

**Durham County Badminton Association**  
**RULES**

**1. Name**

The name of the Association shall be the Durham County Badminton Association, hereinafter referred to as the Association.

**2. Constitution**

(a) All Clubs of which the object, or one of the objects, is playing Badminton, and having their hall in the County of Durham, or that part of North Teesside or Tyne and Wear which was within the boundary of the County of Durham as was in existence on 1st January 1970, shall be eligible for affiliation to the Association, subject to the approval of the Association's Management Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee.

(b) All Clubs affiliating to the Association must affiliate to the Badminton Association of England.

(c) Any Club, desirous of joining the Association, shall apply in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the Association.

(d) All District Leagues, where a majority of the Clubs playing within it are affiliated to the Association, must affiliate to the Association.

(e) Individual members, called County Members, may be admitted as members of the Association at the discretion of the Committee and the payment of a fee, set by the Committee, to the Association. County members will be entitled to receive a copy of all letters and notices sent out to Clubs by the Association and shall be entitled to pay no admission fee, charged by, and for the benefit of the Association, for entry to all home county matches, tournaments or exhibitions organised by the Association. Any person wishing to become a County Member shall apply in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the Association.

(f) County Members are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meetings, but shall not be entitled to have a vote at such meetings.

**3. Affiliation**

The Association shall be affiliated to the Badminton Association of England and shall be subject to the rules thereof. The Laws of Badminton as adopted by the International Badminton Federation shall be deemed to be incorporated in these Rules.

**4. Objects**

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The objects of the Association shall be the arrangement of County Matches, County Championships, and other Tournaments, the organisation of Inter-Club Competitions and the promotion and development of Badminton generally in the County.

**5. Management**

The Association shall be managed by the Committee which shall comprise of a Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Match Secretary, Honorary Coaching Secretary and up to seven others, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, together with one representative appointed by each of the affiliated District Leagues.

In the event of a District League Representative not being able to attend a meeting of the Committee the District League Representative may nominate a deputy for that meeting who shall have the same rights as the normal District League Representative. Any such deputy should inform the Honorary Secretary of their nomination at the start of any Committee meeting.

The Committee shall remain in office until the next Annual General Meeting at which time they shall be eligible for re-election.

The Committee shall at the first Committee meeting after the Annual General Meeting appoint where appropriate the following Sub-Committees: -

1. Selection Committee
2. Finance Committee
3. Development and Publicity Committee
4. Coaching Committee
5. Tournament Committee(s)
6. Disciplinary Committee

Any Sub-Committees not formed at the first Committee meeting after the Annual General Meeting may be formed later with the approval of the Committee.

Each Sub-Committee shall appoint its own Chairman and Secretary, except that the Honorary Match Secretary shall be the Secretary of the Selection Committee.

The Chairman, Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer of the Association shall be ex-officio members of all Sub-Committees other than the Selection Committee. In the event of an emergency the above three officials shall constitute the Ad-Hoc Committee.

The Committee shall have the power to fill casual vacancies on all Sub Committees and appoint such additional Sub-Committees as may be deemed necessary.

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The Selection Committee shall select teams to represent the Association and for such other representative matches as may be properly authorised, and shall be responsible for all arrangements for the aforesaid matches.

The Finance Committee shall be responsible for the financial administration of the Association and formulate financial policy.

The Development and Publicity Committee shall be responsible for drafting and updating of the County Development Plan, and promotion of the interests of the Association by means of advertising and publicity.

The Coaching Committee shall be responsible for the organisation and control of all coaching schemes approved by the Association.

The Tournament Committee(s) shall be responsible for all the arrangements in the promotion of all Tournaments arranged by the Association.

The Disciplinary Committee shall deal with all matters of discipline for all players affiliated to the Association unless a written appeal for a personal appearance before the Committee has been requested by a player to the Association's Honorary Secretary.

The number of elected representatives to each Sub Committee shall be set by the Committee before the formation of each Sub Committee.

