

# **NIGHTRIDERS LEAGUE**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Nightriders League shall consist of up to 16 teams (after consultation with the Executive), each comprising 2 members of any gender.

The League will commence promptly at 8.30pm each Tuesday night, at Southgate Lanes, commencing 21st May 2019 and concluding towards the end of May 2020. This consists of 41 rounds, including two positional rounds at the conclusion of the first and second rounds only. Standing sheets will not be issued for the last 4 weeks of the competition. Recap sheets will be held by the Southgate Lanes, after which they will be collected by the Secretary of the League to be input by the Assistant Secretary at the end of the last round.

### **COMMITTEE (LEAGUE EXECUTIVE)**

PRESIDENT	Keith Monaghan	SECRETARY	Tracie Murphy
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Glenn Murphy	TREASURER	Benjamin Green

If a member of the Committee is not available their duties fall to the next available member. If no member of the Committee is available, his or her duties fall to the most senior AMF representative present.

### **SANCTIONING**

The Nightriders League is a non-sanctioned league. TBA rules shall apply where applicable except by decision of the Committee or where they conflict with this Constitution.

### **PRIZES**

Prizes for overall team position are to be awarded from 1<sup>st</sup> to last place. Prizes for individuals and all other team prizes are to be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> places only, with additional places awarded at the discretion of the Committee. All prizes will be paid in cash. This may be adjusted to include additional places as the season progresses and/or additional teams which may join the League. The Committee must approve any adjustments. Prize money is to be distributed on an even basis regardless of gender.

Some prize fund monies may be allocated differently at the discretion of the Committee. If a bowler is in arrears at the end of the season, their debt will be reclaimed from prize monies due to them at the discretion of the Committee.

Any unclaimed prizes shall be remanded to the League's social fund upon the commencement of reformation. All other disbursements shall be remanded to the League's social fund upon conclusion of the awards presentation. Special exemption is at the discretion on the Treasurer only.

Any ties shall be decided by total handicap pinfall.

### **FEES**

The fees for the Nightriders League are \$30.00 per week per bowler. The absentee fee is \$10.00. The fees are made up of the bowling fee, which is set by Southgate Lanes, and the Prize/Social Fund Contribution, which is the remaining balance. Any bowlers absent from any week of the season will pay the absentee fee for each week they have not bowled on the scheduled night.

There will be no arrears unless approved by the Committee. All bowlers must be fully paid up in the Prize/Social Fund by the end of the season. If any team has a reserve bowler wishing to be included in any individual prize at the end of the season, the reserve bowler must be fully paid up into the Prize/Social Fund, including any weeks that they do not bowl as part of the team.

Any bowler not paid up in full by the end of the season will be ineligible to receive prize monies, including their portion of any team prizes monies, where applicable. In the event of disqualification all monies contributed to the Prize/Social Fund will be considered forfeited.

Absentee fees can be paid in advance upon the approval of the Treasurer. Social fees can be paid in advance upon the approval of the Treasurer. Method of payment is cash only, unless otherwise approved by the Treasurer.

## **BOWLERS**

Bowlers can qualify for any of the following individual prizes, subject to:

- Being fully paid up for Social Fees. This includes paying Social Fees when absent
- If a bowler is a member of a team of 3, then to be eligible ALL bowlers must be paid up for Social Fees. If the team chooses to only have two eligible bowlers, then the two bowlers MUST be nominated at the beginning of the season (no later than week 3).

This may be adjusted to include additional placings as the season progresses and/or additional teams which may join the League. The Committee must approve any adjustments.

- ❖ High Game Scratch
- ❖ High Game Series
- ❖ High Game Handicap
- ❖ High Series Handicap

A single bowler may qualify for no more than one (1) individual scratch or handicap award per season. All bowler prizes will be reviewed at the end of the season with the prize fund's final figures. Additional awards of nominal value may be awarded at the discretion of the Committee.

If a bowler is a member of a team that has a reserve, then only two (2) members of that team are eligible for individual prizes. The team must nominate the two (2) bowlers to be eligible for the individual prizes at the beginning of the season.

