



# STIRLINGSHIRE AND MIDLAND COUNTIES TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

## RULES AND REGULATIONS 2022/23 SEASON

### 1 REGISTRATION/PAYMENTS

- 1.1 Every league player will complete annually the online league registration form no later than **3 weeks prior** to the league season commencing
- 1.2 All league members must be affiliated to Table Tennis Scotland. The league secretary will register all players with Table Tennis Scotland at the start of the season following completion of the league registration form. Once players are registered they will receive notification of their licence/affiliation number from Table Tennis Scotland.
- 1.3 All league fees should be paid by bank transfer (preferred) or in-person/online card payment no later than **5 days prior to the start date of the relevant league season**. Failure to pay league fees by this point will result in withdrawal from the league.
- 1.4 New players joining mid-way through the season should pay any fees by no later than one week after their first match (fees will be pro-rated).

### 2 PLAYERS/POSTPONEMENTS

- 2.1 Each team will consist of a minimum of two players
- 2.2 In the event that a team is unable to field two players for a scheduled match this should be communicated to the Match Secretary via Spond or phone **by the Thursday evening prior to the match night** they are unable to make or preferably earlier. For example, if, as a Division 1 player, you know you are unable to make a Tuesday the following week this should be advised by the preceding Thursday evening to allow fixtures to try to be re-arranged. Cancellation/postponement of matches may not be permitted if the Thursday cut-off is not adhered to or if teams have already postponed several fixtures, this will be left to the discretion of the Match Secretary taking account of table availability.
- 2.3 In cases where fixtures are unable to be postponed/rearranged, a player from a lower Division may be used as a reserve to cover the match.
- 2.4 In cases where a lower Division reserve player cannot be used for the match, a non-league player may be used provided they are of a standard no greater than that of the highest ranked player in the team they are playing for and have/will pay the appropriate registration fee. The Committee will have the final say on eligibility in case of dispute.

### 3 DIVISIONS

- 3.1 Division with 13 or more teams will have a mid-season 'split'. In these cases, each team will play each other once and then the Division will split into two halves (top and bottom) with each team playing the others in their half only again.
- 3.2 In Divisions with less than 13 teams, teams will play each other 2 or 3 times depending on numbers.
- 3.3 Exact numbers of promotion and relegation places will depend on the players/teams returning in the next season and the final decision is at the discretion of the Committee.
- 3.4 Joining criteria for any new players entering the league:
  - 3.4.1 For those who are new to the league and have no previous participation record, they will be placed in a Division deemed suitable by their national Ratings Central rating if an up to date one exists. If their national rating is above that of the highest rated player in the league currently they will be placed directly into the Premier League, otherwise Division allocation will be at the discretion of the committee (but most likely starting in Division 1)
  - 3.4.2 For any returning players from previous seasons who do not have a significantly updated national rating they will be allocated a Division today which is reflective of their playing level at their last season of participation.

## 4 MATCHES

- 4.1 Matches will consist of five games – four singles and a doubles match each played to the best of 5 ends. For example, Team A & B vs. Team X & Y:  
*Match 1: A/B vs. X/Y*  
*Match 2: A vs. X*  
*Match 3: B vs. Y*  
*Match 4: A vs. Y*  
*Match 5: B vs. X*
- 4.2 Points will be awarded for each individual game won as opposed to the match result, i.e., in a 3-2 win, the winning team gains 3 points and the losing team gains 2.
- 4.3 Weekly fixtures will be notified via Spond at least 48 hours before the match. Players should RSVP to these match invitations promptly.
- 4.4 All matches will be played at the **Bowhouse Community Centre** unless otherwise advised.
- 4.5 Premier League match night is *Wednesdays from 7.30pm*  
Division 1 match nights are *Sundays from 7.30pm* and *Tuesdays from 8pm*  
Division 2 match night is *Sundays from 6pm*
- 4.6 Matches played at the Bowhouse Community Centre must be completed by **9.50pm at the latest**. Teams should keep this in mind and ensure matches are started promptly and spare tables utilised if necessary. Matches not completed by these times will have to be finished on another date.
- 4.7 Matches may be played on other evenings outside normal match nights should the need arise for extra table space. Players should however make sure they are available to play on at least one of the available match nights for their Division before committing to league participation. Players may also be required 1-2 times per season to play outside their preferred/requested match night but we will aim to give as much notice of these dates as possible.
- 4.8 All matches must be played using an ITTF approved plastic (poly) ball. These are indicated by the '40+' branding. Three match balls will be provided to each league team at the start of the season. Following this, players are responsible for purchasing any further (approved) match balls.
- 4.9 League tables and match results will be updated throughout the season on the SMCTTA website ([www.tabletennis365.com/SMC](http://www.tabletennis365.com/SMC)) and Ratings Central. Updates may also be posted on our social media sites.

## 5 FEES

- 5.1 Player fees for the 2022/23 season are as follows:

Teams of two players:

**Junior Players (born 2004 or later)/Full Time Students: £55 per player**

**Senior Players: £65 per player**

Additional team players above the minimum of two can be registered at an additional cost of **£20 per player (Seniors) & £10 (Juniors/Full Time Students)**. If additional players are added after the start of the season these players must be registered with Table Tennis Scotland, comply with Rule 2.4, and pay any additional fees as required.

Any general reserve pool players who are not part of a fixed team will be charged a fee of £10 provided they participate as a reserve on at least 3 and a maximum of 5 occasions. Above 5 appearances the full league fees stated above will be pro-rated.

All fees should be paid by BACs if possible to the following account with the player's name plus 'LF' used as the reference:

Sort Code: **80-15-95**

Account Number: **00848809**

Account Name (please select a personal as opposed to business account): **STIRLING & MIDLAND COUNTIES TABLE TENNIS**

