

RUGBY AND DISTRICT BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

SECTION 'A' - RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. NAME: "Rugby and District Badminton Association"

2. OBJECTIVES:

- i) To promote and stimulate interest in the game of badminton;
- ii) To improve the standard of play; and
- iii) To organise and regulate the playing of League matches, tournaments and other events

3. MEMBERSHIPS:

i) Conditions

Clubs must be affiliated to the Rugby and District Badminton Association (RDBA). Affiliation to County Badminton Associations (and hence Badminton England) shall NOT be required as a condition of membership. There shall be no restriction on individual clubs affiliating, at the discretion of their membership, to their respective County Badminton Association (see 3(ii) below for guidelines).

ii) Application for Membership

New Clubs shall apply in writing in the first instance to the League Secretary by 30th July. Acceptance is at the discretion of the General Committee.

iii) Affiliation Fees

An RDBA affiliation fee per Club per season shall be payable at the RDBA AGM and no later than the Match Fixtures Meeting. The fee will be decided at the RDBA Annual General Meeting. (Section 5 refers).

4. COMMITTEES:

i) Executive Committee

a) Members: The Executive Committee shall consist of a minimum of the elected officers. These positions will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. These positions consist of: Chairperson, treasurer, league secretary, match secretary, youth officer.

One person can hold more than one position with the agreement of the general committee.

b) Terms of reference: The executive committee will be responsible for the day to day running of the league and the implementation of the rules in between committee meetings.

ii) General Committee:

Members: The general committee shall consist of the elected officials, plus, if possible, one elected representative of each of the affiliated Clubs. In the absence of the elected representative, another member of the Club may attend.

b) Terms of Reference: The General Committee shall make all decisions regarding the affairs of the Association and its' Leagues, tournaments and other events.

c) Meetings shall be held when deemed suitable by the league committee.

d) Quorum: A quorum shall be formed if 50 percent of the affiliated Clubs are represented at the meeting, plus one elected official.

- e) Voting: Each member of the Committee, including the officials, shall be entitled to vote (one vote per Club) except the Chairperson. In the event of a tied vote on any matter the Chairperson shall have the casting vote. The decisions of the General Committee shall be binding on ALL affiliated Clubs (represented or not represented).
- f) Disputes: If a dispute between Clubs occurs on any matter, the League Secretary shall be informed in the first instance. The matter shall then be discussed at the next General Committee Meeting and settled by representatives from Clubs not involved in the dispute (a representative shall be present from each of the Clubs in dispute). The decision of the General Committee shall be final.
- Note: Rule 4ii(d) governing the 'Quorum' must be observed prior to making any decisions (i.e. the representatives of the Clubs in dispute should not be taken into account).

5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

i) Date and Venue:

The AGM should be held in Rugby & District not later than the end of June

ii) Aims:

To consider business relating to the past season, review of any rule changes, the election of the Executive Committee and to consider business relating to the next season.

iii) Club Representation:

Each Club shall be represented by no more than one voting delegate. However, the AGM shall be open to all members of affiliated Clubs.

iv) Tied Vote:

In the event of a tied vote the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

v) Quorum: A quorum shall consist of at least one delegate from one half of member Clubs.

vi) Rule Amendments and/or Additions:

Amendments and/or additions to the Rules of the Association and/or Leagues may only be made at the Annual General Meeting.

Proposed Amendments and/or additions to the Rules of the Association and/or Leagues may be submitted to the league secretary at any time, but must be submitted not later than April 30th for submission at the AGM.

Proposed rule changes shall be considered at the AGM.

vii) Notice of AGM:

The date, agenda and notice of any proposed rule changes for the AGM will be sent to all member Clubs, by the League Secretary, at least 21 days before the AGM is to be held.

6. EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

An extra-ordinary general meeting may be called by the General Committee, or at the written request of at least one quarter of the affiliated Clubs. The meeting shall be held no later than six weeks after the receipt, in writing, of such a request by the League Secretary.

7. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS:

Clubs should be represented at ALL meetings called by the RDBA which shall include;

the Fixtures Meeting (Rules of the Leagues 1.1.4(ii) refers), the Annual General Meeting (5(I) refers) and, as necessary, Extra-Ordinary General Meetings (6 refers). If a Club fails to be represented at any meeting, as defined above, without reasonable cause (apologies not being acceptable), the General Committee shall reserve the right to deduct 2 league points from that Club's highest placed team in any League and in any Division.

Penalties to be applied at the discretion of the General Committee.

