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**\*\*2022-2023 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING\*\***

**MONDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2023 – 7-45pm**

**SOUTH LEEDS CONSERVATIVE CLUB**

**(Arranged in accordance with current LBSO Rule 5 of Section 3)**

**\*\* AGENDA - incl. LBSO RULE CHANGES\*\***

* **CHAIRMAN’s – WELCOME / OPENING REMARKS:**

**& A MINUTE’S SILENCE – for friends departed:**

* **ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES:**
* **PREVIOUS AGM in 2022 (for 2021/22) – Minutes & Matters Arising:**

1. **Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 07/09/22 at East End Park WMC – Chaired by Mr. Andy Taffinder:**
2. **Matters arising out of the Minutes of the last AGM:**

* **FINANCES:**

1. **Treasurer’s Financial Report for this season - 2022-2023:**
2. **Adoption of the Balance Sheet as a true record:**

* **Election of LBSO Officers (for 2023-24):**

**All current Officers are prepared to continue for another year!**

**However, INVITATIONS FROM ANYBODY ARE ALWAYS WELCOME, to assist LBSO Officers in some of the tasks undertaken. Please email Bob Patterson with any expressions of interest.**

* **RULE ALTERATIONS – LBSO LEAGUE & COMPETITIONS RULES (for 2023-24):**

**See page 2 onwards for further details and all LBSO proposed rule changes.**

**Also, see the separate document with regards to the WPBSA ‘foul & a miss’ rule.**

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| **Not officially part of the AGM’s agenda, but at some time during the meeting, comments will be made by -:**   * **League Secretary Paul Grimes about the forthcoming 2023-24 league season, and likewise from,** * **Competition Secretaries Paul Marlow & Mark Ball, regarding LBSO competitions during the forthcoming 2023-24 season.** |

