

REGULATIONS for the YORKSHIRE LEAGUE

1. NAME

The league shall be called the Yorkshire League.

2. MANAGEMENT

The League shall be managed by a Committee of Management consisting of the Chairman, County Secretary and the Yorkshire League Secretary. The Committee of Management shall have the power to co-opt other persons.

3. FILING OF ENTRIES

A club wishing to enter or withdraw a team from the league must notify the Yorkshire League Secretary by 31st July before the season of competition. Entry confirmation and the appropriate entry fee shall be returned to the Yorkshire League Secretary by the 31st August.

4. QUALIFICATIONS OF PLAYERS

The competition shall be restricted to players who are affiliated members of Badminton England. Each club will be required to submit to the Yorkshire League Secretary the current BE affiliation number for every player they wish to register to play in the league. A player can only be registered to play for only one club at any time, but a club wishing to obtain the transfer of a player already registered to another club can do so by written application to the Yorkshire League Secretary provided that such application is received by 15th December.

Once approved a transfer is effective from the 1st January.

5. CONSTITUTION OF DIVISIONS AND TEAMS

- a) The league shall consist of divisions according to the number of entrants. Divisions playing 14 rubbers shall consist of not more than 9 teams. Divisions playing 9 rubbers shall consist of a variable number of teams to be decided by the Yorkshire League Secretary. Each team in the divisions playing 14 rubbers shall play one match against every other team in that division and the venues shall be reversed the following season. In divisions playing 9 rubbers matches will be played at venues organised by the Yorkshire League Secretary.
- b) In divisions playing 14 rubbers a team shall consist of a minimum of 4 or 5 men and 4 or 5 ladies. In divisions playing 9 rubbers a team shall consist of a minimum of 3 men and 3 ladies.

Where a match is played with less than the stipulated number, the Committee reserves the right to determine the match points awarded.

- c) In divisions playing 14 rubbers each team shall be arranged to provide 1 men's singles player; 1 ladies' singles player; 2 men's doubles pairs; 2 ladies' doubles pairs and 4 mixed doubles pairs. There shall be no restriction with regard to the number of events for which any player shall be selected.

In divisions playing 9 rubbers each team shall be arranged to provide for 3 men's doubles pairs; 3 ladies' doubles pairs and 3 mixed doubles pairs

- d) In the event of any players being incapacitated after play has begun, so that he or she cannot continue playing, a captain shall be entitled to include a substitute in any subsequent rubbers in which such incapacitated player should have taken part, provided that:-
- i) The opposing captain is notified. The opposing captain has the right to appeal against the result of any rubber if they consider the team using the substitute has gained an unfair advantage;
 - ii) The incapacity was caused entirely after play in the tie had begun;
 - iii) Any substitute shall be indicated on the score card;
 - iv) Where a substitute is required in the mixed doubles, there shall be no alteration to the original order of play in this discipline.

6. CONSTITUTION OF MATCHES

- a) Matches in divisions playing 14 rubbers shall consist of 1 men's singles; 1 ladies' singles; 4 men's doubles; 4 ladies doubles and 4 mixed doubles. In the men's and ladies' doubles events each pair of a team shall play each of the opposing pairs. In the mixed doubles each of the 4 pairs shall play only its opposing pair.

The order of play shall, unless otherwise mutually agreed, be first all singles rubbers; second all the men's and ladies rubbers: third all the mixed rubbers.

In the mixed doubles each of the 4 pairs shall play only its opposing pair and each pair shall be ranked strictly in order of merit on their ability to play mixed doubles, irrespective of any player's ranking in either men's or ladies' doubles.

- b) In matches playing 9 rubbers, each will consist of 3 men's doubles, 3 ladies doubles and 3 mixed doubles. The order of pairing in the men's and ladies doubles shall be as follows:- 1st ranked player partners 2nd ranked player; 1st ranked player partners 3rd ranked player and 2nd ranked player partners 3rd ranked player.

In the mixed doubles each of the 3 pairs of a team shall be ranked strictly in order of merit on their ability to play mixed doubles, irrespective of any players ranking in either men's or ladies' doubles.

- c) In all divisions all names of players should be on the scorecards for all the rubbers before the match commences.

- d) Each rubber shall consist of the best of 3 games to 21 aces under the rally points scoring system and extended play provisions shall apply.
- e) All matches shall be played in accordance with the laws of badminton as approved by the Badminton World Federation.
- f) Any player or pair absent or unwilling to play when required to do so shall forfeit the rubber concerned which shall be scored as a win for the opposition by 21-0 21-0, except that 30 minutes grace shall be granted from the time fixed for commencement of the match, unless otherwise agreed by the two captains.
- g) Matches playing 14 rubbers shall allow a minimum of 8 hours court time per match. Matches playing 9 rubbers shall allow a minimum of 5 hours per match.

7. ALLOCATION OF POINTS

The winner of a match shall be decided by the number of rubbers won. In matches playing 14 rubbers 4 points shall be awarded for a win of 10-4 or better; 3 points for a 9-5 or 8-6 win. In the event of a draw both teams will be awarded 2 points. For a 6-8 or 5-9 defeat 1 point is awarded.

In matches playing 9 rubbers 3 points shall be awarded for a win of 7-2 or better; for a 6-3 or 5-4 win 2 points shall be awarded; for a 4-5 or 3-6 defeat 1 point shall be awarded.

