

RULES (as revised June 2009 AGM)

1 TITLE

The Association shall be called The Southend and District Badminton Association.

2 OBJECTS

- (a) To advance the interest of badminton among Clubs in Southend and District.
- (b) To arrange and participate in Inter-Club Leagues and Competitions, both in and outside the Southend and District area.

3 AFFILIATION

The Association, which shall be affiliated to the Essex County Badminton Association, shall consist of Badminton Clubs in Southend & District.

4 APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION (FULL OR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP)

Application from Clubs for Full or Associate membership must be made in writing (or by email) to the Secretary. The acceptance or rejection of any such application shall be decided by the Committee.

All Clubs applying for full membership in order to participate in Leagues and Competitions must be affiliated to the Essex County Badminton Association and Badminton England. Clubs must be affiliated to both Associations by 31st October or league results may be ruled invalid.

Clubs with Associate membership may not participate in Leagues and Competitions.

NOTE: It shall be at the discretion of the Committee whether to accept the application of a new Club set up only to play League matches.

5 GENERAL MEETINGS

- (a) An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held at the end of each playing season, no later than 30th June.
- (b) A notice of a General Meeting specifying the business to be transacted shall be sent in writing (or by email) by the Secretary (or in their absence the Chairman) to all member Clubs and the Association's Officers not less than 14 days prior to the meeting.
- (c) Notice of motions to be moved at the Annual General Meeting must be received in writing (or by email) by the Secretary not less than one calendar month before the date of the meeting notified by the Secretary under Rule 5(b).
- (d) An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held on request of: -
 - (i) five members Clubs which shall send notice in writing (or by email) specifying the business they wish to be transacted to the Secretary who shall convene such a meeting within 28 days of receiving that notice.
 - OR**
 - (ii) the Committee.
- (e) At all General Meetings representatives of 50% of the Member Clubs shall form a quorum.

6 VOTING RIGHTS AND RESOLUTION

- (a) In the case of resolutions to amend the Rules, Member Clubs represented at General Meetings shall be entitled to one vote. Any amendment may only be made by a resolution supported by at least two-thirds of the votes cast.
- (b) In the case of resolutions to amend the Regulations, Member Clubs represented at General meetings shall be entitled to one vote for every League competition entered in the previous season (or present season if the meeting takes place during the season) i.e. a club with no teams shall not vote, whereas a club with a team or teams in the Mixed, Mens and Ladies League will have a maximum of three votes. Any amendment may only be made by a resolution supported by at least two-thirds of the votes cast.
- (c) In the case of resolutions, which do not affect Rules or Regulations, Member Clubs represented at General Meetings shall be entitled to 1 vote. Any such resolution may only be adopted if supported by the majority of votes cast. In the event of equal voting the Chairman shall have the casting vote.
- (d) Committee members may take part in the discussions but shall not be entitled to vote unless they are representing their own club, in which case they should disclose this. The Committee is however, empowered to submit resolutions for decision by the meeting.

7 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

The expenses of the Association shall be met by

- (a) an annual subscription from each affiliated member club; and
- (b) a fee for each team entered into a league by an affiliated Member Club and which has not been formally withdrawn by the notified commencement of the special match fixture meeting, see Regulation 6(a)

The annual subscription in (a) above shall become due on receipt of the clubs affiliation application and its acceptance by the committee.

The nature and amount of the subscription and fees shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting and shall be payable not later than 31st October each season. In the event of non-payment by a Member Club, the matter shall be reported to the Committee with a view to its taking such action as it deems necessary.

All affiliated clubs will receive, at the end of the season, magazines sufficient in numbers for supply to all of their registered players.

8 ACCOUNTS AND AUDITORS

- (a) An audited statement of the income and expenditure of the Association during the preceding season shall be presented to the next Annual General Meeting. The financial year shall run from 1st May to 30th April each year.
- (b) An Auditor shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall be responsible for auditing the statement to be presented to the next Annual General Meeting.

