

Proposal 4

Clause 5.1 edited for clarity and future-proofing.

Proposer: LMC

Explanation

The Committee propose updating clause 5.1 to reflect current practice and allow for the number of divisions to be changed to match requirements without continual redraft of the clause.

The number of divisions and teams we have in the League is determined by clubs requesting teams during the period after the end of the season and before the beginning of the next season. Until clubs confirm the number of team they wish to propose it is never clear how many divisions and how many teams in each division are necessary. This proposal addresses this issue by not setting a specific number of divisions.

To this end references to a specific number of divisions have been removed and replaced by reference to two sections. Section 1 being six-board teams and section 2 being four-board teams. Within each of these sections there will be relegation and promotion and provides flexibility in the number of divisions we have each season to meet demand.

In addition the redrafted clause does the following:

- 5.1a: Changes the end of the season from the first week to last week of May to allow more flexibility in scheduling matches.
- 5.1c: It makes clear that newly formed teams may be entered into the appropriate division following consideration by the Committee.
- 5.1e: Includes encoding the successful practice from this season of being able to add more boards to four-board matches.

Proposal

Change 5.1 from:

5 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

5.1 Format

- a. Team Championships shall be held from 1 September to the first week in May each year.
- b. Each Team Championship shall consist of a division of teams determined by promotion and relegation from the previous season. The most senior division shall be the first division, the next most senior the second division and so on.
- c. In each division, each team shall play every other team in the division twice, once at home and once away. The LMC may revise these conditions if the number of teams engaged makes this desirable.

- d. In divisions 1, 2 and 3 each match shall be between two teams of six players. In all other divisions, each match shall be between two teams of four players.
A team shall score two Match Points for a match won, one Match Point for a match tied and no Match Points for a match lost.
- e. At the end of the season, the teams in each division shall be placed in order of decreasing number of Match Points aggregated. If the two or more teams have the same number of Match Points, then the following tie-breaks shall be used in this order:
- greatest number of individual game points aggregated in all matches,
 - fewest number of Default Penalty Points (see Rule 5.4),
 - greatest number of individual game points aggregated in the matches between the tied teams.
 - If still tied, the teams shall be in a tied position.
- f. In all but the first and fourth divisions, the two teams placed highest in the division at the end of a season shall be promoted to the next more senior division in place of the two teams placed lowest in that division, who shall be relegated to the less senior division. The LMC shall have the power to promote additional teams and to waive relegations.

To:

5 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

5.1 Format

- a. Team Championships shall be held from 1 September to the **last** week in May each year.
- b. **The Championship shall be divided into two sections. The top section is for teams of six and the lower section is for teams of four. Each Team Championship section shall consist of divisions of teams determined by promotion and relegation from the previous season. The most senior division shall be the first division, the next most senior the second division and so on.**
- c. **Newly formed teams in either section shall be placed in a division chosen at the discretion of the LMC**
- ~~e.~~d. In each division, each team shall play every other team in the division twice, once at home and once away. The LMC may revise these conditions if the number of teams engaged makes this desirable.
- ~~d.~~ e. ~~In divisions 1, 2 and 3 each match shall be between two teams of six players. In all other divisions, each match shall be between two teams of four players~~ **In the top section each match shall be between two teams of six players. In the lower section, each match shall be between two teams of four players. Matches in the lower section may be played over more than four boards at the agreement of the team captains ahead of the match. In such situations the match result will be adjusted pro-rata as if the match was played as a four board match.** A team shall score two Match Points for a match won, one Match Point for a match tied and no Match Points for a match lost.

- e. f. At the end of the season, the teams in each division shall be placed in order of decreasing number of Match Points aggregated. If the two or more teams have the same number of Match Points, then the following tie-breaks shall be used in this order:
- greatest number of individual game points aggregated in all matches,
 - fewest number of Default Penalty Points (see Rule 5.4),
 - greatest number of individual game points aggregated in the matches between the tied teams.
 - If still tied, the teams shall be in a tied position
- f. g. In all but **the first division of each section**, the two teams placed highest in the division at the end of a season shall be promoted to the next more senior division in place of the two teams placed lowest in that division, who shall be relegated to the less senior division. **There will be no promotion/relegation between the two sections.**
- h. The LMC shall have the power to promote additional teams and to waive relegations.