

# Gloucester City Men's Invitational Pool League

## Bylaws

### Article I. Name

The name of this organization is the Gloucester City Men's Pool League, hereinafter referred to as GCIMPL or "the league."

### Article II. Purpose

- Section 2.1: Facilitating and organizing friendly competitive billiards play in a structured league setting.
- Section 2.2: Perpetuating a spirit of goodwill and fellowship among all billiard players.
- Section 2.3: Promoting interest in the sport and cultivating successful relationships between players.
- Section 2.4: Helping improve the abilities and knowledge of the game to all members.

### Article III. Membership

- Section 3.1: Eligibility: All men aged 21 or over who are interested in competitive billiards are eligible to become members of GCIMPL. Members must be 21 or over as of the official start date of the season in which they wish to participate. No other requirements or criteria must be met or satisfied to determine eligibility.
- Section 3.2: Participation: Members may only join and play for one team at a time. Members are free to choose any team currently active in the league, provided sufficient space is available for said member to be added to the team's roster. Members may switch teams at any point and for any reason in the first twelve (12) weeks of a given season, provided sufficient roster space exists.
- Section 3.3: Dues: Members are required to pay weekly dues in the amounts specified in **Appendix A**, regardless of whether or not they attend or participate in a given weekly match. Members are responsible for dues beginning with the first week their name is added to a team's roster. Dues obligations remain until a member's name is removed from a team's roster, or the current playing season ends. Dues are non-refundable under any circumstances.

### Article IV. Behavior of Members

To maintain a quality and successful relationship with the owners, managers, and employees of the establishments in which we play, as well as with our fellow players, this league will have set standards regarding the conduct of individuals and teams before, during, and after scheduled league events.

- Section 4.1: Members are expected to promote the league and its purposes as stated in **Article II**.
- Section 4.2: Members are expected to encourage and help other members, non-members, and the community better understand GCIMPL and the sport of pocket billiards.
- Section 4.3: Any member may be suspended from the league for any of the following violations:
  - Clause I: Direct violation of the purpose of GCIMPL as stated in **Article II**.
  - Clause II: Behavior that is considered unsportsmanlike or otherwise inappropriate, including but not limited to: abusive or threatening language toward other members, patrons, or employees of the establishments where league matches take place; interference with or harassment of other members; physically touching another player in an aggressive or

hostile manner; attempting to threaten or intimidate another member; throwing any item in a hostile or aggressive fashion for the purpose of injury or intimidation; forcibly altering the position of the balls during a match; destruction of any property before, during, or after a match; refusal to follow the instructions of a league representative; behaving in a manner that otherwise reflects negatively on the league, the board of officers, or other members; behaving in a manner that results in ejection or removal from any premises where league matches or other events take place.

Section 4.4: If a member believes that another member has engaged in conduct that is detrimental to the league, the Board of Officers will address the issue in the following manner:

- Clause I: Upon receipt of a written complaint from a member, the board shall review the charges and conduct a preliminary investigation, if deemed appropriate.
- Clause II: If said investigation concludes that misconduct appears to have occurred, the board shall schedule a hearing on the matter. The member alleged to have engaged in the misconduct shall be immediately banned from further participation in weekly league matches and other league events, be given at least 72 hours notice of the hearing, and be given an opportunity to present a defense.
- Clause III: By a majority vote, the Board of Officers shall determine whether misconduct actually occurred. If it determines that misconduct did indeed occur, the board shall prepare a written report detailing its findings and any recommended discipline or sanctions.
- Clause IV: The Secretary will make said report accessible to all members (as described in **Article VI, Section 6.3, Clause IV**) for examination for a period of no less than three days and no more than one week. The duration of this period must be clear and conspicuous.
- Clause V: Considering the opening statement of **Article VI**, league members shall be given an opportunity to provide opinions on the report and any proposed disciplinary actions.
- Clause VI: Following the expiration of the member review and commenting period, the board may choose to convene again at a special disciplinary hearing, or may choose to address the matter at the next scheduled monthly board meeting.
- Clause VII: After examining and considering feedback provided by members during the review period described in **Clause IV** above, the board will decide if the original recommended disciplinary actions are to be formalized, amended, or removed entirely.
- Clause VIII: Members temporarily banned from league participation remain obligated to pay weekly dues. If the Board's disciplinary sanctions include further restrictions on participation, and the member in question chooses to remain active, all weekly dues must continue to be paid in accordance with **Article III, Section 3.3** during the member's absence from league matches.

