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| North Devon Table Tennis League |
| Season 2022-23 |
| Official Handbook |
| Produced By: Marcus Berry |
| Date: 30/07/2022 (last amended) |

**North Devon Table Tennis League**

**Founded in 1970**

Affiliated to Table Tennis England and the Devon County T. T. A.

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | | President | Mr Derek Preston | 01237 474992 | |  |  |  | | **Executive Committee** |  |  | |  |  |  | | Chairman | Mr Matthew Thomas | 07805433361 | |  |  |  | | Vice Chairman | Mr Alan Briggs | 01237 472747 | |  |  |  | | Secretary | Mr David Ewen | 01271 267822 | |  |  |  | | Treasurer | Ms Christine Isaac | 01237 479174 | |  |  |  | | Fixture Secretary | Mr Marcus Berry | 01237 421274 | |  |  |  | | Report & Press Secretary | Mr Matthew Thomas | 07805433361 | |  |  |  | | Trophy Steward | Mr Michael Sussex | 01805 625541 | |  |  |  | | Coaching Officer | Mr Marcus Berry | 01237 421274 | |  |  |  | | Welfare Officer | Mr David Salisbury | 01288 331517 | |  |  |  | | Development Officer | Vacant |  | |  |  |  | | **Other Committee Members** |  |  | |  |  |  | | Weekly Report Writer | Vacant |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |

**Directions to Table Tennis venues within the NDTT League**

These may be a lot of words but may save you a lot of miles!

**Sutcombe Village Hall EX22 7PW – Holsworthy A, B, C and D**

From Stibb Cross follow the A388 towards Holsworthy. Pass the Woodland Bridge Hotel at the bottom of the dip. Continue about 2 miles to Venn Green. Continue about another mile (road goes through a very sharp bend then downhill) to a signpost on your left saying “ Sutcombe”, pointing across the road to a minor road on your right. Take this road. (There are no more right turnings to Sutcombe, so if you get as far as Holsworthy Beacon you have missed it, and have to go back).

Follow this minor road about a mile to the crossroads. Turn right (the original signpost may still be broken). Follow the road into Sutcombe . The village hall is about three quarters of a mile through the village, on the right, with an adjacent car park.

The postcode above is for the village school which is opposite the village hall. No postcode can be found for the hall!

**Monkleigh**

Follow the A388 from Bideford towards Stibb Cross. In Monkleigh village turn left where the main road takes a very sharp right hand bend. Follow the road for about 200 metres, keep bearing right. The car park and village hall are on the right.

**Panoramic House, Littleham, EX39 5HR**

Follow the A388 from Bideford towards Torrington for about 2 miles. Then take the right hand road signed for Littleham (it is a tight bend as the minor road goes back on itself). Follow the bendy twisty road for about 2 miles. When you see the name “Littleham” on the left verge, showing you have entered Littleham, go a few hundred metres at the most to a sharp left hand bend. Panoramic House is on this bend, and is straight on, slightly left as you approach the bend.

**Chulmleigh Sports Hall**

There are two ways to enter Chulmleigh from the A377 – Collaton Cross (which you would use if you were coming in from the Barnstaple direction) and the other is Leigh Cross (if you were coming from the Crediton direction).

Via Collaton Cross – turn left to Chulmleigh at Collaton Mills Cross. Carry on up the hill and past Bonds Farm on the bends. At the four-way junction by the Secondary School (Chulmleigh Academy Trust) turn left. Continue to the end of this road (about 400 yards) and the turn right. The Sports Hall is then on your left.

Via Leigh Cross – Turn right to Chulmleigh and continue up the hill. At the top turn left (past Wallingbrook Heath Centre on the right) and continue on to the four way junction. Go straight across and continue to the end of the road (about 400 yards) and turn right. The Sports Hall is then on your left.

**Instow Village Hall**

Half way down Quay Lane on the left (running alongside The Commodore Hotel) between the two main roads through Instow.

