

## **League Rules**

### REGULATIONS FOR THE HARROGATE & DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE

#### **1. TITLE :**

- 1.1 The League shall be called The Harrogate & District Badminton League
- 1.2 Playing members of all clubs must affiliate to the Badminton Association of England.

#### **2. MANAGEMENT :**

2.1 The League shall be managed by a Chairman; Secretary; Treasurer; Match Secretary and at least three other members or officials, as may be appropriate, appointed at the Annual General Meeting or co-opted at any time. A quorum of four shall be required to conduct business. A maximum of three members from any one club shall serve on the Committee. Any member consistently failing to attend committee meetings shall not be eligible for re-election. The League President may also attend committee meetings.

2.2 The League Secretary shall notify all clubs of the date of the A.G.M. The A.G.M. will be held prior to the start of each season. Voting shall be restricted to the Committee and a representative of each team completing their previous year's matches. A voting card will be issued for each eligible team and will be required to register a vote.

2.3 Proposals for changes to the League rules must be made in writing to the League Secretary before 31<sup>st</sup>. May and any alterations will require a majority in favour of those voting at the A.G.M. Clubs will be notified in writing prior to the A.G.M. of any proposed amendments.

2.4 An entry fee will be agreed at the A.G.M. for each participating team. Payment will be due at the Fixture Meeting.

2.5 Clubs wishing to resign from or enter the League shall give notice to the League Secretary no later than 1<sup>st</sup>. September immediately preceding the season of competition. All new entrants shall be placed in the lowest division. Clubs wishing to resign a team must withdraw their lowest team.

### **3. ELIGIBILITY :**

3.1 The League competitions shall be restricted to bona-fide playing members of the competing clubs. No player shall play for more than one club during a season except by prior agreement of the clubs involved and with approval from the Management Committee.

3.2 Where teams from the same club are in the same division, players for the first team must be nominated before the first match and shall not play in any lower team. Teams from the same club in the same division must play each other at the start of each half of the season before they play any other league match.

3.3 A club with more than one team in the League is required to nominate at least 3 men and 3 ladies for each team (other than the lowest placed team), including cup teams, and provide a list of nominations before the first match. Nominated players will not be eligible to play in a lower division or lower team cup competition. Clubs will notify players that they have been nominated prior to the Fixture Meeting to ensure their acceptance. Clubs failing to nominate players will forfeit any points won until nominations are received.

3.4 Where a club with more than one team in a division enters a team in a cup competition, only players nominated for that team and players from a lower division are eligible. Once a player has represented a team in a cup competition he or she will be ineligible to play for any other team in that competition.

3.5 A man who has played three matches and a lady five matches for a club's higher team or teams shall not be eligible to play in a lower division or in cup matches for a lower team.

3.6 Any team fielding an ineligible player in a cup competition will automatically be disqualified and take no further part in the competition.

3.7 Entries will not be accepted for any handicapped events from players who have represented a County 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> team within the previous three years.

### **4 FIXTURES AND RESULTS :**

4.1 A Fixture meeting shall be held prior to the start of the season, the date of which will be published at the A.G.M. A representative from each competing club will attend the Meeting and agree the dates, times and venues of all its matches with opposing clubs in the relevant division(s). A copy of each Club's fixture list must be supplied to the League Match Secretary within 7 days of the fixture meeting

4.2 Match dates agreed at the Fixture Meeting shall not be changed except by agreement between the two parties involved. Any such change must be notified to the League Match Secretary. Failure to reach agreement will result in the Committee deciding which team, if any, shall be awarded points or have points deducted. Postponement because of bad weather will require the match to be re-arranged.

4.3 Match results should be sent to the Match Secretary within 7 days of completion. For every full week thereafter the team responsible for returning the match result will forfeit one point.

4.4 Unless otherwise agreed by the Committee, no matches should be played during the period of the Harrogate & District Badminton Tournament. All matches must be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March unless otherwise agreed by the League Match Secretary.

4.5 The Management Committee shall have the power to award or deduct points or order a rematch at a venue of their choosing for any match in which a breach of the regulations has been deemed to have occurred. Protests should be made to the Committee in writing, usually within seven days of the match date.

## **5 MATCH PLAY :**

5.1 Each match shall consist of nine rubbers, best of 3 games to 15 points, as detailed on the score-sheet provided. Setting to 20 all is permitted. One league point will be awarded for each rubber won.

5.2 The home captain must provide a scorecard and enter the home team players first before passing the scorecard to the away captain before the match commences. Once a match has started no changes in the composition of teams shall be allowed.

5.3 If play starts 15 minutes after the agreed time, the offending team shall forfeit the first rubber. One further rubber shall be forfeited for each 15 minutes delay thereafter. If play has not started after 60 minutes the offending team will forfeit the match.

5.4 If any player or pair is absent when called upon to play the rubber shall be awarded to the opposing team, except by mutual agreement of the captains.

5.5 The home team must organise their court space to ensure that there is sufficient time to complete the match from the agreed start time. Any unfinished or outstanding rubbers will be awarded to the away team and bonus points awarded as per rule 5.1.

5.6 Recognized badminton clothing shall be worn during match and tournament play.

5.7 Tournament quality feather shuttles should be used for all matches unless both teams mutually agree to play both home and away matches with plastic shuttles of suitable quality. In case of non-agreement, feather shuttles must be used.

## **6. PROMOTION/RELEGATION :**

6.1 The winner of a Division shall be decided by the number of league points won. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be decided by the number of matches won, and if this is still equal the total number of game points shall decide

6.2 At the end of each season the top two teams in each division (except the first division) shall be promoted to the next higher division. The lowest two teams in each division (except the lowest division) will be relegated to the next lower division.

6.3 The Committee reserve the right to increase or reduce the number of teams promoted or relegated if it is in the best interests of the League. The objective shall be that the League comprises of divisions of eight teams and that where the number of competing teams is not divisible by eight, the difference is accommodated in the two lowest divisions.

6.4 Clubs failing to complete their fixtures, or in severe or repeated breach of League regulations, may have points deducted or be promoted to a higher division or relegated to a lower division – the division to be decided by the Committee.