

Gravesend and District Table Tennis League

League Rules

1 Title

1.1 The League shall be called the Gravesend and District Table Tennis League, hereinafter called 'the League' and the address shall be that of the Hon General Secretary

2 Objectives of the League

2.1 To promote and encourage Table Tennis in every possible way and to make, vary and publish rules as deemed necessary

3 Constitution

3.1 Officers: the officers of the League shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon General Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Hon Scores Secretary, Hon Minutes Secretary, Hon Web and Publicity Officer, Hon League Coach and Auditor. The officers, with the exception of the President and Vice-Presidents shall be elected by an Annual General Meeting for a term of one year, at the end of which period they shall retire but be eligible for re-election. The President and Vice-Presidents shall be elected by an Annual General Meeting for life, but nominations for these offices may only be made by the Executive Committee.

3.2 Executive Committee; The affairs of the League shall be managed by an Executive Committee consisting of the officers (excluding President, Vice-Presidents and Auditor), Kent League representatives and three other members, who shall be elected by an Annual General Meeting for the term of one year. The Executive Committee shall meet once in every month, except in the month in which the Annual General Meeting is held. A quorum for all Executive Committee meetings will be four members. The Executive Committee shall be empowered to co-opt any member of any member club for the purposes of carrying out any duty.

3.3 Standing Sub-Committee; The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon General Secretary and Hon Treasurer shall constitute a Standing Sub-Committee to act on behalf of the Executive Committee between committee meetings. Any action shall be reported to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

3.4 Sub-Committees; The Executive Committee shall be empowered to appoint sub-committees and appoint members who are not on the Executive Committee. The chairman of each sub-committee shall be a member of the Executive Committee.

4 Affiliation

4.1 The League shall be affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA) and the Kent County Table Tennis Association (KCTTA)

5 Membership

5.1 Membership of the League shall be open to clubs, organisations, youth clubs and schools at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

6 Club Registrations

6.1 Clubs must register with the League by the date notified by the Executive Committee, when details of a minimum of three players per team, together with the appropriate registration form and fees must be lodged with the Hon Treasurer.

6.2 Clubs who fail to provide details of their teams, registration forms and fees by the date requested by the Executive Committee will be liable to a fine of £10 per team

6.3 All players must have completed a League registration form, paid their fees and received confirmation of such from the Hon Treasurer prior to their participation in any match. Failure to comply will render the club liable to a fine under playing rule 11.3 and points gained by the player will be expunged from the record.

6.4 Players' registrations for Clubs will only be accepted via the recognised Member Club Secretary. Registration fees are not transferable between players

6.5 No player may be registered for more than one club at any time

6.6 Registrations will not be accepted after the 31 December for the current season except at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

6.7 No refund of registration fees shall be made following commencement of the season unless a player has played no matches and the refund is requested prior to the 31 December.

6.8 The Executive Committee shall have the right to refuse registrations, if, in its opinion, such registrations are detrimental to the best interests of the League. Reasons for refusal shall be forwarded to the club concerned.

6.9 Persons who are not registered players may be nominated for positions as League officials at the discretion of the Executive Committee

6.10 A guarantee fee of £10.00 per team must accompany applications for any new club or team registrations. This will be held by the League to be used against any unpaid monies due. Upon payment, the guarantee will be restored to its original amount. Any team leaving the League on completion of a season shall be entitled to a refund of the guarantee fee. Failure to complete a season shall cause the guarantee fee to be forfeited.

7 Fees

7.1 League registration fees will be charged in respect of each registered player and are payable to the Hon Treasurer at the time of the registration. The fees will be determined annually by the Executive Committee and announced at the Annual General Meeting

7.2 All players must be registered with the ETTA independently of the league and in accordance with the rules as stated by the ETTA. Any player who is unable to register independently should contact the committee as no player is eligible to play until registered with the ETTA.

8 Annual General Meeting

8.1 The Annual General Meeting of the League shall be held by the 30 June each year on a date decided by the Executive Committee. At least 14 days' notice shall be given to each officer, to each member of the Executive Committee and to each member club secretary by circulation of the agenda, the audited statement of the accounts and proposals and amendments for rule changes.

8.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall include the election of officers and the Executive Committee, the presentation of the Hon Treasurers' report and audited statement of accounts for the year ending the previous March.

