



MAPFRE

MSV Life

**THE MAPFRE MSV LIFE
NATIONAL LEAGUE**

STARTING DATES

DIVISION I : 9th January 2020

**Closing date
3rd January 2020 @ 12:00pm**

Additional Rules

The Malta Tenpin Bowling Association Rules and regulations shall govern these leagues together with the following additions/exceptions.

- 1) These leagues are open only to current M.T.B.A. members. The score of any bowler who is not a current member or who has not duly completed their Team's Registration Form will be considered null and void, and not even a blind score awarded. Memberships have to be paid by no later than end January. Failure to renew membership will render bowler ineligible for subsequent matches, until membership is paid. (This is not applicable for new members who join the association at a later date).
- 2) The format of the league will be decided once all applications are received, according to the number of teams.
- 3) The official starting time for Division I is **20.30hrs** and all teams must be prepared to start at this time irrespective of whether lane conditioning is required or not.
- 4) Handicap will be calculated at 80% of 190 scratch. Each division will have a maximum handicap of: Div I 15.
- 5) A Blind score will count as 120 pins with no handicap awarded.
- 6) Teams in the 1st division must pay an Entry Fee of €50.00 to be paid by no later than end January. **Failure to pay fees by that date will result in a deduction of 2 points in every subsequent match, until fine is paid.**
- 7) All teams **MUST** have a minimum of 5 registered players at all times and may have up to eight registered bowlers at any one time. The upper limit of eight registered bowlers may be waived only in the case of teams, made up of bowlers in the officially recognised *Special Olympics* category. An official coach would also be permitted to be present in the lane area for such a team.
- 8) For the purposes of these leagues, registration of a bowler with a team is attained by the respective bowler completing and signing the relevant Registration Form.
- 9) On disqualification/withdrawal of a team, the points earned by that team will not be awarded to their previous opponents against whom they had won the points.
- 10) Teams competing with incomplete line-ups will be required to furnish the league secretary with the name/s of those bowlers who were expected to make an appearance and failed to do so. The team concerned will automatically be fined the lineage per missing bowler and the bowlers concerned will be liable to disciplinary action. The team captain is responsible for the payment of any fines, which must be settled prior to the team's next league match. **These fines will be doubled during the last week.**
- 11) Only 1 postponement can be requested by same team in one round, unless a bowler is abroad on either National Duty or is abroad to play an Open Tournament. Only in such cases can there be more than 1 request in one round. The request for a make-up which is not bowling related carries an Administration Fee of 15€. If the make-up is requested for bowling duties, the Administration fee is waived off.

A postponement must be requested at least 48 forty-eight hours before the scheduled time on an MTBA Postponement Form. Should both team captains agree, postponements will also be accepted after this deadline. The league secretary must grant a postponement when a team cannot appear for reasons beyond its control and will not have the minimum required line-up. If a team asks for a postponement because one (1) of the players is on National Duty or because a player is abroad to bowl for an International Open, then the opposing team **CANNOT** refuse the postponement. However, the team captain has to advise the opposing team about the make-up **3 weeks** before the match is supposed to be played to provide ample time to set the make-up. The team captain requesting the make-up should also inform the league secretary via email as

soon as the request is made (i.e. 3 weeks in advance). Form has to be filled 2 weeks in advance with both team captains' signature on it. Failure to ask for a make-up before the 3-week period, the opposing team has the right to refuse such make up.

In no case shall a league adopt legislation, which would have the effect of establishing an absolutely no postponement rule throughout.

Postponed games must be bowled prior to the next league match of scheduled competition for either team. However, if a team has at least ONE of its registered bowlers abroad on M.T.B.A. National Duty, then the match/es involved can be rescheduled to another date up to 1 week after the next league match prior to the approval of the league secretary. Handicaps for the rescheduled games will be taken as at on the day that the match is bowled. **During the final week of the league, all make-ups must be played before the last scheduled league match. If games are not played within the timeframe BOTH teams will get zero pinfall.**

- 12) Should a team not have enough players available for a scheduled fixture, the team captain may make use of not more than two substitutes. Said substitutes can be bowlers from any other division other than that which the teams concerned form part of. Substitutes must have an average established over at least 12 games in the National Leagues and such average cannot exceed that which corresponds to the Division the competing teams form part of. An exception is given to Special Olympic bowlers, and junior players, who are not registered to play in a league, in which case their average will be derived from the composite average over at least 12 games of that current year. **The averages cannot exceed: Div I – 180ave**

A substitute that plays at least 12 games in the role of substitute in a particular Division and builds an average exceeding the threshold set for each Division, then such person will automatically be ineligible to play as substitute in that particular Division.

If someone plays as a substitute and either does not have an average over at least 12 games in the National League / Composite Average, or supersedes the average capping as listed above his/her score will be considered as a blind score even if someone notices later during the league until the league for that season is over.

Since it is not always possible to provide a spare shirt in the correct size, a substitute can wear a different shirt than that of the team he/she will be bowling for. This is applicable for all divisions.

Substitutes can play in all weeks of the scheduled league matches, even during the last week. For division 1, the first three substitutes used are free of charge. If more than three substitutes are used in any particular season, a 12€ fee has to be paid each time a substitute is registered. Also, if a substitute is used during the last week of the league, the 12€ fee must be paid irrelevant of how many substitutes were used.

