

1. The name of the League shall be Scotland West Badminton League (SWBL)
2. The support for the league come from the Glasgow & North Strathclyde (G&NS), Lanarkshire Badminton Group(LBG) and West of Scotland Group(WoS).

3. Object

The overall agreement between the three groups is closely linked to the **BADMINTONscotland** Articles of Association, Group Affairs (35.1).

The objects of the Groups are to administer, develop, co-ordinate, regulate and promote the game of badminton within their own Group and to co-operate as appropriate with

BADMINTONscotland in promoting the game in Scotland by organising tournaments and competitions, support the development of Clubs in their respective Groups and facilitate the development of potential performance athletes up to the National Junior Squad.

Key objectives

- Provide opportunities for clubs to compete in structured, competitive leagues
- Provide development opportunities for players to compete and enjoy badminton
- Provide and support volunteers in development of the leagues
- Improve competition opportunities for players of all abilities
- Pathway for club growth and development.

4. General Rules

All matches shall be played in accordance with the current Laws of Badminton issued by the Badminton World Federation, unless otherwise stated. A match, a rubber and a set are all defined in Article 18 below.

The season is defined as from the 1st weekend in September until the last weekend in April.

A breach of any of the rules in this document may result in the offending team being subject to sanctions. The sanction will be decided on a case by case basis by the Committee.

5. Membership

- Any clubs situated within the three identified groups shall be entitled to become a member of the League.
- Any Club outside the three groups may apply for membership and must accept that all matches will be played at a central venue.

- Clubs entering teams into any event must be affiliated with **BadmintonScotland** for the current season and must pay the league fee for each team entered.
- Clubs may enter more than one team in each event (MD/WD).

6. The Committee/Volunteers

The day to day management and control of the League shall be vested in the Committee. The committee will have representation as follows:

- Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Competition organiser
- Match Night organiser
- Digital Communications
- Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Officer

7. League Entry

Clubs wishing to enter the league are requested to complete appropriate entry online and send to the league secretary no later than the closing date stated. The process will be outlined on the entry form and reviewed annually by the committee.

8. League Fees

The League fees for each season will be decided by the committee. The intention is that such fees will cover the running and delivery of the league and provide a working balance for the furtherance of the League's activities. The payment process will be outlined on the entry form and reviewed annually by the committee.

9. Clubs & Player Registration

Clubs with more than one team must nominate players for each team before the start of the season.

To represent a club, a player must be a full member of that club and must not have represented any other club in the SWBL that season. Clubs with two or more teams will register the names of the members who will play for the higher graded team(s) with the League Secretary prior to the first match of the season for any of that club's teams.

In keeping with the spirit of the competition clubs should only register players who are realistically likely to play in a majority of matches that season.

New players can be registered at any point throughout the season by contacting the league secretary 24hrs prior to a match.

Emergency registrations may be made by teams on two occasions throughout the season on the night of a match by registering with the session referee.

10. Junior Clubs & Registration

Children and Vulnerable Adults are welcome to play in any team. Junior clubs are also welcome to enter the league.

It is the responsibility of Clubs registered to the league to ensure that they have the appropriate policies & procedures in regard to Safeguarding, Wellbeing and the Protection of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults. This includes adults supervising to be members of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme with the PVG needing to be completed through your Club.

If you require further information please visit: Safeguarding & Wellbeing | Badminton Scotland | Play, Compete & Coach badminton in Scotland

11. Minimum Team Requirements

To take part in a match a team must field a minimum of 3 players. Match format where a team only has 3 players will follow a different structure to normal format to ensure all players get 2 matches on the night. (TBC)

All matches where the fourth player is missing shall be forfeited 2-0 to the opposition, scoring 21-0, 21-0.

12. Arranging Fixtures & Venue

Venue: Sir Craig Reddie Centre, Bogmoor Place, Glasgow, G51 4TQ
Days: Sunday Evenings (every 3rd weekend)
Times: Session 1 – 1800-2000
Session 2 – 2000-2200

Please make sure players arrive at least 15 minutes prior to session start time to start warming up and allow matches to start on time and avoid matches overrunning.

