H&DTTA League Formats

July 2022

At the last AGM there were discussions about the League format with an aim to reduce the time taken for a match to be completed. Unfortunately there was insufficient time to review the options.

As this is an important issue then any changes need to be considered carefully. The Executive Committee has considered various formats and has narrowed down the options to 4 possibilities, details below. Whichever format is chosen, some steps can be taken to reduce playing time such as: -The team knock up be complete before the start time. Starting sharply at the agreed start time. Keeping knock ups between games strictly to the rules. Possibly playing on 2 tables if time is moving on.

Potential Formats

1. Keep to the existing format.

Pros – One that we all understand and have been playing for many years.

Cons – Does not shorten the match.

1. Keep to the existing format but each match only 3 sets.

Pros – Again, one that we all understand but potentially shortens the match.

Cons – Gives less opportunity for a player to “come back” by finding a way of playing against the opponent.

1. Modified British League Format. This format plays 8 games instead of 10, consisting of 6 singles and 2 doubles. Each team agrees their playing order from 1 to 3 then games are played in the following order: -

1v1, 1v2, 2v1, 2v3, 3v3, 3v2, plus 2 games of doubles.

Pros – Would help to reduce the time. Would still be possible for the result to be a draw.

Cons – Each player would only play 2 games of singles.

1. The Watts Cup format. Consists of six singles and three doubles games.

Pros – Would help to reduce the time. Everyone plays 4 games.

Cons – Each player would only play 2 games of singles. Due to 9 games being played result cannot be a draw.

Any changes to the format can only be agreed by the members at the AGM on Monday. 15th August

Dave Watters

Chairman

H&DTTA