

KADASL League Formation Meeting for the 2024/25 season

Key Points

- The 2024/25 KADASL will be 2 division of 7 teams starting w/c 02/09
- Each division will be scratch, handicaps will not be used in league play.
- Each time will play each other 4 times which means 24 matches per team and 4 bye weeks
- There will be 28 league weeks which means the league will be 2 weeks longer than last year – we are starting a week early but also planning on an extra comp week so the league will finish 2 weeks later.
- We will be re-introducing penalties for turning up with less than 6 players for league matches.

Attendance

League Officers:

- Chairperson: Andy Long (AL)
- President:
- League Secretary: Mark Newall (MN)
- Treasurer:
- Competition / Trophy Secretary: David Taylor (DT)

League Clubs:

- Mere: Richard Owen
- Shaw Heath: Scott Marshall
- Tatton: Rob Clarke
- Wilmslow Cons: Matt Dale
- Morley Green: Paul Hart
- Heald Green: Geoff Burns

Apologies:

- Geoff Jackson
- Dave Rainford
- JP Diamond

2022/23 Entries

**** In the hope of gaining an extra team we had left the deadline for entries until the end of the week with a view to potentially persuading Alderley Union to rejoin. This didn't work out but in that time Shaw Heath managed to gather enough players to form a second team and Scott Marshall notified MN of this on Friday 16th August.**

Mobberley (3)

Mobberley A (Thursday home matches)

Mobberley B (Thursday)

Mobberley C (Tuesday)

Tatton (3)

Tatton A (Thursday)

Tatton B (Thursday)

Tatton C (Tuesday)

Wilmslow (2)

Wilmslow A (Thursday)

Wilmslow B (Thursday)

Mere (2)

Mere A (Thursday)

Mere B (Thursday)

Shaw Heath (2)

Shaw Heath A (Thursday)

Shaw Heath B (Thursday)

Morley Green (1)

Thursday

Heald Green (1)

Thursday

League Format

The increase to 14 teams sees us move back to being 2 divisions – this was decided at the 2021 AGM – the following is an extract from the minutes

**3) How many divisions - this is split into 3 separate votes
Proposed by MN - Seconder - Andy Long**

3a - if we are 12 teams or less

3b - if we are 13 teams

3c - if we are 14 teams or more

For each of the above, state whether we should be one or two divisions.

Results

3a 1 Division if 12 teams or fewer – 18 votes for 1, 6 votes for 2

3b 1 Division if 13 teams – 14 votes for 1, 10 votes for 2

3c 2 Division if 14 teams or more – 0 votes for 1, 23 votes for 2, 1 abstention

4) If, as a result of the vote in 3 we end up with 2 divisions then are we going to have a handicap in the first division?

Proposed by MN - seconder David Taylor

Answer yes for handicaps, or no to abandon them.

Result

7 votes for handicaps, 14 votes to abandon them, 3 abstentions

So 2 divisions of 7 with each team playing each other 4 times and each team having 4 bye weeks. Handicaps in league play will now be abandoned.

We move from a 26 week league to 28 week. We are starting a week earlier but also wanting an extra comp week so ultimately we will finish 2 weeks later.

Other Discussion Points

The management committee discussed the ‘what-if’ scenario of getting the extra team and moving to 2 divisions – something that later was confirmed to be the case.

The first and most obvious question is ‘who will be in the first division?’

Taking this from last year’s league table wouldn’t necessarily be fair as this will have been influenced by handicaps and not necessarily a true reflection of what the split should be in a scratch league.

MN’s suggestion would be to offer each club a spot in the first division so that would be:

Div 1:

Heald Green

Mere A
Mobberley A
Morley Green
Shaw Heath
Tatton A
Wilmslow A

Div 2:

Mere B
Mobberley B
Mobberley C
Shaw Heath B
Tatton B
Tatton C
Wilmslow Cons B

Each club could then decide amongst themselves which would be the most suitable players/team to represent that club in the first division.

This was accepted as being a fairly natural split and also being the fairest way of doing this.

Playing with less than 6

With handicaps at his generally been accepted that there isn't a need to punish people for playing with 4 or 5 players as there is no clear and obvious benefit in doing so. Without handicaps a team with 4 strong players and 2 weak players could potentially choose to turn up for a match (or matches) with just their 4 strongest players and gain a clear advantage from doing so.

For this reason it was felt that we need to go back to having some form of deterrent to stop people from turning up with less than 6 players.

It was suggested by Rob Clarke to re-instate the old rule for this that we temporarily removed for Covid and then later removed altogether at an AGM.

25.2

Teams of 4 or 5 players will play the remaining (blank – previously forfeited) frames using 'present' players but on a 35-0 (in division 1) or 25-0 (in division 2) handicap against them. The player selected to play would be by a random draw of those AVAILABLE to play from the first 4 players on the card. Teams without a full complement of players will be compelled to leave the 'blank' at point 5 and / or 6 on the scorecard.

The lack of a penalty over the last few years has been good for our league and has reduced the pressure on captains of having to find 6 players every week. Its fair to say that it has saved some teams from folding just after the covid period when a number of clubs and teams were struggling to find players.

Having said that – its felt that these same pressures don't exist to the same level at the moment as the number of new players has healthily increased over the past couple of seasons. Reintroducing some form of penalty was felt to be necessary to protect the integrity of the competition so the management committee were in favour of doing this.

Playing for other teams

Again, this is something that hasn't really been an issue with handicaps and a single division as the handicaps have meant we don't really have clearly defined stronger and weaker players e.g. A Bruce Tulley playing for Mobberley B when they are short isn't necessarily massively strengthening Mobberley B because of his handicap disadvantage.

Now that we move to being scratch and 2 divisions then Bruce Tulley dropping down to play for Mobberley B would be massively strengthening them and would be unfair on Mobberley B's div 2 opponents in that week.

This is an issue that has posed a lot of problems for the league in the past and can be used to give an unfair advantage. Efforts have been made to legislate for this but the most simple and obvious solution to use as a starting point would be that Div 2 players can move up to help out Div 1 teams but Div 1 players can't play down a division to help a Div 2 team – put simply you can play up but not down.

Teams should be aware of this and manage their squads accordingly e.g. a club with 2 teams that has 9 players in their Div 1 A team and just 6 players in their Div 2 B team might want to consider moving a couple of players from A to B on the basis that those players would still be able to move up and help out the A team.

The issue of a club with 2 teams in the same division using that to their advantage to loan players from one team to the other to strengthen against rivals (a scenario that has happened previously) wouldn't initially be an issue in Div 1 (7 diff clubs) and the committee were confident that the teams in div2 could be trusted to act in the best interests of the league.

So as stated previously – the conclusion was that you can play up but not down. Clearly this would not affect Morley Green or Heald Green.

Competitions

David confirmed that we will be looking to hold the same set of competitions as the previous year, including the 3 player knockout following its successful return last season.

David will request an extra comp week in the schedule as scheduling did get tricky at some points due to the large number of entrants – a nice problem to have!

How handicaps will work without them being regularly calculated on league play is something TBC.

Next Management Meeting

The next venue in the rota is Shaw Heath – need to confirm an exact date with the Shaw Heath reps. Given the significant changes to the structure and running of the league then we will look at holding this earlier than usual at the start of October.