



SOUTHERN COUNTIES SCRABBLE® LEAGUE

NEWS

ISSUE 28
FEBRUARY 2009

Plus the
LEAGUE HANDBOOK

SCRABBLE® is the registered trademark of JW Spear PLC Maidenhead;
a subsidiary of Mattel Inc. © Mattel 2003.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

It is with some apprehension that I take over the organisation of the League from my two very competent predecessors- Michael Partner and Peter Sime and I just hope I am as competent at the task as they were.

I was hoping to have a comparatively stress free first season by keeping to the status quo and making no changes to the organisation. But due to the loss of three teams since the start of the 2008 season the 2009 second division would have been, in my opinion, unacceptably geographically dispersed. So I have rearranged the League into three geographical divisions which I hope will be acceptable.

To allow a reasonable time for the Playoff matches I have shortened the time allocated to the Group 3 matches by 20 days.

If any team can make amicable arrangements to play matches in an earlier session they may do so without consulting me.

I have set up a Web Site for the Southern Counties Scrabble League which I hope you will all look at-
www.southerncountiesscrabbleleague.co.uk

The web site is fully accessible but still under development. One useful feature is that you will be able to download copies of the SCSL News. I am intending in 2010 to offer a discount on League entry fees for those who do not require me to mail them the SCSL News but will be willing to download.
Ruth Marsden



IN THIS ISSUE

Tournament activity
Club venues
Scrabble news

League handbook
2009 fixtures -
Team directory -
Match rules -

Please send your comments,
news and ideas to
Ruth Marsden
27 Spencer Road, Canford Cliffs
Poole, Dorset, BH13 7ET
tel 01202 707148
email rtmrsdn@aol.com

SCRABBLE NEWS ROUND UP

Southern Counties Scrabble Club News needs to hear from you!

SCSL News will be running a letters page from the next edition. This is your club newsletter, and we are keen to hear your thoughts, ideas and opinions.

So if you would like to share a thought or simply get something off your chest, write to or email SCSL News editor Ruth Marsden. The next issue will be published in early June and Ruth is looking forward to a heavy postbag! The deadline for Issue 29 is 29 May 2009.

Ruth can't guarantee to publish all letters but will pick out the most pertinent, amusing or newsworthy items for each issue.

So get your pens or keyboards out and start writing!

Southern Counties Scrabble League News goes green

Conscious of the need to reduce paper consumption and do our bit for the environment, SCSL News will be available electronically as well as in hard copy in 2009.

Sent to you as a full colour PDF*, you can save, store, search, print any parts you need and easily forward on to club members.

If you would like to receive this edition and further 2009 editions electronically please contact Ruth Marsden. You can opt to receive both electronic and hard copy, just electronic or just hard copy.

*PDFs can be read with the free Acrobat Reader software visit <http://get.adobe.com/uk/reader/>

Have I got news for you



***Scrabble Club News** featured as the guest publication on the BBC Two satirical news quiz at the end of October.

Panellists Alexander Armstrong, Ian Hislop, Paul Merton and Kevin McGuire made a mixture of amusing, affectionate and biting comments about the game and the players featured in the September issue.

If you missed it first time round look out for repeat showings or visit www.bbc.co.uk/haveigotnewsforyou

*Reported in Scrabble Club News December 08 edition

TOURNAMENT REPORTS

Isle of Wight Charity Weekend

Two nine game Round Robins were played, a First and Second prize being awarded in each group for each RR. The results were:

First Half

Division	First	Second
A	P Richards	A Richards
B	J Philips	D Reading
C	H Parker	P Hall
D	T Cooper	J Warren
E	K Lovell	J Mills

Second Half

Division	First	Second
A	P Downer	N Turner
B	D Shenkin	M Staunton
C	M Seabrook	M Lane
D	W Tileyr	N Williams
E	J Milford	C Tollitt

The prize winners' tables show successes by local players, many of whom support the League.

The following was received from Noel Turner:

Islanders Eclipse Australians

Newport's Penny Downer dominated the first major Scrabble tournament of the year, held at Sandown's Carlton Hotel, despite the challenge put up by 3 Australians who were warming-up for the following week's UK Open. Penny won 14 of her 16 games, 3 more than her nearest challenger. The only games she lost all weekend were to her Newport rival and last year's winner Noel Turner, who finished runner-up, and to the youngest and strongest New South Wales representative, Alastair Richards, who ultimately came 3rd.