9 OFFICERS

- (a) Officers of the Association shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting and shall consist of Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretary, Tournament Secretary, Press Officer, Publications Editor, Registration Secretary and Social Secretary.

- (b) The President and Vice Presidents shall be Ex-Officio Members of the Committee and will have voting powers at Committee Meeting.

10 MANAGEMENT

The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Committee, consisting of the Officers and up to two representatives of Member Clubs; these representatives shall also be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

11 POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee: -

- (a) carry out the objects of the Association;
- (b) subject to the Rules, decide all matters relating to the management of the Association;
- (c) co-opt such additional Members on to the Committee as may be required from time to time;
- (d) have the power, when a Club or player or person associated with a Club contravenes the Rules and Regulations or acts in a manner that is inconsistent with the interests of the Association, to take such action as it deems necessary, for example, expulsion of a Club or suspension or banning of a player.

Before taking any action under the above paragraph the Association Secretary or other authorised Officer shall notify the Club, through its Secretary or other authorised Officer or person against whom an allegation of misconduct has been made of the facts alleged which gave rise to such accusation. Such notice shall be in writing and shall give the Club or person concerned the right to make written representations to the Management Committee within 28 days of the date of the notice and to appear in person before a meeting of the Management Committee to answer such allegations. Such Meeting to take place not earlier than 28 days from the date of such notice. A Club appearing before the Management Committee shall be represented by not more than four members of the Club, at least one of whom shall be an Official of the Club. Should the Club or person specified in the notice not make any written representations within the said period of 28 days or not appear before the Management Committee on the date stated in the notice, the Management Committee shall have the power to make a decision in absentia. A Club or person shall only be found guilty of any offence should a two thirds majority of the members of the Management Committee there present so find.

Any Club or person found guilty by the Management Committee of any offence and expelled or suspended from the Association shall have the right to be exercised within 28 days of being notified in writing of the decision of the Management Committee and of the penalty imposed, to apply to the Secretary or other principal Officer for the time being of the Essex County Badminton Association for the appointment by him of a tribunal of three independent persons to hear the appeal of such Club or person against the decision of the Management Committee and/or of the penalty imposed. Any penalty imposed by the Management Committee shall be suspended during the course of the appeal.

The decision of such tribunal shall be final and binding upon the parties.

- (e) have the authority to override the operation of Regulations 2 and 10 whenever it is in view of the committee impracticable to operate these Regulations as they stand.

12 DISSOLUTION

- (a) The affairs of the Association may be wound up by a resolution supported by at least two-thirds of Member Clubs present and voting at an Extraordinary Meeting called for that purpose and within two months thereafter supported in writing by at least two-thirds of all Member Clubs of the Association.
- (b) On dissolution;

- (i) Any surplus assets will be divided equally among affiliated Clubs.
- (ii) Any deficiencies will be borne equally by affiliated Clubs.

REGULATIONS (as revised 2009 AGM)

1 LEAGUES

The Southend and District Leagues shall consist of Mixed (including Veterans), Mens and Ladies Leagues.

2 COMPOSITION OF LEAGUES AND DIVISIONS

- (a) Each league shall be divided into divisions, e.g. Premier, First Division etc. and in normal circumstances each division shall consist of six teams.
- (b) No more than two teams from the same Club may compete in any Division.
- (c) Any team, not having played in a league during the preceding season, shall normally be placed in the lowest division of that league.
- (d) Subject to these regulations the Committee shall be responsible for the composition of the Leagues and Divisions.
- (e) An application in writing from a Club to enter a team in a League when that team did not play in that League in the preceding season must be received by the Secretary not later than the 2nd Wednesday of August in any season.

NOTE: The Committee has the power under Rule 11(e) to override the operation of Regulation 2 above if ever it is impracticable to operate as it stands.

3 PLAYERS

- (a) All players shall be bona fide Hon. Members, or registered subscription playing members of the Club they represent. In the case of a Club involved in several sports or social activities, the term “bona fide playing members” shall be taken to mean “members actively participating in the badminton section” of the Club.

