

# **ST.HELENS THURSDAY SNOOKER LEAGUE**

## **LEAGUE RULES 2011-2012**

### **1. League**

That this League be called "St. Helens Thursday Snooker League". The Management Committee shall have the power to consider application for membership from any Club within acceptable geographic limits.

### **2. Composition of League.**

That the League consist of two Divisions of 10 Snooker Teams.

Each Club shall pay an annual subscription of £35 per team prior to the beginning of the season.

Any variation(s) from the foregoing shall be dealt with by the Management Committee, both as to status and subscriptions.

In the event of a team withdrawing once the fixtures have been prepared or following the first fixtures or at any later stage, the above fee will be forfeited.

That each member Club shall settle their financial obligations to the League, for the coming season, not later than 7 days prior to the start of the season.

### **3. Players**

All players must be registered and be full members of the club they are playing for.

Each player in the league will pay a subscription of £2 which will cover the whole league season

The league shall be on a handicap basis. The maximum handicap is +50, and there is no lower ceiling. The maximum handicap an amateur player can give is 55 points. Professional players must give full handicap start.

New players that have not previously played in leagues will start off a handicap of 21. For other players who are new to the League but have played in other snooker leagues it is the responsibility of the team delegate to recommend a fair handicap.

Such 'Novice' and 'New' players will have their handicaps adjusted if necessary after week 6, 13 and 20 of the league program. Changes will be made on the basis of games played and win loss records.

If it is found that team delegates have recommended an unfairly high handicap then the team will be subject to a penalty, at the discretion of the committee, of a number of points up to that gained by the individual, including any aggregate score points. The player may also be de-registered from the league and no longer able to take part in the current season.

A full review of league handicaps will take place after league week 13 and will involve ALL league players registered. Players will be subject to review depending on the number of games played and their win/loss record. The maximum change can be -7 or +7 at this review stage.

### **4. Management.**

The League shall be governed by a Management Committee consisting of a Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Competition Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, up to 6 members elected at the Annual General Meeting. The committee shall have complete jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the league. All shall have voting power and the chairman shall have a casting vote when necessary.

### **5. Meetings.**

The Annual General Meeting shall be on the first Thursday in July each year. The business at that meeting shall include:-

Election of officers and Committee; Secretary's Report; Treasurers Report including a certified statement of accounts; Amendments to Rules; Notices of Motion and General Business.

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## **5. Meetings (cont).**

(a) Notices of Motions to be in the hands of the Secretary 14 days prior to the meeting, and both Proposer and Secunder to be in attendance at the AGM otherwise the motion will be declared void. Any motion would also be void should the Proposer and/or Secunder's Club(s) fail to fulfill all their financial obligations. Voting at the AGM is one vote per Team providing they have fulfilled their financial obligation as specified above. Apologies are acceptable for non-attendance at an AGM.

(b) Applications for entry into the League for the following season must also be made at this meeting. Any such applications must be agreed to by two-thirds of the eligible ballot. All Clubs to submit the number of teams they are entering for the following season together with a list of their registered players at the A.G.M.

(c) The Chairman shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting on notice from at least 25% of the leagues teams for the reason given in writing.

## **6. Trophies.**

That trophies be awarded to the winners of all competitions held under the jurisdiction of the League and held for the following 12 months. The Clubs or Individuals be responsible for their safe-keeping and insurance during that period and their return when requested, in the same clean and undamaged condition, and subsequent replacement if lost or damaged. In the event of the league being lapsed, suspended or disbanded, all trophies and monies shall pass into the care of four trustees who shall be responsible for arranging their safe custody. The trustees shall consist of the Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Results/Fixture Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, who shall have the power to demand the return of all trophies by the holders, even though the twelve month period has not expired.

## **7. Prizes.**

That in each division SEVEN prizes be presented to the Champions of each division, and SEVEN to the Runners-up and a prize to the divisional player of the year (decided by Win/Loss records), and captains choice player of the year (decided by Man of the Match nominations). There will also be a prize for the highest break in each division. Prizes may take the form of either trophies or cash prize (or both).

