



Norfolk Squash League Rules

Summer 2025

- **League Membership**

- a) Any club based within Norfolk may enter teams. Other clubs and interested parties may enter teams, subject to approval by the League Secretary and the Committee prior to the league season.
- b) Each team must pay the Norfolk Senior Squash League fees before the start of the season.
- c) Any team applying for Norfolk Squash League entry must have at least two courts available (unless prior agreement with the Committee / League Secretary).

- **Eligibility**

- a) Clubs may be represented by anyone who meets the following criteria:
 - i) Has not played for any other active team in the same division during the current league season.
 - ii) Provides Norfolk Squash with a personal email address. Collating and supplying Norfolk Squash with contact details of players is the responsibility of the captain.
- b) Players:
 - i) A player playing for a team on four occasions cannot then play for another lower team.
 - ii) Any player that plays at No 1 or 2 for their nominated team cannot then play for a lower team.
 - iii) Players cannot play 2 divisions below their nominated team.
 - iv) To be eligible for the last 2 matches of a season, a player must have played at least twice for that team, or a lower team, in the current season. If a captain is unable to field a team, then additional players may be brought in only if agreed by both captains.

- **League Management**

- a) The League Master system is used to manage the leagues with access through <https://norfolksquash.countyleagues.co.uk/>
- b) Each club will need a club administrator to enter players and results. Club and team passwords will be issued. Contact the League Secretary if you don't have login details.

- c) Before the first match of the season, all players in a team shall be nominated for each team in ability order within that team. Players must then always play according to this ability order. This nomination list must be entered onto the League Master system prior to the first match. Playing players out of order is a breach of the rules and that rubber, and those below will be forfeit.
- d) A second ranking list that covers the whole club will also be supplied to the League Secretary. This will also be in ability order. The purpose for this is so that if players play in a team above or below ... they must always respect the club ranking list, which will mean any team in a fixture will always be in ability order. Club rankings MUST be in ability order
- e) Amendments to the League Master nomination order, and the overall club ranking list, may be made at the half-way point of the season.
- f) If any club has two teams in the same division, players must be separated into two squads and once played for a team, they are not allowed to play for another team in the same division.
- g) If you wish to add a player throughout the season, you may do this subject to the eligibility rules as stated earlier. Any player being added during the season must be placed in ability order in both the team, and the club rankings.
- h) No team is allowed to withdraw from the league without 7 days notice in writing and approval from the League Secretary and one of the senior Committee members.
- i) All attempts must be made to play each fixture on the allocated date. The League Secretary must be informed if a fixture is to be cancelled/rearranged.
- j) A 1 week period will be granted at the start of each period where captains may rearrange their fixtures with opposing captains. Any rearranged fixture must still fall within the same period, i.e. before or on the date of the last fixture for that period.
- k) Missing a player is not a reason to forfeit, cancel or rearrange a fixture. Play with 1 player less and give a walkover in the bottom match to the opposing team.
- l) If a team withdraws, all matches become null and void, and all players are then free to join other teams.

- **Matches**

- a) Each club is required to play every club in its division twice during that period on a home and away basis.
- b) Fixtures will be shown on League Master.
- c) Home captains are to confirm matches more than 7 days before the match takes place. This includes the match start time.
- d) In the event of a team playing with an insufficient number of players, the top player will be drawn against the opponent's top player. The unplayed lower matches will be scored 3-0.
- e) Teams must play according to their ranking list.
- f) Home teams are responsible for providing England Squash approved squash balls.
- g) Food and drink to be provided after the match by the home team.
- h) Matches to be marked/refereed by home players.
- i) Every effort should be made to avoid walkovers occurring, such as rearranging. Not having your strongest team is not a reason to try and postpone a match. If necessary, play the fixture with fewer players and forfeit the missing rubbers.
- j) Any team defaulting a match will be penalised 3 points. The other team will be awarded maximum points.
- k) If anyone in a team plays out of the order given on the nomination list, then that rubber and all those rubbers below in the given match will be forfeited.

- l) No rearrangements of fixtures unless agreed by both captains AND the League Secretary with supporting justification. The responsibility of rearranging remains with the postponing captain and the fixture must be played within the same period.
- m) Should any team drop out of the league in the season, all matches against that team will be considered not to have been played.
- n) All markers must ensure that the code of conduct is used for marking matches.
- o) Any bad language or behaviour must be reported to the League Secretary and / or Committee directly after the match.
- p) The rules of Squash as approved by England Squash shall apply.

- **Teams and Scoring**

- a) All teams shall consist of 4 players, although squads nominated on League Master can have as many players as teams choose.
- b) Prem and Division 1 shall be best of 5 games, **PAR scoring up to 11**. 2 clear points at 10-10.
- c) All other divisions shall be best of 5 games, **PAR scoring up to 15**. 2 points clear at 14-14.

- **Results**

- a) One point is awarded for each game won (best of 5 games). The team winning the most games/matches is awarded 4 bonus points. If the games won are tied, the team winning most matches would take 4 points. In the event matches and games are tied, then the bonus points are split between the teams
- b) At the end of the season, points total will decide league positions. In the event of a tie, the following will determine the final league positions:
 - i) The difference between For & Against points
 - ii) Points For
 - iii) Points Against
 - iv) If this is tied, then head-to-head results count.

- **Match Results**

- a) Match scores must be entered on League Master by the home team within 48 hours of playing a match. Both teams must validate the match scores at that time.
- b) If you claim a walkover, you must still submit the result on League Master with a written reason why the points were taken in the comments section.

- **Disputes / Players Conduct**

- a) Details of a dispute must be notified to the League Secretary by email within 7 days of the incident.
- b) Players must adhere to the player Code of Conduct available on the Norfolk Squash website.
- c) If the Code of Conduct is breached and a report has informed Norfolk Squash, the individual will be informed of the nature of the breach as laid against him/her as soon as possible and will have the opportunity and the right to state their case before any decision regarding the appropriate disciplinary action is taken.
- d) When the facts have been established and responsibility is clear, disciplinary action can comprise of one of the following:

- i) Verbal warning
- ii) Written warning
- iii) League suspension

- **Promotion / Relegation**

- a) The bottom team in each division will be relegated and the winner of each division will be promoted. Note any promotion / relegation is subject to any wider league restructuring undertaken by the League Secretary in conjunction with the clubs / teams.
- b) If teams put in a request to be promoted or relegated, or remain in the same league, this shall be considered by the League Secretary.
- c) New teams will start in the lowest division unless they make a successful case for higher entry to the League Secretary.
- d) Next season's divisions, provided that promotions gained are not disturbed, the League Secretary may fill vacancies, add further divisions, reduce the number of divisions or alter the number of teams in a division. In exceptional circumstances teams may be promoted or relegated by more than one division.

- **Any other issues**

Any breaches of rules - or any matters not covered by the rules - will be decided on by the League Secretary and Committee, who will decide on any action that needs to be taken. Their ruling will be final.



Norfolk Squash League Rule Changes

Summer 2025

This section contains a list of changes to the previous Norfolk League Squash rules published in Winter 2024/25. If you are familiar with the rules, it will provide you with an easy reference to only things that have changed ... all other rules remain unchanged.

Eligibility

- Any player that plays at No 1 or 2 for their nominated team cannot then play for a lower team.
- Players cannot play 2 divisions below their nominated team
- To be eligible for the last 2 matches of a season, a player must have played at least twice for that team, or a lower team, in the current season. If a team is unable to field a team, then additional players may be brought in only if agreed by both captains.

League Management

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- If a team withdraws, all matches become null and void, and all players are then free to join other teams.