

1. HBSA LEAGUE

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League | Open Billiards League |
|-------|---------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1.1 | No. of leagues | There are 3 leagues, as named above. | | |
| 1.2 | No. of sections (As at 2021) | Dependent on entries. Premier league, plus five sections | Dependent on entries. Three. | Dependent on entries. One. |
| 1.3 | No. of games | Typically, there are up to 14 teams per section. Teams in the same section all play each other twice (home and away), which equates to (up to) 26 games (excluding play-offs). | | |
| 1.4 | Promotion and Relegation | In the event of a points tie, order decided as follows: Most wins, most 4-0/3-0 wins, most 3-1/2-1 wins or most draws (in that order). If this does not resolve, then play-offs will be needed (see 8.1 for rules that apply) | | |
| | | 3 teams, up and down. (Can be varied depending on no. of teams entering). | 2 teams, up and down. (Can be varied depending on no. of teams entering). | (Not applicable @ 2021 season, as only one section) |
| 1.5 | Administration | All carried out via the HBSA website, except in exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of the League Secretary. Every Club MUST send a least one rep. to each of the meetings in Nov., March and to the AGM. Association Rules sections 6&7. | | |
| 1.6 | Appeals / complaints | Correspondence regarding these Leagues are to be addressed to the League Reporting Secretary, via the website. The Committee will consider the facts and take any action deemed necessary. Its decision is final. | | |

2. ELIGIBILITY

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League | Open Billiards League |
|-------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2.1 | Clubs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be affiliated to HBSA (and so eligible to enter teams), a Club must be in the Huddersfield area. Entries will only be accepted from clubs that allow all adults and juniors as players, officials, and spectators. | | |
| 2.2 | Players - General | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players must have amateur status (HBSA Committee to rule on exceptions). Must be members of a Club affiliated to HBSA. Any player currently serving a ban from his/her Club is ineligible to compete in any HBSA games. | | |
| 2.3 | Players' Age | Open age. | Can play once 60 years of age | Open age. |

3. LEAGUE REGISTRATIONS (June/July each year. Carried out by Club representative on behalf of all teams in that Club)

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League | Open Billiards League |
|-------|---------------|--|--|--|
| 3.1 | Players | A minimum of 5 players to be registered per team. On registration, players/teams are committing to play for the full season. | | |
| 3.2 | Entry Fees | £25 per team + £25 per Club affiliation fee + outstanding amounts from last season | £20 per team + £25 per Club affiliation fee + outstanding amounts from last season | £20 per team + £25 per Club affiliation fee + outstanding amounts from last season |
| 3.3 | Payment Terms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All payments must be for the Club as a whole and must accompany registration Bank transfer payments preferred. Cheque acceptable, sent to the Treasurer. Cash payments are not accepted. Outstanding monies must be received by the November meeting | | |

4. HANDICAPS

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Open Snooker League | Open Billiards League | |
|-------|-----------------------|---|--|--|-----|
| 4.1 | Categories of players | For the purposes of assigning and reviewing handicaps, every player will be classed as either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Seasoned': if they have played six or more league games in each of the last 3 seasons. • 'Unseasoned': Everyone else. (If a player misses a season, that player is classed as 'unseasoned' for a period of at least 3 further seasons, at which point they would become 'seasoned' again). | | | |
| 4.2 | Starting handicaps | For new players (i.e., those without an existing handicap in the League they wish to play in), the Handicap Committee will assign a starting handicap. Rule 5.3 specifies when and how this happens. | | | |
| 4.3 | Seasoned players | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special case: 'Seasoned' players that are declared as over 80 (as part of the League Registration process) will not have their handicap reduced at the end of that season. (Vets League only). • For everyone else, handicaps will be reviewed automatically at the start of every season, based on the difference between the number of frames won and lost, as follows: | | | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the difference is 9 or more, the handicap is reduced or raised by the difference. • Otherwise, the handicap is changed by half a point per difference, rounded down. | The handicap is changed by two and a half points per difference, rounded down to the nearest five. | | |
| 4.4 | Unseasoned players | Handicaps are reviewed at the end of each season as per 4.3 but only considering games since the last handicap change. Handicaps will be reviewed automatically during the season, after every group of 6 games played by the player, as follows: | | | |
| | | | #Games won out of the last 6 | | |
| | | Chg. | +9 | +5 | 0 |
| | | #Games won out of the last 6 | | | |
| Chg. | +15 | +10 | 0 | -10 | -15 |
| 4.5 | Handicap ranges | Minimum: None, Maximum: None Handicap start (guide only): 21 Maximum start in any frame: 90 | Min: None, Max: 130 Handicap start (guide only): 11 | Minimum: None, Maximum: 130 Handicap start (guide only): 115 | |

5. BEFORE THE MATCH

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League | Open Billiards League |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 5.1 | Blank cards | Blank results cards are available to download from the website. | | |
| 5.2 | Postponed or cancelled matches | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permission must be obtained from the League Reporting Secretary before any match can be re-arranged. • The League Reporting Secretary should be notified of the new match date. • If a match is cancelled less than 90 mins prior to the start time, the opposing team has the right to claim the match in full | | |
| 5.3 | New player / player transfer requests | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New player requests (mid-season) must be made at least 4 days' prior to the new player's first game, other than in exceptional circumstances. • Captains MUST provide supporting info for all new players (such as the player's highest break & their handicap in other leagues). • Any transfer to a new team must have been approved by HBSA (prior to playing for the new team). • New players cannot join (or transfer from another team) after the first match of second half of the season (around 1st Jan). | | |

6. DURING THE MATCH

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League | Open Billiards League |
|-------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| 6.1 | When played | Thursday at 7:30pm | Monday at 1:30pm | Tuesday at 7pm |
| 6.2 | Format | 4 frames. 1 point per win | 3 frames. 1 point per win | 3 frames. 1 point per win. First to 200. |
| 6.3 | Playing conditions & etiquette | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tables are to be properly prepared for all league and competition matches Mobile phones must be switched off or set to silent mode. (Should phone answering be necessary, it must be done out of the room and by someone not in play). Any player who is involved in any League match, cannot practise on any adjacent table whilst the League match is in progress. | | |
| 6.4 | Player checklist | <p>The following conditions must be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All new players must be registered/transferred before playing & use their official handicap as received from HBSA. A player can play in all 3 Leagues - but can only play for 1 team in each. Under 16's must have a responsible adult present. | | |
| 6.5 | Rules and Refereeing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPBSA Rules to be used. (Local exemptions may apply) A copy of HBSA rules to be available at all participating venues (available on website also) Home team to provide a referee Referee to rule on disputes. (Such ruling if not accepted to be subject to Committee decision). | | |
| 6.6 | Results Card | Captains to sign results card, with any alterations initialled. The signed card (or photo of it) to be kept by both teams, in case of dispute. | | |

7. AFTER THE MATCH

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League | Open Billiards League |
|-------|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| 7.1 | Submission of Results | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit via the website. Other methods may be acceptable, by agreement with the League Secretary, by exception. The Home Team is responsible for entering the correct result on the website / informing the League Secretary. | | |
| 7.2 | Submission Deadlines | Saturday 12:30pm (website entries). Monday (other). | Saturday 12:30pm (website entries). Monday (other). | Thursday (website entries). Saturday (other). |
| 7.3 | Un-played matches | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any match not being played on the allocated date should be notified immediately to the League Reporting Secretary and rearranged asap. (The League Reporting Secretary should then also be notified of the new date immediately). Any such match should then be played NO LATER than 4 weeks after the original programmed date, save that ALL matches delayed should be completed BEFORE the programmed last match of the season. | | |

8. PLAY OFFS (Applies to Snooker only, as at 2021)

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League |
|-------|--|--|--|
| 8.1 | Play-offs to determine section positions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Rule 1.4 cannot determine a team's finishing position, then play-offs will take place. The results of these will dictate which teams are promoted, relegated and which are eligible to play in intersectional play-offs. In addition to the normal rules, teams must submit their order of play to an official prior to the start of the match. Neutral venue to be used, in the event of a 2-2 tie (Open Snooker), rules as per 8.2 apply. | |
| 8.2 | Inter-sectional play-offs | <p>Two separate play-off knockout competitions; firstly, for the section winners and secondly, for the 2nd & 3rd placed teams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draws will be made for the play-offs (subject to numbers, byes may apply). First named team to have home advantage. In the event of a tie, the reserve players to play a deciding frame. Should one of the reserves not be present at the end of the fourth frame, the match will be awarded to the opposing team. If both reserves are not present, then players to play the deciding frame (from those having already played) will be drawn out of the hat. <p>Final & semi-finals to be played on neutral tables with a certified referee, if available.</p> | <p>A single play-off competition, for the section winners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two matches for each team; one at home and one away. In the event of a tie based on frames won/lost, the aggregate points scores will be used to determine the overall standing. This means that all balls in a frame should be potted. |

9. AWARDS (Individual Handicap - Prize; Highest break & Most Promising Young Player – Trophy; All Others - Cash)

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League | Open Billiards League |
|-------|--|---|---|---|
| 9.1 | Section winners | A Rose Bowl Trophy for each of the section winners. | S1: The 'John Clegg Memorial Trophy' S2 & S3: 'M.E. Consultancy Millennium Trophies' | Winner: 'H. Wilkinson Trophy' Runner up: 'Frank Hallam Rose bowl' |
| 9.2 | Last 6 matches | Section winners and teams who are competing in the inter-sectional play-offs are INELIGIBLE for this award | | |
| | | The Sandy Fraser Trophy. | The 'Morris Gledhill Trophy' | The 'Norman Hargreaves Trophy' |
| 9.3 | Inter-sectional Play-offs | Section winners play off for the 'Bass North Trophy'. 2 nd and 3 rd placed teams play off for the 'John Needham Trophy'. | Section winners play-off for the 'W. Cuerdon Trophy' Play-off runners-up receive the 'Frank Swallow Trophy'. | N/A |
| 9.4 | Highest Break Prizes (based on handicap at the season end) | 5 Categories: Backmarker to -24, -23 to -8, -7 to 8, 9 to 24, 25 to 45. Overall highest receives the 'Paul Hunter Memorial Trophy'. | One category. Highest break receives the 'Francis Hayward memorial Rose bowl'. | 4 Categories: Backmarker to -35, -30 to 30, 35 to 75, 80 to 130. Unfinished breaks will count. Overall highest receives the 'Tommy Donlan Memorial Trophy'. |
| 9.5 | Trophies | All winners are reminded to review the Competition rules, regarding their stewardship and return of trophies. | | |

10. WITHDRAWALS

| RULES | | Open Snooker League | Veterans' Snooker League | Open Billiards League |
|-------|------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 10.1 | Team | Requests to withdraw a team are to be made to the League Secretary who will endeavour to replace the team, depending on timing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a team withdraws during the first half of the season, all their fixtures will be treated as 2-2 draws If a team withdraws during the second half of the season, then their first half results will be left to stand as they are and only their second half fixtures will be treated as draws. | | |

11. SUMMARY OF FINES AND SANCTIONS

| OFFENCE | RULE BROKEN | FINE DUE | OTHER SANCTION |
|--|-------------|----------|---|
| Non-attendance at any meeting (AGM, November, or March meetings) | 1.5 | | Points deduction for every team at Club concerned. (4 for Open Snooker and 3 for Vets and Billiards). Nov/March meetings – Vets exempted from penalty (as agreed at 2021 AGM). |
| Handicap Committee misled into assigning too high a handicap | 5.3 | - | All matches for that player are awarded to the opposition, retrospectively; handicap reviewed; disciplinary action considered |
| League entry fees not received by November meeting | 3.3 | - | 3 / 4-point deduction for every team at Club concerned |
| Match cancelled within 90 minutes of start time | 5.2 | - | Opposing team has right to claim 3-0 / 4-0. |
| Late arrival at match | 6.1 | - | No players present 15 mins after start: First frame is forfeited. Subsequent frames may be claimed after further 15-minute intervals. |
| Team does not turn up on match night | 6.1 | £10 | 3-0 / 4-0 awarded to team that turns up |
| Player involved in League match practising on adjacent table whilst the League match is in progress and refusing to stop. | 6.3 | - | His / her frame is forfeit and awarded to the opponent. |
| Team plays an unregistered player | 6.4 | £5 | Relevant frame is awarded to opposing team |
| A higher handicap (than the players official handicap) is used in a frame. (Note: using a lower handicap is not an offence). | 6.4 | - | Frame awarded to opponent. Any breaks made by opponent stand. Frame does not count towards playing record of either player. |
| Incomplete card / incorrect results card | 7.1 | £3 | |
| Results submitted with absent player(s) | 7.1 | £3 pp | |
| Deliberate falsification of results card | 7.1 | £10 | Disciplinary action likely |
| Results not submitted in time | 7.2 | £3 | |
| League game remains un-played either within 4 weeks after scheduled date or by the last fixture date of the season | 7.3 | £0 | 0-0 result allocated. |
| Trophy not returned by March meeting | 9.5 | £25 | |
| Team withdraws from league / fails to play all games | 10.1 | £10 | |

Reminders for the payment of fines and the like will be issued after 28 days.

Fines remain unpaid at the March meeting will incur a 3 / 4-point deduction for the team(s) concerned.