***SEVERN VALLEY***

**www.svpl.org.uk**

 ***PETANQUE LEAGUE***

**LEAGUE PLAYING RULES**

(*Adopted 29 November 1993, Amended 28 March 1994, 20 March 1995, 19 February*

*1996,25 March 1996,30 March 1998,21 June 1999, 19 March 2001, 21 March 2005,13 February 2006, 20 March 2006, 5 February 2007, 3 September 2007, 27 November 2007, 17 November 2009, 16 November 2010 and 22 November 2011, 19 November 2013, 19 November 2014, 18 November 2015, 16 November 2016, 22 November 2017, 21 November 2018, 20 November 2019,* ***15 November 2022****)*

**1**.

 **1.1** Matche**s** in the Severn Valley Petanque League will be played by the rules laid down by the

 Executive Committee that were adopted at the League Committee Meeting on 17th May 2004.

 Amendments to these rules can be considered by the Executive Committee of the League as

 and when necessary. All teams in the League should be supplied with a copy of these rules.

 **1.2** No restriction on the number ofPlayers in a League match provided a player only plays for one

 Team in the Summer League – Rule 3.3 refers.

**2**. The League format shall consist of;

**2.1** SUMMER LEAGUE: - 5 Doubles and 2 Triples. There will be no fixed order of play, this to be decided and agreed by the two captains on the night.

 **2.2** **Deleted**

**3. PLAYING RESTRICTIONS**

**3.1** No individual player may play more than 2 Doubles and 1 Triple in any one League Match.

**3.2** Six players are required to play the full games, although fewer players may compete. *(See end for explanation.)*

**3.3** Any Player may only play for one Team during the Summer League.

**3.4** If a player is taken ill or injured during a game a substitute will be allowed to replace that player provided they are from the same Team and are still within Rule 3.1 guidelines. I.e. any part of a game played as substitute will count towards Rule 3.1.

**4**. Teams playing away will play on the same piste layout throughout the match i.e. the Home Team shall not rearrange or change the pistes, in any way, throughout the match without the agreement of both Captains.

 **4.1** For ALL League matches the minimum width of a lane shall be 2.5metres. Each lane shall be defined by strings and all piste borders shall be defined as well. (E.g. either by wood or string**)**

 **4.**2 Resin and para-magnetic coches are forbidden. Only wooden coches are permitted for SVPL Competitions and League Fixtures.

**5**. It is the responsibility of the Home Captain to explain fully and clearly to ALL players the defined out of bounds areas.

**6. LEAGUE & OTHER MATCHES**

**6.1** The schedules for League matches and Team KO Competitionswill be prescribed by the Fixtures/Competitions Secretary as agreed with the League Committee. Only in exceptional circumstances as laid down in **Section 9**, can timings of matches on the schedules be re-arranged.

**6.2** League match Captains will be responsible for agreeing scores and final League Match results.

**6.3** It will be the responsibility of BOTH TEAM CAPTAINS to notify Match results to Competition Secretary immediately after the match stipulating both Game Scores and Points totals.

* 1. Any dispute, not resolved, concerning the rules of play etc. during a League Match, will be the responsibility of BOTH Captains to report the matter to the League.
	2. Prior to each game commencing both Captains will write down their players on their score sheet and then transfer to opposition for inclusion on their score sheet
	3. **Semi-Finals and Finals of Singles/Doubles/ Team KO matches to be played on neutral ground. as decided by EC – See *Rule 6.15* re neutral definition. (*Nov 2022 Amdt.)***
	4. Any person wishing to participate in the SINGLES or DOUBLES should be available to play during the week.
	5. The President’s Cup will take place at a date and venue at the President’s discretion.
	6. Substitutes for teams in the League’s Triples Knock Out Competition will be allowed on the day of the finals of the competition, provided that the substitutes have not played in the preliminary round for another team
	7. Smoking **and vaping are** banned on the piste in all matches
	8. Any Losers in the Preliminary Round of any league knock-out competition are exempt from the preliminary round for the following year’s competition.
	9. **In certain circumstances the League Executive Committee can agree for matches in Singles and Doubles KO Competitions to be played at a date later than the specified period set by the Fixtures Secretary. In the event of one player in a Doubles Team being unable to play, in certain circumstances the League Executive Committee can approve a replacement for a match provided the substitute has not already, or will not be playing in another Doubles Team in that season’s competition**
	10. If 16 or more entries in the Main DrawPlate Competitions to be organised for the First Round Losers of the Singles & Doubles KOs**.**
	11. If players and a piste are available then a gameshould be started within 5 Minutes
	12. **Where players in teams play from the same venue then their Home piste should be treated as a neutral venue (Nov 2022 Amdt)**

**7.** **LEAGUE MATCH POSITIONS**

 **7.1** League matches shall be run on a Divisional basis with promotion and relegation 2 up and 2 down each year with new Teams starting in the lower division, UNLESS the League Committee decide that, in a particular year, an adjustment to the number of teams in each division is needed, when promotion and/or relegation can be limited to one team.

