

LEAGUE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wilmslow Cons 7.30 17/10/22

1 - Attendance:

- League Officers:
 - Chairperson: Andy Long (AL)
 - President:
 - League Secretary: Mark Newall (MN)
 - Treasurer:
 - Competition / Trophy Secretary: David Taylor (DT)
- League Clubs:
 - Mere: Richard Owen
 - Mobberley: Mark Newall ; Darren Taylor (MN);
 - Shaw Heath:
 - Tatton: David Taylor (DT); Andy Long (AL);
 - Wilmslow Cons: Matt Dale
 - Morley Green: Paul Hart

2 - Apologies for absence

- David Nuttall
- Scott Marshall
- Geoff Jackson
- Ashley Parker

3 - Minutes of last meeting

- MN had previously published details of formation meeting and AGM on the stats website.
- **Proposed as a true and accurate representation by Richard Owen, seconded by Matt Dale.**

4 - Items arising from the last meetings (not agenda listed)

Ongoing Items from previous meetings: No items open from previous meetings.

5 - Disciplinary / Matters of Dispute

Morley Green were unable to fulfil their league fixture on 06/10/22.

Summary of incident:

Morley captain Paul Hart (PH) informed MN on 30/09 that they were struggling to get the minimum 4 and asked about playing the match with 3 players.

MN advised that playing with 3 wouldn't be an option as league rules state you need a minimum of 4 players. On 05/10/22 PH confirmed that they wouldn't be able to play the match unless they could field a player who wasn't a member of their club and/or suggested playing the match the week after.

MN advised that both of these options would break clearly defined league rules and, whilst he is fully sympathetic to Morley's situation, didn't feel that it was within his remit to just ignore league rules. PH disagrees and feels that the secretary has the power to change/ignore the rules at his discretion if he feels it is to the benefit of the league.

MN disagrees with that but agreed to bring this to the committee for further discussion.

There were 2 main points to discuss and decide:

- 1) Are the current rules regarding the rearranging of fixtures still suitable?
- 2) What will be done about the week 4 fixture that wasn't played? If the rules were to strictly be applied then it would be 7-0 to Wilmslow B.

After a length discussion in which all present clubs and reps gave their opinion, the following decisions were made:

- 1) A proposal was received from PH, seconded by Matt Dale

The following league rules:

15.2

No matches to be re-arranged without first obtaining the sanction of the league secretary at least 72 hours before the original set date;

15.3

Any request to cancel a match must be accompanied by an alternative date that is agreeable to both parties and must be either before or in the same week* as the original match.

* The week being defined as Mon-Sun

Are to be replaced by a new rule that allows an alternative date to be up to 2 weeks after the original date.

A team would not be allowed to fall more than one game behind the rest of the league so couldn't do this for a second time if they still hadn't played a first cancelled match.

All matches need to be finished by the date of the final league match.

The exact wording will be worked on by MN before it is put to a vote at the AGM but the above proposal passed unanimously.

It was the committee's feeling that playing a match soon after its original date is a far better option than seeing matches being forfeited.

Matches should still ideally be rearranged beforehand and the date would still have to be agreeable to both parties. We wouldn't want to see the end of the season delayed by this so all matches must be completed by the final Thursday of the league season.

- 2) The match Wilmslow Cons B v Morley Green from 06/10/22 will be played during the first competition week w/c 01/11/22 where fortunately, both teams have a bye in the Team KO. DT will need to ensure that there are 2 tables free at Wilmslow on the Thursday of that week.

The committee were in agreement on the following points.

- MN doesn't have the right to just ignore the rules and was right to bring this to the committee
- We are here to play snooker and awarding a 7-0 would not be in the best interests of the competition, or the league as a whole in either the short or long term.
- The situation that Morley currently find themselves in is unfortunate, genuine and temporary and PH is working to gain new players.

- Given that it is the preference of both captains to still play the match then the match can be replayed on the forthcoming competition week.

The committee would like to thank Matt Dale and Wilmslow Cons B for their flexibility and understanding.

During the above conversation one of the points made by PH was that George Chadwick has joined Morley Green and they intend to play him in the league. George was previously banned from the league for his involvement in Alderley Union deliberately fielding an ineligible player. His ban ended at the end of the 21-22 season and there were no objections to George rejoining our league as a player – MN to check the full details of his punishment as there may well be something that prevents him from captaining a team moving forward.

