

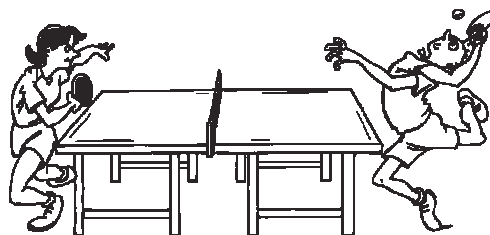
COBB CUP RULES
(HANDICAP)

- (1) Each match to consist of 9 singles (no doubles) (3 players per team each playing one another).
- (2) These singles consist of four games only.
- (3) Play commences at love all and ends when one player attains 11 points – no two clear points applying.
- (4) Handicaps will be set at the commencement of the Cup. To qualify for a handicap, and to play in this competition, a player must have played 5 times in the current league season, or 5 times in the previous season if the cup starts during the league season.
- (5) The team handicap points difference, adjusted as required, will be added to the final points total of the team with the higher team handicap. The team with the highest number of points shall be deemed the winner.
- (6) In the event of a draw, the result will be decided by the toss of a coin.
- (7) Reserves may be used provided they qualify for a handicap, are not cup-tied, and are of a similar playing standard. The spread of handicaps of team members playing a game may not exceed the maximum possible range within one division.
- (8) All results must be communicated to the Cup Secretary on the morning of the day after the match.



**WILLMOTT/McCLAUGHLIN/
HENDERSON
CUP RULES**

- (1) Willmott Cup for Premier teams
- (2) McClaughlin Cup for Division One teams
- (3) McClaughlin Inter Cup for Division Two teams
- (4) Henderson Cup for Division Three teams
- (5) Each match to consist of nine singles with no doubles (three players to each team playing one another).
- (6) Play commences at love all and shall be the best of five games to 11 with two clear points to the winner applying.
- (7) The team that reaches five matches first are the winners.
- (8) Players may play for a higher divisional team in this competition, but are deemed cup tied after one match and cannot play for any other team in these cup competitions during that season.
- (9) All result cards must be sent to the Cup Secretary within 24 hours.



**NORTH HERTS TABLE TENNIS
ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION RULES**

1. Title

The Title shall be the North Herts Table Tennis Association.

2. Objects

- (a) To promote and encourage the playing of Table Tennis and the formation of Table Tennis Clubs, Including Youth Clubs, in the area of North Hertfordshire.
- (b) To acquire and hold (property including trophies) to be used for the purpose of furthering the aforesaid objects and to join with any other body or organisation in such furtherance.
- (c) To promote, manage and conduct League activities between affiliated Clubs and such tournaments as the Executive Committee may decide to organise.

3. Constitution

The Association shall consist of the Offices, i.e. The President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Chairman, Hon. General Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Assistant General Secretary, Hon. League Secretary, Hon. Tournament Secretary, Hon. Representative Match Secretary, Hon. Junior Secretary, Hon. Press Secretary, Hon. Trophy Secretary, Hon. Coaching Secretary, an Auditor, the affiliated Clubs and the Registered Players.

4. Membership

- (a) Membership of the Association shall be open to all clubs in Royston, Baldock, Hitchin, Letchworth, Stevenage and the neighbouring districts.
- (b) Applications for membership for clubs shall be made to the Hon. League Secretary in writing not later than the day nominated by the Executive Committee.
- (c) Admission to membership shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

- (d) It is a condition of entry that at the time for forwarding entry forms for the League Competition, all clubs must nominate at least one member who will be prepared to serve on a sub-committee of the Association. In the event of this member subsequently being unable to serve, the club must submit a further name to the Executive Committee.
- (e) Only players who have completed an Individual Registration Form in respect of the North Herts Table Tennis Association's obligation to the ETTA will be permitted to play in matches organised by the Association.

5. Affiliation

The Association shall be affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association and the Herts County Table Tennis Association and such other bodies as the Executive Committee may deem necessary.

6. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall administer the affairs of the Association and shall consist of the Officers, less the President and Vice-President, and three other members with power to co-opt as necessary. A quorum shall be four which must include the Chairman or Vice-Chairman.

The Hon. Chairman and Hon. General Secretary shall have the right to attend all meetings and shall be ex-officio members of all committees and sub-committees and shall be notified of all such meetings. All sub-committees shall be responsible to the Executive Committee and shall have the power to co-opt.

7. League Sub-Committee

This Committee shall consist of the Hon. League Secretary who shall act as Chairman and Divisional Results Secretaries as required.

The Committee shall be responsible for all and any matters arising from the League Competition.

8. Tournament Sub-Committee

This Committee shall consist of the Hon. Tournament Secretary who shall act as Chairman and four elected members. It shall be responsible for all tournaments run by the Association.

