



NEWBL Rules

# Wrexham Badminton Club CONSTITUTION

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**CONSTITUTION**

**Officials and Committees – 2018/2019**

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**Other Committee Members** **NEWBA Representatives** **Challenge Cup**

Gemma Browne Trisha Hird Dave Roberts Chairman: J. HUGHES

Judith Hughes Jill Denholm Dave Stretch Secretary: H. ASTLEY

Peter Williams Mike Cain A. HARLEY; D. ROBERTS

**ADMINISTRATION**

1. The league shall be called “The North East Wales Badminton League NEWBL”

2. The League shall consist of clubs affiliated to and within the area of the North East Wales Badminton Association (NEWBA) or, with the approval of the League Committee, any other county association.

3. The business of the League shall be managed by a committee comprising chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, match-secretary, treasurer, tournament secretary, NEWBA press secretary and five other elected members. Amendments to the composition of the committee may be made at the annual general meeting.

Following election, the Committee shall meet at the following approximate times for the stated reason, plus ongoing business and may meet at other times as requirements arise: -

Mid June to determine next season’s league structure. Late September to discuss any initial difficulties experienced by clubs and initiate Presentation Night. Mid November to discuss the early weeks of the season. Mid January to discuss annual tournament and end-of-season Presentation Night. Late March for the pre-AGM meeting.

4. The committee shall have the power to perform the functions conferred upon it by these rules, to interpret them and to determine any matters not contained in them. At committee meetings, five committee members shall form a quorum.

5. League officials and representatives, except NEWBA press secretary, shall be elected at the annual general meeting which shall be held prior to the annual general meeting of the NEWBA.

6. The League Committee or any club supported by two other clubs may request a special general meeting on written request to the secretary.

7. Seven days’ notice of a general meeting shall be given by the secretary to all clubs together with a copy of the Agenda.

8. Only bona fide members of the league’s constituent clubs shall be entitled to attend and vote at general meetings. Ten such persons shall form a quorum.

9. The accounts of the league shall be presented to the annual general meeting and shall be audited by a person appointed at the previous annual general meeting.

10. League fees shall be determined at the annual general meeting and notified to clubs prior to the commencement of the following season.

11. Clubs must inform the League Match Secretary by not later than 31st May of the name, address, e-mail address and telephone number of their secretary, match secretary, club welfare officer, the number of teams to be entered in the league and the match nights, venues and start times of each of their teams. If a Club has only one person fulfilling their official roles, that club must provide an additional name, with details as above, to be a second contact for NEWBL communications. Failure to do so will incur a fine of £10.

**12.** Any of these rules may be altered or rescinded or any new rule may be made at a general meeting provided that notice of a proposed alteration, rescission or addition has been given on the notice announcing the meeting. Any resolution for submission to the annual general meeting shall be received by the league secretary not less than 14 days prior to the date of the meeting.

**LEAGUE COMPOSITION**

13. Clubs may enter any number of teams in the league.

14. The league shall be divided into divisions comprising, as far as possible, eight teams each. Any inequality in the composition of the divisions due to teams entering or leaving the league shall be accommodated in the lower divisions. The composition of the divisions shall be determined by the League Committee prior to the start of each season and, in exceptional circumstances, may be amended at any time to maintain the viability of each division.

15. Championships, promotions and relegations shall be decided by the number of league points won on the basis of two points for a win, one point for a draw and none for a defeat, plus in each case one point for the number of events won by each team. In the event of a tie on total points, the total number of events won shall determine the issue. Should a further tie then ensue, the difference between games won and lost shall be the criterion.

16. The top two teams in each division except the first division shall be promoted to the next higher division. The bottom two teams in each division except the bottom division shall be relegated to the next lower division.

In the event of the composition of the divisions being re-organised in accordance with rule 14, no team shall be deprived of promotion. If a team is due to be relegated to a division from which a team from the same club is due to be promoted, then their respective relegation and promotion shall be null and void.

17. The secretary shall circulate current league tables to all clubs at suitable intervals throughout the season.

**ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION**

18. Only bona fide members of league clubs which are affiliated to the Welsh Badminton Union via the NEWBA or any other county association as provided for in rule 2 are eligible to play in league matches. The method of registering players for affiliation purposes and the amount of fees will be notified to clubs prior to the start of the season.

