

Regulations Part LG: BRITISH LEAGUE GENERAL

This document cancels and replaces the issue dated 01.08.21

CONTENTS

1	Management	11	League positions
2	Sections	12	Applicability of other Regulations
3	Entry	13	Forfeiture for lateness
4	Registration of players	14	Match result sheets
5	Transfer of players	15	Ranking points
6	Right to withdraw because of Regulation change	16	Players' clothing
7	Conditions of entry	17	Press & Publicity
8	Withdrawal from League	18	Penalties
9	Venue and facilities	19	Protests
10	Fixture dates and starting times		

Annexes

A	Regulations which Committee may change under delegated powers	D	Fees
B	Playing Conditions & Equipment	E	Fines & Penalties
C	Players' Clothing	F	Forms

1 MANAGEMENT

- 1.1 The British League is a national competition for club teams, authorised by the Board and operating under regulations approved by the Board.
- 1.2 Subject to the over-riding authority of the Board, the British League shall be managed by a committee responsible to the CEO or his/her delegate.
- 1.3 The Board shall appoint the Chair of the British League Committee and, in consultation with the Chair, shall appoint all other members, including a Table Tennis England (TTE) Board member, a Secretary, an Administrator for each section and a TTE staff member.
- 1.4 Subject to its reserved right the Board hereby delegates to a sub-group of the Committee, consisting of the Chairman, Secretary and Board representative, authority to alter by amending, deleting or making new regulations on the same subject matter the regulations specified in Annex A.
- 1.5 Subject to the over-riding authority of the Board, the Committee shall have power to decide any question arising from these Regulations and any matter concerning the conduct of the competition which is not specifically covered by these Regulations.

2 SECTIONS

- 2.1 The British League shall have four separate sections, each hereinafter referred to as a section:
 - 2.1.1 The Senior British League
 - 2.1.2 The Women's British League
 - 2.1.3 The Junior British League
 - 2.1.4 The Veterans' British League
- 2.2 Each section shall be governed by these general regulations and by a schedule of sectional regulations applying only to that section.
- 2.3 A schedule of sectional regulations may be amended by the Committee in the same way as these general regulations.

3 ENTRY

- 3.1 Any Club which is affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association, the Guernsey Table Tennis Association, the Irish Table Tennis Association, the Isle of Man Table Tennis Association, the Jersey Table Tennis Association, the Scottish Table Tennis Association or the Table Tennis Association of Wales, either through a Local League or by direct affiliation, may apply to enter team(s) in the League.
- 3.2 Clubs must submit documentary evidence of affiliation to the Administrator at the time of team registration.
- 3.3 The Committee shall have power to accept or reject any application, or to remove a team from the League.
- 3.4 Each club must appoint a Club Secretary to be responsible for its commitments to the British League.
- 3.5 Each season each club shall pay (at the time of registration) Entry Fees and Player Registration Fees and no entry will be valid without full cleared payment

- 3.6 Completed entry forms must be received by the Administrator on or before the date specified on the registration form and/or online submissions accepted and acknowledged by the date specified on the online system.

4 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

4.1 Eligibility

- 4.1.1 A Club may be represented only by players whose registration has been confirmed by the Administrator.
- 4.1.2 A club may register any player who is not currently registered for another club participating in the same section of the British League.
- 4.1.3 All players must be affiliated as Compete Plus Members or be registered as Visiting Players.
For details of TTE Affiliation & Registration see Regulations Part J (Affiliation & Registration)

