

2005 – 2006 League Rules
Layout altered for Website purposes

1. The name shall be the 'Newport and District Air Rifle League' and is hereafter referred to as (The League).
2. Membership of the League shall be at the sole discretion of the Management Committee.
3. Clubs may enter more than one team, but they must run as distinctly separate teams.
4. The number of teams that may belong to the League shall be unlimited.
5. Shooters may transfer from one team to another only after their written application has been passed by the Management Committee in session and they in turn have written confirmation from the League Secretary. Shooters must give prior notice to their current team of their intentions and will be allowed to shoot if selected, and if they so desire, up to the transfer date. All team secretaries will be notified prior to the transfer, which will always be on a Monday. This rule applies provided the application for transfer is made before 75% of league (un-handicapped) fixtures are fired. A shooter may transfer during the handicapped fixtures, with possible teams handicap adjustments. This rule does not apply during the close season.
6. In the event of a team disbanding, only two transfers shall be allowed to another team. This rule shall not apply during the closed season. In the event of a team changing its name, at least five members from the former team must be registered; otherwise it will be regarded as a new entry to the league.
7. The individual registration fee shall be reviewed by the Management Committee each year, subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting. A 'reduced rate' individual registration fee will be payable by juniors, or members over the age of 18 still attending full time education courses. Registration fees must be paid to the Match Secretary immediately after the first match. Teams must be composed of registered members within the League. (One registration per member).
8. The individual registration fee shall include entrance fees to the League, as well as handicapped League, Rumney cup, Presidents Senior or Junior, Echo & Express or Dai James competitions, cost of team newsletters including average statistics including website.
9. The Annual General Meeting of the League shall be held in September and fourteen days notice of such a meeting shall be given.
10. The voting power of clubs at the Annual General and other general meetings shall be one vote per team registered. Official ballot cards shall be issued to each team attending the meeting, which must be clearly displayed when each vote is being counted. New entrants to the League shall not vote at the Annual General Meeting.
11. The following officers of the League shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for a term of one year: President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, League Secretary, Match Secretary, Competition Secretary, Summer League Competition Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer, Members Representative and Auditor. Elected Officers of the committee will represent their teams. Where a team is not represented at monthly management committee meetings, each team should send a representative. Any voting done will be on one vote per team.
12. The Management Committee shall consist of the elected Officers (Rule 11).
13. At all general meetings of the League, no business shall be conducted unless a quorum, consisting of representatives from more than half of the teams registered is present. Furthermore, a majority of the total teams registered can decide on any matter whether already covered by the league rules or not.
14. The Management Committee shall make all decisions as to the day-to-day activities of the League.
15. Any three teams may together instruct the League Secretary to convene a special general meeting.
16. The League Secretary shall attend to the day to day running of the League and shall keep proper records.
17. The Match Secretary shall be responsible for the arrangement of League matches and the recording of results and scores. The Competition Secretary shall be responsible for the arrangement of all League controlled competitions excluding League fixtures.
18. The Treasurer shall keep proper records of the income and expenditure of the League, and be responsible for a statement of accounts to the 31st July each year, which shall be certified by the approved League auditor.
19. The statement of accounts shall be sent to team secretaries with the notice of each Annual General Meeting.
20. Should the League Secretary, Treasurer, Match or Competition Secretaries fail to carry out their duties to the satisfaction of the Management Committee, a successor shall be appointed to serve until the next Annual General Meeting.
21. A dispute must be reported to the League Secretary within seven days.
22. Disputes shall be dealt with by the Management Committee. Teams or members involved in the dispute shall be present throughout the proceedings but shall be asked to retire when the Committee is reaching its' decision. Each team or member shall agree to abide by the decision of the committee.
23. Where a member of the Management Committee is registered for a team involved in a dispute, the League Secretary shall appoint a substitute.

