

**Colchester & East Essex Badminton Federation
League Regulations**

1. A team shall consist of 3 pairs, each playing 3 rubbers of the best of 3 games, first to 21 points, a point being awarded for each rally. If the scores are level at 20 each, play will continue until 1 pair leads by 2 points. (i.e. the new badminton scoring system).
2. Each player shall be a bona fide Club Member of the Club he/she is representing.
3.
 - i. Unless rule 3(ii) below is complied with, no player may play in any section (Evens or Mixed) during a season for more than one team, with the exception that a player who has played in a Club's second or "B" team may play TWICE ONLY for that Club's first or "A" team in that section without being debarred from the second team.
 - ii. Until 31 st December each year (i.e. mid-season), if a player has only played once in any section (i.e. Evens or Mixed) for a club and then decides that he/she does not wish to continue to play matches with that club, he/she may apply to the Hon. League Secretary for permission to transfer to another club. Once listed for the new club, he/she will be eligible to play league matches for that club for one team; (i.e. one Evens and/or one Mixed team. That is to say he/she foregoes the right to play up as a guest to an upper team in the new club, for that season). Permission by the Hon. League Secretary must be agreed in writing before the player plays for the new club, and should not be unreasonably withheld by the Hon. League Secretary, but would not be granted if it was felt that the transfer was applied for, for or after one particular match to which either club had, or would have, gained an unusual advantage by playing that player. If a transfer is refused, the player has a right of appeal to the Federation Committee, but cannot play for the new club until a final decision has been made.
4.
 - i. Where a Club has two teams in any section, i.e. Evens or Mixed, that Club must nominate to the Hon. League Secretary in writing it's first or "A" team players before the Club plays a match in that section.
 - ii. Where a Club has three teams in any one section, i.e. Evens or Mixed, that Club must nominate to the Hon. League Secretary in writing it's "A" and "B" teams before the Club plays a match in that section.
 - iii. A player playing for a "C" team may play up once in either the "A" or "B" team and then resume a "C" team position. However, if that player plays again for either the "A" or "B" team, that person is then tied to the team where the second appearance is made; e.g. if the first appearance is in the "A" team and the second appearance is in the "B" team, the player is tied to the "B" team for the rest of the season.
5. The HOME team shall provide cork-based feathered shuttlecocks of the correct speed for the hall. Note: It is advisable to have shuttlecocks available in two speeds to ensure that the correct speed is available for the prevailing conditions of the hall.

6. A team which is not ready to commence play within fifteen (15) minutes of the agreed starting time forfeits ALL rubbers not played or completed through lack of time, but both teams should do all possible to keep delays during the evening to an absolute minimum, thus playing as many rubbers as possible.
7. Any unfinished rubbers at the end of a match where it has commenced on time but playing time has run out, are halved. A minimum time of 3.5 court hours is required for any match.
8. No matches shall start before 6.30pm on a weekday (Monday - Friday) unless mutually agreed. Where matches commence at 6.30pm or earlier, clubs shall not be required to start with more than 2 pairs. Matches should finish no later than 11.30pm unless otherwise mutually agreed. If a club is not willing to play beyond 11.30pm, this should be agreed PRIOR to the commencement of the match and NOT PART WAY THROUGH, i.e. agree a finishing time before each match is started.
9. A fully completed result sheet must be returned by ANY TEAM claiming points to the Hon. League Secretary, immediately after the match. Please show all players Christian and Surnames. 3 points are awarded for a 6-3 win or better, 2.5-0.5 points for 5.5-3.5, 2-1 points for 5-4 and 1.5-1.5 points for a 4.5-4.5 draw. A result sheet must be submitted for any points claimed because of a walkover. Any points not claimed within 1 calendar month of the match will not be allowed. Note: there will be occasions when both teams submit a result sheet when both are claiming points for the same match.
10. Alterations to fixtures can be made within 7 days of the fixture meeting for any reason, but must be advised to the Hon. League Secretary. After that dated NO ALTERATION OF FIXTURES may be made without the Hon. League Secretary's consent, which can ONLY be given in the case of exceptionally bad weather conditions or the unforeseen loss of use of the venue.
11. The Hon. League Secretary must be notified immediately of any cancellation or authorised re-arranged date of any fixture.
12. Every effort must be made to field THREE PAIRS in every match, but if this is not possible, then the opposing Club should be notified as soon as possible.
13. All fixtures should be completed by 31st MARCH in any season and on completion of the season, each Club must send a complete list of matches played with results to the Hon. League Secretary.
14. Any team winning a division in any section of the Federation is entitled to promotion regardless of circumstances, but there may be more than normal relegation.
15. If a club has two teams in the same division of any section, both matches against each other must be played before 31st December, i.e. mid-season.
16. A team who concedes two or more matches in a season will be placed last in the division and automatically relegated.

All results and tables can be found at <http://www.colchesterbadmintonfederation.org.uk> updated weekly.