

Review of League Rules – 2022 & New Proposals for consideration at 2022 AGM. Proposed by Martin Atwill & seconded by Mick Haynes. 8 August 2022.

Rule 28 – add the words ‘or player’ to the phrase ‘playing a team from a lower division’.

*Reason – this corrects an omission from the existing rule. **Carried unanimously***

Rule 34 – Amend start time for Team Knock-out matches to 8.00pm **Carried unanimously**

Reason – this corrects an obvious error

Rule 40 – delete

*Reason – this is adequately covered by Rule 43 and in a way contradicts Rule 43. **Carried unanimously***

Rule 42 – (f) – add ‘nor will any break or score be eligible for consideration as the highest break or score’

*Reason – this will just complete what the rule sets out to do. **Carried unanimously***

Rule 42 – add as follows – (g) All eligible players must be entered into the draw for the 5th player. Players who refuse to be considered or are excluded by their team captain for any reason for the 5th player draw shall forfeit their other match in the draw.

*Reason – this will remove any loophole in the existing rule and penalise any team/player wishing to use the 4 man rule to gain an advantage. **Not carried***

Rule 43 – amend as follows ‘Players may transfer from their registered team to another team at any time before the mid-point of the season. Such transfers must be with the agreement of the team captains involved and are subject to Committee approval. The player transferring shall not be eligible to play against their former team in any competitive match.

*Reason – the current rule is unduly onerous. There can be many reasons for a player wishing to change teams, and rather than possibly lose a player by ruling out such moves, the League should be open to considering them. **Carried.... Discussion decided that once transferred transferee eligible to play in all games. This is already covered by existing rules and it is at Committee’s discretion***

Rule 47 – remove the wording ‘In the event of a drawn match, each team will be awarded one match point each.’

*Reason – there is no obvious reason why a match that finishes 2.5 each should result in a winning bonus being awarded to both teams. If the League wishes, the match could be decided by aggregate score for the purposes of awarding a winning bonus. **Carried. That rule to be changed to state that drawn matches do not accrue bonus points***

Rule 61 – add – A bonus point shall be awarded to the winning team. In the event of a drawn match, a bonus point shall be awarded to the team with the greatest total score.

Reason – with playing only 4 matches in the Summer League, there are far too many drawn games to make the competition meaningful. The addition of a bonus point for an aggregate

win in an otherwise drawn game would overcome this. **Carried. Already in place in Summer League**

Rule 135 – add ‘and run straight without rolls that cause the ball to deviate by more than 5mm when the ball is played slowly from the ‘D’ towards the 30 hole. The pockets shall be clean.’

*Reason – the League has a duty to ensure that teams prepare their tables properly for matches. Tables that are not cleaned, including the pockets, or have significant rolls do not encourage good play, nor do they provide a surface where players can improve their game play. They also do not promote the correct image of the League and may discourage casual users of tables who might possibly become league players. **Not carried . Impossible to police and would contravene AEBBA rules. 2 abstentions***

Other proposals

1. The proposals submitted for consideration at the AGM shall be published on the League website no later than 10 working days prior to the AGM. League members shall have the option of voting online, attending the meeting in person, or appointing a proxy to vote on their behalf. Such intentions shall be notified online no later than the working day prior to the AGM.

*Reason: This will give members time to consider and react to proposals and vote accordingly. Democracy will be increased and the need to attend an AGM to influence the management of the league will be avoided. There will be members who are unable to attend, and those who, whilst committed to the league, prefer to remain in the background and with the introduction of this proposal will no longer be disenfranchised. **Not carried at this time due to technical restrictions. General consensus that this was a good suggestion to be revisited when technology in the league has capacity to do this***

2. Those standing for election either to the Committee or to one of the principal managerial roles (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer) shall declare their intentions no later than 10 working days prior to the AGM, and their names shall be displayed on the website with members invited to vote either online, at the AGM in person, by appointing a proxy to vote on their behalf. Such intentions shall be notified online no later than the working day prior to the AGM.

*Reason: The reasoning behind this proposal are as for the one above. **Carried unanimously***

3. Minutes of Committee meetings and the AGM shall be displayed on the League website no later than 7 days following the meeting.

Reason: I and others feel that communication between the committee and the membership has been lacking, and this will go some way towards remedying this.

Not carried. Again technical restrictions can limit this. Proposed that minutes can be sent to all members by email

4. Members shall be notified of the date for Committee meetings no later than 7 days prior to the meeting. Members shall then have 3 working days to submit any matter for discussion at the Committee meeting.

*Reason: As above – communication needs to be radically improved. **Carried unanimously. These have now been added to league calendar***

5. Team Captains or their appointed deputies who are not Committee members shall have the right to attend Committee meeting but shall not have any voting rights in respect of any matter discussed that requires a vote.
*Reason: Whilst in theory this has always been possible, the right of attendance needs to be reinforced by the addition of a rule. **No change already in place***
6. All draws in respect of competitions shall be conducted at a full Committee meeting.
*Reason: There needs to be absolute transparency surrounding the draw process. **Not carried***
7. Due to the decrease in the number of tables in the league, competition matches shall only be played on neutral venues from the round of the last 8. Prior to this the first drawn name shall have home advantage.
*Reason: This is self-explanatory, and will make the role of the Competition Secretary much easier. It will have little or no influence over the results of matches. **Not carried 3 for and 1 abstention. Rest against***