NOTE: Registered in (a) above means registered members of their Club.

- (b) In any one season, a player may only represent one Club in any one League.
- (c) All players are required to wear clothing appropriate and acceptable to the game of badminton. Each article of clothing (excluding trainers) must be predominantly white with the exception of skirts/shorts that may be of a single solid colour. Failure to do so will result in the games being defaulted.
- (d) All players must be registered to play for a team at least 3 days before they are due to play. Registration should be via the SDBA scorecard website (www.salbc.info/online) or to the Registration Secretary in writing, or by email.

All ladies must be listed in order of strength, the strongest being the first listed. If a new lady joins mid-season then the list must be re-submitted with the new order. Where a club has more than 1 ladies team then a lady listed in the top 4 may only play in the first team, no matter when she joins the club.

ONLY MEMBERS REGISTERED SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY FOR THEIR CLUB IN DISTRICT LEAGUE COMPETITION.

- (e) Each Club must nominate, to the Registration Secretary, their 1st team (2nd, if a third team is entered etc.) before their first match and these players will not be allowed to “play down”, unless agreed to at the discretion of the General Committee. Second and 3rd team (etc..) players are able to “play up” while they have won less than seven rubbers for the higher team(s). On winning their seventh rubber the player will be committed to the higher team.
- (f) In the event of a Club being unable to field a full team by reason of illness or similar good cause, the Committee may exercise its discretion to vary Regulation 3(e).

4 TEAMS

Each team in Mens and Mixed Leagues must consist of 3 pairs. Teams in the Ladies League will consist of 4 ladies. Teams in the Veterans League will consist of 2 men and 2 ladies.

5 SHUTTLECOCKS

The home Club shall provide feathered shuttlecocks to the reasonable satisfaction of the opposing team, as detailed in the Laws of Badminton.

6 MATCHES

- (a) Match fixtures can be made by clubs as soon as details of the League structure are released by the Management Committee.
- (b) Confirmation of date, venue and starting time for home and away matches shall be sent to the opposing club and to the Match Secretary at least 7 days before those fixtures are scheduled to be played. All confirmations must be sent by the last Saturday in September at the latest.
NOTE: Internal club matches are exempt from the 7 day notification period in 6(b).
- (c) The time of play shall be decided by the Match Secretaries of the opposing Clubs but may be amended by the team captains on the date if both Clubs are agreeable to the alteration.
- (d) Fixtures should be adhered to, but variations agreed between Club Secretaries are permissible provided the Match Secretary is notified at least 7 days before the date of the original fixture by the team responsible for the change. Should the clubs disagree the Match Secretary must be informed in writing (or by email) and shall adjudicate on the principle that in general the only acceptable reason for postponing a match is non-availability of a hall.

Any club who requests postponement of a match for any other reason does so at it's own risk, in that should for whatever reason it prove impossible to re-arrange the match, that club will be deemed to default the fixture and receive the appropriate penalty deductions accordingly.

NOTE: If for any reason a match is not played (which includes conceded matches) a full report must be made by both teams to the Match Secretary for report to the Management Committee. The Committee will consider the circumstances and rule, as it deems appropriate. In all cases where a club concedes a match, a reasonable contribution must be paid to the opposition Club to cover out of pocket expenses. In cases of disagreement the Committee will adjudicate.

- (e) Matches shall be played within the County of Essex. Committee approval must be obtained prior to any matches being arranged at venues west of the A132 or north of the River Crouch. (The A132 runs from Battlesbridge to Pitsea and includes Wickford).

- (f) Where more than one team from the same Club is competing in the same division, all matches against each other must be completed within the first 5 matches (or half) of their seasons fixtures but in any case no later than the 31st December of the season.
- (g) All fixtures must be completed on or before 30th April each season unless otherwise agreed by the Management Committee. Other than for exceptional circumstances the Management Committee will only allow a Club a maximum of 1 fixture, per League competed in, to be played in May.
- (h) League matches shall not continue after midnight without the prior consent of both teams. This consent must be given prior to the commencement of any match.

