

HARROW AND DISTRICT SNOOKER AND BILLIARDS LEAGUE

GENERAL RULES (1 – 19)

CONSTITUTION

1.	The League shall be known as the Harrow and District Snooker and Billiards League (hereinafter abbreviated to HDSBL).
2.	The purpose of the HDSBL is to promote competitive Snooker and Billiards between local Clubs and their members.
3.	In all the HDSBL Rules, words implying the male gender shall equally apply to and include the female gender.
4.	The HDSBL shall be managed by a Committee consisting of a Chairman, General Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretary and seven members. All Committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. In addition, the President and Vice-President(s), having been proposed in the first instance by the Committee in recognition of past services, may sit on the Committee with full voting rights. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt other members if deemed necessary.
5.	An Auditor to the HDSBL (who shall not be a member of the Committee) shall be elected at the AGM.
6.	A Member Club is defined as any Organisation fielding at least one snooker team in the HDSBL.
7.	<p>a) The Annual General Meeting of the HDSBL will be held as soon as is practicable after the last scheduled match of the season. Notice of the AGM will be given on results sheets during the course of the season.</p> <p>b) A Special General Meeting of the HDSBL will be called, with notice of at least 14, and not more than 28 days, being given, if, either - a) a request, in writing, is received by the General Secretary bearing the signatures of the Club Representatives (as per Club Directory) of 5 Member Clubs. Notice of an SGM will be sent within 21 days of receipt of such a request; or b) the Committee deems it necessary.</p> <p>c) Each Member Club should have at least one delegate in attendance at an Annual or Special General Meeting and shall be entitled to one vote on any one issue (but see Rule 12).</p>
8.	Each Member Club shall subscribe annually towards the expenses of the HDSBL. The fees for the following season, including those that may already have been levied for any summer competition(s), will be proposed by the Committee, notified to clubs for information, and subsequently presented at the Annual General Meeting for approval.
9.	The HDSBL's permanent trophies for all competitions will be presented to the winners at the end of each season and shall be handed back to an appointed Committee representative by the following 31 st March. The Committee will determine annually the numbers of and expenditure on individual trophies, which will also be presented at the end of the season.
10.	The Committee reserves the right to arbitrate in the event of a dispute arising out of the interpretation of any General or Competition Rule and its decision will be final.
11.	Penalties and/or allocation of points in the event of a breach of any General or Competition Rule will be decided by the Committee and its decision will be final.
12.	The League shall not be wound up, except by a two-thirds majority of those eligible, and voting at, a Special General Meeting called for the purpose. On the winding up of the League, the assets remaining after payment or discharge of all debts shall be disposed of as may be determined by a simple majority of all the Members present at the Special General Meeting at which the winding up decision was taken.
13.	Alterations to any General or Competition Rule can only be made at an Annual or Special General Meeting (see Rule 7 above). Proposals for consideration at the AGM must be either (a) sent in writing, bearing the signature(s) of a bona fide Member of a Member Club, to reach the General Secretary at least 28 days prior to that meeting; or (b) submitted by the Committee. Club Representatives will be informed of all proposals at least 7 days prior to an AGM.

PLAYING

14.	The Rules of the games as laid down by the appropriate Governing Body shall apply to all competitions. However, the Snooker Miss Rule will not be applied except in the semi-finals and finals of individual and pairs competitions and where the players, and the referee(s) appointed by the Committee, all agree to its use and interpretation. Note that in all competitions, officials have recourse to Snooker Rules 4.1 (Conduct) and 4.2 (Penalty) if it is considered that non-use of the Snooker Miss Rule is abused.
15.	Balls approved by the appropriate Governing Body must be used for all matches. For Billiards matches, matched Billiard ball sets must be used.
16.	All players must be bona fide members of their respective Member Clubs and may only play for one Member Club during any one season unless the Match Secretary, acting on behalf of the Committee, approves otherwise.
17.	Matches shall be played at the venue of the first named team/player on the fixture lists. For Snooker matches the home team/player will score on spot throughout. For Billiards matches the player playing the spot or yellow ball, determined according to the appropriate Governing Body's Rules of English Billiards will score on spot. The home team/player is expected to ensure that matches are adequately officiated.
18.	<p>a) All League matches, and, Poore Cup and Dwyer Bowl matches prior to the semi-final round, shall be played on the scheduled dates unless re-arranged or postponed by mutual agreement. Only in exceptional circumstances should postponements be sought within 48 hours of a scheduled match.</p> <p>b) Postponements for League and Poore Cup matches as in a) above will only be acceptable if they are made personally between team captains. If a team captain is unavailable, the Club's nominated representative as per the Club Directory, should be approached personally. The person requesting the postponement must, at the same time, offer alternative dates. For Dwyer Bowl matches, postponements must only be made between the players involved. See also Snooker League Rule 5.</p> <p>c) All such postponements must be notified, by the teams or players involved, to the Match Secretary prior to the scheduled date of the match.</p> <p>d) Scheduled dates for semi-finals and finals of competitions will only be changed with the Committee's prior approval in exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>e) All competitions are played on a non-handicapped basis unless specified otherwise</p>
19.	The results of all matches must be conveyed to the appropriate League Official either personally, by post, by e-mail or by personal telephone conversation within the stated time as detailed in the Rules of each competition. E-mailed team match results must contain a scanned image of the completed match card (unless it is also posted).

