



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 subdivided 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

Each Club must submit, on or before the closing date for League and Cup entries, a fully completed Official Entry Form containing the following details for every team Player nominated to represent each Team:

- Full name of the Player
- Grade as per the DDLC Grading Sheet received at the start of the season.
- BI Affiliation number
- Date of Birth if under 19 in the coming season.

Each Official Entry Form must be received by Friday, 26 September 2025. Only forms bearing the Official Entry Form heading and format will be deemed valid.

Submissions received after this date will not be accepted unless prior written approval has been granted by the Committee.

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 considered solely at the discretion of The Committee.

In order for the Committee to grant approval, the club must update the Team Entry Sheet with the new Player(s) DDLC Grade and BI Registration Number – and return the sheet no later than 48 hours prior to the new team member playing a League or Cup match.

No registrations will be accepted for any Team after Divisional allocations have been made if the proposed changes are deemed likely to **strengthen** that 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 be affiliated to Leinster Badminton.
- iv. Must have their Grade approved by the DDLC Committee
- v. Can only represent one Club in the Leagues & Cups Competitions of the current season.
- vi. Must be 16 years of age on or before 31st December of the current Season.
- vii. 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**.
- viii. Players under 16 years of age on or before 31st 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 Committee retains and maintains a grading database for individual players and teams based on their performance in previous Dublin & District Leagues and Cup competitions. This database is reviewed and updated annually, reflecting the results of the previous DDLC league and Cup season and may take account of Open & Graded competitions where deemed appropriate.

At the end of each season, the Committee will issue a DDLC Grading Sheet to every Club Secretary. Clubs must review their sheet and confirm or amend any player grades that have changed—higher or lower—during the season.

It is the responsibility of the club to :

- Update any grading adjustments directly on the DDLC Grading Sheet.
- Return the completed sheet to leaguesandcups@lbbui.ie by the specified deadline.

The returned Grading Sheet forms the basis for accepting team entries in the next season's DDLC competitions. Clubs should treat this document with the utmost importance, ensuring all information is correct before submission, as failure to submit accurate and timely grading updates may impact team entries for the season.

New Player Grading

For players new to DDLC competitions, clubs must assign an initial grade for their first season. The Committee reserves the right to adjust any club-assigned grade if evidence suggests the player's level is not accurately reflected.

The DDLC Committee may grade or re-grade any player at its discretion throughout the year. This ensures fair competition and accurate representation of each participant's ability.

Any club providing false or misleading information on team registrations may, at the Committee's discretion, face the following sanctions:

- Disqualification of the team and/or player(s) from league and cup competitions.
- Possible additional penalties as determined necessary by the Committee.

Clubs are reminded that honesty and transparency in registration are essential to maintain the integrity of our competitions.

11. 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 3 weeks from Booklet issue to arrange and agree all Fixtures. The date for the submission of Agreed Match Fixtures for 2025/26 Season is Friday 31st October.

12. Postponement of Fixtures

After the submission of agreed Fixture Lists, **31st October**, Matches can only be postponed / rescheduled 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**

In the event that a match is postponed due to any of the above, both Match Secretaries should reschedule the match within **two weeks** from the date of the postponed match or the cut-off date for completion of matches, 31st March 2026, whichever is earlier.

All matches should be completed on the agreed scheduled date with the exception of the postponement criteria above. Outside these criteria, there should be no valid reasons for postponing matches.

The requirement for substitutes is not a valid criteria for cancellation of a scheduled match.

All fixtures must be completed by 31st March. No extensions beyond this date will be permitted. To be eligible to progress to the knockout stages of the League, teams **MUST** honour and fulfill all their fixtures.

Where any team fails to honour and complete all its original fixtures by 31st March, the team who requested the rescheduling of those fixtures will not be permitted to progress to the knock-out stage.

If a team has failed to fulfil a fixture in accordance with the above rules and this impacts on the result of a section re winner/runner-up, then all the matches played by the offending team shall be declared null and void.

13. Walkovers and Cancellations

It is not permitted for Match Secretaries or Team Captains to offer or accept a Walkover when a Team fails to appear for a scheduled fixture. Both Clubs' Match Secretaries must notify the DDLC Committee by email at leaguesandcups@lbbui.ie, providing full details of the cancellation circumstances.

The Match Secretary requesting the cancellation, must accept any new dates offered by the match secretary of the opposing club. The revised date should be agreed upon within two weeks of cancellation of the match.

If the match secretaries cannot agree on a rescheduled date, a deduction of 2 League Points will be applied to the Team that fails to honor the original scheduled fixture.