24. The season will be divided into two parts. The first part comprising of a separate divisional competition, the second part of the season will comprise of the handicap League championship contested by all League teams in one division, with B team scores running separately.
25. Teams in the main divisional championship shall fire home and away matches with the other teams of the same division. Teams meet only once in competitions for the handicap League cup (subject to variation at each Annual General Meeting).
26. The fixtures shall commence on a date decided by the Match Secretary at the Annual General Meeting.
27. The home nights shall be fixed by the respective team secretaries but must not be a Saturday or Sunday. Saturday or Sunday may be included, if agreement by opposing teams is reached when re-arranging postponed matches.
28. The League shall provide one score book and one tin of league marking paint per team per season. Additional books or paint will be supplied at a charge to cover cost. League issue paint must be used in all matches.
29. The score sheets for both teams must be submitted to the Match Secretary by the winning team for receipt within four postal days, not including the day of the match. Any team failing to send the sheets within the specified time will forfeit one match point, unless an official proof of posting is obtained within two days of a match. In the event of a drawn match the score sheets for each team must be sent to the Match Secretary separately.
30. Matches shall commence no later than 8.00pm and must be continuous and completed, with no delays when shooting pairings change. No practice shooting shall be allowed after 7.45pm. For League matches the home team will fire first and for other matches this will be decided by a toss of a coin. The match will have deemed to have finished when the pair who are firing at 10.50pm have completed their match score. The "A" match total will be the five highest scores from the number of shooters have fired. With the next three highest counting scores to be the "B" team score.
31. Only air rifles of .177 calibre shall be used in the league. They must not be fitted with telescopic sights.
32. The League target plate shall be supplied by the League to the following specification:
A central 3/8" (9.54mm) diameter hole and radial scoring grooves spaced at 4mm intervals from the edge of the bull. A clean bell will score 10, a splash on the plate will be scored 9 until the outer edge of the splash touches the first inner radial ring where it then scores 8. A score of 8 continues until splash touches the next outer ring where it then scores 7. Subsequent scores apply down to 0 (zero) on progressing toward the outer edge of the plate.
33. The centre of the target plate shall be five foot (1.52m) from the ground.
34. The range shall be twenty-one feet (6.4m) from point on floor directly below the face of the target plate to the firing point. The firing point shall be clearly marked to the satisfaction of both team captains. Centre of plate to firing line (floor) diagonal distance is 21feet 7ins.
35. The shooter shall be allowed to arrange the room lighting to suit, except where more than one target is being used.
36. The shooter and rifle shall be clear of any artificial support and the butt must not be held inside a jacket if worn. Disabled shooters will be allowed to shoot, subject to them satisfying the rules and regulations stated by the International Paraplegics Committee. Bipods or any other accessory are to be free of the supporting hand when firing. The use of shooting trousers shall be prohibited. Shooting trousers are defined as leather or canvas trousers that have been specifically designed for the purpose of shooting. There shall be only one shooter addressing each target at all times, including practice. Any shooter deemed to be shooting in a potentially dangerous manner will be cautioned by the markers. No smoking or refreshments to be taken to the firing point during the match.
37. Each team must provide its own rifles, but with mutual agreement the opposing team shall be allowed to lend theirs. After a rifle has been used in a match/ competition and is not to be used again in that event, then the owner should take reasonable steps to return the rifle to its container/case as soon as possible.
38. The home team must provide pellets. Individuals may use their own if desired, providing they are of competition standard i.e. Eley Wasp or Field Target Trophy pellets. Flathead pellets are not permitted. No modification shall be made to the pellets and tins shall remain open for inspection throughout a match. Pellet sizers may be used. The Management Committee shall be empowered to prohibit the use of unsatisfactory makes of pellets.
39. Each team shall consist of not more than nine shooters and not less than five. The five highest scores shall count for the "A" match total, the next three highest counting scores to count for the "B" match total. A non-counting shooter i.e. A.N.Other shall not be allowed to fire if a registered shooter(s) who have not fired are present, subject to the discretion of the team captains, where a registered shooter has just arrived at a match.
40. At the commencement of each season, teams shall register four competent markers, and no other persons shall be allowed to act during the season. If none of the nominated markers are present, the team captains are to mutually agree on substitutes. Each team shall provide a marker. The visiting team marker shall call the value of each shot and the home team marker will check and wipe out. The score to be recorded by the markers on a board provided by the home team and the team scorers on the score pads. The team scorers must agree the match scores after each pair of shooters have fired. If the team scorers disagree, the dispute will be settled with reference to the marker board. No disputes accepted after the board has been wiped clean.
Markers shall remain still during each shot and must be seated or stand at least three yards to the side of the target. Both markers must remain at the target for all scores and sightings.
A safety screen will be positioned between the shooter and markers or spectators.
If formal letters of complaint for bad marking by the same marker are received by the Management Committee from two separate teams in the same season, the marker in question shall be suspended from marking for the remainder of the season and a further season. The marker concerned and the team secretary shall be notified, but the names of the teams making the complaints are to be withheld.

