

STROUD AND DISTRICT SKITTLES LEAGUE RULES 2017-2018

(website: www.stroudskittles.co.uk)

Aims:- It is the aim of the Stroud and District Skittles League to foster and develop the growth of skittles in and around its catchment area. It is the responsibility of all members of the league to play the game in a friendly and sportsman like manner and it is this principle, which will be applied by the committee when examining disputes under its **GENERAL RULES OF PLAY**.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

1. Each team must appoint a secretary as a point of contact and this person must either have a telephone or have a telephone available on which messages can be left or an email address.
2. Entrance fee for the 2018/2019 Season is £45.00 Sections A-E and £37.50 Ladies League, with a £5.00 reduction if paid before 27th April 2018. Payment to be accompanied with League Membership form on or before 1st June 2018.
3. Receipts for money paid to the league will only be issued if required and if to be posted a stamped & addressed envelope must be provided.
4. Any team failing to pay the Entrance Fee by the prescribed date will be deemed to have withdrawn from the league.
THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO.
5. No team, which is in default on the league books on 1st June, shall be eligible for membership the following season.
6. Subject to Rule 13, no player is allowed to play for more than one club or team in the League.
7. A player shall not participate in any league or cup match unless their name has been registered with the Secretary. Provisional registration by telephone or email can take place up to 7.30pm on the night of a game. Confirmation for telephone registration is required in writing or by email within 7 days of provisional registration. Where a player is not registered in accordance with this rule they will be deemed ineligible and their score deleted unless Rule 6 has been contravened.
8. Transfer fee of £1 per player. No players shall be transferred after the start of the second half of the league fixtures.
9. Transfer of players **MUST** be communicated in writing by the secretary of the new team to the secretary of the transferred player's former team. The transfer must contain the signature of the new secretary and the signature of the player wishing to be transferred. A copy must also be sent to the League Secretary. The transfer is effective 7 days after it has been received by the league.
10. All fines are to be paid within 28 days of the date of notification. The fine will be doubled and points deducted at the discretion of the committee, where there has been a failure to comply. The Committee has the power to waive or reduce fines, where genuine mitigating circumstances exist. Any appeal must be received by the Secretary in writing within the prescribed 28 days.

GENERAL RULES OF PLAY

11. The length of each alley at the start of the season is defined by the distance between the front pin to the front line with all other lines being ignored, the length as defined is to remain unchanged for the duration of the season.
12. Each section to consist of a maximum of 16 teams at the discretion of the League Committee.
13. With the exception of the Ladies League teams may play any combination of Male or Female players in any match. The Ladies League is restricted to Female players only; the sections are separate.
14. All matches are to be played with a maximum of 10 players per team, or 8 players in the Ladies Sections.
15. All matches are to be 8 legs (10 legs in the Ladies Sections), and each team shall bowl alternatively until each player has bowled the required number of legs.
16. The Home Team to provide and pay for alley and sticker for league games, sticker fee for cup games to be split between the two teams (see rule 42
17. All matches to commence at 8.00pm but not later than 8.15pm and the second half players to be on the alley ready to start play not later than 9.15pm unless otherwise agreed by both captains.
18. Any player not present at the commencement of the game or second half is allowed two legs grace. Any player not present after two legs has been played by both teams, forfeits any legs already played (including the two legs grace) unless otherwise agreed by both captains, No more than 1 player per half allowed to bowl off.
19. Club players not actually playing may act as linesman.
20. In the event of a foul ball, pins knocked down by that ball to be re-set with the loss of that ball.
21. Pins knocked down or clear of the frame only to count. Frame to be marked two inches from the base of pins to outside of line. In the advent of a dispute captains to decide.
22. All the balls must contact the alley before the white line denoting distance from front pin and no regard to be paid to any other line marked on the alley.
23. The front pin only shall be clearly marked; the preferred marking is a white band across the centre not less than two inches wide.
24. Wooden or composite balls must be used (maximum size 5"). Wooden pins only to be used.
25. Not more than 2 sets of balls to be used in a match, if the away team have no set, home team's balls to be used.
26. The team scoring the highest number of pins to be declared the winner.
27. That 2 points be awarded for a win and 1 point for a draw, plus bonus points, 2 points for winning the first half and 2 points for winning the second half. In the event of a draw in each half each team scores 1 point. Should two or more Clubs tie on points for top or bottom of the League Tables the points gained between the clubs concerned on the home and away fixtures to decide placings, failing which the aggregate pins floored between the clubs concerned will decide.
28. No protest will be accepted by the Committee where a result card has been signed by a member (Rule 37) of the dissenting team.
29. That any protest be lodged with the Secretary within 6 days of a match with a fee of £1 which will be forfeited in the event of such a protest not being sustained.

