

BANBURY & DISTRICT TENNIS LEAGUE – SUMMER LEAGUE RULES

Amended: February 2014 (amendments in red)

1. An Annual General Meeting will be held once a year in February. Two Representatives from each Club will be invited to attend this meeting.

Fixtures (changes/cancellations/rearrangements):

2. The proposed fixtures will be posted on the League website as soon as possible after entry forms are received by the League Secretary.

Unlimited fixture changes within the period of the League (April to September) are allowed before a deadline date which is also posted on the League website.

After the deadline date each team is allowed to change **one fixture** which should be agreed with the opposing team and notified to the League Secretary by email as soon as possible.

3. If a team wishes to change any subsequent fixtures their opponent has two options:
 - a. to claim the match (see rule 8), or
 - b. to agree to a rearranged match

If a rearrangement is agreed, the home team must offer 3 dates giving a period of 10 days for the opposition to agree one of those dates.

Captains should first check the website for available free dates, avoiding clashes, consecutive nights or two matches in same week.

The rearranged date should be as soon as possible to avoid a build-up of fixtures at the end of the season and all parties should be advised of the new date within 14 days of the original date

The team making the decision should advise the League Secretary using the appropriate webform within 14 days of the original date.

4. The Home Team will be responsible for confirming the match details and establishing a contact (in case of emergency) at least 3 days before the date of the match and notifying the visiting team if the courts are unplayable on the day of the match.
5. If a match cannot be played due to inclement weather or the unfit state of the courts the Home Team should advise the League Secretary by email as soon as possible.

When rearranging the match, the home team must offer 3 dates giving a period of 10 days for the opposition to agree one of those dates.

Captains should first check the website for available free dates, avoiding clashes, consecutive nights or two matches in same week.

The rearranged date should be as soon as possible to avoid a build-up of fixtures at the end of the season and all parties should be advised of the new date within 14 days of the original date.

The team making the decision should advise the League Secretary using the appropriate webform within 14 days of the original date.

6. The matches will be played in the evenings and players to be on court and ready to play at 6.15 p.m. prompt (or a mutually agreed time). If two pairs are not ready to play half an hour after the time agreed for the commencement of the match, the opposing team may claim two rubbers 11 games to love.
7. If a team fails to turn up without notifying the opposing team captain, at least 48 hours before the match or cancels a match for the published date for reasons other than for inclement weather or the unfit state of the courts, their opponent has two options:

- a. to claim the match (see rule 8), or
- b. to agree to a rearranged match

The team making the decision should advise the League Secretary by email as soon as possible.

8. If a team concedes a match they will have 9 points deducted and their opponent will receive 9 points. No games will be awarded to either team.

A match is also deemed to be conceded if claimed by an opponent under rules 3 or 7.

9. If a player is unable to continue due to illness or injury, uncompleted games in the rubber being played shall be forfeited. Should the player not recover in time to play a subsequent rubber, it shall be forfeited entirely.
10. Should a match be abandoned, the entire match must be replayed at the same venue and the re-arranged date notified to the Secretary within 14 days by the Home Team.
11. If a team withdraws in mid-season all matches will be conceded to opponents, even those already played.

Players:
(see note a)

12. No player should play down from his/her normal team. Players who have played three times for a higher team are not eligible to play in his/her lower team in that season. However, if a club is genuinely short of players for a fixture they can declare this to their opponents and:
 - a. play with a player short and concede those rubbers that he/she is missing, or
 - b. play down a player from a higher division and concede those rubbers that he/she has played
 - c. use a club player that may not normally play in a team

In exceptional circumstances players may 'play up' but will not be tied to the higher team as long as a competitive gain is not sought.

In any event the circumstances must be agreed with the opposing Captain and the agreed outcome indicated on the score card.

13. No player may represent more than one club in the Summer League in one season.
14. ~~No player who has played in senior county matches in the previous three years will be eligible to play in the Banbury Town Leagues. (A Senior County Player is one who has played in the hardcourt singles or taken part in County Week.)~~
This rule has been suspended for the duration of the 2014 Summer League. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Disputes:

15. If disputes cannot be resolved by Match Secretaries they should be referred to a Dispute Resolution Committee. This Committee should consist of the Chairman (who would have a casting vote), the Treasurer and two Match Secretaries (who would be independent and have no vested interest in the dispute). This committee would meet on an ad-hoc basis, not necessarily in person but could carry out their discussions by phone or email.

Matchplay:

16. Teams will consist of 3 men and 3 ladies who should be listed in order of their playing ability. The match will consist of 3 men's doubles, 3 ladies' doubles and 3 mixed doubles. Each rubber will consist of 11 games with a tie-break to be played at 5-5. Ends will be changed on alternate games.
17. One point will be awarded to each team for each set won in each rubber. In the event of a tie on points, the League positions will be decided by the total number of games won in all rubbers played.

18. The Home Team is responsible for sending a properly completed match result card in PDF format (not scanned) to the League Secretary within 7 days after the match and for supplying new balls for each match.
19. The Home Team will also be responsible for providing appropriate substantial refreshments.

Order of Play:

1	1st & 2nd Men	v	1st & 2nd Men
2	1st and 2nd Ladies	v	1st and 2nd Ladies
3	1st & 3rd Men	v	1st & 3rd Men
4	1st & 3rd Ladies	v	1st & 3rd Ladies
5	2nd & 3rd Men	v	2nd & 3rd Men
6	2nd & 3rd Ladies	v	2nd & 3rd Ladies
7	1st Man & 1st Lady	v	1st Man & 1st Lady
8	2nd Man & 2nd Lady	v	2nd Man & 2nd Lady
9	3rd Man & 3rd Lady	v	3rd Man & 3rd Lady

Notes:

- a. I don't check whether players are eligible - if in doubt, Team Captains should look at the scorecards on this site. If you find that an opponent is not eligible to play please tell me.

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