Any games that do not finish by the session end time will not be counted in the final result even if they have been started.

Fixtures will be automatically generated by the committee prior to the league commencing (approx. 1st week sept).

Clubs with more than 1 team shall nominate players for registered teams with the league secretary (or on platform) prior to the first match.

For clubs with more than one team in an event, players can play one match for the team above. This can be at any point, even if they have already played 3 matches for another team.

A Club shall be allowed to have more than one team in the same Division of the League, in such cases all players in the higher team must be nominated, thus not being eligible to play for the lower team. Players in the lower team will be allowed to play for the higher team. In addition, the matches between such teams shall be played before any other matches.

13. Awarding of Points

Teams will gain a league point for each rubber won in each match, thus it is possible for a match to end 3-3 (three all) and both teams will gain 3 league points. This ensures there are no dead rubbers in a match.

14. Changing a match date

A team wishing to change the date of a match must give intimation of such to the league secretary and opposing team at least five days prior to the date arranged. Requests for postponements will be granted at the discretion of the team receiving the request, with there being no obligation for these requests to be accepted. An additional 2 fixture dates will be added prior to the Dec/Jan break and at the end of the season (Mar/April) for the completion of un-played matches. In the event of a team being unable to play on the date originally fixed and being unable mutually to arrange an alternative date, the matter will be referred to the Committee for a decision.

15. Retirements

In the event of a player being unable, during a set, to continue playing, he or she and his/her partner must give their opponents a walkover in that set and any subsequent sets and rubbers the retired player was scheduled to play. Any uncompleted/walkover sets will be recorded as 21-0 on the scoresheet.

For example if a player in Team A is winning their first set of their first rubber 20 : 7 and then needs to retire, the first set is recorded on the scoresheet as 0 : 21 won by Team B and all subsequent sets in which the retired player would have played are recorded as 0 : 21 won by the opposition.

16. Recording of a result

Team captains should agree the scores for each rubber and record the scores of each match on the scoresheet and submit this to the session referee upon completion of the match.

The session referee will input scores into ****system used**** on the night or submit all scoresheets to League Secretary to update.

17. Format of the league

Prior to the start of the season, clubs will be invited to register for events taking place in current season (MD/WD in year 1).

Division composition in year 1 will be based on an assessment of current participation in active leagues (Glasgow Churches, West Of Scotland, Langside, or **BadmintonScotland** Group activities). This will be done by, and is at the discretion of, the Committee. Thus the number of divisions will also be decided at this point dependent upon the number of teams competing. In future years, division composition will be based on the previous years results.

Any new teams joining the league will ordinarily enter into the bottom division, however as described above, this will be at the discretion of the Committee. There must be at least 4 teams to have multiple divisions in each event.

18. Match Format

Before play commences in any set or rubber a shuttle shall be tossed into the air by any player; the side to which the shuttle “points” is deemed to be the winning side and has the choice to either serve or receive first or to choose which side of the court to begin on. The side that lost the initial shuttle toss can then make a choice on the remaining option. For example if the side that won the shuttle toss decide that they want to start the match from a particular side of the court then the other side will choose whether they want to serve or receive first.

A match, and thus each fixture, shall consist of two teams, comprising of 4 gents (MD) or 4 ladies (WD) contesting six rubbers. A rubber is defined as the best of 3 sets with no setting. A set is won by the first side to reach 21, so it is possible to win a set 21-20.

At the start of the match the teams will be entered on the scoresheet. Both teams should enter their teams ranked in order of merit (strongest player ranked #1, second strongest ranked #2 etc.). This order may not be changed for future matches

where an order has been established. The order of rubbers played will follow that on the scoresheet (Appendix I) wherever possible.