In order to participate in the league's closed tournament, players of seeding standard must have played in at least one-third of the league games played by their team between the start of the season and the closing date.

9. Junior Sub-Committee

This Committee shall consist of the Hon. Junior Secretary who shall act as Chairman and four elected members.

10. Officers Duties

The Hon. Representative Match Secretary shall be responsible for all matters arising from representative matches.

The Hon. Press Secretary shall be responsible for all press reports and publicity and shall have the right to attend all events and meetings of the Association for this purpose.

11. General Council

The Executive Committee shall as and when it considers necessary convene meetings of the General Council which shall consist of the Executive Committee and one nominated representative of each member Club.

The General Council shall not override decisions of the Executive Committee.

12. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the month of May each year. Affiliated Clubs may send an unlimited number of representatives, but only two from each club shall be allowed to vote. No person may vote for a club unless they are registered to play for that club, unless they produce written evidence to the Executive Committee authorising them to vote by proxy for the club concerned on matters for which they have obtained a mandate.

13. Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened on resolution of the Executive Committee or within four weeks of the receipt of the Hon. General Secretary of a resolution in writing, signed by the secretaries of six Affiliated Clubs.

14. Notices of Meetings

- (a) The time, date, venue and purpose of Annual General, Extraordinary General and League Council Meetings will be circulated fourteen days prior to the date of such meetings.
- (b) The Officers and Affiliated Clubs shall be on the circulation list of the Association.

15. Election of Officers

- (a) The Election of Officers and permanent sub-committees will be held each year at the Annual General Meetings. The three ordinary members will retire annually, the other members of the Executive Committee will be elected biennially. They will retire as follows:—

2026 Hon. Chairman, Hon. Tournament Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Junior Secretary, Hon. Coach Secretary, Hon. Assistant, General Secretary and Hon. Trophy Secretary.

2025 Hon. Gen. Secretary, Hon. Representative, Match Secretary, Hon. League Secretary, Hon. Press Secretary, Hon. Handbook Secretary, and Hon. Cup Secretary, Hon. County Rep.

Thereafter they will retire in rotation. A retiring Officer may be nominated for a further term or terms of office. Officers elected in place of officers retiring before completion of their term of office will only be elected to complete that term of office.

- (b) Nomination forms with the nominee's, proposer's and seconder's signatures must be received by the General Secretary, three days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Only where no nominations are received prior to the Annual General Meeting may these be accepted from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Honorary Life Vice-Presidents may be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Such election will be subject to prior approval of the Executive Committee and will be in recognition of services rendered to the Association.

16. Alterations To Rules

- (a) No addition, alteration or revision of the Constitution and Rules shall be effective unless made at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose.
- (b) Such proposals may be made by Officers and member clubs of the Association. Registered players may make proposals through their clubs.
- (c) Such proposals shall be submitted in writing to the Hon. General Secretary before the 31st March each year and they shall be circulated as under Rule 14.

17. Finance

- (1) The financial affairs of the Association will be administered by the Hon. Treasurer, who will be responsible to and directed by the Executive Committee.
- (2) Accounts – Subscriptions, registration fees and all monies due to the Association shall be paid to the Hon. Treasurer who shall pay them into the North Herts Table Tennis Association's account at Barclays Bank. Payment of accounts shall be authorised on the signature of two of the following Officers:–
Hon. Chairman, Hon. General Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.
- (3) Reports – The Hon. Treasurer shall provide an Annual Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet as at the 30th April in each year, after audit by the Associations Auditor it shall be circulated with the notice of the Annual General Meeting.
- (4) An Auditor will be appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- (5) (a) Membership Subscriptions – the Annual subscription of each affiliated team shall be the sum agreed by the Annual General Meeting plus the English Table Tennis Association and Herts Table Tennis Association affiliated fees, and such other fees or payments as shall be levied by the English Table Tennis Association. Provided that the Executive Committee can at their sole discretion pay such levies from accumulated funds.

(b) The annual subscription of each junior or youth team as defined by the English Table Tennis Association shall be the sum agreed by the Annual General Meeting plus the English Table Tennis Association and Herts Table Tennis Association affiliation fees, and such other fees or payments as shall be levied by the English Table Tennis Association. Provided that the Executive Committee can at their sole discretion pay such levies from accumulated funds.

(6) Club affiliation fees shall be paid to the Association at the time of affiliation. In the event of the fees not being paid then the club defaulting shall not be eligible to participate in Association competitions. In the event of the registration form (see Rule 19(a)) not being completed properly then the player concerned shall not be eligible to participate in Association competitions.

(7) In addition to the affiliation fees described above, each club shall pay a deposit of £5. This deposit shall be returned to a club on the attendance of its representative(s) at the Annual General Meeting.

