

**LANCASTER, MORECAMBE AND DISTRICT  
BADMINTON LEAGUE**

**OFFICIAL HANDBOOK  
2023/24**

**OFFICIALS**

**Hon. President**

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**Hon. Vice Chair**

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**Registrations sub-Committee**

Gaye Jackson

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**Hon. Secretary**

**Registrations and Affiliations Secretary**

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**Hon. Auditor** Mr P. Bracewell

**Website: [www.lancasterbadminton.com](http://www.lancasterbadminton.com)**

## **League Committee**

The League Committee will be formed by a representative from each Club, who will be invited to each Committee Meeting.

Ascension BC - Anthony Forrest  
Bolton-le-Sands BC - Nick Haigh, Jess Logue and Linda Simms  
Brookhouse BC - Glenys Knowles  
Carnforth BC- Adrian Greenwood  
Hest Bank BC - Sue Ward and Gaye Jackson  
Ingleton BC - David McGonnigal  
Kirkby Lonsdale BC - Jan Lund  
Storeys BC - Lynne Williams  
Sunnyside BC - Sandra Moody

### **Riley and Hayhurst Cup Secretary**

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Mobile: 07969689657  
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### **Tournament Secretary**

Sandra Moody  
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And  
David Costley-Wood  
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### **Social Secretary**

Hest Bank B.C.

## **RULES**

### **Introduction**

Please read this document carefully as some rules have changed and new ones have been added. These changes were voted in at the League AGM 2023.

If you are unsure about any of the Rules please contact the League Secretary.

### **THE LEAGUE**

1. The League shall be called the Lancaster, Morecambe and District Badminton League, hereafter called The League, and shall comprise such Divisions and be restricted in number of teams as shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting. The League shall be governed by a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and other League Officials as nominated from each Club together with a nominated representative of the Junior League. The Committee is also to administer the Cup Competitions and may co-opt members as required. The Tournament shall be run by a Tournament Committee and shall be chaired by the Vice-Chairman of the League, plus a Tournament Secretary and co-opted Representatives of each club.
2. Social Media - The League has two official social media accounts, with the aims of sharing important league information and encouraging new players to join. These are: Lancaster, Morecambe and District Badminton League (Facebook page) and @lancasterbadminton (Instagram).
3. The Annual General Meeting shall take place in June/July of each year and Clubs shall be given 21 days notice of the same. The Treasurer shall submit a statement of accounts and Officers shall be elected at the Meeting.
4. One vote per team is allowed for each club at the AGM.
5. Applications to join or withdraw from the League, and also any proposal for implementation at the AGM, must be in the hands of the League Secretary by May 1st. At the discretion of the Committee, a new team deemed of a sufficiently high standard may be placed in a Division higher than the lowest Division. The request must be submitted by 1st May and the club must provide a list of players' names so that a decision can be made by the Registrations Sub-Committee (RSC).
6. Any Club failing to send a representative to the AGM without prior approval from the League may be disbarred from playing in the League during the coming season, and may have to apply for re-election.
7. Each team shall pay a League Fee as decided annually. Such fee to be paid at or before the AGM, this fee will include entry into the Riley and Hayhurst Cup Competitions. Any club entering a new team will not pay any league fees for that team, in the first year.
8. All Clubs must be affiliated to Badminton England.
9. The decision of the League Committee on any question or dispute or on any interpretation of the Rules shall be final and binding.

10. League fixtures will be managed by the League Secretary and a co-opted independent person.

## **GENERAL**

1. Fair Play Rule - All Clubs and players entering the Lancaster, Morecambe and District Badminton League agree to comply with the fair play rule. Players at all levels must be able to participate in badminton which is free from drugs, violence, discrimination, technical manipulation, cheating and any form of exploitation which is an attempt to win or manipulate the outcome of a match for the benefit of themselves or others.

The rule is to ensure fair competition for all players, honesty, friendship, team spirit, equality and respect written and unwritten rules such as integrity, tolerance, care, excellence and joy. If this rule has been broken by an individual or a club, the penalty which is deemed fair by the League Committee will be imposed.

If there are any doubts about a situation, please ask the League Committee.

2. Fair Play Committee - The Fair Play Committee was created to adjudicate any complaints that arise as a breach of the Fair Play Rule.

