

CONSTITUTION

Name

The name of the organisation shall be Somervale Ladies Rounders League

Aims

The aims of the league shall be to promote the game of rounders as follows:

- a) Organising and running local league competitions
- b) Organising and running local cup & knock-out competitions
- c) Furthering the standard of local play by organising training and umpires courses
- d) To promote Somervale Ladies Rounders League in competitions and representation across the UK.

Membership

Membership of the league shall be open to any team that:

- a) Provide a home pitch within a 10 mile radius of Glastonbury
- b) Provide themselves with a competent umpire (See note 1)
- c) Provide themselves with basic equipment as set out in the Rounders England rules
- d) Pay the registration fees at the pre-season meeting in January and the league fees as required and stipulated at the AGM in November & specified in league rules.
- e) Conduct themselves within the aims, objectives and rules of the league.
- f) Ensure that the good name of the league is not brought into disrepute by the conduct of any of its members
- g) Membership is open to any ladies team (Ladies League) or mixed team (Mixed League) (minimum age 14) who wish to take part in a series of organised games of rounders during the period of April to September.
- h) The committee reserves the right to suspend or expel a team or individual member from the league, for conduct inconsistent with the aims, objectives and rules of the league, as written in the constitution or rules. Any team or member who has been suspended or expelled, has the right to appeal. Appeal must be sent to the general secretary in writing, within 7 days of the complaint or suspension.

New teams

New teams must consist of no more than 5 players from any existing team or team which has folded, but was registered in the previous season. Registration of additional players from the original team, to the new team, will be allowed providing that no more than 5 players from the original team have been registered with the new team. This rule will apply throughout the new teams first season.

Officers

At the AGM the following officers and committee members will be elected to stand, until the following AGM

- a) Chairperson
- b) General Secretary
- c) Fixtures Secretary
- d) Treasurer
- e) Additional committee members

Newly elected officers will take their positions following the AGM

One representative for each division will be elected at the captains meeting and will become committee members until the following AGM.

Nominations for committee members must be put forward prior to the AGM. Existing officers are automatically nominated unless they ask to step down.

Each team captain will be deemed a committee member for general meeting purposes – but not as an elected officer. They will be expected to attend all relevant meetings. Elected officers will remain responsible for final decision making. Four or more elected officers must be present at any meeting to enforce proposals.

Duties and Responsibilities of the committee

- a) To observe the objectives for which the league was formed.
- b) To keep minutes of the committee and general meetings
- c) To keep proper records and receipts of payments, assets and liabilities of the league, and submit these to league members either before, or at, the AGM in November.
- d) To call an AGM each year at which officers and committee members shall be elected
- e) To call meetings at any time of the year as they see necessary
- f) To produce and circulate rules regarding the conduct and requirements of teams and members with regards to local league and cup competitions
- g) To arrange the pre-season meeting, teams will be notified of the date and venue at the AGM. All teams must be registered at this meeting, non attendance will result in the team not being registered
- h) To fix registration and match fees for the forthcoming season, at the AGM. Registration fees must be paid at the pre-season meeting, teams failing to do so, will not be able to enter the league. Match fees must be paid in full by the end of season meeting.

Quorum

- a) A quorum of 4 elected officers shall be sufficient to conduct a committee meeting
- b) A quorum of two thirds of the registered teams, as well as 4 elected officers, shall be sufficient to hold a general meeting. The meeting must be notified to all teams at least 7 days prior to it taking place.

Alteration

Any alteration or addition to the constitution or rules shall only be voted on at the AGM. Each team is entitled to one vote. Elected officers and committee members are not entitled to vote at the AGM, except as representatives of their team. In the event of a split decision, the chairperson shall have a casting vote.

Voting

In the event of any split vote, the chairperson shall have the casting vote

Public Liability Insurance

The league is covered by public liability insurance, however as with all insurance policies, there is an excess payable.

Vehicles at any rounders events are parked at the owners' risk (see note 2)

Note 1.

Umpires. Since it is difficult to determine competence, if there is any question in this regard, the decision will lie with the committee and determined relevant to the level of the games being played. It must also be understood that new umpires must be given time to learn the application of the rules. Established umpires should work closely with new umpires when they are in charge of a match.

NB All umpires in the league MUST be competent, have attended the 2015 or 2016 umpire course & supplied an umpire card, as provided by the league.

If you feel that an umpire is not competent, you must report the fact to a division rep, in writing, who in turn will raise the matter with the committee. It must however be noted that the committee will never change the decision that an umpire may have made during a match. The committee will however take action, where necessary, to provide additional help and support to the umpire concerned, to improve their ability to umpire matches.

Note 2.