The event which was attended by 46 players, took the form of two sets of round-robins, with promotion and relegation at the half-way stage. Alastair's father Paul Richards dominated the first round-robin, winning 7 of his 8 games. Alastair, with 6 was second at that stage, with Penny on 6 in 3rd. Noel managed to keep his place in the top division for the second half with 4 wins including his win over Penny. Ryde's Ivan Swallow dropped out of the top group, but was replaced by Newport's David Reading whose 6 wins had given him 2nd place in the B division. Hazel Parker was another Island success of the first round. Her 6 wins out of 8 won her the C Division, and promotion to the B group for the second half.

It was David's promotion, though, which proved crucial, as it was he who recorded the first win over top-rated Alastair Richards in the second round, opening-up the opportunity for Penny to do the same, on the way to a clean 8 wins out of 8.

Penny's national rating soared after the event, rising from 167 to 172, and putting her in the country's Top 50 players.

Ellen Weeks directed the event on behalf of the charity Age Concern (Isle of Wight), for which over £1600 was raised.

West Sussex Sunday 25 January

Prize Winners-

Division	First	Second	Third
A	Kevin Synnott	Chris Vickary	Noel Turner
B	Pricilla Munday	Stephen Wintle	Wendy Tiley
C	Florence Fontaine	Susan Thorne	Margaret Coleman

The following was received from Peter Hall the tournament organizer:

A pleasant run of the mill tournament on a wet day in Rustington saw 54 competitors in 3 divisions battling it out for the honours with no real problems to sort out the sort of tournament directors like to run

Just for fun I have listed 25 of the words challenged on the day can you spot the 5 phoneys?

liana	arti	coite	cang	knout	culti	abjoin
vitigo	soca	deles	cums	roin	volante	senopia
donsier	bountied	brisking	niobate	kotowing	unsober	tenthly
caterans	overthin	facejob	stranges			

Answers listed at the foot of the next page

CLUB VENUES

Many clubs welcome visitors from other clubs. It's a great way to meet new people, enjoy a friendly game and perhaps get some ideas for your own club. So why not call the contact, check they are meeting that week and arrange a visit.



Club	Memb.	Venue	Times	Contact
Andover and District	9	Abbotts Ann Village Hall, Abbotts Ann nr Andover	Mondays 19.15	Jane Weston 01264 710215
Basingstoke	18	Richard Aldworth School, Western Way, Basingstoke	Mondays 19.30	Pat Williams 01256 770044
Bournemouth	27	Tuckon Social Club Bournemouth	Saturdays 13.00-17.00	Elizabeth Jardine 01202 419708
Brighton and Hove	24	St Leonard's Church Hall, Glebe Villas, Hove	Mondays and Fridays 18.30-22.30	George Newman 01273 230356
Carshalton	20	St Elpheges Centre, 118 Stafford Road, Wallington	Wednesdays 19.15-22.30	Pam Windsor 01883 347217
Dorking	16	Roy Currie Room, United Reform Church, Dorking	Wednesdays 19.30	Peter Baker 01737 842210
East Berks	21	St Sebastian's Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Crowthorne	Thursdays 19.30-22.30	Lynn Giles 01252 640435
Guildford	16	The Riverside Centre, Friary Street, Guildford (through underpass next to Woolworths at bottom of North Street)	Wednesdays 19.30-23.00	Andrea Watson 01483 823624
Newport	25	Riverside Centre, Newport Quay, Isle of Wight	Tuesdays 19.30-22.30	Noel Turner 01983 614426
Portsmouth and Southsea	20	Southsea Community Centre, St Pauls Square, Southsea	Mondays 19.15-22.00 Thursdays 13.00-16.00	Viv Newman 92371589
Ramsgate	12	Granville Cinema, Ramsgate, Kent	Mondays 10.00-12.00	Georgina Cook 01843 853375
Reading	18	Beansheaf Community Centre, Charrington Road, Calcot Reading	Wednesdays 19.15-22.15	Keith Churcher 0118 947 3353
Rustington	36	Guide Hall, Woodlands Centre, Woodlands Avenue, Rustington	Tuesdays 13.30-16.30	Pat Lawton 01903 726855
Ryde	48	George Street Centre, George Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight	Mondays 19.10	Margaret Webb 01983 611035 or 01983 812827
Salisbury	20	Check venue	Tuesdays 19.00-22.00 Thursdays 14.00-16.00	David Holt c/o Bob Lynn, Match Liaison 01722 325623
Southampton	23	Hilldene Centre, West End, Southampton	Wednesdays 19.30-22.30	Alan Bailey 023 9238 4360
South Downs	15	Hampden Park Bowling Club, Park Avenue, Hampden Park, Eastbourne	Thursdays 18.45-22.00	Ed Breed 01424 219334

