

Table Tennis Bromley **Rules & Regulations Season 2019/2020**

RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Title and Objects

1. The organisation shall be called the "Table Tennis Bromley". Its objects shall be to conduct an annual competition between affiliated clubs and to otherwise assist and encourage Table Tennis in the district.

Officers and Life Members

2.(a) The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President or not more than two Joint Presidents, Vice Presidents, Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Registration Secretary, Minute Secretary, Trophy Secretary, Auditors, and other officers as elected at the AGM or co-opted by the Committee as deemed necessary.

2.(b) The distinction of Life Membership may be bestowed on members of the Association who have given many years of outstanding service to the Association. All nominations for Life Membership must receive Committee approval before consideration at a General Meeting. Approved nominations shall be circulated together with the notice of the Meeting.

Management

3. The general administration of the affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the Officers (with the exception of the Vice-Presidents and Auditors), the representatives to other organisations and one Divisional Secretary for each division of the league championships. No club shall have more than two Divisional Secretaries on the Committee. Each member of the Committee shall be entitled to one vote except that the Chair shall have only a casting vote.

4. The Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees, to co-opt members, to fill casual vacancies, to expel from the Association any club which persistently offends against the Rules, to refuse or cancel the registration of any player, to make further regulations, always provided that such regulations do not contravene the Rules of the Association and to decide all matters upon which the Rules are silent.

5. The Committee shall have the power to reformat and reword the rules of the association where necessary, providing that no change to the meaning of the rule is made.

Affiliations

6. The Association shall be affiliated to Table Tennis England, K.C.T.T.A. and any other organisation that the Committee may consider desirable.

7. All clubs and players shall be affiliated to Table Tennis England and K.C.T.T.A. in accordance with the rules of those associations.

Annual General Meeting

8. The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 31st July of each year on a date fixed by the Committee, each officer and affiliated club to be informed at least fourteen days before the date arranged. Each officer and registered member shall be entitled to one vote. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall include (a) the election of officers, representatives, and Divisional Secretaries who shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election, and (b) the presentation of the Treasurer's report and accounts made up to the preceding 31st May. If a club is not represented at the Annual General Meeting it shall be fined the sum of £5.

Special General Meeting

9. A Special General Meeting may be convened on a resolution of the Committee or within one month of the receipt by the Secretary of a resolution signed by the Secretaries of at least one third of the affiliated clubs stating the purpose for which the meeting is convened. Notice of a Special General Meeting shall be given as for an Annual General Meeting.

Alteration of Rules

10. Notice of a proposal, duly seconded, for an alteration of the Rules shall be forwarded to the Secretary before 31st May, for consideration at the Annual General Meeting or together with a resolution convening a Special General Meeting. Such a proposal shall be circulated together with the notice of the meeting.

Subscriptions, Deposits and Registration Fees

11. The Annual Subscription shall be £4 for each club plus £4 for each competing team, plus all deposits due under rule 12. The Annual Subscription shall be paid to the Treasurer, together with any Table Tennis England and K.C.T.T.A. affiliation fees, as applicable, before the commencement of each new season. Any club failing to pay the relevant fees prior to the commencement of the season will be fined £10 per team for each month the fees remain outstanding. Any club which shall fail to have paid all sums due under this rule to the Treasurer by 1st November shall be expelled from the Association and their record shall be expunged.

12. Each affiliated club shall deposit with the Association before the commencement of each season the sum of £5 per team, which shall be available for the payment of fines or other monies due to the Association. The whole sum, or any balance, shall be returnable at the end of each season.

13. The annual registration fee for each member shall be £4 which shall be paid to the Registration Secretary at the time of registration, except that juniors conforming to the current Table Tennis England ruling shall be allowed to register for a fee of £2.

14. The funds of the Association shall be lodged at a Bank and/or Building Society as agreed by the Committee and all cheques, drafts etc drawn on the account shall be signed by the Treasurer, and either the Secretary or the Chair.

Eligibility of Players

15. Each player must Affiliate as a Player Member with Table Tennis England, be a bona fide member of an affiliated club and shall be registered with the Registration Secretary as a member of the Association by the Secretary of that club at least seven days before the commencement of the League playing season. Subsequent registrations must be with the Registration Secretary at least two days before playing in their first match. The committee shall have the power to impose fines of up to £20 on any club where that club is represented in a match by a player who has not fulfilled these membership requirements. No player may be registered for more than one club, except that, at the discretion of the Committee, a player may transfer from one club to another on payment of a further registration fee. No player shall be allowed to register or transfer after 31st January of each season without the prior sanction of the Committee.