In all cases where the progress of a match has been delayed owing to the late arrival of a player or players, any incomplete match or matches shall be awarded to the non-defaulting club and be clearly indicated on the score cards.

In cases where a match has been started on time but, there is insufficient time to complete it, owing to the expiry of hall time limit or the hall being required for other purposes beyond the home club's control, the result of the match shall be decided by the Committee of Management.

8. PROMOTION OR RELEGATION

At the end of each season the two teams occupying the first two positions in each division, except the first, shall be promoted to the next higher division. The 2 teams occupying the last 2 positions in each division, except the lowest, shall be relegated to the next lower division. The Committee of Management shall have the right to increase or restrict the number of teams to be promoted or relegated if considered desirable to the general interests of the League.

When a club is saved from relegation by whatever factors in a season then, should that club finish in the relegation places the next season, it will be relegated.

9. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PLAYING OF MATCHES

- a) Prior to the beginning of each season the Yorkshire League Secretary will send each club a list of fixtures for that season to be arranged between the clubs.
- b) All fixtures shall be arranged by September 30th and each club will submit a list of these fixtures to the Yorkshire League Secretary by that date.
- c) Once the date of a match has been submitted to the Yorkshire League Secretary no alteration to the date shall be permitted except:-
 - i) By mutual agreement of the two clubs and the consent of the Yorkshire League Secretary.
 - ii) Where the match cannot proceed because of adverse weather. (In the case of adverse weather, neither team is considered to have defaulted.)
- d) Where a club wishes to change the agreed date because its hall is not available but is not able to secure the consent of its opponents for a revised date, the matter shall be referred to the Yorkshire League Secretary for a decision.
- e) If as a result of 9 a fixture is altered the Yorkshire League Secretary shall be advised of the new date immediately.
- f) Venues for matches must have a minimum of 2 courts and be of a standard acceptable to the Committee of Management.
- g) Any club which has 2 or more teams in the same division shall play all ties between these teams by 31st December.
- h) Teams must try to arrange to play the first 3 fixtures by December 31st.
- i) CONFIRMATION of the match and TRAVEL DIRECTIONS must be given to the away team a MINIMUM of 7 days prior to the fixture
- j) All matches shall be completed by the last Sunday in April. The result of any matches not played by then will be decided by the Committee of Management.
- k) If a team fails to fulfil a fixture, that team shall either have 3 or 4 points deducted depending on whether 9 or 14 rubbers are played. The non-defaulting team shall have 3 or 4 points awarded AND will be awarded either

9–0 AND 18 games AND 378 points
or
14–0 AND 28 games AND 588 POINTS
- l) At the end of the season, the winners of a division will be decided on the number of points. If teams are level on league points then the next factor will be the number of wins; then the rubbers won, games won and points won, then the result between them.

- m) Any team defaulting on more than one occasion in the same season will be relegated 1 division and their results will be expunged.
- n) An appeal against the deduction of points or automatic relegation may be made in writing to the Yorkshire League Secretary for consideration by the Committee of Management within 14 days of the original date of the fixture.
- o) No matches shall be played on the dates fixed for the Yorkshire Restricted Tournament.

10. NOMINATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- a) Every club shall nominate players for all their teams at least 7 days before the club's first match in a division. Failure to submit the nominations shall result in players named in the first match played by each of the clubs teams being automatically nominated.
- b) In matches playing 14 rubbers, nominations shall be a minimum of 4 men and 4 ladies and in all other matches a minimum of 3 men and 3 ladies.
- c) Immediate action must be taken to comply with rule 10b by nominating an additional player of the same sex if a player:-
 - i) Does not have a valid BE affiliation number.
 - ii) Has transferred to another club.
- d) Written notice of circumstances where a club is unable to comply with 10c (i) and (ii) should be sent a.s.a.p. to the Yorkshire League Secretary.
- e) A nominated player may not play for any lower team except as allowed in rule 10g.
- f) A player may play for a higher team on 2 occasions but on a third occasion the player shall cease to be a member of the original team and will be deemed to be an automatically nominated for the higher team.
- g) A club may apply for a nominated or automatically nominated player to be de-nominated from 1st January. The request must be made in writing to the Yorkshire League Secretary by the 15th December and must give sound reasons for the de-nomination. The Committee of Management will consider the request and notify the club of the decision by 1st January.

11. TROPHIES

The winners of each division shall be presented with a trophy at the Annual Presentation of the Association. The trophies shall remain the property of the Association, which shall be responsible for the insurance and engraving, but the holders shall be responsible for their care and maintenance. Trophies must be returned to the Yorkshire League Secretary by 31st May.

12. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

Each team must submit the result of every tie and these results shall be sent to the Yorkshire League Secretary within 7 days of the match on the score cards provided; both cards are to be signed by both captains, agreeing the result. Teams failing to submit cards within 7 days may result in that team forfeiting points.

13. SHUTTLECOCKS

Recognised tournament quality shuttles will be used in all matches and provided by the home team or the county.

14. DRESS

Acceptable badminton sports clothing shall be worn on court at all times during play.

15. CATERING

Refreshments may be provided by every home team to the visiting team.

16. GENERAL

The Committee of Management shall be empowered to decide upon any point not covered by the foregoing regulations.

The Committee of Management shall have the power to frame any additional regulation or amend any existing regulation, as may from time to time seem expedient. In the case of any infringement of these regulations, the Committee of Management shall be empowered to decide the result and score of any tie.

1st May 2017