abjoin coite cums vitigo & facejob are the phoneys P Hall

TOURNAMENT ACTIVITY

Get out and about over the weeks to come and participate in these Southern Counties tournaments. If you have a fixture you would like included in the next edition, let Ruth Marsden have the details – contact info on page one.



Andover <i>9th Grand Hampshire Open Scrabble Championship</i>	6 games	Contact Venue	Alan Bailey 023 9238 4360 John Hanson School, Floral Way, Andover, SP10 3PB
Sunday 22 February		Cost Registration First game Refreshments	M £18 / NM £20* 09.15 10.20 Hot lunch provided, plus tea and coffee
East Sussex	6 games	Contact Venue	Ed Breed 01424 219334 Hailsham Community Hall, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AE
Sunday 14 March		Cost Registration First game Refreshments	M £13 / NM £15* 09.00 10.00 Tea and coffee provided
Southampton	6 games	Contact Venue	Alan Bailey 023 9238 4360 Hedge End Village Hall, Hedge End, Southampton
Sunday 29 March		Cost Registration First game Refreshments	M £13 / NM £15* 09.10 10.00 Tea and coffee provided
Bournemouth	7 games	Contact Venue	Ruth Marsden 01202 707148 Roper Hall, 5 Victoria Park Road, Moordown, Bournemouth
Sunday 10 May		Cost Registration First game Refreshments	M £13 / NM £15 09.30 10.00 Tea and coffee provided
West Sussex	7 games	Contact Venue	Peter Hall 01903 775396 Maltravers Club, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5NA
Sunday 16 August		Cost Registration First game Refreshments	M £13 / NM £15 09.00 10.00 Tea and coffee provided
Bournemouth	7 games	Contact Venue	Ruth Marsden 01202 707148 Roper Hall, 5 Victoria Park Road, Moordown, Bournemouth
Sunday 4 October		Cost Registration First game Refreshments	M £13 / NM £15 09.30 10.00 Tea and coffee provided



SOUTHERN COUNTIES SCRABBLE® LEAGUE

2009 LEAGUE HANDBOOK

SOUTHERN COUNTIES SCRABBLE® LEAGUE 2009 DIVISIONS

Western division

Basingtoke
 Bournemouth Magpies
 Bournemouth Ospreys
 Newport Blue
 Newport Red
 Salisbury
 Southampton Saints
 Southampton Sinners

Central division

Guildford
 Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers
 Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates
 Reading Oaks
 Reading Whiteknights
 Ryde Bees
 Ryde Hornets
 Ryde Ladybirds

Eastern division

Brighton & Hove Regents
 Carshalton Curlews
 Dorking
 East Berks Beavers
 East Berks Rack Pack
 Ramsgate
 Rustington
 Southdowns Scorpions

SOUTHERN COUNTIES SCRABBLE LEAGUE Champions Board

1985	Croydon Red	1994	Croydon Red	2003	East Berks Z
1986	Croydon Red	1995	East Berks Z	2004	Brighton and Hove Regents
1987	Reading	1996	Richmond	2005	Southampton Saints
1988	East Berks Z	1997	East Berks Z	2006	Southampton Saints
1989	Oxford	1998	East Berks Z	2007	Southampton Saints
1990	Oxford	1999	Richmond	2008	Southampton Saints
1991	Oxford	2000	East Berks Z		
1992	Oxford	2001	East Berks Z		
1993	East Berks Z	2002	Brighton and Hove Regents		

FIXTURES FOR THE 2009 SEASON**Western division**

Group one matches

1 March to 31 May

Southampton Saints	V	Bournemouth Magpies
Newport Red	V	Bournemouth Ospreys
Salisbury	V	Basingstoke
Southampton Saints	V	Basingstoke
Bournemouth Magpies	V	Southampton Sinners
Basingstoke	V	Southampton Sinners
Newport Blue	V	Newport Red
Bournemouth Ospreys	V	Salisbury
Bournemouth Magpies	V	Newport Blue
Bournemouth Ospreys	V	Newport Blue
Southampton Sinners	V	Newport Red
Salisbury	V	Southampton Saints