**West Buckland Hall – EX32 0SY**

About 5.5 miles from the Tesco roundabout on the A361 towards South Moulton. Take the turn off on the left, signposted for West Buckland. Stay on this road for about 1.2 miles and the Village Hall is on your right, 100yards past North Barton Close.

**North Devon Table Tennis League Rules**

**Rule 1:** The League shall be called “The North Devon Table Tennis League”

**Rule 2:** The object of the League shall be to organise competition between teams, arrange Annual Championships and other competitions and to further the progress of table tennis in the North Devon area.

**Rule 3:** We adopt the policies and procedures of Table Tennis England unless otherwise stated.

**Officers and Committees of the League**

**Rule 4:** The Officers of the League shall be:

The President or Joint Presidents

Vice Presidents

The Chairman

Vice Chairman

Honorary General Secretary

Honorary Assistant General Secretary

Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Assistant Treasurer

Press Secretary

Fixture Secretary

Competitions Secretary

Coaching Officers and others

**Rule 5:** The management of the League’s affairs shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee which shall consist of:

The Chairman

Vice Chairman

Honorary General Secretary

Honorary Assistant General Secretary

Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Assistant Treasurer

Press Secretary

Fixture Secretary

Competitions Secretary

Coaching Officers and others

Four to be a quorum

**Rule 6:** Sub Committees may be appointed by the Executive Committee to cover such events as the Annual Championships, entertainment functions and the like. Sub Committees are responsible to the Executive Committee.

**Elections and Meetings**

**Rule 7:** All Officers will retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election. Subject to termination of office or resignation shall remain in office until their successors are appointed at the next Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy that may occur.

**Rule 8:** Nomination for the election of Officers to the Executive Committee may be taken from the floor of the Annual General Meeting.

**Rule 9:** A list of the officials, Constitution and Rules, clubs and fixtures shall be issued to all the team captains at least 14 days prior to the start of the opening matches.

**Rule 10:** A general meeting open to all Registered League Players and Officers of the League shall be held annually on or before *31st July*. A registered League Player is a player who has played at least one game for any team in the previous season. At least 28 days notice shall be given of the meeting. At this meeting team entries will be accepted for the new season.

**Rule 11:** At the Annual General Meeting only these Registered League Players and Committee Members present shall be entitled to vote with the proviso that every team shall be entitled to a maximum of three votes. Eight such players/members shall constitute a quorum.

**Rule 12:** A Special General Meeting may be called by a majority of the Executive Committee or by one third of the teams in the League. All team captains shall have 14 days notice of this meeting, and a quorum shall be as at the Annual General Meeting.

**League Championships**

**Rule 13:** The League’s Championships shall be held annually and shall include the following events where sufficient entries are received: (Closed events) Singles, Singles Handicap, Women’s Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Veterans Singles, Veterans Handicap, Junior under 12’s, Junior under 15’s, Junior Singles, Divisional, Hard Bat.

**Rule 14:** The League is to run a team handicap knock-out competition, which shall be known as The Ramsey Trophy and an individual handicap competition which shall be known as the Gus Maitland Handicap Trophy and the Tony Whately Shield.

**Rule 15:** The Executive Committee shall have the right to suspend any event if in its judgement there are insufficient entries to justify the event being run or to run any additional competitions as it sees fit.

**Rule 16:** The League shall provide awards for the Winners and Runners Up and shall be responsible for any engraving.

**Rule 17:** Championship entry fees will be decided by the Executive Committee.

**Rule 18:** All competitors must be registered League Players of the North Devon Table Tennis League and must have played in at least 25% of scheduled League matches prior to the Championships.

**Rule 19:** All individual and team trophies won the previous season are to be returned to the Competitions Secretary by 1st March of the following season so as to allow ample time for engraving with the names of the winners. A fine of £5 will be imposed if not returned by that date.

