

NIGHTRIDERS LEAGUE

CONSTITUTION

INTRODUCTION

The Nightriders League shall consist of up to 16 teams (after consultation with the Committee), each comprising 2 members of any gender.

The League's scheduled nights shall be bowled at Zone Bowling Southgate, 27 Port Hacking Road, Sylvania 2224 (herein Southgate Lanes). The League will commence promptly at 8.30pm each scheduled Tuesday night. The season shall commence 11 February 2025 and conclude on or about 28 October 2025. This consists of 32 rounds, including two positional rounds at the conclusion of the first round and second rounds.

COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Roy Candy	SECRETARY	Tracie Murphy
TREASURER	Benjamin Green	STATISTICIAN	Glenn Murphy

If a member of the Committee is not available their duties fall to the next available Committee Member. If no member of the Committee is available, his or her duties fall to the most senior Southgate Lanes representative present.

SANCTIONING

The Nightriders League is a non-sanctioned League. TBA rules shall apply where applicable except by decision of the Committee or where they conflict with this Constitution.

PRIZES

Prizes for overall team position are to be awarded from 1st to 16th place excluding any byes. Prizes for Individuals and all other Team prizes are to be awarded for 1st and 2nd places only, with additional places awarded at the discretion of the Committee. This may be adjusted to include additional places as the season progresses and/or additional teams which may join the League. The Committee must approve any adjustments. Any ties shall be decided by total handicap pinfall.

The methods by which all prizes will be disbursed shall be determined by the Treasurer. Where the method of disbursement is physical and/or in person none of the Treasurer, the Committee or the Nightriders League is liable for the prizes excepting reasonable duty of care as determined by the Committee. Prize money is to be distributed on an even basis regardless of gender.

Some prize fund monies may be allocated differently at the discretion of the Committee. If a bowler is in arrears at the end of the season their debt will be reclaimed from prize monies due to them at the discretion of the Committee.

Any unclaimed prizes shall be remanded to the League's Social Fund upon the commencement of reformation. All other disbursements shall be remanded to the League's Social Fund upon conclusion of the awards presentation. Special exemption is at the discretion of the Committee.

FEES

The fees for the Nightriders League are \$40.00 per week per bowler. The absentee fee of \$15.00. The fees are made up of the bowling fee, which is set by Southgate Lanes, and the Prize/Social Fund Contribution, which is the remaining balance. Any bowlers absent from any week of the season will pay the Absentee Fee for each week they have not bowled on the scheduled night.

There will be no arrears unless approved by the Committee. All bowlers must be fully paid up in the Prize/Social Fund by the end of the season. If any team has a reserve bowler wishing to be included in any individual prizes at the end of the season, the reserve bowler must be fully paid up into the Prize/Social Fund, including any weeks that they do not bowl as part of the team.

Any bowler not paid up in full by the end of the season will be ineligible to receive prize monies, including their portion of any Team prize monies, where applicable. In the event of disqualification all monies contributed to the Prize/Social Fund will be considered forfeited.

Absentee Fees can be paid in advance upon approval of the Treasurer. Social fees can be paid on advance upon approval of the Treasurer.

Valid methods of payment shall be determined by the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall give no less than two weeks' notice where a method of payment will become invalid where invalidated exclusively by the determination of the Treasurer.

BOWLERS

Bowlers can qualify for any of the following Individual prizes, subject to:

- Being fully paid up for Social Fees. This includes paying Social Fees when absent.
- If a bowler is a member of a team of 3, then to be eligible ALL bowlers must be paid up for Social Fees. If the team chooses to only have two eligible bowlers, then the two bowlers MUST be nominated at the beginning of the season (no later than week 3).

This may be adjusted to include additional placings as the season progresses and/or additional teams which may join the League. The Committee must approve any adjustments.

- High Game Scratch (Male and Female)
- High Game Handicap (Male and Female)
- High Series Scratch (Male and Female)
- High Series Handicap (Male and Female)

A single bowler may qualify for no more than one (1) Individual scratch or handicap award per season. All bowler prizes will be reviewed at the end of the season with the Prize Fund's final figures. Additional awards of nominal value may be awarded at the discretion of the Committee.

The following prizes shall be awarded to any eligible bowler irrespective of any other individual award won. This prize shall not be considered an Individual award for the purpose of qualifying for other Individual awards. The following prizes shall be awarded to bowlers who began the season with a carry over handicap from this League, or any other League recognised by the Committee.

