

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 the Badminton Association of 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) **County Affiliation Guidelines**
 - a) Clubs affiliated to the RDBA only (irrespective of geographical location) are recommended to affiliate to Warwickshire.
 - b) Clubs affiliated to the RDBA and to other local area Associations outside Warwickshire should affiliate to the County Association in which they are geographically located.
 - iii) **Application for Membership**

New Clubs shall apply in writing in the first instance to the Association Secretary (Section 4(I) refers) by 30th June. Acceptance is at the discretion of the General Committee (Section 4(ii) refers).
 - iv) **Affiliation Fees**

An affiliation fee per Club per season (to the RDBA) shall be payable at the Association Annual General Meeting (Section 5 refers). The fee to be decided at that meeting.
4. **COMMITTEES**
 - i) **Executive Committee**
 - a) **Members.** The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officials, plus **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 Terms of Reference of the General Committee shall be to make all decisions regarding the affairs of the Association and its' Leagues, Tournaments and other events.
 - c) **Meetings.** Meetings shall be held four times a year in the months of July, September, December and March. The dates to be fixed in advance at the Annual General Meeting.

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) **Other Officials.** The General Committee shall appoint annually a W.B.A. Representative, a Press Officer and a Trophy Controller.

g) **Disputes.** If a dispute between Clubs occurs on any matter, the Association 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 shall be held in Rugby not later than the end of May

ii) **Aims**

To consider business relating to the past season, consideration of 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 AGM. Proposed alterations must be forwarded, in writing, to the Association Secretary by not later than 1st March. To become operative proposed rule changes shall be considered immediately after the business relating to the past season. Amendments to any proposed rule changes will be taken at the AGM provided notice is given to the Chairperson prior to the commencement of the meeting.

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 Association Secretary, at least 21 days beforehand.

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 Association Secretary.

7. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

Clubs shall be represented at **ALL** meetings called by the RDBA which shall include; General Committee meetings (4(ii) refers), 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 Association Secretary before 30th June
- iii) Clubs wishing to withdraw teams from the Leagues must do so by 30th June

1.1.3 Subscription:

A subscription per team shall be payable at the Annual General 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 end of August where Club Secretaries or Representatives shall arrange fixtures for the following season
- ii) Clubs not represented at this meeting may be suspended for the season at the discretion of the General Committee
- 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 Association Secretary in writing by both teams within 14 days of the original match date.
- iv) No League matches shall be played on an Association Tournament date without the **WRITTEN** consent of the Association 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 shall be allowed to play in the same division.

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 and runners up of each division shall be promoted to the next highest division and the 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 held by the Club for the following season. Clubs shall be responsible for keeping the trophies in good condition during this period. The Association shall be responsible for insuring the trophies.

1.2.5 **Trophy Controller:**

The General Committee shall appoint a Trophy Controller who shall be responsible for collecting the trophies. Clubs shall return the trophies on request.

2. REGULATIONS FOR MATCH PLAY

2.1 GENERAL:

- i) Play shall be in accordance with the Rules of the Badminton Association of 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 shall 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 unplayed 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 (Mens and Ladies Doubles), shall return the match card to the Association Secretary within 14 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 only play for one Club in each League during any one season and 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 both teams shall return a match card to the Association Secretary with the words 'conceded to' or 'conceded by'. Both teams must declare their originally selected team. The General Committee shall nominate teams in the absence of the match cards not being received within 14 days. (see 2.1 (vi))

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 **Mens 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
- iii) In the event that a nominated player is unable to play in the appointed place, the General Committee shall have the power to drop the nomination in favour of a new nominee

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:**

2.6.1 **Mixed Doubles:**

Nine rubbers shall be played, the best of three games normally to 15 points. Two League points shall be awarded to the winning team

2.6.2 **Mens Doubles and Ladies Doubles:**

Six rubbers shall be played, the best of three games normally to 15 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	v	AWAY PLAYER
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 Association 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** 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 Association 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**. The Association 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

vii) A member can only play for one Club in any one League

4. ADJUDICATION

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