**PERTH BLACKBALL POOL LEAGUE**

**SEASON 2023-24 CONSTITUTION**

1. We will only consider proposals that are in the best interest of promoting and developing the sport of Blackball Pool.
2. The Executive Committee will consist of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Website/Facebook Administrator and SPA/IM Rep. Additional committee members include three SPA Supers Managers who are appointed by the executive committee for the following season at the completion of the final Supers event of the season. (See points 59-64 for detailed committee member roles)
3. The Association will consist of the Executive Committee and the elected representative (captain or their delegated representative) of each team.
4. League Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month with a 7.30pm start. Meetings will alternate between in-person meetings at a selected league venue and online via Microsoft Teams. There is also an option to join via Microsoft Teams for all in-person meetings. The AGM will not have an online option to attend. All teams should be represented at these meetings.
5. Voting – One vote per elected representative of each team. Chairman has casting vote. If deemed appropriate, division specific amendments can be voted on separately.
6. Scottish Pool Association rules will be used at all times (currently WPA Blackball Rules).
7. The PBPL promotes equality and sportsmanship. Members should make themselves familiar with both the Equality and Social Media Guidelines policies available on the information pages of the PBPL website.

**REGISTRATION & TRANSFERS**

1. To register a player, you must provide details to the League Secretary prior to that player’s first match. A player can register and play on the same day however 24hrs notice will allow League Secretary to include player detail on League Scoring App System. A player is not considered registered until they have played a frame for a team. Following registration, a £5 registration fee is applicable for each registered player payable to League Treasurer (this is payable at next available league meeting or sooner). The registered player becomes debt suspended if fee is not paid by stated deadline.
2. League teams are limited/capped to playing no more than 15 players across the league season. “Releasing” a signed player does not increase this player limit.
3. A player may transfer from one team to another, a maximum of two occasions per season; there is a 14-day waiting period to transfer; no player can be transferred within the last third of the season (new signings of players who have not registered for a team in this league campaign are permitted). A player transferring between teams incurs a cost of £10 payable to League Treasurer (this is payable at next available league meeting or sooner). The transferred player becomes debt suspended if fee is not paid by stated deadline.
4. Players transferring must advise the League Secretary by posting confirmation of the transfer on the PBPL Facebook page and this must be verified by the captain of the team they are joining by commenting on said post. The 14-day waiting period will not commence until this post has been verified by the captain. Once this is confirmed on Facebook the transfer is complete; they cannot retract this regardless of the waiting period or whether they have played a match for their new team.

**LEAGUE**

1. Multiple divisions should be implemented, where possible, to accommodate differing levels of abilities regardless of number of teams registered. The secretary decides on how many rounds of fixtures each division has and can decide on a mid-table split if this helps both divisions play similar number of weeks. They will endeavour to schedule a minimum number of 24 fixtures per division. There will be 2 automatic promotion places and relegation is dependent on equalising division sizes (relegation places should match the number of promotion places if possible).
2. Teams that move venues must retain 4 or more players to stay in the same division.
3. If there are two teams to consider for the same division there will either be a play-off or the exec committee will decide which team starts in the bottom division, this is at their discretion.
4. League matches will consist of 15 singles frames. League Scoring App System must have first 5 singles players entered by 7.30pm. Next set of 5 players are to be entered on the League Scoring App System during the 5th game. Players may arrive at any time as long as play is continuous. Players names listed on League Scoring App System by both teams should be honoured and locked; they can only be changed with opposing captain's consent (this is at their discretion). Any amendment to players on League Scoring App System must include a notification to League Secretary.
5. League points awarded per match – 3 for a win and 0 points for a loss.
6. League matches must start at 7.30pm although teams can change start time by agreement to 7pm (If agreement between teams is not reached matches will start at 7.30pm). A minimum of 3 players must be present at commencement of match or match is conceded. League Scoring App System must be completed by this time and first player must be at the table. If your first player is not at the table in time for their match that frame is conceded. NO INTERVALS BETWEEN GAMES.
7. Team fails to show for a match or do not have the minimum of 3 players present to start; they will lose the match by a score line of 15-0; if this happens on more than 3 occasions, they will take no further part in the league. All monies owed to that date must still be paid. All scores against the team will be wiped back to the last set of fixtures completed, previous results for completed sets of fixtures will stand.
8. League Scoring App System must be completed by both home and away teams.
9. In the event of a team playing an unregistered player, ineligible player, debt suspended player or a player that takes number of players above 15 (across the season) will lose the match by a 15-0 score.
10. All league matches must be played on the dates stated in the fixture list unless the teams come to a mutual agreement to postpone the match. To postpone a match teams must inform the secretary, prior to the start time of the original fixture, via the PBPL Facebook page and confirm the date of re-scheduled match; re-scheduled matches must be within 4 weeks of original fixture; failure to advise secretary of postponement and new date prior to match will result in a 3-point penalty for both teams. 24hrs minimum notice must be given to a team to consider any rescheduling
11. If a team withdraws from the league. All monies must still be paid. All scores against the team will be wiped back to the last set of fixtures completed, where these will stand.
12. Teams tied on points that affect league winners, league split, relegation or promotion will result in a play-off. If 3 teams are tied the team with best frame difference plays winner of other 2 teams.
13. All tables within the league must be in reasonable condition. Teams must either have a set of Aramith (reds and yellows) pool balls (white or green box) or Pro Cup balls for use in both league and competition matches. Choice of either Aramith or Pro Cup balls is at the discretion of the home team. Teams must use a spotted white.
14. The use of a Shark Rack or other similar modern triangle tools are permitted within PBPL league fixtures and/or competition however, this should be communicated to league secretary prior to the match commencing. Agreed use must take place between both teams prior to the match commencing. The referee of the frame is responsible for removing any shark rack during play to ensure no player can be penalised for a foul whilst removing equipment. The same “Triangle” must be used for all 15 frames of a match.

