

Rules of the Cambridgeshire Senior Squash Leagues

1) League Membership

- a) Any Club based within Cambridgeshire shall be eligible to enter teams. Other clubs may be eligible to enter teams, subject to a two-thirds majority at the Annual General Meeting.
- b) The club must be affiliated to England Squash by payment of their annual subscription (although it is not necessary for clubs to play on affiliated courts)
- c) Each team must pay the annual Cambs league subscription.
- d) Any team applying for league membership must offer at least a two court facility.
- e) Teams must have a home match night of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.
- f) Mens 1st Division must play on Wednesday.

2) Eligibility

Clubs may be represented by anyone who meets the following conditions:-

- a) He/she is a member of the club for which he/she wishes to play.
- b) He/she has not played in their league section (i.e. Men's or Ladies league) for any other club during the current season. (If a player wishes to change clubs during the season he/she can given the approval of both team representatives and the League Secretary.)
- c) Ladies may represent any team in the Men's section.

3) Team Membership

- a) Prior to the first match of the season, team representatives of the clubs who enter two or more teams in a league section must submit the names of at least 5 players for each team, (but not necessarily the lowest team, although this is adviseable - see 3b below), to the league secretary. These players will then be listed as members of that team.
- b) If an unlisted league player represents a team he/she will become listed for that team in that merit position.
- c) Representing a higher club team:
A player listed for a lower team may represent each higher team on four occasions whilst still being allowed to represent their own team and without informing the League Secretary. On the fifth occasion they become listed for the higher team.
- d) Representing a lower club team:
A listed player can only represent a lower club team with prior agreement of the League Secretary and agreement of both team representatives. The change of listing will deemed to be permanent for the rest of the season.

- e) Clubs with more than one team in the same division of the leagues can for each team and for one match in each half of the season play a reserve player from the other team, providing that player is listed (or is clearly ranked on merit) at position 3 or lower in the team in which he/she is listed.
- f) No player can play for a team in the last four matches, as defined by the fixture list, unless he/she has played at least twice for that team or a lower team in the current season.
- g) In exceptional circumstances appeals may be considered on the above rules by the League Secretary.

4) **Matches**

- a) Matches are played from October – March. Each club is required to play every club in its division twice during that period on a home and away basis.
- b) Unless otherwise agreed matches, will be assumed to start at 7:30pm.
- c) In the event of a team playing with less than 5 players, the top player will be drawn against the opponent's top player, etc. Defaulted strings will be scored 3-0.
- d) Teams should play in order of merit. Players may not change places relative to other members of a team without permission of the League Secretary. The temporary indisposition of a player does not justify that player being played in a lower position.
- e) Home teams are responsible for providing England Squash approved double yellow dot balls, unless both captains agree to use another.
- f) The provisional fixture list will be circulated 3 weeks prior to the first match. Team secretaries have until 30th September to re-arrange matches and to notify the League Secretary of any change. After that date matches should be played as the fixture list. Matches can only be re-arranged in the case of 'non-personal' emergency and only with the approval of the League Secretary.
- g) Any team defaulting a match will lose 3 points and will be considered as having played the match. The non defaulting team will be considered to have played the match and will be awarded full points. Any team defaulting three or more matches in a season will be required to reapply to the AGM to remain in the leagues - the AGM will decide which division.
- h) Should any team drop out of the league in the season, all matches against that team during that particular half of the season during which they dropped out will be considered not to have been played.
- i) Teams from the same club in the same division must play each other as the first match in each half of the season, if possible.
- j) At least three players from each side should make every effort to be present at the published match start time. All players should be present within 30 minutes of the start time. If any players are absent after this time without prior agreement between the Captains, the opponents can claim the string and all lower strings. Every effort should be made to avoid this default situation by communication between Captains.
- k) The rules of squash as approved by England Squash shall apply.

5) Results

- a) One point is awarded for each game (best of five games). The team winning three or more rubbers is awarded five bonus points. (Ladies Division Two the winning team is awarded three bonus points)
- b) Points total will decide league positions. In the event of a tie, results between the teams involved will be used to decide the final league positions.
- c) No points will be awarded to teams for matches played after the due date for league subscriptions should the team be late in paying their subscriptions and points will only be awarded for matches played after subscriptions have been paid.
- d) For Men's and Ladies Divisions One, PAR scoring to 15 is to be used (2 clear points if 14-14 is reached).

6) Notification of Results

Results should be e-mailed to both Derek Fuller and Paul Heath within one week of the match date using the results template. Results will then be uploaded onto the Resultszone web-site, accessible via. www.cambs-squash.org

7) Disputes / Players Conduct

Details of a dispute must be notified to the League Secretary in writing within one week of the incident that caused the disagreement. Any player guilty of misconduct on court towards the marker/referee or opponent should be reported to the League Secretary. The matter will be discussed by the league sub-committee who will take action if they feel it is necessary. This may include suspension from one or more weeks play.

8) Promotion

- a) Mens Division 1 and 2

The bottom team in Mens Division 1 will be relegated and the top team in Mens Division 2 will be promoted. The runner-up in Division 2 will play the second bottom team on Division 1 on a neutral ground before the end of April. The winner will be Division 1 the following season.

- b) Other Mens Divisions

Two teams from each division will be promoted and two relegated, although variation may be necessary because of, for example, regional issues and any such changes will be decided at the AGM.

c) Ladies Divisions

Ladies Division 2 will consist of teams of 3 players only. Promotion and relegation will be decided at the AGM.

- d) A Bye will not count as a team for the purposes of relegation. (The policy of the League is to relegate the requisite number of teams and fill vacancies by promotion from lower divisions, except for Ladies Division 2.

9) New Teams

- a) New teams shall normally start in the lowest division unless they make a successful application to the Committee for commencement in a higher division.
- b) Should a club close down, any proposal to deploy teams to other existing clubs must be submitted to the League Secretary in writing.