4.2 Registration Procedure

- 4.2.1 A club must register a full complement of players for each team entered at the time of team entry.
- 4.2.2 A Club Secretary must lodge with the Administrator a completed player registration form at least 48 hours before the start of the next match, except as provided by Regulation 4.2.3.
- 4.2.3 Players may be registered at any time up to the date specified in Regulation 4.1 of the relevant section regulations providing the player meets the criteria specified in 4.1 and the registration form is submitted with the correct player registration fee.
- 4.2.4 In an emergency, a Club Secretary may register a player by obtaining oral agreement to registration and ranking from the Administrator. A completed player registration form and emergency player registration fee must be sent to the Administrator electronically or by first class post not later than 48 hours after the registration; failure to comply will render the registration invalid.
- 4.2.5 Except as provided in 4.2.6, no player may be registered or transferred after the date specified in the relevant section regulations, in any season.
- 4.2.6 In exceptional circumstances, with the exception of the Premier and Senior Championship Divisions, the Committee or Referee/Administrator of the appropriate British League may, during the week before the weekend of the matches, allow a replacement registration provided that the additional player is ranked lower (on the National Ranking List in use on the day of application) than the one replaced; the newly registered player and the replaced player cannot subsequently both play in the same round (session).
- 4.2.7 Clubs in the Junior British League, Women's British League and Veterans British League shall be allowed to register additional players to a team after the first weekend's play, provided that they are rated lower than all other registered players in that team. These players can be registered following the first weekend up to 48 hours prior to the second weekend's play.
- 4.2.8 If the player to be registered is currently registered for another club the player registration form must be accompanied by a completed player transfer form.
- 4.3 A registration shall be valid from the date of its receipt by the Administrator until the day following the last fixture of the current season unless previously cancelled by the Committee Secretary
- 4.3.1 at the request of the club for which the player is registered; or
- 4.3.2 on the completion of a player transfer form; or
- 4.3.3 on the club for which the player is registered withdrawing all its teams from the League.

5 TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

- 5.1 For the purpose of this regulation 'transfer' shall include the registration of any player who has at any time during the same season been registered for another club.
- 5.2 A club wishing to sign a player currently registered for another club must inform that other club before making any approach to the player.
- 5.3 A player may transfer from one club to another at any time up to the date specified in the relevant section regulations, in any season.
- 5.4 A player may transfer to any club, provided they have not played any matches in the current season. If the player has played one or more matches in the current season they may only play in a division higher than the one they were previously registered in.
- 5.5 Registration of Transfer
- 5.5.1 The Administrator shall register a player for the club to which he has transferred on receipt of a completed transfer form accompanied by the fee shown in Annex D.
- 5.5.2 The transfer form must be signed by:
- 5.5.2.1 the player;
- 5.5.2.2 the secretary of the club from which the player has transferred;
- 5.5.2.3 the secretary of the club to which the player has transferred.
- 5.6 The transfer form, which shall contain a declaration by the player that he or she is not under any contractual obligation to continue to play for the club from which he or she is transferring, shall be signed by the player before it is submitted for signature by the secretary of that club.

- 5.7 In exceptional circumstances, with the exception of the Premier division, the League Committee may allow a player to be transferred after the date specified in the relevant section regulations, provided that the transferred player is ranked lower than the replaced player (on the National Ranking list in use on the day of application); the transferred player and the replaced player cannot subsequently both play in the same round (session).

6 RIGHT TO WITHDRAW BECAUSE OF REGULATION CHANGE

- 6.1 If any of these Regulations are changed after a team has entered, a club shall be entitled to withdraw that team and have the entry fee refunded, provided that it is withdrawn not later than 7 days after the club's being notified of the change.

7 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 7.1 Acceptance of an entry shall be conditional upon the club concerned satisfying the Committee as to its ability to meet the requirements set out in Annex B (Playing Conditions & Equipment), Annex C (ITTF Regulations), Annex D (Fees), Annex E (Club Commitments) and Annex H (Player Clothing).
- 7.2 All clubs are required to continue to meet the requirements of 7.1.
- 7.2.1 If the Committee is not satisfied that a club is doing so, that club will be notified in writing of the conditions not being met and be given 30 days to make good.
- 7.2.2 If the club fails to meet the deadline specified in 7.2.1 the Committee shall have the right to withdraw its team from the competition.