The following prizes shall be awarded to any eligible bowler irrespective of any other individual award won. This prize shall not be considered an individual prize for the purpose of qualifying for other individual awards. The following prizes shall only be awarded to bowlers who began the season with a carried over handicap from this league, or another league recognised by the Committee.

- ❖ Most Improved Average

This prize shall be awarded to, at most, one eligible male and one eligible female bowler, who has the largest positive difference between their scratch average on the first game bowled and after their last game bowled in the scheduled season.

## **TEAMS**

Teams may qualify for any of the following subject to the team being financial. This may be adjusted to include additional placings as the season progresses and/or additional teams which may join the League. The Committee must approve any adjustments:

- ❖ High Game Scratch
- ❖ High Game Series
- ❖ High Game Handicap
- ❖ High Series Handicap

All team prizes will be reviewed at the end of the season. A team may qualify for no more than one (1) team scratch or handicap award per season.

## **ENTERING AVERAGES**

Averages from the previous League season will be carried over to this League season for the first 9 games.

After the first 9 games, bowlers' averages and handicaps will be calculated on a weekly basis. This will be based on total scratch pinfall together with the number of games bowled each week.

New bowlers joining the League, without a prior League average, will need to bowl three (3) consecutive games, after which their average and handicap will be calculated on that night and applied retrospectively.

## **LEGAL LINE UP**

The legal line up for a two (2) person team is to be a minimum of one (1) bowler. This also includes any pre-bowling.

If a bowler leaves the League, their team is eligible for a vacancy straight away. The bowler that has left the League cannot return to the League during that season.

If a bowler is absent from the League for three (3) consecutive weeks, without notification (with reason for absence) to the Committee, their team must use a vacancy from the fourth week of absence. The absent bowler will be deemed to be no longer a member of the League. The bowler will also forfeit any money contributed to the Prize/Social Fund. The bowler cannot return to the League during that season.

## **VACANCY**

Where a team cannot field a full team, a vacancy score of 150, with a handicap of 67 shall be used. The use of a vacancy score will be treated the same as a blind score. Teams joining the League with a legal line up will take the place of any Bye within the League. A team taking the place of a Bye, or joining the League mid-season, will start on the lowest team point score.

## **HANDICAP**

Handicaps will be calculated at 95% of the difference between the bowler's average and 225, rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.

## **TEAM ROSTER**

Each team may have a maximum of two (2) bowlers. It will be each team captain's responsibility to ensure the Secretary has a roster of all team members, including a contact telephone number, within three (3) weeks of the commencement of the season.

Any bowler absent from the League for three (3) consecutive weeks, without notification (with reason for absence) to the Committee, will be deemed to have left the League. The bowler will also forfeit any money contributed to the Prize/Social Fund. The bowler cannot return to the League during that season.

If any team has a reserve bowler (see Reserves below) wishing to be included in any individual prize at the end of the season, the reserve bowler must be fully paid up into the Prize/Social Fund, including any weeks that they do not bowl as part of the team.

If a bowler leaves a team to join another team, that bowler cannot rejoin their original team during the season. Approval from the Committee is required for any team changes.

## **RESERVES**

A team may have a maximum of one (1) reserve. If for any reason any member of the team (including the reserve) leaves the League, their team is entitled to an additional reserve (subject to approval by the Committee). This can occur once during each season.

## **PRE BOWLING**

Pre bowling is permitted. Three (3) pre bowls per bowler, per round is permitted. This equates to 9 pre bowls per season, per bowler. Any bowler pre bowling must notify a member of the Committee, either in person, by phone or SMS, prior to pre bowling. Bowlers are required to pay the lane fees only to AMF Southgate. The bowler is required to pay an absentee fee to the Treasurer for each week pre-bowled. The bowler shall not pay any Social/Prize Fund money to AMF. Any Social/Prize Fund money paid to Southgate Lanes cannot be recouped and will be required to be paid again to the Treasurer. It is the Bowler's responsibility to make sure they only pay the lane fees to Southgate Lanes.

Each team is allowed two (2) pre bowl per round, equating to six (6) pre bowls per season. The team pre bowl is inclusive, not additional, to the individual pre bowl limit.

