



## WINTER 2014/15 NEW SEASON NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2014

### THE WORD OF THIS SEASON: CLARIFICATION

There's plenty of things to update you about so please ensure all your team read this newsletter.

### BLACKBALL LEAGUE

Decided at the Captains Meeting, this season we offered the option of playing in a new league using the **World Pool-Billiard Association Blackball** rules (not to be confused with the English Pool Association 'World Rules').

We're proud to say that 15 teams have 'taken the plunge' and opted to play the more aggressive rule set meaning we're able to have a division of teams on **BOTH NIGHTS!**

These teams will be placed into their own division, playing each other in a format of 12 singles frames per night, with a limit of 3 frames per player. The full format has been published on **SRPL.org.uk** website and **Facebook** group.

### RULES POSTERS

To clarify the original rules that the remaining teams are playing to, we have produced an A3 encapsulated poster of the complete rules; something that has not been done for many years. Finally a definitive statement of rules for us all to refer to!

To arrange for yours to be delivered to your venue, please contact any member of the committee via the usual methods.

When producing this poster we've had to reclassify and clarify certain elements to avoid any doubt when refereeing matches. These include push shots and what happens after a foul break. They are the original EPA rules from 1991 with a couple of amendments to make them closer to what most know within the league.

Should you have any query regarding the rules, or need clarification, **Steve Farrow** has very kindly agreed to be our **Rules Person** and will do his best to advise you were necessary. Please bear in mind that he will only be able to answer questions when he is free, and that he too plays in a team therefore might be busy. Email him on **comps@srpl.org.uk** or text **07923 893504**.

### CHANGES THIS SEASON - AS VOTED BY YOU

- The D marking has now been removed from our rules as per the vote at the Captains' Meeting. This means when breaking off, or playing with the white in-hand, you are permitted to place it anywhere within the baulk area.
- Also active this season is the ruling that no new players may be registered for, or play in, the last 4 league matches.
- Also voted for was the compiling of player stats. Unfortunately this hasn't been possible to action due to lack of additional support for the original proposing captain.

### WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE SEASON FORMAT?

A few people have expressed confusion over the season format, so let us clear it up: Each year will have **TWO** seasons.

#### **Winter: Run from September to March.**

30 weeks of league matches including Team Shield & Cup competitions. Final league positions and promotions/demotions are carried across to the following years WINTER season.

#### **Summer: Run from April to July.**

At only 15 weeks long, the Summer season gives us the opportunity to try out some new things in the SRPL. For instance: the 2015 Summer season will be our first **World Cup of Pool Competition**. Team can register to play either rule set (at the cheaper rate of £20 per team) and will be put into team groups. They will then have the chance to play different venues across the region.

Group winners and overall winner and runners up will receive trophies. This season has no bearing on a teams' league position, and we hope more teams will take the opportunity to play using Blackball rules. We're confident that if you try them you'll appreciate the advantages they bring to a large competitive league like ours. Since this format only just fits into 15 weeks, matches CAN NOT be rearranged to spare weeks (as there aren't any!) but they can be played on an earlier alternative day, if both teams agree.

### REARRANGEMENTS

Unlike last season, this season will NOT have a time limit on when matches from the 1st part of the season must be played. However, the last match still can not be rearranged and all previously scheduled matches must be completed before the beginning of the last match of the season.

### MATCH TIMINGS & LATE ARRIVING PLAYERS

All matches must start at **8:30pm**. Teams arriving after **8:20pm** can not expect a warm up session. **At least 3 away team players must arrive and commence the match by 8:30pm**. If the away team do not show by **8:45pm** the first frame may be claimed; by **9pm** the match may be claimed. In the name of sportsmanship, please notify your opponents before the first frame commences if you have players arriving late.

### SINGLES AND DOUBLES

This season also sees more competitions than ever before with singles and doubles competitions in both rule sets. To spice things up a bit, the **Blackball** doubles competition will be played as **Scotch Doubles**. For those that don't know, that means that the team pair alternate goes for every shot, regardless of if they pot or not. Talking between shots is not allowed. The old rules singles and doubles are to be played as per a usual match night.

### PRESENTATION NIGHT

Join us at the Peartree on **Saturday 6th September** from **7.30pm!**

All players are welcome and we strongly advise you come, even if you haven't won a trophy as it's a great excuse to have a drink and meet up with players from throughout the league.