FIXTURE MATTERS

30. No alteration to fixture list shall be allowed, except in the case of **EMERGENCY** by the committee or a game being scheduled over a Bank Holiday. Teams that are deemed to have caused fixtures to remain not played by the end of the season deadline will for every fixture not played will incur a six point penalty for the forthcoming season. This rule will not be applied to teams who have not fulfilled fixtures through no fault of their own. The committee retains the right to award games and deduct points from teams that commit a serious breach of league rules. No team, can claim the points from other teams.
31. Any team changing alley and/or night during the season must have the approval of the Fixture Secretary and pay to the League the sum of £10 (this fee is waived where an alley closes during the season). The League will be responsible for notifying all the teams in the section of the change that has taken place
32. No match is to be postponed unless 48 hours (2 days) notice is given to the opposing team. **BOTH TEAMS MUST** submit a postponed game card or on line form within 7 days of postponement failure to comply will incur a £5.00 fine at the discretion of the committee. Home team to arrange a new date for the fixture in accordance with Rule 36. Where a game is postponed at less than 48 hours' notice unless Rule 34 applies the team postponing will receive a £10.00 fine for the first offence and a £15.00 for the second. **ALL GAMES TO BE PLAYED**
33. Unless Rule 34 applies teams may only cancel 1 game per half of the season. Penalty for breach - £10 fine
34. Rule 32 will be waived in cases of adverse weather conditions or extraordinary circumstances. The team postponing the game under this Rule must notify the Result Secretary and their opponents immediately. A Postponed Game Card or On-Line Form must be submitted by **BOTH TEAMS** within 7 days, Failure to comply will result in a point's deduction at the discretion of the committee.
35. In the event of a match not being played due to the non-appearance of one team and no contact with that team within 7 days. The non-appearing team to be fined or a point's deduction at the discretion of the committee. The game must be played.
36. In the event of a game being postponed, the game **MUST** be played within 28 days of the original fixture. Failure to play the game will result in a 2 point deduction from the team that originally postponed. If the home team alley is not available then a neutral alley is to be used. (Home team to arrange) If away team has not heard anything from home team then away team should contact their results secretary informing them of this. Games cancelled during the first half of the season cannot be held over until Christmas Break (only if the 28 day rule includes this time) Game cancelled during late March and April must be played before the season ends in April there will be no leeway.
37. Result Cards to be completed legibly and Correctly by captains (or a responsible person appointed by the captain) immediately after close of the game. Failure to comply will result in a fine or point deduction at the discretion of the committee.

38. Results or Postponed Game Cards to be received by the Result Secretary within 7 days of fixture. Failure to comply will result in a point's deduction at the discretion of the Committee. Where the result card is posted it must be correctly stamped, A minimum fine of £5 for non-compliance
39. Any player injured or taken ill during a match can be replaced with a reserve. Any scores already made by the player being replaced will still count and the reserve take over for the remaining legs. Both captains to agree.

CUPS AND OTHER COMPETITIONS

40. The dates for the Cup Competitions are laid down in the handbook, and must be strictly adhered to.
41. Any player who has been transferred in accordance with Rule 8 and Rule 9 will be deemed to be cup tied and illegible to play for the new team in respect of the cup competition in which he/she has already participated.
42. (a) The first round of the front pin competition commences at the start of the league season. Any earlier starting date is optional. The draw for the first two rounds of the front pin cup competitions will be made at the beginning of the season. All games to be played, any team cancelling will be subject to a fine to be implemented at the Committee's discretion.
(b) The first round of the knockout cup competitions will alternate each successive season between the second and third matches. Except in cases of adverse weather or other extraordinary circumstances a team who cancels a first round knockout cup match will be eliminated from the competition - The league match is still to be played in accordance with rule 36.
43. Matches to be played **NO LATER** than the closing date specified. Home team to contact the Away team with two dates (not in same week, weekends, bank holidays, or clashing with a league fixture) giving them 10 days clear notice. Away team to reply within 3 days. If the home team alley is unavailable the fixture must be played on a neutral alley. With the exception of league games that double as Cup fixtures, and the final, sticker costs to be split equally between the two teams. The home team will be liable for any other costs. Teams not meeting this deadline are liable to be disqualified from the competition. No dates to be arranged after the closing date, away team to contact the fixture secretary if no contact is made 7 days before the closing date.
44. Teams failing to comply with the Cup Rules can be eliminated from the cup competitions at the discretion of the Committee.
45. Front Pin Competition - each player must floor the front pin first, but should he/she floor any other pin(s), those pins that are floored shall remain so and be lost to the player. Should he/she floor any other pin other than the front pin with his first striking ball and floor all pins, only the front pin shall be reset.
46. Once the front pin is struck, and all pins floored, the remaining ball or balls need not floor the front pin first. If a player is "No Balled" only the pins floored by the faulty delivery shall be reset.
47. Should the front pin or any other pin re-stand within the diamond after being floored it shall be deemed to have been floored and removed.
48. In the event of a tie in cup games extra "leg" or "legs" to be played by the second half players to avoid a replay-except finals.