**Rule 19a:** Handicaps for the Cliff Ramsey, Gus Maitland and all necessary events are to be awarded by the Executive Committee and based on each player**’**s League match average for the first half of the season, or later to allow the Executive Committee to adjust any handicaps found to be inappropriate prior to the Championships or any other event.

**The League**

**Rule 20:** The structure of the League for each season shall be determined by the Executive Committee who shall, where practicable, and depending on the number of entries received for any season, place the teams within balanced bands of ability in order to enhance competitiveness for all players.

**Rule 21:** Matches will consist of nine (9) singles and one (1) doubles set. Each set shall consist of the best of five (5) games under TTE rules.

**Rule 22:** Match nights will be Monday to Friday inclusive unless mutually agreed.

**Rule 23:** Teams shall consist of three players for the singles, and, if required extra player(s) for the doubles.

**Rule 24:** Each of three members of one team shall play each of the three members of the opposing team, and any pair from one team shall play any pair from the other team.

**Rule 25:** A TTE approved 3\* ball shall be used in all League matches.

**Rule 26:** The home team has the right to choose the ball in a League match.

**Rule 27:** Unless by prior mutual agreement matches shall be played in the order laid down on the match results card and shall start no later than 7:30pm. Home captains shall nominate their team first.

**Rule 28:** The home team shall, where possible, allow the away team sole use of the match table for 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.

**Rule 29:** Unless by prior mutual agreement any player not in attendance when due to play a set shall forfeit that set.

**Rule 30:** A team shall be credited with one match point for each set won, and each such point to count in the League Table.

**Rule 31** Teams tying for a Championship or Runners-Up position at the end of the season should be placed in order on the number of matches won and if they are still equal the points of the respective team result when playing each other during the season should be used. If the two teams are still equal, then there should be a “playoff.”

**Rule32:** All matches *will* be played on the dates as laid down in the official fixture list. Any deviation from the match night requires the agreement of both team captains. The match should be rearranged and played within 30 days from the original date. The Fixture Secretary must be informed of the new date within 7 days of the cancellation.

**Rule 33:** In the event of an un-played match the offending team shall receive no points. Their opponents will be awarded the number of points that the *League Management Sub Committee* adjudge the team would have scored should the match have been played. Players’ averages will not be affected by such a result.

**Rule 34:** Match result cards must be received by the Fixture Secretary within seven days of the match being played. If the card of results is not received by this time the Executive will penalise the offending team as it sees fit.

**Rule 35:** A League player MUST play in at least 70% of the total games available to the team to be considered for the Divisional Average Awards.

**Registration and Reserves**

**Rule 36:** All teams wishing to play in the League will be required to affiliate themselves to the League by paying the necessary fees, which shall include all necessary County and National affiliation fees.

**Rule 37:** All teams wishing to play in the League will be required to complete an official League Entry Form which must be submitted together with the necessary entry fees and all players must have TTE individual registration. Entry Forms must contain the names, full postal addresses, email, DOB and telephone numbers of players, including the captain of the team who will be responsible for notifying the League of any changes to the above information.

**Rule 38:** The Executive Committee shall have the power to refuse entry forms.

**Rule 39:** The Executive Committee shall have the power to refuse the nomination of a player.

**Rule 40:** A team or player may appeal to the Executive Committee against the refusal.

**Rule 41:**  A player registered in a lower division can substitute for any player in a higher division on a maximum of five occasions. They will be registered to play for the team they appear for on the fifth time and will no longer be eligible to play for their lower division team. In the lowest division, those players not registered with any team at the beginning of the season (classified as a Reserve) can play up to five times for different teams in that division but will be registered to play for the team they appear for on the fifth time.

**Rule 42:** Players registered for a team in a higher division are NOT allowed to play for teams in a lower division. If an unregistered player is deemed by the committee to be of higher standard than those playing in the lowest division, they may only play in the league by registering with a team in a division appropriate to their standard.

