

# CO LOUTH BADMINTION ASSOCIATION RULES & REGULATIONS

Effective from June 2014

- 1 County Louth Badminton Association will hold an AGM each year during the month of June.
- 2 The Officers of County Louth Badminton Association will be elected each year at the AGM.
- 3 The term of office for each Officer will be no greater than 5 years with option to extend with committee approval.
- 4 Each affiliated club is entitled to be represented at the AGM and subsequent monthly (during the playing season) meetings.
- 5 Each affiliated club will have one vote at both the AGM and monthly meetings.
- 6 The chairman will only have a vote in the case of a tied decision.
- 7 The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, the Secretary, the Juvenile Secretary, the PRO and the Treasurer.
- 8 The management of competitions will be the responsibility of the Executive Committee.
- 9 The Executive Committee will have the power to enforce all rules governing county competitions and to decide on any matters not provided for in these regulations. It will also investigate any irregularity or breach of regulation coming under its notice whether or not a formal protest in the matter has been made.
- 10 Only clubs affiliated to the Leinster or Ulster branches and who have paid the appropriate entrance and affiliation fees will be eligible to play in the County League and Cup competitions.
- 11 There must be a minimum of three entries for a given League competition to be run. For the Cup competition, the Louth Graded Open and the Louth Close tournaments there must be a minimum of 2 entries.
- 12 The top two teams with the most points at the end of the season will play off in a League final
  - 12.1 In the event of a points tie to decide the top two teams, then there will be a count-back of games. In the event of a games tie, there will be a play-off between the tied teams.

- 13 If there are two groups in a league, then the top two teams of each group will go into a semi-final and final to decide the winner. Winner of Group A will play Runner-up of Group B and vice-versa.
  - 13.1 In the event of a points tie between the top teams in a group, then Rule 12.1 will apply.
  - 13.2 The top team will have home advantage in the semi-finals.
- 14 League Mixed teams will consist of 2 Men and 2 Ladies, playing 1 Men's Doubles, 1 Ladies Doubles and 2 Mixed Doubles. Each player will play a doubles and a mixed doubles.
- 15 League Men's teams will consist of 4 Men.
- 16 League Ladies teams will consist of 4 Ladies.
- 17 All teams must play their pairs in order of their combined points grading with the strongest pair (combined points) first. This also applies when a substitute is used. Pairings / combinations may change from one match to the next
- 18 A player or substitute player having played on a team may not play on any other team within the same competition.
- 19 Supper must be provided by the home team in all matches, including cup matches.
- 20 All teams and player positions must be named and submitted to the County Secretary together with the appropriate affiliation fees before the competition begins.
- 21 All fixtures will be made by the Club Representatives at the fixtures meeting and a copy of the fixtures must be sent to the County Secretary. Fixtures may only be re-scheduled with permission from the executive committee otherwise a walkover will be awarded. A two week period of grace is allowed for changes to be made from the date fixtures are made.
- 22 Any club which gives false information on any matter will be liable, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, to have their team disqualified from county competitions.
- 23 All League and Cup matches must be completed by the dates fixed by the Club Secretaries. All matches must be played at the arranged venues.
- 24 All competitions must be played with feather shuttles, Yonex Aerosensa 30 or equivalent is the specified shuttle for matches.

- 25 To be eligible to play in county competitions a player must be:
  - 25.1 Registered and Graded by the Grading Committee.
  - 25.2 Affiliated to the Badminton Ireland through the club with which they play.
  - 25.3 Not have represented any other club in the competition in the current season, including Inter- League competitions.
- 26 All objections and appeals should be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee. The Committee will exercise the right to take any disciplinary action it deems necessary.
- 27 Where a player is unable to complete his or her games due to injury or illness the game or games must be conceded.
- 28 A match shall consist of the best of three games and played according to the rules adopted by Badminton Ireland.
- 29 Juvenile doubles matches will be played one game to 30 points, no setting. Juvenile singles matches will be played one game to 21 points, no setting,
- 30 The Captain of the home team must **within 5 days** of a match forward a copy of the results sheet to the Results Secretary, retaining the original for himself. Each team must complete and exchange a Result Sheet at the start of each match. Results sheets must contain the following information:
  - 30.1 Date on which match took place.
  - 30.2 Match starting time.
  - 30.3 Number of games won and lost.
  - 30.4 Score in each game.
  - 30.5 Signatures of both Captains.
  - 30.6 Competition
  - 30.7 Team name
  - 30.8 Player Names & Grades
- 31 Any club or team member is entitled to appeal any ruling of penalty imposed by the County Committee.
- 32 Proper sports attire must be worn during play.
- 33 New players (ungraded) will be assessed and graded and may be regraded after 3 matches. Clubs and teams are expected to abide by the spirit of the competition. Failure to do so may result in points being forfeited.

- 34 No club may enlist/affiliate a player that currently plays for another club without prior permission in writing from the players club. Where a club gives permission to a player to play with another club, the player cannot play at the same grade for his or her own club.
- 35 Any juvenile player who has been capped at Provincial level must play at Div 4 or higher and any juvenile players who have been capped at Country level must play at Div 3 or higher in Inter-County competitions.
- 36 Players will be graded by the Club Secretaries at the annual grading meeting. Secretaries are expected to be as fair as possible when proposing grades for players. Players joining throughout the year can be upgraded at any County meeting. Players can be downgraded as well as upgraded.
- 37 Any player found to be playing well above his or her grade can have their grading reviewed by the committee at any time throughout the season.
- 38 Players are graded and allocated points within that grade. Each team cannot exceed the maximum number of points for that team. See attached details.
- 39 If a team exceeds the allocated points within a grade, then they will forfeit any points won by the highest substitute player.
- 40 Only one player in a given team can come from the next higher Division than that in which the team is entered and that player cannot be at the top points in that grade.
  - 40.1 A club may appeal to the County Board for special consideration of this rule with regard to their proposed team.
- 41 If a team fields more than one player from a higher grade, then they will forfeit any points won by the highest graded substitute player.
- 42 Any new player must provide details of past experience in playing badminton and where available, BUI history.
- 43 A player must be 14 by 1<sup>st</sup> January of that season to play in the Cup, League/Tournament. Exceptions may be made on consultation with the Committee and with permission from their parents / guardians.
- 44 If a player who is not affiliated plays, that player loses any points they have won.
- 45 Winners of the Louth Open Graded tournament are automatically eligible to go forward to the Leinster Individual Graded Championships.

- 46 Once the tournament draw is made, no further entries will be accepted.
  - 46.1 If a Singles player or Doubles pair pull out of the tournament after the draw is made, but before the tournament starts, they may not be replaced by a new player or pair.
  - 46.2 If a player is knocked out of a given event in the tournament, then it is not possible to re-enter that event with another player.
  
- 47 In the doubles events, if a player is injured or falls ill before his / her first match is played, then a substitute may be played.

Attached:

Maximum Points allowed per team

Division 7            24 points

Division 6            36 points

Division 5            48 points

Division 4            60 points

Division 3            72 points

Division 2            84 points

Division 1            96 points