

COUNTY ANTRIM TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE RULES

1 Title

1.1 *The League shall be called the County Antrim Table Tennis League, hereinafter referred to as `the League`.*

2 Objectives

2.1 *The League shall promote and foster table tennis across the community in County Antrim and Northern Ireland. It may conduct individual and team competitions confined to players registered and participating in League events under its control.*

3 Constitution

3.1 *The League shall be composed of teams electing to play under the League's control, and who have been deemed acceptable by the League committee.*

4 Annual General Meeting

4.1 *The League must hold each year between May and September an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to:*

- (a) Elect a President (no voting rights)**
- (b) Elect the Office Bearers of the League committee, comprising the Chairperson, Secretary (to include Match Secretary), Treasurer, Press Officer and Development Officer (to include Child Protection Officer duties)**
- (c) Approve the minutes of the previous AGM**
- (d) Receive Annual reports**
- (e) Decide all fees and charges**
- (f) Consider and approve revisions to the rules**
- (g) Consider all motions received in due time.**

4.2 *At the AGM, each team, having completed its engagements of the previous season, shall be entitled to be represented, one quarter to form a quorum. Only one representative of any team may vote on the proposition before the meeting.*

4.3 *No representative at the AGM shall vote more than once on any single motion before the meeting. A proxy vote will not be accepted. The votes of only those persons attending, who are entitled to vote, will be counted.*

4.4 *The Secretary shall give club secretaries at least 21 clear days notice of the date and venue of the AGM. Notices of motion must be with the Secretary at least 10 clear days prior to the meeting. The AGM is the only occasion at which notices of motion for altering the rules can be considered, except at an EGM, as a single item.*

4.5 *Auditors and/or trustees may be appointed at the AGM.*

4.6 *The attendance of members and the team, if any, they represent to be noted.*

5 Extraordinary General Meeting

5.1 *An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called on the written request of a simple majority of the members of the*

League committee or 30 registered players, stating the purpose for which the meeting should be called.

5.2 The Secretary shall arrange for the EGM to be held within 14 clear days of receipt of the request.

5.3 The Secretary shall give each club secretary 7 clear days notice of the date and venue of the meeting.

5.4 Each team competing during the current season shall be entitled to be represented and to vote. Only one representative of each team may vote on any proposition before the EGM.

5.5 No business other than that for which the meeting has been summoned shall be transacted at the EGM.

5.6 The attendance of members and the team, if any, which they represent to be noted.

6 League Committee

- 6.1 *The League committee shall manage the affairs of the League in accordance with the County Antrim Table Tennis League rules.***
- 6.2 *The Office Bearers of the League committee shall be elected at the AGM.***
- 6.3 *Each club is entitled to one representative on the League committee who has not been elected as an Office Bearer at the AGM. During registration, each club will submit the names of up to two representatives to the Secretary. The club is then entitled to be represented at each committee meeting by one of their representatives.***
- 6.4 *The duties of the Office Bearers shall be those usually assumed by persons holding such offices.***
- 6.5 *A declaration by the Chairperson that a motion has been carried or lost shall be conclusive.***
- 6.6 *Only in the event of a tie in the voting shall the Chairperson cast a vote.***
- 6.7 *Five members of the League committee form a quorum.***
- 6.8 *The attendance of the members will be noted and detailed at the next AGM.***
- 6.9 *No member of the League committee may vote more than once on any single motion before the League committee.***
- 6.10 *Registered players (other than the designated club representative) can attend the meeting but cannot speak on any motion unless invited to do so by the Chairperson. Registered players (other than the designated club representative) who attend meetings of the League committee cannot vote.***
- 6.11 *The League committee may co-opt any registered player onto the League committee. Details of the co-option must be recorded in the minutes of the relevant League committee meeting.***
- 6.12 *The League committee shall meet during the season as called by the League Secretary. Meetings should be held at a time and place designated by the League Secretary ensuring sufficient and reasonable notice is given.***

7 League Divisions

- 7.1 The League committee will decide how many divisions (and, if appropriate, sub divisions of same) will be established and which teams shall compete in each division (sub division)**
- 7.2 All players must be in the hall within one hour of the scheduled commencement of the match. Failure to comply without the prior consent of the other team captain will result in forfeiture of all that player's games.**
- 7.3 Matches shall consist of 10 games. The number of singles and doubles being dependent on the number of players on each team (see Appendix A).**
- 7.4 Before the commencement of a match, the home team captain shall enter on the match sheet the home team in order of play. The visiting captain shall then enter his/her team. The doubles can be entered later but in the same format.**
- 7.5 Umpires should officiate alternatively for each game in a match, each team captain deciding its umpire for any particular game.**
- 7.6 Each game will be the best of five sets.**
- 7.7 The winning team captain shall forward the score sheet to the League Secretary within 5 days of the match. In the event of a draw, the home team captain shall be responsible for the forwarding of the match sheet. Failure to comply with this rule may result in points not being awarded to the team responsible for the return of the match sheet.**
- 7.8 All League fixtures should be played on the dates specified in the League fixture list. No match can be postponed except for the following circumstances**
- (a) Death of a player or a close family member**
 - (b) Extreme weather conditions**
 - (c) Unavailability of hall.**
 - (d) Both team captains agree to a changed date which is before the date specified in the League fixture list**
 - (e) Exceptional circumstances with authorisation from the League secretary**

Under these circumstances the team captain wishing to postpone the match must agree within 7 days a new date for the match with the opposing team captain. The League Secretary must be informed of this new date.