19. For League registration purposes, all Clubs must submit their Team Registration Fee (£10 per Team) and lists of their Men and Ladies, in each case in strict order of individual merit, to the League Match Secretary by the 30th September ready for the start of a new season. Clubs that fail to meet this requirement will not be allowed to play badminton in the NEWBL until the list has been received by the League Match Secretary. Clubs will incur a fine of £25 and a points deduction will be applied, which will be decided by the League Committee.

20. Teams in league matches shall comprise of four men and four ladies. Clubs shall not register less than this number for each team. However, clubs may register more than this number to represent each team provided that all players registered in the A team are merited higher than those in the B team and so on. The registration of reserves which does not comply with the club’s order of merit is not permitted.

21. Additions to the registration list may be made in writing to the League Match Secretary at any time provided that the additional registration is consistent with the club’s order of merit and that the player does not play in matches during the 24 hours immediately preceding the time and date of the first match for which registered.

22. Any player may be re-registered from one team to another provided that the club’s order of merit is maintained with due regard to the current form of its players. Seven days’ notice of re-registration shall be given to the league match secretary and confirmed in writing. A player re-registered to a lower team shall not play for that team within the days Sunday to Saturday inclusive of the week in which that player represented the team from which re-registered.

23. If a team requires a reserve to play in a match, the reserve may be selected from any of the club’s registered players provided that the player is not registered for a team higher than that for which required as a reserve. Reserves names on score sheets shall be marked with a capital R.

24. In the event of a player playing in a team lower than that for which registered, a points deduction will be applied which will be decided by the League Committee.

25. If a player transfers from one club to another, the receiving club must register the player in accordance with rule 21. The new registration must state which club the player has transferred from and be signed by the transferred player. On receipt of the new registration, the player’s registration with the former club will be automatically cancelled and the releasing club informed by the league match secretary. If this procedure is not complied with, the player will be regarded as unregistered and will be subject to the conditions of rule 27.

26. No player shall be registered to represent more than one club concurrently.

27. In the event of a club playing an unregistered player, a points deduction will be applied, which will be decided by the League Committee.

28. A player may not play as a reserve for any higher team on more than six occasions throughout the season. The total of six shall be cumulative regardless of which of a club’s teams the player act as a reserve for. If a player acts as such a reserve more than six times, the events in which the player played shall be awarded to the opposing team and the results of the match amended accordingly. The sixth occasion the player acts as such a reserve shall be notified by the club to the League Match Secretary within seven days of the event. Failure to do so will incur a fine of £10.00.

29. No player shall play more than one NEWBL match on the same night, nor shall a player play in both a NEWBL match and a match for another League on the same night. If this rule is contravened, the League Committee reserves the right to impose up to a 4 match ban on the player concerned and to fine the responsible club £10.

**MATCH PLAY**

30. Each match shall consist of eight events of the best of three games of 21 points, comprising four mixed, two ladies’ and two men’s doubles. The Rally Point scoring system will be used as defined in Badminton Wales’, ‘The Laws of Badminton’. The result of the match shall be decided by the number of events won by each team as described in Rule 15.

30(a). Matches shall commence promptly at the time stated in the handbook and continue without interruption. The order of play shall be mixed doubles in order of merit, 1st ladies’ doubles, 1st men’s doubles, 2nd ladies’ doubles and 2nd men’s doubles. Players must be available for play on this basis unless prior arrangement has been reached between opposing captains. Any pair not available to play when required shall forfeit the event for which they were late by 21 points to nil. The order of play may be varied during a match by agreement between captains. Any player arriving 30 minutes after the start time, without prior permission, shall forfeit two games by the score of 21 points to nil.

31. Prior to the commencement of play, captains shall simultaneously exchange team sheets and alterations shall not be permitted during the course of the match. It is not necessary for the pairing of couples to follow a club’s order of individual merit, but pairs nominated on the team sheet shall be played in strict order of strength in all events. The League Committee will only act on breaches of this rule in response to a written complaint by the opposing team. The Committee’s decision on such complaints shall refer only to the match in which the complaint arose. If the complaint is upheld, a points deduction will be applied, which will be decided by the League Committee.

32. At the end of each match, two copies of the score sheet must be signed by both captains. All items on each score sheet (date and time of commencement, teams’ and players’ names, venue, game scores, total events, games and points) must be completed. Additionally, both team captains shall note on the reverse of their score sheets, the names of the man and lady on their opponents’ team seen as their players of the match. The Visiting captain shall give his/her original (top) copy of the score sheet to the Home captain, who is responsible for the accuracy of the above items and for sending one copy of the score sheet to the League Match Secretary and one to the League Press Secretary, both to arrive within seven days of the date of the match. The Home club shall incur a fine of £10 in respect of either score sheet not received on time. Any score sheet not fully completed may be returned to the Home club secretary for completion and re-submission, which will inevitably make them late, thus incurring the above fine plus a nominal postal fee for their return. Note: - carbon copies of score sheets are not acceptable but legible photocopies of original sheets are seen as acceptable alternative to top copies.

