



# **DUBLIN & DISTRICT LEAGUE & CUPS**

## **Rules & Conditions**

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## 1. Application of Laws of BWF

The laws of the Badminton World Federation shall apply to all games played in The Leagues & Cups Competitions.

## 2. Management of The League

The management of The Leagues and Cups shall be in the hands of the Leagues & Cups Committee (hereinafter called "the Committee") which is appointed annually by The Leinster Executive Committee.

## 3. Powers of The Committee

The Committee shall have the power to enforce all regulations governing these competitions. Any matters not provided for in these Rules will be investigated by The Committee and their recommendation sent to The Leinster Executive for approval.

## 4. Division of League

At the discretion of the Committee, "The League" will be divided into Divisions which may, if necessary, be sub-divided into Sections. The winners and runners up of the Sections to play off in the knock-out system to determine the winner of the Divisions. In the case of "The Cup" it is an Open Drawn Knockout competition.

## 5. Clubs Eligible to Compete

Only Clubs which are affiliated to Leinster Badminton and Badminton Ireland and have paid the appropriate entrance fee for each Team entered shall be eligible to make application to compete in The League. Acceptance of such applications shall, however, be subject to the approval of the Committee. Entrance Fees, payable to The Leinster Badminton, shall be sent to the Committee.

## 6. Registration of Teams

On or before the last date fixed for entries for the League and Cup Competitions, each Club shall submit the full names of the players and substitutes nominated to play for each Team indicating the last Division in which each Player and Substitute has previously competed, the year concerned, and the name of the Club which the player represented in that Division, **and their BI Affiliation number.**

**No late entries will be accepted after the closing date** unless otherwise previously requested and sanctioned by The Committee. Only Official Entry Forms will be accepted.

## 7. Allocation of Teams to Divisions, Promotion or Relegation

The allocation of Teams to League Divisions and the promotion or relegation of any Team competing in The League and The Cup Competitions is entirely at the discretion of The Committee.

## 8. Registration After Closing Date of Teams

Any request to change the members of an entered team after the closing date for team entries will be accepted entirely at the discretion of The Committee.

Where such further registrations are accepted by The Committee, the Player/s in question must be registered in writing, or email, **48hrs** prior to playing a League or Cup Match.

Such registrations will **not**, however, be accepted for any Team after Teams having been allocated to their Division's if the registrations in question are considered likely to **strengthen** the Team.

## 9. Players Eligible for Club Representation

To represent a Club in The League & Cup Competitions of a current season a Player:

- i. Must be registered with DDLC Committee
- ii. Must be affiliated to Badminton Ireland.
- iii. Must have their Grade agreed and approved by the DDLC Committee
- iv. Must not represent any other Club in the Leagues & Cups Competitions of the current season.
- v. Must be 16 years of age on or before 31<sup>st</sup> December of the current Season.
- vi. All players under 18 years of age who have played on a Leinster representative Team or Squad cannot play in a Section below **Division 3**.
- vii. Players under 16 years of age on or before 31<sup>st</sup> December of the current Season are **not eligible** to compete in the Dublin & District Leagues and Cup.

Any Team playing a Player in breach of any section of this rule shall be penalised by way of loss of points or Team disqualification at the discretion of The Committee.

## 10. Grading of Players

The Dublin and District Leagues and Cups Committee retain and maintain our own grading database based on individual and team performance in these Leagues. This database is updated annually based on the results of the previous Season and takes account of graded competitions also.

At the end of every season, a DDLC Grading Sheet for each club will be forwarded to the club secretary. If the club believes a player's grading has changed to a higher or lower grade during the season, it must be updated on the grading sheet. It is their responsible to update and return to the DDLC committee [leaguesandcups@lbbui.ie](mailto:leaguesandcups@lbbui.ie) .

**Please note, this Grading Sheet forms the basis for acceptance of Team Entries for the following season and so is a very important document.**

For new Players (not beginners) who have **not competed** in the Dublin & District Leagues before and **as a result** are graded by a Club for their first Season, the Committee reserve the right to change that "Club" Grade if it is considered that the player is subsequently found not to be suited for that level.