SECTION 'B' - RULES OF THE LEAGUES

1. REGULATIONS OF THE LEAGUES

1.1 GENERAL

1.1.1 Name: "Rugby and District Badminton League"

1.1.2 Membership:

- i) The Leagues shall consist of teams from Clubs affiliated to the Association
- ii) Application for membership shall be made in writing to the League Secretary before 30th July
- iii) Clubs wishing to withdraw a team or teams from the Leagues should do so by 30th July.

1.1.3 Subscription:

A subscription per team shall be payable at the Annual General Meeting and no later than the Match Fixtures meeting. The fee to be fixed at the AGM

1.1.4 Arrangement of Fixtures:

- i) The Annual Fixtures Meeting shall be held no later than the 15th September where Club Secretaries or Representatives shall arrange fixtures for the following season
- ii) Clubs not represented at this meeting will be required to arrange the fixtures by the start of the match season.
- iii) A match once arranged shall not be postponed except by the mutual agreement of both teams or the unavailability of the hall. Dates of rearranged matches must be notified to the Match Secretary in writing by both teams within 28 days of the original match date.
- iv) No League matches shall be played on an Association Tournament date without the WRITTEN consent of the Match Secretary.
- v) Where a Club has two teams in the same Division, the fixtures against each other shall be played before those against teams of other Clubs.

1.2 DIVISIONS

1.2.1 Organisation:

The Leagues shall normally be divided into divisions of seven teams. The General Committee reserves the right to reconstitute the Leagues with new teams being allocated to the bottom divisions. Except in the lowest division, no more than two teams from any Club should be allowed to play in the same division unless agreed in advance, by the committee.

1.2.2 Winners:

The winners in each division shall be the team gaining the most points. In the event of a tie, the winners shall be the team gaining the greater number of rubbers or, failing this, games difference or, failing this, aces difference.

1.2.3 Promotion / Relegation:

Where applicable, the winners or winners and runners up of each division shall be promoted to the next highest division and one or two bottom teams shall be relegated to the next lowest division. Casual vacancies shall be filled by suspending relegation or promoting extra eligible teams from the next lowest division at the discretion of the General Committee.

1.2.4 Trophies:

Division winners shall be awarded trophies, which are kept by the Club. Tournament winners shall be awarded trophies, which are held by the Club for the following season and no longer than 12 months. Clubs shall be responsible for keeping the tournament trophies in good condition during this period.

1.2.5 Trophy Collection:

The League Secretary shall be responsible for collecting tournament trophies. Clubs shall return the trophies on request or within 12 months of receipt.

2. REGULATIONS FOR MATCH PLAY

2.1 GENERAL:

- i) Play shall be in accordance with the Rules of Badminton England
- ii) The use of non-standard courts shall be permitted at the discretion of the General Committee
- iii) Normally, the roof shall be regarded as a fault and beams a let; the home team captain shall clarify the ruling for members of the visiting team
- iv) Matches should commence at 7.00 pm or as mutually agreed at the Fixtures Meeting. Any team that is not ready to play at the mutually agreed time shall forfeit one rubber for each 20 minute period by which play is held up after the mutually agreed time of commencement (applied to each match court). The rubber(s) to be forfeited shall be chosen by the non-faulting team captain from the rubbers still to be played. The home team shall forfeit any rubbers not played or unfinished at the time the hall becomes unavailable. The number of match courts available shall be notified to the opposing team in advance
- v) The home team shall provide the shuttles, refreshments and match card
- vi) The WINNING team, or HOME team in the event of a draw (Men's and Ladies Doubles) should input the result onto the RDBA Website or return the completed match card to the match secretary. The losing team Captain should review the input and has the right to dispute the result, and if such a dispute occurs, the signed match card must be forwarded by the winning team Captain to the Match Secretary within 28 days of the match being played. Late match cards will result in no points being awarded to the defaulting team (rubbers, games and aces will be recorded as normal). The card shall be signed by a member of each team.
- vii) A player may change Club once only in any season, and the reason for change should be a "special circumstance" and will be approved/declined by the league committee. The player must be a bona-fide member of that Club.

viii) In the case of a dispute, the General Committee shall have the power to award the match to one side or the other

2.2 SHUTTLES:

All League matches shall be played with cork based shuttles.

2.3 CONCEDED MATCHES:

If a match is conceded, the team conceding the match shall input the result onto the RDBA Website with the words "Conceded to" in the notes section, or return the match card to the match secretary with the words 'conceded to' within 14 days of the match scheduled date.