6 - Items notified to Secretary prior to meeting

Geoff Owen passing – the league have made donations to Diabetes UK and The Stroke Association in memory of Geoff who was clearly a very well liked and respected member of our league.

The website has a life members section and MN will update this to include a page for life members who are sadly no longer with us in a 'gone but not forgotten' spirit.

Richard thanked the league for their donation on behalf of his mother, his son James and his self.

Sponsorship proposal from Jason Lawrence on behalf of the National Snooker Expo

Jason Lawrence of Wilmslow Cons B contacted MN with a suggestion for a sponsorship opportunity regarding season and monthly highest break prizes:

Brief summary:

The National Snooker Expo brings both cue-sport players and Cue-Sports industry together under one roof. With a focus to globally support and grow the participation of all Billiard Table Cue Sports.

The sponsorship would introduce a cash prize for the highest league break of the season as well as a monthly gift pack for the league's highest break each calendar month.

This was discussed and the committee agreed to accept the proposal and proceed subject to MN clarifying point 1 of the 'in return' section as we aren't looking for an official 'title' sponsor but are happy to accept this proposal to simply sponsor a monthly and yearly high break prize for this season only.

MN has checked with the Knutsford Guardian and the reference to a sponsor wouldn't be a problem but they made it clear that they can never guarantee to print what I send them. So basically, I can send it to them but there is no guarantee that anything that I send them gets printed. This will need to be made clear to Jason.

7 - Trophies / Competitions Secretary

Congratulations to Tatton A for their summer league success and it was felt that the summer league was again a big success and looks like being a permanent fixture moving forward.

The meeting was the deadline for Rotary entries and at the time of writing this there were approximately 41 entries – a big increase on last year and something that could cause a fixture or venue headache for DT but ultimately a nice problem to have.

The comp entry fee remains at £1 per player per comp.

The entry sheets are out for other competitions and the deadline is 13th November.

These sheets contain the full comp dates to aid people in seeing whether they will be able to fulfill their commitments when entering a competition.

Had a discussion to clarify rule changes/tweaks for this year's competitions.

- A 40 point cap is being applied to the Rotary (not the 50 point cap used in the league).
- Team KO rules for when teams are short are not the same as for league matches. Up to 2 players can still play twice but an overall penalty of 25 points is deduced from the team's aggregate total for each player who has played twice.
- This season's team KO – cards are to be written out in the same format as a league match with handicap's applied to individual frames – including the 50 point cap where applicable. The result will still be decided on the total aggregate but the key point here being that the cap is in operation to ensure that teams don't get a bigger handicap advantage in the team KO than they would in the league.

Scott from Shaw Heath had asked for clarification on eligibility for later rounds and on rearranging matches. One of his players is struggling to be available for Thursday nights but is still keen to enter competitions.

A league rule states that to play in the last 16 onwards of a non-team competition you must have played in at least 3 league matches. With regard to rearranging games DT tried to be as accommodating and flexible as possible last year and will continue to do the same this year. Where matches are 4 down to 1 then he will still try to find a solution if a player can't attend but can't guarantee that he'll be able to do so. The exception here is for finals nights that are not going to be moved under any circumstances.

8 – Treasurer

Treasurer can't be in attendance due to work commitments but has sent a balance sheet to MN.

The balance is currently down to £71.82 but this isn't unexpected and there aren't any scheduled outgoings now until towards the end of the season i.e. until after the first half of the season subs will have been received in Nov-Dec

9 - Any other business

10 Date of next meetings

TBC – Venue will be Mere in Mid January

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Management Meeting rota:

- Mere, Morley Green, Shaw Heath, Mobberley

AGM rota:

- Mobberley, Wilmslow Cons, Shaw Heath

League Formation Meetings

- Will all be held at Mobberley (league HQ) in August each pre-season.

Life Members

- Currently playing in the league: Rob Clarke / Francis Evans / Arthur Hasford / Any Long / David Nuttall / David Rainford / Philip Simpson / Bruce Tulley / Ed Wakefield
 - Not currently playing in the league: Tony Crompton / Ray Dale / Barry Lineham / Mervyn Pike / David Potter / David Sykes / Ronnie Tagg / John Thompson / Peter Watson
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