**\*\*LBSO RULE CHANGES (for 2023/24)\*\***

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| **CURRENT LBSO RULES:**  **2022-2023 – LBSO – League & Competition Rules**  The **current LBSO rules for the 2022/23 season** just completed, were most recently amended after the **last AGM held on 7th September 2022**, held at East End Park WMC.  The **current rules** were also posted on the website after the 2022 AGM, and circulated this year, to all captains as an attachment to the three emails referred to below in the next text box, under LBSO rule 5(b) of Section 3. | |
| **REQUEST FOR - Proposed LBSO Rule Changes for 2023-2024 –:**  *Submitted in accordance with current LBSO rule 5 of Section 3 (“General Rules – both Leagues and Competitions”), and to be included as part of the* ***Agenda for the AGM held on Monday 11th Sept 2023 at South Leeds Conservatives Club.***  ***LBSO League & Competition Rules –***  ***Section 3 - Rule 5(a) to (f) –***  ***“Annual General Meeting, Rule Changes and Finances”:***  In accordance with-   * **Section 3 Rule 5a**: the date and venue for the AGM was first shown on the website on **25th July 2023**, * **Section 3 Rule 5b**: the deadline date **14 days prior** to the AGM, for **receiving** proposed rule changes was set at **28th August 2023,**   In **addition** to the above at 5a, **between 30th July and 22nd August 2003**, website posts, emails via the website to all league members, and on **three** separate occasion, emails were circulated to all **team captains**, on the 1) 3rd August, 2) 14th August and 3) 22nd August 2023, **with advice each time about how to make proposed rule changes and by the deadline date**,   * **Section 3 Rule 5 c & d**: proposed rule changes received were then to be put on the agenda, which had to be posted on the website and also circulated, **no later than the 4th September 2023** (**7 days prior** to the AGM), * **Section 3 Rule 5e**: deals with the AGM itself, stating any proposed rule changes received, would be agreed at the AGM, but **only** by those actually **present** at the AGM, * **Section 3 Rule 5f**: deals with LBSO finances. | |
| **RECEIVED - Proposed LBSO Rule Changes for 2023-2024 -:**  After notifications were given as detailed above, the following **LBSO proposed rule changes were received**, by whom and in their chronological order-   1. **02/08/23** – **Stuart Quinn (Bramley WMC)** – proposal to partly amend current rule 15(a) of Section 1 (LBSO League Rules); 2. **23/08/23** – **Malcolm Robertshaw (Chapel Allerton)** – proposal to partly amend current rule 18(i) of Section 1 (LBSO League Rules); 3. **27/08/23** – **Bob Patterson (LBSO General Secretary / Treasurer / Crossgates Rec. Hall)** – proposal to partly amend current rule 5 of Section 3 (LBSO General Rules – BOTH leagues and competitions); 4. **27/08/23** – proposal to replace current rule 2 of Section 3 (LBSO General Rules – BOTH leagues and competitions), **proposed by four different members of the LBSO**- 5. **Martin McGuigan (Main Line Social),** 6. **Ian O’Brien (Harehills WMC),** 7. **Mark Ball (LBSO Competition Secretary / Farsley Cons),** 8. **Tony Massey (prev. Northern SC)**   More details of each proposed LBSO rule change, are now shown below on this agenda document.    **N.B.** – **WPBSA RULES** – SECT. 3 – SNOOKER – RULE 14 – **“FOUL & A MISS”**  A number of **further proposed adaptations of the WPBSA rule** quoted above, **have also been received prior to 28th August**.  However-   * Since this is NOT strictly speaking a LBSO rule, and * in more recent times, this particular rule seems to be featuring more or less on an annual basis now, * these particular proposals and other information about the WPBSA ‘foul & a miss rule’, are set out separately to this agenda, * are to be posted and circulated prior to the AGM separately, and * then handed out on the night also as an individual bundle.   These further proposed WPBSA adaptations, will also be dealt with **after** the **LBSO proposed rule changes**. | |
| **‘LBSO LEAGUE & COMPETITION RULES’** | |
| **SECTION 1 – LBSO LEAGUE RULES –**  **RULE 15(a) – League Fixtures / Commencement Time:**  Received 02/08/23, Stewart Quinn (Bramley WMC) has proposed the following part amendment to the above rule, giving the following reasons for the proposal-  “Hi Bob hope you are well. **. I propose a 7.30 start for matches rather than 7.45**. The foul and miss rule extends a lot of frames……………. I think an earlier start time will help matches finishing at a reasonable time for clubs last orders etc…………. This situation actually happened last season when we played a game away. Foul and miss rule slowed everything down. So I propose an earlier start time to help alleviate such occurrences. Regards”  This particular time has been a rule of the LBSO (& other titles before) since at least the 1969-70 season, and most likely even earlier (this being the first handbook we are in possession of).  So, to make changes now after all this time, would need very good reason.  **\*\*\*DISPLACED & MAY NOT PROCEED\*\*\***-  In addition to the longevity of this rule, Stewart has also put his name to another proposal, to amend the current adaptation of the WPBSA ‘foul & a miss rule’, which you can find details of, contained within the separate accompanying document to these LBSO rule changes.  Therefore, if that particular proposed WPBSA change is **voted in favour**, then this particular proposal will **NOT** proceed, since the main reason given by Stewart for it, is the ‘foul & a miss’ rule.  Alternatively, should the WPBSA proposal **be rejected**, then this particular proposal **can proceed** at the end of the meeting. | |
