

Mid Gloucestershire Badminton League

Rules

1. The competition shall be called the Mid Gloucestershire Badminton League and shall be competed for annually in accordance with the following Rules and with the current Rules and Regulations of the Badminton Association of England.
2. A Club may enter a maximum of four teams in the Mixed and Men's Sections or and two teams in the County Section. Two 1st team matches must be played before any 2nd team matches, two 2nd team matches must be played before any 3rd team matches and two 3rd team matches must be played before any 4th team matches. Any player playing for the 1st team more than once will not be eligible for the 2nd, 3rd or 4th team. Any player playing for the 2nd team more than once will not be eligible for the 3rd or 4th team. Any player playing for the 3rd team more than once will not be eligible for the 4th team.
3. The League shall be divided into Divisions of not more than six teams each playing the remainder both at home and away. If the number of teams in the last two Divisions be less than 11 the composition to be decided at the AGM. New Clubs, or Clubs re-joining the League, or second, third or fourth teams not previously entered, will be placed in the lowest Division. The arrangements of the Divisions (for Mixed, Men's and Ladies) shall be as follows: Division 1, Division 2, Division 3, Division 4A and Division 4B (both of which shall be of equal standing), Division 5A and Division 5B (both of which shall be of equal standing, Division 6A and Division 6B (both of which shall be of equal standing). This ruling is carried through to all lower Divisions as required (Note the lowest two Divisions may be subject to the second sentence in this Rule).
4. Application for membership or resignation to the League shall be made, in writing, to the Secretary on or before the AGM.
5. The team for each mixed League match shall be composed of three pairs - each pair will consist of one man and one lady. The team for each Men's League match shall be composed of three pairs - each pair will consist of two men. The team for each Ladies League match shall be composed of three pairs - each pair will consist of two ladies. Each pair shall play each appropriate pair of the opposing team 1 rubber i.e. 9 rubbers in all. All rubbers shall be best of **three** games of 21 points using the Rally Points Scoring System. The extended game (replacing setting) is played from 20-all. The winner is the one with 2 clear points or whose score reaches 30 first.
6. The team for the County League match shall comprise a minimum of 2 men and 2 ladies with no maximum. The format for each match will be 1 Men's Singles, 1 Ladies Singles, 1 Men's Doubles, 1 Ladies Doubles and 1 Mixed Doubles. All rubbers shall be best of **three** games of 21 points using the Rally Points Scoring System. The extended game (replacing setting) is played from 20-all. The winner is the one with 2 clear points or whose score reaches 30 first.
7. Award 1 point for every rubber won (9 rubbers per match). Final league positions will be determined by the team winning the most points. In the event of two teams having the same number of points then matches won will decide. If they are still level then (a) games won followed by (b) games lost will decide.
8. All games shall be umpired as mutually agreed between the contesting Clubs.
9. The full results of all matches together with the names of the players and BAE affiliation numbers shall be entered on the official cards provided, signed by both umpires and forwarded by the home club to the appropriate officer within three days of the conclusion of the match.

10. At the conclusion of each annual competition a check of all players registrations shall be conducted by the Hon Secretary against BE official records. Any clubs found to have played non-registered players shall be subject to penalties by the League Committee.
11. At the conclusion of each annual competition
 - The bottom 2 teams of Division 1 shall be relegated to Division 2.
 - The winner & runner-up of Division 2 shall be promoted to Division 1.
 - The bottom 2 teams of Division 2 shall be relegated to Division 3.
 - The winner & runner-up of Division 3 shall be promoted to Division 2
 - The bottom 2 teams of Division 3 shall be relegated to Divisions 4A & 4B (when applicable)
 - The winners of Division 4A & 4B shall be promoted to Division 3
 - The bottom teams from Divisions 4A & 4B shall be relegated directly to Divisions 5A & 5B respectively, the next two bottom teams shall be relegated by crossing over to 5B & 5A
 - The winners of Division 5A & 5B shall be promoted directly to Divisions 4A & 4B.
 - The runners-up of Division 5A & 5B shall be promoted by crossing over to 4B & 4A
 - Promotions and relegation for any other Divisions shall be similar to the previous rules.

Recognising that the numbers of teams in a division can vary, the final promotion/relegations may have to be varied from those specified above, hence the AGM shall agree the divisions prior to fixture arrangements

12. In the event of a team resigning from the League, the vacancy created shall be filled by the team with the greatest number of points in the Division below (Note: Any vacancy left by these 'promotions' will be filled by relegated teams from the Division).
13. If a team resigns during the season the results of all matches of the team shall be cancelled and only the bottom team of the Division concerned will be relegated.
14. In the event of a 3rd team finishing 1st or 2nd in a Division below a Division which contains the Clubs 1st and 2nd teams, the 3rd placed team shall challenge the next to bottom team in this Division and if successful will be promoted. The next to bottom team having the choice of courts. (This rule applies to Division 1, 2, and 3 only).
15. No player shall play in a League team of more than one club during the same season unless sanction has been obtained from the League Committee.
16. Except by prior arrangement with the League Committee, all League fixtures shall be completed by 31st March. Any fixtures remaining not played shall be deemed void and no points credited to either team. Where a club has two teams in the same division then these teams must have played each other once before 31st December.
17. Feather shuttles of an approved standard and speed will be used in Divisions 1, 2, and 3 of the Mixed and Division 1 of the Men's Sections. In all other Divisions the home team shall have the choice of shuttles, prior notice to be given to the opponents if plastic shuttles are to be used.
18. Any team wishing to postpone a League fixture may do so only with the consent of the League Fixture Secretary (if unavailable the League Chairman may act in the same capacity). Postponements will only be allowed in circumstances of unavailability of venue or extreme weather conditions. Any other circumstances are at the sole discretion of the League Committee.
19. The team postponing a fixture is responsible for notifying a suitable representative of the opposing team at the earliest opportunity.
20. Proposals for alteration of, or amendments, to the Rules, will be discussed at the AGM and any proposal will only be adopted if a two-thirds majority of the representatives eligible to vote at the meeting are in favour of such alteration or amendment.

Adopted 16th September 2009