## **Article V. Board of Officers**

The GCIMPL officers shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Sergeant at Arms. If deemed necessary and appropriate by the Board of Officers, additional Officer positions may be created. All positions are considered voluntary and will not result in payment or compensation of any kind, except in cases where a member of the board should be reimbursed for actual monetary expenditures previously approved by the board for league purposes.

Section 5.1: Term: President 1-year term, Vice President 1-year term, other offices 1-year term

Section 5.2: Eligibility: Any active member of the league who is in good standing and has participated in the league for not less than five years is considered eligible to hold a position on the Board of Officers.

Section 5.3: **Elections**: All board positions are determined via election in the following manner and with the following specifications:

Clause I: Officer positions are chosen by way of nomination, unless a candidate is unopposed.

Clause II: The winner shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast.

Clause III: Only current captains of the GCIMPL are eligible to cast a vote.

Clause IV: Elections are to be conducted prior to the commencement of each new playing season, no later than August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Clause V: The term of office shall commence on the first day following the election.

Section 5.4: **Vacancies**: Any vacancy involving a position on the Board of Officers shall be determined and addressed as follows:

Clause I: Any board member who is absent from three consecutive monthly meetings without a valid reason, and without prior notice to the board, will be considered to have submitted his resignation and will be immediately removed from office at the commencement of the next captains meeting.

Clause II: Should a position on the board become vacant, remaining board members shall equally divide and assume the responsibilities of the vacant position until a new board member (eligible under **Article V, Section 5.2**) is selected by way of a special mid-term election (as described in **Article V, Section 5.3, Clause III**), to be held at the earliest convenience of the board, with the exception of a vacancy in the President's position.

Clause III: If a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the Vice President shall assume the office for the remainder of the term.

Clause IV: In the event the Vice President assumes the role of President, the Vice President shall appoint another member of the board to assume the responsibilities of the Vice President. A special election (as described in **Article V, Section 5.3**) should be held at the board's earliest convenience to fill the position vacated by the appointee.

Clause V: In the event of a Presidential vacancy where the Vice President is either unable or unwilling to assume the President's responsibilities, the Board must elect (as described in **Article V, Section 5.3**) a replacement no later than the next monthly board meeting.

Section 5.5: **Removal of Officers**: Considering the opening statement of **Article VI**, procedures must exist to provide for the removal of an Officer deemed unworthy to continue serving in his role on the Board of Officers. Any officer may be removed from his position, with or without cause, in the following circumstances:

Clause I: Failure to attend board meetings, as described in **Article V, Section 5.4, Clause I**.

Clause II: By a 3/4 vote of the total number of league team captains. Said votes cannot be cast in secret and cannot be cast via proxy. Votes may be submitted to the Sergeant-at-Arms individually in writing, or collectively in the form of a petition, provided team captain identities and signatures are valid and verifiable. No quorum is necessary, and votes are not required to be cast at a predetermined league meeting, nor are voters required to provide explanation, elaboration, or justification.

Clause III: By a simple majority of the Board of Officers. Said votes cannot be cast in secret and cannot be cast via proxy. Votes for removal of an Officer by fellow board members must be cast collectively at a regularly scheduled monthly board meeting. Officers voting for removal of a fellow board member must provide, upon request from the Officer in question, an explanation for his decision to vote in favor of removal. Said explanation must be provided immediately following the tallying of all votes by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Clause IV: In the event sufficient votes are cast for removal of an Officer, said Officer will immediately vacate his position on the board, and the remaining officers will proceed as described in **Section 5.4, Clause II**.