## **8. Conditions of Play.**

(a) That all Clubs shall have tables prepared and ready for play at their respective start time.

(b) That each player must be a bone-fide member of the Club for which he/she is registered.

(c) No player can sign for or play for more than one team or club in any one season.

(d) Late registrations will be accepted up to the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> period of Fixtures (2<sup>nd</sup> turnaround) for a fee of £2.00 per player.

(e) That the games be contested under rules currently in force at that time and each Club exhibits a copy in their Clubroom.

(f) That no further late registration of players will be allowed after the second section of fixtures (out of three), exceptional circumstances accepted, subject to Management Committee approval.

(g) Clubs entering teams in the League must fulfill their league fixtures on the recognised nights set by the League and changes to this must be with full Management Committee approval.

(h) Each club shall notify the league of the starting times for matches at their respective clubs.

(i) The "MISS" rule will not apply in this league, but a genuine attempt must be made to escape from a laid snooker. If it is deemed that the attempt was blatantly false, only then can the balls be replaced and the striker asked to take the shot again. Only if a qualified referee is in charge of a frame, can a "miss" be called.

(j) That in snooker, teams shall consist of six players, one frame shall be played by each player.

(k) The HOME Captain nominates two players and advises the AWAY captain of the table numbers. The AWAY captain then nominates their opponents. The HOME Captain ensures that the respective player's handicaps are put on to the scoreboard, and so on throughout the match. Once the captains have made their nomination of players they shall not thereafter be changed.

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### **8. Conditions of Play (cont).**

(l) That any team which keeps a table empty for 15 minutes because of shortage of players shall forfeit one frame, and 30 minutes later if no player is available, shall forfeit another frame, etc. Where a frame is forfeited, the offending team will lose the frame 100-0.

(m) If any team fails to turn up for a match without prior agreement of the league Management Committee and their opponents, they shall forfeit the match 7-0 and face a penalty of 3 league points.

(n) That all league matches will be played and points awarded as follows. A total of 7 points will be at stake, 1 point for each frame won and 1 point for the highest aggregate score. Each frame to be decisive. Re-spotted black to decide drawn frame, this must be added to frame score and must count towards team aggregate score. In the event of the total aggregate scores being level at the end of the match, then the black in the final frame to finish will be re-spotted and the SAME PLAYERS will complete the match to decide the aggregate point.

(o) That the home team will be responsible for providing referees for all frames.

(p) That any team playing an ineligible player shall have ALL points deducted from that match and the points awarded to the opposing team. Any other matches affected by this infringement shall be similarly dealt with.

(q) No chalk must be left on tables during play.

### **9. Promotion and Relegation.**

At the end of each season the two teams with the lowest number of points in Division One will be relegated into Division Two and the two teams with the highest number of points in Division Two shall be promoted to Division One. However, to ensure a suitable number of teams are maintained in the two divisions, the Management Committee reserves the right to deviate from this rule if necessary.

In the event of two or more teams ending on the same number of points and where a promotion/relegation/championship is at stake, there will be a play-off between teams to determine who wins the said prize at stake. In the event of more than two teams, a play off series shall be formulated and played on convenient dates for all parties

### **10. Result Cards**

Result Cards are provided and must be completed during the actual playing of the match. The HOME team or Club is responsible for forwarding the completed result card, signed by both captains noting any high breaks, man of the match etc. The result card must be in the hands of the RESULTS/FIXTURE SECRETARY no later than **6pm on the TUESDAY** following the match. Late results will result in one warning, followed by penalty point deductions for each further infringement

### **11. Match Results.**

(i) For ALL league matches the onus is on BOTH team Captains to make sure the result is in on time. TEAM CAPTAINS shall text or e-mail the result to the Secretary, Dave O'Dowd as soon as the match ends and on the same night. Results MUST be text, or e-mailed no later than **NOON on Saturday** following the match. Late results will result in one warning, followed by penalty point deductions for each further infringement. Result cards received before this time means this rule will NOT apply.

**Contact:** Text: **07984 309268** or email: [david\\_odowd@hotmail.com](mailto:david_odowd@hotmail.com)

(ii) For ALL Competition matches. Both players to text or email result the Competition Secretary, Chris Hill as soon as the match ends and on the same night. Late results could result in the scratching of one or both players/teams from the tournament

**Contact:** Text: **07941 498 308** or email: [redhotchilly8@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:redhotchilly8@hotmail.co.uk)

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## **12. Postponement and Non-fulfillment of Fixtures**

(a) No arranged League match may be cancelled except at the discretion of the League and with the agreement of the opposing team. An alternative date must be fixed and the game played within 21 days of the original date.

(b) That in the event of any match being caused to be abandoned such match to be completed within 14 days of the original date and three weeks before the final league fixtures, otherwise a date will be fixed by the League, which must be Strictly adhered to. All completed games in the abandoned match to stand, uncompleted games to be treated as not started.

## **13 Protests and Disputes.**

(a) That all protests must be telephoned through on the night of the match and then in writing within 48 hours of the finish of the match, accompanied by a fee of £5.00 and sent to the League secretary. The fee shall be refunded should the committee consider it a valid complaint irrespective of their decision. If considered frivolous it shall be forfeited.

(b) All clubs have the right to appeal against any judgement made by the league committee. A fee of £5.00 must be paid and is refundable if the appeal is upheld. The league will withhold the fee if the appeal is rejected. All appeals must be received within **30 days** of the offense/ruling in question and sent in writing to the League Secretary. The appeal will be assessed by the league committee and a ruling made. No further appeals are permitted and the decision with then be final.

## **14. Competition Formats**

### **(i) Three Man Team Championship**

Matches of three players, one frame each, handicap starts on the board, (league and divisional start). Aggregate score wins. Toss for nomination and break then alternate. Frames can be tied but not the match. If aggregate score is tied the last 2 players playing re-spot black.

### **(ii) Handicap Pairs Championship**

Matches of two players, best of 3 frames, handicaps calculated based on individual Handicaps in the league added together then divided by 2. Toss for break then alternate.

### **(iii) Handicap Open Championship**

All matches are two frames. Aggregate scores determine the winner. Handicap as per the current league handicap at the time of playing (subject to review). Toss for break then alternate.

### **(iv) Scratch Senior Championship**

Matches are best of three frames except for the final which is the best of five frames. Play off scratch. Toss for break then alternate

### **(v) Under 25's and Over 50's Handicap Individual Championships**

All matches are best of 3 frames. Handicaps as per the current league handicap, at the time of playing, (subject to review). Toss for break then alternate.

ALL players drawn out first are determined to be at Home, and will play at their club venue. This will apply up until the semi-finals, and finals, which will be played on neutral venues.

## **15. Team Knock-Out Competition**

This shall be arranged on a similar basis to league matches, with necessary adjustments made by the management committee. A random draw will determine each round and the first team will be at Home and will play at their club venue. Semi Finals and Finals will be neutral.

## **16. Finance**

The Chairman, Secretary, Competition Secretary and Treasurer shall all be named on any bank mandate.

Any two signatures shall be required for the signing of cheques or the withdrawal of funds from the account/s.

The Treasurer will provide a full statement of the League Accounts at the AGM which will outline the Income, Expenditure and the current balances from league Bank account and any cash in hand. This will be audited by a qualified Accountant before presentation.

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**GENERAL.**

THAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MAY INTERPRET ANY OF THE RULES ABOVE AT THEIR OWN DISCRETION, AND THE ACTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IS DEEMED FINAL ON ANY MATTER NOT COVERED BY THESE RULES.

***Rules Issues October 2011***