➤ Most Improved Average (Male and Female)

This prize shall be awarded to one eligible male and one eligible female bowler, who has the largest positive difference between their current season scratch average and their prior three seasons rolling average. Each bowler must have a minimum of one prior season to be eligible for this prize.

TEAMS

Teams may qualify for any of the following subject to the team being financial. This may be adjusted to include additional placings as the season progresses and/or additional teams which join the League. The Committee must approve any adjustments:

- High Game Scratch
- High Series Scratch
- High Game Handicap
- High Series Handicap

All Team prizes will be reviewed at the end of the season. A team may qualify for no more than one (1) Team scratch or handicap award per season.

ENTERING AVERAGES

Averages from the previous League season shall be carried forward over to this League season for the first 9 games.

After the first 9 games Bowler's averages and handicaps will be calculated on a weekly basis. This will be based on total scratch pinfall together with the number of games bowled each week.

New bowlers joining the League, without a prior League average will need to bowl three (3) consecutive games, after which their average and handicap will be calculated on that night and applied retrospectively.

LEGAL LINE UP

The legal line up for a two (2) person team is to be a minimum of one (1) bowler. This also includes any pre-bowling.

If a bowler leaves the League their team is eligible for a vacancy straight away. The bowler that has left the League cannot return to the League during that season.

If a bowler is absent from the League for three (3) consecutive weeks, without notification (with reason for absence) to the Committee, their team must use a vacancy from the fourth week of absence. The absent bowler will be deemed to be no longer a member of the League. The bowler will also forfeit any money contributed to the Prize/Social Fund. The bowler cannot return to the League during that season.

Any long term bowlers that are absent for more than three (3) weeks, with notification to the Committee (eg injury, work commitments, travel) will be permitted to have their team use their blind score in lieu of a vacancy score. This will be at the discretion of the Committee.

VACANCY

Where a team cannot field a full team, a vacancy score of 150, with a handicap of 67 shall be used. The use of a vacancy score will be treated the same as a blind score. Teams joining the League with a legal line up will take the place of any Bye within the League. A team taking the place of a Bye, or joining the League mid season will start of the lowest team point score.

Any teams joining the League in the place of any Bye or mid season will be at the discretion of the Committee.

HANDICAP

Handicaps will be calculated at 90% of the difference between the bowler's average and 225, rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.

TEAM ROSTER

Each team may have a maximum of two (2) bowlers. It will be each team Captain's responsibility to ensure the League Secretary has a roster of all team members, including a contact phone number and email address, within the first three (3) weeks of the commencement of the season.

If a bowler is absent from the League for three (3) consecutive weeks, without notification (with reason for absence) to the Committee, their team must use a vacancy from the fourth week of absence. The absent bowler will be deemed to be no longer a member of the League. The bowler will also forfeit any money contributed to the Prize/Social Fund. The bowler cannot return to the League during that season.

Any long term bowlers that are absent for more than three (3) weeks, with notification to the Committee (eg. injury, work commitments, travel) will be permitted to have their team use their blind score in lieu of a vacancy score. This will be at the discretion of the Committee.

If any team has a reserve bowler (see Reserves below) wishing to be included in any individual prize at the end of the season, the reserve bowler must be fully paid up in the Prize/Social Fund, including any weeks that they do not bowl as part of the team.

If a bowler leaves a team to join another team that bowler cannot rejoin their original team during the season. Approval from the Committee is required for any team changes.

RESERVES

A team may have a maximum of one (1) reserve. If for any reason any member of the team (including the reserve) leaves the League, their team is entitled to an additional reserve (subject to approval by the Committee). This can occur once during the season.

PRE BOWLING

Pre bowling is permitted. A bowler shall be permitted to pre bowl for up to two (2) scheduled nights (a total of 6 games) for any given period of consecutive absence. Any subsequent pre bowls are forfeit until such time as the bowler has completed one game in person during a scheduled night.

Pre bowls will only be valid where the bowler submits scores in advance for all games on a scheduled night not more than two (2) weeks in advance of the scheduled night. A bowler that has recorded a valid pre bowl shall be considered in attendance for the night on which the submitted scores apply.

The bowler is responsible for notifying a member of the Committee either in person, via SMS, via phone or email prior to pre bowling. The bowler is solely responsible to pay Southgate Lanes any, all and only lane fees due at normal League night rates. The bowler is solely responsible to pay the Treasurer one absentee fee for each night or part thereof pre bowled. The Nightriders League is not liable for, and will not recognise, payments other than those paid directly to the Treasurer. The Committee is permitted to modify the requirements for a valid pre bowl without notice for any bowler/bowlers where special circumstances as determined by the Committee are considered. The Committee is permitted to invalidate any pre bowl without prejudice and

notice where the bowler has been deemed to be acting not in the spirit of the League as determined by the Committee.