| **CURRENT WORDING** | **PROPOSED WORDING** |
| 1. League fixtures…………… 2. Matches must commence at 7-45pm…………………….. | 1. League fixtures…………… 2. Matches must commence at **7-30pm**…………………….. |
| **OUTCOME AT THE AGM –**  **VOTE – FOR / AGAINST:** | |
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| **2)**  **SECTION 1 – LBSO LEAGUE RULES-**  **RULE 18(i) – “Entering Match Results”**  Received on 23/08/23, Malcolm Robertshaw (Chapel Allerton) has proposed the following part amendment to the above rule-  *“Bob, Rule Amendment Rule 18 Entering Match Results. delete final six words of final sentence in Section (1) i.e.* ***delete 'in the back of the scorebook'****…………, Malcolm*  Pretty straight forward proposal from ‘eagle eyed’ Malcolm, to tidy things up whilst ever the use of ‘scorebooks’ is discontinued.  Even if ‘scorebooks’ are ever re-introduced, it could be argued the amendment will still suffice, since there is no real reason to specify where the “duplicate result card” is to be found. | |
| **CURRENT WORDING** | **PROPOSED WORDING** |
| 1. **Entering Match Results:** 2. Club internet delegates/internet team captains are responsible for entering their team results on the internet site…….. In addition, both home and away team captains should complete a duplicate result card ~~in the back of the scorebook~~ | 1. **Entering Match Results:** 2. Club internet delegates/internet team captains are responsible for entering their team results on the internet site…….. In addition, both home and away team captains should complete a duplicate result card. |
| **OUTCOME AT THE AGM –**  **VOTE – FOR / AGAINST:** | |
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| **3)**  **SECTION 3 – LBSO GENERAL RULES (BOTH Leagues & Competitions) -**  **RULE 5 – LBSO - Annual General Meeting, Rule Changes and Finances:**  *Received on 27/08/23, LBSO General Secretary / Treasurer Bob Patterson, proposes* ***adding*** *the following two sub-paragraphs to the above rule-*   1. ***Each club shall be allowed two delegates, each with the power to vote at the AGM – [to become new rule 5(f)], and*** 2. ***The rules concerning LBSO adaptations of the WPBSA / world governing body official rules of the games of Snooker (& English Billiards when applicable), shall apply equally to this LBSO rule 5 of Section 3 and any amendments made to it – [to become new rule 5(h)].***   *& for the following reasons-*    In **2010** which was my first year in the role of General Secretary / Treasurer, I proposed a **new rule concerning AGM’s & Rule Changes**, which was approved by delegates at the AGM held on 8th July 2010.  Quite rightly with different agendas, the rule addition about AGM’s in 2010, was **distinct** from another **completely separate rule** concerning **“League Meetings”** (AKA Delegates Meetings), which had first been introduced for the **1977-78 season**, as an official rule of the “Leeds & District Billiards League”, as it was known then.  The **1977-78 rule headed “League Meetings”**, stated in part-  ***“Each club shall be allowed two delegates, each with the power to vote.”***  **At the AGM held on 9th July 2012**, an amendment to the **“League Meetings”** rule was approved, so as to **rename them as “Delegate Meetings”**, amongst other things.  ***This amendment retained the sentence about delegates and their powers to vote, exactly as it is worded above in 1977-78.***  **At the AGM held on 4th September 2017**, delegates approved an **amendment** to the **“Delegates Meetings”** rule, which effectively **replaced** one rule with another, and also so that such meetings would **from the start of the 2017 / 2018 season**, **only take place in “exceptional circumstances”.**  This 2017 change was due in the main to the functioning of the LBSO website, making monthly meetings unnecessary and instigating the ‘combined fee’ process.  **\*\***This **replaced rule** currently sits in section 3 of the LBSO rules at rule 4.  **Unfortunately in 2017**, seen now retrospectively as an oversight then, ***with regards to delegates and their powers to vote***-   * **neither** the **replaced rule** mentioned anything about this, * **nor** were the **rules about AGM’s amended**, to include reference to delegates and their powers to vote.   Therefore, the proposal here is to re-instate a rule at this AGM, which was part of these rules for nearly 40 years from 1978 to 2017, and which strictly speaking, should have been dealt with previously, for the start of the 2017/2018 season.  The other proposal for the inclusion of LBSO adaptations to the WPBSA rules, should be more self-explanatory?  WPBSA rules are NOT strictly speaking LBSO rules, however inclusion of the proposed paragraph within the LBSO rule book, formalises the process for any future professional rule adaptations. | |