The league provides public liability insurance covering all teams in the league. It is essential that all teams are registered appropriately and any new team members should be notified to the general secretary. Players should refrain from playing until registration is confirmed by the general secretary. Public Liability Insurance does NOT cover any form of personal injury to players or officials. It is strongly recommended that teams and/or individuals make their own arrangements for personal injury cover.

Somervale Ladies Rounders League Rules

Rounders England rules apply, with the following inclusions and exceptions:

1. The game will consist of two innings of twenty minutes per side.
2. All players must be registered with the league.
3. All equipment to comply with Rounders England standards. Bases must be of rubber, and posts must be wood. (Metal bases and plastic posts are NOT allowed) Appropriate attire should be worn by all players, with special attention paid to suitable footwear. The league recommends cricket spikes as these are suitable for most weather conditions & less damaging to pitches.
4. Players must be aged fourteen years and over, and for ladies league must be female.
5. Players cannot play after pregnancy is confirmed, and are advised to not play if they suspect they may be pregnant. Umpires may continue to umpire whilst pregnant but do so at their own risk. Umpires are reminded that they should be able to move around the pitch in order to umpire properly, if pregnancy impedes their ability to carry out the role, they should stand down as umpire. Any participation whilst pregnant is at your own risk.

The league will accept no responsibility

6. Points are awarded as follows: WIN = 3pts ; DRAW =1pt

In the event of a tie on points in a league situation, the winning team shall be determined as follows:

- a) The team with the greatest rounders difference
- b) The team with the most rounders scored
- c) A play-off between the teams. (This will be repeated until a result is obtained)

7. Teams wishing to enter the league **MUST** be represented at the pre-season meeting. Non attendance will result in your team not being registered. Registration fee of £35 must be paid by the pre-season meeting. Failure to pay the fee will result in your team not being registered. New teams who are represented at the pre-season meeting will be given 7 days to pay their registration. All teams will be notified of proposed fixtures at least ten days prior to the beginning of the season.

8. Games can only be postponed due to poor playing conditions, NOT lack of players or qualified umpire.

- a)
 - i) The **home captain** must cancel games by 6pm on the evening of the match if the weather or pitch is not suitable for play. Cancellations must be made by phone call NOT text message
 - ii) If the fixture is not cancelled before 6pm then both teams must travel to the match venue in a view to play the fixture.
 - iii) If a team does not turn up, or is unable to make a fixture, they will forfeit the match and the points. Please see rule 14

b) If the conditions deteriorate prior to a match starting at 7pm, it is the decision of both captains as to whether to play the fixture; the decision has to be made in agreement – if either captain refuses to play due to the failing conditions the match will not be played on health and safety grounds.

c) If the conditions should change for the worse during a match, the game shall continue until the umpires deem otherwise. Half an hour should be allowed for conditions to improve. If they do not, the game shall be abandoned and the captains must re-arrange. It is the home captains responsibility to inform the general secretary of the cancelled game immediately, and the date of the re-arranged match as soon as possible thereafter. Failure to inform the general secretary of the cancelled game by 10pm will result in a £5 fine. The new game will start from the beginning; the score from the abandoned game will not count.

- d)
 - i) The home captain must inform the webmaster and the fixtures secretary of any postponements
 - ii) Postponed league matches must be played within 3 weeks of the last scheduled league match. The committee will decide allocation of points for un-played matches, but generally NO points will be awarded to either side.
 - iii) Postponed plate/cup matches must be played by the Thursday prior to the next round; if this is not possible then the result will be determined by a coin toss. Please see rule 10 in the Knock out Cup Rules.

9. Registration Fees will be £35 per team. Registration fees are payable at the pre-season meeting. League fees will be £10 per team, per scheduled match.

First half fees must be paid to the treasurer before the mid season 'meeting' or to the committee representative on the date of the mid season 'meeting' as stated in the handbook. Non payment of these fees by 9:30pm will result in a £5 fine.

Second half fees must be paid by the end of season meeting

NB Any team failing to pay their fees on time will receive a fine as well as a letter from the committee issuing a final warning.

If payment is still not received by the date given in the final warning letter, the team will have 3 points deducted and entry to the following season will be compromised.

Note 1. There are no fees for cup/plate matches

Note 2. All fees are to be paid directly to the treasurer. Cheques made payable to S.L.R.L

10. Results cards are to be sent to the fixtures secretary, by the home captain, and should arrive no later than the following Monday. The full names of the scorers and umpires, as well as the date, should be written clearly and the card signed by both captains. Game results must be text to the web master within 1 hour of the end of the match and no later than 10pm. Non-compliance will result in a £5 fine.

