

# **N.S.M.B.A. Matchplay Rules May 2023 Edition**

THIS REPLACES ALL PREVIOUS MATCHPLAY RULE SHEETS  
ALL MATCHES TO BE PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESMBA RULES

## **ARRANGING FIXTURES FOR LEAGUE MATCHES**

NSMBA will endeavour to canvas clubs as to their intentions for League participation, giving ample time for clubs to consider, and for their replies to be sent to the League Coordinator by a set cut-off date.

After this cut-off date, the Coordinator will consider the Leagues ready to be formulated, and will send off fixture sheets to the participating clubs with other necessary information.

Subsequently, appropriate time will be given between this notification and the start date of matches for Club Fixture Secretaries to make contact and to agree and confirm dates within the specified scheduled weeks.

All dates must be agreed within this period before the League start date and the Coordinator will need, by email, confirmation from each Club Fixture Secretary that all are in place and agreed with the opposing Fixture Secretary.

## **ARRANGING A MATCH WITHIN YOUR OWN CLUB**

Clubs with more than one team in the same League must complete all relevant home and away fixtures before the end of January.

## **PRIOR TO A MATCH IN BOTH LEAGUE (AND KNOCKOUT IF APPLICABLE)**

The Home Fixture Secretary must contact the away Fixture Secretary to arrange dates, times and venues. Away teams cannot dictate dates and must be prepared to attend on the day of the week set by the Home team - this may be, in some cases, the Home team's only option. Unless there are unavoidable exceptional circumstances, matches are to be played in the scheduled week. If the League Coordinator deems it necessary, additional weeks could be made available to clubs after the League finish date and this would be notified to Club Fixture secretaries. Clubs wishing to avail themselves of the weeks before the official League start date are free to make mutually agreed arrangements with opposing clubs if that is convenient.

## **MATCHPLAY REGULATIONS**

All players participating in a match must have been NSMBA registered for a minimum of one week, be in possession of a current registration card and must conform to NSMBA dress code. Players must play for only one team in each NSMBA League or Division of League, and additionally for only one team in any section of a Knockout Competition.

Mats and ancillary equipment must comply fully with NSMBA rules. All League matches will be played over 16 ends. After 8 ends have been played, the Home team shall supply, free of charge, to their opponents, a minimum of tea, coffee and biscuits. This rule may only be varied with the prior agreement of both teams. In the vent of unforeseen factors (e.g. power failure, etc.) causing the abandonment of a match, the following shall apply: Any match abandoned before ten ends have been completed on both mats, the scores at the time of abandonment shall count as the result of the match.

## **ALL MATCHES MUST BE PLAYED**

## **POSTPONEMENT OF A MATCH TO BE REARRANGED**

All matches postponed because of exceptional circumstances must be notified at once, by email, to the League Coordinator. A Club Fixture Secretary needing to make a postponement in exceptional circumstances should give as much notice to the opposing Fixture Secretary, with a minimum of 24 hours before the planned start of the match.