



2017 RULES AND REGULATIONS

GENERAL

1. The Serious About British Skittles Championship is organised by Serious About Events.
2. The organisers have appointed a referee whose decision on the interpretation of these Rules and any incident arising from them will be final.
3. Subject to sufficient entries, three separate competitions will be held: Men's, Ladies and Mixed (see Rule 10a).

TEAM ENTRY AND PLAYER REGISTRATION

4. Teams must register a minimum of eight players (mixed teams will comprise of at least three men or three ladies). Cost for entry is £8.00 per person. Teams that register 10 or more players before 1st May 2017 will have the option of one free temporary player - see Rule 8b.
5. Entrants must be aged 18 years or over. The exception to the rule is that each team are allowed two players aged 16+. The captain is held responsible for these two players.
6. Teams must have enough players registered to have a full team for all matches. It is the secretary's responsibility to ensure that enough players are registered to cover holidays/work commitments, and to ensure matches are played within the time provided.
7. Players may not register for more than one team in the same competition, although a player may play in the Men's or Ladies competitions plus the Mixed if they wish. In the event of players playing for more than one team (i.e. Men's and Mixed and Ladies and Mixed) their respective secretaries must ensure that there are sufficient players registered to cover the eventuality of both teams reaching the Grand Finals and having to play at the same time. In the event of this happening, Men's, Ladies and Mixed teams can have a maximum of four players simultaneously playing in other matches.
- 8a. Separate entry forms must be completed for each team entered. Closing date for entries is 8th April 2017. All player's signatures must be received at Serious About Events by 30th April 2017. Failure to return the forms and signatures by the dates stated could result in the rejection of that team entry and all monies paid held. Unlimited additional players can be registered to the team up until midnight on 30th April 2017.
- 8b. After midnight on 30th April 2017, each team can register up to **three** additional players on the condition that they have not registered for any other team in the same competition. These can be as either full registered players able to play in all matches including the Grand Final, or as temporary players able to play in a maximum of two matches **not** including the Grand Final. Full registered players can be entered at a cost of £8.00 per player. Temporary players can be entered at a cost of £4.00 per player. These player options are in addition to the free temporary player option open to all teams with 10 or more full registered players. The entry fee and signature for **any** additional player must be received 24 hours prior to the player's first match. All signatures received on scorecards will be verified. You must therefore ensure the signature provided is that of the named player. No counter-signatures will be accepted.
9. During the event we will take promotional photographs and films which may be used on our website and for promotional purposes you hereby agree to such use of our photographs and film.

COMPETITION FORMAT

10. Teams in each competition will (subject to sufficient entries) be placed into regional zones.
- 10a. In the event of insufficient entries to any competition, the organisers reserve the right to modify the competition format and amend the prize money allocations accordingly.
11. The stages will comprise of a group round and subsequent knockout rounds, depending on entries in each competition (see Rule 10a), with the best 16 teams in the Ladies and Mixed event and best 32 teams in the Men's event, qualifying for the Grand Finals which will be staged at Riviera International Conference Centre, Torquay on Saturday 16th September 2017.
12. In the group and knockout rounds, all teams will play each other home and away.

SCORING SYSTEM

13. Teams will receive 4 points for an away win, 3 points for a home win, 2 for a draw. If a match is conceded, it will be deemed that the non-offending team will have won the match and receive points according to home/away wins. 2 points will be deducted from the offending team.
14. In the group rounds, if, on completion of all group matches two teams are tied on points, then the team with the highest percentage of pins scored will decide. If more than two teams are tied, then the highest percentage of pins scored between the teams involved will decide (this will be calculated by adding the pin scored percentage for each team). If the teams are level on the total pin scored percentage, then the following rule will apply: The highest and lowest individual player's final score for the matches concerned will be totalled and the team with the highest total wins. In the event of a draw the two highest and lowest will be totalled and this continued until one team's total is higher and a winner declared.
15. In knockout rounds, if both teams are level on points after both matches then the team with the highest percentage of pins scored will decide. If the teams are still level then the final score rule as stated in Rule 14 will apply.