**OTHER COMPETITIONS**

1. Players must be at the designated venue by the start time of their match or designated start time for draws. Timed starts to competitions will be done whenever possible, if a player/team is not at the table in time for their match they are deducted a frame and a further frame every 10 minutes. Exceptions may be made providing respective organiser or elected representative is informed and agreeable to this. No replacement players will be allowed in the singles or David Cowan Perth Classic, but 1 of the doubles pair can be changed only once as long as the replacement has not previously entered. This change can only be made up to and including the quarter final stage, i.e., if a pair participate in the quarter final that must be the final pairing for rest of competition.
2. Captain’s Cup will consist of team captain plus 3 players from each team. Venue must have a minimum of 3 tables.
3. Average Man will consist of 3 players from each team, preferably the 3 with the highest frame win average throughout the season. Average Man competitions are contested for each league separately, i.e., both a Premiership and Championship Average Man is contested. Venue must have a minimum of 3 tables if both competitions are completed at same venue on same day.
4. League Singles will be best of 5 frames till the quarter-finals which will be best of 7 frames, semi-finals will be best of 9 frames, final will be best of 11 frames. Players in any division can enter the League Singles. All players eliminated in week 1 will automatically enter the League Singles Plate Competition. This is subject to the original League Singles match being played, i.e., players who offer a walkover in the League Singles prelim or first round match without competing will not be permitted entry into the League Singles Plate.
5. League Singles Plate will be best of 5 frames throughout. A redraw is made following eligibility being determined and draw does not mirror the original League Singles draw.
6. Doubles will be best of 5 frames till the semi-finals which will be best of 7 frames, final will be best of 9 frames
7. Captain’s Cup and Average Man will be best of 5 frames till the semi-finals which will be best of 7 frames, finals will be best of 9 frames. However, the tournament director will have the power to change the first round to best of 3 frames if they deem necessary.
8. Competition fees must be accompanied with a list of players on the day of the draw (or prior). Separate lists are required for each competition. Reserves as allowed should also be entered on respective lists. 5 players for 3-Man, 6 players for 4-Man Eck Cain Cup,7 players for 5-Man John Hannigan Cup, no names required for Team Cups as squad size available as per normal league play.
9. 3-Man Team – Only 3 players can participate per tie (no substitutes), consisting of 3 singles, a scotch doubles and a play-off. Teams may compete with 2 players.
10. 4-Man Eck Cain Cup – Only 4 players can participate per tie (no substitutes), consisting of 4 singles, 2 scotch doubles and a play-off. Teams may compete with 3 players.
11. 5-Man John Hannigan Cup – 5 Singles are played by 5 different players. Teams may compete with 3 players. Players are not limited to players in same team.
12. The David Cowan Perth Classic - Is a singles event running throughout the season and will comprise of a straight knockout format. Format will be best of 21 frames till the semi-finals which will be best of 25 frames, finals will be best of 29 frames. Players in any division can enter the Perth Classic. Matches will be arranged between the players for a suitable time and each round will be a minimum of 1 month apart.
13. A PBPL finals day will be completed for Singles, Perth Classic, Singles Plate and Doubles. Any PBPL final date on the published fixtures list are provisional until release of SPA event dates. PBPL will move any date that conflicts with SPA events such as IMs, Internationals, Supers etc. Any changes to dates will be made at the earliest possible opportunity and communicated to all team captains and through social media channels. All finals venues will be selected by members of the committee and all tables must meet a minimum standard.
14. SPA Supers Managers organise fundraising (Specifically to fund team entry fees), pick the Perth teams, pick captain and vice-captain(s), organise trials, transport, team tops and accommodation paperwork. For Super 11’s they must pick 12 players per team, trials optional. For Super 15’s they must pick 16 players per team, trials optional. Perth are committed to 3 teams for 11’s, 2 for 15’s. The number of teams to be entered can be increased at the discretion of the Supers Managers dependent on availability of players. Any player must have completed a minimum of 10% of local league frames to be eligible for selection.

