

Sportspark Squash Leagues information

Sportspark squash leagues are run by Garry Bowler. Garry is not an employee Sportspark. He is a participant in the Squash Leagues, and has been for over 10 years, and he volunteered to assist in the administration of the leagues.

For the leagues to work successfully everyone needs to play their part. When everyone is in the habit of making every effort to play all their games this makes it more enjoyable and creates a more attractive league for others to join which makes it more interesting for all. In the past, poor completion of games and difficulty in making contact with opponents have been major frustrations for participants.

The league will operate as box league with 2 groups per division. The usual size of the Groups is 5 players with a maximum of 6 players to allow for new players to join at an appropriate level – e.g. if we have new Division 1 level players then it is not in anyone's interests to bring them in at, say, Division 3. Neither player in a match would benefit.

League duration will usually be 5 weeks to play your games (allowance will be made over holiday periods etc.), followed by 1 week turn round.

"Rules"

Not wishing to detract from the enjoyment in any way I feel it is necessary to have a few basic "Rules".

- 1) Play all your games (or at least make every effort to do so).
- 2) Respond to all e-mails and text messages, the sender needs to know that you have received them and whether you can or cannot play.
- 3) Please inform Garry as soon as possible if you are not able to participate in a league and the reason why. It would also be good if you can inform the other players in your league. If you withdraw for injury or other genuine reason and plan to play in the following league you will be allowed to return one division lower.
- 4) If you do not play any games and we have no notification as to why then you will be relegated, removed from the next league and need to contact Garry to confirm you wish to continue to take part.
- 5) If you play less than half your games you will be relegated.
- 6) Do not leave all your games till the last minute, game completion progress will be monitored.

Scoring:

Matches are played as best of 5 games, scoring point a rally up to 11, winning by at least 2 clear points or playing on until 2 clear points is achieved.

Matches are then scored as a share of 8 points:

Win 3-0 scores 7-1, win 3-1 scores 6-2, win 3-2 or 2-1 scores 5-3, draw scores 4-4.

Your total score will be the sum of the scores from your games, plus 5 bonus points if you play all possible games (where players withdraw then maximum number of games will be reduced).

Promotion / Relegation:

Promotion - Player with highest total score promoted, there will always be one promotion.

Relegation – Player with the lowest total score will be relegated as follows: Every effort will be made to be as fair as possible in these situations.

When the group size is temporarily increased to 6 players (to allow for the introduction of new players) then there will be 2 relegations. Again, there will need to be flexibility dependent on the number of groups.

There will always be at least one relegation.

Sportsmanship

From time to time there are questions regarding court conduct and how understanding of the rules of squash can become an issue during matches so I thought it worth a few words on how we conduct ourselves during our league matches.

Why do we play in the squash leagues?

You will obviously have your reasons but from a personal point of view it is a combination of the following:

- Fitness - squash is good aerobic exercise.
- Enjoyment - it's a social occasion and a chance to meet different people.
- The challenge - that bit of competition adds an edge and pushes you to see how far you can go up the league.

In any competitive situation there is the possibility that some of us will take things more seriously than others and of course, there can be a difference of opinion over things like a line call or a double bounce. The calling of lets & strokes can also be a tricky area. There will also be other examples of uncomfortable situations.

If disagreements get out of hand or if it is considered that players are behaving in an unsporting manner and so undermining the integrity and enjoyment of the league then please let either Craig Edwards or Garry Bowler know. If a situation needs immediate attention then contact the Sportspark Duty Manager.

We want everyone to enjoy playing in the leagues and will address any issues reported.

Many thanks, enjoy.

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