ORGANISING MATCHES

16. On receipt of the group or knockout draws, the home team secretary must contact the away team secretary within seven days and offer a minimum of three suitable dates for the fixture. The away team secretary should accept one of the proposed dates within three days. If the away team has a valid reason for not accepting any of the offered dates, they must immediately contact the referee whose decision will be final. Group matches can be played in any order. Once a date has been agreed it cannot be changed within seven days or less of the agreed date, unless agreed by both secretaries and the referee. If a team has to cancel seven days or more before the match then the home team is required to provide at least two alternative dates. To avoid misunderstandings, both secretaries must be clear when discussing dates therefore the home captain must confirm the date agreed by email or text to the away captain, and the away captain confirm their acknowledgement by reply. All confirmed or amended dates **MUST** be sent, text or emailed to Serious About Events.
17. Both secretaries must agree the start time of a confirmed match. Both teams must be ready to commence the match within 15 minutes of the agreed time, unless agreed by both captains. In unforeseen circumstances the referee must be contacted.
18. Each secretary must inform the Serious About Events of all dates of home fixtures to be played once confirmed including any agreed change of dates. This must be no later than 72 hours prior to the match unless in exceptional circumstances.
19. Home captains must confirm the ball person arrangements of their alley when agreeing fixtures. All home teams not using a ball person must inform the visiting team when arranging the match. Any costs incurred to the visiting team (e.g. ball person, refreshments, etc), must be agreed when arranging fixtures. It is the responsibility of the visiting team captain if they have players aged 16/17 to check if there are any age restrictions at the venue attending when arranging dates.
20. The home team is responsible for providing the scorecard, with both captains ensuring that it is filled in correctly and signed by all players who are taking part in the match before they play. **Failure to include valid signatures will result in the scores for that player being subtracted from the total.** No counter-signatures will be accepted.

MATCH RULES AND FORMAT

21. The home team will play first, all other home alley Rules and playing format will apply. The home captain must make the home Rules clear to the visiting captain prior to the commencement of the match. Only the equipment provided by the home alley can be used unless the home team secretary agrees alternatives. Any player may throw the ball in any style they wish. External aids may not be used except with the home team secretaries' agreement.
22. A player must be available when called to play; otherwise they will forfeit their turn. If a team has less than the required eight registered players for a match then only the scores of the registered players in attendance will count.
23. All-in Rules apply. A match will consist of **six** legs. Each player will throw three times with the potential to score a maximum of 27 points.
24. Respect must be shown when the opposing team is playing, that is, no barracking or intimidation.
25. The location of a home alley can only be changed with the consent of the referee.
26. When a team is playing, at least one player from the opposing team **must** be present at the alley.

REPORTING RESULTS

27. **The winning team** must forward the scorecard to Serious About Events within 72 hours of the match being completed. This can be by post, email or fax. If emailing or faxing scorecards, both sides of the scorecard must be sent. The winning team must keep a copy of the scores to verify the result in the case of scorecard not reaching Serious About Events. Scorecards sent with the incorrect postage will incur a charge to the team secretary and scores will not be updated until payment has been received.
28. Failure to forward scorecards within the time stipulated may result in points being deducted.

CLARIFICATIONS OR COMPLAINTS

29. For clarification of any of the Rules contact Serious About Events. If clarification is required during a match, contact the referee Rachel Hosking on 07767 698810 or Brian Pengelly on 07778 287387.
30. If a team wishes to make a complaint about anything to do with a match they must fill in an official complaint form obtained from Serious About Events and forward it, together with a cheque for £20.00 to the Serious About Events to arrive within 72 hours of the event. If, in the opinion of the referee, the complaint was justified, the £20.00 will be returned.