49. Formal entry will be necessary to the front pin and end of season competitions on a form (see handbook for entry form). Ladies who play in Sections A-E may represent that team in the Ladies Individual competitions, but can only enter for one team. Any team failing to turn up to the end of season competitions after having agreed to do so will be liable to a fine at the discretion of the Committee.
50. In the Pairs and Singles Competitions only one set of balls of equal size to be used. Front Pin Rules apply in the Mens Single Competitions; All in Skittles Rules apply in the Ladies Competitions. All winners of these competitions are given automatic entry into next seasons competition, the team they belong to still being eligible to enter one or two teams if they so wish.

AGM AND OTHER MATTERS

51. Clubs and individuals winning League Challenge Cups are responsible for their return intact to the League by 3rd May 2018. **FAILURE TO COMPLY £5 FINE.**
52. The League provides to teams who are either League and/or Cup Winners and to Runners Up 10 trophies (8 Ladies Sections). Any team failing to send a representative to the League's Presentation Evening will be subject to a fine based on the selling price of 10 tickets (8 Ladies Sections). Winning Teams will be responsible for the main trophy and liable for costs in the event of damage
53. Promotion and relegation of all sections to be left to the discretion of the Committee with regard to the state of the teams entered at the Annual General Meeting.
54. Any resolution for the Annual General Meeting to be forwarded to the Secretary 14 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting
55. Attendance to the league's Annual General Meeting is **COMPULSORY**, at least 1 representative from every team, **MUST** attend. A 3 point deduction for the following season for failure to attend. Two members per team only allowed to vote at the AGM. New teams admitted to the league at the Annual General Meeting are not entitled to vote at that particular meeting
56. The Committee will scrutinise and decide on all applications from new teams and player's registrations to be received 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
57. Handbooks and other preseason information are distributed from Matchplay at the Handbook Collection Meeting, the date to be announced by the Committee. This information is to be collected by all participating teams on the appropriate date, a 3 point deduction for the following season for failure to comply. Teams **MUST** Submit a Player Registration List at this Meeting, otherwise players will be deemed not signed on..
58. In accordance with Gloucestershire County Council Byelaws stickers must not be under school leaving age.
59. Any matters not covered by these Rules shall be dealt with by the Committee and their decision shall be final.

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| (B) Business telephone | (E) Evenings | (P) Use Public Car Park |
| (D) Daytime telephone | (M) Messages | Ex) Telephone Extension |

SUMMARY LIST OF LEAGUE FINES

	Fine
1. Failure to arrange Collection of Handbook – Rule 57	3 points deducted
2. Late Result Card (Home Team) – Rule 38	1 point deduction
3. Incomplete/Incorrect Result Card (Home Team) – Rule 37	1 point deduction
4. Postponed Card Both Teams – Rule 32	£5.00 fine
5. Postponement at less than 2 days' notice – Rule 32	Game to be played £10 Fine First Offence £15 Fine second Offence*
6. Postponement of more than 1 game in either half of the season – Rule 33	£10 fine Games to be played *
7. Failure to accept date (League / Cup Game) – Rules 36/42	One more date to be offered, then committee to decide fixture
8. Postponed game not Played within 28 days of original date – Rule 36	2 Point deduction from cancelling team. Game still to be played
9. Non Signed on player – Rule 7	Player Score Deleted **
10. Non Attendance at End of Season Competitions having entered (unless advanced notice given) – Rule 50	£5.00 fine
11. Failure to Return Trophies by Date Stated – Rule 51	£5.00 fine
12. Failure to attend Annual General Meeting - Rule 55	3 point deduction
13. Failure to pay fine within 28 days – Rule 10 And points deducted at discretion of committee	Fine doubled

* - Late Cancellation may be excepted where exceptional circumstances apply

At the discretion of the committee (e.g. weather)

** - Player will still need to be registered with the Result Secretary

Any appeal **MUST** be submitted in writing within 28-days with a £5 appeal fee which will be forfeited in the event of the protest not being sustained