

League Rules

1. That the league shall be called 'The Bridgwater Skittle League'
2. That the General Committee shall consist of the President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Fixture Secretary, Publicity Officer, Competition Secretary, and a Management Committee of six.
3. That the Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall take place at a suitable venue on a date to be agreed. Motions/recommendations must be in writing to the League Secretary 14 days prior to the AGM. Teams eligible to be represented at this meeting shall comprise those who have submitted the appropriate league registration card to the secretary from 14 days prior to the AGM bearing the genuine signatures and addresses of at least 10 registered players, 5 of whom were registered players with that team the previous season, together with appropriate subscription. Teams not registering on the correct night shall be fined £5.00. Non attendance at the AGM will incur a three point deduction at the start of the next season.
4. Players whose names have not been included on the league registration cards, shall submit separate registration forms, such forms to be in the league secretary's hands at least three days before such player takes part in a league fixture. The closing date for registering further players for league matches or competitions shall be four weeks prior to the date of the last match. Clubs with A and B teams shall be permitted to loan a player from one team to the other for the purpose of full filling a fixture which would otherwise be void. Licensees of such clubs shall be permitted to play home or away matches for either side.
5. That a team winning a home matches shall score two points, away matches three points and in the event of a tie each of the competing teams shall score one point. Any team unable to keep a fixture must give 48 hours notice to their opponents. Failing this, points shall be awarded to the opposing side, who must enter the names of eight members present on a score card, and submit it in the usual way. All teams who have given the correct notice shall give their opponents the choice of 3 dates, for the match to be played on, no later than 2 weeks after the original fixture date. If no date is suitable within this time the League Secretary shall be informed and he will issue a new fixture date which must be adhered to. All matches must be played by the last fixture date of the season. Any games not played by the last date of the season will result in 5 points being deducted from both sides.
6. That any team playing an ineligible player/players to be reprimanded by the management committee and their decision will be final.
7. That all protests to be made in writing and submitted to the League Secretary within 48 hours of the conclusion of the match.
8. That if the points of two or more teams in the league table are equal at the conclusion of the season, any deciding game or games necessary shall be played on a neutral affiliated alley to be fixed by the secretary.
9. That the challenge cups be held by the clubs securing the most points in home and away matches. All trophies to be returned to the league headquarters no later than the league registration date. Failure to do so will result in a £10.00 fine to be paid by the AGM.
10. That the game shall consist of eight players in each team, each player to throw seven hands of three balls. Games shall commence no later than 8:15 pm and no players(s) arriving late shall be permitted to skittle after both sides have completed two hands. Any player unable to complete his seven hands shall have a score of 0 for the remaining hands.
11. That the winning team report all matches played giving names and scores of the players. The result card shall be signed by the losing Captain and submitted to the address printed on the card on the night of the match.
12. That the Captain of any team may demand proof of registration of any member of the opposing team by submitting a protest in accordance to rule 7.
13. That no player shall deliver a ball off the board or against the cushion. Any pins knocked down from such balls shall be re-set and the ball to be void.
14. That only male persons shall be eligible for membership and all players to be aged 17 years or over. Stickers-up shall be at least 14 years of age, subject to sanction by the licensee regarding their presence and code of behaviour.

15. That the front pin shall be chosen by the visiting captain and be plainly marked. The game shall be commenced by the home team. Should the visiting captain decline to select the front pin the home captain has the option.
16. That if, after a ball has contacted the pins, a pin or pins should be leaning against other pins, or against the side of the alley, such pins shall be re-set. Any pins moved off their marks, but not off the plate, shall remain untouched until the player has completed his remaining throws and that all teams in the A division and all finals shall be played with Lignum Vitae balls.
17. That if any club drops out of the league in the first half of the season, any points gained or lost will be deleted from the records of the league. Should a club play more than half its matches and then drop out, point shall be awarded to the remaining teams they are due to meet.
18. That the balls, pins and alleys in the league shall at all time meet with the approval of the committee
19. That meetings to be held at a venue to be decided by the management committee.
20. That all clubs commencing at a licence house etc, must complete the season there except for extenuating circumstances. Also that all registered members of each club must complete the season with the club they register for.
21. That members of teams resigning from the league before the end of the season shall not be eligible to sign for another club for that season until approval is obtained from the management committee (min 4 weeks).
22. That teams may change alleys without penalty so long as they inform the landlord and league secretary before the last game of the season.
23. That at the end of each season the top three teams will be promoted and the bottom three teams will be relegated from each Division as appropriate.
24. That the president and or life members should be ex officers of the Bridgwater Skittle League or a long term supporter of the League
25. That sponsors to decide the venue for the final of the competition they sponsor.
26. That in a semi final the highest loser should be entitled to play in the final if there is an absentee.
27. The committee's decision on all matters shall be final.

All previous rules rescinded - 18 June 2012