

LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

Incorporating changes made at the 2008 AGM underlined

Name and Purpose

The League shall be called the North West Counties Squash League and shall organise a league competition between the squash clubs of Lancashire, Cheshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside.

Membership

Membership shall be open to all squash clubs in Lancashire, Cheshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside that are affiliated to The Squash Rackets Association Limited (which is currently trading as England Squash and throughout this Constitution and the Rules of the League is referred to as England Squash).

The procedure for applying for membership is as follows:

- (a) an Application must be made to the General Secretary before or at the A.G.M.
- (b) the Affiliation fee as per Rule 14 must be sent with the application.
- (c) The Committee and/or A.G.M. will consider the application.

Applications made after the A.G.M. may be accepted at the Committee's discretion up to the 1st July for the season ahead, but in this case a late entry fee per team will be payable, the amount to be determined by the Committee. New clubs shall normally start in the lowest division unless they make successful application to the Committee for commencement in a higher division.

Associate Membership shall be open to squash clubs, affiliated to England Squash that lie outside the boundaries of Lancashire, Cheshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside.

Associated Members are required to apply for membership each year at the A.G.M., at which each Associated Member shall be voted on individually.

The Committee shall have the power to suspend membership subject to confirmation at the next General Meeting.

Each member club must be in credit with its affiliation fees payable to England Squash before the first match of each season or the club concerned will not be allowed to take part in the League. Where a club's affiliation fees become due during a season, the Committee shall have the power to deduct 5 points per team per match from the date on which those fees are due until they are paid.

General Meetings

An Annual General Meeting shall be held during the third or fourth week in May. General Meetings may also be called at any other time by the Committee or at the request of three or more clubs.

Notice of the A.G.M. shall be sent in writing (which may be by letter and/or email) to all member clubs three weeks in advance, together with an Agenda containing any proposals the Committee considers appropriate or which have been sent by clubs to the General Secretary before 21st April.

Notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be sent in writing (which may be by letter and/or email) two weeks in advance of the meeting to all member clubs together with a statement of the business to be transacted.

Items not on the agenda sent out to clubs before a General Meeting may be taken at the discretion of the Chairman but may not include any proposals for altering the Constitution or Rules.

Each Club shall have one spokesman and one vote only at a General Meeting. Clubs not able to send a representative may submit their views and votes in writing (by letter and/or email) in advance to the General Secretary so as to reach him no later than 48 hours before the meeting is due to begin. Clubs shall not have a vote until they have played at least one season in the League.

The Annual General Meeting shall elect the President, Vice Presidents and the Honorary Legal Advisor. Officers and Officials of the League are indemnified to a maximum of £1 m against legal liability and claims for costs and expenses arising from injury or death to participants occurring during League matches, events or activities which are under the control of the North West Counties Squash League. The A.G.M. shall appoint suitably qualified Auditors. The Annual Accounts of the League shall be laid before the Annual General Meeting.

Committee

The Officers of the Committee shall be elected at the A.G.M. They shall consist of a Chairman, Treasurer and one representative from each division or section of a division. and one county representative from each of Cheshire, Lancashire and Merseyside. In the event of a vacancy occurring during the course of a season the Committee shall have the power to co-opt. The President, Vice Presidents and Honorary Legal Advisor shall be ex-officio members. Three members shall constitute a quorum and the Chairman shall have the casting vote. The General Committee may form sub-committees for specialised purposes. The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Committee. He shall be answerable to the Chairman. His terms of employment shall be defined by the Committee and confirmed in writing.

Rules and Administration

The Constitution and Rules of the League shall be decided by a General Meeting. Administration and interpretation of the Constitution, Rules and the Code of Conduct of England Squash shall be by the Committee. In order to provide reasonable continuity in the operation of the League it is intended that, if it is possible, changes in the number of teams and the rules for promotion and relegation in the higher divisions shall be decided each year for the season next but one ahead.

The Committee shall have the power to decide on all matters that are not specifically provided for in the League Rules and to appoint sub-committees to exercise any of its powers under the Constitution and the Rules of the League.

The General Secretary must be informed in writing (which may be by letter or email) of any changes to a Club Representative, either before or during the season, within 7 days of the change taking place.