

GENERAL RULES.

G 1 TITLE

The title of the league is the "KNUTSFORD BOWLING LEAGUE" and consists of one or more divisions. It is affiliated to the CCBA and thus to the BCGBA.

G 2 MANAGEMENT

The league is managed by a Management Council (MC); made up of: President, Chairman, General League Secretary (GLS), Competitions Secretary, Honorary Treasurer CCBA Delegate plus six elected representatives from league clubs. Any four (minimum) can form a quorum. The MC will have the power to co-opt representatives, if there is a shortfall.

- a) Of these, the duties of the GLS, Competitions Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer attract honoraria these are linked to the annual 'RPI'. There is also an appointed Fixtures Compiler who receives an honorarium. These monies are shown in the Income and Expenditure Account at the AGM.
- b) The MC will be appointed each year by the member clubs at the AGM.
- c) The MC will be empowered to fine clubs and/or deduct points from teams for any non-compliance with these rules.
- d) Should any issue arise which is not provided for in these rules, the MC shall consider and adjudicate on the issue and their decision shall be final.

G 3 GENERAL MEETINGS

An AGM will be held in January each year. At this meeting each Club is entitled to one representative mandated with the power to vote. Clubs will verbally confirm the number of teams they will enter in the League and provide contact details for the coming season. Clubs failing to attend shall be fined.

- a) All proposed alterations to these rules must be submitted, via club secretaries, to the GLS by Noon on the second Saturday in September, of the year preceding the January AGM. This deadline does not apply to proposals drafted by the MC.
- b) A Special General Meeting will be called by the GLS on such occasions that are deemed necessary by the MC.
- c) An Extraordinary General Meeting will be called by the GLS upon receipt of a motion seconded by greater than 50% of the member clubs.

G 4 MEMBERSHIP

Clubs applying for membership to the Knutsford League shall not be situated more than twelve miles from Knutsford Conservative Club (the league headquarters) and the total number of teams shall be decided by the Management Council.

- a) Membership of the Knutsford Bowling League shall be confined to male members, and representatives and delegates of clubs must be registered members of the League.
- b) When a league vacancy occurs new applications will be considered and a deciding vote taken at the Annual General Meeting. Teams elected will be those receiving the highest number of votes. Only applications received 28 days before the date set for the meeting will be considered.

G 5 COMMUNICATIONS.

The club secretaries are the primary point of communication for the clubs. The GLS is the primary point of communication for the MC and hence the KBL.

- a) Team captains will also be in dialogue with the GLS.

- b) All correspondence, entries and results should be sent initially to the GLS, who will forward these, to the appropriate people as required.
- c) Apart from the KBL Website, the main source of information to the clubs and their members are the 'Notes of Management Council Meeting', (MC Notes) and any attachments or enclosures thereto. These MC Notes are sent regularly by the GLS to the club secretaries, whose duty it is to cascade this information down to their players. It is taken for granted by the MC, that all players will be aware of the contents of these communications once they have been mailed.

G 6 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS, ENTRY FEES, etc.

Affiliation Fees to the CCBA are payable directly to the CCBA.

- a) The following is a list of current KBL charges:
 - i. League entry. £2.00 per team
 - ii. Player Registration. £0.15 each
 - iii. Match Greenage. £3.60 per match
 - iv. TKO Entry. £10.00 per team
 - v. Charity Levy. £16.00 per club team
 - vi. Emmett, Gallimore, Baskerville. As determined by the MC.
- b) All League dues and fines will be invoiced and must be paid on or before 07 October. Any club not complying will be required to apply for re-election for the following season.

G 7 WITHDRAWALS

Any Club wishing to withdraw a team from the League must give written notice to this effect at or before the January AGM. Clubs which fail to do so will be held liable for their subscriptions and match fees for the whole of the forthcoming season.

G 8 PLAYER REGISTRATIONS.

By 01 March each year every club must have delivered to the GLS an initial list of player registrations, complete with the individual BCGBA and CCBA player registration numbers. The GLS will assist in this by providing, at the AGM, existing member clubs with their final list from the previous year, which can be amended and returned.

The normal pattern of initial registrations will be: The club's eight (minimum) best players for the 'A' team. Second-best eight (minimum) for the 'B', and so on until eventually the remainder of the players, however many, are registered for the most junior team, often the 'D'. In the absence of absurdities, these initial registrations will stand unchallenged.

From 01 March until 01 June, subsequent registrations are permitted but the GLS, in his wisdom, may challenge these and suggest that the players should be registered in a more senior team than that applied for. (This would mean that a club may now have more than eight players registered, for say the 'A'). If a club cannot reach agreement with the GLS on this matter, the registration will be referred to the MC at its next meeting for adjudication, following which the player will be registered to the order of the MC and can then play.

