

## Malmesbury and District Skittles League

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8th September 2020

To all Captains and Landlords,

As you are aware, there has been some doubt as to whether a Winter League season could commence for 2020/2021.

It is with regret that I have to inform you that for the time being we will not be running a Winter League for this season.

Paul, Phil and myself have taken into account many factors in reaching this decision, these include:

- We have received feedback from several teams expressing concern for their players, many in the vulnerable age group. They have indicated that they would not be prepared to play in the current environment.
- We have been in touch with the majority of pubs and clubs over the past few weeks. From 12 contacted, two pubs/clubs have indicated that they would not be able to hold skittles under the current government guidelines. Two more are unsure as to whether they could meet the guidelines and another two have failed to respond. This would involve relocating 24 teams to other pubs/clubs which is considered to be unworkable. Unless we can get all pubs/clubs committed to providing a safe environment and meeting government guidelines, it is not possible to proceed.

I am aware that this decision may not be popular as I know there are many who feel that it is safe to play. However, it is not practical to run a full League programme without all teams and venues being confident that they are providing/playing in a safe environment that meets the current government guidelines.

If individual venues and teams want to arrange local leagues, then that is a decision for you to make. Regrettably it has not been possible to consult with you all for practical reasons, but hope that you respect a decision that had to be made between Paul, Phil and myself.

Should there be any changes in circumstances we will, of course, review the situation.

If you wish to discuss this with either Paul, Phil or myself, please e-mail or phone.

Regards

Chris Brace

Secretary/Treasurer

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