



IBL / IGNTIE BADMINTON LEAGUE

RULES & REGULATIONS FOR THE LEAGUE

VERSION 3.1 - 20170727

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1. GENERAL ORGANIZATION

The Competition shall be conducted in accordance with the Laws of Badminton. The General competition regulations will apply except where specific provisions are contained in these regulations. Where there is any conflict or apparent conflict, the regulation for the Ignite Badminton League ("League") shall take precedence.

2. METHOD OF COMPETITION

1. There will be five league divisions:
 - a. **Division 1:** Highly skilled high-performance players
 - b. **Division 2:** Skilled Intermediate players to high-performance players
 - c. **Division 3:** Recreational players to moderately skilled Intermediate players
 - d. **Masters Competitive:** 30+ Female & 40+ Male players
 - e. **Masters Recreational:** 30+ Female & 40+ Male Beginner Players



2. Each participating Province will establish regions and host up to 5 divisions in each region providing there are sufficient teams and adequate level players within the divisions of respective regions.
3. Regions will be formed based on team entries. Provinces with only one region being formed require a minimum of 5 teams to form a schedule. Provinces with more than one region require a minimum of 4 teams in each region or division to form a schedule.
4. Teams shall play within their respective region where all teams will compete against each other. A final overall ranking order shall be achieved with each team competing 8 times throughout the season.
5. The participating teams will be ranked based on the overall strength of the team.
6. A match conceded due to illness, injury, or other unavoidable hindrance shall count as if completed without the conceding side scoring another point.
7. All results of any team that has been disqualified or withdraws before completing all ties throughout the season shall be entirely deleted.
8. The teams in a region will play an in-season schedule and will be competing to advance to a regional playoff and then on to the provincial playoff final within their respective division.

3. ENTRIES

1. Team Entries must be received by the League website not later than the published closing date.
2. Only team entries reaching the League by the closing date shall be accepted.
3. The League Committee shall have power to reject the entry of any team:
 - a. which contains a condition unresolved at the time entries close;
 - b. whose entry is considered against the interest of the Competition or the game; or
 - c. which is in arrears in payment of subscriptions or which has any other debts to the League.

4. DRAWS

1. 4 teams are required to form a schedule for Divisions 2, 3, Masters Competitive and Masters Recreational. 5 teams are required to form a schedule for Division 1.
 - a. Regions with 4 to 9 teams will placed in one group to form a schedule
 - i. 4 teams - each team plays every team twice with 2 random draws
 - ii. 5 teams - each team plays every team twice



- iii. 6 teams - each team plays every team once with 3 random draws
 - iv. 7 teams - each team plays every team once with 2 random draws
 - v. 8 teams - each team plays every team once with 1 random draw
 - vi. 9 teams - each team plays every team once
 - b. Regions with 10 or more teams will be split into groups with at least 5 teams in each schedule
2. Teams will qualify for their respective provincial playoff final based on the rankings of the in-season ties or the result of a regional playoff (if required) within their division's region at the end of the in-season:
 - a. If within a region with one pool of 4 to 9 teams,
 - i. the top four teams qualify for regional playoffs;
 - ii. the top two teams of the regional playoffs qualify for provincial playoff final
 - b. If within a region that has two or more pools for 10+ teams within a division's region, the top two teams from each pool will qualify for regional playoffs
 - c. The top two teams from regional playoffs will qualify for provincial finals
3. Regional Playoffs (if required)
 - a. Round Robins playoff if more than one group within region's division
 - b. Semi-Final Teams ranked 1 vs. 4 and 2 vs. 3
 - c. Top two teams promoted to Provincial Finals
4. Provincial Playoffs
 - a. Round Robins (if 4 or more teams from different regions)
 - b. Semi-Final Teams ranked 1 vs. 4 and 2 vs. 3
 - c. Finals