The DDLC committee will Grade and Re-Grade players at their discretion.

## 11. Penalty for False Information on Registrations

Any Club which gives false or misleading information on Team registrations shall be liable, at the discretion of The Committee, to have the Team / Player / s concerned disqualified from both The League and / or The Cup.

## 12. Match Fixtures Notification to Committee

Match fixtures shall be arranged between Clubs following the issue of the DDLC Booklet at the start of each season. Clubs will be allowed 2 weeks from the issue of the Booklet to arrange Matches and submit the Clubs Fixture Lists to The Leagues & Cups Committee.

The date for the submission of Agreed Match Fixtures for 2024/25 Season is Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

## 13. Postponement of Fixtures

After the submission of agreed Fixture Lists, 31<sup>st</sup> October, Matches can only be postponed for one of the following reasons.

1. **Hall Unavailability**
2. **Bereavement of a Club Member and / or Relative**
3. **Severe weather conditions.**
4. **Clashing with International B.I. Events**
5. **Clashes with DDLC Cup Semis & Finals**

These rules apply to both Home and Away Fixtures, in all cases The Committee is to be notified in advance when possible.

## 14. Closing Date for Completion of Fixtures

In "The League", each Team shall play one Home and one Away Match against each Team in their Division, or Section where a Division is sub-divided.

All "Section Stage" League Matches must be completed by **31st March 2025**.

League Group Stage Matches not completed by the closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> March will be declared Null and Void and points deducted from the Table (refer also to Clause 26 on Walkovers)

In "The Cup", which is an Open Drawn Knockout Competition, all preliminary Rounds have a defined "Play-By" date. All Cup Matches within each Round must be completed by the relevant "Play-By" date. Cup Matches not completed by the relevant "Play-By" date can be considered null and void at the discretion of The Committee.

## 15. Same Club Fixtures

Two Teams from the same Club grouped within the same Section must play both their Home and Away Matches against each other before playing any other fixture.

## 16. Composition & Order of Play

### MIXED EVENTS:

**For All Divisions: 1 to 10** - The Team Format and Order of Play in the following order:

- ***Mixed League Competition:***

Team shall consist of 4 Players: 2 Men and 2 Ladies who shall play in the following order:

- Men's Doubles, 1 Ladies Doubles and 2 Mixed Doubles.
- No Player shall take part in more than 2 Matches.

- ***Mixed Cup Competition:***

Team shall consist of 4 Players: 2 Men and 2 Ladies who shall play;

- One Men's Doubles & One Ladies Doubles
- Four Mixed Doubles Matches
- All 4 Players must play in the 1st two Mixed Matches and reversed for the 2nd two
- No Pairing shall take part in more than 1 Match.
- No Player shall take part in more than 2 Matches.
- There will be no Singles matches in the cup competition.

### MEN'S & LADIES DOUBLES EVENTS:

**For All Divisions: 1 to 10** - The Team Format and Order of Play is as follows:

- ***Men's & Ladies League Competitions:***

Team shall consist of 4 Players and each Match consists of 4 'Straight' Doubles.

- No Player shall take part in more than 2 Matches.
- No Pairing shall take part in more than 1 Match.
- All 4 Players must play in the 1<sup>st</sup> two Doubles Matches and reversed for the 2<sup>nd</sup> two.

- ***Men's & Ladies Cup Competition:***

Team shall consist of 4 Players and each Fixture consists of 6 Doubles Matches as follows.

- Six Doubles Matches consisting of 2 Games to 21 Only per Match – No setting.
- No Player shall take part in more than 3 Matches.
- No Pairing shall take part in more than 1 Match.
- All 4 Players must play in the 1st two, the 2nd two and the 3rd two Doubles matches.
- There will be no Singles matches in the cup competition.

## 17. Exchange of List of Players

In all matches the Captains of the Team must, prior to the commencement of play, exchange a list of the names and playing order of their respective Teams. Teams cannot change the Result sheet after the first Match is started on court.

## 18. Shuttles

Only Feather Shuttles may be used in all League and Cup Matches.

