

## Afternoon League Rules 2022-23

### 1. Registration

- a) Only registered players with the OCSMBA are eligible to play in the Leagues organised by or in association with the OCSMBA.
- b) Players must be registered as per Constitution Rule “6. Subscriptions & Registration” and assigned to a team from that club at least 7 days [from when the Registration Secretary receives notification & payment] prior to playing in any league match for that team.
- c) Bowler Can Only Be Assigned To One Team, which is bowling in leagues organised by or in association with the OCSMBA, at a time. Cross substitutions between teams are not allowed under any circumstances. Players who wish to change teams must apply for a transfer.
- d) A player registered to a Club but not assigned to a team, can be assigned immediately to a team from that club, by informing the Registration Secretary. Unassigned players, can not be assigned to a team from a different club unless via a transfer application.
- e) Each League team must be registered with a minimum of ten players assigned from the same club.
- f) Team entry fee for the Winter League must be paid before 30th June.
- g) Failure to observe these rules could mean forfeiture of all relevant matches until the fees are paid.

### 2. Transfers

- a) Any application for transfer shall be submitted to the Registration Secretary, by the person requesting a transfer, on a fully completed Transfer Form, together with the fee of £3.
- b) The applicant shall submit the Transfer Form to the Team Captain or Club Correspondent, of both teams involved for them to sign as approving the transfer. Any objection to the proposed transfer, by the representative of either Club, must be submitted to the Registration Secretary in writing, within three days of receipt of the form from the person requesting the transfer, giving a full explanation as to the nature of the objection. No transfer request shall be unreasonably withheld.
- c) A transfer will become effective immediately the approved form reaches the Registration Secretary.
- d) No transfer will be permitted after the 31st December in any season. In exceptional circumstances, special permission may be granted by the County Committee.

### 3. Disputes & Complaints

- a) Prior notice of a dispute or complaint must be submitted to the League Secretary within three days of the occurrence. The Secretary of the team or club concerned must also be notified. The matter will then be considered by the Committee whose decision will be final.

### 4. Penalties

- a) For any infringement of either the ESMBA or Oxfordshire CSMBA Rules, the Committee shall have the full power to implement any of the following penalties.
  - i) Forfeiture or deduction of League points.
  - ii) The cancellation of any particular result, with or without the instruction to replay.
  - iii) A temporary or permanent suspension from the League or Association.
- b) The above penalties may be applied to any player, team or Club and may be implemented or enforced in any combination.

### 5. Matters Arising

- a) In the event of any questions of matters arising which are not provided for in either the ESMBA or Oxfordshire CSMBA Rules, then such questions or matters shall be dealt with by the Committee, whose decision shall be final.

## 6. Minimum Age

a) The minimum age requirement for participation in the League shall be ten years. Clubs that cannot comply must notify the League Secretary without prejudice to their acceptance in the League.

## 7. League Match Rules

### c) Afternoon League Match Afternoons

a) Before the season commences, each team must state a fixed weekday afternoon along with the nominal start time when they will play home matches.

b) League Matches to take place during the afternoon period 13.30hrs–17:00hrs.

c) All home matches must be played on this fixed afternoon, unless in exceptional circumstances, both teams agree to play a particular fixture on a different afternoon within the season.

h) Note: See League Rule 12 for definition of 'exceptional circumstances'.

d) At least seven days notice must be given by the team requesting the variation. The League Secretary must be notified immediately that such an agreement has been made.

e) An Afternoon League team will need to be registered with a minimum of eight players, there is no maximum.

f) An Afternoon League team will be separate from a Winter League Team, even if it shares the same name.

g) Players for an Afternoon League Team can be from a different registered club, than the team is entered by, but all players can only be registered for one Afternoon League Team.

h) Each team will be entitled to two trial ends of two woods at the start of each game.

## Rules of Play

a) The Rules of Play shall be laid down by the ESMBA, except for the allowed variations as decided by the Oxfordshire CSMBA.

## Teams

a) A team shall usually consist of six players.

b) A team who cannot raise a full team shall play as follows.

i) 5 Players; To consist of one Triple who must play first in the event of a one mat venue, or in the event of players being delayed and one Pair.

ii) 4 Players; To be played as two Pairs,

iii) 3 Players; To be played as one Triple, with the other match being conceded. 2

points and 10 shots will be awarded in this instance iv) No match may be played with less than 3 players.

## Matches

a) Each Team Of Six Players Shall Play as Two Triples.

b) Each triple shall play one game of 12 ends against a triple from the opposite team.

c) A match shall consist of two games.

d) Each player will play three bowls.

e) The triple who has the highest shots after the completion of the last end shall be the winner of that game.

f) Should the score be tied on completion of the last end, the game shall be declared drawn.

g) The team with the highest shot total after the completion of both games, shall be declared the winner of the match.

h) Should the match be tied then the match points will be shared equally. The game points shall stand as previously.

i) At least three players from each team must be present at the due time of commencement.

- j) Should a club be registered as a one mat venue, play during the match must be continuous, with the second triple ready to bowl as soon as the preceding game is over. Matches may if mutually agreed, be played on two mats simultaneously, but if matches are played consecutively they shall both be played on the same mat.
- k) In exceptional circumstances a minimum two mat club, with the agreement from the League Secretary and teams involved, may arrange to play two matches in one afternoon. With team members playing in the first of two consecutive games on one mat, and then playing in the second of two consecutive games on another mat against a different team.
- l) Playing two's up is not allowed. The skip may remain at the head end until it is their turn to bowl. They may visit the head when in possession of the rink mat but may not carry their bowl beyond the nearest dead line. Any bowl carried beyond the dead line will be declared dead and must be removed from the rink mat.

## 12. Postponement of Matches

- a) Teams may at any time, mutually agree to play any fixture in advance of the agreed date.
- b) Should it become necessary, and in exceptional circumstances only, a match may be postponed by the mutual consent of both teams. It is the duty of the team requesting the postponement to notify their opponents and the League Secretary in writing within one week, stating full reason(s) for the postponement.
- c) Once the season has commenced no more than two fixtures shall be postponed in any one season by a team, or points may be deducted/awarded to the opposition at the discretion of the Committee after due consideration of the reasons given for all fixtures that have been postponed.
- d) "Exceptional circumstances" are defined as:
  - i) The non availability of a venue over which the club has no control
  - ii) Severe weather conditions
- e) A revised date for any postponed fixture shall be mutually arranged and notified to the League Secretary within two weeks of the original date, by the team who requested the postponement. Any subsequent postponement of a rearranged fixture, by the same team, will be subject to review by the Committee and may result in the match being awarded to the opponents.
- f) All fixtures shall be arranged to be completed by the last week of the season and if a team is unable to arrange a suitable date at its own venue, it shall if necessary play the fixture at the opponents' venue.  
Where teams are unable to agree on a date for a rearranged fixture the Committee shall decide upon a date and if necessary a venue after hearing representation from both teams."