

# TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP OF WALES RULES

## 1. Name

The Competition shall be called "Team Championship of Wales". The title may also include the name of a sponsor or product.

## 2. Competition

Membership is open to:

2.1 All Leagues affiliated to the Table Tennis Association of Wales Limited.

2.2 Community Clubs as defined in Rule 4.1.12 of the T.T.A.W. Constitution & Rules, which are outside the jurisdiction of a league or outside the county in which the league is centered.

2.3 Community Clubs that are within the jurisdiction of a league but only with the written permission of that league supported by a signed copy of the minute supporting the permission.

## 3. Management

The Team Championship of Wales shall be organised by a Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator who may appoint assistants. The Co-ordinator and assistants shall be responsible to the Board of Directors of the TTAW Ltd.

## 4. Divisions

These may include

A] Senior Divisions      B] Junior Divisions      C] Veteran Divisions

For the purpose of participating in a junior or veteran division those players must conform with the age restrictions defined in Rule 4.1.3 or 4.1.4 of the Constitution & Rules of the T.T.A.W. Ltd. No more than three teams from the same "league" may play in any division.

## 5. Subscriptions

The Annual Subscription to be recommended by the Board of Directors for the approval of the Extraordinary General Meeting. A decision to be made before the circulation of entry forms.

Subscriptions to be included with the entry form. No team shall be allowed to play until all fees are paid.

All teams will pay a Guarantee Fee of £25. The Guarantee Fee, unless forfeited, may be refunded at the end of the season.

## 6. Clothing

Each team shall play in the same team shirts. Each "league" will be responsible for ensuring that its representative team wears the team shirt. All teams shall play in garments that conform to ITTF regulations. ITTF rules concerning a clash of colour will not apply.

The event co-ordinator or the "Referee of the Day" will decide if a shirt is illegal or "not a team shirt" and will report such offences to the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator. The penalty for failing comply with this regulation shall be £10.

## 7. Players - Eligibility to play.

a] Subject to the Registration process set out in 7b players may play in The Team Championship of Wales for any team. A player may play for different "leagues" in different age groups.

b] The player shall sign a Registration Form and is then bound to a "league" unless subject to the transfer process below.

c] A player may play for a higher team of the same "league" or "Community Club". On a third appearance for a higher team the player is bound to the higher team for the remainder of the season. In the event of a player playing for more than one higher team of the same league s/he is then bound to a higher team. In such a case the Co-ordinator will decide which higher team.

d] No player shall play for 2 teams in the division in which he is registered.

e] If a player is playing up for a higher team s/he will not be able to play for the lower team for that round of matches. i.e. **No player will be allowed to play 2 matches at the same time**

d] No team may register a player or transfer a player after 31<sup>st</sup> January in any season.

## 8. Transfers

a] In exceptional circumstances with the consent of "leagues" concerned, the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator may agree to the transfer during the season of a player from one league to another. Such a player becomes eligible to play for his new league immediately upon receipt of notification from the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator.

b] A player changing his "league" between seasons does not require to be transferred.

## **9. Fixtures**

All teams shall play each other twice in a season. Matches will be played at Central Venues set out in the Handbook.

## **10. Dates of Fixtures**

The dates and venues of Fixtures shall be arranged by the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator with a maximum of three matches at any one session for any one team. Teams may not re-arrange fixtures.

## **11. Alteration of Dates**

There shall be no alteration of dates except by the authority of the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator or the Board of Directors.

## **12. Matches - Number of Events.**

Each match shall consist of seven events, each player playing two members of the opposing team the best of five games of 11 points, plus the doubles also the best of five games of 11 points. The result of each match shall be determined by events. League points shall be awarded as in Rule 13. All matches shall be played to a finish. All matches will be played using an approved ball supplied by TTAW Ltd.

## **13. Method of Awarding League Points.**

In each match league points shall be awarded as follows:  
2 points to the winning team - 0 points to the losing team.

## **14. Constitution of Teams**

Teams shall consist of three players, but additional players may be used for the one doubles match. The three players shall be numbered 1, 2, 3. Individual teams can choose their team ranking, which cannot be altered after the start of the match. Each team shall submit to the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator the names of the players and the order intended for use.

### *Late Registrations*

Late registration of players must be sent to the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator. Team must register a player before 31<sup>st</sup> December in any season.

## **15 Order of play**

1) 1 v 2      2) 2 v 1      3) 3 v 3      4) Doubles      5) 1 v 1      6) 3 v 2      7) 2 v 3

The order of play may only be altered in exceptional circumstances by mutual agreement between captains and with the permission of the Referee.

N.B. This rule is not to be interpreted as allowing "alternate choices" for order of play.

Where any variation of the above order has been allowed, the prescribed order of play is to be reverted to as soon as possible.

## **16. Time of Commencement of Matches**

The Team Championship Co-ordinator or Board of Directors will set all starting times.