5. PLAYER AND DIVISION ELIGIBILITY

1. Eligible Team Players:
 - a. Citizens, permanent residents and landed immigrants of Canada.
 - b. A maximum of 50% of foreign players per team will be permitted to make a team; these individuals must be in possession of a valid Canadian student or work visa or permits.
 - c. Foreign exchange students that possess a valid student visa or permits are permitted to play.
2. Team managers and captains are encouraged and strongly advised to place their players and teams in the most suitable division in accordance with their player's skill rating.
3. **Division 1** – Open to any player
4. **Division 2** – If any of the following applies to a player, they are not permitted to register on a Division 2 team
 - a. Senior National/International players from any country (active and non-active)
 - b. National Senior Team Member [from any country] as of September 1, 2012



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- c. National U19 Junior Team Member [from any country] as of September 1, 2014
 - d. Badminton Canada Senior Ranked (1 – 25) Players in any event as of September 1, 2014
5. **Division 3** – If any of the following applies to a player, they are not permitted to register on a Division 3 team
- a. Senior National/International players from any country (active and non-active)
 - b. National Senior Team Member [from any country] as of September 1, 2012
 - c. National U19 Junior Team Member [from any country] as of September 1, 2014
 - d. Badminton Canada Senior Ranked (1 – 25) Players in any event as of September 1, 2014
 - e. Badminton Canada U19 Junior Ranked (1 – 15) in any event as of September 1, 2014
 - f. Badminton Canada U17 Junior Ranked (1 – 15) in any event as of September 1, 2014
 - g. Players that have competed for a national senior team at any time in their career
 - h. Players that fit within a 4.5 or higher rating on the IBL Rating Chart
 - i. Team member of University or College top 3/4 teams that competed (played, not benched) in the semi-final or final rounds (individual or team event) of their Varsity Provincial Championships since September 2014
6. **Masters Competitive**
- a. 30+ Female players
 - b. 40+ Male players
7. **Masters Recreational** – If any of the following applies to a player, they are not permitted to register on a Masters Recreational team
- a. 30+ Female players
 - b. 40+ Male players
 - c. Players that presently or previously had a Badminton Canada or Provincial 'A' Masters ranking
 - d. Players that have a history of high-performance team training
 - e. Players that fit within a 3 or higher rating on the Rating Chart (*Rating Chart can be viewed, downloaded and printed from the Rating Chart on the IBL Website under Rules*)

The IBL rating chart and rating survey are not absolute. They are a guide to assist players and managers to place teams in the most appropriate division.

6. SEASON TIE (TEAM MATCHES) FORMAT

1. Best of 8 matches with Golden Set if required
2. Each in-season tie shall be decided by the results of:
 - 2 Men's Singles;
 - 1 Women's Singles;
 - 2 Men's Doubles;
 - 1 Women's Doubles;
 - 2 Mixed Doubles
 - Golden Set



- A Golden Set is only required if the tie points is calculated by both Team Managers / Captains and ends in a draw of all matches, sets (games) and points.
 - E.g. Matches: 4 - 4, Sets (Games): 11 - 11, Points: 397 - 397
 - Both Team Managers / Captains choose their preferred event (MS, WS, MD, WD or XD).
 - Then flip a coin to decide which event is to be played.
 - 1 set to 21 points. Switch sides at 11.
3. No player shall play with the same partner in more than one event; except in the Golden Set.
 4. All matches of each tie shall be played.
 5. If a player becomes injured and must forfeit a match, they are not permitted to compete in any remaining matches for the respective tie
 6. If, as a result of injury or illness sustained after arrival at the venue, a team has only two (or less) male or two (or less) female players remaining, those players may play in only two matches, and the remaining matches involving that player's gender shall be conceded to the opposing side.
 7. If, for the above reasons, the team is reduced to three players only, the whole tie shall be conceded.

7. SEASON TEAM ROSTERS

1. Each team will have a team manager and assign a captain or co-captains to perform managerial roles, such as reporting results, if managers are not able to do so.
2. 6 to 8 players
 - a. 4 to 5 Male players
 - b. 2 to 3 Female players
3. All players present on tie date must play at least one match
4. Team members, male and female, are permitted to play in a maximum of 3 matches per tie during the season.
 - a. Players are permitted to exceed the 3-match limit only if playing the golden set.
5. Each player is restricted to play in only one of each event except for the golden set.

