

SHAB LEAGUE

GENERAL RULES OF PLAY

As amended July 29th 2011

1. The playing season will be from the second Sunday in October until the third Sunday in April.
2. Teams wishing to enter must be registered with the Match Secretary by the 1st May each year. Entry fees will be decided by the SHAB League Committee. A Club may enter more than 2 teams in the SHAB League providing there are sufficient playing dates available for all teams.
3. Matches will be on a Home and Away basis. The Match Secretary will provide the League Programme prior to the start of the new season.
4. League matches and re-arranged matches shall be played within the period shown in Rule 1. In the case of a re-arranged match, both Team Captains will contact the Match Secretary who must be informed of the new time and date as soon as it is known.

If a team can field six players for a match, then the game shall go ahead, as arranged by the Match Secretary (see ESMBA Law on Absentee Players, paragraph e).

If a game is not played on the arranged or re-arranged date, the defaulting team will concede the match and four points will be awarded to their opposition, together with a +8 -8 shot difference. In the event of failure to play, without reasonable cause, an appropriate fine can be levied in order to reimburse the expenses incurred by the non-defaulting team.

5. The number of teams allocated to Divisions 1, 2 & 3 for the following season will be decided by the Committee at each May meeting. Normally, the bottom two teams of Divisions 1 & 2 are to be relegated at the end of the season and the top two teams of Divisions 2 & 3 are to be promoted. [As an exception, as agreed on 6th May 2011, at the end of the 2011-12 season three teams will be relegated from Division 2 to Division 3 to equalise the number of teams in Divisions 1 & 2.]
- 5a All new teams entering the SHAB League for the first time will automatically be placed in the 3rd Division.
6. All teams must give to the Match Secretary prior to the start of the new season the following information :
 - a) Name, address and telephone number of Club Secretary
(all correspondence to be addressed to the Club Secretary)
 - b) Name of team
 - c) Names of members of each team and ESMBA registration number
 - d) Name of team Captain and telephone number

- e) Time and day when home games will be played
7. Each match game shall be of 2 rinks of four players, playing 18 ends. There will be an interval after the first 9 ends. After the interval, the teams will change mats and the remaining 9 ends will be played on the alternative mat. The rinks will be 'Open' rinks.
- 7a. All clubs that have a time limit to their premises will have this shown on the Divisional League Fixture list. If for any reason the normal playing time is shortened or that if at the half way point it shows that if continued at the same speed would run out of time, then the two Captains must agree that the tea break will be restricted or even forfeited.
- 7b. Abandonment of a Match. If for any reason a match has to be abandoned the following rule will apply:
- 1) If only nine ends or fewer have been completed, the result shall be declared a draw.
 - 2) If one mat has completed 10 ends then the result on the score cards will stand.
8. One trial end, each way, will be allowed on each mat.
9. The Rules of Play will be as those laid down by the English Short Mat Bowling Association, with the following exceptions:
- 1) Knocking the jack off the side of the mat – 2 points to the opposing team.
 - 2) No team may play with "3s Up"
- These two rules are brought in because of the time factor involved.
10. Players must be registered with the Surrey County Short Mat Bowling Association Membership Secretary before playing in a SHAB League match. No player can be registered to compete in any current season after 31st January of each year. No member can play for more than one team and may not change teams during the League playing season.
11. One point will be awarded to each winning rink, ½ point will be awarded to each side if rink scores are level. Two bonus points will be awarded to the team scoring the most shots over the two rinks. If, after the 18 ends have been played the combined scores of each rink are level, each team will receive one bonus point.
12. The winning team will be responsible for phoning results to the Match Secretary within 24 hours of the game being played (failure to comply with the rule will incur a loss of 1 point from the result) and posting the result sheet, signed by both captains, again to the Match Secretary within five days. If the result is a drawn game, the home team will be responsible for

the above. The home team will supply the result sheet. The Match Secretary will circulate results and League positions to all participating Clubs, on a fortnightly basis, after the 2nd week of commencement of the playing season.

13. The home Club will bear the visiting team's costs for refreshments and green fees. Refreshments will be tea/coffee and biscuits only (this is to save embarrassment).
14. The above rules may only be changed, or amended, at a Meeting of the SHAB League, or at an Extraordinary Meeting.
15. Disputes of a general nature should be referred to the League Chairman, for action by the Committee.

These general rules of play were amended at a meeting of the SHAB League Committee held on Friday 9 June 2000 and accepted by SCSMBA at their meeting held on Friday 1 September 2000.

Rule 2 last sentence was added to the Rules of Play as voted on at the First AGM on 6.3.02.

Rule 14 the word Annual was removed as voted at SHAB League Meeting held on 7.6.02.

Rule 4 para 3 four points and 8 shot difference will be awarded to the opposition was added and

Rule 5 Promotion rules updated at SHAB meeting 27.9.02

Rule 5 New rule voted in at SHAB meeting 22.8.03.

Rule 7a New rule was added at the 3rd AGM held on 5.3.04.

Rule 7b New abandonment rule voted in at SHAB meeting on 10.12.04.

Rule 4, Para 1 New rule voted 29.7.2011. The old rule was: "League matches shall be played within the week as arranged by the Match Secretary and at the time and day as shown on the League Fixture List. If extenuating circumstances prevent this, then the Team Captain will contact the Match Secretary,....."

Rule 5 New Division-size rule voted at SHAB meeting on 6.5.11. The old rule was: "Providing a minimum of 18 teams wish to play in the SHAB League Divisions 1 & 2 should always be comprised of 9 teams, the remainder to form the 3rd and subsequent Divisions. Only if a team or teams drop out of Divisions 1 & 2 would more than 2 teams be promoted. At no time should more than 2 teams be relegated."