33. Visiting teams shall abide by the by-laws of the home club with regard to lets and faults providing they do not contravene the laws of badminton. Opposing captains shall also resolve any other matters which may affect play prior to commencement.

34. Feather shuttles shall be used in NEWBL matches.

35. Any pair may request the provision of a scorer at any time during play.

36. All players taking part in any NEWBL event must wear proper badminton clothing (NO “Fun” T-shirts, cycling shorts, etc.) which may be of any colour or combination of colours. The wearing of track suits, unless all white, is not permitted except in the warm-up period.

**POSTPONEMENTS AND CONCESSIONS**

37. The postponement of matches is not permitted except for the unavailability of the hall or severe inclement weather or, in exceptional circumstances, by the order of the League Committee. Any club wishing to postpone a match must obtain the permission of the League Match Secretary before informing the opposing club. Player unavailability, owing to commitment playing in another league, would not be considered as an exceptional circumstance to grant a match postponement.

38. The home club of a postponed fixture will be responsible for re-arranging the match by offering to the opposing club, in writing, not less than two alternative dates which do not coincide with a scheduled fixture of the opposing team. The opposing team must make a written acceptance of one of the dates except that they may refuse a date which coincides with any NEWBA or NEWBL event, in which case a substitute date must be offered. The home club must inform the League Match Secretary of the revised date of the fixture immediately it is conformed.

39. The concession of matches is to be discouraged and will only by granted by the League Match Secretary after all other options have been considered. If a Club concedes a match without the permission of the League Match Secretary, the Club will incur a fine of £10 and the League Committee may require the fixture to be played on an alternative date.

40. The League Committee shall have the right to investigate the reasons for any unfulfilled fixture arising from Rules 37-39 and may penalise the Club responsible, if appropriate.

**LEAGUE TOURNAMENT**

41. Entry to the league tournament shall be restricted to players registered with the NEWBL. Registered players whose playing standard is considered by the League Committee to be inconsistent with the ‘Moderates’ status of the tournament, shall be debarred and be informed of their exclusion at the time of issue of tournament entry forms. The number of such players shall be determined by the League Committee. The Committee reserve the right to refuse entry to any other player for a stated reason and such exclusions shall be notified on receipt of a completed tournament entry form. For tournament purposes, no player registrations will be accepted after 21st February.

42. It shall be a condition of entry that no player shall have any commitment which necessitates leaving the hall during the hours of play of the tournament. Any player found to have such a commitment shall be immediately scratched from the event for which not available with no right of return.

43. Players must complete all their games in the tournament and shall not withdraw after commencement of play without, in the opinion of the tournament secretary, a satisfactory reason.

44. The submission of a tournament entry form shall signify the acceptance by the player of the foregoing rules and any other rules and conditions which may be attached to the entry form. A player contravening any of these rules and conditions may be subjected to disciplinary action and debarred from entry to future tournaments.

**DISPUTES**

45. Clubs and registered players shall have the right to have any complaint concerning the NEWBL investigated by the League Committee provided that the League Secretary is informed in writing within seven days of the event causing complaint. In the case of a dispute arising from a league match, the protesting club shall make a written complaint to the League Secretary within seven days of the fixture and simultaneously inform the opposing club in writing. In the case of a complaint arising from a late start or unavailability of players as required in Rule 33, the protesting captain must additionally inform the opposing captain at the time of the occurrence. Any club or registered player involved in a dispute shall have the right to be represented at the League Committee meeting at which the dispute is considered.

45(a). Social Media shall not be used to air grievances against NEWBL, League Officials or clubs and players registered with the NEWBL. Any justified grievance should be raised using the Disputes process as set out in League Rule 45. Any contravention of this Rule will result in action by the League Committee.

TROPHIES

46. At the end of each season, trophies shall be awarded as follows: -

Divisional winners shall receive one team trophy to be held for one year and eight individual trophies for the usual members of the winning team.

Divisional runners-up shall receive eight individual perpetual trophies for the usual members of the runners-up team.

Trophies shall be provided by the League but the Clubs involved may request as many further individual trophies as required, at the Club’s expense. Clubs should request additional trophies only for players who have played in a significant number of matches.