



Pompey Pool League Rules. (applicable from 28th May 2025)

Note: *exerts from and references to, the Pompey Pool League Constitution are included within this document, in italics, for completeness.*

1. **Rules of Play.**

This rule is governed by paragraph 9f of Pompey Pool League Constitution.

For information paragraph 9f of the Constitution reads as follows:

The rules of play will be the latest version of WPA Blackball Pool Rules.

This applies to all leagues, division and competition playing under the umbrella of Pompey Pool League.

2. **Rules.**

a. **Match Starts.**

All Matches start at 8:15 pm.

If two Team players have not arrived by 8:15, one game will be forfeited. If a team has not arrived by 8:30, this will be considered a no show.

No shows will be registered as 0-9 loss for the team that does not show. The attending team must complete a results sheet to register the no show.

If a player who is selected to play a frame in a match, has not arrived at the match venue at the time in the match when the frame is ready to be played, the opposing team may claim that frame as a win.

b. **Play and Team Sheets.**

Match format is 6 singles followed by 3 doubles, all one leg. To start the match, the home Team completes the Team Sheet for the single matches. The singles matches are then completed by the away Team. This procedure is repeated for the doubles matches after singles matches have been completed. After completion of the Team sheet, no names may be changed without the agreement of both Team Captains. If a team is playing a match with less than 6 players, the team(s) with less than 6 players will be allowed to play one player twice in the singles and one player twice in the doubles. With 5 players:

- i. For the Singles, once the team has been recorded, the opposing Team or the electronic tool, makes a random draw from 1-5 to select who plays the 6th Singles.
- ii. For the Doubles, once the team has been recorded, the opposing Team or the electronic tool, makes a random draw from 1-4 to select who also plays in the 3rd Doubles.

With 4 players:

- iii. For the Singles, once the team has been recorded, the opposing Team or the electronic tool, makes a random draw from 1-4 to select who plays the 5th Singles.
- iv. For the Doubles, no redraw makes up a 3rd doubles match, so this does not apply. The same pattern continues for 3 or less. The results of a

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redrawn singles match will not count towards the singles aggregate competition.”

c. Refereeing and Breaking.

A lag will decide the initial break after which the break will alternate. The Home Team will referee the first game and this alternates throughout the match. This applies to all League Matches, Knockout and Individual Competitions.

For Matches played on neutral tables the Home Team is the first name recorded on the fixtures sheet.

The only exception to this will be the final game of a match played on a neutral table, where the final break will be decided by the toss of a coin.

The Referee's decision is final. (Except in extreme circumstances where both Captains may overrule the decision).

d. Results Sheets and Results Reporting.

The results sheet must be signed by both captains to confirm the name(s) of the player(s) for each game, the individual results and the overall results. Names of player on the result sheet must be completed in the format 'Name (or Initial) and Surname', and is to be completed in block capitals. The Captain is defined as the registered Captain or their designated representative on the night.

- i. Any result sheet not signed by the winning captain will result in no points be awarded to the winning team for that match and all individual results being void.
- ii. Any result sheet not signed by the losing captain will result in all individual results being void for that match.

Match Results must be texted on the night of the Match to the designated phone number. This is the responsibility of Both Captains. Any results not texted, will result in the match being Void. Results sheets must be returned to the designated place(s) within one week of the Match. If the results sheets is not returned by the winning Team within two weeks, the winning Team result will be Void. Under exceptional circumstances, these rules may be varied, at the discretion of the Committee.

If a Winning Team fails to provide a result by text message within 1 day of a match being played, following a reminder within 2 days, the following will apply:

1st Occurrence - Warning to be issued

2nd Occurrence - Final warning to be issued

3rd Occurrence - Will result in expulsion from the League

If a Winning Team fails to provide a results sheet within 1 week of a match, or a 3rd/4th copy not being provided within 2 weeks of the match being played then the following will apply:

1st Occurrence - Warning to be issued



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2nd Occurrence - Final warning to be issued

3rd Occurrence - Will result in expulsion from the League

e. **Electronic Reporting via the Pompey Pool Reporting Tool**

Any Team that successfully reports a match result using the Pompey Pool League Electronic Reporting Tool will not be required to text the result of a match, or submit a paper copy of the match results. Under these circumstances, none of the rules under section 2d apply.

f. **Failing to fulfil a Fixture.**

Any pub team failing to fulfil a fixture will be required to pay the league £10 food fine on each occurrence. Three occurrences will result in expulsion from the League. Any Teams with outstanding monies owed at the end of a Season will only be able to join the following season if all outstanding money is paid.

Any pub/team expelled from Pompey Pool League for any reason will not be eligible to enter for the next year (Winter and Summer League).

g. **Postponed Matches.**

Either Team captain may request a postponement.