8. TEAM MANAGER / CAPTAIN PROCEDURES FOR SEASON TIES

1. It is recommended that team members (players) arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before the start of the tie.



2. Players are not permitted to use the courts before or after the allotted time for the tie (e.g. 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) unless they are members of the respective venue or have paid for court usage.
3. Team Managers / Captains are to print the TIE SHEET (*Tie sheets can be viewed, downloaded and printed from the TIE SHEET on the IBL Website under Rules*) before the start of a tie and exchange the team line up with the opposing Team Manager / Captain by the scheduled start time.
4. Return filled out tie sheet to opposing Team Manager / Captain by five (5) minutes after scheduled start time (e.g. 6:05 p.m.).
5. Order of Play:
 - a. Both Team Managers / Captains will work out the order of play to ensure players are not playing back to back matches where possible.
 - b. When determining order of play, no player playing in two or more matches will play doubles or mixed doubles before singles.
 - c. Any player participating in two consecutive matches is entitled to a minimum interval of 15 minutes between them.
6. Start matches by fifteen (15) minutes after scheduled start time (e.g. 6:15 p.m.).
7. Team Managers / Captains are to sign both ties sheets to confirm the results of the tie and keep for records in the event of a dispute.
8. If there is a discrepancy between players on line calls and keeping score, team managers are to assign line judges from both teams. If a score keeper is required, team managers can alternate a designated person(s) from each team for each match.
9. TIE Results (Website Entry):
 - a. The Team Manager / Captain of the winning team is responsible for entering the results on IBL Website's results page. The opposing Team Manager / Captain will receive a notification to confirm the results.
 - b. Results are required to be submitted and uploaded no later than 48 hours after a tie is completed.
 - c. To enter the results on the website:
 - i. Login using your username and password
 - ii. Click on the 'Manager' tab
 - iii. Click on the 'Report Score' tab
10. Team Managers / Captains are required to keep their respective signed tie sheets to dispute any discrepancies that may occur. *Team Managers will need to print tie sheets before each tie. Tie sheets can be viewed, downloaded and printed from the TIE SHEET on the IBL Website.*

9.APPOINTMENT OF REFEREE



1. The League shall appoint a Referee(s) for the Regional and Provincial Playoffs.
2. The additional responsibilities of the Referee in this Competition are:
 - a. to ensure that the stipulated procedure and order of play is adhered to and that all teams comply with the Regulations for play at the venue;
 - b. to make the final decision on any matter upon appeal being made by a Team Manager or Captain; and
 - c. to confer with the Team Managers or Captains and make it known that the Referee is permitted to suspend or abandon play if the spirit of competition is not as it should be.
3. There shall be no appeal against the decision of a Referee.

10.DISQUALIFICATION

1. The Referee may disqualify any team which fails to report its arrival for the Playoff competition within stipulated time or such other period as may have previously been agreed with the Referee.
2. The Referee has power to disqualify any team which fails to carry out its required program, or whose Team Manager / Captain fails to attend any briefing meeting called by the Referee.
3. The Referee shall have power to disqualify any team at any stage of the Playoffs which has failed to carry out its obligations or breaches the Regulations of the League.

11.SUBSTITUTIONS

1. During Season Ties, if the opposing Team Manager / Captain agrees, a substitute or substitutes for a player who, is incapacitated by illness, accident or other unavoidable hindrance. The substitute player must be on the team roster entry submitted at the beginning of the in-season.
2. In Playoff Ties, the Referee may sanction a substitute or substitutes for a player who, in the opinion of the Referee, is incapacitated by illness, accident or other unavoidable hindrance, if the opposing Team Manager / Captain agrees
3. For a substitution after the first match of the tie has started due to any illness or injury has been sustained since the teams were nominated any pair unaffected by the need for substitution is left un-changed.
 - a. A substituted player shall not take part in that tie.

