

MIDLAND TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

League Rules

1. That this competition be known as the **Midland Table Tennis League**.
That any League or Association situated in the Midlands Area, that area being defined as within **a radius of 50 miles** of the Birmingham City Centre, and is affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association, may apply to enter a team, or teams, in this League. All applications for membership shall be forwarded to the Midland Table Tennis League Secretary.
2. That all applications for entry to the League shall be received not later than the date of the Annual General Meeting.
3. That the League shall be governed by a General Council consisting of one representative of each constituent League or Association. The affairs of the League shall be managed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary, who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt.
4. The Annual General Meeting shall be held **not later than 31st August**, in each year.
 - (a) At least **14 days** notice shall be given to all members.
 - (b) Each League of Association shall be entitled to one vote for each team entered in the immediate past Season.
 - (c) A fine of **£2.00** shall be levied on any League or Association failing to secure representation.
 - (d) Proposed amendments to the Rules must be submitted to the Hon. Secretary **not later than 31st May, in each year**.
 - (e) The composition of the League and the various Sections shall be agreed upon at the Annual General Meeting. Teams shall be placed in Divisions, according to strength (in conformance with Promotion and Relegation Rules) and regardless of geography.
5. That the subscriptions per season shall be agreed at the Annual General Meeting for the following season. No team shall be allowed to play a League match until it's subscription has been paid.
6. That each Section or Division shall consist of a maximum of 8 teams.
7. That each match must be played to a finish using the undernoted points system.

4 points for a team winning 10-0, 9-1 or 8-2 - No points for losing team
3 points for a team winning 7-3 or 6-4 - One point for losing team
2 points each team for a 5-5 draw

In the event of a tie, or ties, at the end of the Season; sets average shall be the decider. Should the points and sets average be equal, then games shall be taken in to account and if necessary, game points will decide.

8. A minimum of three players and a maximum of five players shall constitute a team.

Ten sets shall be played - 9 singles and 1 doubles.

The three players of the HOME team shall be numbered A B C and the three players of the AWAY team shall be numbered X Y Z.

Each Captain shall name his players (including the doubles pair) prior to the commencement of the match.

The order of play shall be:

1st A v X 2nd B v Y 3rd C v Z 4th B v X 5th Doubles
6th A v Z 7th C v Y 8th B v Z 9th C v X 10th A v Y.

9. That 7 clear days before a match, the home Team Secretary shall notify the away Team Secretary of the venue and directions.
10. Matches shall be played on **Saturdays or Sundays**, the home team having the choice of time and date of match.
11. The home team shall be responsible for the arrangements of the match and any financial profit or loss shall be borne by the home team.
12. That the home team shall provide umpires for the match, or by mutual agreement, the Captains shall appoint an umpire alternatively for each set.
13. (a) The fixture lists and provisional dates of all matches shall be arranged and circulated by the League Secretary. The home team Secretary, when arranging dates, must offer opponents **a choice of two dates**, one of which must be accepted (provided these are Saturdays or Sundays). All team Secretaries must submit their list of confirmed dates to the League Secretary **not later than 7th October**, failure to do so will result in a fine of **£5.00** being imposed.
- (b) Matches must be played on the agreed date and cannot be postponed without the agreement of the opposing team and permission of the League Secretary. If a match is postponed without permission, the match shall be awarded against the defaulting team. The non-availability of players is insufficient reason for the postponement of a match.
- © In the event of a team failing to fulfil a fixture, the opposing team:-
i) shall be awarded the match and points
ii) may claim reimbursement of match and travelling expenses.
The offending team may be fined **a sum not exceeding £4.00**.
- (d) If agreement is reached to postpone a match, a new date must be agreed **within 7 days** and the League Secretary advised of it by the home team. Failing which, the match will be awarded against the team asking for the postponement.

- (e) If a match is claimed, or is awarded, the winning team shall submit a score sheet with the names of their players.
 - (f) In the event of a match not being played, claimed or conceded, the **away team** shall be awarded the match 10 - 0.
- 14. PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS.** All players assisting in respective League or Associations' teams must be *bona fide* registered members of a Club affiliated to such League, or Association. No player shall be allowed to represent more than one League, or Association, in one Season (unless permission is granted by the Executive Committee).
- TWO (or more) TEAMS in one Division or Section.**
- (a) A League or Association having two (or more) teams in one Section, but in different Divisions, must nominate their first three players for the 1st team. None of these players shall be eligible to assist a lower team without permission of the Executive Committee. A player having played singles in the first team on two occasions - shall not be eligible to play for the 2nd team.
 - (b) A League or Association having two (or more) teams in one Division shall only be allowed to use players for one team only.
- 15.** That each team shall provide suitable accommodation and lighting for all matches, which must be played on a standard table conforming to the regulations of the English Table Tennis Association. The home team must provide hospitality (tea and sandwiches, etc) for up to five members of the visiting team.
- 16.** That, should a team retire from the League, all matches played by it shall be ignored. **A fine, not exceeding £4.00** may be imposed on the offending League or Association (at the discretion of the Executive Committee).
- 17.** That all protests and disputes shall be sent to the Match Secretary (in writing) for consideration by the Executive Committee. No protest relating to a match will be considered, unless received by the Match Secretary within **seven days** of the match in question.
- 18.** The result of each match shall be forwarded to the Match Secretary by the **Home Team Secretary**, within **3 days** of playing the match, together with a match report. Result sheets must give full individuals scores. A **fine of £3.00** will be levied on all Leagues or Associations failing to forward all result sheets for each match - within **7 days** of the date of such match.
- 19. Promotion and Relegation (2 or more Divisions in one Section).**
- (a) Divisions consisting of 6 teams or less - one up / one down.
 - (b) Divisions of more than 6 teams - two up / two down.

20. (a) That the Champions of each Division shall be responsible for the safe custody of the Challenge Shield/Trophy and shall return same as/when requested. Funds permitting, medals, badges, or trophies for **3 players** shall be awarded to the Champion team of each Division.
- (b) The winners of each Trophy shall be liable for the engraving prior to the return of such Trophy at the following Annual General Meeting.
- (c) An Individual Trophy awarded to the player, or players winning the most number of sets (excluding Doubles) in each Division, shall be awarded.
21. That cases of misconduct, by either teams or players, or any other matter not provided for in these Rules, shall be duly dealt with by the Executive Committee.
22. **AGE LIMITS.** Section Teams must consist of players within the following age limits:
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| Junior Section: | Under 18 years of age on 1 st January |
| Veteran's Section: | Over 40 years of age on 31 st December |

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