THE GRAND FINALS

31. Entry to the Riviera International Conference Centre (RICC) will be free for all registered players of qualifying teams for the duration of the finals day. This will include evening entertainment. There will be a special admission rate for spectators and supporters for a day and evening entry pass. A wide selection of accommodation (including a Serious About Events affiliated special rate hotel) are all within close proximity to the RICC.
32. The minimum age for entry is 18 with exception for any registered players aged 16+
33. All 64 teams (subject to sufficient entries, see Rule 10a) in the Grand Finals must forward their Grand Final Team Attendance form to Serious About Events to confirm their place. This must be received by the date stated in the final round notification pack. Failure to meet this will result in the next best-placed team being offered the team space.
34. The first round will be round robin, four teams per group. Group winners to progress to straight knockout rounds to the final. Each match will consist of **four** legs apart from the finals, which will be **five** legs (the referee retains the right to amend the legs played in the final to four if required).
35. All-in Rules apply.
36. The skittles to be used are made of wood and of the "Barrel Shape". The balls are five-inch rubber composite. The alleys consist of six portable wooden sections totalling 44ft in length.
37. The alleys will have a delivery area, a foot line and a ball line. The delivery area is the area between the foot line and the external edge of a surrounding 1.5" high perimeter. When delivering the ball, players must have both feet on the alley behind the foot line. No part of the player's body can be in contact with the floor outside the perimeter although it is permissible to overlap the edge of the alley. The ball must make contact with the alley before it crosses the ball line. Feet or body may cross the foot line once the ball has left the hands but must not cross the ball line. In the event of two handed play, shoulders must be behind the foot line at the time the ball is released. External aids to allow a skittler to choose their throwing position on the alley is permitted with prior arrangement from the referee.
38. Captains to toss a coin for choice of either order of play (for example down or across the board) or playing first or second. In the event of playing in pairs/groups across the board, names need only be entered on the board and scorecard, as they are required to play.
39. A full set of Grand Finals format and equipment Rules will be forwarded to each team reaching the Grand Finals. For more information or clarification please contact Serious About Events.

PRIZES

Winners

Men's, Ladies and Mixed winning teams will win a Serious About Skittles weekend for 10 persons* (or cash alternative**) Along with British Champion shirts, trophy and medals making the total prizes worth over £2,000.

Runners-up

Men's, Ladies and Mixed runners-up will win 50% discount for a Serious About Skittles weekend for 10 persons* (or cash alternative**) Along with team shirts, trophy and medals making the total prizes worth over £1000.

* Terms and Conditions

- Weekend includes two nights full or half board en-suite accommodation and coach travel.
- Valid for all 2017/18 or 2018/19 Serious About Skittle weekends, subject to availability.
- A minimum of four registered players from the winning/runner up team must attend the weekend. This allows for a maximum of six non registered players to use the remaining spaces.
- Teams are welcome to bring additional persons at the advertised price.
- Usual Serious About Events Terms and Conditions apply.

** There is a cash alternative to the weekend prize of £800 for winning teams and £400 for runner-up teams. The team secretary must notify Serious About Events by 17th October 2017 if they wish to take the cash alternative.

Note: prize money allocation (once confirmed) may change depending on sufficient entries (see Rule 10a).

Further entry forms, player registration forms, Rules and Regulations, scorecards, home alley appraisal forms and match fixture forms can be downloaded from the Serious About Skittle Championships website. The original player registration forms must be posted. All other forms can be faxed or emailed.

TEAM PRESS OFFICERS

In order to promote publicity for your team and the event, entrants are requested to appoint a "Team Press Officer". The main role will be to obtain local press coverage of team matches and collect all press articles featuring the Serious About British Skittles Championship within your region. They will be required to submit their press coverage achievements to Serious About Events and in return, your entry will be judged for the Press Officer Award 2017.

The winner will receive £100 in prize money. The runner-up will receive £50 in prize money. The third placed press officer will receive £25 in prize money.

The appointee need not have any previous experience. An information press pack will be forwarded to each appointed team press officer, and Serious About Events will be at hand for any assistance needed. This competition has proved very popular over past years, which has not only given team members an opportunity for recording and documenting their team's achievements, but has enhanced the Championships with the appearance of regular reports, photographs and updates in the local and regional press.

DATA PROTECTION

For this event we must relay your personal information to others. The personal information will be relevant to the organising of this event. Your personal contact details will be supplied to all team secretaries to arrange fixtures. Any other personal information will only be provided to relevant suppliers to enable us to organise this event. We may share your information with other carefully selected third parties who may contact you. If you do not wish your personal information to be passed on to third parties, please request so in writing.

Serious About British Skittles Championship

Bank Chambers, 1 Vaughan Parade, Torquay, Devon TQ2 5EG

Tel: 01803 210210 Fax: 01803 203116

Email: enquiries@seriousaboutevents.co.uk

Web: www.seriousaboutevents.co.uk

Shoot Out Club Ltd T/A Serious About Events. Directors: B. Pengelly & R. Hosking.

Registered Office: 78 Dolphin Crescent, Paignton, Devon, Devon TQ3 1JZ.

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