8 WITHDRAWAL FROM LEAGUE

- 8.1 If a club withdraws a team from the League before it has completed all its fixtures the record of that team shall be completely expunged and the club shall be liable to a fine of the amount shown in Annex E or such lesser amount as the Committee may decide.
- 8.2 If the withdrawal of a team results in the club having no teams in the League the registrations of all players registered for that club shall be cancelled.
- 8.3 Players that are de-registered as a result of 8.2 are eligible to sign for another club providing they have either not played in the current season or they are registering for a club where they will compete in the same or higher division than the one they have already played in, in accordance with the section regulations.

9 VENUE & FACILITIES

- 9.1 Playing conditions and equipment shall conform to the requirements set out in Annex B.
- 9.2 The table allocated for the first match of the day shall be available for practice for 60 minutes prior to the commencement of the first round of matches as follows:
- 9.2.1 first 20 minutes - team scheduled as home team
- 9.2.2 second 20 minutes - team scheduled as away team
- 9.2.3 next 10 minutes - team scheduled as home team
- 9.2.4 last 10 minutes - team scheduled as away team
- 9.3 For all subsequent matches, when the table becomes available, practice time on the table allocated for each match shall be divided equally between the two teams, with the team scheduled as the home team taking the first half.

10 FIXTURE DATES & STARTING TIMES

- 10.1 The fixture dates and starting times for matches shall be decided by the Administrator.
- 10.2 The competition website shall be the principal source for fixture information.
- 10.3 Fixtures will be published on the competition website at least 2 weeks prior to the event.

11 LEAGUE POSITIONS

- 11.1 In SBL Premier Division, the winning team will be awarded 3 League Points and the losing team in a completed match will be awarded 1 League Point, but no League Points will be awarded to the losing team in an uncompleted match. In all other Divisions, a team will be awarded 2 League Points for a team match won and 1 League Point for a team match drawn.
- 11.2 Position in the League shall be determined primarily by the number of League Points won.
- 11.2.1 if two or more teams are equal on League Points, their relative positions shall be determined by the ratios of individual matches won to individual matches lost;
- 11.2.2 if they are still equal, their relative positions shall be determined by the ratios of games won to games lost;

12 APPLICABILITY OF OTHER REGULATIONS

- 12.1 The matches governed by these regulations are subject also to TTE Regulations Part A: Regulated Competitions and to the ITTF Regulations specified therein.

12.2 In all matches governed by these Regulations the regulations concerning racket testing shall apply.

13 FORFEITURE FOR LATENESS

13.1 If a team is not ready to play by 30 minutes after the scheduled starting time it shall forfeit the match and shall be liable to a fine.

13.2 A player who is not ready to play 10 minutes after the match umpire has called his or her individual match shall forfeit that match.

14 MATCH RESULT SHEETS

14.1 All match result sheets must be handed to the match referee or other designated official.

14.2 Except in the Veterans British League, the referee or umpire is required to select a 'Player of the Match'; if a referee or umpire is not present the selection will be made by the Administrator.

15 RANKING POINTS

15.1 All matches played in the British League will be subject to TTE ranking points.

16 PLAYERS' CLOTHING

16.1 Players' clothing shall conform to the requirements set out in Annex C.

17 PRESS & PUBLICITY

17.1 The League operates a press and publicity service.

17.2 Permission to photograph and video competitors is a condition of entry, but players under 18 can opt-out by informing the referee before play commences.

17.3 The Committee can use photos and videos for publicity and promotion.

18 PENALTIES

18.1 Penalties shall be imposed for offences as shown in Annex E, except where the Committee decides to impose a lesser penalty.

18.2 The warning, fine or penalty shall be notified to the club by the Committee Secretary.

18.3 At the same time as being notified of a fine or penalty the club shall be informed that it may appeal against its imposition, such appeal to be made not later than 10 days after the notification.

18.4 Every fine shall be paid not later than 28 days after the date on which the notification is sent, unless the club has appealed to the Committee against its imposition.

Note: If the fine remains unpaid after 21 days a reminder will be sent, but failure to send or receive 20 the reminder will not invalidate the application of Regulation 18.5.

