

METRO POOL LEAGUE
CONSTITUTION

Adopted 1981; Last amended 2016

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Section 1.1

Name - The name of the league shall be known as Metro Pool League, hereafter referred to as "the league".

Section 1.2

Principal Office - The principal office of the league shall be determined to be the residence of the President or Acting President of the league.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES

Section 2.1

The objectives of the league shall be:

- to cause for the creation of a men's pool league and related tournaments and events in the metro area and conduct promotion activities to publicize these events
- to advance the level of skill and competition for all players in the league
- to encourage interest and participation in the sport by players and spectators
- to co-operate with other organizations engaged in the promotion of billiards whose objectives are compatible with the league
- to protect the mutual interest of its members
- to improve conditions of the game and the atmosphere where the league is played
- to work with other billiard organizations to promote and standardize rules of play and equipment specifications

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.1

There shall be two types of membership - player and club - each with its own privileges, duties, and dues structures, all of which shall be set by the Board of Directors.

Section 3.2

Player Members - Player members consist of male players (amateur or professional) playing on behalf of a particular team, and in good standing with the league through their conduct and payment of dues. All player members must be the age of majority in the province of Nova Scotia to participate in the league. Player members are entitled to participate in league play on any regular season night of play; however, playoff and league tournament participation is restricted and qualifications for these will be determined at the start of any season by the Board of Directors.

Section 3.3

Club Members - Club members consist of clubs or rooms from which the teams of the league participate, and are deemed satisfactory in regards to atmosphere and playing conditions by the Board of Directors. Club members must have a minimum of two tables available to the league free of charge from 7:00pm until the end of league play on a scheduled night. The club must allow the league to play on 4' x 8' tables if such tables exist in the club. Club members will have privileges of displaying approved materials which recognize their support and membership in the league, and may be afforded other such privileges as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 3.4

Application for Inclusion - New teams making application to join the league must give an oral or written presentation indicating such before the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting, and present a preliminary roster of not less than sixteen players at that time. The club must be approved by the Executive with respect to playing conditions prior to its acceptance into the league. One, some, all, or none of any teams applying for inclusion into the league may be accepted at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 3.5

Bond Monies - All teams are required to post a monetary bond with the league, the amount and due date for which will be determined by the Board of Directors before the start of league play each season. Any fines owed to the league from a team will be deducted from that team's bond money and the balance of the bond money returned to the team at the end of each season. If a team's bond money runs out during the season due to fines, that team will be required to post a new bond in the original full amount with the league prior to continuing play.

Section 3.6

Suspension or Termination - Sufficient cause for suspension or termination of a player member or club member shall be violation of the bylaws or any lawful rule or practice duly adopted by the league, or any conduct prejudicial to the interests of the league. Suspension, termination, reinstatement, or appeals shall be governed by the Code of Conduct & Ethics.

Section 3.7

Code of Conduct & Ethics - A Code of Conduct & Ethics shall be approved annually by the Board of Directors by a majority vote. As a condition of membership, each player member and club member agrees to abide by and be subject to the rules of the Code of Conduct & Ethics. The Code of Conduct & Ethics will be enforced at all league events (including, but not restricted to, regular nights of play, playoffs, tournament events, meetings, and the banquet) where members are present. Violations may result in warnings, suspensions, or terminations of the member(s) by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 4.1

There shall be one representative from each team in the league to serve as a member of the Board of Directors, elected or assigned by the team from its player membership (usually, but not necessarily, the team's captain). A team shall have the right to send a substitute representative in their stead should a regular board member be absent for whatever reason. Also, each member of the Executive shall be considered a member of the Board of Directors.

Section 4.2

The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control, and direction over the affairs of the league. It may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct and business as deemed advisable, and may appoint such agents as it may consider necessary to pursue the objectives of the league.

Section 4.3

The Board of Directors shall meet as determined by the requirements of the league during any season or as deemed necessary and requested by the league President or Acting President.

Section 4.4

The Board of Directors must have a quorum of "50% plus one" of the directors present to conduct business. All meetings of the Board of Directors will be governed by the Rules of Order of the league.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE

Section 5.1

The League Executive shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Statistician, and Public Relations Officer. Each shall be elected anew, in that order, every other year at the Annual General Meeting. Such elections, should there be more than one nominee, shall be by secret ballot for each position and a majority vote shall elect. In the event of a tie, further ballots will be held for the nominees in question, also by secret ballot, until a winner is declared. Positions of office may be returned or elected by acclamation should there be only one nominee for the position.

Section 5.2

President - The President, as chief officer of the league, shall preside at all meetings. The President shall have and exercise general charge and supervision of the affairs of the league and be its official spokesman. The President shall, if required, help appoint and be a member of all committees of the league.

Section 5.3

Vice-President - The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the event of his absence or disability, and may perform such other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.

Section 5.4

Secretary - The Secretary shall record all the minutes of all meetings of the league and its Board of Directors and aid in coordinating communications with the membership of the league. The outgoing Secretary shall be responsible for passing on league information to the incumbent Secretary in order to maintain continuity of league records.

Section 5.5

Treasurer - The Treasurer shall keep all records of dues, fees, and fines paid to the league and render reports of the finances of the league to the Board of Directors at appropriate intervals during the year. The fiscal year for the league shall run from August 1st to July 31st of the following year, and the Treasurer shall render a complete fiscal report for the league to the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting each year. There shall be a minimum of two signing officers on the league bank account, consisting of the President and the Treasurer. Any two signatures will be sufficient for the purposes of writing cheques for league business if there are more than two signing officers on the league account. The outgoing Treasurer shall be responsible for passing on league information to the incumbent Treasurer in order to maintain continuity of league records.