8.3 On all resolutions each member club shall be entitled to the following votes: up to two teams – 1 vote, each additional two teams – 1 vote, up to a maximum of 4 votes. Every club MUST send a representative to the Annual General Meeting. Failure to comply shall render the club liable to a fine of £15.00

8.4 Officers, members of the Executive Committee, and all registered players shall be entitled to attend and speak at the Annual General Meeting.

8.5 A two-thirds majority of votes shall be necessary to adopt any amendment to the League Rules or Playing Rules. Other resolutions shall be decided by a simple majority, the Chairman having the casting vote if necessary.

8.6 Resolutions affecting the League Rules or Playing Rules shall be submitted to the Hon General Secretary by February 15. Such resolutions shall be circulated by the Hon General Secretary to all member club secretaries' and all members of the Executive Committee by March 15. Amendments to such resolutions shall be submitted to the Hon General Secretary by March 31.

8.7 The League Rules and Playing Rules may only be made or amended at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

9 Special General Meeting

9.1 A Special General Meeting of the League shall be convened on a resolution of the Executive Committee, or within one month of receipt by the Hon General Secretary of a resolution signed by the authorised representatives of at least half of the affiliated clubs, stating the purpose for which the meeting shall be convened.

10 Finance

10.1 The funds of the League shall be deposited with the Gravesend branch of the HSBC bank and all cheques, drafts etc. drawn on these accounts shall be signed by the Hon Treasurer and either the Chairman or the Hon General Secretary. The Executive Committee may decide on alternative secured deposit arrangements as may benefit the League.

11 Tournaments

11.1 The Executive Committee shall be empowered to organise the Gravesend Closed Championships and other tournaments, such as the Team event, making such arrangements as it deems necessary.

11.2 All registered players of the League who have played three or more League matches shall be eligible to enter all tournaments unless they are a restricted player – see 11.3

11.3 Players who play in other leagues are defined as restricted players in accordance with Playing Rule 5 and must have played five League matches by the closing date for entries to be eligible to play in the Gravesend Closed Championships

12 Turner Trophy

12.1 Structure

- 12.1.1 The league will organise a handicapped team tournament called The Turner Trophy
- 12.1.2 All registered teams will be entered into the tournament
- 12.1.3 The tournament will follow a single knockout format

12.2 Draw

- 12.2.1 Each round will be drawn by lot
- 12.2.2 For each fixture drawn, the home team is the first drawn team and the second drawn team is the away team
- 12.2.3 Home and away teams may be switched at the discretion of the Executive Committee
- 12.2.4 The final will be played on neutral ground

12.3 Eligibility

- 12.3.1 Players are eligible once their rating no longer has a provisional status. This is normally once they have played three league matches.
- 12.3.2 Players can play for any other team within their club
- 12.3.3 Once a player has played in the tournament, they are tied to that team and cannot play for any other team in the tournament.
- 12.3.4 Other players will be considered at the discretion of the Executive Committee

12.4 Handicaps

- 12.4.1 A player's handicap group is determined by the player's rating at the beginning of the week in which the draw is made.
- 12.4.2 A player's handicap group may be altered at the discretion of the Executive Committee

12.5 Format

- 12.5.1 Each team will put forward three players for a fixture
- 12.5.2 Each match will consist of nine single matches
- 12.5.3 Each match will consist of two sets
- 12.5.4 The starting points for each set are obtained by calculating the difference between two player's handicap groups and referencing this difference in the starting points table, with the lower ranked player starting on the higher score

- 12.4.5 Service will change when the aggregate score is divisible by five
- 12.5.6 A set is won when a player reaches the maximum score: it does not have to be won by two clear points
- 12.5.7 Apart from scoring and service change all normal playing rules apply
- 12.5.8 After each match, sets won are added to their team's running total**
- 12.5.9 The winners are the team with the highest sets won total after all nine matches have been played**
- 12.5.10 In the event of a tie the team who have scored the most individual points will be deemed the winners. Points need only be calculated in the event of the tie.**
- 12.5.11 In the event of a further tie the team will nominate one player for a single deciding set in the same format**

13 Dissolution

13.1 In the event of the winding up or dissolution of the League, any surplus assets shall be held in trust by the KCTTA for a period of five years, during which the KCTTA shall endeavour to promote and encourage the formation of a similar organisation. If successful, the KCTTA shall hand over the surplus assets of the League to that similar organisation. In the event of failure, the surplus assets of the League shall be absorbed within the funds of the KCTTA

14 Matters not covered in these Rules

14.1 In the event of a question or matter arising which is not provided for in the foregoing rules, such question or matter shall be referred to the Executive Committee, whose discretion shall be final.