of Champions competition, the runners up of the South Norfolk Pool League (Summer League) will be offered the opportunity to fulfil this entry and represent the league.

In the event that any team eligible or subsequently offered the opportunity to represent the South Norfolk Pool League is unable to commit to the Champion of Champions competition, the committee reserves the right to offer this position to the next eligible team, based upon their final league or cup position. The Committee's decision will be final.

15. Trophies

Winners and Runners-Up of each League Division, each Cup competition and each individual competition at the end of the season will be presented with mementoes at Finals Day. League and Cup mementoes will be capped at 7 per team.

All trophy winners will be expected to attend during Finals Day to collect their mementos or they should arrange to collect them from the league at a later date.

Extra medals may be ordered from the Management Committee as long as the appropriate fees are paid.

16. Venues

If a Pub or Club closes or the Pool Table is removed, it is the Management Committee's discretion regarding the outcome of the Team and or the Players that are still in Competitions.

17. Withdrawals

If a team leaves the League at any point during the season all matches will be awarded as a whitewash, including matches already played to that point. A fine not exceeding £30 will be levied on any team leaving the League before the end of the season.

Players from a withdrawn team are unable to play for a new team unless transferred correctly under the guidance of the League Secretary.

18. Discipline

The Management committee reserves the right to suspend, fine or expel any Player or Team, for any breach of these rules, or any rules that the Management Committee makes at any future time, or for any act deemed by the committee to have brought the League into disrepute.

18a

Any Player or Team accused of any offence against any Player or Team or against the League, will be offered every opportunity to defend themselves, or explain their conduct either in writing, or in person to the Disciplinary Committee.

18b

Any Player or Team expelled will not be allowed to enter any competition organised by the League, until the League who suspended the Player or Team, has been re-admitted them to the League, which originally suspended them.

18c

If a Player or Team is suspended, then the names and addresses and reason for the suspension, must be forwarded to the Norfolk County Pool Association Secretary.

18d

Any Player or Team who is expelled from the League, will forfeit the whole of any subscriptions and entry fees paid in the current year, and any rights or entitlements formally accorded to them as members of the League.

18e

Any Player or Team suspended by the League has the Right to appeal, and must appeal to the League who suspended them firstly. If the appeal fails, they may request their County Association to hear their case. If the County Association rejects their case, they can request the Regional Association to hear their case. If the Regional Association rejects their case, they can request the English Pool Association to hear their case, and their decision is final.

18f

The League disciplinary committee will consist of : The Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Minutes Secretary and 2 Working Party members. (Minute Secretary to take the minutes of the meeting)

18g

The League appeals disciplinary committee will consist of : The Chairman, Secretary and 2 Working Party members, different from the disciplinary committee (Minute Secretary to take the minutes of the meeting)

19 Use of Social Media

We recognise that the Internet provides unique opportunities to participate in interactive discussions and share information on particular topics using a wide variety of social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, blogs etc. However, South Norfolk Pool League has a responsibility to ensure that all of its stakeholders are protected from online abuse, discrimination and other communications and activities that could be deemed to be abusive, demeaning, derogatory or potentially inflammatory. Any individual team member, player, groups of players or any other South Norfolk Pool League stakeholder found to be using social media (in any form) to undertake activities and communications to the detriment of other stakeholders will be considered to be bringing the league into disrepute and could be subject to disciplinary action detailed within the general rules, points 18 – 18g

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