

# Birstall and District Pool League

## League Rules

*to be played in conjunction with the English Pool Association Rules*

1. English Pool Association (E.P.A.) rules will apply at all times, except that following a foul, the referee must be asked for the white ball to be moved if required. The referee should then place the ball in the players hand.
2. The Birstall and District Pool League shall be affiliated to the West Yorkshire Pool Association.
3. Matches will be played on a Tuesday night commencing at 8.00pm. Matches may commence earlier but only if both teams agree. The first game may be claimed at 8.15pm but only if the balls are racked and the game ready to commence at 8.00pm with no players practicing on the match table from this time. Other games can be claimed at 15 minute intervals, again with the balls racked. Practising on the match table is not allowed during supper break unless the players have no further frames to play. Anyone can practice on the non-match table in a venue that has other tables.

If the opposing team does not turn up, then you must fill in your team sheet with player's names in attendance and duly signed. You will then be awarded average points (min 5) and 2 points win bonus. All players will receive a win towards their team averages. Teams not turning up for matches will forfeit all points. If the offending team is the away team, they will must pay £20 pounds compensation for food if notice is not given to the home team at least 24 hours before commencement of the game, this will be payable to the league at the next meeting. Any amounts paid by the league on your behalf will have to be repaid before you are able to reregister your team for the next season.

4. A match consists of 9 frames which must be played. If not completed by 11.30pm, the remaining frames must be played within 7 days by the remaining players present at the game on the night. Players must print their name on the result sheet on the night and countersign on completion of the frame. Any disagreement concerning re-arranged frames, must go through the Committee.
5. A match will consist of 6 singles and 3 doubles games, a player may only play in one singles and one doubles game unless rules 5a or 5b applies.

Match sequence:       Doubles  
                              3 Singles  
                              Doubles  
                              3 Singles  
                              Doubles

A match must consist of a minimum of six games to be deemed valid. This requires only 4 players!

- 5a In the event that a team has only 5 players available then a player may be chosen by the opposing team captain by ballot from the undisclosed names of the team to play the last singles of the match with the last doubles forfeited, this game may be brought forward with the agreement of both captains e.g. players needing to leave earlier for work commitments etc. The non-Wildcard frame that the nominated player has played will count towards their averages. This arrangement must be made before the match commences and a member of the Committee informed at this time. This rule will only be allowed for 6 matches per team per season.

- 5b. In the event that a team has only 4 players available then 2 players may be chosen by the opposing team captain by ballot from the undisclosed names of the team to play the last 2 singles with the last doubles of the match forfeited, the non-Wildcard frame that each player has played will count towards their averages. This arrangement must be made before the match commences and a member of the Committee informed at this time. This rule will only be allowed for 3 matches per team per season.
6. The game is not considered over until the black ball is potted or the opponent concedes with a handshake.
7. The home team will pay for the games, each team to alternate with refereeing, commencing with the home team refereeing.
8. Each game will commence with the away team breaking the first frame and the home team refereeing then alternate breaks and referees, whilst this will mean the away team has more breaks per match, over the season each team will have an equal amount.
9. On commencement of the game if the first player pots a ball from the break then they must nominate a colour, if it is not the colour potted from the break then they must pot a ball of this colour to remain on it, failure to pot that colour means the frame will revert to an open table.
10. Scoring: 2 Bonus points will be awarded to the winning team for a win of 5-4 or more.
11. During Doubles/Scotch Doubles play, After the first break conferring will be allowed if any ball is potted to decide which colour to nominate, after this conferring will only be allowed prior to the oncoming player touching the table. The referee will be responsible for ensuring that this rule is adhered to. One warning will be given, and then a foul awarded for a subsequent offence.
12. It is the captain's responsibility to ensure their nominated referee is conversant with the rules and competent enough to referee the game.
13. In the event that a ball over the pocket falls down the pocket this will be deemed as no one's fault and the ball shall be replaced where it was including the black.
14. The nominated referee is at all times in charge of the table during match play. The referee has the discretion to warn for slow play after 45 seconds giving the player 15 seconds to play his shot. Failure to do so will result in a foul being awarded. In the event that any foul is committed giving two shots away the referee must state "first visit" and "second visit" but not "visit over",
15. The signing of the team sheet by both captains, will be taken as the match being completed satisfactorily, and the score being correct.
16. Only registered players may take part in matches, be they league or cup competitions, the exceptions being the mixed doubles knockout where only one player need be registered and the children's knockout where a parent need not be registered.

