

## APFSCIL Pool League Rules – 2022/23 Version

1. A match shall comprise two teams of six players. The team named first on any fixture list supplied by the League shall be deemed the “home” team and shall be responsible for any costs arising such as venue hire, table fees and food. For Cup matches, these costs are to be split 50/50.
2. Matches shall consist of six singles and three doubles frames. Each player shall play one singles frame and one doubles frame. One point is awarded for each frame won, and three bonus points are awarded to the winning team.
3. Matches shall commence between 7:30pm and 8:00pm, except with prior agreement between both teams.
4. Teams shall publish their singles playing order simultaneously ahead of the first frame. Where this is not practically possible (e.g., using a shared blackboard, etc), both teams must have finalised their playing order simultaneously, and the away team shall publish first.
5. Ordinarily, the six singles frames shall be played first, followed by the three doubles frames. The doubles order of play shall be published in the same method as for the singles.
6. If a player does not arrive in time for their singles frame, that player’s team order will shift by one so the next player on the list shall play next. The opposition’s order of play should not change. If the missing player does not arrive before the last singles frame is scheduled to begin, that player may be substituted as per Rule 8 below.
7. If both team captains agree, the order of play can be moved around to accommodate known late arrivals, which can include bringing doubles frames forward before the completion of all six singles frames.
8. If a team comprises of more than 6 players, they are permitted to make a substitution between the singles and doubles frames. A player who has not played a singles frame may take the place of a player who has played a singles frame for a doubles frame. The opposing captain shall be notified of any substitutions made. A maximum of 3 substitutions are permitted. If a player who has not arrived is deemed to be a “no-show”, and the team does not have any substitute players, the principles of Rules 9-11 shall apply, including any bonus point forfeiture.
9. A team may, on occasion, comprise of 5 players. On such occasions, one player shall be drawn to play an additional singles frame, and one different player shall be drawn to play an additional doubles frame. The draw shall be supervised by both team captains. No player may be drawn to play more than one additional frame. If a team comprising of only 5 players wins the match against a team comprising of the full 6 players, the winning team shall forfeit 1 of their 3-win bonus points. There is no bonus point forfeit if a team comprising of only 5 players wins against a team comprising of 5 or fewer players.
10. A team may, on occasion, comprise of 4 players. On such occasions, each player shall be drawn to play either an additional singles frame or an additional doubles frame. The draw shall be supervised by both team captains. No player may be drawn to play more than one additional frame. If a team comprising of only 4 players wins the match against a team comprising of the full 6 players, the winning team shall forfeit 2 of their 3-win bonus points. If a team comprising of only 4 players wins the match

against a team comprising of only 5 players, the winning team shall forfeit 1 of their 3-win bonus points. There is no bonus point forfeit if a team comprising of only 4 players wins against a team comprising of 4 or fewer players.

11. A team comprising of only 3 players shall only earn points based upon the first 3 singles frames and first 2 doubles frames, i.e., a maximum score of 5 frames. The other frames, if won by the “offending” team, shall be scored as 0. On such occasions, the playing order for the 3 players shall be repeated for the remaining 3 singles frames, and the doubles pairs shall follow the 1+2, 3+1, 2+3 pattern. Bonus points for a win shall be forfeited on the same basis as Rule 10.
12. The first singles game break shall be determined by a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss may elect to break or invite the opposition to break first. The break shall then alternate on each subsequent frame, based on the six singles frames being played first, followed by the three doubles frames. If the order is changed for any reason, the break sequence shall be altered so that the break is assigned as per the original playing order.
13. The team not breaking in the frame shall provide a referee. The referee shall be the sole arbiter of decisions during the frame but may seek advice from the team captains in the case of any dispute.
14. Matches shall operate under EPA “Old” Rules – available at [https://www.epa.org.uk/rules/old\\_epa.php](https://www.epa.org.uk/rules/old_epa.php) - with the following amendments (additions denoted in **italics**):
  - a. Rule 4E: On the first occasion a player legally pockets an object ball, including following a foul, then that ball denotes their group, unless one or more of both groups are pocketed, the player **MUST** then nominate a group before play continues. ***The exception to this is from the break; when one or more object balls of one group are legally potted, the player retains the option to play the other group from the shot immediately following the break but must nominate this before playing the shot. Failure to do so shall be deemed a foul shot.***
15. Coaching during games is generally not permitted. However, during doubles frames the competing players (i.e., the pair playing) may confer between visits. Once the first shot in a visit has been played, conferring must stop. This includes “two visit” visits following an opposition foul.
  - a. On pre-agreement between the two team captains before the match begins, one player may be nominated to help a novice player, only upon the request of the novice.
16. In the event of a team withdrawing from the League during the season and failing to complete their fixtures:
  - a. In the event of completing 2 or fewer fixtures, their results will be expunged;
  - b. In the event of completing 3 or more fixtures, all unfulfilled fixtures will be awarded to the opposition with a 6-0 scoreline. Win bonus points will also be awarded to the opposition.
17. Positions in the League table shall be determined by the following factors, in descending order:
  - a. Total points won, after any deductions from Rules 9-11;
  - b. Number of matches won;

- c. Head-to-head result(s) – where more than 2 teams are tied on points and wins:
    - i. Number of frames won in head-to-head matches
  - d. If the League Champion is undecided after these, a playoff match will be arranged.
18. Clubs competing in the League and Cup shall pay an annual fee of £20. Failure to settle dues with the APFSCIL Treasurer shall result in expulsion from the League.
19. Players must be fully paid-up Members of the Club they represent.
20. Participating Clubs must be fully paid-up Members of APFSCIL.