18. Registration of Players

(a) All members of an affiliated club's team or teams must be registered prior to taking part in the Association's competitions, but the Association reserves the right to refuse the entry of any team or player.

(b.i.) Registration of players at all times will be after the approval of the Executive Committee in writing. No player may play in an official North Herts match without this approval, in the event of a non approved player participating in a match, his/her results will be automatically removed after from the score card.

(b.ii.) No player shall be registered after the 31st December in any season, but this ruling may be waived at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

(c) A Club may register any number of players for any one team provided a registration form is completed correctly in every case. Each player shall be registered for one team only in any one division and must play only for that team. Clubs will specify for which team players are

registered. Players registered in a lower division may play for a team of the same club in a higher division, *'but once having played more than five times in a higher division'*, a player cannot revert to a lower division. Where clubs have more than one team in a division, a player can only play up for one specified team.

- (d) Where a club has more than one team, then players registered for one team can be transferred to a lower team during the course of any season. Applications for such transfer and for transfers between clubs, should be made in writing to the Hon. League Secretary and must be approved at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
- (e) Junior players registered in a junior league may play in a senior league provided they are properly registered.
- (f) A junior team in a senior league may include one adult player.

19. Match Play

- (1) The League Sub-Committee shall organise the teams of the affiliated clubs into divisions based on their playing strength.
- (2) Fixtures will be arranged by a chart issued by the Association and all matches will take place as indicated.
- (3)
 - (a) Both home and away teams shall be responsible for sending in the official score cards, signed by both captains, to the Divisional Results Secretary within 24 hours of the match.
 - (b) Details may be sent by e mail provided Divisional Results Secretaries have agreed to this and the format is the same as the scorecard. Where e-mail is used team captains must retain scorecard until final league table position for season is issued"
- (4) No postponements of matches other than those approved by the Executive Committee. Postponements will only be considered in exceptional circumstances and the defaulting team must make confirmed contact with the opposing team and the League Secretary.

“Please note matches may be played in advance of the fixture schedule by mutual agreement between both team captains.

It is also acceptable to play matches on another day of the week the match is scheduled to be played either at another home night of the home team or reversing the fixture if acceptable to both team captains.”

(5) Matches should commence not later than 7.30 pm, except where dispensation is given by the Executive Committee and the starting time shall be entered on the score card. After the starting time no practice shall be permitted except for a maximum of two minutes between contestants immediately prior to the commencement of their game. Where no member of a team has appeared within 30 minutes of the starting time that team shall forfeit the match and awarded to the non-forfeiting team 6-0.

The non defaulting team may request this match to be played at a later date by asking the committee through the League Secretary in order to obtain a maximum of ten points.

However, if the match remains unplayed the result will be recorded as 6 – 0.

- (6) (a) In a match where a team is represented by only two players, the match will consist of six singles games and one doubles game.
- (b) Where both teams have only two players the match shall consist of four singles games and one doubles game.
- (c) No team shall play any match with only one player. The team attending with one player to forfeit the match and awarded to the non-forfeiting team 6-0.
- (d) “A Match Team may only consist of 3 players, no other person may play in the doubles”

(7) The order of play shall be as laid down in the official score card, except that it can be varied if agreed by both captains prior to commencement of the match. The home team should enter its players names first on the score card. If a match is commenced but not completed, the unplayed games will be awarded automatically to the non-defaulting team and if no variation of the order of play is agreed by both captains as set out above any player not having made his or her appearance when required to play as laid down in the score card shall forfeit the game. The circumstances of any unplayed or forfeited game must be reported to the Divisional Results Secretary when submitting the score card.

(8) During the course of the season each team shall play every other team in the same division the commensurate number of times as determined by the league structure. No match shall be used to determine the points awarded in any other match.

(9) Position in the League Tables shall be decided by the points obtained, i.e.

One point to be awarded for each individual game won by teams in the league, allowing a maximum of 10 points per match.

A point will also be awarded for any game where no opponent is fielded, but not for a game where neither team can field a player.

In the event of a tie in the table effecting promotion/relegation, a play-off on a neutral table shall decide.

A play-off shall consist of nine singles games – no doubles – at a neutral venue.

(10) (a) In any season the number of divisions that form the league and the number of teams on each division shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

(b) In any season the number of teams promoted and relegated in any division shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

(c) In carrying out the above The Executive Committee shall take due consideration of, but not limited to, any points of view, recommendations and concerns that they are informed of in accordance with rule 16 (b) & (c).

(11) The umpires for each game during a match shall be mutually agreed and, as far as possible, be alternate members of home and away teams. The umpires decision shall be final.

(12) All games will be played in strict accordance with the English Table Tennis Association's Rules.

