

RULES

1. TITLE:

The League shall be called the Grantham and District Table Tennis League.

2. OBJECTS:

The objects of the League shall be to conduct competitions between affiliated clubs, to arrange and conduct such other competitions as are deemed desirable, to assist and encourage the formation of Table Tennis Clubs in Grantham and District and to further the interests of the game in every way.

3. EXTENT.

The area of Administration of the Grantham and District Table Tennis League shall be within the area covered by a circle of 15 miles radius with Grantham Market Place as its centre. Should it be found that at any time this area of Administration conflicts with the area of any other League or Body, such matter shall be referred to arbitration between the Executive Committees of the organisations concerned.

4. ADMINISTRATION:

(a) The League shall appoint the following officers:- President, Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Match Secretary, Inter'-Town Secretary, Coaching Secretary, and Umpiring Secretary.

(b) The number of Honorary Auditors appointed who shall not be Officers of the League shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

(c) All the Officers and Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the League. Nominations of names of officers and general committee for the following season shall be proposed and seconded and in the hands of the Secretary, in writing, no less than seven days prior to the AGM. Nominations can also be accepted at the AGM prior to the vote.

(d) The management of the League affairs shall be vested in an Executive Committee together with eight representatives from the League.

(e) The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt two other members from affiliated clubs and to appoint sub committees.

f) The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in the Officers of the League should they occur during the season. They shall also be empowered to appoint any other Officers should it be considered appropriate, but appointments so made shall only be held until the next Annual General Meeting.

(g) The Hon. Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies belonging to the League from whatsoever source derived and shall bank all such monies in the name of 'The Grantham and District Table Tennis League.'

(h) All cheques for the withdrawal of monies from the Bank shall be signed by the Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, or any two of the above named.

(i) The working year for the League affairs and finances are from 1st July to 31st May.

(j) Any Committee member failing to attend two consecutive meetings without any apology may be automatically replaced by co-option of the standing committee.

5. MEETINGS:

- (a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 7th July in each year.
- (b) At least seven clear days notice shall be given of each General or Special Meeting of the League.
- (c) A Special General Meeting may be convened by the Executive Committee or by a request signed by not less than four affiliated Clubs and forwarded to the Hon. Secretary.
- (d) The Executive Committee shall meet as seemed necessary.
- (e) The quorum of any Executive Committee shall be five.

6 ACCOUNTS & RESOLUTIONS:

A copy of audited statement of accounts and notice of all resolutions received shall be given to each member club at the AGM.

7. COMPOSITION OF THE LEAGUE:

- (a) The League shall be composed of as many divisions as

determined by the Executive Committee.

(b) At the end of each season the two leading teams in each division, other than the Top Division, shall be promoted to the next higher division, and the two bottom teams in each division other than the lowest division, shall be relegated to the next lower division. All other teams shall remain in the same division as the previous season, irrespective of players' standard. Should a vacancy arise in any division a new team of known players or the next eligible team(s) in the next lower division shall fill these vacancies, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

(c) Should a team withdraw or be expelled from the League during the season, then the results of such matches shall be deleted from the League Tables. A new team shall be one that consists of 2/3 known players. All new teams will be placed in the lowest senior or junior division. All divisions of the League shall consist of a maximum of 14 teams.

(d) Teams shall consist of three players, each of whom shall play each member of the opposing team a set, the best of five games. A set of doubles shall also be played. One point will be awarded to a team for each set won. (If you win 7-3 then you receive 7 points and your opponents receive 3 points)

(e) At the end of the season the team having the greatest number of points in each division shall be the champion team. Should teams be equal on points then a play-off to decide the winning team will be held at a neutral venue.

(f) 1. All matches **must** be played in accordance with the final League fixture list dates. **Only** exception being that by agreement of both Teams, the game may be played prior to the official fixture scheduling.

(f) 2. Teams not strictly complying with this rule and/or not supplying the official match result by the date required may be awarded **Nil** points.

(f) 3. The league Committee unreservedly maintains the right to adjudicate in exceptional cases if brought to it's attention. The Committee's decision will in all respects, be final.

(g) All matches must commence not later than 7.30pm other than by mutual agreement between the team captains. Matches played in Educational premises to commence at 7.00pm. Juniors 6.30pm. Two players from each side must be ready to start at the time stated.

(h) Results of all matches played under the auspices of the League shall be recorded on the official prescribed form by the Home and Away teams. These cards shall be received

by the Match Secretary bearing a postmark not later than the Saturday following the match. Cards delivered by hand shall reach the Match Secretary not later than the Saturday following the match. In the event of neither scorecard being received on time, the match

will be declared void and no points will be awarded to the offending teams.

(i) All protests and disputes shall be forwarded to the League secretary for consideration within 7 days of the incident occurring. At the same time a copy shall also be sent by the protesting club to any other club concerned. All protests and appeals shall be considered by the Executive Committee at the next Committee meeting, whose decision will be final.

(j) 'Present rules concerning size of league or points awarded may be suspended for the current season for the Junior Division.'

8. AFFILIATION:

(a) All clubs as prescribed in Rule 3 shall be eligible for membership to the League.

(b) The Executive Committee reserve the right to refuse the

entry of any Club into the League, and shall be empowered to suspend any Club, Team or Person for non-observance of the Rules of the League, or for any other misdemeanour.