- a) After 01 June, player registrations are permitted but only at the discretion of the MC. These applications will be discussed at the MC meeting following the date that the application was received by the GLS. After this meeting the player can play, if accepted, for whichever team the MC states.
- b) No player registration requests can be considered unless they are accompanied with valid, BCGBA and CCBA numbers.
- c) When more than one club attempts to register the same player, each registration will be logged. The player's registration will be finalized with whichever club the player plays for first, at which time reference to the other clubs will be removed from the file.
- d) Clubs are charged for each registered player.
- e) Each club must display a list of, players by registered team, on its club notice board.

- f) A player who is properly registered and has actually played for a club may apply to the MC to be transferred to another club. The MC will consider the case on merit, and make a decision. Transfers from applications received after 01 June, will only be permitted in extreme circumstances.

G 9 TEAMS DROPPING OUT

If a team from any club drops out of the League their fixtures will be taken over by that club's next lower team. This movement where possible will continue through each of their lower leagues.

e.g. If a club has four teams, A→D and the B team drops out then the C and D will move up to cover the respective vacancies. The club will now have three teams A→C.

G 10 LEAGUE TROPHIES.

Cups, etc. are the property of the League. Winners shall take all reasonable care to ensure their safety and check their insurance policies accordingly.

G 11 AWARDS PRESENTATION NIGHT.

This will take place in October on a date and at a venue, chosen by the MC; at which trophies and prize monies will be presented in conjunction with a mixed, social gathering. Admission will be by advance ticket sales. Each club will receive and be charged for tickets. At the discretion, from time-to-time, of the MC, clubs may be required to take a greater allocation of tickets and/or ticket numbers may be limited. Clubs requiring more tickets can apply for them

- a) Each winning club must be represented by a registered player, of that club, who will receive their trophy and prize money. Failure to be properly represented, on the night, will result in half of the prize money being returned to league funds.
- b) Individual winners must attend in person, on the night, or half of their prize money will be returned to league funds. The MC will consider advance written mitigation from individuals, before they automatically apply this penalty.
- c) There will be a raffle on the night. Every KBL club is to donate a raffle prize, delivered to the venue in time for the draw on that night. Failure to comply will attract a fine considerably greater than the likely cost of the missing raffle prize.

G12 KNUTSFORD BOWLING LEAGUE WEBSITE.

The Knutsford Bowling League Website, known as the KBL Website can be found at the following URL <http://www.cgleague.co.uk/knutsford/>

MATCH RULES.

M 1 PLAY.

All games shall be played according to the BCGBA 'Laws of The Game', which all clubs and players should make themselves aware of. Matches will be played both at home and away. There shall be eight players on a team. Each game will be won at 21 up.

- a) The two team captains or their appointed deputies will act as referees to adjudicate on disputes.

M 2 PLAYING DAYS.

Wednesdays, Tuesdays, and often on Thursdays.

M 3. PRACTISE.

There is no restriction on practise by the home team. Visitors are not allowed practise on the day of the match, unless they are taking part in a bona-fide, previously scheduled, fixture of another league.

M 4. THE DRAW

Each team captain shall nominate his first four players and execute a card shuffle draw. The second four will be drawn in the same fashion and all must be declared by 2000h. The order of play of the second four will be the choice of the home team's captain.

a) All of the visitors will have first lead of the block.

M 5. START TIMES.

All matches to start from 1900h onwards. Four games must be playing by 1915h after which three games must be maintained until completion.

a) The MC has no objection to these times being brought forward proportionately, if agreement to do so has been reached by both team captains.

M 6. NO FLOODLIGHTS.

For matches played in April and on or after 16 August on greens without the benefit of floodlights, subtract one hour from all the times shown in Rule M 5, e.g. start at 1800h and not at 1900h.

M 7. MATCH DATES.

