

Dear Clubs

Welcome to the new season 2017/2018.

Thank you to all the clubs who attended the AGM in May and to every club for completing their fixtures and returning them to Pete Browning before the fixture meeting. This was useful as it enabled him to start validating input earlier and saved everybody attending a fixture meeting.

I have put together a few points which all clubs are expected to adhere to:

- I would like every Chairman, Secretary and Match Secretary to read the OBL rules as the rules have changed over the years and it is good practice to remind yourselves of them. There is a copy of the current rules in the team pack so please ask your captains to read them. All players are required to be familiar with the rules (ref Rule A3).
- Observe the match/court hire times by arriving on time (not early or late) with sufficient players (see section J). If a match becomes time constrained, refer to section K of the Rules. Please also refer to the club information section of the League website as club start times or venues may change.
- Players, before representing a club, must be affiliated by that club to Badminton England and be a member of that club (ref Rule F1).! The Badminton England affiliation year started on 1 September this season. The League will be conducting checks on eligibility and may amend scores.
- Result sheets are to be provided for every home match including **Cancelled matches** and forwarded to the League Match Secretary within 10 days of the match (ref Rule D4).
- It is the **Club Fixtures Secretary's** responsibility to make sure all match sheets are submitted on time to the League Match Secretary. Review the outstanding score sheet list on the OBL website and chase offending captains (ref Rule D5)
- Player's forenames and surnames must be entered onto score sheets at the start of the match (ref Rule G1). We do not expect to see unnamed players.
- Use the correct uniquely numbered score sheets provided in the team packs (if you need to use a spare sheet, please copy the number onto the new sheet). Copies may be printed from the document library section of the League website.
- Clubs are not expected to request either postponement or cancellation of matches except **under exceptional circumstances** (ref Rule I1) so there should be minimal "no date" matches on the outstanding score sheets. If a club has to re-arrange a match please put this in writing to Pete Browning (League Match Secretary), Janet Atkins (OBL Secretary) and CC myself so we have a copy of this and the communication between the two clubs.
- Conceded matches may result in relegation (ref Rules L4, 5 and 6). Our Rules do provide for fielding a less than full team for doubles matches.
- Ensure a representative attends the AGM in May 2018 so that any votes represent the view of all clubs. I would like to say well done as we had a great attendance this year.
- The date for the AGM 2018 will be advised to all clubs later in 2017.

If you have any questions please let me know. Lets have a great season and enjoy Badminton, *make it fun again.??*

Kind regards
Judy Bendall
OBL Chairman