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SNOOKER LEAGUE RULES

1.	a)	Snooker teams will comprise 6 players, each player to play two frames against his opposite number. The order of play will be decided by the Home Team Captain.
	b)	The home player shall break in the first frame and the away player in the second frame of each game.
	c)	In any one season, no player may play for a lower team than that for which he normally plays. In this context, a team in a lower Division will always be regarded as the "lower team". When a Member Club has more than one team in the same Division, movement of players between those teams will not be permitted. However, in both of these cases, a permanent transfer of a player may take place if sanctioned by the Committee. Any player intending to play for two teams on one evening, and not in contravention of these Rules, must fulfil his obligations to the lower team first. A lower Division player may only play in higher Division team(s) for a total of 3 times in any one season.
	d)	Teams will be awarded one point for each frame played and won, plus a bonus of three points for a match win or one point each for a match draw. In the event of a frame being forfeited for whatever reason, the non-offending team will receive one point, although in some circumstances (for example, the non-appearance of three or more of an opposing team) the Committee will decide the outcome.
	e)	Only frames played and won will be credited to individuals' aggregate frame scores
2.	a)	Prior to the start of a match, each team Captain shall independently list his team in order of merit , 1 – 6 on a result card supplied. The two cards will then be exchanged and the process repeated. Once the cards are so completed, substitutions or replacements will not be permitted unless by mutual agreement.
	b)	On conclusion of a match, both cards shall be completed with the scores, signed by both Captains, and sent independently to the Match Secretary. "No shows" must be clearly indicated. In the event of neither card being received within 7 days of that match, one point will be deducted from both teams.
3.		All matches shall commence by 7.30 pm in 2-table clubs, and by 7.45 pm elsewhere. In the case where a match starts late, it shall proceed as soon as possible. If it cannot be completed, the team whose late arrival delayed the start shall forfeit any uncompleted frames. This penalty may be waived if both Captains agree that the late arrival arose from exceptional circumstances.
4.		Divisional positions will be determined by a team's aggregate points to date. In the event of a tie the positions will be determined as follows: firstly, on the total number of frames for; and secondly, on the aggregate scores of the league matches between the teams concerned. In the event of any unresolved positions at the end of a season, the Committee will decide the dates, venues and conditions of play-offs.
5.	a)	Any match postponed in accordance with General Rule 18 must be played within 4 weeks of its original scheduled date. The only exceptions are the penultimate and last matches, which must be played within two weeks of their original scheduled dates. The Committee will decide on the allocation, or deduction, of points for any matches remaining unplayed within these time scales.
	b)	All postponements must be notified, by the teams involved, to the Match Secretary prior to the scheduled date of the match. Failure to do so may result in the deduction of points from one or both teams.
6.		The top two teams in each Division (except "A") will be promoted and the bottom two teams will be liable to relegation subject to the constitution of the Divisions in the following season.
7.		In addition to the Rules above, the appropriate General Rules of the HDSBL will apply.