**Rule 43:** All players must register with the League as set out in Rule 37. Teams consist of a minimum of three players and a maximum of five players. Teams who initially register three players or four players may register up to five players during the season. These additional players must submit their applications together with the required fees and forms to the League prior to playing in their first match. Should teams lose a player during the season then a replacement player may be drafted in, keeping to a maximum of five registered players – the player they replace will be removed to keep within the maximum of five. The League will publish a list of registered players and their teams once all entries have been confirmed.

**Rule 43a**: Players may transfer from one team or another during the first half of the League season providing the following: (a) The player agrees. (b) The captains of the teams concerned agree. (c) The League Executive Committee agree. (d) The transfer is between teams in the same division. Transfers are not allowed for a player in a higher division to join a lower division team. (e) 5 days notice must be given to the Honorary General Secretary or the Honorary Treasurer for such a transfer to take effect.

**Rule 44:** The Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend or expel any registered player from the League who is in persistent breach of the rules.

**Finance**

**Rule 45:** The funds of the League shall be deposited with a recognised Bank or **B**uilding Society. All cheques to be signed by any two of the following**:** The Chairman, The Honorary Treasurer, The Honorary General Secretary or a nominated signatory from the Executive Committee.

**Rule 46:** Any regular balance in excess of the League’s requirements shall be invested at the discretion of the Executive Committee with any recognised Bank or Building Society offering reasonable interest with security.

**Rule 47:** The financial year shall end on the 31st of May.

**Rule 48:** The team entry fee shall be decided at each Annual General Meeting.

**Rule 49:** A fine of at least £5 may be imposed on any team which does not turn up for a match and a fine of £5 may be imposed against offending teams for each League match not played by the end of two weeks after the official close of the season.

**Rule 50:** All teams must pay their team entry fees with the entry form. Failure to do so may result in their entry not being accepted. Postal orders and cheques shall be made payable to ‘The North Devon Table Tennis League’. Payment by BACS is preferred.

**Rule 51:** Any expense due to the Officials or other persons must be claimed separately and not deducted from entry fees.

**Rule52:** Any sum to be spent by the League, and individuals of Sub-Committee, must be approved by the Executive Committee before the expense is incurred.

**Alteration of Constitution and Rules**

**Rule 53:** Any proposed alterations, revision or new provision must be given to The Honorary General Secretary, in writing at least 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

**Rule 54:** The Honorary General Secretary must advise all teams of any proposed alterations, revisions and new provisions within 7 days thereafter. Any amendments to these proposed alterations shall be submitted in writing to The Honorary General Secretary with the names of proposers and seconders, at least 7 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

**Rule 55:** A Special General Meeting shall have the power to alter the Constitution or Rules, providing notice of such proposals are circulated to all team captains with the notice convening the meeting. All amendments to proposed alterations, revisions and new provisions shall be submitted to the Honorary General Secretary**,** with the names of proposers and seconders, at least 7 days prior to the Special General Meeting.

**Rule 56:** Following either of these procedures, any constitutional provisions or rules may be altered, revised or new provisions made at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting providing the majority of the votes cast are in favour.

**Other Provisions**

**Rule 57:** DRESS in all tournaments and matches sanctioned by the Executive Committee. Players are prohibited from wearing clothes that might, in the opinion of the duly appointed referee or umpire, tend to unsight an opponent. All players are to wear sports shoes. All team captains are to use their best endeavours to secure these provisions.

**Rule 58:** Every effort must be made to ensure adequate playing conditions and No Smoking in the playing area/room.

**Rule 59:** The Executive Committee shall decide upon any disputes or unforeseen matters not provided for in the Constitution and Rules and their decision shall be final.

**Rule 60:** Any decisions taken at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting shall be binding on all teams and players within the League.

**Rule 61:** In the event of the League ceasing to exist, all trophies and assets shall be deposited under the care of three nominated trustees from the Executive Committee in office during the year of closure.