Where there is a disagreement and a match remains incomplete, a report shall be made by both Clubs to the Committee who will adjudicate on the result.

NOTE: The following notes do not form part of the Regulations but are guidelines the Committee will consider when adjudicating and expect team captains to observe;

- (i) Where there is any disagreement as in 6(h) above, a full report will be required from both Clubs.
- (ii) If both team captains are not in agreement to continuing after midnight the Management Committee will adjudicate on unplayed rubbers. In any event a rubber commenced must be completed even if it exceeds midnight.
- (iii) In making a decision on unplayed rubbers, the Committee would remind team captains that they should ensure the following Regulations have been observed. The Committee will take into account the observance of these Regulations when adjudicating on unplayed rubbers.

- (a) Time the match commences and the reason for lateness of starting (Regulation 7(b)).
- (b) Whether a minimum of 5 court hours has been allowed to play the match (The Committee considers 5 hours is the minimum time which should be allowed for a match).
- (c) Whether more than 3 minutes ensued between rubbers, (including knocking-up) 6 minutes for players who have to play consecutive rubbers, and if so why? (Regulation 7(e)).
- (d) Whether a pair was not present to play in the sequence detailed in Regulation 7(c) and the reason why the opposing captain did not claim the rubber(s) in question as stated in Regulation 7(d).
- (e) Were all the games played in the sequence detailed in Regulation 7(c)?
- (f) Any other extenuating circumstances.

NOTE: The home Club will be expected to provide light refreshment for the opposing team.

7 FORM OF MATCHES

- (a) In the Mens and Mixed Leagues each pair in a team shall play one event (i.e. the best of three games) against each pair in the opposing team, making a total of nine events. In the Ladies League each lady will partner each of the other 3 ladies for one event, giving a total of 6 events. In the Veterans League there will be 1 mens doubles event, 1 ladies doubles event and 4 mixed doubles events, giving a total of 6 events.
- (b) A match shall normally start within quarter of an hour of the agreed starting time.

- (c) A match in the Mens and Mixed Leagues shall normally be played in the following sequence of events (where A, B and C represent the three pairs in the away team and a, b and c the three pairs in the home team).

A plays a
B plays b
C plays c
A plays b
B plays c
C plays a
A plays c
B plays a
C plays b

In the Ladies League (where 1, 2, 3 & 4 represent the four ladies of the home team and 1, 2, 3 & 4 the four ladies of the away team) then the order of play will be:-

1&2 plays 1&2
3&4 plays 3&4
1&4 plays 1&4
2&3 plays 2&3
1&3 plays 1&3
2&4 plays 2&4

In the Veterans League a match shall normally be played in the following sequence of events:

Man Y/Man Z	v	Man Y/Man Z
Lady A/Lady B	v	Lady A/Lady B
Man Y/Lady A	v	Man Y/Lady A
Man Z/Lady B	v	Man Z/Lady B
Man Y/Lady B	v	Man Z/Lady A
Man Z/Lady A	v	Man Y/Lady B

NOTE: Where a match is to be played on more than one court, the foregoing sequence may need to be adjusted. Home clubs proposing to play on more than one court must notify the opposing Club at least 48 hours in advance of the match.

- (d) Unless the opposing captains agree otherwise any pair not present to play an event in the due sequence as in (c) above, shall be deemed to lose that event by two games to nil.
- (e) Subject to the undernoted exception, the interval between events, including time for “knocking-up” shall not normally exceed 3 minutes. The exception to the foregoing Regulation arises when players are required to play consecutive events where the time interval may be extended to a maximum of 6 minutes.
- (f) Any games not completed for reason of injury or sickness of a player shall be forfeited.
- (g) A match shall be completed in one day.
- (h) In the event of non-completion of a match other than for reasons in (f) both Clubs must report the circumstances, in writing (or by email), within 7 days to the Match Secretary. The Committee will consider the circumstances and rule, as it deems appropriate.
- (i) One league point shall be awarded for each event won.
- (j) A team in the Mens and Mixed Leagues which plays with less than six registered players, who are eligible to play for the team, shall normally have one point deducted for each pair which are not in attendance. In the Ladies and Veterans League 1 point will be deducted for each player missing.