Clause V:

**Article VI. Duties and Responsibilities** Upon vacating a board position following a vote for removal, the (now former) Officer will return all books, papers, schedules, monies, and other property or items belonging to the league, and will do so within three calendar days. The Sergeant-at-Arms will be responsible for ensuring timely and complete collection of said materials and delivering them to the Board.

The GCIMPL is a league for the members and by the members. The Board of Officers is the instrument by which their will is implemented.

Section 6.1: President: It shall be the duty of the President to:

- Clause I: Enforce all league rules.
- Clause II: Supervise, coordinate, and conduct the activities of the GCIMPL and its officers.
- Clause III: Preside at all meetings of the GCIMPL.
- Clause IV: Schedule league meetings and other league events.
- Clause V: Verify any and all league finances, expenses, and accounts.
- Clause VI: Perform such other duties as required for the execution of the office.

Section 6.2: Vice President: It shall be the duty of the Vice President to:

- Clause I: Perform all presidential duties and functions in the absence of the President.
- Clause II: Assist the President and other officers with the completion of their duties as necessary.
- Clause III: Visit and examine any potential host locations (prior to the start of the season) and report to the Board as to the viability of said location for acceptable league matches or events.
- Clause IV: Perform such other duties as required for the execution of the office.

Section 6.3: Secretary: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to:

- Clause I: Record and publish the minutes of all meetings.
- Clause II: Keep a file of the league's records.
- Clause III: Maintain current copies of the league's bylaws, rules, schedules, and other such documentation.
- Clause IV: Ensure league members have access to said bylaws, rules, schedules, and other necessary documentation or information.
- Clause V: Maintain a list of active league members, and ensure all contact information is current and accurate.
- Clause VI: Issue notices of league meetings, and conduct general correspondence of the league.
- Clause VII: Perform such other duties as required for the execution of the office.

Section 6.4: Treasurer: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to:

- Clause I: Arrange an account to be opened in the league's name at an insured, recognized local bank or credit union. The above account shall require the signatures of at least two officers for the withdrawal of any funds.
- Clause II: Collect all league fees, membership dues, and other funds.
- Clause III: Deposit said monies into the league's account within three calendar days of receipt.
- Clause IV: Keep an itemized account of all receipts and expenditures and make reports as directed.
- Clause V: Assist the league President to verify the league's account balance at least once per month.
- Clause VI: Provide each team with a detailed financial statement upon receipt of written request.

Clause VII: Advise the league President and Secretary of any league members or team captains who are delinquent in the payment of membership dues or other league fees.

Clause VIII: Perform such other duties as required for the execution of the office.

Section 6.5: Sergeant-at-Arms: It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to:

Clause I: Perform the arbitration of league issues pertaining to rules and gameplay.

Clause II: Ensure order during league meetings and events, and, if necessary, forcibly remove any members behaving inappropriately.

Clause III: Collect and tally ballots, when necessary, at league elections.

Clause IV: Record attendance and call meetings to order.

Clause V: Assist the President and other board members as necessary to ensure proper and efficient progression of all itineraries and schedules.

Clause V: Perform such other duties as required for the execution of the office.

## **Article VII. League Teams**

Section 7.1: Team Composition: All teams participating in GCIMPL league play must be properly registered and recognized by the Board of Officers prior to the commencement of the current year's shooting session. Teams must consist of a minimum of eight players, and a maximum of 15 players.

Section 7.2: Team Captains: Each team must have a designated captain, responsible for the following:

Clause I: Know GCIMPL rules, regulations, procedures, bylaws, and expectations.

Clause II: Collection of full legal names, current addresses, and phone numbers for all team players. This information must be provided to the Secretary (or designated league officer) in a timely manner.

Clause III: Ensure all team members are eligible to participate in league events, as described in **Article III, Section 3.1**.

Clause IV: Collection of weekly membership dues, which must be remanded to the Treasurer at each monthly Captain's meeting.

Clause V: Fill in match score sheets properly and completely.

Clause VI: Abide by and enforce all GCIMPL rules and regulations during weekly match play.

Clause VII: Notify the Secretary (or designated league officer) of all player resignations, transfers, or expulsions.

Clause VIII: Notify the Sergeant-at-Arms of any unsportsmanlike conduct or other inappropriate behavior on the part of either team during scheduled weekly matches.

