

New ideas for the committee to consider

1. League Format – the current format of 2 divisions, one of 4 teams and the other of 5 teams, leaves many of the teams with little to play for as they have no possibility of winning either of the divisions. A change to putting the teams into 3 sections with the top team being promoted and the bottom team relegated would solve this, and give those teams the make up the bottom of division 2 a real possibility of winning something. The sections would, using the current teams, be made up as follows :-

Gold Section – Rushden Cons, Cock A, Storm

Silver Section – Ted's Headlanders, Snooty Shushers, Britannia Club

Bronze Section – Cobblers, Cock C, Saints

With this format, trophies would only be awarded to section winners. There could be a small award to the highest away break and highest away score which could only be won by considering scores against teams in that person's own section or above, or in their achievements in the individuals or team KO competitions. If a new team was to enter the league, they would enter the Bronze section, unless that team comprised more than 3 experienced players, in which case the League Committee would take a view on which section would be most appropriate for that new team.

2. Masters Format – players wishing to take part in this competition would in the first year be categorised according to ability by the Competition Secretary into divisions of 8 players. Players would play 7 games on 2 legs each as at present to determine their league position. The winner of section A would be designated Masters champion. The player finishing bottom of section A would be relegated to section B for the next season, and the player finishing bottom of section B would be relegated to section C etc. The player finishing second from bottom of section A would play a 2 leg match against the player finishing second in section B to determine the other promotion/relegation issue, and the same would take place in the other sections. Should a player not enter in the following year, then all players ranked below them would be moved up accordingly. If a new player wishes to enter the competition, the Competition Secretary will determine their place according to their ability and adjust ranking below accordingly.
3. The second division individuals would be scrapped. In recent years it has attracted only a very modest entry, and perhaps it is time to try something different. I suggest therefore that consideration be given to an open competition based on either the 4 pin game, or the alternative rules game.