

NORTH FORELAND REGIONAL BADMINTON ASSOCIATION



RULES FOR 4-PLAYER AND COMPOSITE MATCHES

1. These rules supersede relevant sections of the existing formal league Rules which will be appropriately updated once the new formats have settled down.
2. In both of these formats, unlike in traditional matches, each pair does not play each other pair. Specified pairs on one side play the equivalent pair in the opponent's team. This approach requires the players participating to be ranked in order of strength – so that the strongest players play each other etc.
3. For consistency the ranking will be based on a general view of each player's match play - not specifically linked to mens doubles, ladies doubles etc. Each club will have submitted to the Region's Match Secretary a list of all their players in ranking order and the order used for each match must conform to this list. Thus – if Mary is ranked higher than Liz on the club list then Mary must be listed above Liz in any match in which they both play. Where players are listed as of the same standard on the club list they may be used in any order in a match.
4. It would generally be expected that, for example, the pair 1 & 2 would be the strongest in the team and pair 3 & 4 the weakest. It is possible that in some teams this will not be the case – players do not always play well in some pairings etc. However the club ranking list should be followed. If necessary it will be revised during the season.
5. In 4-player matches there are 6 rubbers in all - the four players play in all 6 possible combinations. Each player plays in 3 rubbers pairing up with each of the other 3 players in their team in turn.
6. Composite matches consist of 9 rubbers. The teams of 2 ladies and 4 men play a mixture of doubles events – 1 ladies, 4 mens and 4 mixed. Each lady plays a ladies doubles and 2 mixed; each man plays 2 mens doubles and one mixed. Only some of the possible mens and mixed pairings are used.
7. The sequence of play is not important. It should be agreed between the teams to make best use of the available courts and players. Care needs to be taken if more than one court is used; plan ahead to avoid a block in play because a necessary player is already on court.

8. It will sometimes be necessary for a player to play in two consecutive rubbers – the same as occurs in a traditional match played on more than one court. A reasonable (short) rest period should be taken.
9. The hope is that full teams will turn out to play these matches. Where this (rarely!!) doesn't happen the captains should sort out something which follows the spirit of the event and gives the players a reasonable evening's badminton.
10. There are separate match cards for these different formats. Copies are available from the web site (to provide your own copies if you wish).

Order of Play for Composite Matches

- The order on the match card is suitable for matches being held on a single court or where 2 courts are in use. If rubbers are claimed due to late arrival etc then this is the order of play which should be followed otherwise any order agreed between the teams may be used.
- Where 3 courts are in use throughout the match then the match card sequence WILL NOT WORK. One (perhaps the only?) groups of rubbers which can be used are:

rubbers 1 – 8 – 9 together

rubbers 2 – 6 – 7 together

rubbers 3 – 4 – 5 together

Since all players are involved all the time it doesn't matter which order these groups are played in. However, if (due to late arrival etc) the question of claiming rubbers arises then the order shown here should be used – i.e. whichever of rubbers 1/8/9 cannot be played are the ones claimed initially.

- Please note that, due to the way the pairings are arranged, captains do need to think ahead if different orders of play are used or where the number of courts varies throughout the match. Make sure that, for example, if you are going to end up with 3 courts for the final rubbers having been using 1 or 2 then the last three rubbers can be played together.