41. Before commencing a match, the away team can, at their discretion, request the whole surface of the target plate be scraped clean. The plate must be 'clean' before each shot is fired.
42. In the event of a dispute between the two markers, the two team captains are to decide. If agreement cannot be reached, the shot is to be refired, but the second shot shall not count more than the higher value of the disputed shot or less than the lower value of that shot. The disputed shot is to be examined by the markers and captains only, except where the disputed shot was fired by a captain, in which case another official marker from the team shall decide. A shooter is not permitted to score their own shot.
A record of all disputed refired shots will be made in the following manner: - Identify the refired shot with a circle on the score sheet. On the reverse side of the score sheet record the markers, captains/second marker names and their scores called. If more than one refired shot is recorded in a match, include the shooter's name on the back of the score sheet.
The records produced from the above information may be used by the Management Committee to investigate an apparent consistent pattern of disputes.
43. Magnifying glasses are not to be used to examine a shot.
44. Both shooters may take two consecutive sighter shots, which shall not count, followed by seven alternating shots to count as the individual score. Should any of the nine allowed shots completely miss the target plate, the shooter may refire.
45. Rifles must only be loaded at the firing point, and should only be pointed within an arc from the vertical to the floor towards the target, and never at any time be pointing at anyone. There will be a table/platform at the firing point available for the shooter to place their loaded rifle (facing toward the target area), should the shooter wish to resettle. A shooter must not pump or load their rifle until their opponent has fired their shot and the range area is clear of markers.
46. The team with the highest total shall be the winners and shall receive two points. In the event of a tie, both teams shall receive one point. If at any time in the League fixtures, more than one team have the same points, the League table positions are to be decided by reference to the respective average team scores. This shall apply to Championship trophies, promotions and relegations.
47. A match shall not be valid unless one team fires five or more shooters. If only one team has five or more shooters, statistics will not be recorded.
48. Any team wishing to postpone a match must give at least one week's notice to the secretary of the opposing team, unless unforeseen circumstances do not permit this. The other team will then submit two reasonable dates at their choice of venue to the team postponing the match, one of which must be accepted. All postponed matches to be arranged by the team secretaries concerned. The Match/Competition Secretary must be informed of any fixture change in writing using the fixture postponement report.
49. If a team fails to keep an appointment, their opponents can claim the match points, subject to the following: -
That the score sheets have been sent to the Match Secretary explaining why the match was not fired on the original date.
Approval by the Management Committee, extenuating circumstances considered.
50. Postponed matches must be fired within fourteen days of the original fixture, and by the end of each 'half' of the fixture (whichever is applicable). The Match Secretary must be informed of the re-arranged match. (See rules 29, 48 & 49)
51. In the event of a team disbanding before the completion of the League fixtures, all individual scores are to count for average purposes, but the results of the matches with the disbanded team are not to count for League table positions.
52. The composition of divisions shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting, on the basis of one promotion and one relegation each season.
53. In the event of a team withdrawing from the first division during the close season, the team with the highest match average from the relegated team and the remaining teams in the second division shall be promoted. Similarly, with a team withdrawing from the second division during the close season, the team with the highest match average from the relegated team and the remaining teams in the third division shall be promoted.
54. New entries to the League shall compete in the lowest division.
55. The first division team scoring the most points at the completion of the League fixtures shall be awarded the Argus Shield and shall hold the trophy for one year.
56. The first division runners-up shall be awarded the G. G. Milford Cup and shall hold the trophy for one year.
57. The second division team scoring the most points at the completion of League fixtures shall be awarded the Clarry Shield and shall hold the shield for one year. The second division runners-up shall be awarded The Britvic Minster Shield and shall hold the shield for one year.
58. The third division team scoring the most points at the completion of the League fixtures shall be awarded the Robert Purnell Shield and shall hold the shield for one year. The third division runners-up shall be awarded the Sarah Purnell Cup and shall hold the cup for one year.
59. The individual with the highest average score in the League fixtures shall be awarded the G. R. Glendenning Cup and shall hold the trophy for one year. The individual must have fired in 75% of their team's league and handicap League cup matches to qualify.
60. The team making the highest total match score, excluding handicap in a League match during the season, shall be awarded the Pauncefort Munday Cup. The team from the second division making the highest total match score, excluding handicap in a League match during the season shall be awarded the Frank Desmond Memorial Shield and for the third division the Roger Davies Shield. All trophies to be held for one year.