Group two matches

1 June to 31 August

Basingstoke	V	Bournemouth Magpies
Southampton Sinners	V	Bournemouth Ospreys
Bournemouth Ospreys	V	Basingstoke
Newport Red	V	Salisbury
Southampton Saints	V	Newport Red
Newport Blue	V	Southampton Sinners
Bournemouth Magpies	V	Bournemouth Ospreys
Basingstoke	V	Newport Blue
Salisbury	V	Bournemouth Magpies
Newport Blue	V	Southampton Saints

Group three matches

1 September to 10 November

Newport Red	V	Basingstoke
Bournemouth Ospreys	V	Southampton Saints
Southampton Sinners	V	Salisbury
Southampton Saints	V	Southampton Sinners
Bournemouth Magpies	V	Newport Red
Newport Blue	V	Salisbury

Divisional Playoff

11 November 2009 to 10 January 2010

Eastern Division Winner	V	Central Division Winner
Central Division Winner	V	Western Division Winner
Western Division Winner	V	Eastern Division Winner

Central division

Group one matches

1 March to 31 May

Ryde Hornets	V	Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers
Reading Whiteknights	V	Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates
Ryde Bees	V	Guildford
Ryde Hornets	V	Guildford
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	V	Ryde Ladybirds
Guildford	V	Ryde Ladybirds
Reading Oaks	V	Reading Whiteknights
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	V	Ryde Bees
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	V	Reading Oaks
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	V	Reading Oaks
Ryde Ladybirds	V	Reading Whiteknights
Ryde Bees	V	Ryde Hornets

Group two matches

1 June to 31 August

Guildford	V	Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers
Ryde Ladybirds	V	Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	V	Guildford
Reading Whiteknights	V	Ryde Bees
Ryde Hornets	V	Reading Whiteknights
Reading Oaks	V	Ryde Ladybirds
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	V	Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates
Guildford	V	Reading Oaks
Ryde Bees	V	Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers
Reading Oaks	V	Ryde Hornets

Group three matches

1 September to 10 November

Reading Whiteknights	V	Guildford
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	V	Ryde Hornets
Ryde Ladybirds	V	Ryde Bees
Ryde Hornets	V	Ryde Ladybirds
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	V	Reading Whiteknights
Ryde Bees	V	Reading Oaks

Divisional Playoff

11 November 2009 to 10 January 2010

Eastern Division Winner	V	Central Division Winner
Central Division Winner	V	Western Division Winner
Western Division Winner	V	Eastern Division Winner

Eastern division

Group one matches

1 March to 31 May

Rustington	V	Carshalton Curlews
East Berks Rack Pack	V	Dorking
Ramsgate	V	Brighton & Hove Regents
Rustington	V	Brighton & Hove Regents
Carshalton Curlews	V	Southdowns Scorpions
Brighton & Hove Regents	V	Southdowns Scorpions
East Berks Beavers	V	East Berks Rack Pack
Dorking	V	Ramsgate
Carshalton Curlews	V	East Berks Beavers
Dorking	V	East Berks Beavers
Southdowns Scorpions	V	East Berks Rack Pack
Ramsgate	V	Rustington

Group two matches

1 June to 31 August

Brighton & Hove Regents	V	Carshalton Curlews
Southdowns Scorpions	V	Dorking
Dorking	V	Brighton & Hove Regents
East Berks Rack Pack	V	Ramsgate
Rustington	V	East Berks Rack Pack
East Berks Beavers	V	Southdowns Scorpions
Carshalton Curlews	V	Dorking
Brighton & Hove Regents	V	East Berks Beavers
Ramsgate	V	Carshalton Curlews
East Berks Beavers	V	Rustington

Group three matches

1 September to 10 November

East Berks Rack Pack	V	Brighton & Hove Regents
Dorking	V	Rustington
Southdowns Scorpions	V	Ramsgate
Rustington	V	Southdowns Scorpions
Carshalton Curlews	V	East Berks Rack Pack
East Berks Beavers	V	Ramsgate

Divisional Playoff

11 November 2009 to 10 January 2010

Eastern Division Winner	V	Central Division Winner
Central Division Winner	V	Western Division Winner
Western Division Winner	V	Eastern Division Winner