TARDY BOWLERS

A tardy bowler will be permitted to begin bowling from the first frame, with their score to count, provided that either team has not completed the third frame of the first game. A tardy bowler must be on the lanes, and ready to commence bowling, before the commencement of the fourth game of the first game, otherwise they will not be permitted to bowl until the beginning of the second game.

If any games are not bowled, then the bowler's blind score will be used provided a member of the team has bowled.

Tardy bowlers must be present in the playing area at the commencement of the subsequent game/s.

Tardy bowlers are still required to pay the full Social/Prize Fund fee. Bowling fee discounts will need to be discussed with the Treasurer and Southgate Lanes representative.

PACERS

Pacers are permitted provided there are no more than two (2) bowlers per lane, ie a pacer is only permitted to fill a vacancy, a blind bowler or a Bye.

For a Bye, no more than two (2) pacers may play on the lane of the Bye.

Pacers shall be responsible for paying Southgate Lanes for their games.

BLIND SCORES

The blind score for this League shall be the bowler's average minus 5 pins, with no reduction in handicap. A blind score is included in the team game, team series and team pinfall to decide points won and lost. Points will be allocated for head to head pinfall. A blind score is not to be included in the individual team player's pinfall and will not affect the player's average.

DELAYS

The Committee will not allow unreasonable delays in the progress of any game. Should any member/s or team participating in this League refuse to proceed with the game after being directed to so by the Committee such game will be deemed a forfeit.

If a delay is due to unforeseen circumstances (eg injury) both team captains must agree to a suitable "delay time" and advise the Committee immediately.

POINTS

Points will be awarded as follows:

- 2 points per bowler – achieving their average
- 2 points per bowler – head to head with handicap for each game won
- 6 points per team – head to head with handicap for each game won
- 6 points per team – head to head with handicap for overall series win
- Where a game or series is tied the points will be split evenly
- 1 bonus point per bowler – for every 25 pins over average (eg bowl 25 pins over average and receive 1 bonus point, bowl 50 pins over average and receive 2 bonus points etc)

Points will be deducted as follows:

- 1 point per bowler – for every 25 pins under average (eg bowl 25 pins under average deduct 1 point, bowl 50 pins under average deduct 2 points etc)

Regardless of physical team line up on the scheduled night, for the purpose of calculating individual head to head points bowlers in each team will be deemed to have bowled in descending order of handicap value.

BLACKOUT

The 2025 season does not have a blackout period so this section is not applicable.

Scores and points shall not be tallied, nor reported, for the final four (4) weeks of the season. At the conclusion of the season the scores and points will be tallied and calculated by the League Statistician. The scores and points shall be available to all League members following the conclusion of the Award presentation when the League Statistician will upload these details to the League Website within a reasonable time.

FORFEITS

A team playing a forfeit **CANNOT** be credited with games won simply because they have a forfeit. The team must bowl against the forfeiting team's average plus handicap less 20 pins for a two (2) bowler team (10 pins for a one (1) bowler team) to decide each game. This figure is multiplied by three (3) to decide the series.

If the team bowls equal to 20 pins (10 pins for a one (1) bowler team) under team average then a draw is awarded. If the team bowls 19 pins or less (9 or less pins for a one (1) bowler team) under team average then a wins is awarded.

A team bowling against a forfeit must bowl equal to their average to win bonus points.

BYE

A team playing a Bye **CANNOT** be credited with games won simply because they have a Bye.

The team must bowl against two (2) vacancy averages plus handicap less 20 pins (one vacancy score, less 10 pins) to decide each game. This figure is multiplied by three (3) to decide the series.

If the team bowls equal to 20 pins (10 pins for a one (1) bowler team) under team average then a draw is awarded. If the team bowls 19 pins or less (9 or less pins for a one (1) bowler team) under team average then a win is awarded.

A team bowling against a Bye must still bowl equal to their average to win bonus points.

RATIFICATION

This Constitution can only be altered by a majority vote of all participating members of the Nightriders League, present and available. A majority is at least 50% of the teams, plus two (2) Committee members.

This Constitution has been amended and adopted by vote of all the participating members of the Nightriders League present at the Reformation Meeting held on Tuesday, 11 February 2025 (the number being 50% or more plus at least two (2) Committee members).

Signed Electronically

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ROY CANDY

TRACIE MURPHY

President

Secretary

11 February 2025

11 February 2025