

# THE NEW SURREY BOWLS LEAGUE

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## CONSTITUTION (Revised February 2016)

### **1. TITLE**

- 1.1 This organisation shall be known as the **NEW SURREY BOWLS LEAGUE** hereinafter referred to as the NSBL.

### **2.0 FOUNDER MEMBERS**

- 2.1 The NSBL was founded by the following eight clubs at the meeting of representatives from those clubs at Malden Bowling Club on 12 August 1995 :

Cheam	Nat West Bank (Surrey)	Warlingham Park
Croydon	Southey	Worcester Park
Malden	Supreme	

### **3.0 OBJECT**

- 3.1 The NSBL will run two bowling leagues and two bowling competitions. The leagues will be a weekend Fours League and a weekday Triples League. The competitions will be a Top Ten and a 1-rink Home & 1-rink Away Triples named the Ron Willson Triples.
- 3.2 The Winners and Runners-Up of the leagues and competitions will each hold a Trophy for the following year.
- 3.3 The Winner of the Fours League will hold the Championship Trophy and the Championship Flag for the following outdoor season. The Winners will also host a Presentation Evening.
- 3.4 The Finals of the competitions will be held on a neutral green of a current Member Club and shall be selected by the Officers. Light post match refreshments for the players and officials only will be provided by the host club and be paid for out of NSBL funds.
- 3.5 Each season suitable memento's will be presented to the Winners and Runners-Up of each league and competition.
- 3.6 All trophies and momento's will be suitably engraved out of NSBL funds.
- 3.7 All matches will be played in accordance with Bowls England Rules. Any dispute will be referred to the Officers via the Press Officer. The Officers decision shall be final.

### **4.0 HEADQUARTERS**

- 4.1 The Headquarters of the NSBL will be the Malden Bowling Club.

### **5.0 MEMBERSHIP**

- 5.1 Membership of the NSBL will be open to Private Clubs only. Prospective new members shall complete and submit an official NSBL Membership Application Form, to be received by the Secretary at least two calendar months before the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The completed application form shall state which league(s) and competition(s) the club is applying to play in.
- 5.2 New membership applications shall be voted on at AGM's and Special Meetings. Only those Member Clubs that currently participate in and are committed to continue their participation in the specific league(s) in which the new applicants state they wish to play shall be eligible to vote. Approval by a minimum of 70% of the eligible Member Clubs voting at AGM's and Special Meetings will be required to gain admittance.
- 5.3 Clubs applying for NSBL membership shall, if their membership is approved as described in 5.2 above, play their first season of membership on a trial basis and be termed a Trial Member Club. At the AGM immediately following the 'trial season' their continued membership shall be voted on again by the existing Member Clubs eligible to vote and, if approved by a minimum of 70% of the eligible Member Clubs, they shall be deemed a full Member Club of the NSBL. Failure to gain the minimum 70% approval shall result in the immediate termination of their membership.

- 5.4 A maximum of two new clubs will be admitted in a single season to each league. Only clubs participating in one or both leagues will be entitled to enter the competitions.
- 5.5 If a club is admitted to the NSBL to play in just one of the two leagues but in subsequent years decide they wish to play in the other league, the Member Clubs participating in the other league shall vote on their admittance at the next AGM or Special Meeting. A simple majority vote in favour (i.e. >50%) shall be required to admit the new club.
- 5.6 Voting on membership applications will be conducted by secret card ballots organised and conducted by the NSBL Officers.

## **6.0 FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- 6.1 There will be a Founders Fee of £10 per club.
- 6.2 In the event of a new club joining the League after formation, a Joining Fee, to be determined at the AGM may be payable in addition to the Annual Subscription in force at the time.
- 6.3 Each outdoor season the following annual fees will be payable by each participating NSBL club:
- Annual Subscription payable by all clubs
  - Fours League
  - Triples League
  - Top Ten Competition
  - Ron Willson Triples Competition

All the above subscriptions and fees will be determined at the AGM immediately preceding the playing season.

- 6.4 Subscriptions and entry fees for all leagues and competitions must be paid before the season begins. These must be with the Treasurer no later than 31st January.