Reminder, to qualify for progression to the knockout stages, Teams must honour and fulfill all League fixtures.

14. Closing Date for Completion of Fixtures

All Group Stage League Matches must be completed by **Tuesday 31st March 2026**.
No extensions will be permitted beyond this date.

To be eligible to progress to the knockout stages of the League, teams **MUST** honour and fulfill all their group fixtures. Where any team fails to honour and complete all its original fixtures by 31st March, the team who requested the rescheduling of those fixtures will not be permitted to progress to the knock-out stage.

In the Cup competition, all preliminary Rounds have a defined “Play-By” Date and must be completed by that 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 are 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 1st two Doubles Matches and reversed for the 2nd 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 & Ladies Doubles **must** be played prior to the 1st & 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.

It is the responsibility of the HOME Club to ensure there is sufficient time and court space available to complete the fixture as scheduled.

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 Captains 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 should be submitted by e-mail to: DDLCresults@lbbui.ie

Teams to Qualify for End of Season Play-Offs

Two Teams from each Group within each Division shall qualify for End of Season League Play-Offs.

The winner shall be decided by the Total number of Match Points scored across all Group stage matches.

In the event of a tie in a Group, the final order shall be determined by:

- (i) the total number of games won; if this fails to resolve the tie,
- (ii) the winning team shall be determined by the games difference i.e the difference between games won & lost.
- (iii) If the above fails to provide a winner, the outcome will revert to Head-to-Head comparison.

22. 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 number of Games (Sets) and Points available, i.e., 21-0 / 21-0.

23. Injury to Players

In the Group Stages of the League and Preliminary Rounds of the Cup, no injury substitutes are allowed.

Any time a Player cannot complete a Match owing to injury or illness:

- The Team conceding a Match due to injury / illness, retains all Games and Points already won during the Match where the injury/illness occurred on court prior to the concession.
- No injury substitute shall be allowed, and their subsequent Match/ Matches shall be conceded in full by the affected Player's Team.
- The opposing Team will be awarded maximum Games and Points for any subsequent conceded Matches recorded as 21–0, 21–0.

In the Knockout Stages (League Play-Offs, Quarter, Semis & Finals and Cup Semis & Finals)

A “Nominated Substitute” may replace an “Injured Player” for remaining subsequent matches.

- The Team conceding a Match due to injury / illness, retains all Games and Points already won during the Match where the injury/illness occurred on court prior to the concession.
- In order for an **Injury Substitute** to be used, they **MUST** concede the Match in which the injury took place.
- The opposing Team will be awarded the remaining Games and Points conceded as a result of the injury.

Replacement of a Team Player due to “Season Ending Injury.”

Any Team Player who suffers a “Season Ending Injury” or leaves the Club mid-season may be permanently replaced by another Player of the same grade or lower, as listed on the agreed Club Grading sheet.

This “SEI” Replacement can only be added to a team prior to Semi-final and Finals of League and Cup Competitions.

- The replacement on the Team stands for the remainder of the season.
- The original / Injured Player may not play or sub on any other League Team for the rest of the Season.

24. Substitutions

All Club Members playing on a Team, who are affiliated and graded by the DDLC committee 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' below their Grade.
- 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 affiliated and graded by the DDLC committee may play as a substitute at their agreed 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 Men's /Ladies 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 Mixed Event** which includes the League and Cup combined.

All Substitutes used must be indicated by "(S) or Sub" on the Match Report Sheet.

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.

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

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.**

New Players being introduced to your Club **after Team Entry** (Friday 26th September) will need to be Graded by the Club and that Grade submitted to and agreed with the DDLC Committee **BEFORE** that Player is permitted to be used as a Substitute.

For The Cup Events: No New Players may be registered to play after **19th December 2025.**

For The League Events: No New Players may be registered to play after **20th February 2026.**

The onus is on the Club/Match Secretary to monitor the use of and number of times any substitute is used. Any players who are found to be in breach of substitute rules or have substituted more than the allowed 4 times will have all subsequent games declared null and void.

25. 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 match commences.

Prohibited Clothing

- Shirts, shorts, or skirts designed for leisurewear.
- GAA, Soccer, or other sporting tops.
- Casual clothing with large adverts on the front or back.

Players wearing any prohibited items will be asked to change before the game begins.

Leggings Policy

- Players wishing to wear leggings must also wear either shorts or a skort/skirt over the leggings.

26. 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.

27. 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 refundable) 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.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE SENT TO:

Email: leaguesandcups@lbbui.ie

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