16. Each club with more than one team shall, at least two days before the playing of its first match by any of its teams, nominate at least three of its registered players for each of its teams and the nominations shall be such that the teams so constituted are in order of merit "A", "B", "C", etc. A club subsequently registering an additional player or players shall, at the time of registration, nominate each player for one of its teams, but so that no such nomination shall have the effect of altering the order of merit of that club's teams. The Committee may refuse to accept the registration of any player on the grounds that the team for which the player is nominated is inconsistent with that player's playing strength, having regard to both the playing strength of the other members of the club and the division in which the team concerned is competing. Every player must be nominated for a specific team. No player may compete in a team lower than that for which he is nominated without the prior sanction of the Committee. Any player having taken part in four matches in a higher team or teams shall not compete in a lower team without the prior sanction of the Committee. Any

player must compete in a minimum of 5 matches for the team they have been nominated for, before taking part in a fourth match for a higher team or teams, unless prior sanction by the Committee has been given.

17. Where a club has more than one team in any division, no one player may take part in more than the maximum number of matches, according to the fixture chart, for one team against another team in that division, without prior sanction of the Committee. In addition, if, at the end of the penultimate session of fixtures any team in a division is more than one point per match played behind a nominated lower team from the same club in the same division, then no player from the nominated lower team shall be permitted henceforth to reserve for the nominated higher team., without prior sanction from the Committee.

League Championships

18. The arrangement of the teams in the League Championships shall be determined subject to the provisions of Rule 25 by the League Committee.

19. Match Order of Play

Where a division consists of 9 or more teams, each team shall play the other twice in the season. Where a division consists of 7 or 8 teams, each team shall play the other three times in the season. Where a division consists of 6 teams or less each team shall play the other four times in the season. The matches in all Divisions shall consist of nine sets of singles. Each set to be the best of five games 11 up. Each team shall consist of three players. Before the commencement of play both captains shall nominate their teams and exchange their order of play. The order of play shall be as follows (home team first):-

A v X, B v Y, C v Z, B v X, A v Z, C v Y, B v Z, C v X, A v Y.

The order of play may be altered only with the agreement of the two captains.

All matches shall be played to a finish and each team shall be awarded one point for each set it wins.

20. Match Start Time

Unless otherwise mutually agreed all matches must commence no later than 7.45 p.m. when at least two players of each team shall be present. One player shall not constitute a team. No player arriving after 8.45 p.m. shall be allowed to play. Any player arriving late or otherwise not available to play shall forfeit that set unless the opposing captain agrees to an alteration of the order of play.

21. Match Card

The captain of the home team must notify the appropriate Divisional Secretary of the result of the match, giving the names of players and results on the official score card, which must be signed by both captains. The score card must be delivered within 4 days of the match. The captain of the home team must report in writing to the appropriate Divisional Secretary the failure to play any match in accordance with the fixture list unless a prior notification of rearrangement has been given in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Association and such report must be delivered within the time allowed for delivering score cards. A fine of £1 for each offence shall be imposed on any club defaulting under this rule.

22. Rearrangement of Matches

All matches must be played in accordance with the fixture list except that a rearrangement shall only be allowed:-

(a) if, by mutual consent of both teams and with the agreement of the appropriate Divisional Secretary, League Secretary, Chair or Vice-Chair, the match is played on an alternative date. The alternative date must be before the end of the week set aside for unplayed matches at the end of each session in the fixture chart. Any matches not played by the end of the week set aside for the appropriate session shall be awarded to the non-defaulting team of the original fixture date by the Committee. Notice of any such rearrangement is to be given to the appropriate Divisional Secretary at least 24 hours before the original date of the fixture.

(b) in extenuating circumstances, as defined from time to time by the Committee, but in no case shall non availability of players be considered as an extenuating circumstance, additional time may be granted to rearrange a match. Permission of any such rearrangement must be requested from the appropriate Divisional Secretary at least seven days before the original date of the fixture. The Committee may impose any other conditions as may be necessary to such rearrangements.

For the purpose of eligibility of players, rearranged matches shall be deemed to take place on the original date of the fixture or on the date played, whichever is the earlier.

(c) All matches must be played, awarded by the committee or in certain circumstances, at the discretion of the committee, deemed void. Double header matches are not allowed.

23. Award of Unplayed Matches

The Committee may award such points as it deems appropriate in respect of any matches not played in accordance with the Rules of the Association or any regulations made by the Committee as provided in Rule 4. Points for unplayed matches shall be awarded at the first available Committee Meeting after each period of the league programme has been completed. From then onwards the awards will be made at the first available Committee meeting. The Committee shall also have the power to impose fines of up to £3 on each team in respect of each unplayed match. Any team adjudged by the Committee to be the defaulting team in respect of three unplayed matches during the season shall automatically be expelled from the Association. The match results of any team withdrawing or being expelled during the first period of the league programme shall be expunged. Where a team withdraws or is expelled after the completion of all its fixtures from any period of the league programme, any points won by the opposing teams from those matches shall stand. Any match results from an uncompleted period of the league programme shall be expunged. In any case the team withdrawing or being expelled shall be placed at the bottom of the Divisional table with zero points, but the players' individual results shall stand.

