

*Note: While the current competition review is in progress it may be necessary for the Board to use its power to amend these regulations during the playing season.*

## **1 GENERAL**

- 1.1 All regulations and requirements applicable to the SBL Premier Division shall be applicable to the SBL Cup unless otherwise stated, including Playing Conditions & Equipment, Players' Clothing, Club Eligibility, Player Eligibility, Player Registration, Player Ranking, Playing Format, Forfeiture for Lateness, Allocated Practice Time, Penalties, Protests and Appeals.
- 1.2 Hosting requirements in Premier Division league fixtures for provision of lunch/ dinner and arrivals/ departures services to visiting teams do not apply for this particular event.
- 1.3 Participation in the SBL Cup does not count towards the requirement in Regulations LS for a player to represent his or her club at least 3 times in a season.

## **2 CONSTITUTION**

- 2.1 The SBL Cup is a competition for 8 teams, and all teams in the Premier Division must compete.
- 2.2 If there are fewer than 8 teams in the Premier Division the remaining place(s) will be offered to teams from the SBL Championship in finishing order from the current season, except that no club may have more than team in the SBL Cup.

## **3 FORMAT**

- 3.1 The competition will be played as a progressive knock-out, in which both winners and losers in each round will continue to play in successive rounds to determine a final ranking order. (See Annex A for an illustrative schedule of play.)
- 3.2 Seeding will be based on finishing order in the current season and seeds will be drawn in accordance with ITTF Regulations.
- 3.3 The published format for each iteration of the event must include the number of tables, schedule, whether 'dead rubbers' are to be completed in each match, knocking-up time in advance of subsequent rounds played on the same day, and a process for determining the home/ away status of each team in progressive rounds (in order to determine the order of practice)

## **4 DATE & VENUE**

- 4.1 The competition will be held on a weekend at the end of the SBL season and the date will be included in the TTE calendar before the start of the season.
- 4.2 The SBL Committee will invite applications to host the competition from the competing clubs and choose the host club.
- 4.3 The host club is required to appoint a qualified referee and sufficient qualified neutral umpires for all matches.

## **5 PRIZE**

- 5.1 The SBL Cup winner will receive a prize of at least £500.

## 6 COMMITMENTS

- 6.1 A team that fails to complete all its scheduled matches with the full complement of players will be excluded from SBL for the following season, but may apply for re-admission thereafter.
- 6.2 Each team is encouraged to promote the event and to bring supporters in addition to players and coaches.

## 7 POOLED EXPENSES

- 7.1 Each competing team will bear an equal share of the total cost of travel and accommodation for registered players and the coach/ non-playing Captain, up to 5 persons.
- 7.2 For each eligible representative travel will be calculated to and from the person's home directly to the venue at  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the TTE Approved Rate for the current season. Where a player's home address may be outside the home countries, travel allowance will be calculated to/from the players' club. Overnight accommodation, if essential, will be at £30/person for up to 2 nights.
- 7.3 All claims to be added to the Match Expenses Pool must be submitted to the BL Executive Officer within 14 days of the conclusion of the event, and any claims received or submitted after this date incomplete will be void.
- 7.4 The cost to the host venue of venue hire, catering, and of payments to officials at current TTE Approved Rates, will be shared equally among the competing teams.
- 7.5 A club which fails to send a team to the event or to submit a complete claim will be liable for its share of the Match Expenses Pool, with no allowance for its own expenses.
- 7.6 Any dispute in relation to expenses will be determined by the SBL Committee, whose decision will be final.

## 8 EMERGENCY

- 8.1 In emergency the SBL Committee shall have power to take such action as it considers necessary, including re-definition of the structure and temporary waiving of regulations.

**Annex A: Schedule of play**