2.4 NOMINATIONS:

2.4.1 Mixed Doubles:

- i) A team shall consist of three mixed couples
- ii) A Club with more than one team in the League must nominate the best two men and best two ladies likely to play for its first team and for every subsequent team except the lowest

2.4.2 Men's Doubles:

- i) A team shall consist of four players
- ii) A Club with more than one team in the League must nominate the best two men likely to play for its first team and for every subsequent team except the lowest

2.4.3 Ladies Doubles:

- i) A team shall consist of four players
- ii) A Club with more than one team in the League must nominate the best two ladies likely to play for its first team and for every subsequent team except the lowest

2.4.4 Further Conditions:

- i) An originally nominated player must play in at least one third of the outstanding or remaining matches scheduled for their team or for a higher team
 - ii) A nominated player shall not be eligible to play in any lower team
- In the event that a nominated player is unable to meet the condition (i) above, the club must inform the league secretary of a replacement nomination.
The General Committee shall consider the change to the nomination in favour of a new nominee.
- iv) A new club member must be registered, and if necessary nominated, at least seven days before that player takes part in any match.

2.5. APPEARANCES:

- i) The total number of matches played by any one player must not exceed twice the number of teams in that player's normal division.
- ii) If an un-nominated player plays more than four times for any team that player is ineligible to play in any lower team except the team immediately below

2.6 MATCH FORMAT:

Rally Points Scoring System

Scoring System: A match consists of the best of 3 games first to 21 points, winning by 2 clear points. If the score reaches 20 all, the side which gains a 2 point lead first wins the game, unless the score reaches 29 all, at which point the side scoring the next point wins the game.

The side winning a rally adds a point to its score.

The side winning a game serves first in the next game.

Change of Ends: In the third game, players change ends when the first side's score reaches 11 Points.

Doubles: There is only one serve per hand per pair in doubles.

At the beginning of the game and when the score is even, the person in the serving pair who is in the right hand court serves. When the score is odd, the server serves from the left court.

The sequence for server's should always be the same, in that if no errors are made then each player should serve in sequence, only when an error has been made will this not be the case.

If the serving side wins a rally, the serving side scores a point and the same server serves again from the alternate service court as normal.

If the receiving side wins a rally, the receiving side scores a point and the receiving side becomes the new serving side, however the serve goes to the player in the respective court side based on the pair's score, i.e. right if score is even and left if score is odd.

The player of the receiving side who served last stays in the same service court from where they served last. The reverse pattern applies to the receiver's partner

Players do not change their respective service courts until they win a point when their side is serving.

If an error is made, either the wrong person is serving or serving from the wrong service box, then the error should be corrected as soon as the mistake is noticed.

2.6.1 Mixed Doubles:

Nine rubbers shall be played, the best of three games normally to 21 points. Before the commencement of play both teams shall be declared and entered onto the official match card strictly in accordance with the order of play.

RUBBER	HOME PAIR		AWAY PAIR
1/	1	v	1
2/	2	v	2
3/	3	v	3
4/	2	v	1
5/	3	v	2
6/	1	v	3
7/	3	v	1
8/	1	v	2
9/	2	v	3

Two League points shall be awarded to the winning team

2.6.2 Men's Doubles and Ladies Doubles:

Six rubbers shall be played, the best of three games normally to 21 points. Before the commencement of play both teams shall be declared and entered onto the official match card strictly in accordance with the order of play as follows:

RUBBER	HOME PLAYER		AWAY PLAYER
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1/	1 + 2	v	1 + 2
2/	3 + 4	v	3 + 4
3/	3 + 4	v	1 + 2
4/	1 + 2	v	3 + 4
5/	1 + 3	v	1 + 3
6/	2 + 4	v	2 + 4

Two points shall be awarded to the winning team. In the event of a match being equal in rubbers the match will count as a draw and one point shall be awarded to each team.

3. ELIGIBILITY OF CLUB MEMBERS:

- i) Persons representing a Club's team in the League must be a bona-fide member of that Club
- ii) All members of a Club must be registered, IN WRITING, with the League Secretary before that Club takes part in any match (Club members who are unlikely to play in a match must still be registered)
- iii) Nomination shall be made IN WRITING (including Email) at least 14 days before a Club takes part in its first match in each League. Nominations shall be approved by the General Committee.
- iv) During the season, Clubs must inform the League Secretary immediately there are any additions to the Club membership. A new club member must be registered, and if necessary nominated, at least seven days before that player takes part in any match. Registrations and nominations may be made by telephone but shall be confirmed IN WRITING (including Email). The League Secretary shall notify all Clubs in the appropriate League and Division when there is any change to the nominations approved by the General Committee at the start of the season
- v) If a Club fields an unregistered member in a team in any match all rubbers played by that member shall be forfeited to the opposition
- vi) Any member registered after the last day of February shall not be eligible for match play

4. ADJUDICATION

The General Committee shall have the power to adjudicate on any matter not covered by these rules.

Last Updated July 2016.