24. Protests

All protests concerning a played match must be forwarded to the League Secretary within seven days of the match.

25. Promotion and Relegation

The winners and runners-up of all divisions other than the top division shall be promoted to the division next above the division in which they competed in the previous season. The two teams finishing at the bottom of all divisions shall be relegated to the division next below the division in which they competed in the previous season. If there is a tie between two or more teams affected by championships, promotion or relegation, the final positions shall be decided by (a) matches won, (b) matches drawn, (C) the results of matches played between the teams involved in the tie during the season. If records are still identical, a further match or matches shall be played on a neutral table.

Individual Closed Championships

26. Such Championships shall be held at the discretion of the Committee and shall be subject to such Rules and Regulations as the Committee deem necessary.

27. These Championships shall be open only to registered players, except that any registered player who has represented an Association or League, or played National League in the previous or current season must have played in no fewer than three of the League matches before the preceding 31st December or the closing date for entry to the Championships, whichever is the earlier. The Committee shall have power to waive this Rule in special circumstances.

Youth League Championships and Competitions

28. Such Championships and Competitions shall be arranged at the discretion of the Committee and notwithstanding any preceding Rule shall be run under the rules stipulated on the entry form.

Review of League Decisions

29.

(1) Any individual member or affiliated club aggrieved by a decision or action of this Association or of a Committee, Officer or Official of this Association, may apply to the Management Committee to review such decision or action and the Management Committee shall arrange a Hearing if requested.

(2) Any such application for review shall be made in writing to the Secretary within 14 days of notification of the decision or action of which review is sought.

Appeals Against League Decisions

30.

(1) Any individual member or affiliated club aggrieved by a decision or action of this Association or of a Committee, Officer or Official of this Association, or by neglect or refusal to do something which such organisation or person is under a duty to do (including a decision of the Management Committee on a review under Rule 29) may appeal against any such decision, action, neglect or refusal to the Kent County Table Tennis Association whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

(2) Any such appeal shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the Kent County Table Tennis Association within 21 days of the notification of the decision or action appealed against and shall be accompanied by a fee of £5, in the case of an individual, or £15 in the case of an organisation, which shall be returned if the adjudicating body consider the making of the appeal to have been justified (whatever the result).

(3) Either party to the appeal shall be entitled to require a Hearing before the adjudicating body. Any party may be represented at a Hearing provided that the County Association is notified in advance of the intention to be represented.

Dissolution

31. In the event of the winding up of the Association, any surplus assets shall be held in trust by the K.C.T.T.A. for a period of five years, during which time the K.C.T.T.A. shall endeavour to promote and encourage the formation of a similar organisation. If successful, the K.C.T.T.A. shall hand over the surplus assets of the Association to that similar organisation. In the event of failure, the surplus funds shall be absorbed within the funds of the K.C.T.T.A.

REGULATIONS

- (a) No club may alter the playing night or venue of any of its teams without first obtaining the approval of the Committee. Such alterations must be confirmed by the home club in writing to each opposing team captain not later than the Monday of the week preceding that in which the match is due to be played.
- (b) For the purposes of Rule 22 of the Association, extenuating circumstances shall be defined as: - (i) non availability of venue, or (ii) extreme adverse weather conditions, or (iii) any special cause as laid down by the Committee from time to time.
- (c) Clubs with a set finishing time shall be entitled to play enough sets on two tables to enable the match to finish on time, provided that the home team is ready to start the match according to Rule 20 of the Rules of the Association.
- (d) A team captain who intends to protest about a played match should not sign the official score card on completion of the match, but should mark the card "Under Protest".
- (e) A non-offending team will not normally be awarded, under Rule 23, any more points than that team would reasonably be expected, in the opinion of the Committee, to have won had the match been played according to the Rules of the Association and these Regulations.
- (f)
 - (i) All clubs shall aim to comply with at least the standard of playing conditions as contained in the current Table Tennis England Handbook for local league play.
 - (ii) The table, net and posts shall comply with the laws of Table Tennis and only top grade (i.e. 3-star) balls approved by Table Tennis England shall be used.
 - (iii) The Committee are empowered to direct clubs to improve their playing conditions and equipment and may inspect the premises and equipment of member clubs to ensure that an adequate standard is maintained.
 - (iv) No contravention of any standards shall be accepted as a reason for a match not being played or not being completed.
- (g) All matches shall be played under the Table Tennis England Approved Laws of Table Tennis. The Regulations for International Competitions do not apply.
- (h) For the purpose of rule 9 a club remains affiliated after the Annual General Meeting provided it confirms its intention to affiliate for the next season by the submission of a completed affiliation form. A new club applying to join the league will be regarded as affiliated when their application has been accepted by the committee
- (i) Where a Division is played at a central venue, the cost of using that venue shall be shared equally between the teams of the Division using that venue.