

HASTINGS & DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE
LEAGUE RULES

- 1 The League shall be called the Hastings & District Badminton League.
- 2 The Hastings & District Badminton League shall be affiliated to the Sussex County Badminton Association and shall exist to promote the playing of badminton between all clubs registered in the League. A prerequisite of registration with the League is affiliation to the County Association.

LEAGUE

- 3 To fulfil the administration and disciplinary functions of the League an Executive Committee (EC) shall be formed consisting of: President, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretary, Tournament Secretary and four elected members at least 2 members from the lower divisions where possible. In addition, each Club entering a team shall nominate a Club Representative to participate as a member of the EC when called upon to do so.
- 4 Should any person elected under Rule 3 be unable to continue in office the EC shall be responsible for electing a replacement should it think necessary before the next AGM.
- 5 The EC shall be empowered to take any disciplinary action against Club or Members subject to the right of appeal to the AGM. The EC shall be empowered to impose such penalty as it deems fit for the severity of the offence where it is for direct transgression of the rules or where, in the opinion of the EC the spirit of the rules has been breached and/or unfair advantage may have been gained by Club or Member.
- 6 The EC shall be responsible to the AGM for the administration of the business of the League. In the absence of the Chairperson any Member of the EC shall be empowered to preside over any Executive or General meeting.
- 7 All members of the EC shall be members of Clubs registered with the League except for the President.
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 - i All existing and new clubs must register their team(s) with the Match Secretary at least 7 (seven) days before the AGM. Any team not registered will be ineligible to play.
 - ii Each player must be registered for a team at least 3 (three) days before representing that team in a match.
 - iii Any player representing a club in a match must be a bona
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 - i Clubs entering more than one team in any league must nominate a minimum of six players for each team, (three men & three ladies in the case of mixed league), except the lowest team.
 - ii A nominated player must not play for a lower team. Any player will be allowed two matches in a higher team before being barred from the lower teams. If a third match is played the player will be tied to the next highest team.
 - iii In the event of special circumstances regarding nominated players, a club may submit a written statement to the Executive for consideration. Executive decision shall be final.
 - iv All results, fixtures, and player registration to be completed online.
- 10 A player may play for one club only in the Mixed League(s). A player may play for only one club in the Men's/Ladies League(s) which need not necessarily be the same club as in the Mixed League(s). Both subject to the necessary registration being made and approved.
- 11 The registration fee shall be £3:00 (three pounds) per team and must be paid to the Match Secretary at or before the Annual General Meeting.
- 12 Any club playing unregistered or otherwise ineligible players without prior approval of the opposition shall forfeit the match by the maximum number of rubbers. Where prior approval is given only those rubbers played by the unregistered or otherwise ineligible player shall be forfeited, these by the maximum number of games and points.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 13 The governing body of the Hastings & District Badminton League shall be the Annual General Meeting of ordinary members of clubs registered with the League.
- 14 The AGM of the League shall consist of the EC and only TWO attending representatives of each club registered with the league may vote. Any member may attend.
- 15 The Ordinary members of the League at the AGM shall have the right to propose revisions, amendments, deletions or additions to the rules of the League provided that at least 14 days notice is given to all Secretaries of registered clubs, through the League Secretary.

16 **The Agenda for the AGM shall be as follows:**

1. Meeting in session. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising.
3. Correspondence
4. Chairpersons Report
5. Secretary/Treasurer Reports
6. Election of Officers and members of the Executive Committee for the coming season
7. Any other business.

17 In the absence of the Chairperson an EC member shall be empowered by a majority vote to preside over the AGM.

18 A simple majority vote shall decide in all cases. Chairperson to have the casting vote if necessary.

19 The Chairperson shall be solely responsible for the conduct of the AGM and shall be empowered to interpret any part of the Rules and his/her decision shall be final.

20 The EC shall arrange date, notice and Agenda for the AGM. These to be sent to the Secretary of each club registered in the League giving 14 days notice.

21 A Special General meeting may be called by the EC or at the request of TEN ordinary members. Such a request shall be made in writing to the League Secretary signed by all members concerned. The EC shall call a meeting within 21 days of receipt of the so signed letter.

MATCH ARRANGEMENTS

22 All League fixtures shall be arranged, where possible, using a club's home dates from the previous season. Clubs moving up or down a division shall retain their home dates and those dates shall be offered to their new opponents in the higher or lower division. Fixtures shall be confirmed at a fixture meeting held before the beginning of the season. In the event of a dispute over fixture dates the EC shall arbitrate.

23 Time of commencement of matches to be arranged between Secretaries.

24 If a team does not have a pair available to play within 15 minutes of the agreed start time, that team shall forfeit one rubber per period of 15 minutes. If hall time allows and the team offended against wishes it, the whole match should be played, and the first rubber/rubbers won by the offending team shall then be deducted at the end of the match. In multi-court halls the above shall apply to each court. Any pair not available within one hour of agreed commencement time of the match shall forfeit their rubbers and the opposition shall be deemed to have won them by the maximum points – unless prior agreement has been reached between the two team captains.

25 A Match once arranged shall only be cancelled for non-availability of hall, inclement weather or with mutual agreement between both clubs. If a team fails to fulfil an away fixture and has not given at least 7 days' notice the home team will be entitled to seek the cost of booking their hall for the match. The cost claimed is capped at £30.

26 A team cancelling a match other than under Rule 25 shall be deemed to have lost the match by the maximum games and points and be liable to action under Rule 5.

27 Either team may request that a match be umpired. Any decision made by the umpire during the course of a match shall be final.

28 Approved Badminton England shuttles are to be used in matches and tournaments. The choice of shuttles to be at the home team's discretion. The Executive to decide the type of shuttles for Tournaments.

29 All matches shall be played under the rules and laws of Badminton England.

30 At the end of a match the result shall be uploaded on the website as a true record of the games won and lost by the winning team within 21 days. Failure to submit the result within 21 days by the winning team will result in the match being declared a draw.

31 All Mixed & Men's (Division 1) matches in the league shall be scored at one point for each rubber won (a rubber being the best of 3 games played against opposing pairs); making 9 points available per match.

32 All fixtures to be played by May 15th. At the end of the league season the team with the highest number of match points will be deemed to have won the division and the final results for each division will be circulated to all Club Secretaries within one month of the end of the season. In the event of a tie the winners will be decided on Matches won, then on Games (Sets) won and then on points difference." Ladies matches shall comprise of 4 players per team: playing a combination format. Each rubber will be best of 2 ends to 21 (no setting). The team scoring the most points overall will be the winning team.

- 33 A Challenge Trophy shall be awarded to the winner of each division. The EC shall be responsible for the engraving of the Challenge Trophy
- 34 At the end of the League season and after implementation of rules 35, 36 and 37 the Executive Committee only shall consider and agree any requests for the placing of teams within the league divisions.
- 35 The winning team at the top of the division shall normally be promoted to the next higher division.
- 36 The team bottom of a division shall be relegated to the next lower division. Should there be no lower division a team due for relegation shall be eligible to apply for inclusion in the same division for the incoming season.
- 37 The AGM may require a team not be relegated under Rule 35 where they consider the team to be of too high a standard for the lower division.
- 38 Any team wishing to register a complaint concerning a match must do so in writing to the League Secretary within 48 hours of the match in question.
- 39 In the interpretation of these Rules or on a matter arising not covered by these Rules, the EC decision shall be final.

ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS

- 40 Only players registered to play for a club in the League on or before the Tournament entry closing date may be eligible to enter.