The Fair Play Committee:

- \* Is to be made up of a representative from each club, either the Club Secretary or a nominated representative from the club.
- \* A chair will be nominated and this person will run the committee.
- \* If any team feels its opposition has breached the fair play rule, it can submit its case/evidence in writing as soon as possible following the occurrence of the breach. However, allegations will be accepted up to 1 week after the last match of the season.
- \* The chair of the committee will then contact the team that has breached the rule with the information of the breach and ask for its response in writing within 5 days.
- \* Following receipt of both submissions, the chair will issue these to the named members from the remaining clubs on the committee via email. The chair will collate their responses. Any clarification questions can be raised by the chair. They must receive a majority response before the ruling - has there been a breach of the Fair Play Rule?
- \* If it is found that there has been a breach of the Fair Play Rule, the chair will refer the result back to the League Committee, who will apply a penalty in relation to the severity of the breach.
- \* If it is found that there has not been a breach of the Fair Play Rule this incident cannot be submitted again.
- \* The committee's decision is final
- \* There should be no need for meetings unless there is a complex breach.

\* Referral to the Fair Play Committee is only when no other Rule has been breached.

3. In-season registrations - Any in-season registrations are at the discretion of the Registrations Sub-Committee. Clubs must submit details of the player's standard and proposed position within the club. Players cannot be registered with 5 or fewer League matches remaining in Division 1. This does not affect the lower divisions.
4. a) The bottom team of Division 1 at the end of the season shall be relegated to Division 2 and the top team from Division 2 shall be promoted to take its place. In the event of teams finishing level on points, positions will be determined by the number of matches won. In the event of two teams still being tied, individual game points will be counted to determine placings.
4. b) The team that finishes 2nd to bottom in Division 1 and the 2nd from the top in Division 2 compete in a play-off. The winner plays in Division 1 the following year. The match takes place on the same night and venue as the Cup finals. The Division 2 team can choose not to take part in the play-off and concede the match. The team's Club Secretary is required to officially inform the League Secretary within 7 days of the league positions being confirmed.
4. c) Two teams at the bottom of Division 2 at the end of the season shall be relegated to Division 3 and the top two teams from that Division shall be promoted to take their place and so on down the remaining Divisions. The Committee reserves the right to lift teams in order to fill vacancies in higher Divisions.
5. a) All contact to the League Secretary and other League Committee members must come only from the Club Secretary. Communication which is deemed to be abusive or bullying will not be tolerated and appropriate penalties will be imposed by the Committee.
5. b) Any email or contact between League members must follow the required protocol, it must not be an abusive, aggressive or hostile manner or it will be deleted and not dealt with. The sender will be issued with a first written warning. If resent in a polite and factual manner it will be dealt with. Following any member being given two formal written warnings in the current season, there will be a penalty imposed.
6. Anywhere in the Rules where it mentions 'extenuating or exceptional circumstances': clubs are required to contact the League Secretary/RSC to discuss and gain agreement prior to the match. All are at the discretion of the League Committee.
7. New rules can only be introduced when they have been 'voted in' at the League AGM.
8. Score sheets and team starting can be made available on request from the League Secretary.
9. No tournament, other than private internal Club events, shall be organised without the knowledge and sanction of the League Committee.

## CLUB RULES

1. a) Clubs with more than one team must star only three ladies and three men for each team. All players must be starred for a team or as a 'club reserve' if they are not deemed strong enough to gain a regular team position in any of the club teams or as a 'League pool player'. The starring of players of recognised ability in a team below their recognised standard is not permitted. In case of doubt or dispute the League Committee will inform the club of the lowest Division/Team in which that player can play.
1. b) A list of any players who are deemed appropriate to play as a pool player is to be given to the League Secretary. Un-starred players in each club who do not have a regular team place may be registered as a League pool player. A pool player may only play for the lowest team of any Club in the league. The League Secretary is to be notified of the selection of a pool player prior to the fixture taking place and the score sheet must clearly indicate the pool player and the Club that he/she is registered with.
1. c) Players starred for a higher team are not allowed to play for a lower team.
1. d) Team players must play at least 50% of league matches (or pro rata for in-season registrations) in a season for their starred team. This does not include Cup matches or apply to a club's bottom team.
1. e) In the absence of player/s for any reason, Clubs with more than one team must draw on reserves from the lower teams chosen in the strongest ability order. The use of a player from a 'C' or 'D' team in order to protect the 'B' team is not permitted.
1. f) After 6 matches they are not eligible to play for the higher team unless starred to a higher team; Cup games played up do not count towards the '6' games allowed to play up. Referral to the Registrations Sub-Committee with details of the situation is required if the starring needs to be amended. There are no restrictions on pool players, unless as in Rule 2 in 'Eligibility of Players', they play more than 6 times for the club with which they are registered.
1. g) No penalty is placed on a player who misses matches, they retain their starring. Any starred player may be de-starred and then play for a lower team. Once a player is de-starred, the player is eligible to play for the higher team up to a maximum of 6/times, including the fixtures already played. Application to de-star and re-star must be made to the Registrations Sub-Committee in writing, and may not take place until formal approval is received by that Club.
1. h) No player shall be de-starred if the lower team has three or fewer matches remaining on its fixture programme.
1. i) The League Committee may investigate any case where it thinks that the starring rule is being abused.
2. All in-season players registered can be starred for any team in a club providing they are not stronger than any player in the teams above them.
3. Any club wishing to protest about the result of any match, or infringements of the Rules, must do so in writing within 3 days of the match taking place.

