

# Bishop's Stortford & District Pool League

## League Rules

1. The league runs to the World 8-ball Pool rules. The 1 minute shot rule is optional but can be instigated at any time throughout a game or match. Off table rules are not used by the league. Specifically the league ignores rules K9, K10 and K11.
2. Teams consist of a minimum of 5 players who are each allowed to play once in the first 5 games and once in the second 5 games.
3. Teams who are unable to field 5 players will initially forfeit a game (or games) in the first half of the match. Then should they still be unable to field 5 players they will forfeit a game (or games) in the second half.
4. Only players who are signed on with the team are available to play.
5. Teams may sign new players until midnight of the Monday which completes the first half of the season. The league organiser must be informed of all new players. Their signature will be noted from the card from their first game. During the second half of the season new players may only be signed with the committees consent. Teams should give adequate notice to the committee to allow enough time for this decision to be made.
6. League results must be forwarded to the league organiser by the home team. Initially results must be submitted online through the website and must be done before midnight on the Friday following the match. A forfeit of 3 league points from the home team on the first offence. On each additional offence that team will forfeit incremental values of 3 points (ie 6pts for second offence, 9pts for third offence etc). The card must then be posted to arrive within two weeks of the match.
7. It is the responsibility of both captains to check that the submitted results are correct. Errors and 8-ball clearances need to be communicated to the league organiser within four weeks of the match.
8. Cup results need to be processed as per the directions of the committee and league organiser. Cards need to be forwarded to the league organiser.
9. Postponing of games / changes in venue:- teams need to give at least 24 hours notice should they wish to postpone a match or have a change of venue. There must be a valid reason for this postponement / venue change which the committee must agree with. Postponement of games with less than 24 hours notice may only occur under extraordinary unforeseen circumstances. Postponed games need to be played within 2 weeks of the original fixture date.
10. Cancellation of games:- teams which give less than 24 hours notice in postponing matches, cancel matches or fail to appear without an exceptional reason offered to the committee will be deemed to have forfeited the match. The result for this match will be 7-3 against the offending team. The offending team will also forfeit 3 points. The ruling (noted above), with regards to failing to notify the league organiser of the result, will still be enforced and could cause further loss of points to occur.  
A fine of £10 will also be made to any team forfeiting an Away fixture. This money will be passed to the home team to cover food expenses.
11. Matches will run as follows:
  - A Home team will mark their first player on the scorecard and obtain that players signature. Away team will then mark their first player on the scorecard. This format continues throughout the match.
  - B Home team has break and umpires first game. Away team has break and umpires second game. Alternating of break and umpiring continues to the end of the match.
  - C A team is not obliged to wait more than 10 minutes for a player to arrive for their game. Games need to be played in the correct order and should not be altered to accommodate a player wishing to leave early.
  - D All 10 games are played in league matches. Best of 9 games are played in cup matches; all 9 games do not need to be played once one team has won 5 games.
  - E Matches start at 8-15pm (unless agreed by both teams with at least 24 hours notice having been given). Teams which arrive after 8-30pm will be deemed to be late. For each 10 minutes after 8-30pm (ie 8-40pm, 8-50pm, 9-00pm...) the team will forfeit a game until 7 games have been forfeited; at which point the match will be deemed to be forfeited (see ruling on cancellation of matches).
  - F During each game the referee is in charge. Should a dispute / ruling be questioned then the captain(s) (or vice-captain(s) if captains are playing) may be consulted to help decide the outcome. Should this not decide the dispute / ruling, then a committee member should be contacted immediately. Teams should not wait until after the match to contact a committee member.
12. Promotion / relegation. The bottom two teams will be relegated and at least two teams will be promoted.
13. Food should be provided by all home teams for league matches. No food needs to be provided for cup matches.
14. 8-ball clearances need to be attained on the players first visit with a break counting as the first visit.
15. In competitions the home player is responsible for making initial contact and needs to give at least three different days/dates to play the match. Contact needs to be made at least a week before the play-by deadline.