11. Players must be registered to play. New players can be registered to play throughout the season by contacting the general secretary. Registration of new players must be requested by email or post, at least 24hrs before the new player can play. A written confirmation must be received from the general secretary before the player will be deemed as registered. If a team plays with a player who is not registered, any points awarded and rounders scored for the whole team, will be void. In the event of a cup/plate match, the game will be awarded to the opponents

12. Transfers

Players can only transfer from one team to another, once. All transfers must be before the mid season meeting. If a player plays for one team in a plate or cup match, they cannot play for another team, in the same competition.

13. Substitutions

Players may only be changed at a dead ball situation. Once substituted, players may return during the game. Batters may only return as their original number. Bowlers may be changed at a dead ball situation. Any 'no balls' bowled by the out-going bowler will be credited to the new bowler.

14. A team failing to turn up for a match will forfeit the match and the 3 points will be awarded to the other team. "Failing to turn up" is deemed to mean if less than 6 players are present fifteen minutes after the scheduled start time. If at least 6 players from each team are present, then the game must start. The scheduled start time is 7pm unless both captains have mutually agreed otherwise.

If a game has been forfeited the team awarded 3 points will also be awarded rounders based on the average difference. Division 1 teams will receive 4 rounders, Division 2 teams will receive 5 rounders and Division 3 teams will receive 6 rounders.

15. If a team starts a game with less than 9 players, additional players may join the game at the next dead ball situation. This does not affect the substitution rules. Any joining batsperson must join the batting line at the bottom of the line-up.

16. Any disputes during the game must be settled by the umpires immediately. Only the team captains may appeal.

THE UMPIRES DECISION IS FINAL

17. A team captain is responsible for their players AND their spectators behaviour. Harassment of umpires, swearing and verbal abuse in any form will not be tolerated and the umpires will give formal warnings to team captains. If any player is sent off they will automatically face a one match suspension applicable to the next league, cup or plate match. Umpires should report, in writing, any

misconduct by players or spectators, to the Division rep, who in turn will communicate this to the committee, irrespective of whether action was taken during the match. It will be the committees decision as to what action is taken, if any, against offenders.

18. Any registered player or umpire can make a written complaint to the Division rep. Any written complaint received will be discussed by the committee at their earliest convenience, but within 21 days. Action will normally only be taken when there are two or more complaints of the same issue. If a letter received concerns a committee member or the team they play for, they will be obliged to stand down on that decision.

The committees decision is final

19. Waterproof balls, as supplied by the league, shall be used for matches at all times and no substitutes will be acceptable. Spare balls are available at market price, from the treasurer.

20. Promotion and Relegation

The league structure will be decided after teams have registered and payment received at the pre-season meeting.

Every effort will be made to maximise quantity of games for each division

21. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide a correctly and clearly marked pitch, as mapped out in the Rounders England rules. The backstop line, and run-on lines, must be marked. If a team has a specific problem with their pitch at any time during the season, they must endeavour to settle these problems with their pitch providers. They may however call on the committee for assistance. Any new team entering the league must have their pitch inspected by the committee prior to the season starting.

22. In the event of a change of venue it is the responsibility of the home team to contact their opponents, by telephone, NOT text. If the team are unsure of the location of the new ground, it is their responsibility to contact the home team.

23. All teams MUST be represented at the AGM. A fine of £5 will be charged for non-attendance

24. Teams must provide a competent umpire, who has attended the 2015 or 2016 umpires course as provided by Somervale Ladies Rounders league, for every match. If a team cannot provide an umpire that team will forfeit the game. All umpires must abide by the Umpires Code of Practice and have their umpires card available when umpiring.

25. A maximum of 2 different umpires may be used per team, per game.

26. Each teams umpire must be available to be called upon for neutral umpire duties, if required by the committee.

27. The dates of the cup and plate final will be set at the pre-season meeting, by the committee, and cannot be changed without the agreement of the committee.

28. All contact with the committee must be made in writing either via email or post. Text message or other media messaging is not accepted unless stated.

29. The Somervale Ladies Rounders League has not adopted the Rounders England "second post rule" and rounders will continue to be scored in the usual way.

30. Presentation Night trophies must be returned on or before the mid-season meeting. Failure to do so will result in a 3 point deduction and may result in a fine to cover the cost of replacement trophies (See rule 9). Lost trophies will need to be replaced and so a charge of £50 will be levied. Teams are not obliged to take trophies home and may return them to the trophy manager at the presentation night.

31. Mixed League. All of the aforementioned rules, constitution and captains meeting dates will apply to the mixed league with the exception that a mixed team will be made up of men and women. A maximum of 5 men may play at any one time.

32. THE COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO DEAL WITH ANY MATTERS NOT GOVERNED BY THESE RULES AND THE CONSTITUTION.

THE COMMITTEES DECISION IS FINAL