If this request is made the day before a match or earlier, then it is expected that the request will be accepted. If the opposing team captain has exceptional reasons for not accepting the postponement, then this must be referred to the League Secretary for arbitration.

If this request is made on the day of a match and postponement is not agreed by both Team Captains, the opposing Team may claim a walkover.

It is the responsibility of the Teams to make the arrangements to play postponed matches.

The League must be notified about the arrangements for the completion of postponed matches, by the postponing Team, as soon as these arrangements are made.

If Teams make arrangements to play a postponed match, but this is not subsequently played, the match will be void.

All postponed matches must be completed on, or before, the final scheduled League fixture or final Spare Week (if this is available in the schedule). If not played, these matches will be void.

Under exceptional circumstances, these rules may be varied, at the discretion of the Committee.

Any away team postponing or re-arranging a match, after 12:00 noon on a match day will be required to pay the league £10. This money will be paid to the home venue, to contribute towards their food costs.

Any Teams with outstanding monies owed at the end of a Season will only be able to join the following season if all outstanding money is paid.

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- h. **Registration of additional players.**
Additional players must be signed on by the submission of an additional registration form or by the signing of a results sheet or by the submission of an electronic registration, using the Pompey Pool League Electronic Reporting Tool. For paper, players names must be printed, along with a contact phone number and the registration must be signed by the player.
 - i. **Playing Conditions.**
All home teams are expected to provide a clean, level table together with a good set of balls and triangle. If a guest team believes that the table offered fails to meet a suitable standard, the match will still be played but arbitration will be undertaken by the League if requested by the guest team.
 - j. **Change of Captain or Contact Details during the playing Season.**
Should a Team change their Captain or contact details after it has registered for the season, it is the responsibility of the new Captain to inform the League of the change and provide updated contact details.
 - k. **Teams leaving the League.**
If a Team leaves the League during the first half of the League, all results will be nullified. If a Team leaves the League during the second half of the League, all the first half results will remain, all second half results will be nullified and the leaving Team's points will be set to zero.
Any player from a Team that has left the League may subsequently sign on for a different Team, at any point during the League Season.
3. **Promotions/Relegations.**
Promotions and Relegations between each Winter league will be two up/two down.
4. **Playing Seasons.**
The target timetable for the Winter League will be October to April and Summer League, May to September.
Winter divisions will be based on the previous year's Winter League results.
All new teams entering the Winter League enter in the lowest division but this may be varied at the discretion of the Committee.
5. **League Format.**
In the Winter league in addition to the standard league format the following competitions will be available:
- a. Knockout Cup – Entry optional. This will be provided at no additional cost
 - b. Single & Doubles competitions – Entry optional. An additional nominal entry fee may apply.
- The Summer League format may be varied at the discretion of the Committee.
If Teams finish level in their Summer or Winter Leagues, the final position will be determined by the aggregate scoring of the two team's matches. Should this still result in a draw, the final result will be determined by a playoff. The playoff will only be applicable for final positions for which a returnable trophy is awarded.

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The Committee may also choose to run a Singles Aggregate Competition for the most singles wins by an individual player during the season. The exact format of this competition (single or grouped divisions) will be decided by the Committee. In the event of a tie for first place then the winner will be decided on the basis of the most games played. Team competition match results will not be included in the aggregates competition.

6. **Affiliation.**

The League will be affiliated to the Hampshire Pool Association. Notification of the suspension of a player will be forwarded to Hampshire Pool Association.

7. **Presentation Nights.**

At the end of each season there will be a Presentation Night. The venue for the Presentation Night will be rotated through different venues at the discretion of the Committee.

8. **E-Mail Policy.**

All general circulation e-mails will be distributed using 'Blind Carbon Copy' (BCC), addressing only. This is to protect personal privacy.

9. **Competition Rules.**

- a. All Competitions (Singles, Doubles, Cup Matches, etc.) will be drawn in public.
- b. All Teams will be entered into the first round of the Cup competition. All teams losing the first round of the Cup competition will be entered into the first round of the Shield or Plate competition (unless rule 9f applies).
- c. The first team drawn for any Cup, Shield or Plate Match will be the home team. If a venue is already fully occupied as a result of earlier parts of the draw, the home team will be switched to play as the away team, at the away team venue. Should both venues be fully occupied as a result of earlier parts of the draw, earlier draws may be reversed as the first option or the venue to be used will be at the discretion of the Competitions Secretary.
The semi-finals and finals of all Competitions will be played at neutral venues, unless both drawn teams are from the same venue, in which case, the home venue will be selected.
- d. For Individual Competitions:
 - i. All individual competitions matches will be draw as home and away, with the match to be played at the home venue.
 - ii. Individual matches can be played at any time between the date of the publication of the fixture and the start of the next round.
 - iii. It is the responsibility of the home player(s) to agree the date and time of their match with their opponent(s) and to agree this with the venue management.
 - iv. Match venues may be reversed with the agreement of both players.
 - v. If there has been no agreement on a date to play, after 3 dates have been proposed by the home team, this matter can be referred to the Competitions Secretary. The Competitions Secretary may choose to make an informed decision about the match or may choose to refer the issue to Committee.