## **TARDY BOWLERS**

A tardy bowler will be permitted to begin bowling from the first frame, with their score to count, provided that either team has not completed the third frame of the first game. A tardy bowler must be on the lanes, and ready to commence bowling, before the commencement of the fourth frame of the first game, otherwise they will not be permitted to bowl until the beginning of the second game. If any games are not bowled, then the bowler's blind score will be used, provided a member of the team has bowled.

Tardy bowlers must be present in the playing area, at the commencement of the subsequent game/s.

Tardy bowlers are still required to pay the full Social/Prize Fund fee. Bowling fee discounts will need to be discussed with the Treasurer and AMF representative.

## **PACERS**

Pacers are permitted provided there are no more than two bowlers per lane, ie a pacer is only permitted to fill a vacancy, a blind bowler, or a Bye.

For a Bye, no more than two pacers may play in the lane of the Bye.

Pacers shall be responsible for paying AMF for their games.

## **BLIND SCORE**

The blind score for this League shall be the player's average, minus 5 pins, with no reduction in handicap. A blind score is included in the team game, team series and team pinfall to decide points won and lost. Points will be allotted for head to head pinfall. A blind score is not to be included in the individual team player's pinfall and will not affect the player's average.

## **DELAYS**

The Committee will allow no unreasonable delay in the progress of any game. Should any member/s or team participating in this League refuse to proceed with the game after being directed to do so by the Committee, such game or series shall be deemed a forfeit.

If a delay is due to unforeseen circumstances both team captains must agree to a suitable "delay time" and advise the Committee immediately.

## **POINTS**

Points will be awarded as follows:

- ❖ 2 points for achieving average per bowler
- ❖ 2 points head to head with handicap per bowler game won
- ❖ 4 points head to head with handicap per team game won
- ❖ 4 points team head to head with overall series win
- ❖ Where a game or series is tied the points will be split evenly
- ❖ 1 bonus point for every 25 pins over average (this is an individual bonus eg bowl 25 pins over average, receive 1 bonus point, bowl 50 pins over average, receive 2 points etc)

Points will be deducted as follows:

- ❖ 1 point for every 25 pins under average (this is an individual deduction eg bowl 25 pins under average, deduct 1 point, bowl 50 pins under average deducted 2 pins etc)

Regardless of physical team line up on the scheduled night, for the purposes of calculating individual head to head points, bowlers in each team will be deemed to have bowled in descending order of handicap value.

Scores and points shall not be tallied, nor reported, for the final three (3) weeks of the season. At the conclusion of the season the scores and points shall be tallied and calculated by the Secretary's office only. The scores and points shall be available to all League members following the conclusion of the Awards Presentation. The Secretary may disclose this information, to other members of the Committee, prior to the Awards Presentation to facilitate preparation for the Awards Presentation.

## **FORFEITS**

A team playing a forfeit **CANNOT** be credited with games won simply because they have a forfeit. The team must bowl against the forfeiting team's average plus handicap, less 20 pins (for a 1 bowler team, handicap less 10 pins), to decide each game. This figure is multiplied by three (3) to decide the series.

If the team's bowls equal to 20 pins (of 10 pins for a 1 bowler team) under team average, then a draw is awarded. If the team bowls 19 pins (or 9 pins for a 1 bowler team), or less pins under the team average, then a win is awarded.

A team bowling against a forfeit must still bowl equal to their individual averages to win bonus points.

## **BYE**

A team playing a Bye cannot be credited with games won simply because they have a bye.

The team must bowl against two (2) vacancy averages plus handicap less 20 pins (one vacancy score, less 10 pins), to decide each game. This figure is multiplied by three (3) to decide the series.

If the team's bowls equal to 20 pins (of 10 pins for a 1 bowler team) under team average, then a draw is awarded. If the team bowls 19 pins (or 9 pins for a 1 bowler team), or less pins under the team average, then a win is awarded.

A team bowling against a Bye must still bowl equal to their individual averages to win bonus points.

## **RATIFICATION**

This Constitution can only be altered by a majority vote of all participating members of the Nightriders League, present and available. A majority is at least 50% of the teams, plus two Committee members.

This Constitution has been amended and adopted by a vote of all the participating members of the Nightriders League present at the Reformation Meeting held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017 (the number being 50% or more).

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Keith Monaghan (President)

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Tracie Murphy (Secretary)

21st May 2019