NOTE: Therefore a team, which concedes a match in the Mens or Mixed Leagues, shall normally have three points deducted. A team in the Ladies or Veterans Leagues shall have two points deducted.

NOTE: Under the Note in Regulation 6(d)...any match which is conceded must be followed by a full report by both teams to the Match Secretary. The Committee will then rule, as it deems appropriate.

- (k) Ladies must be listed in order of strength in Ladies league matches, with player 1 being the strongest and player 4 the weakest.
- (l) Matches in the Mens, Mixed and Ladies Leagues shall be played using the Rally Points scoring system of best of 3 games to 21 points. If a 3rd end is required then players change end when a pair reaches 11 points. Matches in the Veterans League shall be the best of 3 games to 15, no setting (Veteran players will be handicapped and each club supplied with a handicap sheet).

8 RESULTS

The home and the away Club shall each record the result of the match in the form required to the Match Secretary within three days of its being played. The preferred method is via the SDBA scorecard website (www.salbc.info/online) but teams without access may send a paper or email copy of the scorecard to the Match Secretary.

9 CHAMPIONSHIP

The Club scoring the most league points in a Division shall be declared the champions of that Division. If more than one Club has the same number of League points the priority of Clubs in the Division shall be decided in accordance with the following criteria: -

- (a) the ratio of matches won to matches lost;
- (b) if the ratio in (a) above is the same for two or more Clubs, then by the ratio of events won to events lost;
- (c) if the ratio under (a) and (b) above is the same for two or more Clubs, then by the ratio of games won to games lost;
- (d) if the ratio under (a), (b) and (c) are the same for two or more Clubs, then by the ratio of points won to points lost;
- (e) if the ratio under (a), (b), (c) and (d) are the same for two or more Clubs, the championship shall be decided by a match or matches on a neutral court.

10 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

- (a) Apart from the Premier Division and subject to (d) below, the team, which wins the championship of a Division, shall be promoted to play in the next highest Division the following season.
- (b) Apart from the lowest Division(s), and subject to (d) below, the team finishing at the bottom of a Division shall be relegated to play in the next lower Division the following season.
- (c) The team finishing at the bottom of the lowest Division will be required to apply to the Committee for re-election to play in the following season.
- (d) (i) Where a team is due to be promoted to a Division where there are already two teams from that Club, then that team shall not be promoted and in its place the next highest eligible team shall be promoted.

(ii) Where a team is due to be relegated to a Division where there are already two teams from that Club, then that team shall be so relegated and the lower of those teams already in that Division shall be relegated along with the bottom team in that Division to the next lowest Division and from that next lowest Division there shall be promoted the two highest eligible teams.

(iii) Where a team is due to be promoted to a Division to which another team from that same Club would be relegated and thereby lead to three teams from that same Club playing in the one Division, then the team to be promoted shall not be promoted and the next highest eligible club shall be promoted in its place.

- (e) Any team accumulating more than four deducted points in any one season may be relegated, subject to appeal to the Management Committee.

NOTE: The Committee has the power under Rule 11(e) to override the operation of Regulation 10 above if it is ever impracticable to operate it as it stands.

11 TROPHIES

All league and tournament trophies (club and individual) are to be returned to the Social Secretary, or assistant, by the end of the season i.e. 30th April. The trophies are to be returned in the condition in which they were received. Failure to do so will result in a £5 fine per trophy being levied against the offending Club.