In the League, the Home Team supplies the Shuttles, while in the Cup both Teams supply shuttles, and these are used alternately. A toss of a coin is to be made to decide which Clubs shuttles are to be used first.

## 19. Commencement Time and Order of Play of Matches

The 1st game in all Matches should commence at the appointed time as is stated in the handbook for all Clubs. In Mixed League - The Men's and Ladies Doubles must be played prior to the 1st and 2nd Mixed Doubles.

The Order of Matches may change if agreed to by the two Captains.

If agreement cannot be reached the order of play shall be according to the standard Match Report Sheet.

All Players of both Teams not engaged in the first Match on court must be available within thirty minutes of the appointed commencement time unless otherwise agreed.

## 20. Points Awarded for Matches

The following are the Points awarded for League Matches

### Four Person Mixed and Doubles Teams:

There will be 4 Match Points available for each Match, examples as follows:

- 2 Points each to Team for a Draw Result.
- 4 Points to the winners for and no points to the losers for a 4-0 result.
- 3 Points to the winners and 1 point to the losers Team

In the League Play-Off Stage onwards where **Mixed Teams** finish level in Matches, Games and Points, the Match will be decided by the first Mixed Doubles playing one game (set) to 21 points.

In the League & The Cup Play-Off Stage onwards where **Men's & Ladies Teams** finish level in Matches Games and Points, the Match will be decided by the first Men's & Ladies playing one Game (Set) to 21 points.

## 21. Notification of Match Results

The Captain of both Teams shall, within three days of completion of a Match, submit the completed Official Match Result Sheet to the Leagues and Cups Committee.

All sections of the Official Match result sheet with Division, Section, Full names of players, games won and lost, points and both captains signatures filled in prior to submission.

The **Match Result Sheet** can be submitted by e-mail to [DDLCresults@lbbui.ie](mailto:DDLCresults@lbbui.ie)

## 22. Teams to Qualify for End of Season Play-Offs

Two teams from each Section within each **Division** shall qualify for End of Season League Play-Offs through to the Finals. The winner shall be decided by the Total number of Match Points scored across all Groups stage matches. In the event of a tie in a Section the winner and runner-up shall next be decided by the comparison as follows;

Total number of Games scored across all Group Stage matches

Where there is still a tie in "League Matches and Games" – the total match points will not be used. The outcome will then revert to a '**Head-to-Head**' comparison – between all teams involved.

## 23. Points allocation for Conceded Matches / Games

Where a Team has to concede a Game/Games through lack of Players on a night, i.e., with a Depleted Team or otherwise, the opposing Team is awarded not only the appropriate Points Score for the Matches not played, but also the maximum amount of Games (Sets) and Points available, i.e., 21-0 / 21-0.

## 24. Injury to Player

Generally, where a Player is unable to complete his or her Game / Match during the Group Stage Matches due to injury or illness, the Game / Match shall be conceded as Clause 23 above.

In the League Play-Offs, Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Finals a nominated substitute may be used for the injured player's subsequent game.

For the Game conceded in either Event, League or Cup:

Teams conceding in the event of injury shall retain Games (Sets) and Points already won on court.

Teams being awarded Games in such circumstances shall be granted maximum Games (Sets) and Points in respect of all unfinished and un-played Games (Sets) in addition to Points and Games (Sets) already won on court.

## 25. Substitutions

**All Club Members** playing on a **Team**, who are graded by the DDLC committee and are affiliated to Leinster Badminton & Badminton Ireland, may play as a substitute on a higher Doubles or Mixed Team.

- They will not be permitted to substitute below the Team they are playing on
- They will not be permitted to play 'down' to a lower team.
  
- No player shall play as a substitute **more than 4 Times** in total in the Men's / Ladies Doubles Event which includes the League and Cup combined this includes Play-off to Finals.
  
- No player shall play as a substitute **more than 4 times** in total in the Mixed Event which includes the League and Cup combined this includes Play-off to Finals.