18.5 If a fine has not been paid within 28 days of notification the amount of the fine shall be doubled.

18.6 Any appeal shall be adjudicated by the Committee, excluding the Administrator and any member of the Committee who is also a member of the appealing club.

18.7 If the Committee decides that a team is guilty of persistent breach of these Regulations it may expel that team from the League.

19 PROTESTS & APPEALS

19.1 All protests regarding the conduct of the competition shall be initially presented to the organiser by the team captain only.

19.2 A club that wishes to formalise a protest must put the protest in writing and submit it to the Secretary within 5 days of the original notification to the organiser.

19.3 The Secretary will acknowledge receipt of the protest within 5 days.

19.4 If the protest involves another player or club then all parties will be notified within 5 days.

19.5 The written protest will be discussed at the next Committee meeting and a response will be sent to all parties involved within 5 days.

19.6 A club may appeal to the Board of Appeal against any action or decision of the Committee.

Annex A: REGULATIONS WHICH CAN BE CHANGED BY THE COMMITTEE UNDER POWERS DELEGATED BY THE BOARD (REGULATION 1.4)

Any of these Regulations except 1, 2 and 19 and the contents of all Annexes; any of the specific Regulations for Junior British League, Senior British League, Veterans' British League and Women's British League.

Annex B: PLAYING CONDITIONS & EQUIPMENT

- 1 The playing space shall be not less than 12m long, 6m wide and 4m high (TTE Grade 4) for Senior Premier Division matches and should be not less than 10m long, 5m wide (TTE Grade 3) and 3m high for other matches.
- 2 The playing area shall be delineated by dark-coloured screens or surrounds, about 75cm high, along each end and with at least one screen at right angles to the end screens to indicate each corner of the playing area.
- 3 The light intensity, measured at the height of the playing surface, shall not be less than specified hereafter uniformly over the whole of the playing surface and the intensity at any other part of the playing area shall not be less than half of the intensity over the playing surface. For the Senior Premier Division the specified intensity is 1,000 lux (TTE Grade 5) and for matches in all other divisions 500 lux (TTE Grade 3).
- 4 The light source shall not be less than 4m above the floor for Senior Premier Division matches and not less than 3m above the floor for other matches.
- 5 The background shall be generally dark and shall not contain bright light sources nor daylight through uncovered windows.
- 6 The floor shall be of hard, non-slippery wood or thermoplastic and shall not be white nor brightly reflecting.
- 7 The table and net assembly shall be of a brand and type which comply with TTE Regulations for a 4 Star tournament and the table top shall have a thickness of not less than 18mm (20mm nominal).
- 8 The ball shall be the official ball of the British League, as specified on the current score-sheet.
- 9 All matches shall be the best of five games.
- 10 Sponsor's banners and surrounds, if provided, shall be displayed.
- 11 The Committee reserves the right to require all competitors to wear identification numbers bearing the League Sponsor's logo.
- 12 If any match is televised, the Committee reserves the right to ensure all clothing advertising conforms to the specifications set by the television authority concerned.
- 13 Umpires and assistant umpires will be appointed at the discretion of the Committee.
- 14 In the event of umpires not being provided; the umpire for the first individual match shall be provided by the home team, and then alternately by each team.