| **CURRENT WORDING** | **PROPOSED WORDING** |
| * 1. To conclude each season,…………………;   2. any proposed changes to any LBSO league & competition rules……..;   3. the General Secretary…...;   4. the final agenda for the AGM,……………………;   5. Only after going……...   6. FINANCES: Annually….. | 1. To conclude each season,…………………; 2. any proposed changes to any LBSO league & competition rules……..; 3. the General Secretary…...; 4. the final agenda for the AGM,……………………; 5. Only after going……... 6. *Each club shall be allowed two delegates, each with the power to vote at the AGM;* 7. FINANCES: Annually….; 8. *The rules concerning LBSO adaptations of the WPBSA / world governing body official rules of the games of Snooker (& English Billiards when applicable), shall apply equally to this LBSO rule 5 of Section 3 and any amendments made to it.* |
| **OUTCOME AT THE AGM –**  **VOTE – FOR / AGAINST:** | |
| **4)**  **SECTION 3 – LBSO GENERAL RULES (BOTH Leagues & Competitions) -**  **RULE 2 – (NO TITLE but in relation to snooker balls) –:** | |
| **Separate** official complaints have been received throughout this season, by **four different playing members** of the LBSO, **concerning the weight and size of the snooker balls in general and the cue-ball specifically**, at some clubs registered with the LBSO.  This topic has attracted the attention of numerous individuals over more recent years, but only as unofficial verbal murmurings up to this point.  Now-  **1. Martin McGuigan (Main Line Social),**  **2. Ian O’Brien (Harehills WMC),**  **3. Mark Ball (LBSO Competition Secretary / Farsley Cons), and**  **4. Tony Massey (prev. Northern SC)**    seem intent on taking this matter further, by proposing the new rules with regards to snooker balls, worded as can be seen below in the next text boxes.  *Received on 27/08/23, Martin McGuigan has provided the following personal reasons, and is the one who has also provided most of the actual wording for the proposed rules in the text boxes below, and will therefore probably be the one to initially present the proposal on the night-*  *“The main reason for this rule proposal is I’m sure over 90% of players want a good consistent game of snooker, correct match balls does not give an advantage to any certain player if anything it should improve everyone’s game regardless of ability. 2 good examples are I was playing off a handicap of +24 around 7 years ago in my 30s. I started playing with a decent match set and over the years my game has become more consistent and managed to get down to -9. The 2nd example is we were playing a club recently and a player off +28 quite vocal after missing shots was annoyed he potted a red but didn’t get on the black because the cue ball went out of position even though he played the shot with the right power/ side etc, my team could tell this was down to the poor set of balls through experience and we were saying afterwards if you had a decent set you would have got the correct reaction and gone on to make a possible break so it does affect everyone and that’s why rules are there.*  *This is the best way I can see the rule being changed as we’re not forcing teams to spend money but hopefully will see clubs improving on match balls over time, it won’t happen straight away but along with the rules in place that we currently have were if both players agree to change the match balls means they may want to play with the match balls or cue ball the away team brings with them to save on complaints being placed against them. Over time I’d hope most teams realise it’s better for them to just purchase either a cue ball or a full decent set to save on the hassle of complaints and have a consistent good game of snooker”.*  In amongst his reasons, Martin also included that-   * *\*\* “The* ***‘nominated person’*** *will be current* ***WPBSA referee Mark king*** *who has volunteered for the position”* – see the proposed rules below, who also happens to still be a playing member of the LBSO, and * Also stated quite correctly, that the official WPBSA rules concerning balls, allows for the cue ball or a set of balls, can be changes by teams agreeing, without an official being present – see the full WPBSA rule quoted below.   **Ian O’Brien has also provided the following personal reasons-**  *“Hi Bob, I want to recommend that the league brings a rule in regarding small cue balls. Some clubs are playing matches with the small ball and obviously they get smaller with wear and tear and I think if clubs can't afford match balls at the least they could purchase 2 cue balls, if clubs don't adhere to this then maybe it's time they were penalised in some way. I know clubs are struggling financially but 20 pounds for a couple of balls doesn't seem excessive”.