## **17. Late or Delayed Starts**

a] Any event not commenced within fifteen minutes of the time nominated for the commencement of the match, or within five minutes of the end of the previous event, owing to the absence of one player, shall be awarded to the opposing team, or if both players are absent then the event shall not be counted in the result.

b] Any event not played for the foregoing reason shall be construed as having occupied fifteen minutes of time, and the forfeiture principle shall be applied both in respect of events played, in which case the five minute period of grace shall be counted from the time of completion of the event and events forfeited or unplayed should have commenced. That is to say, allowing for the maximum periods of grace, the next event after an unplayed one must start not later than 25 minutes after the one last played.

c] Notwithstanding the foregoing, any team not present thirty minutes after the nominated start of the match shall be fined up to £50 as set out in Rule 21 and the match automatically awarded to the opposing team.

## **18. Exchange of Players' Names & Numbers**

Before the commencement of a match the team captains shall exchange score books and indicate the names of the team members and the "numbers" allotted to them. This action should take place fifteen minutes prior to the commencement of a match. It is the responsibility of the team captain to decide the placing of his/her team.

#### **19. Referee**

At all sessions the Umpires Co-ordinator shall appoint a referee. The Referee shall be known to the officials and players of all teams. The Referee shall be responsible for the timing of matches, the correct observation of the rules of the game, and behaviour of players and deal with any complaints from captains.

#### **20. Score Books**

Official TTAW score sheets from score books provided by the TTAW, duly completed and signed by the respective captains shall be returned by both teams at the conclusion of a match to the session organiser.

#### **21. Failure to Participate**

In the event of a team failing to participate in a scheduled session, two points shall be withheld from that team and two points and seven events shall be awarded to the non-defaulting team. The defaulting or absent team may be fined a maximum amount of £50 per match unplayed. The defaulting team may appeal to the Board of Directors against the imposition of the fine, submitting reasons.

#### **22. Incomplete Team**

In the event of a team participating in a scheduled session with a player short, its opposing team shall be awarded the event[s] not played. A fine of £20 per match shall be imposed upon the defaulting team, except when an injury is sustained during the scheduled session.

The remaining 2 players will occupy positions 1 & 2 with position 3 remaining blank .

The games not played will be awarded to the non defaulting team.

In the event of only one player being available this will be deemed as a **failure to participate and Rule 21 will come into effect.**

#### **23. Payment of Fines**

All fines must be paid with 14 days of notification by the either the General Secretary TTAW or the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator.

Failure by a "league" to pay its fines within the specified time will result in the original fine being automatically doubled. Any fines still outstanding at the end of the season will mean that the offending "league" may not be allowed to participate in Team Championship of Wales activities for future seasons. The team guarantee fee will be forfeited.

#### **24. Protests and Disputes**

All protests and disputes must be sent in writing to the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator for consideration at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. A deposit of £50 must accompany all protests and disputes, the deposit to be returned if the Management Committee decide the protest or dispute to be justified. No protest or dispute relating to a match will be considered unless received by the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator within seven days of such a match.

#### **25. Appeals**

Appeals against forfeiture of matches referred to in Rule 21, or against the forfeiture of events referred to in Rule 17, or against the imposition of fines, shall be made to the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have the power to waive these penalties should they consider the circumstances extenuating. In such cases the Board of Directors may order the replay of a match at a specified date.

#### **26. Promotion and Relegation**

a) In the Veterans competition the first team of a division shall be eligible for promotion and the bottom team eligible for relegation as long as the teams enter the same standard of players. The 5<sup>th</sup> team in the higher division and the second team in the lower division will play off for the right to play in the higher division. If a "league" enters a much weaker team in a high division then they may be moved to a lower division. Teams Competing in the Junior Competition will be allocated to divisions by the Team Championship of Wales Co-ordinator according to merit.

b) In the Senior and Junior competition the first team of a division shall be eligible for promotion and the bottom team eligible for relegation at the end of the first round of matches.

c) The positions in a division shall be determined by the number of points obtained in accordance with rules 13 and 21. Teams with equal points will be separated by the ratio of games won/lost. If teams are still equal they will be separated by the ITTF process in operation.

#### **27. Championship Cups and Awards**

a) The TTAW shall present a trophy to the winning team in each division of the Team Championship of Wales, the Board of Directors having the power to award individual trophies to members of the winning teams.

b) All "leagues" holding cups or trophies of the TTAW must provide proper security for their safe-keeping and return them when requested. Such cups will be insured by the TTAW.

## **28. Other Matters**

The Board of Directors shall have the power to deal with any matters concerning the Team Championship of Wales not provided for in the rules, imposing any penalty they deem necessary, unless the penalty to be incurred is expressly stated in the rules.

All **TTAW** sanctioned events must take **PRIORITY** over any other events.