4. In the event of disciplinary action being taken, the Club or the player involved shall appear before a disciplinary sub-Committee to put their case. A Club or player shall have the right to appeal to the full Committee if they disagree with the decision of the sub-Committee. The disciplinary sub-Committee shall comprise of the League Chair, Vice-Chair, League Secretary and two invited Committee members.

When a problem or dispute arises between a Club and the League or any of its officials, a representative of that Club will be invited, with reasonable notice if possible, to attend a meeting that may be called to resolve the matter in question.

### **ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

1. a) All Club Members (competitive, senior, social player or junior) must hold an active Badminton England membership by the date required by Badminton England and be affiliated to Lancashire County Badminton Association (CBA) and the Lancaster, Morecambe and District Badminton League through the club they wish to represent. A visitor log must be maintained by each club, with visitors allowed to make 6 appearances at club social sessions before they, too, must be registered with both Badminton England and Lancashire CBA. Visitors who make a team appearance have to affiliate to both Bodies and Lancaster, Morecambe and District League prior to their first appearance.
1. b) All competitive players must be registered with Lancaster League. Requests to register a player must be made by email to the Registrations Sub-Committee at least 48 hours prior to any competitive play taking place. Only when a confirmatory email from the Secretary has been received is the player authorised to play. Please also see General Rules point 3.
1. c) Any player without the required Badminton England membership will be refused permission to play until correct affiliations are in place. If they do play, all games/points will be taken from that player retrospectively.
2. No player may play for more than one Club during the same season without the sanction of the League Committee. From the date of such sanction being given the player shall be ineligible for League or Cup badminton for 28 days. This does not apply to 'pool' players unless they have played more than 6 times for their own Club.

If any Club's lowest team cannot field a full team, a pool player must be requested to fulfil the fixture. Only if no pool players are available, clubs can request a loan player from another Clubs lowest team in Division 3. Home team players are not permitted to play for a lower team. This includes Cup matches for this season only. All requests for pool/loan players must be made via the Club Secretaries.

Teams in Division 2 can use players in the Division 3 pool/loan system if they are unable to replace an unavailable Division 2 team member with a player from that clubs lower team.

Process: Stage 1- Team asks players from their clubs lower teams to see if available to play.

Stage 2- If no lower team club member available then contact relevant Club Secretary for a POOL player.

Stage 3 - If there is no pool player availability, contact relevant Club Secretary for a LOAN players.

3. No player shall play for more than one team on a single night.

### **TEAMS**

1. a). Each team shall consist of three mixed couples and shall play Home and Away matches, such play shall be governed by the Rules of Badminton England.
2. (b) Each team shall appoint a Captain. Each Captain shall arrange the team as set out in Rule 1(d) and their names and rankings shall be handed to the opposing Captain before the start of play.
- (c) A match shall consist of 5 Mixed Doubles events, 2 Ladies' Doubles events and 2 Open events.
- (d) Each Captain shall arrange the team into 3 Mixed pairs, each composed of entirely different players. He/She shall then pair the lady from the First Mixed pair with the lady from the Third Mixed pair to make the First Ladies' Doubles pair. The lady from the second Mixed Pair shall be paired with the lady from the Third Mixed pair to make the Second Ladies' Doubles pair. The Open category shall be paired in a similar manner for the Open Doubles events.
- (e) The options open to the opposing players at the commencement of each event shall be decided by spin.
- (f) A match shall consist of nine Events, and played to the Rally Points Scoring System as adopted by Badminton England, each consisting of two sets of 21 points. Setting is permitted. The winner is the first pair to reach 21 points, but must win by 2 clear points, until at 29-all, the first to 30 points wins the set.
- (g) For matches played on a single court the order of play shall be as follows:

