



# Winchester & District Badminton Association

[www.wdba.org](http://www.wdba.org)

## LEAGUE COMPETITION REGULATIONS

SEPTEMBER 2019

### 1. MANAGEMENT

- 1.1 The General Committee of the Association shall be responsible, through the Hon. League Secretary, for the management of the League Competition.

### 2. ENTRY

- 2.1 Entry to the League shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to the Association. Entries must be forwarded to the Hon. Association Secretary by 1<sup>st</sup> September each year.

### 3. WITHDRAWAL

- 3.1 Advice of the intention of a Club to withdraw a team or teams from the League Competition should be sent to the Association Secretary at the earliest opportunity. When a Club has more than one team competing, the team or teams to be withdrawn shall normally be those in the lowest divisions.
- 3.2 In the event of a team being withdrawn from the League prior to completion of that team's League programme that team shall be deemed not to have been entered in the League and the results of all matches played by that team prior to its withdrawal during the current season shall be deemed to be null and void.

### 4. LEAGUE STRUCTURE

- 4.1 The League shall be formed into divisions and the General Committee shall be responsible for the allocation of Club entries to the appropriate divisions. Each division shall normally consist of six teams.
- 4.2 The composition of each division shall take account of promotion and relegation resulting from the preceding season's competition. If, due to withdrawal of a team or teams, vacancies are created in any division, the General Committee shall decide a revised composition of the divisions affected.
- 4.3 The detailed League Structure and the promotion and relegation arrangements shall be determined from time to time at Annual General Meetings of the Association. Any Club desirous of proposing amendments to the League Structure currently in force must follow the procedure set out in Rule 20 of the Constitution of the Association excepting that an Extraordinary General Meeting may not be called for this purpose.
- 4.4 All new entrants to the League shall be placed in the lowest division except where a Club is rebranded and retains its original Badminton England Club Registration number.

### 5. ELIGIBILITY

- 5.1 Only members whose name and address have been registered with the League Secretary and for whom affiliation fees have been paid at the appropriate time to the Hampshire Badminton Association and Badminton England may represent that Club in a League season.
- 5.2 No player may represent more than one Club in any one League in any one season. Infringement of this rule will result in the forfeiture of the rubbers in which the offending player takes part and their award to the opposing team.

## 6. REGISTRATION

- 6.1 All players representing their Club shall be registered with the League Secretary before playing in their first League match either in writing, by email or by telephone (with subsequent confirmation in writing).
- 6.2 A Club playing an unregistered player in a match will forfeit any League points gained in the match by that player and those points will be awarded to eligible opposing pairs.

## 7. NOMINATION

- 7.1 Any Club entering more than one team in the League shall, before the commencement of its match programme, nominate six players for its first team and this procedure must be applied to subsequent teams, only the bottom team not requiring to be nominated.
- 7.2 Players who have not yet played in their nominated team may be re-nominated to another team provided the League Secretary is notified in writing before the match is played. Any proposed deletion of a nominated player must be accompanied by a substitute nomination.
- 7.3 Players who have been nominated for a team may only play in a lower team at the General Committee's discretion. In these circumstances such a player may not then play in a higher team for the remainder of the season.
- 7.4 Any player who has represented his/her Club in more than two League matches in a higher team or teams will not then be eligible for the remainder of that season to play League matches in a lower team. Infringement of this rule will result in the forfeiture of the rubbers in which the offending player takes part and their award to the opposing team.

## 8. FIXTURES

- 8.1 All Clubs entering the League Competition must send a representative to the AGM/Fixtures Meeting. Failure to send a Club Representative to this Meeting who is able to arrange fixtures will result in a 2 point deduction per Team entered by the offending Club.
- 8.2 Fixtures for all League matches shall be arranged at the "Fixtures Meeting" following the Annual General Meeting. All teams in each division will play each other twice (once at home and once away). The home Club shall bear all the expenses of playing a match except for the travelling expenses of the away team.
- 8.3 All League fixtures must be arranged to be played by the 31<sup>st</sup> May.
- 8.4 Clubs with more than one team in any division must complete the fixtures between these teams before the 31<sup>st</sup> January.
- 8.5 The earliest weekday start time for League fixtures is 7:00pm unless mutually agreed otherwise.

## 9. FIXTURE LISTS

- 9.1 Clubs shall submit fixture lists of all League matches of each of their teams to the League Secretary before the first League match. Agreed starting times for each match shall be included.

## 10. ALTERATION OF FIXTURES

- 10.1 The only reasons for postponing a fixture would be inclement weather, unavailability of the hall or by mutual agreement of the two teams involved. Unavailability of nominated team players would not normally be a reason for re-arrangement.

- 10.2 Mutual agreement should involve genuine consent by both teams. Neither team may expect to be offered a re-arrangement nor shall either team be obliged to offer one.
- 10.3 Both Clubs must immediately advise the League Secretary of changes to fixtures either by letter or e-mail, giving details of the reasons for the change.
- 10.4 If a fixture is re-arranged due to inclement weather or unavailability of the hall the home team is responsible for re-arranging the fixture for a mutually acceptable date. If their home venue is not available a neutral venue should be used.
- 10.5 If the away team cancels or re-arranges a match for any reason other than inclement weather the home Club may charge for financial loss incurred for courts booked and not used. Evidence to support the charge should be provided on request.
- 10.6 The home Club should receive the fee within 14 days of requesting it (subject to supporting evidence having been provided if requested). Failure to pay may, at the General Committee's discretion, lead to that team's exclusion from the League for the following season.