12.PLAYOFF TIE (TEAM MATCHES) FORMAT

1. Regional and Provincial Playoff Finals:
 - a. Each region will have a playoff final (top 4 teams), provided that the respective province has more than one region for the respective division.
 - b. All players are required to play at least 2 ties within the season to qualify for the playoffs



- c. All qualified players can play a maximum of 2 matches during playoff ties
 - d. If a player becomes injured and must forfeit a match, they are not permitted to compete in any remaining matches for the respective playoff
2. Each Playoff Tie shall be decided by the results of:
 - 1 Men's Single;
 - 1 Women's Single;
 - 1 Men's Doubles;
 - 1 Women's Doubles;
 - 1 Mixed Doubles
 3. If there are earlier rounds previous to the semifinals, all five matches shall be played.
 4. In the semi-final and final round each tie shall be stopped when the tie is decided.

13. PLAYOFF TEAM ROSTERS

1. Team Managers / Captains:
 - a. From the time of arrival at the venue for Playoff Ties, the Team Manager / Captain shall assume all administrative and other responsibilities.
 - b. The Team Manager / Captain shall attend any briefing meeting called by the Referee and / or League Committee.
2. Players are permitted to play in a maximum of two matches
 - a. All qualified players present on tie date must play at least one match
3. If, as a result of injury or illness sustained after arrival at the venue, a team has only two (or less) male or two (or less) female players remaining, those players may play in only two matches, and the remaining matches involving that player's gender shall be conceded to the opposing side.
4. If, for the above reasons, the team is reduced to three players only, the whole tie shall be conceded.

14. SCHEDULE (and Re-scheduling)

1. Ties will be scheduled for every 3 to 4 weeks.
2. Division 1 will be scheduled on Tuesday or Wednesday evening/nights (days/times may vary in different regions)
3. Divisions 2 and 3 will be scheduled on Saturday or Sunday afternoons or evenings (days/times may vary in different regions)



4. Masters Divisions will be scheduled on Tuesday or Thursday nights (days/times may vary in different regions)
5. If a team or team member is more than 15 minutes late for a tie, the opposing team is entitled to a default win. However, any player anticipating a late arrival (due to unforeseen circumstances such as traffic problems, must phone the opposing team prior to the start time of the tie to ensure they are en-route, and in anticipation that the opposing team would rather play the match than win by default. The opposing team should make every effort to accommodate a reasonably late arrival and must advise any late player who calls if a default will be taken.
6. Ties may be postponed due to bad weather and rescheduled by mutual consent of the managers/captains and confirmed by IBL in writing.
 - a. Team Managers and Captains must not assume a postponement.
 - b. Rescheduled ties must be played within 14 days of original scheduled date.
 - c. Except for bad weather, Team Managers or Captains requesting to reschedule a tie must provide alternate dates, times and venues (if necessary) before 14 days of original scheduled date for the opposing Team Manager or Captain to choose from.
 - i. If an agreement is not reached by the Team Managers or Captains within 7 days of the originally scheduled tie date, the team requesting to reschedule will concede a default.
 - ii. Rescheduled ties must be played within 14 days of original scheduled date.
 - d. Any costs such as court rental fees incurred to reschedule a tie is the responsibility of the team requesting to reschedule.

15. SHUTTLES

1. Each team will receive eight (8) tubes of shuttles for the season. Each team will supply one (1) tube of the allotted shuttles per tie.
2. If the tubes of shuttles supplied by IBL are used up before the end of a tie or season, teams are responsible for supplying additional shuttles.
3. The following shuttles are sanctioned for IBL ties during the 2016 – 2019 seasons.
 - Yonex - Aerosensa 30, 40, or 50
 - ChaoPai - Red
 - ChaoPai - Pink (Master Recreational only)
4. Any other shuttle supplied as a substitute by a team will result in an automatic default of the tie for the respective team



16. FINANCE

1. The League shall be entitled to make grants to Clubs and Individuals that enter teams in the League Competition on such terms and conditions as the League may decide.
2. Every Team taking part in the League Competition shall be responsible for all expenses incurred by its players and officials including travel, hotel accommodation and other expenses.
3. The League shall advise all competing Teams of any payments to be made in accordance with the Competitions or any other financial matters and any conditions pertaining thereto.

17.AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS

The League has power to make and publish amendments to the League Rules & Regulations.