

BUCKS WINTER SINGLES RULES ("Winter Singles")

ENTRY REQUIREMENT

The competition shall be open to all Lawn Tennis Clubs in the County affiliated to the Bucks Lawn Tennis Association ("Bucks LTA") able to provide a minimum of two courts.

1. THE COMPETITION

The Winter Singles competition is in two events

(a) Ladies Singles of teams of up to 4 players

(b) Men's Singles of teams up to 4 players

CERTIFICATES

2. Certificates shall be awarded to the winners of all the Leagues.

EVENT FORMAT

3. The teams entered by the various clubs shall be placed in leagues, and shall play one match against each team in the same league.

4. An entrance fee will be payable in respect of each team entered, and shall be notified to clubs each season.

5. One point shall be awarded for each rubber won. The team with the highest number of points at the end of the season shall be the winner of the league. If two or more teams have equal points then the winner shall be determined by the numbers of matches played and then the number of matches won. If still equal the winner will be determined by the result of the match between the respective teams.

MATCH RULES

6. Each rubber shall comprise two singles and one doubles each of two normal tiebreak sets. In the event that after 2 sets, the score is 1 set all, then a professional tiebreak shall be played to decide the winner of the rubber. The match result in rubbers can only be 2-1 or 3-0.

PLAYING FORMAT

7. The players in each singles rubber shall be placed in order of their LTA rating. i.e. the player with the highest rating in one team shall play the player with the highest rating in the opposing team. The players who play in the singles do not have to play in the doubles.

8. Teams should be on court and ready to play at the agreed starting time and delays should be reported to the competition secretary. If a team or part thereof is delayed and the playing captains fail to come to an agreement, then if a team is incomplete 15 minutes later than the agreed start time, the opponents shall be entitled to 1 set and 6 games for each rubber delayed as a result and such rubbers shall commence at the second set. If a team is incomplete 30 minutes later than the start time then the opponents shall be entitled to a further set and 6 games for each rubber delayed as a result.

9. If a player sustains an injury and is then unable to continue the opposition shall be awarded the remaining games.

10. Whenever possible the courts used in the match should be of a similar surface. Where there is a choice of surface available the home captain has choice of surface. Should the chosen surface become unfit for play the match may be completed on another surface.

11. Visiting pairs should play their rubbers on the same court throughout.

12. The home team is responsible for providing 4 new balls per court for the match. Only LTA official balls shall be used.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.

13. A player is eligible to play for a club if he/she is a full playing member of that club. The Bucks LTA Council recommend that all players must have reached the age of 13 by the 31st December of the preceding year. No player may play for more than one club.

COMMUNICATION

14. The captain (team contact) of the home team is advised to make contact with the away team before the match day and agree a procedure in the event of possible bad weather.

UNPLAYED MATCHES

15. No penalties shall apply if a match is un-played.

16. If after a match is started, and with no result having been obtained, the match is abandoned, then the two teams may decide to replay the match at a later date or call the match un-played.

MATCH RESULTS

17. Match results shall be entered on the competition website by the winning team.

DISPUTES

18. Any dispute shall be referred to the sole arbitration of Bucks LTA whose decision shall be final and binding upon the club concerned in the dispute; any club wishing to make a complaint concerning a match must do so in writing to the competition secretary concerned as soon as possible.