**MONIES**

1. League entry fee is £100.
2. League matches are £3 per team, each captain must pay the accumulated amount by bank transfer prior to the meeting e.g., 4 league matches played in a month = £12 per team. Bank Transfer details are available from League Treasurer or Secretary.
3. Any team that forfeits a match for any reason are responsible for paying the match fee for their opponent.
4. Other competition fees are: League Registration Fee, Singles, Tony Curran Cup (100% donation to charity), Doubles, Scotch Doubles, Captains Cup, Average Man, Juniors Cup and Masters Cup all £5. 3-Man - £6, 4-Man Eck Cain Cup £8, 5-Man John Hannigan Cup £10 (50% donation to charity with league matching charity contribution), Team Cups - £12. Perth Classic is £10 for tier 1 players and £5 for tier 2 players. (Tier 1 is all Premiership players, all previous singles competition winners, all Perth Supers players past and present and anyone the committee deem to be at a higher than average standard). Perth Classic winnings will be fixed at £100 for winner and £50 for runner up with all other entries donated to Supers funds.
5. Entry is free of charge into all PBPL Singles competitions for all players under 18 years of age.
6. Honorarium: Secretary - £100, Chairman - £100, Treasurer £100, Website/Facebook Admin - £100, SPA/IM Rep - £50, SPA Supers Managers £50. Expenses will be paid to anyone who incurs them for league duties.
7. The league will subsidise early season Supers entry fees (£150 for 11’s per team, £200 for 15’s per team) to be paid back from Supers fundraising prior to event.
8. Each team will be allocated 6 tickets to the presentation night – additional tickets need to be purchased, format, location and cost per ticket to be agreed at league meeting 3 months prior to the end of the last competition. Presentation night free tickets for sponsors, exec members and anyone who exec feels have supported the running of the league.
9. Tony Curran Cup and 5-Man John Hannigan Cup a charity donation is required (see point 43). A FB vote of League Members takes place to nominate the charity of choice. This charity must be a registered charity. Suggestions of registered charities for putting to vote are to be requested from league members.
10. Keepsake trophies for winners only and for player(s) finishing in position 1 of the Average Player Statistic charts. One keepsake trophy is provided for Team Cup events. Teams can purchase additional trophies from their prize winnings if they advise Chairman in advance.
11. There is a £5 fine for teams that are not represented at league meetings and paid league fees (see point 41) for the past month.
12. If a team owes £30 or more at any point during the season, they will be given 30 days to pay this debt or they will be suspended from the league. This notification will be given in writing by the league treasurer to the captain and publican/manager/club secretary.
13. Any player or team due monies to the League whether at end of season or dropping out during season will be suspended from the league until monies paid. ALL PLAYERS REGISTERED WITH SUSPENDED TEAM WILL ALSO BE SUSPENDED.
14. Players of teams that withdraw from the league can buy themselves back in by paying 10% of any outstanding fees owed by team. This amount does not reduce team debt.

**DISCIPLINARY**

1. In the event of a disagreement during a league match a team may make a protest. This must be communicated to the league secretary at the time of incident and also must be made in writing within three days of the match and sent or given to the secretary. Opposing teams should be made aware of the disagreement by secretary following receipt of protest letter.
2. In the event of a complaint being raised about individuals, this protest must also be made in writing and sent or given to the league secretary.
3. In the event of a protest, disagreement or any other complaint letter(s) being submitted to the secretary, these are investigated by members of the Executive Committee. All outcomes/sanctions/actions as a result of any investigation are at the discretion of the Executive Committee. All investigations/outcomes/sanctions/actions deemed necessary should be completed at the earliest opportunity, however, no time limit is applicable to investigations/outcomes/sanctions/actions being completed.
4. The Executive Committee’s decision is FINAL. NO APPEALS PERMITTED.
5. Any player that is deemed to have brought the game, the league, fellow teams, fellow players, clubs or pubs and their staff into disrepute may be expelled from the league. The Executive Committee again will be responsible for making decisions on this.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ROLES**

1. Chairman is responsible for chairing meetings, organising the presentation evening, promoting the league and any other responsibilities set out in aforementioned points
2. Secretary is responsible for organising competitions, drawing up league calendar and fixtures, administering the PBPL e-mail account and any other responsibilities set out in aforementioned points
3. Treasurer is responsible for collecting, recording and banking all league monies, producing accounts to be presented at AGM and any other responsibilities set out in aforementioned points
4. Website/Facebook Admin is responsible for producing and updating all PBPL content, administering the PBPL Facebook page and any other responsibilities set out in aforementioned points
5. SPA/IM Rep is responsible for attending SPA meetings, organising entries and payment to IM, Scottish Singles, Willie McCartney etc., posting qualifiers on the SPA site and any other responsibilities set out in aforementioned points
6. SPA Supers Managers (x3) responsibilities highlighted in point 39 above

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Supersedes all previous Constitutions