## **7.0 ADMINISTRATION**

- 7.1 The Officers of the NSBL will be a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Press Officer. The role of Treasurer shall be combined with the role of Secretary or Press Secretary.
- 7.2 A Committee consisting of one Delegate from each of the Member Clubs and Trial Member Clubs will conduct the affairs of the NSBL. The three (3) Officers shall be elected by the Member Club Delegates only of the Committee. The Officers shall manage the leagues and competitions in accordance with the Constitution and Rules of the NSBL on behalf of the Committee.
- 7.3 One male Delegate to the Committee shall be nominated by each club and such nominations notified to the Secretary as and when they are nominated. Each nomination shall detail the full postal address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the Delegate.
- 7.4 Delegates are required to actively represent the interests of their club within the NSBL and be responsible for all routine communications between the NSBL and their club.
- 7.5 Delegates of Member Clubs are entitled and expected to attend all NSBL meetings. The Delegates of Trial Member Clubs are entitled and expected to attend the regular Delegates Committee Meetings but not AGM's or Special Meetings.
- 7.6 Each club shall provide the NSBL with at least one reliable and currently active e-mail address, preferably that of their nominated Delegate. These e-mail addresses shall be used to conduct all correspondence between the NSBL and the clubs, and will also be used to forward the NSBL results to all Member Clubs.
- 7.7 The routine running of the leagues and competitions shall be the responsibility of the Press Secretary who shall also be responsible for the preparation and regular issuing of the league results and tables and the competition results and draw sheets to all NSBL clubs.
- 7.8 The NSBL will operate its own internet website which will be updated on a regular basis and on which will be posted information considered useful to its clubs.

**8.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND SPECIAL MEETINGS**

- 8.1 The Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will take place in October each year.
- 8.2 In addition to the AGM, three (3) Committee Meetings shall be held per year, usually in January, March, and August.
- 8.3 Notice of all meetings and their agenda's will be e-mailed to all Delegates at least twenty eight (28) days prior to the meeting. If a Delegate is unable to attend a meeting his club should nominate a replacement and notify the Secretary accordingly.
- 8.4 Only male members of the clubs shall be permitted to attend NSBL meetings unless otherwise approved in advance by the Committee.
- 8.5 Any male member of Member Clubs only may attend AGM's and Special Meetings but only the Delegates eligible to vote shall be permitted to vote.
- 8.6 Delegates only will be permitted to attend and vote at the regular Delegates Committee Meetings.
- 8.7 Voting at all NSBL meetings shall be restricted to one vote per Delegate eligible to vote. In the event of a tied vote the Chairman will have a second and casting vote.
- 8.8 Member Club Delegates only, including the Officers, may request a Special Meeting of the Committee. Such a request shall be submitted to the Secretary detailing the business of the meeting and shall include the signed support of at least two thirds of the Member Club Delegates.

Within 28 days of receipt of such a request the Secretary shall issue a notice by e-mail to all Delegates detailing the business of the meeting and a time and place where it will be conducted. The meeting shall take place on a date not less than 14 days and not more than 28 days from the date of issue of the meeting notice

**9.0 STANDING ORDERS**

- 9.1 For all NSBL Meetings a quorum will be no less than 50% plus one of the Delegates entitled to attend and vote.

**10.0 ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION**

- 10.1 No alteration to this Constitution will be made except at an AGM or Special Meeting at which the requirements of Section 8.0 (above) will be applied.
- 10.2 A notice of a motion to change the Constitution must be received by the Secretary at least 45 days before the AGM or Special Meeting. The Secretary shall contact the proposer of any amendment to clarify and resolve any ambiguities or concerns and then e-mail the finalised amendment to all Delegates at least 10 days before the AGM or Special Meeting.
- 10.3 Any matters not covered by this Constitution will be decided by the NSBL Committee whose decision will be final.

**Note :** For information only (and not part of the Constitution) the following are NSBL Member Clubs as of the Special Meeting of February 2016 :

Belmont	Heathfield	South London
Carshalton Beeches	Magdalen Park	Supreme
Cheam	Malden	Sutton
Cheam Fields	North Sheen	Wandilea
Dorking	Southey	West Wimbledon