

YORK & DISTRICT LADIES SQUASH LEAGUE

Rules for League Matches from September 2023

1.1	The home team captain is to confirm the fixture to the away team captain at least one weeks before the match.
1.2	Changes to fixtures can be made at any time during the season providing both teams agree, and a mutually convenient date can be established. Otherwise the original fixture date will hold. Away teams should request a change of fixture at least one week before the original date, to ensure the home team can cancel courts/food without incurring costs.
1.3	If a team is unable to field a full team, they should notify the opposing team as soon as possible, preferably at least 3 days before the fixtures, to ensure the home team can, if necessary, cancel courts/food without incurring costs. The fixture may be rearranged (see para 1.2 for details)
1.4	In the event of a change to fixture, the home captain can either, amend the date on League Master (LM), or request the LM administrator to make the change. Requests to the LM administrator should be made before the original fixture date, or the LM administrator should be advised of a pending change. The LM administrator should also be advised of a pending change if a suitable alternative date hasn't been agreed before the original fixture date.
1.5	If a match is conceded, then the captain of the team that has conceded should advise the LM administrator.

2.1	Home teams are responsible for booking courts to allow sufficient time for all matches to be played, lighting and supply of new balls. (See also Rule 12)
2.2	Home teams are responsible for providing food. Where teams are unable to provide food, the captains should come to an agreement. For example, neither team provide food for home fixtures, home team unable to provide food agrees to contribute to costs at away fixture. Numbers staying for food should be confirmed to the home team captain at least 3 days before the fixture to avoid unnecessary costs.

3.1	Teams will consist of 5 recognised full paying club members who will play in order of merit. Clubs wishing to enter a squad of more than 5 players for any one team must nominate those players also in order of merit
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4.1	For clubs with more than one team, players nominated for a higher team cannot play on any occasion for a lower team(s). A player in a lower team can play up 4 times over the whole season for a higher team. On the occasion of their playing a 5 th time for a higher team they become tied to that team. Should the club undergo a re-ranking of teams, which means a player is moved into a lower team, then the playing up rule for that player only is reset to zero.
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5.1	If a club enters more than one team to the league, players must be nominated in strict order of merit right through the teams i.e. from number 1 in the first team to the last nominated player in the third team.
5.2	All team players must be nominated and the League Master administrator notified before their first match. A club which is fielding more than one team must nominate <u>ALL</u> its teams' players at the same time, <u>BEFORE</u> any of its teams' first matches
5.3	Re-nominations can be made at any time, but should be within 7 days of the given match.

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5.4	The committee reserves the right to question the order of merit and suggest re-nominations, if necessary.
6	<p>Teams may play up to two boys in any one match, for any number of matches. Boys must be aged 16 or under (i.e. they can play up to their 17th birthday). They are to be in rank order throughout the season (Note re-nomination can be done at any point in the season).</p> <p>Boys nominated in the 'Open' league (formerly men's league) cannot play in the Ladies league.</p> <p>Whilst it is the captain's decision as to who plays in each match, they are reminded that this is a women's league and preference should be given to playing girls/women where possible.</p>
7	Double yellow dot squash balls are to be used at all matches and competitions. A single yellow dot ball may be used with the agreement of both players, otherwise a double yellow dot must be used. This rule applies to each game played i.e. the choice of ball for one game does not run through all five games (in the case of team league matches).
8.1	All games will be marked: The Home team will provide the markers and the Away team the referees, in the absence of a referee the marker may act in both capacities. NB Any player has the right to ask for a different marker or a referee before the start of their game; however any change must be agreed by, both players.
8.2	In the event of none of the Home team players being available to mark a game, the Away team player on court should be asked, as a matter of courtesy, before the game commences, if she/he has any objections to a non-team player marking and/or refereeing a game. If the Away team player does have an objection then one of the Away team players should be asked to mark the game.
9	Games are to be the best of 5, American scoring to 15, with 2 clear points if the rubber reaches 14 all.
10	<p>All teams will be awarded points for any one rubber won with an extra 5 points to the final score of the winning team.</p> <p>When a match has been conceded, the team conceding the match will be awarded 0 points. The opposing team will be awarded 15 points for each rubber effectively won. They will not be awarded the extra 5 points.</p>
11	When a team has to play a match short of one player, the 5th game is conceded and the remaining players are to play in order 1 to 4. Similarly in the event of the team being short of 2 players then the fourth and fifth games are conceded.
12.1	All players should arrive and be ready to play by the start time of the match, with at least 3 players arriving 10 minutes before the start time of the match. If a captain is aware that a player/players will arrive late for a match, she should advise the opposition team's captain as early as possible, and certainly no later than the start of the match i.e. if the player is a lower positioned member of the team, then arrangements could be made for her/him to play later or last.
12.2	If the player/players arrive after the completion of all the games played by the team members present, their games will be conceded.
12.3	If a player/players' absence results in the games being played out of order, then their games and any lower games will be conceded.

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13	Injury time: See World Squash Federation 'Squash 57 Standard Rules' Version 2.1 Section 16 clauses d & e
14.1	<p>Warm Up Time: Before the start of a match, the two players are allowed up to 5 minutes (2½ minutes on each side) to "warm-up" themselves and the ball on the match court.</p> <p>When a ball has been changed during a match, or if the match has been resumed after some delay, the players may warm-up the ball to playing condition.</p> <p>The ball may be warmed-up by either player during any interval in the match</p>
14.2	The time between all games is to be 90 seconds. Play is expected to be continuous in each game once a player has started serving. There should be no delay between the end of one rally and the start of the next one. Ball bouncing by the server, if excessive, can be regarded as time wasting. If the receiver is clearly uncomfortable with it, the marker should apply Rule 17 of the Rules of Squash and start with a warning.
14.3	Conduct on court: Offensive, disruptive or intimidating behaviour in squash is not acceptable in squash. Included in this category are: audible and visible obscenities, verbal and physical abuse, dissent, abuse of racket, court or ball, unnecessary physical contact, excessive racket swing, unfair warm-up, time-wasting, late back on court, deliberate or dangerous play or action and coaching (except between games). Markers should again apply Rule 17 of the Rules of Squash and start with a warning.
15	<p>The home team captain is responsible for posting match results on League Master (LM) within 7 days of the match being played.</p> <p>If unable to do so for technical reasons, assistance should be sought from the LM administrator.</p>
16	If a team should withdraw from the League leaving another team from the same club in a lower division in the league, then their position in the League will be decided upon by the Committee.
17	In the event of a tie in the league points at the end of the season and matches won and lost are the same then the teams should play a 'play off' match to decide the outright winners.
18	New teams entering the league will normally start in the lower division unless the Committee, using it's discretion, feel the team would be too strong.
19	The use of goggles for all players under the age of 19 years in competitive games will be compulsory, as applied and approved by England Squash at all sanctioned events.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL TEAM PLAYERS FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THESE RULES