**All Club Non-League Players**, ie those **not on a Team**, but are graded by the DDLC committee and are affiliated to Leinster Badminton & Badminton Ireland, may play as a substitute at their graded division or in a higher division.

- They will not be permitted to substitute below their graded division.
- A Non-League player shall play as a substitute, **no more than 4 times** in total in the Mixed Event which includes the League and Cup combined.
- A Non-league player shall play as a substitute, **no more than 4 times** in total in the Men's /Ladies Event which includes the League and Cup combined.

All Substitutes **must** be indicated by “**(S) or Sub**” on the Match Report Sheet.

**The onus is on the Club/Match Secretary to monitor the number of times a substitute is used. Any players who have substituted more than the allowed 4 times will have all subsequent games declared null and void.**

Where a player is only playing in one League Event, (Mixed or Men's/Ladies) they cannot substitute in the other League Event as follows.

- Below their individual Grade, or
- The Grade of the League Event they are playing in, **whichever is the highest.**

**For The Cup Events: No new Players may be registered to play after 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024.**

**For The League Events: No new Players may be registered to play after 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

Where a Club has more than **one Team** playing in the **same Division** of the League or Cup, each of these Teams shall be considered as a complete unit and graded accordingly.

Consequently, substitutions for the higher Team may be drawn from the lower Team, but the higher Team players may **not** substitute down on the lower Team.

### **Replacement of a Team Player due to Injury**

Any Team Player who is unfortunate to receive a 'season ending injury', or leaves the Club, may be replaced by another Player of the same grade or lower from within the club.

This will be a permanent replacement for the rest of the season. The replaced player cannot return to this team as player or sub for the remainder of the season”.

## **26. Walkovers**

Teams are expected to complete their Fixtures as scheduled and agreed. Where a Match / Game has not been completed on a night it is **NOT** at the discretion of the Team Captains to concede / accept Walkovers for un-played Matches / Games. Outside the set criteria permitted for postponing agreed Fixtures (see Clause13 above), there should be no valid reasons for postponing matches and consequently giving or taking of Walkovers.

This Season we are introducing a Penalty to Club Teams Postponing Matches. namely **“For any Club Team found to not honor and complete their agreed fixture – they will be deducted 2 points at the End of the Season “**. - They will also be required to complete that “Postponed” fixture at a later date – and at their expense should one such arise.

This is intended as a ‘**Deterrent to Fixture Postponements**’ and simply put – there are **NO WALKOVERS Permitted.**

It shall be entirely at the discretion of The Committee to decide on the issues involved in any incomplete Matches or Games.

## 27. Clothing

Only appropriate Badminton clothing must be worn.

For Semi-Finals & Finals, tracksuits may be worn during warm up but must be removed before the start of the Match. Shirts, shorts and skirts designed for leisurewear are not allowed and players will be asked to change them before the start of the game.

No GAA, Soccer or other sporting tops, and no casual clothing with large adverts on the front or back are allowed. If a Player wishes to wear leggings, they MUST wear either Shorts or a Skort/ Skirt over the leggings as well.

## 28. Penalties For Breach of Rules

Unless otherwise provided for in the Rules, The Committee may, in respect of any Club, Team or Player guilty of contravening any of these Rules, impose, where applicable, penalties involving loss of points or disqualification from the Competitions. Where a Team is disqualified all League Points awarded for and against that Team shall be declared null and void.

**The Committee has the final decision in any dispute on the interpretation of the Rules.**

## 29. Appeals

Any Club Team or Player shall be entitled to appeal to The Committee, within 48 hours of the decision being conveyed, against any ruling made or penalty imposed by that Committee.

In the event of the Committee's final decision on the appeal being considered unjust, the appeal (accompanied by €25) may then be submitted to the Executive Committee of the Leinster Branch, within 48 hours of the decision being conveyed. The Executive Committee's findings and conclusion shall be final and binding.

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**ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE SENT TO:**

**Email:**        [leaguesandcups@lbbui.ie](mailto:leaguesandcups@lbbui.ie)

The Leagues & Cups Committee,  
Terenure Badminton Centre,  
12 Whitehall Road, Terenure, Dublin 12.

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