20. Inspection of Premises

The Executive Committee shall have the right to inspect any club's premises before or during the season and, if found unsuitable, shall advise on the necessary alterations. If the club cannot or will not put right the points mentioned, then the Executive Committee have the right to refuse continuance of that club in the League.

21. Representative Matches

- (a) Players selected to represent the Association shall not play for their club on the same day. Clubs thus affected will be conceded automatically a revision of their fixture if they so desire.
- (b) Any player who is selected, and makes five appearances for the Association will be awarded the Association's badge.

22. Withdrawal from League

The record of any club withdrawing from the league shall be expunged and any monies paid forfeited. The club and/or players may be fined at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Any club or player so fined will be excluded from entering further events until the fines are paid.

23. Breach of Rules

The Executive Committee shall have the power to fine or expel any affiliated club or registered player not complying with these rules or any others laid down by the Executive Committee, but before arriving at such a decision shall give the offenders the opportunity of being heard by the Executive Committee.

24. Appeals

Affiliated clubs and/or registered players dissatisfied with the decision of any sub-committee shall have the right to appeal to, and be heard by, the Executive Committee.

25. Trophies

- (a) The Executive Committee and in particular the Hon. Trophy Secretary shall be responsible for the sole custody and insurance of all trophies.
- (b) All trophies won in the Association's competitions and tournaments will be held for one season only by clubs or players.
- (c) The Association shall be responsible for all engraving.

26. Disbandment

In the event of the Association being suspended or disbanded all trophies and assets shall be held in trust pending the reformation of a similar organisation in the area.

27. Decisions

Decision of the Executive Committee shall be final and binding on all matters within the Association.

28. NHTTA Code of Conduct

- (1) Players will be punctual and polite, and at all times conduct themselves in a sporting manner.
- (2) Verbal abuse towards an opponent, official or spectator is prohibited, including the use of foul language, before, during or after a match.
- (3) Violent, threatening behaviour or bullying towards an opponent, official or spectator is prohibited. This includes any action which causes, or has the potential to cause, physical or mental harm to another person. For example deliberately throwing a bat or another object, or verbal threats made towards an opponent, breaking a ball, striking the table or any other equipment during play.
- (4) A handshake will take place at the end of every match.
- (5) Players must be particularly vigilant in their good conduct when playing against, or in the presence of, persons under the age of 18, and should always look to set a good example.
- (6) Any disputes during a match will be referred to the umpire, or if applicable the tournament referee, for a final decision, with which all players will abide without argument.
- (7) Observers will not involve themselves in said disputes (see 6. above).

(For all people / players umpiring within the NHTTA League)

- If during a match the umpire considers a player to be in breach of the conduct rules, they should in the first instance warn the player that further poor behaviour will incur penalties. Example "Code Violation, use of bad language, warning."
- On the second and subsequent occasions, the umpire will award a point to the player's opponent. Example "Code Violation, abuse of bat, 1 point awarded to X."

- If at any time the umpire considers the offense to be significantly serious or repeated time and time again, they are to suspend that Set and report the event to either the Tournament Referee, or for league matches, the NHTTA committee by letter. If the Game involves a league match, remaining Sets should be completed, and the suspended Set awarded against the offender.
For clarity, a Match is 10 sets, and each Set is the best of 5 Games.
- Umpires should be objective and impartial despite umpiring games involving their own team members.
- Umpires should not be drawn into arguments relating to a decision they have made (their decision is final).
- Objections to any umpire ruling may be made in writing to the NHTTA committee.

Examples of Poor Conduct

Any breach of the formal NHTTA Code of Conduct including:-

- Foul, abusive or offensive language or gestures.
- Violent or threatening behaviour, either verbally, visually or physically.
- Not accepting a ruling by umpire.
- Abuse of equipment, ball, table, surrounds or other equipment (kicking walls, doors etc), damaging own bat.
- Delaying tactics (excessive toweling, toweling is only allowed every 6 points played).
- Excessive shouting, foot stamping.
- Coaching during a game.
- Accusing your opponent of cheating (issues should only be raised via the umpire).

Rules Reminder

- Coaching may not occur during Games. It is allowed between Games.
- The duration of rest between Games should not exceed 1 minute.

- Foul serving - the umpire shall warn the player in the first instance if there is doubt in its legality. Subsequent serving fouls will result in the point being awarded to the receiver. If there is no doubt in the first instance of an illegal serve, a point will be immediately awarded to the receiver. It is the responsibility of the player to serve so that the umpire can see that the service is legal.
- Calls of support and encouragement by observers BETWEEN (not during) points is allowed.
- Timeouts are not allowed.
- ETTA Table Tennis rules apply where not directly referenced above

28. Matters Not Covered

Any matters not coming within the scope of these rules or on which they are silent shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

