**LEEDS METRO SQUASH LEAGUE**

**CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

(REVISED SEPTEMBER 2023)

1. **CONSTITUTION**
2. The League is called ‘The Leeds Metro Squash League’
3. The league comprises of those clubs taking part in the first competition of the league, together with any clubs subsequently elected.
4. A committee comprising Chair, Treasurer and other officers as required, administer the league. Officers are elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and hold office for one year and need not be club representatives.
5. The rules of the league may only be amended by a decision of a general meeting, or by the committee and will be published on the League Master website.
6. **SEASON**

The league season extends from 1st September until 31st August of the following year.

1. **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Clubs pay an annual subscription for each team entered into the league. Fees must be paid as stipulated by the League Committee, failure to comply may result in exclusion from the league.

1. **MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEAGUE**
2. Clubs wishing to enter teams in the league should apply to the committee.
3. Each member club should appoint a representative who is responsible to the league for any business concerning their club. The contact detail of the club representative must be put on the website before the start of the season.
4. The representative is required to attend meetings called by the committee should issues arise.
5. The League is comprised of three sections, men’s ladies and veterans and divisions are arranged according the number of teams entered for that season. There is no limit to the number of teams a club may enter each season.
6. **LEAGUE MEETINGS**
7. The League AGM – 14 days notice of which shall be given – shall be held any time prior to the start of the commencement of the next season.
8. Proposals for consideration at an AGM should be made by League Representatives and must be submitted to the Chair at least 7 days prior to the meeting. The Chair will circulate an agenda to all League Representatives 5 days prior to the meeting.
9. A quorum for any general meeting is representatives from 3 different clubs and a league official.
10. At the AGM each member club and each elected official is entitled to one vote although a club may send as many representatives as they choose, who may speak on any matter on the agenda.
11. Simple majorities of those present and voting apply. Proxies are not allowed and the League Chair or appointed deputy has the casting vote.
12. A requested Extraordinary General Meeting to the Chair will be held within 21 days of receipt, for which 14 days notice will be given.
13. **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**
14. All Divisions
15. Players must be bona fide members of the club they represent.
16. Players may only represent 1 Metro League Club in any section, in each season. (for example a player can play in a men’s team for 1 club and a vets team for another club of which they are a member)
17. Veteran’s Division

Veteran’s are classed as those players who are 45 or over on the day of the fixture.

1. **PLAYER NOMINATION**
2. Clubs must nominate their players in order of merit for the team which they are going to play. There needs to be a minimum of 3 players nominated per team.
3. Team nominations must be made 5 days prior to the first match. Nominations will be locked in the day before the league starts. Additional players can only be added by the administrators of the league, and can be added in at any point in the season.
4. Players not nominated at the start of the season will be automatically registered in the team for which they first play.
5. Team captains must put their contact details on the website 5 days prior to the first match.
6. Within each division it is expected that a player will play for the team in which they are nominated. Players can play for another team or a maximum of 5 times per half season so long as it does not exceed the number of times for which they have played for the team in which they are nominated.
7. If playing for another team players must play in order of merit.
8. Only those nominated at 3 or below can play in a lower registered team than the one they are nominated in and must play in order of merit. The exception to this rule is if a club has more than 1 team in a division then all players can play across for the other team as long as all players are in order of merit.
9. Any player can play in a higher registered team but they must play in order of merit.
10. Yorkshire League - Those nominated for the Premier Division teams are not permitted to play in the Leeds Metro League. Players nominated to play in other Yorkshire League teams are permitted to play in the Leeds Metro in division 1 and 2. It is not expected that players in Div 3 will be playing Yorkshire League but are permitted to play up if required to fulfil a Yorkshire League fixture. This should not exceed 3 matches per half season.
11. The number of games played in the first half must not be exceeded in the second half.
12. The nominated playing order may only be changed at the half way point. However under exceptional circumstances the order can be changed by one of the League administrators.
13. Any complaints regarding order of merit should in the first instance be discussed with the opposing team captain or representative but if a resolution cannot be agreed then the matter must be referred to the committee for resolution.
14. It is expected that all players and teams play in the spirit of fair play at all times.
15. **MATCH RULES**
16. Teams shall consist of 3 players playing in order of merit. Team captains shall exchange team lists at the start of the match. Order of play is the decision of both captains.
17. The home team must provide anew ball for the match.
18. Matches will be decided s the best of 5 games with PAR scoring. For division 1 this is to PAR 11 but for all other divisions this is to PAR 15.
19. Matches must be played as scheduled in the League fixtures, except where re-arranged in accordance with rule 8e.
20. If a club fields a team of less than 3 players, the team must play in order of merit with the best player at number 1 and the lowest string dropped and 3 points awarded to the opposing team. If the match is played out of order due to 1 player failing to turn up for the match the team with the reduced players will forfeit the match.
21. Clubs unable to start matches within 30 minutes of the agreed time shall forfeit the first match. Clubs unable to start the match within one hour of the agreed start will forfeit the whole match. However, discussion should take place between the 2 captains and all circumstances regarding the delay should be taken into consideration.
22. At least 7 days full notice must be given to the opposition of any match postponement. Any rearrangement must be acceptable to both team captains.
23. Fixtures cancelled within 48 hours by the visiting team may incur a cost to the visiting team to cover costs of courts and / or food. Agreement must be reached between the relevant to captains.
24. Allocation of points for disrupted fixtures is at the discretion of the committee who may insist that any match be played or replayed.
25. Teams failing to complete their fixtures may be relegated or dismissed from the league at the discretion of the committee.
26. The home team is responsible for marking the match but away players can also mark.
27. It is expected that hospitality will be provided for the away team by the home team.
28. Any match dispute must be notified to the Chair of the committee within 14 days, otherwise the result will stand. The committee will arbitrate in case of dispute.
29. Any team or player found guilty of misconduct may be banned, demoted, or expelled from the League at the discretion of the committee.
30. **RESULTS**
31. One point is awarded for each game won, and three points to the winning team. The winning team is the team that wins most matches.
32. All results should be posted on the web site by the home captain, preferably on the day of the match but no later than 5 days of the match being played. The opposing captain then has a further 7 days to raise an issue if they feel the result has been recorded incorrectly and inform the Chair of any unresolved issues.
33. If a team fails to complete a fixture the captain must report to the Chair giving an explanation why this was the case. The committee will consider every case on its own merits and any deduction of points will be at the discretion of the committee.
34. **LEAGUE POSITIONS**
35. The number of points won will determine league positions. In the event of a tie on points the number of matches won shall decide the position. In the event of a further tie the result of the matches between the 2 teams will be the deciding factor.
36. The committee, based on league positions, shall determine which teams should be promoted or regulated. Barring unusual circumstances 2 teams will be promoted and relegated from each division.
37. A trophy shall be awarded to the winning team of each division at the AGM. The trophy is retained for one year.
38. **ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS**

Annual tournaments can be held. The rules will be at the discretion of the committee and will be published on the entry forms that will be circulated to all clubs.