**6. Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of June each year, when all general business shall be transacted.

Each Club, League and County Member affiliated to the Association shall have at least fourteen days notice of such meeting. Any member affiliated to the Association shall be entitled to attend the Associations Annual General Meeting. The same person cannot represent two or more affiliated bodies.

Any notice of motion for presentation to the Annual General Meeting must be sent, in writing, to the Association's Honorary Secretary not later than 1 April. The agenda of the Meeting shall be sent with the notice calling the Meeting and must include the motions which are to be discussed.

**7. Special General Meeting**

A Special General Meeting may be convened by the Committee and shall be convened by the Association's Honorary Secretary upon a written request

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signed by a minimum of three members of the Committee or representative members of a least six separate Clubs affiliated to the Association. Such requests must state the object for which the Meeting is to be called. The Meeting shall be held within 28 days of such a request being made.

Notices of Meeting, representation and voting shall be as for the Annual General Meeting. The motion or motions to be discussed must be incorporated into the notice a no other business than that specified on the notice shall be transacted.

#### **8. Committee Meetings**

Committee Meetings shall be held as called by the Association's Chairman or Honorary Secretary (at their discretion), or by the Association's Honorary Secretary upon the request in writing of a minimum of three members of the Committee.

Five members of the Committee shall be deemed to be a quorum.

In the event of a vote resulting in a tie the Association's Chairman shall have a casting vote, which will be in addition to the ordinary vote that he is entitled to make.

#### **9. Minutes**

The Committee shall cause Minutes to be made of all resolutions and proceedings of General Meetings and of Meetings of the Committee. Minutes from Sub Committee Meetings will be at the discretion of that Sub Committee but all resolutions agreed at Sub Committee Meetings must be ratified by the Committee and recorded in the Minutes of the Committee.

Any Minutes taken at General Meetings, Committee Meetings or Sub Committee Meetings shall be circulated or read out to members of that Committee and if correct shall be signed by the Chairman of that Committee. If the minutes are deemed to be incorrect amendments may be made to the minutes before the minutes are signed by the Chairman of that Committee. The signing of Minutes by the Chairman of that Committee shall take place at the next meeting of that Committee in the presence of the Members of that Committee before transacting any business.

When the Minutes have been signed, in accordance with the rules above, they shall be treated as conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated.

#### **10. Quorums and Adjournments**

At all General Meetings, five members present and entitled to vote shall be deemed to be a quorum.

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If within one half-hour from the appointed time for the meeting to commence a quorum of members is not present, the Meeting, if convened on the request of members, shall be dissolved. In any other case, it shall stand adjourned until another date agreed by those present at the meeting which shall be no less than seven days and no more than fourteen days away from the original date of the meeting. Notification of the new agreed date, time and venue of the Adjourned Meeting shall be notified to all Clubs, Leagues and County Members at least three days before any such meeting.

If at the Adjourned Meeting a quorum of members is not present within one half-hour of the time appointed for the commencement of the Adjourned Meeting the Members present and entitled to vote shall be deemed to be a quorum.

The Chairman may, with the consent of a simple majority of Members attending a Meeting and entitled to vote at that Meeting, adjourn any meeting from time to time, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than business left unfinished at the Meeting from which the adjournment took place.

**11. Subscriptions**

The Committee shall at its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting determine the Club, District League, Individual and County Member affiliation fees for the coming season.

The Badminton Association of England subscriptions are additional to the above.

At this meeting the Committee shall also set a Subscription Date by which all subscriptions due to the Association and the Badminton Association of England must be paid to the Association's Honorary Treasurer.

The Committee shall have the power to suspend the benefits of members from any Club or League, and to preclude from playing in any tournaments any member of a Club which has not paid its subscriptions to the Association's Treasurer by the agreed Subscription Date.

Members of Affiliated Clubs shall not play competitive badminton on the courts of or against players from suspended clubs, nor shall they play for unaffiliated Clubs.