All NEW Teams will start in the lower/lowest division.

(n.b. a NEW team is where an ADDITIONAL team is created

**7.2** Team positions in each Division will be decided by:­

a) Number of MATCHES won,

b) If two or more Teams have gained equal Match points then the number of GAMES won will count,

 c) If two or more Teams are still equal, the POINTS DIFFERENCE will count.

 **8. PENALTY SANCTIONS 8.1 League matches will be ready to start with at least TWO games by 7.00 p.m. unless Captains agree to a different start time. All players to be in attendance by 8.15p.m. Any player arriving after this time will not be permitted to play unless agreed beforehand with the opposing Captain. (Nov 2022 Amdt.)**

**8.2** **Deleted**

1. **CANCELLATIONS OR POSTPONEMENTS**

**9.1** League Fixtures will be issued prior to the start of the season. Matches are to be played at the designated times unless there is bad weather or there are other exceptional circumstances as described in this section. In any event deferred League matches must be played by the second Tuesday in October.

**9.2** In the case of bad weather, unless agreement can be reached by captains to postpone the match beforehand, teams will turn up on the designated time.

**9.3** Where captains postpone a match by telephone a re-arranged time to play it should be agreed between them within seven days and notified to the Fixtures/Competitions Secretary.

**9.4** If an agreement is made at the venue by the captains to postpone the match before it has started because of bad weather or for any other special reasons (final sentence of 9.10 applies), captains should agree a re-arranged time to play the match, which should be notified to the League’s Fixtures/Competitions Secretary within seven days.

**9.5** If captains cannot agree on a re-arranged date for a postponed fixture for any reason the League’s Fixture/Competition’s Secretary should be advised within seven days. The League Executive Committee will direct when the postponed match should be played

**9.6** If captains cannot agree to the postponement of a match because of bad weather or any other special reason, the match should be abandoned. The captains should submit in writing their reasons within seven days why they could not agree to a postponement to the League’s Fixtures/Competitions Secretary. The League Executive Committee will decide on what action is appropriate.

**9.7** Where captains agree that a League match that has commenced needs to be abandoned due to bad weather or for any other unforeseen circumstances, the captains should reach agreement on the date/ time when the match should be resumed from where it left off and notify the Fixtures/Competitions secretary within seven days. If captains cannot agree to abandonment or on a re-arranged time to complete the match the League’s Fixtures/Competitions Secretary should be advised of the reasons within seven days. The League Executive will decide on what action to take. In any event, the team score sheets should be completed to show the position of the match at the time of abandonment.

**9.8** Where a match is abandoned, apart from permitting one team substitute, the same players (as recorded on the team sheet) should participate in the resumption of a previously abandoned match.

**9.9** Where captains concur, it is permissible to complete an agreed abandoned match because of bad weather or for any other exceptional reason (**Rule 9.11**), by the toss of a coin for each uncompleted game. Team score sheets should clearly record those games won by the toss of a coin. If a team is awarded a match by this method, two points will be awarded for the win, but no game points will be awarded for games decided on the toss of a coin .In addition, such games will not be taken into account when deciding the season’s League position of a team in the event of a tie on points between teams.

**9.10** Once it is known before the dates of League matches that there may be special circumstances to prevent matches taking place at the designated venue and/or fixture time, the League’s Fixtures/Competitions Secretary should be informed, giving the circumstances. The League Executive Committee will then direct what action is appropriate. The shortages of players due to holiday or business absences are not recognised as special circumstances UNLESS it can be reasonably demonstrated by a captain of a team  that 4 or less players are available to play, then, providing at least two weeks’ notice is given, the match can be postponed with the agreement of the opposing captain”**)**

**9.11** If a match has to be concluded within a time restriction imposed by the venue **Rule 9.9** will apply.

 **9.12** Any match that for any reason is deemed by the League Executive Committee as won by a team without the match being played will be awarded two points for the “win” by 4 games to 0, but with no game points being awarded. In addition, such games will not be taken into account when deciding the season’s League position of a team in the event of a tie on points between teams.

**NOTES ON SECTION 3.2**

**EXAMPLE AS TO PLAYING FORMAT WITH LESS THAN SIX PLAYERS**

**5 PLAYERS** --5 Doubles and 1 Triple can he played fully. The 2nd Triple can be played with

 2 Players using 2 boules each.

**4 PLAYERS--** 4 Doubles and 1 Triple can be played fully. The 2nd Triple can be played with

 1 Player using 2 boules.

 **3 PLAYERS--** 3 Doubles and 1 Triple can be played