TEAM DIRECTORY

Basingstoke	Judy Young	01256 477957	199 Old Worthing Road, Basingstoke, RG22 6NS	
	alt Pat Williams	01256 770044		
Bournemouth Magpies	Maureen Chamberlain	01202 488191	9 Hanover Lea, Highview Close, Christchurch, BH23 2RH	zax@morcha.plus.com
	alt Margaret Staunton	01202 428988		
Bournemouth Ospreys	Ruth Marsden	01202 707148	27 Spencer Road, Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset, BH13 7ET	rtmrsdn@aol.com
	alt Val Wright	01202 314047		
Brighton and Hove Regents	George Newman	01273 230356	21 The Drive, Southwick, West Sussex, BH42 4RR	
	alt Verity Cross	01273 553615		
Carshalton Curlews	Pamela Windsor	01883 347217	9 Queen's Park Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5RB	
	alt Stuart Solomons	0208 8502271		staurquizzing@hotmail.com
Dorking	David Young	01306 889308	3 Chartwood Place, South Street, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 2JY	
	Peter Baker	01237 842210		
East Berks Beavers	Tricia Cooper	01344 452104	20 Wareham Road, Bracknell, RG12 9YT	cooperlady@hotmail.com
	alt Maureen Barlow	01344 454669		
East Berks Rack Pack	Charlotte Ward	01344 484914	1 Priory Lane, Warfield, Berks, RG42 2JU	lottabottle@yahoo.com

Guildford	Tim Charlton	01483 568846	1 Saint Omer Ridge, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 2DD	charlton@manson. demon.co.uk
	alt David Lawton	01483 715756		d_lawton@ btinternet.com
Newport Blue	Noel Turner	01983 614426	Elm View, 133 Marlborough Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 1AR	ellen.weeks@ virgin.net
	alt Penny Downer	01983 298665		Pennydowner@ uwclub.net
Newport Red	Jo Tebbutt	01983 840562	12 Worsley Road, Godshill, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 3HT	
	alt Sheila Jolliffe	01983 525523		
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	Peter Sime	01243 785413	2 Selham Close, Chichester, PO19 5BZ	simepv@ madasafish.com
	alt Rita Todd	023 9229 1587		
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	Michael Baxendale	023 9273 1816	2 Burgoyne Road, Southsea, Hants, PO5 2JJ	
	alt Jean Shaw	023 9259 2132		
Ramsgate	Georgina Cook	01843 853375	18 North Avenue, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 9BT	
Reading Oaks	Margaret Armstead	0118 9694189	31 Fawcett Crescent, Woodley, Reading, RH5 3HX	niandsi@btinternet.com
	alt Keith Churcher	0118 9473353		keithchurcher294@ btinternet.com
Reading Whiteknight	Elizabeth Hull	0118 9413882	24 Millers Grove, Calcot, Reading, RG31 7PH	elizabethhull@aol.com
	alt Ted Anderson	0118 9663133		
Rustington	Peter Hall	01903 775396	34 Lawrence Avenue, Rustington, West Sussex, BN16 3HX	
	alt Linda Beard	01903 782366		

Ryde Bees	Ian Caws	01983 565484	54 Mayfield Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 3PR	iancaws@msn.com
	alt Alan Everitt	01983 562005		meveritt@wight365.net
Ryde Hornets	Pam Fairless	01983 565293	34 Windmill Close, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 3BJ	
	alt Maureen Reynolds	01983 842187		maurbay@aol.com
Ryde Ladybirds	Jean Robinson	01983 611131	Basement Flat, 22 Spencer Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 2NY	
	alt Brenda Rodwell	01983 565570		
Salisbury	David Holt			
	alt c/o Bob Lynn Match Liaison Officer	01722 325623		RLynn71911@aol.com
Southampton Saints	Chris Finlay	023 8055 8013	1 Litchfield Crescent, Midanbury, Southampton, SO18 2BJ	
	alt Brenda Margereson	023 8034 5743		
Southampton Sinners	Alan Bailey	023 9238 4360	84 East Lodge Park, Portsmouth, PO6 1AQ	Bailall4@aol.com
	alt Tanya Robson	023 8046 3901		t.l.m.robson@hotmail.com
Southdown Scorpions	Joy Coomber	01323 735467	3 Egerton House, Buxton Road, Eastbourne, BN20 7LG	
	alt Sheila Tutt	01323 736987		shepet9@tiscali.co.uk

MATCH ARRANGEMENT, SCORING AND TEAM RULES 2009

Season and session dates

The main season will run from **1 March to 10 November** and will be divided into three sessions
1 March to 31 May **1 June to 31 August** **1 September to 10 November.**

An extra, fourth session from **11 November to 10 January 2010** is for the playoffs between divisional winners to determine the League Champion.