The schedule of fixtures will have been published by the MC, at the beginning of the season with reasonable regard for the fixtures that the various clubs have in other leagues, provided such information is available. Except in real emergencies, all KBL fixtures must take place on, or prior to, the published match date.

a) Provided that agreement has been reached by both team captains, the MC have no objection to any matches, apart from team knock out rounds, being brought forward to any date and time, prior to the original published date. The match will then be played on this new date, failing which it will revert to its original published date. The home team captain, must promptly inform the GLS, of all changes.

b) The only circumstances in which a match can be postponed, is if at the original published date and time, the green is unsafe to play on. This could be for a variety of reasons including very severe weather. If a green is found to be unsafe, then the home captain must inform the GLS immediately. If a match should be postponed for this reason, then within three days the home captain must offer the away captain a choice of three alternative dates that are not more than 28 days after the original published date, (14 days if at end of season) and preferably much sooner, on which to play the fixture. The away team captain then has three days in which to accept one of these dates. The home captain must keep the GLS informed of all developments. Should the match fail to be completed within 28 days, the MC will choose a date and order the match to be played then.

c) The home team captain should make every effort to give prior warning to the away team, if a green is obviously unsafe to play on; thus preventing unnecessary travelling.

d) If a green becomes unsafe to play on after a match has started, then the game scores achieved at the time will be noted and when the match continues those games will resume at the same scores with the very same players. If two or more games have not started, then a further shuffle card draw will take place, in which any valid substitute players may be used.

M 8 PLAYING UP OR DOWN

A player must start off playing for the team with which he was originally registered, or for a higher team, (there is no restriction on playing up). If after having played four games for say, the 'B' team, the player has a minus (see below), aggregate score then the player can play down for the 'C' team. Then if after having played four games for the 'C' team, the player has a minus aggregate score, for the 'C', then the player can play down for the 'D' team. Should, for example, this player then play a fifth game for the 'B' and becomes, not minus, with the 'B', he can no longer play for either the 'D' or the 'C', until such a time as he becomes minus, with the 'B', etc. Note he can however play for the 'A' team at this point, if invited. Thus having played four or more games a player becomes, 'Stuck', with the highest team he is not minus with.

N.B. For the purpose of this rule plus or minus refers to the player's average at midnight on the day before the match is played. Note, the term, minus means any minus number. Note also, plus means any number from and including zero (scratch) upwards.

All players are advised to keep track of their averages (available on the web site) and advise the team captains if they are not eligible to play for them.

M 9 PLAYING TWICE

A player can only play in one in one match during one calendar day. The exception to this is that, if a club has more than three teams registered and any three of those teams are playing on the same day, then players initially registered for that clubs lowest team playing on that day can play twice, once for one team and once again for another team, on that day. The provisions of Rule M 8) however, must be strictly adhered to.

M 10 RESULTS

Following a match each captain will complete a result sheet, as provided by the KBL.

- a) The result sheet used must be applicable to the division (sheets are colour-coded).
- b) Each player must be correctly identified as actually registered.
- c) Both captains to sign both sheets.
- d) It is the responsibility of the home team captain to deliver his completed result sheet to the GLS's home address, as printed on the sheet, before Noon on the Saturday following the match. How the sheet arrives is immaterial, but it is suggested that only first class post or hand delivery is used, to avoid clubs being fined for each late return.
- e) It is the responsibility of the away team captain to keep his signed sheet for the duration of the season in case a dispute arises.

The GLS really appreciates it when team captains send each result sheet to him immediately after each match, rather than hanging on to them. This helps the GLS to maintain a regular balanced work load, from Wednesday to Saturday each week, rather than having to process many results on a Saturday morning, afternoon and evening.

M 11 SCORING, PROMOTION and RELEGATION

The team having the highest total aggregate for all matches shall be champions in each division.

- a) With all matches completed, the team recognized as divisional winners will be decided by:
 - i. The team having the highest total aggregate points (being the sum of each player's score for each match). THEN-
 - ii. The team that has won the most games. THEN-
 - iii. The team with the best overall performance in the two head to head matches. THEN-
 - iv. In the unlikely event of two or more teams still being tied at this point, the MC will quickly organize a play off with eight players per side, on a neutral green.
- b) The above will also determine the entire finishing order of the division, including who gets relegated.
- c) The champions and runners-up of each section shall be promoted and the two bottom teams shall be relegated. (The MC will always strive to reward success.)
- d) Except that the MC shall have power to deviate from this rule if new entries or withdrawal of teams threaten to compromise the divisions.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES REGARDING STRIKE OUT

In all competitions, excluding the League Championship and the TKO, which are played within the umbrella of the KBL the following, will apply:

S 1 STRIKE OUT WHEN CALLED

In all Knutsford qualifying and final rounds of individual or pairs competitions, players will be struck out if they are not available to play, when called upon by the competitions secretary or his deputies at any time after the published match start time.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES for the TEAM KNOCKOUT HANDICAP COMPETITION (TKO)

TKO 1 THE COMPETITION

All teams in the KBL are eligible for the TKO Competition which will be handicapped by the MC according to a formula linked to each team's performance in the league competition in the previous year. The TKO will be played on neutral greens.