61. A special award shall be presented to a member on the first occasion a maximum score of 70 (excluding handicap) is achieved in any match or competition authorized by the League. Achievement awards will be presented to members achieving their highest individual score (excluding handicap). Gold - 68 or 69, Silver – 66 or 67, Bronze 63 to 65.
62. The League trophies must be returned to the League Secretary by/at the close of the League fixtures (i.e. by the time that the main body of individual competitions begin). The holders are to keep trophies in clean condition and to arrange for their return and transit to the League Secretary. Any additional cost of transport or engraving incurred due to the late return of a trophy will be paid by the holder.
63. The holders of the trophies are to be responsible for the cost of any damage or loss, however caused.
64. The official safety precautions are to be prominently displayed at all matches and competitions authorised by the League.
65. The Management Committee shall have power to decide on any matter not covered by the rules.
66. Notice of a proposed alteration to the rules must be sent to the League Secretary by the end of June, for consideration at a special general meeting of the League (Rule 67). A copy of the proposed alterations must be circulated to team secretaries one month prior to the meeting date.
67. A special general meeting of League members will be held to consider proposed rule amendments, unless in the opinion of the Management Committee, the amendments can be more conveniently dealt with at the next Annual General Meeting.

Cup Competition Rules

General:

For all League competitions, two markers shall be appointed by the Management Committee, the first marker to call the shot, the second marker to agree and record the shot before the first marker can paint the first shot out. In the event of a disagreement between the markers, the shot is to be refired, but the second shot shall not count more than the higher value of the disputed shot, nor less than the lower value of that shot.

The President's Senior Trophy

1. The competition shall be open to the top one-fifth (max. 32) shooters with the highest averages for the season and who have fired in at least one third of the League fixtures. The last three matches are not to count for purposes of this rule.
2. In the first round of the competition, the eight shooters with the highest scores go forward to the second round, which will be the start of the knockout competition.
A draw for each concluding round will be made once the qualifiers are known.
3. In the event of a tie for the eighth place in the first round, it will be decided by the count back system. For the remaining knockout rounds of the competition, tied matches will be refired.
4. All rounds of the competition are to be contested on specified nights, and at times issued by the Competition Secretary.
5. The winner shall hold the trophy for one year. The losing finalist will receive the Bill Thompson Memorial Cup and hold this trophy for one year. (See rule 62)