**12. Voting at Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting**

(a) Each Club and District League affiliated to the Association and represented at the Meeting shall be entitled to one vote.

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- (b) All members of the Committee shall be allowed to vote if they are not entitled under rule 12 (a).
- (c) In the event of any vote resulting in a tie the Association's Chairman shall have a casting vote which will be in addition to any vote that they may have been entitled to make under rule 12(a).

#### **13. Amendments**

Representatives entitled to vote as specified under rule 12(a) and 12 (b) attending the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting shall have the power to vote on any amendment to any published motion and the Committee shall act upon any such amendment if carried as though due notice had been given.

#### **14. Audit**

The Association's Honorary Treasurer shall submit to the Annual General Meeting for their approval the accounts of the Association, duly audited by a person who shall be elected as Auditor by the Annual General Meeting.

#### **15. Alteration to Rules**

Rules can only be altered at the Annual General Meeting of the Association or at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose. Written notice of any suggested alteration or addition to the rules at the Annual General Meeting must be given to the Association's Honorary Secretary not later than 1 April.

No alteration or addition to the Rules shall be adopted unless two thirds of those present and entitled to vote shall vote in favour of such alteration or addition

#### **16. County Colours**

Permission to wear County Colours will be given by the Committee after recommendation by the Selection Committee.

#### **17. Travelling Expenses**

The Committee, at their discretion, shall have the authority to authorise the payment of travelling expenses to the following: -

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- (1) The representatives of the Association attending meetings of the Badminton Association of England or its Committees.
- (2) Players and one official per Team, representing the Association in away matches.
- (3) The representatives of the Association attending other meetings for and on behalf of the Association and sanctioned by the Committee.

#### **18. Tournaments**

A Tournament, other than Tournaments for members of one Club only, shall not be held unless sanctioned by the Committee.

All Tournaments which are either promoted or sanctioned by the Association shall be confined to members affiliated to the Badminton Association of England and, if appropriate, foreign players qualifying to participate under International Badminton Federation rules.

Members of any Club affiliated to the Association shall not knowingly compete in any unsanctioned Tournament, or knowingly play against opposition who could affiliate to the Badminton Association of England but chose not to do so.

Each Tournament promoted by the Association shall, as far as possible, be self supporting, and the balance, after provision for the expenses and the prizes, shall be transferred to the main funds of the Association.

#### **19. Notification of Change**

Any change in names and / or addresses of affiliated Club Honorary Secretaries or Honorary Treasurers, or in addresses of the court occupied by Clubs, must be notified to the Association's Honorary Secretary immediately.

#### **20. Other Matters**

The Committee shall have the authority to decide any matter not covered by the Rules, and their decision shall be final.

#### **21. Discipline**

The Disciplinary Committee shall have the authority to investigate any breaches of discipline, which is brought to their attention regarding members of Clubs affiliated to the Association.

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The Disciplinary Committee shall have the authority to give to players verbal or written warnings regarding their conduct or if warranted to suspend players found guilty of misconduct from all events under the control of the Association or its affiliated Clubs.

Players receiving a warning or being suspended will be notified, by the Association's Honorary Secretary in writing and will have seven days in which to appeal in writing to the Association's Honorary Secretary against any warning or suspension imposed by the Committee.

A player receiving a warning or facing suspension is entitled to ask for a personal appearance before either the Disciplinary Committee or the Committee. If a player chooses to appeal and / or ask for a personal appearance before either of the Committees the period of any suspension shall not commence until such an appeal has been heard or personal appearance made and the Committees decision on such appeal or personal appearance notified to the suspended player.

If an appeal is successful the 'hearing' Committee shall be empowered to cancel or reduce any sanction originally imposed on the player.

Once an appeal has been heard or a personal appearance has taken place before either Committee no further appeals or personal appearances will be granted to the player in relation to the particular disciplinary breach discussed.