In general a team will play either two or three matches in each session. Any variation must be agreed by both teams and the League. (**Comment** Matches may be played earlier or later if both teams and the league agree but all fixtures must be completed by 10 November.)

Arranging matches

The home captain should contact the away team by the **15th day of each session** offering three or more dates for matches due to be played. These should include Saturdays and Sundays and cover a reasonable spread of time. Midweek matches are allowable if mutually agreeable. The away team then has **ten days** in which to select one of these dates otherwise the **home captain** will select one of them which will be deemed binding. If the home team does not offer dates by the required time they may lose their home advantage. The **away team** may choose a date and venue to suit themselves and inform the home team. The league will arbitrate if contacts seem unreasonably delayed or withheld. (**Comment** this rule is rarely invoked as most teams manage to mutually agree dates in a friendly manner within the spirit of the League.)

Team players and transfers

In a League match each team will consist of four players and a substitute may not be played once a match has commenced. A club team's players must be bona fide members of that club. Each player will be allocated a number (one to four indicating ability) for the match by their team captain and will play three games to a prearranged pattern. Thus twelve games constitute a match and the result depends on the number of games won. Six games each is deemed a draw regardless of the number of points scored by the two teams.

A team may use as many players as it wishes throughout a season but a player may only play for one team during the season. Once a player has played **one League match** they are deemed 'registered' to that team for the season. They may however subsequently play one League match for another of their club's teams in a higher division. Transfer of a player's team registration during the season might be considered by the League in special circumstances. (**Comment** to ensure that a fixture is played the League may agree some latitude here.)

Venue arrangement and necessary provisions

At the venue the home team shall provide **four Scrabble sets of Tournament standard** plus copies of the COLLINS SCRABBLE WORD LIST for challenges. A **clearly written challenge** shall be **adjudicated by a player of each team** at an adjacent table. Unlimited challenges are allowed without penalty. **COLLINS SCRABBLE WORD LIST – 2008 edition – is the approved authority in all League matches.** (**Comment** the complete book of words from two to fifteen letters should be available). Otherwise National Scrabble Club Rules and ABSP Games Rules apply.

The game ends when one player plays the final tile on their rack or if both players pass three times in succession, a successfully challenged word counting as a pass. **The four games shall be played in one room or two in each of two rooms.** Tables should be adequate size and height. Coffee tables are generally not suitable. The away team may choose where they sit for each game. The official score sheet should be completed at the end of the match, signed by both captains and posted promptly by the home team to the address shown.

Use of clocks

Clocks may be used in League matches if the **away team makes the request** at least two weeks before the match is due to be played. The requesting team must then provide four clocks of approved standard.

When clocks are not used the **correct time** to challenge is **after your opponent has declared and written down their score but before you write down that score.** (**Comment** the writing down of the score was chosen as the end of the turn as this represents clear evidence of each player's intentions whereas a spoken score might later be suggested to have only been an interim computation whilst seeking the best play.)

Match scoring

The match should commence reasonably close to the agreed time unless both captains agree on a justifiable delay. If a team player is short for a part or all of a match that player's games will be credited as a win to the nominated opponents for the purpose of the match and League records. A score of 375 and/or a spread of 75 may be used as appropriate. The match is deemed to have been won by the team which wins the most games.

The **League points scoring** is based on the match result

- Three points to the winning team
- One point to each team in a drawn match
- No points to the losing team

A team having a walk-over will be awarded three League points and between 6.5 and 12 game wins on their record depending on the League's view of the circumstances. Teams who cancel fixtures could have points deducted should the League decide the reason was unsound.

At the end of the season where teams are equal on points the team with the most game wins will gain the higher position in the League table. Total points scored or highest game scores may then be used should game wins be equal.

Final League positions

The Winner of the League will be decided by a playoff between the three winners of the Eastern, Central and Western Divisions.

Complaints, disputes and transgressions

All complaints, disputes or transgressions will be considered by the League Arbitration Panel and their ruling will be final.