Where teams fail to agree a date to play a match within 7 days, the League Secretary will set a new date.

7.9 Playing conditions regarding dress code, space, lighting and condition of table etc should ideally conform to the normal rules set out by the ITTA. The home team shall be responsible for providing 3 star balls.

8 Registration of Players

- 8.1 All club secretaries shall note the names of all the players (in the clubs' perceived order of merit) who will be entitled to compete in the League for the coming season on the registration form provided. This form shall be forwarded to the League Secretary before the season commences. The League committee will modify this order of merit as it sees fit.**
- 8.2 The League Secretary shall request clubs to forward their teams by a specific date each season. A registration fee will be payable for each player registered by a club.**
- 8.3 3 or more players can be registered as forming a team.**
- 8.4 Players cannot play for more than 1 team in the same division.**
- 8.5 Once registered to a club, a player cannot transfer to another club within the same season without permission from the League committee.**
- 8.6 Late registrations (i.e. those after the date specified in 8.2 above) must be notified to the League Secretary and approved by the League committee. A player thus registered can only play in matches, taking place after the date of registration. A copy of each club's registration form must be available for inspection on match nights.**
- 8.7 Registrations should not normally be taken after 31 January.**
- 8.8 A player from a lower division may substitute in a higher division a maximum of two times during a season, or otherwise be deemed eligible only to play in the higher division for the remainder of the season.**
- 8.9 Teams shall on the request of the League Secretary forward details of: -**
- (a) Headquarters' address**
 - (b) Evening suitable for a home match and scheduled match start time (latest 8.00pm)**
 - (c) Name, address, telephone number and email address of club secretary and captain(s).**
- 8.10 The winner of the division shall be the team with the greatest number of points. Two points shall be awarded for a win, one for a draw and none for a defeat. In the event of a tie, a play off match will be played at a neutral venue. This play off match will**

be decided firstly on games won, if equal on sets won, if equal on points won, if still equal the match will be replayed.

8.11 Commencing with the home team captain, each team captain must complete the game match sheet, by entering his team players in their playing order of merit (see Rule 8.1). Failure to comply with this rule may result in the League Committee taking action against the offending team captain(s). An application to change the order of merit can be made by the team captain to the League Secretary. League Committee approval must be obtained before any revised order of merit can be used.

9 Fees

9.1 All fees in respect of League team entries and individual registrations shall be paid on or before 31 October. Failure to meet this deadline will incur an administration charge (See rule 4.1(e)).

10 Knockout Cup

10.1 The League may hold handicap knockout competitions of varying formats.

10.2 Each team shall be handicapped on their three strongest eligible players.

10.3 Only players who have played at least two League games in the current season and the score sheets for which are with the League Secretary, before handicaps are decided at the League committee meeting, shall be eligible to play in the knockout competition.

10.4 The winning team captain shall forward the score sheet to the League Secretary within 5 days of the match. In the event of a draw, the home team captain shall be responsible for the forwarding of the match sheet. The League committee shall decide on any disputes arising out of the non-return of a score sheet.

10.5 Normal rules apply except: -

(a) 4 sets per game shall be played

(b) All sets stop at 11 e.g. at 11-10, a set is over.

10.6 Points scored are added to the handicap points and the team with the highest number of points is the winner and progresses to the next round. In the event of a drawn game, the match shall be replayed with the venue reversed. The League Secretary must be informed of the date of the replay (which must be before the next round of the competition).

11 Individual Tournaments

11.1 The League may run such annual individual competitions that it considers desirable.

11.2 All events shall be restricted to registered players who have played at least 2 League games in the current season.

12 Grievance Procedures

12.1 All disputes and protests arising out of these rules must be sent, within 5 days of the occurrence of the dispute, in writing to the League Secretary.

12.2 Within 10 days of receipt of notification of the dispute/protest, the League Secretary must acknowledge in writing the receipt of any dispute or protest.

12.3 The League Secretary may decide not to progress the dispute if it relates to an issue that has been decided by the majority of the League committee.

12.4 If a dispute is progressed, the letter acknowledging receipt of the dispute/protest should detail what the next stages of the investigation will entail. The letter of receipt may, at the discretion of the League Secretary, provide a timescale for the investigation and determination of the grievance.

13 Conduct

13.1 All players, League Committee members and club officials should refrain from any conduct or course of action that could bring the County Antrim Table Tennis League into disrepute.

13.2 All registered players and club officials must adhere to the County Antrim Table Tennis League Code of Conduct. Players or clubs, who act in a manner contrary to the code of conduct, may be disciplined in accordance with the provisions contained in the Code of Conduct.

14 General

14.1 In the event of any question arising as to the correct interpretation of these rules, or any question not provided for herein, the matter should be referred to the League committee whose decision shall be final.

14.2 All club secretaries shall be sent a copy of the League rules. Amendments shall be sent to clubs as necessary.

14.3 One or more sub committees may be formed, consisting of registered players nominated by the League committee, to implement committee decisions and/or to make recommendations on specific areas. Recommendations of a sub committee must be approved at the first subsequent full League committee meeting.