Annex C: PLAYERS' CLOTHING

Extract from ITTF Regulations for International Competitions 2021

- 3.2.2.1¹ Playing clothing shall normally consist of a short-sleeved or sleeveless shirt and shorts or skirt or one-part sports outfits, socks and playing shoes; other garments, such as part or all of a track suit, shall not be worn during play except with the permission of the referee.
- 3.2.2.2¹ The main colour of a shirt, skirt or shorts, other than sleeves and collar of a shirt, shall be clearly different from that of the ball in use.
- 3.2.2.3 Clothing may bear numbers or lettering on the back of the shirt to identify a player, his or her Association or, in club matches, his or her club, and advertisements in accordance with the provisions of 3.2.5.9; if the back of a shirt bears the player's name, this shall be situated just below the collar.
- 3.2.2.4 Any numbers required by organisers to identify a player shall have priority over advertisements on the centre back part of a shirt; such numbers shall be contained within a panel having an area not greater than 600 cm².
- 3.2.2.5 Any markings or trimming on the front or side of a playing garment and any objects such as jewellery worn by a player shall not be so conspicuous or brightly reflecting as to unsight an opponent.
- 3.2.2.6 Clothing shall not carry designs or lettering which might cause offence or bring the game into disrepute.
- 3.2.2.8 Opposing players and pairs must wear shirts that are of sufficiently different colours to enable them to be easily distinguished by spectators.
- 3.2.2.9 Where opposing players or teams have a similar shirt and cannot agree which of them will change, the decision will be made by lot.
- 3.2.5.9 Advertisements on playing clothing shall be limited to
 - 3.2.5.9.1 the maker's normal trademark, symbol or name contained within a total area of 24cm²;
 - 3.2.5.9.2 not more than 6 clearly separated advertisements, contained within a combined total area of 600cm², on the front, side or shoulder of a shirt, with not more than 4 advertisements on the front;
 - 3.2.5.9.3 not more than 2 advertisements, contained within a total area of 400cm², on the back of a shirt;
 - 3.2.5.9.4¹ not more than 2 advertisements, contained within a combined total area of 120cm², on the front or sides of shorts, or skirt.
- 3.2.5.10 Advertisements on players' numbers shall be contained within a total area of 100cm².
- 3.2.5.11 Advertisements on umpires' clothing shall be contained within a total area of 40cm².

Notes: 1 See TTE Regulations Part A: Regulated Competitions for TTE variations.
2 Regulations 3.2.2.8 and 3.2.2.9 will be enforced only for the Senior Premier Division.

Senior Premier Division, Women's Premier Division: Matching club kit to be worn at all times in the venue, to include shirt, shorts/skirt/trousers and tracksuit. Player's name must be printed on the back of the shirt and be clearly visible.

Senior Championship Division: Matching club kit to be worn at all times in the venue, to include shirt and shorts/skirt/trousers.

Senior Divisions National A and B, Women's Divisions 1 and 2, Junior Premier Divisions 1 and 2, Veterans' Premier Divisions 1 and 2: Matching club kit to be worn whilst playing to include shirt and shorts/skirt/trousers.

Senior Divisions National C and lower, All Divisions 3 and lower in all formats: Same colour matching shirts to be worn whilst playing.

All kit at all levels must have club name on the back of shirt (and tracksuit where appropriate).

Annex D: FEES 2021/22

Note: Unless otherwise stated, references are to BL General Regulations

Senior British League

No.	Description	Reg.	Fee
1	Team Entry Fee - Premier Division team	3.5	£504
2	Team Entry Fee - Premier Division team	3.5	£609
3	Team Entry Fee - other Division team	3.5	£425
4	Player Registration Fee - Premier Division Player	3.5	£63
5	Player Registration Fee - other Division Player	3.5	£38
6	Emergency Player Registration (in addition to Reg. Fee)	4.2.4	£10
7	Transfer Fee	5.5	£25
8	Guarantee Deposit - for a club's 1st team	SBL 9	£178
9	Guarantee Deposit - for each other team	SBL 9	£122

Junior British League

No.	Description	Reg.	Fee
1	Team Entry Fee	3.5	£340
2	Player Registration Fee	3.5	£38
3	Emergency Player Registration (in addition to Reg. Fee)	4.2.4	£10
4	Transfer Fee	5.5	£25

Women's British League

No.	Description	Reg.	Fee
1	Team Entry Fee	3.5	£376
2	Player Registration Fee	3.5	£38
3	Emergency Player Registration (in addition to Reg. Fee)	4.2.4	£10
4	Transfer Fee	5.5	£25

Veterans' British League (Higher Divisions)

No.	Description	Reg.	Fee
1	Team Entry Fee	3.5	£418
2	Player Registration Fee	3.5	£38
3	Emergency Player Registration (in addition to Reg. Fee)	4.2.4	£10
4	Transfer Fee	5.5	£25