<b>Home Side</b>	<b>Away Side</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Ladies	1 <sup>st</sup> Ladies
1 <sup>st</sup> Open	1 <sup>st</sup> Open
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ladies	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ladies
2 <sup>nd</sup> Open	2 <sup>nd</sup> Open
1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed	1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed



2 <sup>nd</sup> Mixed	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mixed
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mixed	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mixed
1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mixed
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mixed	1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed

Where matches are played on 2 courts the order of play shall be as follows:

<b>Court 1</b>		<b>Court 2</b>	
<b>Home Side</b>	<b>Away Side</b>	<b>Home Side</b>	<b>Away Side</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Ladies	1 <sup>st</sup> Ladies	1 <sup>st</sup> Open	1 <sup>st</sup> Open
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ladies	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ladies	2 <sup>nd</sup> Open	2 <sup>nd</sup> Open
1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed	1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mixed	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mixed
On first available court		3 <sup>rd</sup> Mixed	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mixed
1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mixed	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mixed	1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed

- (h) The first game in the order of play shall commence at the time stated in the League Handbook for the Home team.

## FIXTURES

1. a) Following the published season fixtures, clubs have until the start of the season to request rearrangement, with agreement of the opposition. During the playing season matches may only be postponed/cancelled due to playing hall unavailability. If an away team does not turn up for a match, that team incurs the cost of the hall hire for the home team. If a team cannot submit a full team, the resulting missed games are forfeited by that team and awarded to the opponent. All rearranged matches have to be played and score sheets submitted by the date the last league match is played, otherwise the match is forfeited (0-0). The League Secretary is required to be notified of any changes to fixture dates.
- b) When a club fails to provide the requisite number of players for a match, the match will go ahead with the unplayed games being awarded to the opposition; 5 players being the lowest permitted number. The defaulting team shall provide a written explanation for its failure to provide a full team which has to be with the League Secretary within 7 days of the match. If there is no satisfactory reason, the Club shall be fined £15. The fine must be paid within 7 days of the Committee decision.

2. Clubs with two or more teams in the same Division must play both home and away fixtures before Christmas.
3. Substitutes are eligible to play all un-started games in any League or Cup Match, if agreed with the opposition.
4. The Home team shall provide shuttlecocks, and those shuttlecocks shall conform to the Laws of the Game. All matches shall be played with feather shuttlecocks. New shuttlecocks shall be made available for each game.
5. Each game can have a scorer if requested by any player. The scorer may intervene in the event of a dispute being unresolved and order that a 'let' be played. The League Committee shall have full power to appoint a neutral adjudicator should they consider it necessary.
6. The match result must be uploaded onto the BaddersWeb system and the score sheet sent to [lancscommittee@outlook.com](mailto:lancscommittee@outlook.com) within 2 days of the match by the Home team. The AWAY team must verify the result within 7 days.

### **RULES OF THE RILEY and HAYHURST CUP COMPETITIONS**

1. The Rules of the Lancaster, Morecambe & District Badminton League shall apply to Cup Matches, except as amended below.  
Cup fixtures **do not count** towards the number of games played up for the purposes of being starred for a higher team.
2. The Competitions shall be organised by the Secretaries of the Competitions and the League Committee.
3. In any case of dispute, the decision of the organisers shall be final.
4. The Riley Cup shall be open to teams from Division One and the top half of Division Two, and The Hayhurst Cup to teams playing in the bottom half of Division Two and Three.
5. Each team shall consist of the starred players eligible for that team.
6. The handicap for a team shall be based on the strengths of the players eligible to play for that team and the League results of that team. If a registered player other than a player eligible to play for that team or a lower team within the club is to play, the club must inform the Cup Secretary at least 48 hours before the match, to allow for any adjustment to the handicap. Failure to do this will incur all the games played by that player being lost 21-0. Handicaps may only be altered in exceptional circumstances and only by the organisers.
7. Each Round Robin match is to be decided on a points system. The winning team will be awarded 2 points and for a draw, 1 point to each team. In the event of a draw in the semi-final the match will be awarded to the away team.
8. The draw shall be published on the League Website each season.
9. The Secretary of the home team shall be responsible for arranging the fixture and the winning team shall be responsible for notifying the Cup Secretary of the result, using the League website, uploading it within 5 days.