*  **Mark Ball’s personal views are as follows-**  *“Morning all,*  *I know it is a little early to be presenting agenda items for next season, but it's been brought to my attention a number of times already this season as well as previous seasons about the use of match balls for league and competitions.*  *Players have moaned about …….certain clubs and they have refused to use match balls despite the club having them, as the comments go 'we don't play with them all the time, so not used to them' I get that, but playing on an away table is one thing, then giving start, but then to use lights balls is possibly too much to ask, especially when match balls are available.*  *Some players have even asked if they can take match balls to matches just in case the club hasn't got any?*  *Anyway, just a thought...”*  **Tony Massey contacted Chairman Andy Taffinder and sent the following personal message-**  Andy I've had a word with Mark Ball about clubs using balls what are not tournament champion balls too small too light not fair …..you don't get same reaction with cue ball ,it's hard enough battling with away tables and starts but I just think something should be put out there tournament champions balls are 3 g balls or 1G balls ok to play with ,I played at …………..the balls are aramith but not right size again too light & small diabolical ….something needs to be done about it …… it's not fair at all Andy please can you propose something so this isn't happening kind regards A.Massey | |
| **DELETE CURRENT WORDING-**  **SECTION 3 RULE 2-**  ~~Games to be played with Super Crystallite balls, and under the latest official rules of the WPBSA for Snooker. and English Billiards.~~ | |
| **TO BE REPLACED WITH THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED WORDING-**  **NEW RULE - Section 3 Rule 2-**  **SNOOKER ~~& BILLIARD~~ BALLS**  (a) All LBSO registered clubs should attempt at all times, to comply with the rules of the world professional governing body in relation to offering facilities to play snooker ~~and billiards~~, which includes providing sets of snooker balls ~~and billiard balls~~, which conform with the minute tolerances allowed under those rules, in relation to the size and weight of the balls\*.  **With the playing of any LBSO league fixture or competition tie**-  (b) If any club hosting any such fixture or tie, has a set of match balls either 3g or 1g, then they must be used by any team which plays out of that club, unless a team possesses its own set of match balls.  Either way, the Aramith Tournament Champion '3G' Snooker Balls are recommended if 1G balls can’t be used.  (c) If the balls are not in line with (b) above, then the away team are entitled to bring their own set of balls to play the fixture or tie, providing they are 3g/1g.  (d) If neither sub-paragraphs (b) or (c) are accomplished, then the away team or player has the right to send a written complaint to the LBSO Management Committee.  (e) If the LBSO Management Committee receives a minimum of three complaints about the same club, or any team from the same club, regardless of the time span and concerning the quality of match balls, then a ‘nominated person’\*\* (see above) from the LBSO will visit the club to weigh the match balls which are subject of the complaint.  (f) On a visit by the ‘nominated person’, if the set of balls in question are found to be outside the tolerances allowed under of the rules of the governing body in terms of size and weight, then an official warning will be given by the LBSO Management Committee to the club or team in question, requesting that the purchase of a new set of balls, or replacement of the individual ball/balls deemed to be breaking the rules, is required at the earliest opportunity.  (g) If sub-paragraph (f) still persists and any further complaints are received about the same club, or any team from the same club, regardless of the time span, and if after a second visit by the ‘nominated person’, the balls in question are still found to be outside the tolerances allowed under of the rules of the governing body in terms of size and weight, then 2 points will be deducted from the total points tally of the team in question, where a club has more than one registered team.  \***NOT** to form a part of the actual wording of the new rule above in blue, the current WPBSA rules with regards to snooker balls are copied below, but only for the benefit of this meeting (& are highlighted for effect only)-  ***WPBSA RULES – SECTION 1 SNOOKER – RULE 2. Balls-***  *(a) A set of balls comprises of 15 Red Balls, and one each of the following coloured balls: Yellow, Green, Brown, Blue, Pink, Black and****a White****.*  *(b) The****balls****shall be of an****approved composition****and shall****each****have a diameter of****52.5mm with a tolerance of +/- 0.05mm****.*  *(c) The balls shall be of****equal weight where possible****but the****tolerance****between the****heaviest ball and the lightest ball in a set****should be****no more than 3g****; and*  *(d) A****ball or set of balls****may be changed by****agreement****between the****players******or****on a decision by the referee.* | |
| **OUTCOME AT THE AGM –**  **VOTE – FOR / AGAINST:** | |