POORE CUP RULES

1.	The competition shall be known as the Jack Poore Memorial Cup (more commonly referred to as the Poore Cup).
2.	The competition shall take the form of a team knockout handicap snooker tournament. All Snooker League teams will be automatically entered without any additional fee.
3.	The Committee will appoint a Poore Cup sub-committee to assess the handicap of each team. Handicaps will be quoted as points received per frame. The Committee reserves the right to re-assess the handicap of any team at any time. Club Representatives or Team Captains have a duty to inform the Committee of their intention to include a new player that may warrant a permanent change to their team's handicap.
4.	Snooker League Rules 1a (excluding the second sentence in the case of semi-finals and finals – see Rule 8 below), 1b, 1c, 2 and 3 shall apply.
5.	In the event of a draw, team captains will then nominate one of their six players to play a deciding frame and the players will toss for break.
6.	In any one season, only players that have played in at least two League or Poore Cup matches for a particular team will be permitted to play for that team in a semi-final or final. Exceptions to this rule will only be allowed if the Committee has given prior approval.
7.	A match postponed or re-arranged in accordance with General Rule 18 must be played before the next round of the competition.
8.	The semi-finals and final will normally be played on neutral tables. In the case of the semi-finals, it is customary for the two matches to swap home venues, thus providing the required neutrality in most instances. It is expected that the usual facilities be offered by the host Clubs. Officials for these matches will be appointed by the Committee. As the order of play will be determined by the officials, all players must be present by the time defined in Snooker League Rule 3. Any player not present when called to play will forfeit one frame, and if still not present 20 minutes after being called to play will forfeit both frames. If neither player is present at these times one or both frames will be declared null and void.
9.	Breaks made in any "dead" frames will not be recognised
10.	Each round shall be separately drawn.
11.	In addition to the Rules above, the appropriate General Rules of the HDSBL will apply.

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DWYER BOWL RULES

1.	The Competition shall be known as the Dwyer Bowl.
2.	The Competition shall take the form of an individual knockout snooker tournament and shall be open to bona fide members of Member Clubs.
3.	A player may elect to play all his home matches at a different venue than he plays for in other HDSBL competitions, subject to the prior agreement of his opponent.
4.	All players are expected to be ready to play by 7.45 pm on the scheduled date unless a postponement or re-arrangement is mutually agreed. If either player is not ready his opponent is entitled to claim the match.
5.	Prior to the round of the last 16, matches shall be decided over the best of 3 frames. Subsequent matches shall be decided over the best of 5 frames, apart from the final, which shall be the best of 7 frames.
6.	It shall be the responsibility of the winning player to inform the Match Secretary of the result. Either or both players may be scratched from the Competition if the Match Secretary either a) is not informed within 48 hours of its scheduled date that a match has been postponed, or b) has not received a match result within 48 hours of its scheduled date, or c) has not received the result of a postponed match before the next round of the competition.
7.	The semi-finals and final will normally be played on neutral tables. Officials for these matches will be appointed by the Committee.
8.	Players shall toss for break in the first frame of each match and will then break alternately.
9.	Each round shall be separately drawn.
10.	In addition to the Rules above, the appropriate General Rules of the HDSBL will apply.

SNOOKER PAIRS RULES

1.	a)	The Competition shall take the form of an inter-club pairs knockout snooker tournament, and shall be open to bona fide members of Member Clubs.
	b)	At the discretion of the Committee, a pair, or one member of a pair, may be substituted if that pair has played no matches.
2.		All matches shall be arranged as soon as possible and by mutual agreement. It shall be the responsibility of the winning pair to inform the Match Secretary of the result. In the event of a result not being received by the Match Secretary by 21:00 on a published "required by" date, either or both pairs may be scratched from the competition.
3.		Prior to the quarter-finals matches shall be decided over the best of three frames. Subsequent matches shall be decided over the best of five frames.
4.		The semi-finals and final will normally be played on neutral tables. Officials for these matches will be appointed by the Committee.
5.		The teams shall toss for break in the first frame of each match and will then break alternately.
6.		Each round shall be separately drawn.
7.		In addition to the Rules above, the appropriate General Rules of the HDSBL will apply.

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BILLIARDS COMPETITIONS RULES

1.	The Competitions shall take the form of two individual knockout Billiards tournaments (an Intermediate and the Championship) and shall be open to bona fide members of Member Clubs.
2.	A player may enter either or both the Intermediate and the Championship competitions. However, the Billiards sub-committee reserves the right to reject an entry for the Intermediate competition if it considers a player's known ability would give him an unfair advantage. Intermediate competition semi-finalists will automatically qualify for the Championship.
3.	A player may elect to play all his home matches at a different venue than he plays for in other HDSBL competitions, subject to the prior agreement of his opponent.
4.	All matches shall be arranged as soon as possible and by mutual agreement. It shall be the responsibility of the winning player to inform the Match Secretary of the result. In the event of a result not being received by the Match Secretary by 21:00 on a published "required by" date, either or both players may be scratched from the competition.
5.	Each match in the Intermediate competition shall be of "250 up". Each match in the Championship shall be of "300 up", except the final, which shall be of "500 up".
6.	The semi-finals and finals of both competitions will normally be played on neutral tables. Officials for these matches will be appointed by the Committee.
7.	Each round shall be separately drawn.
8.	In addition to the Rules above, the appropriate General Rules of the HDSBL will apply.