10. All Cup matches are to be played in the week shown in the Handbook, unless by mutual consent of both clubs involved and with the approval of the organisers.
11. The away team shall provide and pay the cost of the shuttlecocks.
12. The Final shall be played over one match at a Venue to be decided by the League Committee, who shall be responsible for the costs involved.
13. In the event of a tie in the Final, the match shall be decided by a further game of 1<sup>st</sup> Mixed Doubles, or other matched Mixed Doubles as agreed by both sides prior to the commencement of the match. The Handicap of each team shall be divided by 18 to give a handicap for that game.
14. All Finals will be played with Feather Shuttlecocks which will be provided by the League.

#### League Clubs and Secretaries

Club	Secretary	Match Venue/Time
Ascension B. C.	Mr G Jackson Mobile: 07751 081556 Email: gordonj930@gmail.com	Carnforth High School Sports Hall, Kellett Road, Carnforth LA5 9LS.  A and C teams play the same night - Tuesday 7.30pm prompt. B team -Tuesday at 7.30pm prompt.
Bolton-le-Sands B. C.	Nick Haigh Mobile: 07538809099 Email: blsbadders@yahoo.com	A team - Lancaster University Sports Hall. Monday at 7pm prompt  Carnforth High School Sports Centre, Kellett Road, Carnforth, LA5 9LS.  B and E teams on Wednesdays at 7.30pm prompt. C and D team - Thursdays at 8pm prompt.
Brookhouse B. C.	Mrs G Knowles Tel: 01524 771598 Mobile: 07952753047 Email: glenysknowles@talktalk.net	Ripley St. Thomas Academy Sports Hall, Ashton Road, Lancaster, LA1 4RS.  All teams- Tuesday 7pm prompt.
Carnforth B.C.	Adrian Greenwood Mobile: 07817616611 Email: adrian.greenwood@hotmail.co.uk.	Carnforth High School School Sports Hall Kellett Road, Carnforth LA5 9LS  Tuesday 7.30pm prompt. (Same night as Ascension B).

Hest Bank B. C.	Sue Ward Tel: 01524 841703 Mobile: 07594757578 Email: <a href="mailto:sue12ward@gmail.com">sue12ward@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:sue.pasteis@gmail.com">sue.pasteis@gmail.com</a>	Carnforth High School Sports Centre, Kellet Road, Carnforth. LA5 9LS.  All Teams Monday 7.30pm prompt. 3 courts 7.30-9pm and 4 courts after that.
Ingleton B.C.**  <b>SINGLE COURT HALL</b>	Emma Cornthwaite Mobile: 07545541251 Email: <a href="mailto:e.cornthwaite@live.com">e.cornthwaite@live.com</a>	Ingleton Community Centre, LA6 3HG.  Wednesdays at 7 pm prompt.
Kirkby Lonsdale B. C.	Mike Whitaker Tel: 07741470236 Email: <a href="mailto:cathandweas@gmail.com">cathandweas@gmail.com</a>	Lunesdale Sports Hall, Kendal Road, Kirkby Lonsdale, LA6 2HJ.  All teams - Wednesday 7.30 pm prompt
Storeys B. C.	Duncan Carr Mobile: 07757714093 E mail: <a href="mailto:Storeysbadders@yahoo.com">Storeysbadders@yahoo.com</a> .	University of Cumbria Sports Hall, Wyresdale Road Lancaster, LA1 3JD.  All teams - Wednesday 7 pm prompt
Sunnyside B. C.	Gill Gardner Mobile: 07535017863 E mail: <a href="mailto:dennisonfarm@gmail.com">dennisonfarm@gmail.com</a>	Lancaster Boys Grammar School Sports Hall, East Road, Lancaster, LA1 3EF.  All teams - Thursday. 7.30pm.

**Fixtures for 2023/24 will be available on the Lancaster, Morecambe and District  
Badminton League website - [www.lancasterbadminton.com](http://www.lancasterbadminton.com)**

### **CUP COMPETITIONS – 2023/24.**

**Cup information will be uploaded onto the Lancaster, Morecambe and District  
Badminton League website - [www.lancasterbadminton.com](http://www.lancasterbadminton.com)**

Round 1: Week commencing 8/1/24  
Round 2: Week commencing 5/2/24  
Semi-finals. Week commencing 19/2/24  
Cup Final and play off finals: Friday 8th March 2024

### **ANNUAL TOURNAMENT 2024**

The End of Season Annual Tournament will start week commencing Monday 11th March  
2024.

### **END OF SEASON PRESENTATION AND DANCE**

The date for the event is Saturday 23rd March 2024. It will be arranged by Hest Bank  
Badminton Club. Tickets will be on sale around the time of the end of season tournament.