

W C CLARK BILLIARDS & SNOOKER LEAGUE

Established 1909

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Secretary

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League meeting, Thursday 30 August 2017

7:30pm at St. James' Institute

MINUTES

Present: Denis Carr (President)	Kevin Bassil (St. James')
Chris Downer (Secretary)	Chas Best (Broadstone)
Lawrence Millington (Chairman)	Paul Chaffey (Branksome)
Dave Gerrish (Vice-Chairman)	Dave Channing (St. James')
	Steve Roberts (Spectrum)

1 Apologies

None were received for absence; Chas Best (Broadstone) apologised in advance for his lateness.

2 Minutes of the last meeting

These were agreed as an accurate record and there were no matters arising.

3 League set-up for 2017-18 season

(a) Allocating divisions

The meeting preferred a two division set-up rather than one large division. With 10 entries the most straightforward method would be two divisions of five, although this would result in free weeks. A 4/6 split would have avoided this but leave different calendar set-ups in the two divisions. Overall, the meeting preferred equal sized divisions.

The meeting looked at the returning teams: It was readily seen that the GB Winton team (not re-entering) could be replaced by the new GB Lads team as they are of similar standard. The returning Grinders would fit in either division but, having settled on demotion/promotion of one team, the Grinders going into Division 2 would leave the 5/5 split that the meeting favoured.

(b) Length of matches

The meeting was keen to reintroduce the best-of-5 format, which had been used a few seasons ago, into the top Division and this was readily agreed. It was felt undesirable in the second Division as it would lead to potentially late finishes.

(c) Scoring system

There was no appetite to depart from the traditional one point per frame, therefore all Division 1 fixtures would see 9 points distributed, and Division 2 would continue with 6.

(d) Handicapping?

Since the League would be conducted in two divisions, the meeting did not think that the difference in playing standard across either division would warrant any handicapping system.

(e) Foul and a Miss rule

Considerable discussion on the ins and outs of the Foul and a Miss rule led, in the end, to a straightforward proposal being agreed.

It was decided that, for Division 1 only, the rule would be enforced more stringently than the League had hitherto done. A Miss should be called if the player has clear sight of *any* part of a ball on, rather than full-ball availability as was previously the case.

In Division 2, the Foul and a Miss rule would not be enforced at all. However, both team captains may agree at the start of any match to implement the Rule. In this case, it must be enforced as per the Division 1 arrangements above.

(f) Calendar

The Secretary had prepared a variety of possible calendars based on the formats that might be decided, and one of these, essentially unchanged from last season, was straightforwardly agreed.

However, a few changes were made - namely, swapping the Knock-out first round with the Vets', and moving the Knock-out quarter-finals to a mid-season slot. This latter point would extend the season for all teams (barring free weeks) beyond Easter rather than have an earlier finish for any team not still in the Cup.

4 Any other business

Due to the dwindling number of eligible players, it was suggested by Chas Best and unanimously agreed, that the Hugh Theobald one-nighter should no longer bar previous winners from entering. However, twice-previous winners will not be allowed to enter in future years.

6 Next meeting

This was set for Monday 11 December 2017 at St. James' Institute, with a 7:30pm start.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm.