

JUNIOR NORTH EAST CHESHIRE LAWN TENNIS LEAGUE

RULES 2020

1. NAME

The League shall be called the Junior North East Cheshire Lawn Tennis League.

2. OBJECTS

The object of the League shall be to promote and organise matches between junior teams representing clubs. Any lawn tennis club is eligible for membership of the League and may be elected to the League by the majority of the Executive Committee.

3. CONSTITUTION

The League shall be managed by an Executive Committee consisting of President, Vice-President, Chairman, Hon Treasurer, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Match Secretary as ex-officio members and four other members all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

4. GENERAL CONSTITUTION

The Executive Committee shall have the powers to:

- a. Conduct the business of the League
- b. Deal with an offending club or clubs, player or players
- c. Sanction or refuse applications for membership
- d. Determine the constitution of the Divisions
- e. Make decisions with regard to all abandoned matches
- f. Give a ruling on all disputes or appeals on any matter connected with the League
- g. Use the League funds as they think advisable
- h. The Executive Committee have power to co-opt not more than two persons at any time.
- i. The Chairman of the Executive Committee may exercise a casting vote at any meeting where there is equality of voting.

5. RETIREMENT

All Officers and Committee shall retire at each Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND FIXTURE MEETING

The Annual General Meeting shall be held during the month of October or November, and the Fixture Meeting in the following February, of each year. Trophies will be presented to all divisional winners at the Annual General Meeting. Each Club may send more than one representative to the A.G.M. but is entitled to only one vote.

Representation is mandatory at each meeting for all member clubs, and any club not represented will be fined £25

The Hon. Secretary shall give fourteen days notice of each meeting to all Clubs.

7. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

The Hon. Secretary shall be empowered to summon an Extraordinary Meeting upon the request of seven or more Clubs, or if so instructed by the Executive Committee.

8. ACCOUNTS

The Hon. Treasurer shall submit to the Annual General Meeting for approval the Accounts of the League duly audited by some person who is not a member of the Executive Committee.

9. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Each Club shall pay an annual subscription to be fixed at the Annual General meeting of that year, payable on or before the 1st April of that year. Clubs whose subscriptions have not been paid by this date will be required to seek re-election to the League for the following season.

10. RULE CHANGES

No alteration or addition to these rules shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting and only if supported by a two-thirds majority of members present. Any proposed change in rules must have been brought to the notice of the Hon. Secretary by the 31st August so that there is time for all Clubs to be notified of the proposed change prior to the League AGM.

11. ENTRIES AND RESIGNATIONS

Clubs must notify the League Match Secretary of resignation of membership or of the teams they wish to enter into the League each season before 31st December of the previous year

12. BONA-FIDE MEMBERSHIP

All players must be bona-fide club members and no league team player shall be allowed to play for more than one Club connected with this League during the current season without the consent of the League Committee.

Permission to transfer can be requested by contacting the League Secretary and consent will not be unreasonably withheld.

13. MEMBER POACHING

Any Club guilty of inducing or attempting to induce a bona-fide member of another League Club to leave that Club of which he or she is a member shall be liable to a fine or expulsion from the League.

14. TEAMS

Teams shall play in three sections, Under-18, Under-16 and Under-13 sections all to be under the ages of 18, 16 or 13 accordingly on the 31st August of the previous year. There may be mixed, boys and/or girls leagues; mixed teams consisting of two boys and two girls, boys' teams consisting of four boys and girls' teams consisting of four girls.

The Home club is responsible for providing a match official to supervise the entire match.

Refreshments must be provided by the home club, and put on display so that the visitors are aware that they are available

15. MORE THAN ONE TEAM IN THE SAME DIVISION

More than one team from the same Club shall be allowed to play in the same Division provided that these teams shall play each other **before** competing against other Clubs in the division.

16. TEAM PLAYERS

All players should be registered with the League Match Secretary before playing. All registrations must include full name and date of birth and British Tennis Membership (BTM) number, where held. All players in the junior league are strongly encouraged to become BTM members. Results from matches involving players who are BTM members will be applied to the LTA records.

17. SCORING PROCEDURES

Two points shall be given for each match won (or concession received), one point for a draw and no points for a loss or concession given. All matches to be decided on sets. In the event of two or more Clubs finishing the season with equal points, then the positions to be decided by dividing the number of sets won by the number of sets lost to produce an 'average' figure. Should these prove equal the decision shall be made using games to produce the 'average'.

18. END OF SEASON

Matches shall be arranged to be played before 14th August - an additional fourteen days will be allowed for matches postponed or having to be rearranged.

19. PRIZES

The Champions of each Division shall be awarded a Plaque which will become the property of the Club.

20. TENNIS BALLS

A minimum of three good condition balls per court shall be provided by the home team.

21. POSTPONED MATCHES

Matches shall be played on the prearranged date but may be postponed because of unfit playing conditions due to bad weather, OR with the agreement of BOTH teams, subject to compliance with Rule 26.

22. POSTPONED MATCH PROCEDURE

In the event of a match being postponed or abandoned the HOME Captain is responsible for EMAILING THE League Match Secretary (david.sykes95@ntlworld.com) indicating the reason.

23. NO PLAY POSSIBLE

In the event of no play being possible the Match Secretaries concerned may communicate with each other on the day of the match and mutually agree that play is impossible and the match be postponed, but if the Secretaries are unable to communicate both teams shall present themselves on the ground at the time the match should be played.

24. CAPTAIN'S DECISION

Players must await the Captain's decision regarding the possibility of playing the match before leaving the venue.

25. FAILING TO ATTEND

If the Secretaries are unable to communicate and a team fails to present in one hour after the agreed time, the match shall be awarded to the team present and the score shall read: 2 points for the win, 8 sets to nil, and 48 games to nil. If a team fails to fulfil a fixture up to 2 points may be deducted, AND/OR be subject to a fine, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

26. REARRANGING MATCHES

In the event of a rearranged match the HOME Match Secretary must notify the League Match Secretary by email (david.sykes95@ntlworld.com) of the agreed rearranged date within seven days.

27. MATCHES

Matches shall consist of four events each comprising two tie break sets. Should the score reach 5-5 it will be decided by a final tie-breaker game conducted in accordance with LTA rules, the winner being the first to reach seven points and to be leading by two clear points. In the mixed leagues the first two events will be two mixed doubles between the respective first couples and the respective second couples, followed by the girls and boys doubles. In the boys / girls leagues the first two events shall be between the respective first couples and second couples, followed by 1st v 2nd and 2nd v 1st. All matches are to be played on hard courts but may be played on grass if both captains agree.

Match courts must be provided with centre tapes on the net.

28. LATE ARRIVAL

All matches shall commence at the specified time and if a pair is not ready to play 15 minutes after this time then the first set shall be forfeited to their opponents. If a pair is not ready to play 45 minutes after this time then the first and second set shall be forfeited to their opponents.

29. ORDER OF PLAY & RECORDING OF RESULT AND PENALTIES

On arrival at the Club the respective captains shall exchange the names of the players in order on their teams, and the pairings and ranking order. The results of all league matches must be entered into the LTA Tournament Software System by the **Home captain** within 48 hours of the match being played. The visiting captain must check and confirm the result. If a result is not entered within 7 days the winning team will be liable to have up to two points deducted, AND/OR be subject to a fine, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

30. UNFINISHED MATCHES

If two events have been completed but the match is unfinished due to the weather conditions the result of the first two events shall decide the result of the match.

31. INJURIES

In the event of a player receiving an injury and necessarily withdrawing from playing, the opponents shall be awarded the necessary number of games to complete the set. Any sets already completed will stand and the remaining sets awarded to the opponents by six games to love.

32. DISPUTE PROCEDURES

All cases of dispute must be brought before the Executive Committee and if a member of the Executive Committee is connected with one of the Clubs in dispute then the member concerned must automatically withdraw from the Committee Meeting on that occasion.