- a) A draw for the competition will be made by the competitions secretary in conjunction with the GLS the neutral greens will also be decided by means of a draw.
- b) The first round and possibly part of the second round will be played on the Tuesday, Wednesday or maybe the Thursday during match Week No 6, which is set aside for this purpose.
- c) The remaining rounds, up to and including the semi-final will be played on Thursdays
- d) The final will be played on a Saturday, as shown on the KBL Website and play will start at 1800h.

TKO 2 PRIORITY

All TKO Matches take precedence over scheduled league matches.

- a) Teams conceding their matches, (or attending the match with less than five players, will be fined £20, as well as paying their own and the oppositions' full greenage.

TKO 3 AVAILABILITY OF GREENS

All clubs will make their green available to the visiting teams if and when required. The clubs whose (neutral) greens are selected will ensure that jacks and footers are available on the green for the commencement of the match and oversee the progress of the match.

- a) Club secretaries will inspect the list of TKO dates, as soon as they become available, to determine if their greens are required.

TKO 4 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible to play in the competition, a player must have played in at least two league games before 2nd Round.

- a) Players to play as registered in the League. Players can always play up, but cannot play down at any time, even if minus average.
- b) Players are allowed to play for only one team in any one round, but may play for a different team in the next round.

TKO 5 ORDER of PLAY

In all TKO rounds the captain of each competing team will, in advance, list his players in the order he wants them to play, 1 through to 8. Both sheets will then be married up. Then play will and must continue in this order, three games being maintained until match completion.

- a) Captains to toss a coin; the winner will choose whether their odd or even numbered players have first lead of the jack.

TKO 6 GREEN UNSAFE, TIES, RESULT SHEETS.

If any match is postponed due to the green being unsafe to play on that match will be played on or before the following Thursday, on the same green.

- a) If after eight games any match results in a tie, then four further games will be played on the same night at the same venue, the four players nominated by each captain. The team handicaps will be half of the originals.
- b) The winning team only to send in score sheet but the losing team to complete a score sheet and keep for the duration of the season. Both captains to sign respective sheets.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES for the EMMETT CUP CHARITY COMPETITION

This is the premier individual competition of the KBL. The final day (last 32) is played on the August Bank Holiday of each year. All entry fees, sometimes more, are returned as prize money. The competition also generates at least £1000 shared between 10 local charities as identified by the MC.

- a) The draw for the competition will be made by the competitions secretary in conjunction with the GLS.
- b) The venue of the preliminary and final day's play is decided by the MC, and shown on the KBL Website.

EM 2 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Open to KBL registered players who have played in at least three league games before the date of the preliminary rounds.

- a) Player handicaps will be determined by the MC and will generally reflect the division that the player is registered for, and whether or not they are home players. The last year's winner will be off zero (SCR).
- b) Players must apply on the entry form provided by the KBL which must be received by the GLS on or before an appointed date as advertised on the KBL Website.
- c) The player's entry fee will be determined from time-to-time by the MC. Their club will be invoiced.

EM 3 PRACTISE

Every player, receiving a bye on any day of the competition will be offered five practise-ends (a feel of the green) before their first game on that day, if they are to play an opponent who has already played a game that day and thus benefited from practise.

EM 4 FINANCE

This being a charity competition every effort will be made, with good grace, to raise revenue for the benefit of the charities.

- a) Admission will be by programme only; these will be on sale both in advance and at the gate.
- b) Every club will receive five programmes to sell on. These will be invoiced for as usual.
- c) There will be a raffle on the final day. Every KBL club is to donate a raffle prize, delivered to the venue in time for the draw on that day. Failure to comply will attract a fine considerably greater than the likely cost of the missing raffle prize.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES for the LEN GALLIMORE PAIRS and the WALTER BASKERVILLE MERIT.

GB 1 THE COMPETITIONS

- a) The draw for these competitions will be made by the competitions secretary in conjunction with the GLS.
- b) The venue of the preliminary and final day's play is decided by the MC.

GB 2 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Open to KBL registered players who have in the current season, have played a minimum number of league games, before the date of the preliminary rounds:

- a) Four league games for the Walter Baskerville Shield
- b) Two league games for the Len Gallimore Trophy
- c) Players must apply on the entry form provided by the KBL which must be received by the GLS on or before an appointed date as advertised on the KBL Website.
- d) The player's entry fees will be determined from time-to-time by the MC. Their club will be invoiced.

GB 3 ADDITIONAL RULES APPLICABLE TO THE PAIRS' TROPHY ONLY.

- a) Each pair must be registered with the same club.
- b) After the entries are received one player may be substituted but after the first game has been played the pairs must remain the same.
- c) Preliminary rounds will be played on various neutral greens.