PETER GIBBS CUP

REGULATIONS FOR THE SOUTHEND INTER-CLUB COMPETITION

1. This is a handicap competition open to entry by Clubs that are affiliated to the Southend & District Badminton Association.
2. Entries must be notified to the Hon Secretary before the 2nd Wednesday of August indicating the number of teams to be entered.
3. There is no charge for entrance to the competition.
- 4a) Notification of the draw will be circulated by the Peter Gibb Cup Committee at the start of the season.
- b) Matches after the 1st round will be arranged at fixed dates/venues by the Association, exact date and venue to be advised at the start of the season. Shuttles will be supplied by the Association.
- c) The cost of Round 2 up until the semi-finals will be split between the competing teams. Court costs will be divided equally between all teams, but shuttles costs will be split pro-rata based on usage in a particular match.
- d) The final will be financed in full by the Association and will be played at Chalkwell Badminton Centre on a date to be arranged by the Committee.
- 5a) Each Club will be required to nominate all of their players eligible to represent them in this competition, in writing (or by email), to the Peter Gibb Cup Committee by no later than 14 days before that Club's first match. Each player will receive an individual handicap. Every event/rubber will require these individual handicaps to be re-evaluated taking into account the 4 players involved.
- b) No player may represent more than 1 team in any season. Clubs should ensure they have sufficient players to fulfil their commitments for all teams entered. Where a match must be conceded, then all court costs of the match will be payable by the conceding team.
6. The organising Committee will advise both teams of the handicaps allocated before the start of the match. It should be noted that late changes to the playing team could mean there could be insufficient time to re-evaluate the handicaps and you risk having your players allocated an incorrect handicap.
7. The first round should be completed by the date indicated on the draw sheet circulated by the Peter Gibb Cup Committee. The home Club must confirm in writing, or by email, to their opponents' Match Secretary, within 72 hours, details of the match.
8. All entries and nominated players will be subject to the approval of the Organising Committee.
9. The Peter Gibb Cup Committee will notify all participating Clubs, in writing, of the nominated players of all teams entered and their allocated handicaps.
10. Each team will comprise of 3 men (X, Y, Z) and 3 ladies (A, B, C) to play in the following events;
 - a) 2 Ladies doubles
 - b) 2 Mens doubles
 - c) 5 Mixed doubles

Each man is able to play either;

- a) 2 Mens doubles and 1 Mixed doubles, or
- b) 1 Mens doubles and 2 Mixed doubles

Each lady is able to play either;

- a) 2 Ladies doubles and 1 Mixed doubles, or
- b) 1 Ladies doubles and 2 Mixed doubles

Thus every team member plays 3 events. Note Rule 13 for order of play.

11. The winning team of each match shall be decided by the ratio of events won to events lost.
12. The Captains of each team must exchange, in writing, before the commencement of the match, details of their team.
13. Unless varied by mutual consent, the order of play shall be;

<u>Home</u>		<u>Away</u>
Ms A & Ms C	v	Ms A & Ms C
Mr X & Mr Z	v	Mr X & Mr Z
Ms A & Ms B	v	Ms A & Ms B
Mr X & Mr Y	v	Mr X & Mr Y
Mr Z & Ms C	v	Mr Z & Ms C
Mr X & Ms A	v	Mr Y & Ms B
Mr Y & Ms B	v	Mr X & Ms A
Mr Z & Ms C	v	Mr Y & Ms B
Mr Y & Ms B	v	Mr Z & Ms C

14. The results in full of the first round (including handicaps) must be forwarded by both teams to the Peter Gibb Cup Committee within three days of the match being played. The team Captains should have agreed the score. Failure to observe this rule may lead to disqualification. The Peter Gibb Cup Committee will notify the Clubs of the matches to be played in the following round.
15. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, feathered shuttlecocks of approved regulation pattern shall be used in all matches.
16. All matches must be played according to the regulations for handicap events as detailed in the Handbook of the Badminton England.
17. The cost of each match in the first round shall be borne equally by the two contesting Clubs, including hall hire, shuttlecocks and refreshments. It shall be the responsibility of the Home Club to actually obtain shuttlecocks and provide refreshments.
18. The winning Club must return the Trophy to the Secretary by 31st March following and must be responsible for the safe custody of the Trophy.
19. The decision of the Organising Committee, which will be appointed by the Association General Committee, will be binding and final in all matters.