Veterans' British League (Lower Divisions)

No.	Description	Reg.	Fee
1	Team Entry Fee	3.5	£376
2	Player Registration Fee	3.5	£38
3	Emergency Player Registration (in addition to Reg. Fee)	4.2.4	£10
4	Transfer Fee	5.5	£25

Annex E - FINES & PENALTIES 2021/22

Notes: 1 Unless otherwise stated, references are to BL General Regulations

2 The fines shown are maxima and the Committee may impose a lesser fine at its discretion

Senior British League

No.	Offence	Reg.	Fine
1	Failure to use nominated match ball	18.1	£5
2	Failure of team to arrive at scheduled match (plus League and opponents' expenses)	18.1	£100
3	Playing with incomplete team (per player short or ineligible)	18.1	£20
4	Not playing in nominated kit (per player, per match)	18.1	£10
5	Failure to be ready to play at appointed time (per 10 minutes late up to 30 minutes)	13.1 13.1	£5 £5
6	Withdrawal of team without fulfilling fixtures	18.1	£100
7	Persistent infringement of regulations	18.7	Expulsion
8	Failure of a team to play in correct order	18.7	£20
9	Late Team Entry Application	18.7	£25
10	Withdrawal of team after team entry deadline	18.7	Forfeiture of all entry fees
11	Failure to declare players present to the referee at due time	SBL7.8	£25
12	Failure of Premier Division home team to report results	SBL14.1	£50

Junior British League

No.	Offence	Reg.	Fine
1	Failure of team to arrive at scheduled match (plus League and opponents' expenses)	18.1	£100
2	Playing with incomplete team (per player short or ineligible)	18.1	£20
3	Withdrawal of team without fulfilling fixtures	8.1	Expulsion
4	Persistent infringement of regulations	18.7	Expulsion
5	Failure of a team to play in correct order	18.1	£20
6	Not playing in nominated kit (per player, per match)	18.1	£10
7	Registered player not playing any matches	18.1	£100
8	Failure to declare players present to the referee at due time	JBL5.4	£25

Women's British League

No.	Offence	Reg.	Fine
1	Failure of team to arrive at scheduled match (plus League and opponents' expenses)	18.1	£100
2	Playing with incomplete team (per player short or ineligible)	18.1	£20
3	Withdrawal of team without fulfilling fixtures	8.1	Expulsion
4	Persistent infringement of regulations	18.7	Expulsion
5	Failure of a team to play in correct order	18.1	£20
6	Not playing in nominated kit (per player, per match)	18.1	£10
7	Failure to declare players present to the referee at due time	WBL5.4	£25

Veterans' British League

No.	Offence	Reg.	Fine
1	Failure of team to arrive at scheduled match (plus League and opponents' expenses)	18.1	£100
2	Playing with incomplete team (per player short or ineligible)	18.1	£20
3	Withdrawal of team without fulfilling fixtures	8.1	Expulsion
4	Persistent infringement of regulations	18.7	Expulsion
5	Failure of a team to play in correct order	18.1	£20
6	Failure to declare players present to the referee at due time	VBL5.4	£25

Annex F FORMS

All references are to GBL Regulations

Senior British League

No.	Form	Reg
1	Team Entry Form	3.6
2	Player Registration Form	4.2
3	Player Transfer Form	5.5
4	Club Ranking List	4.2
5	Match Score Sheet	14.1
6	Notice of Warning or Fine	18.2
7	Fine Reminder	18.4

Junior British League

No.	Form	Reg
1	Team Entry Form	3.6
2	Player Registration Form	4.2
3	Team Ranking Form	4.2
4	Player Transfer Form	5.5

Women's British League

No.	Form	Reg
1	Team Entry Form	3.6
2	Player Registration Form	4.2
3	Team Ranking Form	4.2
4	Player Transfer Form	5.5

Veterans' British League

No.	Form	Reg
1	Team Entry Form	3.6
2	Player Registration Form	4.2
3	Team Ranking Form	4.2
4	Player Transfer Form	5.5