(c) Application for League membership for existing clubs must be made in person at the AGM. Clubs will only be allowed to register if two or more representatives are present through out the AGM. New Clubs will be accepted up to the last day of July. At least three players per team must be registered with the Match Secretary by 31st August.

(d) The Affiliation Fees for the Grantham League for Club and/ or Team accepted into the League, shall be the amount as determined at the Annual General Meeting.

(e) Individual affiliation on the part of interested players or helpers may be allowed at the discretion of the League Management Committee.

9. COMPOSITION OF TEAMS:

(a) Each team shall be composed of three players. Each player playing an individual match composing of the best of 5 games against each member of the opposing team. A match shall be won by the player winning three games of

the match.

(b) Before the commencement of each match the respective Captains shall insert their team's order of play on the Official Result Form. The 'home' team Captain shall insert his order of play first.

c) That teams which do not turn up for their match fixture and do not notify the opposing team captain and the Match Secretary shall be fined £2 for a senior team and £1 for a junior. Teams failing to do so twice during one season will be expelled from the Grantham and District Table Tennis League for that current season.

(d) That a team reserve registered player can take part in the Doubles event of a league match.

(e) 'Present rules concerning the composition of teams may be suspended for the current season for the Junior Division.'

10. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS:

(a) The Executive Committee reserve the right to refuse any registration.

(b) No player can be registered for more than one Club in the League.

(c) The registration fee for each player shall be an amount determined annually at the Annual General Meeting.

(d) In the event of a Club having more than one team competing in the same Division of the League at any one time, each team of the particular Club so concerned shall for the purpose of registration of players be considered as a separate entry, and no transference of players between such teams be allowed.

(e) No player shall be allowed to play in a lower Division of the League than that for which he or she has once played in the current season, only at the discretion of the Executive Committee, but may be allowed to play for a team of the Club for which he or she is registered competing in a higher Division, but he or she shall only be permitted to assist one team of the same Club in a higher Division in accordance with the provisions of Rule 10, paragraph (g). No senior player may play in a Junior Division.

(f) If a player has played twice for a team in a higher Division than that for which he was registered, he shall on the third appearance for the team in the higher Division become automatically registered for that team, and shall not be allowed to take part in any further matches played by the team in the lower Division, except as provided for in Rule

10 paragraph (e).

(g) The penalty of playing an ineligible player shall be the forfeiture of all points won by the ineligible player.

(h) Transference of players shall be allowed only to a team in the same or higher Division.

(i) That there shall be no registration of players after 1st January in each season except at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

(j) That the definition of a Junior shall be according to the E.T.T.A. The qualification for all official junior competition is: If a player is under 17 on the 1st July in any year, he is eligible for junior events for the whole of the next season, i.e. until 30th June following his 17th birthday;

Intermediate: Under 21 years of age on the 1st July in the preceding year.

Veteran: 40th birthday on or before the 30th June in the preceding year.

(k) Registration or re-registration of Junior Division teams may be allowed other than at the AGM for an appropriate period for the current season.'

11. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

(a) Motions affecting the Constitution or the Rules of the Grantham and District Table Tennis League may be proposed only by the Executive Committee, accredited representatives of Teams, or Clubs, or by members of the League affiliated during the previous season. Such motions may be subject to Block Voting as provided in Rule (see below).

(b) On a motion specified by the above rule the Chairman shall accept a demand for a Block Vote from any accredited club representative or he may decide himself to proceed to a Block Vote. In the absence of demands for a Block Vote, if the Chairman is satisfied that a show of hands indicates a clear decision he may dispense with the Block Vote and declare the decision on the basis in the hands shown. (Block Vote-in a Block Vote each accredited representative shall exercise one vote for each registered team in his club).

(c) A majority in excess of opposition of one-third of the votes cast shall be necessary to carry any resolution in respect of the rules of the League. Other resolutions shall be decided by a simple majority vote and in the event of a tie except on financial questions the meeting shall proceed

to the next business. In the matter of finance the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

(d) No person attending the AGM may vote unless he or she is affiliated to the Grantham and District Table Tennis League either through a Club or individual during the season preceding the AGM.

12. GENERAL:

(a) The Rules of the game as laid down by the English Table Tennis Association shall apply to this League.

(b) All holders of Trophies which are the property of the League shall be responsible for their safe custody, and shall be liable for the cost of replacement or making good any damage sustained to the Trophy whilst in their possession. They shall also be required to keep such Trophies in a clean condition.

(c) Trophies shall normally be held for a period of one year, but they shall be liable for recall at any time as directed by the Executive Committee.

(d) Any matter not provided for in these Rules shall be referred to the Executive Committee, whose decision thereon shall be final.

(e) Any doubtful interpretation of these Rules shall be referred to the Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final. The rules of the League shall not be altered not added to except at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting convened for the purpose other than for Junior Division teams during the current season.

(f) Any amendments or additions to these Rules must be in the hands of the Secretary 28 days prior to the AGM.

(g) Any use of unbecoming language and unsportsmanlike conduct by a registered member of the League at any League function to be reported to the committee in order that disciplinary action may be taken.

h) The individual award shall be presented to the person who has the most rubbers at the end of the season, within their Division. In the event of a tie on rubbers the award will be shared.

(i) 'Junior Division team rules may be the concern of a working party from the Executive Committee for the current season.'

Date of the next Annual General Meeting will be the first Wednesday of July each year. All Clubs must send representatives (see Rule 8c).