

Rules of the Lincolnshire Squash Leagues 2009/10

1. Registration

The competition is open to any clubs in the Lincolnshire and South Humberside area that are affiliated to England Squash and who have adequate changing facilities.

2. Entry fee

The entry fee for the competition is £20.00 per team and this should be sent with the team's entry form. The fee should be made payable to "Lincolnshire SRA."

3. Player eligibility

Players must be squash members of the clubs from which their team plays from and generally may only play for ONE club in any season. In certain circumstances, special dispensation may be given for transfers, this should be sought through writing to the league secretary.

4. Team members

A team will consist of three players **playing in strict order of merit**. Any contravention of this rule will result in all rubbers from the highest string down from where the contravention first occurred being awarded as 3-0 walkovers to the opposing teams, and the points from the match being recalculated accordingly.

5. Representing different teams from the same club

Where a club fields two or more teams, players may occasionally represent a different team. This should be done strictly to make up numbers in teams, after all the team's registered players have been found unavailable, and must not be used to strengthen a team. It should be evident through the number of appearances made by players which team they are a registered player for. At clubs where players are spread 'evenly' rather than with a 'first team, second team etc' system replacements should be like-for-like or lower, ie an unavailable second string player from Team A may only be replaced by a second or third string player from Team B. Judging infringements of this rule will be at the league secretary's discretion.

6. End of season matches

No player can play for a team in the last four matches of the season unless he has played at least twice for that team (or a lower team from the same club) in the current season. Similar punishments to those in rule 4 may be applied if a team breaches this rule.

7. Arranging fixture

It is the responsibility of the home team to arrange the fixture within the league period specified. The home captain should contact the away captain in advance of the fixture to confirm the date and start time of the match, as well as food arrangement.

8. Order of play

Matches may be played over one or two courts at the discretion of the home captain, however it is recommended that one court is used, with a playing order of 3-1-2.

9. Team orders

The team orders must be written on a paper score card before the start of play. The home team should write theirs out first. Any objection to the order by either team should be raised before the start of play. Where such objections are not settled, the match must be played and a full report forwarded to the league secretary.

10. Score card

The home team captain is responsible for keeping a record of the scores (including game scores) as the match takes place. Following the match, results must be emailed to the league secretary (Ady Proctor) and results secretary (Adam Hildred). The

scores should be sent within the week the match takes place. For every day a scorecard is late the home team may lose one point.

11. Team shortages

Teams should make every effort to field a full team at all times. Teams may not play a match with less than three players, so when a team cannot be raised the captain should contact the league secretary and opposing captain, the match will not go ahead and either the opposing team shall be awarded a walkover, or, in some circumstances, the match will be re-arranged.

12. Match times

Matches must start no later than 7.30pm or as near as possible considering court booking times at the club. Late starts may be penalised by the forfeit of the third string for the offending team. If the match runs out of court time, the home team will concede any matches in progress or yet to begin.

13. Re-arranged fixtures

Matches must be played in the period scheduled in the fixtures. Exceptionally they may be re-arranged with the agreement of both the opposing captain and league secretary. The league secretary must be contacted if a team is looking to re-arrange a match, and holds discretion over whether to allow the re-arrangement or not.

14. Games and points

Matches will be the best of 3 rubbers, each rubber the best of five games, each game won will score one point for that team. A bonus of three points will be awarded to the winning team (decided on rubbers).

15. Walkovers

Walkovers will only be awarded after consideration by the league secretary and at their discretion. In such an event the "winning team" will receive 9 match points and the 3 bonus points while the opposing team will receive 0 (12-0). At the discretion of the county committee, a team conceding two matches may be immediately withdrawn from the league and their scores (and those of their opponents) cancelled.

16. Referees and markers

All matches must be properly refereed/marked. A single referee is considered adequate. The home team is responsible for arranging this. Unless agreed otherwise, the home team will officiate all rubbers.

17. Rules of play and ball

The rules of play are those of the world singles game of squash, approved by the World Squash Federation, effective since May 2001. The ball used should be the current Dunlop double yellow pro ball. Where both captains agree, a single spot ball may be used on cold courts.

18. Food

Captains should agree before the match if the home team shall provide food/refreshments after the match. If the home side refuses then the away side choosing to do so in the reverse fixture is entirely optional. An away side should indicate before hand if they will be unable to provide food for the reverse fixture in which case providing food for the immediate fixture is entirely optional for the home side.

19. Courts

Courts used for league matches must be of standard markings, with the walls painted white or cream and the court floors unslippy and safe. Rainbow courts should not be used unless agreed by both captains.

20. League table

The league table shall be ranked on priorities as follows:

- 1) Total points
- 2) Most matches won
- 3) Least matches lost
- 4) Most points gained against opposing team*
- 5) Fewest points conceded against opposing team*
- 6) Fewest matches won by walkover

*will only be used if separating a two-way tie.

In the unlikely event of teams still being inseparable a play-off may be arranged at the discretion of the league secretary.

21. Disputes and complaints

Any dispute or complaint must be referred to the league secretary, in writing, within seven days of the offence being discovered. The league secretary may settle minor disputes. Otherwise, any such matter brought to their attention by team captain, referee or bystander shall be considered by the county committee who may refer it to a league meeting or England Squash. The decision from any of these groups will be considered final with no right of appeal, whether or not it is covered by these rules and neither the county committee or league secretary will enter into further correspondence regarding the matter.

22. Weekend matches

Weekend matches can only take place if the visiting team and league secretary are agreeable.

23. Infringing of rules

The county committee or league secretary reserves the right to take such action as deemed necessary against any individual or club considered to be infringing of these rules.

August 2009