Section 5.6

Statistician - The Statistician shall keep records of league play for all players and teams in the league, and render reports to the Board of Directors at appropriate intervals during the year.

Section 5.7

Public Relations Officer - The Public Relations Officer shall be a liaison between the league and the public. His duties are to include, but are not limited to, the following: helping to organize league events; promotion of the league to any outside agency to which the league may become affiliated for mutual benefit; seeking sponsorship opportunities for the league which would generate more interest in the sport as a whole.

Section 5.8

Compensation - The Executive and Board of Directors of the league shall receive no compensation for their services. The Board of Directors may reimburse any Executive or Board member a reasonable sum to cover expenses incurred while performing duties of the league.

ARTICLE VI: LEAGUE MEETINGS

Section 6.1

Annual General Meeting - There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the league held at a time specified by the Executive of the prior season, generally in August of any year. A lead time of not less than two weeks will be considered sufficient notice for the Annual General Meeting. The purpose of the Annual General Meeting shall be:

- to clear up any outstanding Old Business from the previous season;
- in an election year, to elect the officers of the Executive (first order of New Business);
- to determine the number of teams wishing to participate;
- to determine a format for team play during the regular season and playoffs;
- to set the league schedule, including nights of play, tournament dates, and league meetings.

Section 6.2

Regular League Meeting - There shall be Regular League Meetings held at appropriate intervals throughout the league season so as to efficiently conduct the business of the league. The date for the following Regular League Meeting shall be set as the last order of business at the previous Regular League Meeting.

Section 6.3

Executive Meeting - Any member of the Executive may request a meeting of the Executive for any reason providing at least 48 hours notice is given prior to the meeting. Four of the six members of the Executive shall constitute a quorum, however the President or the Vice-President must be present to conduct business. Executive Meetings shall be subject to the Rules of Order necessary to conduct the meeting. The Secretary shall provide the minutes of the Executive Meeting to the members of the Executive at the next Regular League Meeting.

Section 6.4

Special Meeting - Any member of the league may request, in writing, a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors provided at least seven days notice is given prior to the meeting. The President shall ensure that all teams are contacted regarding the time and place of the meeting. Special Meetings are called for a specific purpose and so are subject to the Rules of Order necessary to conduct the meeting. The Secretary shall provide the minutes of the meeting to the Board of Directors at the next Regular League Meeting.

Section 6.5

Emergency Meeting - Any member of the league may request, in writing, an Emergency Meeting of the Board of Directors provided at least 48 hours notice is given prior to the meeting. The President shall ensure that all teams are contacted regarding the time and place of the meeting. Emergency Meetings are called for a specific purpose and so are subject to the Rules of Order necessary to conduct the meeting. The Secretary shall provide the minutes of the meeting to the Board of Directors at the next Regular League Meeting.

Section 6.6

Rules of Order - The Rules of Order governing league meetings shall be as follows:

- attendance record by the Secretary
- commencement by the Chairman
- old business
 - minutes from the previous meeting by the Secretary
 - business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting
 - public relations report by the Public Relations Officer
 - statistical report by the Statistician
 - financial report by the Treasurer
 - other old business
- new business
 - new business arising since the previous meeting
 - date, time, and location of the next meeting
 - adjournment

ARTICLE VII: ELECTORAL PROCESS

Section 7.1

Voting - Each team in good standing and represented by a player member on the Board of Directors shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Board of Directors. If a vote takes place regarding a specific team(s), that team(s) will be excluded from voting on that particular matter. A proxy vote may be made if a team representative cannot attend the meeting. The President shall inform the Board of Directors of the proxy vote. Issues requiring a ye or nay vote may be decided by simple majority by show of hands. Issues requiring other than a ye or nay vote may be decided by simple majority by secret ballot. Although a member of the Board of Directors, the President shall cast no vote on any motions tabled; however, in the event of a tied vote, the President shall cast the deciding ballot.

Section 7.2

Nominations - The league will accept nominations from its player membership for each office of the Executive at the Annual General Meeting. The name may be added to the ballot being elected provided the nomination is accepted by the individual in question. Should only one nominee be put forth and accepted, the position shall be considered filled by acclamation.

Section 7.3

Interim Positions - Should the need arise for any position of the Executive to be filled on an interim basis, all nominations and voting procedures shall be conducted according to the league Constitution, and the incumbent will hold the position until either, a) the original Executive member can return to fulfill his duties, or b) the next Annual General Meeting, at which time the position will become open for re-election.

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

Section 8.1

The Executive, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint such committees as may be necessary to conduct the affairs of the league.

Section 8.2

Grievance Committee - A Grievance Committee shall be formed whenever there has been a formal grievance made to the league as per the Code of Conduct & Ethics. The Grievance Committee will be formed thus: The President will select six members from the Board of Directors and/or the Executive who, along with himself, will constitute the Grievance Committee for the matter at hand. A chairman will be selected from the seven member panel to preside over the proceedings. The Grievance Committee will hear the evidence, make a ruling, and inform the Board of Directors of their decision at the next Regular League Meeting.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

Section 9.1

This constitution may be altered, amended, or replaced at any duly called meeting of the Board of Directors by majority vote, provided that the proposed changes are given, in writing, to the Executive at least two weeks in advance of the called meeting.

ARTICLE X: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 10.1