## 11. DEFAULTED FIXTURES

- 11.1 If a fixture postponed for reasons of inclement weather or non-availability of the hall cannot be re-arranged as set out in Rule 10.4 the matter must be referred to the General Committee for determination. However this could result in the match being deemed as un-played and no points awarded to either team.
- 11.2 If a fixture postponed by mutual agreement cannot be re-arranged then the team originally requesting the re-arrangement will be deemed to have defaulted.
- 11.3 Unless both teams have consented to a re-arrangement any team not turning up or advising their opponents that they will not turn up for a fixture will be deemed to have defaulted.
- 11.4 In both 11.2 and 11.3 above, the non-defaulting team will be awarded 9 points but not the 2 Bonus Points.
- 11.5 A team defaulting more than once in a season will be automatically put in the relegation position. All fixtures for that team will be declared null and void.

## 12. CONFIRMATION OF FIXTURES

- 12.1 It is desirable and courteous for the home Club to confirm all fixtures at least four but no more than ten days in advance however both Clubs will still be expected to fulfil mutually agreed fixtures (e.g. those made at the AGM) and make use of available information such as the schedule of all League fixtures on the League website in doing so.

## 13. MATCHES

- 13.1 All games shall be played to 21 points adopting the Rally Points Scoring System where Law 7 of the Laws of Badminton shall apply. Each rubber shall consist of the best of three games.
- 13.2 Mixed Teams shall consist of six players [three ladies and three gentlemen] playing nine rubbers, all mixed doubles, each pair playing the three opposing pairs.
- 13.3 Men's Teams shall consist of six gentlemen playing nine rubbers, all men's doubles, each pair playing the three opposing pairs.
- 13.4 Ladies Teams shall consist of six ladies playing nine rubbers, all ladies doubles, each pair playing the three opposing pairs.
- 13.5 The suggested order of play for the home team is 123, 231, 312 (away team 123, 123, 123).

- 13.6 If a full Team cannot be fielded it is preferable to fulfil the Fixture with as many Pairs as possible.

#### 14. TEAM LISTS

- 14.1 Before the commencement of each match, team captains shall simultaneously exchange team lists giving details of players and pairings. Once play has commenced the players and pairings may not be changed.

#### 15. SHUTTLECOCKS

- 15.1 Cork based shuttlecocks shall be used in all events sanctioned by the Association and, irrespective of type, shall conform to the rules governing them. The same brand and speed of shuttle must be used once the match has commenced

#### 16. SCORERS

- 16.1 Scorers shall be provided in a League match if one of the participating captains so desires.

#### 17. CLOTHING

- 17.1 Players must wear acceptable badminton clothing while playing League matches.

#### 18. LETS AND FAULTS

- 18.1 In accordance with Law 13.3.4 of the Laws of Badminton if the shuttle touches the ceiling or side walls it is a fault.
- 18.2 If the shuttle strikes any other obstruction on either side of the net within the confines of the court, this shall be a let.

#### 19. COMPLETION OF MATCHES

- 19.1 Clubs shall make suitable arrangements for League matches to be completed during normal hours of play. Matches must start within 15 minutes of the agreed time.

#### 20. UNCOMPLETED MATCHES

- 20.1 In the event of a match not being completed, the score sheet must be submitted to the League Secretary with the match score standing as at the time of the match ending. The circumstances for the non-completion of the match must be noted in the 'Remarks' section of the score sheet so that the General Committee can make a decision on the final outcome of the match. The score sheet must state the starting and finishing times of the match.
- 20.2 A completed match is a match where all competing pairs play all their games.

#### 21. RESULTS

- 21.1 The scores of each match shall be sent to the League Secretary by post or e-mail on the official score sheets, fully completed, on the day following the match, by both Clubs.

#### 22. LEAGUE POINTS

- 22.1 A point per rubber won shall be awarded.
- 22.2 The winner of a completed match will be awarded 2 Bonus Points. Bonus Points will not be awarded if a match is defaulted.

#### 23. PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

- 23.1 In the event of teams being level on points at the end of the season, promotion and relegation shall be decided firstly by the number of matches, then rubbers then games then points won

and if all these are equal, by the results of the matches between the contending Clubs. If the position remains unresolved, a play-off between the contending Clubs shall take place in a neutral hall.

#### 24. CUPS AND SHIELDS

- 24.1 Cups and shields presented to League Winners cannot be won outright and remain the property of the Winchester and District Badminton Association.

#### 25. DISPUTES

- 25.1 Any Club wishing to complain of infringement of these Regulations must do so in writing or by e-mail to the League Secretary within 14 days of the alleged infringement.
- 25.2 In case of disputes, the decision of the General Committee shall be final.