The bowling centre and the league secretary must be informed of the use of substitutes by 8:00pm to ensure correct input of line-ups. This can be communicated via an email to the Eden Superbowl, copying the league secretary.

- 13) With a tie on the points at the end of the league, total pinfall, including handicap, will decide the placing.
- 14) To win Hi-Average and most Improved Awards, a bowler must have bowled at least 51% of the games in that league. To qualify for any other individual award, a bowler must have bowled a minimum of 34% of the games in that league. A bowler may win any individual trophy during the first four weeks of a league (i.e. when their handicap is still frozen).
- 15) National Leagues together with the National Leagues' Knock-Out Competition, should the latter take place, terminate with the Presentation Dinner/Presentation of Trophies, and as such, any trophy winner who fails to participate in this event will forfeit his/her award and may also be made subject to disciplinary action, unless that person should have a valid reason for their non-appearance. This validity will be decided on by the M.T.B.A. Board of Directors after receipt of a written explanation, accompanied by an Administrative Fee of €5.00 (non refundable)

- 16) A team must retain at least three of its registered bowlers in order to maintain its status in that particular Division for the following League Season. These 3 persons must have bowled at least 12 games in the just concluded league. If this rule is not adhered to the team will have to start from the entry division.
- 17) The number of teams relegated and promoted from each division, will be determined according to the total number teams registered therein, and all teams will be suitably advised by League Officials prior to the commencement of the league. Should a place become vacant for any reason whatsoever, then that place will be taken by the team in the highest relegation position of the division in question, followed by the team which finished in the penultimate place of that same division and so on. Should ALL the 'should be' relegated teams decline to fill the vacant place, then the teams in the next lower division will be offered this opportunity in their order of placing in the League just concluded.
- 18) Bowlers who have bowled more than 11 games with their team and who form part of a team which is relegated are not obliged to remain bowling with that team, but must bowl with a team participating in the Division to which they were relegated. If by any chance a player continues to bowl in a higher division all the games he/she plays will be considered as a blind score.
- 19) All teams participating in the 1st division must play with uniform tops. Any team member not conforming to this rule will not be permitted to bowl and a blind score awarded. Tops can be similar with slight differences (eg a line in the collar, an extra pocket, etc). In that case a team captain should get a written approval from the league secretary, who in turn has to inform all the other team captains about this approval.
- 20) Consumption of alcohol and smoking are strictly prohibited during all 1st division matches, including Make-Ups. E-cigarettes are not allowed. Any bowler who may be, in the opinion of the League Secretary, under the influence of alcohol at any time during a league fixture, will be disqualified from said fixture. On the other hand, if a bowler is caught smoking during a game, the penalty will be zero pinfall for that game. If a bowler is caught smoking between two games of a block of games, the penalty will be zero pinfall for the succeeding game. Full discretion is given to the League Secretary, to act accordingly regarding any breach of this rule.
- 21) There will be no kicking or punching of the ball returns or any other bowling equipment or property. First offence throughout the entire league will result in a verbal warning in front of a witness, 2nd offence throughout the entire league will see the frame considered as void and automatic referral to the disciplinary committee who will impose a fine, excluding damages and impose additional sanctions reflecting the gravity of the case. Fines will be doubled on any subsequent reoccurrence throughout the entire league.
- 22) Should any extraordinary issues arise then the League Secretary is to discuss the issue with all Committee Members, who in turn will decide which is the best action to be taken, even if this decision is not exactly according to the rules. Should this be the case however, all team captains involved will be informed in writing beforehand.
- 23) Lineage will be charged weekly at €52.00 per team including VAT (under current Tax Laws).
- 24) Rule 164: The application of any foreign substance on any part of the approach that detracts from the possibility of other players having normal conditions is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, such substances as talcum powder, pumice and resin on shoes (including proprietary products such as Easy Slide); also soft rubber soles or heels that rub off on the approach are prohibited. Powder should not be taken into the players' area.
The penalty for violation of the rules is:
First offence: verbal warning
Second offence: Direct disqualification from play on the day with all scores from that point forward considered Null and Void.

Valid and complete registration forms (attached) must be handed in to the League Secretary concerned or any other MTBA official by the dates specified in this application form. Only MTBA officials are authorised to accept these applications.



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MAPFRE MSV LIFE - NATIONAL LEAGUES REGISTRATION FORM – JAN 2020

TEAM NAME : _____ NO. _____

Ave.	BOWLER NAME	TEL. NO.	SIGN.	Reg. Date	for MTBA
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

PLEASE STATE IF YOUR TEAM IS IN :- DIV. I
I, AS TEAM CAPTAIN OF THE ABOVE TEAM DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATING IN ACCORDANCE WITH M.T.B.A. LEAGUE RULES TOGETHER WITH THE ADDITIONAL RULES CONTAINED IN THIS ENTRY FORM.

NB. ANYONE SIGNING THIS FORM GIVES HIS/HER CONSENT TO MTBA TO PROVIDE THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS TO OTHER BOWLING MEMBERS SHOULD THEY NEED A MAKE UP OR A SUBSTITUTE.

TEAM CAPTAIN'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL : _____ SIGNATURE: _____

APPROVED BY MTBA: _____