**Rule 62:** All players will comply with the TTE regulations regarding racquets, sponge, balls and rubbers. A racquet shall not be changed during an individual match unless it is accidently damaged so badly that it cannot be used. This would make it illegal to change an undamaged or deliberately damaged racquet during a match.

**The Cliff Ramsey Trophy**

**Rule 1:** The rules for this competition were laid down by the late Mr. Cliff Ramsey and it was his wish that the League’s Executive Committee continue to stage the competition annually.

**Rule 2:** The object of this competition is to give, by careful handicapping, every team in the League a reasonable chance of winning the trophy.

**Rule 3:** Entry is by invitation only from the Executive Committee. There is no entrance fee.

**Rule 4:** All participants must be registered players of the North Devon Table Tennis League.

**Rule 5:** Handicaps are awarded by the Executive Committee and are based on each player’s League match average for the first half of the season, or later.

**Rule 6:** The teams shall independently write down their players’ names: Home Team ABC and Away Team XYZ**. T**hese shall then be entered onto the provided score sheet and the matches shall ~~then~~ take place in the prescribed format.

**Rule 7:** Each match will consist of nine sets **-** six singles and three doubles. Each set to be the best of three games up to 21 only. The winner of each set will receive a point for their team.

**Rule 8:** All games are to be played with at least one player starting from LOVE. The handicaps for each game will be based on the Handicap Adjustment Chart, for example:

If a player with a handicap of (8) is playing an opponent with a handicap of (12) then the player with the (8) handicap starts at LOVE and the player with (12) handicap starts at (5)**.**

**Rule 9:** The fully completed score sheet should be sent to the Fixture Secretary.

**Rule 10:** The ‘Final’ will take place at a venue decided by the Executive Committee normally commencing at 7:30pm.

**Rule 11:** The winner of the trophy is to hold it for one year. A small additional prize for the winner and runner-up will be awarded.

**The Gus Maitland Trophy**

**Rule 1:** The rules for this competition were laid down by the late Mr. Gus Maitland and it was his wish that the League’s Executive Committee continue to stage the competition annually.

**Rule 2:** The object of the competition is to give by careful handicapping, every player in the League a reasonable chance of winning the trophy.

**Rule 3:** Entry is by invitation only from the Executive Committee. There is no entrance fee.

**Rule 4:** All participants must have played at least 3 matches prior to the event.

**Rule 5:** Handicaps are awarded by the Executive Committee and are based on each player’s League match average for the first half of the season, or later. The handicaps issued for the Ramsey Trophy are to be used.

**Rule 6:** Each club/team is to arrange for their players who have been invited to take part in this competition to play each other, best of three games.

**Rule 7:** In the case of a draw the eventual winner is to be decided on the sets difference. If there is still no clear winner, then the games difference will decide the winner. If there is still no clear winner, then the points difference will decide the winner.

**Rule 8:** All games are to be played with at least one player starting from LOVE. The handicaps for each game will be based on the Handicap Adjustment Chart, for example if played to 21.

**Rule 9:** If a player with a handicap of (8) is playing an opponent with a handicap of (12) the player with the (8) handicap starts at LOVE and the player with (12) handicap starts at (5)**.**

**Rule 10**: The fully completed score sheet should be sent to the Competition Secretary. Note: if eliminating games are not played a player may be nominated to represent the team in the finals.

**Rule 11:** The ‘Finals’ will take place at a venue decided by the Executive Committee.

**Rule 12:** Number of entrants will decide whether the competition will be straight knock out or group based. Each round will be re-drawn before play commences. The competition will culminate with the Final at the end of the evening.

**Rule 13:** Any obviously misjudged handicaps may be adjusted on the night.

**Rule 14:** The winner of the trophy is to hold it for one year. A small additional prize for the winner and runner-up will be awarded.