

MANCHESTER BADMINTON LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

Approved 30th June 2011

1. Name

The league shall be called the Manchester Badminton League (hereinafter referred to as “the League”).

2. Objective

To provide and promote competitive badminton on the League principles for clubs in Manchester, and to arrange matches, tournaments and other events connected therewith, in accordance with the laws of badminton as adopted by Badminton England and the Badminton World Federation.

3. Membership

- (a) The League shall be open to one or more teams of clubs who play within the Greater Manchester area.
- (b) It shall be a condition of membership that all clubs be insured with appropriate insurance cover including suitable Public Liability Insurance.
- (c) A club desirous of withdrawing a team or teams from the League shall give notice in writing to the League Secretary before 1st July; otherwise they will be included for the current year's subscription.
- (d) Each club shall notify the League Secretary of the day of the week to be used for HOME fixtures for each of its teams in the League before the 1st July in each year, including times of start and finish as necessary.

4. Finance

- (a) The financial year will commence on 1st May.
- (b) The annual team subscription shall be determined at each Annual General Meeting and shall be payable at the Fixture Meeting each year.
- (c) The Treasurer shall submit to the AGM, for approval, the accounts of the League for the previous season, duly examined by some person other than a member of the Committee. This person will be appointed at the AGM.

5. Annual General Meeting

- (a) The AGM shall be held by 30th June in each year for the purpose of receiving reports and accounts, considering motions for which due notice has been given, the election of officers, and any other relevant business.
- (b) Each club in membership shall have twenty-one days notice of such meeting. Accidental omission to give such notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at such meeting.
- (c) Notice of motions to be presented at the AGM must be sent in writing to the League Secretary at least fourteen days before the meeting.
- (d) Each club shall be represented at the AGM and any club member is entitled to attend the AGM. All representatives shall have the right to speak but none shall be permitted to second a motion proposed by their club.
- (e) Each club in the League that is represented at the meeting will have ONE vote per team with a maximum of TWO votes.
- (f) All Committee Members shall have ONE vote.
- (g) No person has more than ONE vote in total.
- (h) No proxy voting shall be permitted.

- (i) The chairman of the AGM shall be the President of the Executive Committee, or the Chair of the Executive Committee where the President role is vacant, or the President is not able to attend. The chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to any other vote to which he or she is entitled.
- (j) The quorum for a General meeting shall be the representation of one-third of all the clubs in the League.
- (k) Every motion submitted shall be decided by a majority on a show of hands.
- (l) The representatives attending an AGM shall have the power to vote on any amendment to any published motion, and the Committee shall act upon any amendment so carried as though due notice had been given.
- (m) The date of the next AGM shall be determined at the subsequent committee meeting.

6. Extraordinary General Meetings

- (a) An extraordinary general meeting may be convened by the Committee or by the League Secretary upon the written requisition of not less than one-third of all clubs. Such a requisition shall state the reason(s) for which the meeting is to be called.
- (b) Any such meeting is to be held within 28 days of such a requisition being received.
- (c) The motion or motions to be discussed shall be incorporated in the notice and no other business than that specified shall be transacted.
- (d) Rules 5 (b), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) and (j) shall apply.

7. Handbook/Fixtures Meeting

- (a) A meeting to agree League fixtures, collection of team subscriptions and competition fees shall be held at least two weeks prior to the start of the season.
- (b) Each club in membership shall be given fourteen days notice of such a meeting and shall receive a fixture scheme for the divisions in which it has teams by the end of July.

8. Management

- (a) The management of the League shall be vested in a committee consisting of five ex-officio members and up to 10 ordinary committee members.
 - (i) The ex-officio members shall be the President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer who shall retire annually at the AGM, but shall be eligible for re-election and shall form the Executive Committee.
 - (ii) The ordinary members, who must be or have been members of the League, shall be elected to serve for three years. Those who the Committee decide are due to retire by rotation at the AGM, shall be eligible for re-election. In the event of any difficulty arising in determining which members shall retire, the Committee shall have the power to decide by lot.
 - (iii) Any candidate for election as a member of the committee must be nominated in writing by no fewer than four members, or by the League committee and all such nominations must be in the hands of the League Secretary at least three days before the date of the AGM.
- (b) All newly elected Officers and Committee members shall take office as from the close of the AGM.
- (c) All members of the Executive Committee shall be ex-officio members of any sub-committee formed by the Committee and shall be sent details of all meetings.

- (d) The Executive Committee shall appoint from amongst its number the following secretaries – Results Secretary, Social Secretaries and Tournament Secretaries. Vice-Presidents may be appointed to these positions.
- (e) The Executive Committee is responsible for maintaining the Constitution for the League. The constitution may only be amended at an AGM or EGM, due notice of amendment being given to the clubs, prior to the meeting. Amendments may be proposed by the League Committee, or by any member club in writing to the League Secretary at least 28 days before the date of an AGM or EGM.
- (f) The Executive Committee, together with the Results Secretary, shall form the Breach of Rules Sub-Committee.

9. Powers of the Committee

- (a) To accept or decline all applications for membership.
- (b) To terminate the membership of any club already in the League.
- (c) To determine the constitution of all divisions, including the promotion and relegation of teams between divisions.
- (d) To make decisions regarding all abandoned, conceded or postponed matches where these matters are not sufficiently covered by the rules, or are in dispute.
- (e) To give a ruling on all disputes or appeals on any matter related to the League.
- (f) To penalise breaches of rules by deduction of League points or by such penalty as may be decided.

- (g) Any matter not provided for by these rules shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee who shall also be the sole authority for the interpretation thereof, provided that any decision given by a General Meeting shall be binding. Any addition to, or interpretation of, these rules made by the executive shall only be operative until the next AGM of the League, when they shall be reported to such meeting for confirmation or otherwise. No amendment or alteration to the rules shall be made except at a General Meeting.
- (h) To co-opt additional members of the Committee as required and to co-opt members to the Committee to fill casual vacancies. Such co-opted members shall be entitled to vote at all meetings.
- (i) To appoint sub-committees.
- (j) The Committee shall notify the appropriate club(s) within one week of receiving any written communication that requires a decision to be made.

10. Committee Meetings

- (a) Committee meetings shall be held as called by the Chairman and League Secretary, or on written application of four or more committee members. These meetings should be held at least four times per year.
- (b) A quorum shall consist of not less than two-thirds of elected members of the Committee.
- (c) The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his ordinary vote.
- (d) At all meetings the chair shall be taken by a member of the Executive Committee, normally the Chairman or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairman. In event of all the Executive Committee, other than the Secretary, being absent, the meeting shall appoint its own chairman.
- (e) Vice-presidents may attend Committee meetings.
- (f) Life members may attend Committee meetings

11. Minutes

The Committee shall cause minutes to be made of all resolutions and proceedings of General Meetings and Committee Meetings. Such minutes shall be read at the next AGM or Committee Meeting, as appropriate, and if the majority of those present with voting rights are in agreement, shall after any necessary amendment has been carried out, be signed by the Chairman. Once so signed they shall be received as conclusive evidence of the facts stated therein and retained.

12. Dissolution of the League

In the event that the Manchester Badminton League is dissolved in future, any remaining assets after all outstanding expenses of the league have been settled will be divided amongst any surviving member clubs.