BARRY SHINE TROPHY RULES

1.	The Competition shall be known as the Barry Shine Trophy
2.	The Competition shall take the form of an individual knockout snooker tournament, and shall be open to players who normally play in teams in Division C and below, and who are bona fide members of member Clubs. If there is doubt about whether or not a player normally plays in Division C or below, the Committee will decide.
3.	A player may elect to play all his home matches at a different venue than he plays for in other HDSBL competitions, subject to the prior agreement of his opponent.
4.	All matches shall be arranged as soon as possible and by mutual agreement. It shall be the responsibility of the winning player to inform the Match Secretary of the result. In the event of a result not being received by the Match Secretary by 21:00 on a published "required by" date, either or both players may be scratched from the competition.
5.	Matches shall be decided over the best of three frames up to and including the quarter-finals. The semi-finals and final shall be decided over the best of five frames.
6.	The semi-finals and final will normally be played on neutral tables on dates to be determined by the Committee. Officials for these matches will be appointed by the Committee.
7.	Players shall toss for break in the first frame of each match, and then break alternately.
8.	Players who enter for the Barry Shine Trophy may also enter the Dwyer Bowl.
9.	Each round shall be separately drawn.
10.	In addition to the above rules, the appropriate General Rules of the HDSBL will apply.

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SUMMER INDIVIDUAL BILLIARDS LEAGUE (SIBL) RULES

1.	As well as the following, the appropriate General Rules of the HDSBL will apply.
2.	The SIBL, which shall be open to all bona fide Members of Member Clubs, shall consist of as many Divisions, each of as many Individuals as would be required, to sustain a complete home and away programme on Wednesday evenings outside the Winter season.
3.	A player may elect to play all his home matches at a different venue than he plays for in other HDSBL competitions, subject to the prior agreement of his opponent.
4.	Each match shall be of '300 up' in the top two Divisions and '250 up' in any remaining Divisions. In very exceptional circumstances, the Billiards sub-committee may impose a handicap.
5.	The home player shall be responsible for informing the appointed League Official of the result of his match, and should do so within 48 hours. The full scores must be supplied (the loser's score is particularly important -see Rules 6 & 7). Details of all breaks of 30 and over are also to be given. It is suggested that, in their own interests, players keep a record of their match scores until the results are published.
6.	Each player will be awarded one Division point for each complete 50 points scored in a match. In addition the winner will be awarded two Division points.
7.	Divisional positions will be determined by players' aggregate Division points to date. In the event of a tie, the aggregate of all the score differences in all the matches will be used. If, on conclusion of all matches, the top two or bottom two positions in any division are unresolved, the Billiards sub-committee will decide the dates, venues, and conditions of play-offs.
8.	All postponed or re-arranged matches must be played within two weeks of the last scheduled matches of the SIBL. Any matches for which the results are not to hand by this date will be declared null and void (ie a score of 0-0).
9.	Promotion and relegation will be determined by the Billiards sub-committee, based on players' finishing positions in their Divisions and the numbers and known strength of players entering in the following season.
10.	If a player withdraws from the SIBL before completing all scheduled matches, all his results shall be declared null & void (including recorded breaks made by him and his opponents).

SUMMER INDIVIDUAL BILLIARDS KNOCKOUT RULES

1.	As well as the following, SIBL Rule 3 and the appropriate General Rules of the HDSBL will apply.
2.	The competition will take the form of an individual knockout handicap Billiards tournament. All SIBL players will be automatically entered (unless they signify a wish to the contrary) without any additional entry fee. Because of time constraints, the draw will be complete (ie not redrawn each round).
3.	Each match shall be of '300 up'. The Billiards sub-committee (appointed by the General Committee) will assess each entrant's handicap which will be used as the entrant's starting score in each match.
4.	Because of time constraints, home and away players shall be equally responsible for contacting their opponents.
5.	Match winners shall be responsible for informing the appointed League Official of the results of their matches within 48 hours of their completion, whereupon they will be informed of their next round opponents if already known.
6.	The final will normally be played at a neutral venue. A Referee and Marker for this match will be appointed by the Billiards sub-committee.

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