Players play with each other team member once, against the corresponding opposition players, as following:

- o Match 1 - Player 1 & Player 2 vs Player 1 & Player 2
- o Match 2 - Player 3 & Player 4 vs Player 3 & Player 4
- o Match 3 - Player 1 & Player 3 vs Player 1 & Player 3
- o Match 4 - Player 2 & Player 4 vs Player 2 & Player 4
- o Match 5 - Player 2 & Player 3 vs Player 2 & Player 3
- o Match 6 - Player 1 & Player 4 vs Player 1 & Player 4

It is acceptable to alter the order of play so long as this is agreed at the start of the match by the captains for both teams. Play must commence within 15 minutes of the arranged time for the match. Failure by a team to be on court(s) and ready to play within those 15 minutes shall result in that team forfeiting any unfinished sets 21-0 at the end of the match.

At the end of the match all of the scores and thus the final score and result shall be agreed by both team captains.

19. Final League Placings

The team, which at the end of the season, has accrued the most points, shall be declared the winner of the division. Should there be one or more team with the same number of points, tie shall be broken by (in order): rubbers won, games won, head to head. In a head to head scenario the teams' results against each other will be used to break the tie. If the head to head was a draw (3 rubbers each) the tie shall be broken by (in order): games won, points won.

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Example below of league positioning based on points per rubber scoring:

Standings of Division 1 - Division 1 - North

	Points	Played	Won	Draws	Lost	Rubbers	Games	Points
1 Warwickshire 2	33	4	3	0	1	33 - 11	69 - 34	2000 - 1804
2 Yorkshire 3	32	4	4	0	0	32 - 12	69 - 30	1965 - 1607
3 Ulster	27	4	4	0	0	27 - 17	61 - 42	1967 - 1798
4 Lanarkshire	21	4	1	0	3	21 - 23	47 - 52	1761 - 1767
5 Northumberland	21	4	2	0	2	21 - 23	45 - 52	1697 - 1788
6 Oxfordshire	19	4	2	0	2	19 - 25	47 - 53	1700 - 1843
7 Shropshire	13	4	0	0	4	13 - 31	33 - 67	1703 - 1947
8 Staffordshire	10	4	0	0	4	10 - 34	31 - 72	1773 - 2012

Teams in position 4 & 5 are tied on points won and rubbers won. Team in position 4 has won more games than team in position 5.

If a team withdraws from the Main League having played one or more matches, the Committee will decide on a suitable course of action.

If, in the opinion of the Committee, any match concession affects the winning of a Division or the relegation from a Division, the Committee will decide on a suitable course of action.

20. Promotion and Relegation

Ordinarily, the winners of each division will be promoted to the division above and the team finishing bottom of their division will be relegated to the division below. There may be circumstances, for example when the number of divisions changes from one season to the next or where a new team enters which would be inappropriate to enter into the bottom division, whereby the Committee will deem it fit to deviate from this norm.

21. Match Difficulties

Players are expected to play fairly and within the spirit of the game at all times. Any conflicts on court should, where possible, be dealt with at the time by the players involved or by their respective team captains. Any dispute or protest arising between teams or clubs shall be immediately referred to the Committee in writing. Concerns will be investigated and dealt with by the Committee. In dealing with some cases it

may be necessary for one representative from each club concerned in the dispute or protest to attend a meeting with the Committee in order to provide further information to the Committee thus allowing them to decide upon a course of action.

Any matches cancelled because of the unavailability of the hall, weather, or any other good cause, (which does not include unavailability of players) the responsibility for making fresh arrangements resting with the committee.

Where players' names are incomplete or do not match the names on their Club's registration list, their corresponding rubbers for that match will be lost.

22. Digital Communication

All information relating to the league can be found on the league web page [www. XXXXXX](#)

All match fixtures and results can be found on [**insert platform**](#)

23. Winding Up

If upon winding up, or dissolution of the League, there remains, after satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any properties or assets, they shall be divided equally between the GNS, LBG and WoS Group.