

## OBL– Agenda for virtual AGM to be held on Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 7.30pm

Please note that this AGM is being held virtually via MicroSoft Teams\*.

1. Chairman's welcome
2. Attendees and apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 2021 AGM held on 14 July 2021 and matters arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. League Reports
  - Results for 2021/22 season
  - Summary of reasons for End of Season review amendments
  - Club feedback on current season
7. Proposals for changes to Rules or Constitution
  - none received from clubs
  - two proposals from the Committee (see Appendix)
8. 2022/23 Season
  - Use of Azolve/Just Go system including user guidance and improvements
  - Communication between clubs and OBL
9. Election of Committee for 2022/23 (per Constitution, 8-10 members)
  - Chair
  - Treasurer
  - League Secretary
  - League Fixtures Secretary/Secretaries
  - General Committee members
- 10.AOB

\*The link to join the AGM will be sent to clubs during the week before the meeting.

Note - The OBL document library includes Minutes for last year's AGM and the agenda for the 2022 AGM.

# Appendix - OBL 2022 AGM – Proposed Rule Changes from the OBL Committee

## Proposal 1 – Section K

Reason – to preserve the scores achieved in games that were started but not completed. The amendment seeks to recognise that, even if a game is truncated, those scores were earned and it should hopefully remove any pressure on players to continue playing if injured. It also seeks to treat unfinished games consistently across the disciplines.

### **K. TIME CONSTRAINED/UNFINISHED MATCHES**

#### Current Section

1. The reason for game(s) being conceded is to be noted on the front of the scoresheet.
2. For 3D, unplayed or unfinished rubbers due to lack of time shall be scored 25-0/0-25. If a rubber is not completed for any other reason any completed game(s) score stands and the uncompleted game(s) are scored 25-0 to the non-conceding team.
3. For mixed and men's doubles if, after 6 or more rubbers have been played, should it become obvious that the match cannot be completed under normal scoring conditions (rubber being best of 3 games to 21 points, with setting), the remaining rubber or rubbers shall be one game to 21 points, with setting, changing ends at 11. A club unable to complete a match shall concede any unplayed rubber(s) to their opponents.
4. For women's doubles if, after 4 or more rubbers have been played, should it become obvious that the match cannot be completed under normal scoring conditions (rubber being best of 3 games to 21 points, with setting), the remaining rubber or rubbers shall be one game to 21 points, with setting, changing ends at 11. A club unable to complete a match shall concede any unplayed rubber(s) to their opponents.

#### Proposed Section

1. The reason for game(s) being conceded is to be noted on ~~the front of~~ the scoresheet and an email sent to the OBL League Fixtures Secretary within 10 days, copied to the away team Fixtures Secretary, containing details of the match (i.e. discipline/division, date, venue, teams, reason(s) for conceding and the score for the conceded games).
2. The score achieved in any started but uncompleted game will be preserved for the conceding side unless solely due to lack of time (see K3, K4, K5).
3. For 3D, unplayed or unfinished rubbers due to lack of time shall be scored 25-0/0-25. If a rubber is not completed for any other reason any completed game(s) score stands, unstarted game(s) are scored 25-0 to the non-conceding team and ~~the started but~~ uncompleted game(s) are scored 25-~~0~~ X to the non-conceding team-, where X is the number of points scored by the conceding team prior to stopping the uncompleted game.
4. For mixed and men's doubles if, after 6 or more rubbers have been played, should it become obvious that the match cannot be completed under normal scoring conditions (rubber being best of 3 games to 21 points, with setting), the remaining rubber or rubbers shall be one game to 21

points, with setting, changing ends at 11. A club unable to complete a match due to lack of time shall concede any unplayed or unfinished rubber(s) to their opponents 21-0, 21-0.

5. For women's doubles if, after 4 or more rubbers have been played, should it become obvious that the match cannot be completed under normal scoring conditions (rubber being best of 3 games to 21 points, with setting), the remaining rubber or rubbers shall be one game to 21 points, with setting, changing ends at 11. A club unable to complete a match due to lack of time shall concede any unplayed or unfinished rubber(s) to their opponents 21-0, 21-0.

## **Proposal 2 – Section F, in particular F5**

Reason – some clubs have questioned if the Rule continues to serve the intended purpose (i.e. do the OBL League Fixtures Secretary/other Committee members know the relative abilities of all those playing in the OBL teams at any point in the season/when paired with particular players) and, if not, then can the administration (for both the OBL Committee and the clubs) be justified? If the default position is to allow the substitution then it could be viewed as undermining the purpose of the rule.

We want to preserve the spirit of not importing a player of a higher standard during the later stages of the season and wish to extend this to cover using a player of a significantly higher standard during the season (Rule F3 refers to the relative strength of teams within the same club and nominated players whilst Rule F4 covers the number of times a player may play up before not being able to play in the original lower team but neither rule currently limits or provides a retrospective review of players who progress upwards through those teams during the season).

## **F. QUALIFICATION TO PLAY/NOMINATIONS/RESTRICTIONS ON PLAYERS AND TEAMS**

Current F5 -It is not in the spirit of the League to import a player of a higher standard to win. Therefore during the last two matches of the season any player who has not played for that specific team earlier in the season (regardless of standard) must be cleared at least 24 hours beforehand (or in exceptional circumstances before the match) with the appropriate League Fixtures Secretary or, if unavailable, with one of the other League Secretaries. Failure to observe this rule will mean that the offending player's rubbers will be awarded to the opposing team (ie in 3D and 5D, awarded 25-0/25-0 or, in doubles, 21-0/21-0).

Proposed F5 -It is not in the spirit of the League to import field a player of a higher standard to win at any point during the season. ~~Therefore, during the last two matches of the season any player who has not played for that specific team earlier in the season (regardless of standard) must be cleared at least 24 hours beforehand (or in exceptional circumstances before the match) with the appropriate League Fixtures Secretary or, if unavailable, with one of the other League Secretaries.~~ Failure to observe this rule will mean that a club is entitled to appeal to the OBL League Fixtures Secretary if they feel that there has been a significant breach of the fair play policy, asking that the offending player's rubbers ~~will~~ be awarded to the opposing non-offending team (i.e. in 3D and 5D, awarded 25-0/25-0 or, in doubles, 21-0/21-0). The OBL Committee may, as part of its end of season review, amend the results of matches deemed to have contravened the spirit of this rule, with the penalised club having a right of appeal.