Teams fielding unregistered players will lose all points for that game or games, unless the player is signed on at the next available meeting or a Committee member is informed. The opposing team will receive points gained in the match or average points whichever is the greater plus bonus points. The decision will be by the Committee.

Players will not be allowed to register and/or play in both the Birstall & District Pool League and any other Pool League where league matches are played on the same night and seasons run concurrently.

International Players (players who have played at International status for the last two years) will be allowed to register in the Birstall & District Pool League. However, only one International player may play in any one match and only play in any one frame. e.g. 1 Singles or 1 Doubles.

17. All players must be registered with signatures on the registration form before or at the Knockout meeting (whether or not they are entering the KOs). Failure to supply completed registration forms by this date will result in 2 points being deducted from each match played until the form is received by the Committee. Players may be registered between meetings by informing a Committee member and bringing the appropriate form to the next meeting.
18. Registration of new players will be allowed up to week 20 through the season after this point rule 5a or 5b must be used. Relaxation of this rule may be allowed subject to circumstances prevalent at the time, and with the Committee's acceptance.
19. A player may transfer to another team up to the halfway point, only one transfer will be allowed per player per season.
20. Should a member be banned from a pub or club, it is the responsibility of the team captain to approach the licensee, requesting said ban to be lifted.
21. League meetings will be held at The Central Club, Bradford Road, Batley on the first Monday in the month or as per the meeting agenda.
22. The team representative will ensure that league subscriptions due are paid in advance at these meetings or may be paid in full by the Knockout meeting to attract a £5 discount off the full subscription of £65.
23. Team representatives need to attend league meetings even if all fees are up to date and they have no business i.e. game / player issues or new player registration forms etc. A bonus point will be added to all teams who attend the meeting or give apologies, venues with 2 teams can be represented by one person. Apologies can be given 3 times per season
24. **Both team captains** will ensure that the result sheet is delivered by electronic means to the Committee no later than 11:00pm on the Thursday night following the fixture. This can be by picture message, text or WhatsApp to the number shown on the fixture sheet, by email to [bdpl1987@hotmail.com](mailto:bdpl1987@hotmail.com) or by private message to the official Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/birstall.districtpoolleague.7>. Please ensure that match sheets are not posted in the Facebook Group due to data protection rights. Failure by **ANY** team to send in their match sheet will result in two points being deducted.
25. The home players names should be entered onto the team sheet first, not necessarily all at once
26. Team sheets must be signed by both team captains or a registered player in their absence.  
**NO ONE SHALL SIGN A TEAM SHEET IN ANYTHING OTHER THAN THEIR OWN NAME.**
27. Cancellation of matches will not be allowed under any circumstances. The offending team who cancelled will receive no points and the offended team will receive average points (min of 5) plus bonus points.
28. Match table cloths can be of any colour and balls can be spots and stripes, with any appropriate colour and spotted white ball allowed.
29. A spider or cue rest should be made available if requested.

30. Teams wishing to change venues must put their request in writing. Their request will duly be discussed at a full league meeting.
31. Any player found to have been paid a fee will be deemed to be a professional player and will be scratched from the league.
32. Children of 14 years old and upward, will be allowed to play in the league, however the team captain must contact the Landlord of away venues to ask if the younger players are allowed in their Public House in accordance with the licensing laws.
33. In the event that a team cannot fulfil its fixtures and has to drop out of the league then all results from their matches will be discounted.
34. THE COMMITTEE SHALL EXPECT THAT ALL GAMES WILL BE PLAYED IN A SPORTING MANNER. ANY INTIMIDATION FROM A TEAM OR ITS SUPPORTERS WILL RESULT IN ONE FINAL WRITTEN WARNING TO THE OFFENDING TEAM FOLLOWED BY EXPULSION FROM THE LEAGUE FOR A FURTHER OFFENCE. THE COMMITTEES DECISION WILL BE FINAL.