The President's Junior Trophy

1. The competition shall be open to all junior shooters who have fired in at least one third of League fixtures. The last three matches are not to count for the purpose of this rule. A junior shooter shall be a member who is under eighteen years of age on the date that the League fixtures commence. (Rule 7). If a junior shooter shall qualify for the Presidents Senior Trophy, he/she will not be eligible to compete for the junior trophy.
2. The competition will be held over three rounds, with the winner of the competition being the shooter with the highest total score from three rounds.
3. Tied scores for either winner or runner-up positions will be decided by a refire.
4. All rounds of the competition are to be fired at the same date and venue as the Echo & Express/ Dai James Cup competitions.
5. The winner shall hold the trophy for one year. (See rule 62)

The Echo & Express Cup and Dai James Cup

1. The competition shall be open to all members in the lower four fifths of the League membership who are not eligible for either the President's Senior or Junior trophies. A '*maximum average score*' shall be determined by the Management Committee each season. The Dai James Cup shall be open to those members with the '*maximum average score*' or less for the whole season. Members must have fired in at least three League and/or handicap League fixtures to be eligible for either competition.
2. The competition will be held over three rounds, with the winner of each competition being the shooter with the highest total score of the three rounds.
3. All three rounds of the competition are to be contested on dates and venues arranged and issued by the Competition Secretary. The last call for shooters on either round will be 9.30pm; an extension may be applied for to the Competition Secretary prior to the round start time. If a qualifier is not able to attend one of the first two rounds, two separate scores can be shot on either of the first two rounds.
4. Tied scores for either winner or runner-up positions will be decided by a refire.
5. The winners of the respective trophies shall hold the trophies for one year. (see rule 62)

The Handicap League & Rumney Royal British Legion Cup

1. Teams in both competitions compete as a handicapped basis. The handicap League will be shot as a divisional league fixture. The Rumney Cup knockout competition will be run separately to League fixtures.
2. Members must have fired in three League fixtures in the first half of the season to be eligible for a handicap allowance in both competitions. In respect of the handicap League only, new members to the League will start with a 'scratch handicap' until they have completed three League event scores for their handicap to be evaluated. Each year a list of eligible qualifiers will be issued for clarification.
3. A handicap League team shall consist of not more than nine shooters and not less than five. The five highest scores shall count for the "A" match score with the next three highest counting scores to be the "B" team score. A Rumney British Legion Cup team shall consist of four shooters, all to count for the match score.

Divisional Handicap League.

The handicaps will be assessed at a minimum of three weeks throughout the competition. All shooters scores including handicap will be capped at 70 thus a maximum "A" team score is 350 and "B" team score is 210.

Rumney Royal British Legion Cup

All shooters scores including handicap will be capped at 70 thus a maximum team score is 280.

4. A Reserve can be used in this competition, providing the reserves start competition or new shooters average does not exceed the person being replaced. The reserve must also be a registered League member of the named team and can only represent one team in the competition.
5. Unless mutual arrangements have been made between the team secretaries, the matches shall be continuous once started. Rumney Cup matches should be contested separately and if the result is a tie are to be refired on the away team's range. If both teams agree matches may be shot concurrent with another fixture or if a match is tied, refired on the same date and venue, time permitting.
6. The semi-finals and final of the Rumney Cup shall be fired on neutral ranges and arranged by the Competition Secretary. Pellets are to be provided by the League.
7. The Handicap League winners will receive the Quentin Miles Trophy, which shall be a perpetual trophy. The Rumney Cup shall be the property of the club who are the winners three years in succession.
8. If separate entries are not received from a registered team for the Rumney Cup, one team consisting of the four highest averages shall be entered automatically.

Other League Events

Entry forms and rules for the Fred Leak Memorial Trophy, Senior Pairs, League Pairs, League Trebles, David Montgomery-Williams Inter Area Cup competition, Newport Open Shoot and Summer League competitions will be circulated each season at the appropriate times by the Competition Secretary.