

General Information

Winter 2025-2026

PLEASE NOTE MATCHES COMMENCE AT 8PM

PLAYING RULES

At the MDPL AGM on 29 September 2025, it was voted and agreed to play to International Rules including the 45 second shot clock.

Shot Clock - 45 seconds allowed per shot, each player is allowed one 15 second extension per frame (see notes).

Breaking - League and competition games - Breaking is decided by a toss of a coin at the beginning of the match (after the first five names for each team have been entered on the sheet). The away captain (or his representative) will call. The winner of the toss of the coin chooses whether to break first or second. Breaks will then alternate between the teams for the remainder of the match, ie one team will break all the even numbered frames and the other will break the odd numbered frames.

Referees Calling Procedures – guidance has been sent to Captains by email.

Coaching – No coaching is allowed.

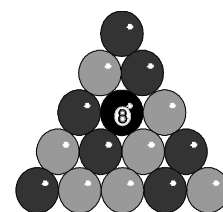
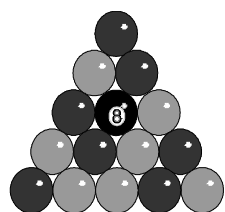
Your attention is drawn to Section 8 of the league Constitution headed Match Rules, sub section L states:

“All home teams shall supply not less than one referee, who will be fully conversant with the league and playing rules. He or she will be expected to give undivided attention and keep good order during play.”

MATCH FORMAT

League

- Matches will consist of 14 singles frames
- Minimum number of players to form a team is 5
- Maximum number of players to play in a team on the night is 14
- Any player may play a maximum of 3 frames – one in each section
- First five singles should be written out before the start of the match
- No limit on number of players registered for a team
- Players will be deemed to be registered after they have played in their first league match of the season
- Home Team referee all games, Away Team to time-keep all games
- Toss for first break, away Captain to call and decide to break odds or evens throughout match



Knockout Cup

- Matches will consist of 14 frames (1st Leg) 15 frames (2nd Leg)
- Any player who has not played in a league game and is required to play in a KO competition must seek dispensation from the MDPL Committee in order to play

Plate

- Matches will consist of 15 frames (Prelim) 15 frames (Semi) and over 2 legs in the final 14 frames (1st Leg) 15 frames (2nd Leg)
- Any player who has not played in a league game and is required to play in a Plate competition must seek dispensation from the MDPL Committee in order to play

SHOT CLOCK

At the 2025 AGM, it was agreed that the shot clock should be used for MDPL matches. The following is an extract from the rules:

6j Shot clock -

Each player is allotted 45 seconds for each shot. The tip of the cue must have made contact with the cue ball within this time or a standard foul shall be granted to the opponent. The 45-second shot clock will commence once all balls come to rest. The timekeeper will verbally count down from 5 seconds.

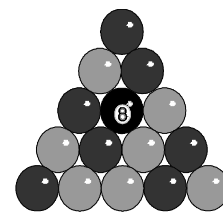
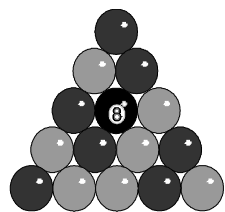
One extension per frame is permitted per player, whereby the referee will add 15 seconds to the remaining time at the request of the player.

To assist with timekeeping, there is a shot clock available on the EPA website. Go to www.epa.org.uk and look for 'Shot Clocks' on the menu.

Under current English Pool Referees Association guidelines, unlike the situation under World Rules, the timekeeper does NOT have the authority to call fouls under International Rules.

LATE RESULTS PENALTY £5

A reminder to all teams that there is a penalty of £5 to pay if a result is received late (after Friday of the match week). Both teams are responsible for sending a result in. If one team sends it in, there will be no fine, if neither team sends it in, both teams will be fined.



CANCELLED/LATE POSTPONEMENT OF MATCHES

Any team not giving their opponents at least 24 hours notice that they will be unable to fulfil a fixture shall be liable to a £10 fine.

If both captains agree to a postponement or change of date for a match, the captain of the team not requesting the change will offer three dates (excluding weekends), each being no later than four weeks prior to the last league match of the season and the Secretary/Results Secretary should be informed. Then if the postponing team cannot play on any of these days, they will forfeit the match. Both teams are responsible for ensuring that the fixture is completed. Failure to arrange the fixture may result in neither team being awarded points unless a team can show it has made every effort to arrange a suitable date. Disputes will be resolved by the Committee. The Committee may rearrange any fixture it considers necessary.

GENERAL – TO NOTE

Piggy's Pretenders play at the Cattawade Crown

Hustlers play at The United Services Club in East Bergholt

Marauders play at the Mistley Rugby Club

Capel Crusaders play at the Capel St Mary Community Centre

CONSTITUTION

The current MDPL Constitution is available on the MDPL website at: www.mdpl.org.uk

Please remember, this is a friendly league and all teams and players are expected to behave in a respectful manner and be mindful of using foul or inappropriate language.

Good Luck
Manningtree & District Pool League Committee
October 2025