Clause IX: Keep members informed of league business.

Clause X: Maintain proper order, discipline, and sportsmanship during weekly matches.

Clause XI: Attend all monthly Captain's meetings.

Clause XII: Co-Captain will assume the responsibilities listed above in the absence of the captain

Section 7.3: Team Players: All team players are responsible for the following:

Clause I: Know GCIMPL rules, regulations, procedures, bylaws, and expectations.

Clause II: Provide team captain with full legal name, address, and phone number.

Clause III: Pay dues and league fees in full in a timely fashion.

Clause IV: Attend all league matches whenever possible.

Clause V: Promote professionalism, sportsmanship, and friendship at all matches, as described in **Article II**.

Clause VI: Abide by GCIMPL rules and regulations, as described in **Article IV**.

## **Article VIII. Membership Dues**

- Section 8.1: Membership Dues Per Player: All team players must pay the following dues:
- Clause I: Weekly membership dues are \$5 per player.
  - Clause II: Dues must be paid every week, regardless of how many games a member plays, and regardless of whether or not a player participates in a given weekly match.
  - Clause III: Dues must be remanded to the team captain prior to the commencement of any game involving that team member.
  - Clause IV: If weekly dues are not paid, the team captain reserves the right to deem any unpaid player ineligible to participate in regular weekly play until all past due amounts are remanded.
- Section 8.2: Remanding Membership Dues to the League: All team captains are responsible for collection, storage, transportation, and delivery of team members' weekly dues.
- Clause I: The aggregate sum of each team's weekly membership dues must be remanded to the league Treasurer at every monthly meeting.
  - Clause II: Team captains will be issued a receipt by the Treasurer for the sum of membership dues remanded at each meeting.
  - Clause III: If a team captain who fails to remand the full aggregate sum total of his players' weekly membership dues, his team will be penalized two (2) games every week until the arrearage is eliminated.

## **Article IX. Amendments**

From time to time, it may become necessary to amend the GCIMPL bylaws. These bylaws may be amended, subject to the following conditions and procedures:

- Section 9.1: These bylaws may be amended at any regular Board of Officers meeting.
- Section 9.2: Any member-submitted proposals to amend these bylaws must be delivered to the board for review and placement on the monthly meeting agenda by the Sergeant-at-Arms.
- Section 9.3: No proposed amendment shall in any way violate or infringe upon the duties, rules, regulations, or rights of the GCIMPL, its Officers or members, or any establishment in which league matches and events take place.
- Section 9.4: Proposed amendments must be evaluated by the Board of Officers for viability and practicality. If it is determined that a proposed amendment does not threaten GCIMPL, its members or officers, or any location hosting league matches and events, the Secretary will make the proposal available for review by league members (as described in **Article VI, Section 6.3, Clause IV**) for a period of no less than two weeks. The duration of this period must be clear and conspicuous (as described in **Article IV, Section 4.4, Clause IV**).
- Section 9.5: Members will be given opportunity to provide opinions and commentary regarding the proposed amendment. Considering the opening statement of **Article VI**, the Board of Officers will examine all member opinions and create a report summarizing members' feedback. The Secretary will make said report available for review by league members (as described in **Article VI, Section 6.3, Clause IV**) for a period of no less than two weeks. The duration of this period must be clear and conspicuous (as described in **Article IV, Section 4.4, Clause IV**).
- Section 9.6: The expiration of this second member review period will coincide with the next scheduled monthly Board of Officers meeting. Members who wish to cast a vote for or against the proposed amendment must be present at said board meeting. Attendance of 60% of the

league team captains will constitute a quorum. At least three voting Board members must be present at said meeting. No voting can occur at any meeting at which a quorum is not present.

Section 9.7: Any active team captain in good standing is eligible to vote at the meeting. Votes may be cast by way of Roll Call. The Sergeant-at-Arms must tally the votes at the conclusion of the voting period. Simple majority for or against the proposed amendment is sufficient to enact or strike the proposal.

## **Article X.**

## **Revision History**

Revised: July 22, 2016