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- e. All Cup, Shield and Plate matches will be played on Wednesday, unless otherwise agreed by the Competitions Secretary.
- f. Any team not showing for first round of the Cup will not be entered into Shield or Plate competition.
- g. The format for singles and doubles competitions will be the best of 7 games for all preliminary matches, 9 games for the Semi-Finals and 11 games for the Finals. Mixed Doubles will be the best of 7 games for all matches.
- h. Standard rules for results reporting apply to Cup, Shield and Plate Matches, as per paragraph 2e.
- i. All Singles/Doubles results are to be reported to the Competitions Secretary.
- j. For all competition matches (Cup, Shield, Singles, Doubles etc.), any postponed matches must be completed before the next round of the competition. Under exceptional circumstances, this rule may be varied, at the discretion of the Committee. If there are no possible dates to play a postponed match (e.g. due to holiday) the team that requested the postponement will be removed from the competition.
- k. Should an individual or team no show for a competition match (i.e not attend the match without prior notification) they will:
 - i. On the first occasion, receive a warning.
 - ii. On the second occasion be ineligible to enter any competition during the following season.
- l. In the doubles competition, the substitution of 1 player in a team is allowed until the point the first fixture in the competition has been played by the team. This substitution will remain in place for the duration of the competition.
- m. Shot clocks may be used for matches where there is a League supplied referee (finals only).
The referee will warn the teams before the match that slow play will result in the introduction of a shot clock. Use of a shot clock will then be at the referee's discretion.

10. **Trophies.**

- a. The League will award returnable Trophies at the end of each season for the winners and runners up of each Winter League and the Cup(s), Shield or Plate, singles and doubles competitions for both Winter and Summer Leagues.
The award of non-returnable trophies will be at the discretion of the Committee.
- b. Teams, individuals and hosting venues entrusted with returnable trophies are responsible for returning these trophies to the League the following year.
Should a trophy not be available for return to the League, hosting venue entrusted with that trophy will be responsible for compensating the League for the cost of replacement of the trophy.

11. **Inter-League.**

- a. The Committee will establish a sub-committee for the purpose of managing Inter-League(s).



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- b. This sub-committee will consist of the League Secretary (in the Chair), a second nominated member of Pompey Pool League Committee and all agreed Inter-League Team Captains.
- c. All team entries will be validated by, and submitted by, the Chairman.
- d. The sub-committee will provide reports into Pompey Pool League Committee, as required.

12. **Committee Meetings.**

Rules covering committee meetings are covered by paragraphs 4g, 4h, 4l and 7 of the Constitution.

For information these paragraphs of the Constitution read as follows:

4g. The committee may second any member on to the committee to fulfil any defined role. The person seconded into that role will only be acting in that role until the next A.G.M.

4h. The committee shall have full authority to make any decision that, in their opinion, is deemed necessary, other than for matters governed by this Constitution.

4l. The Treasurer will present at each meeting of the Committee the ledger, showing all income and expenditure, since the last meeting of the Committee.

7a. The League will convene regular committee meetings.

7b. Each elected committee member will hold one vote. In addition, the Chair will hold the casting vote. The meeting chair will be held by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, League Secretary or Treasurer or other elected Committee member depending upon individual availability (in that order of precedence) and following the provisions of Rule 4f.

7c. A quorum for committee meetings is 5 members.

7d. Minutes of these meetings will be published on the web site within 7 days of agreement of the minutes by the committee.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Subjects affecting play and operation of the league that are dealt with exclusively by the Pompey Pool League Constitution are referenced as follows:

Players Age – Paragraph 9c

Registration – Paragraphs 9b and 9e

Player Transfer Rules - Paragraph 9d

- i. Only one transfer per player for each season is allowed.*

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- ii. *Players may only transfer if they have played no more than 3 matches for their previous team.*
- iii. *Transfers may only take place during the first half of the Season.*
- iv. *If the transferring player has participated in any Cup/Shield/Plate match for their previous Team, they may not participate in these Competitions for their new Team*
- v. *Transferring players are required to notify both their old and new Team Captains and the Pool League Committee by submitting a transfer form.*

Suspension, Refusal or Termination of Membership – Paragraph 8