

SWINDON & DISTRICT BADMINTON ASSOCIATION
INTER-CLUB TEAM KNOCKOUT HANDICAP TOURNAMENT
W.H.BICKNELL TROPHY RULES

- 1). The competition is open to those clubs affiliated to the Swindon & District Badminton Association and will be a maximum of 32 teams.
- 2). The team will be composed of three men and three women. Matches to consist of three men's, ladies and mixed doubles rubbers. (see rule 14) **Clubs may enter more than one team.**
- 3). Clubs must register their players for each team, and rank them in order of strength for men's, ladies and mixed doubles.
- 4). A player may be registered for one team only during the competition.
- 5). Team pairing shall be ranked in order of strength so that the strongest pair plays each other. Pairings and rankings for the full match shall be exchanged simultaneously by both captains before the match commences and shall not be altered except with the consent of the opposing captain.
- 6). The tournament committee has the right to award games where teams are deemed to be ranked incorrectly, also to alter a teams handicap at any stage of the tournament.
- 7). The competition will be on a handicap non-seeded basis. Handicaps based on the strongest players registered for each team will be allocated by the tournament committee and will apply with normal adjustments in all games throughout the competition.
- 8). The closing date for entries and the entry fee are shown on the entry form.
- 9). Each team will receive a copy of the draw, which will serve as an acknowledgement of entry. The closing date for each round and the teams having home court advantage will be shown.
- 10). The team drawn at home for each round will be notified of their opponents and the address to contact.
- 11). Within THREE days of being notified, the team drawn at home must inform their opponents which day of the Bicknell Week the tie will be played. An away team is not absolved from responsibility if it fails to chase up an opponent if it has not heard anything from them within a reasonable time.
- 12). Where difficulty is experienced in arranging a match the Tournament referee should be notified immediately and certainly before the closing date for that round. If a match has not been played by the closing date and the Tournament has received no information from either teams both teams will be liable to disqualification. Otherwise the match will be awarded against the defaulting team.
- 13). The winning team must inform the Tournament Referee of the result within three days of the match being played.
- 14). Each match will consist of 9 rubbers consisting of 2 games to 21 points. There will be no extended play or setting. Play must be continuous in a rubber.

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- 15). In the event of a nine all draw the team with the lesser number of game points scored against them shall go through to the next round.
- 16). All matches are scheduled for 7pm unless a different starting time is specified in the S & D B A Handbook. If a team has no pair ready for play at the scheduled start time, it shall be liable to forfeit one game 21-0 and shall similarly be liable to forfeit a further game, if no pair is ready to play within 20 minutes of the start time. No pair shall be expected to play its three games in succession, without a break, unless agreed by both captains. All preparations necessary for play to commence shall be completed by the scheduled start time otherwise the home team will be liable to forfeit one game and similarly two games if play is still unable to commence within 20 minutes of the scheduled start time. Any claim under this rule must be clearly indicated on the match result sheet and signed by both captains.
- 17). It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that sufficient time is available for the match to be completed, if a team is obliged to vacate its premises before a match has been completed, the home team shall forfeit all outstanding games, unless the away game has contravened rule 15 in any way.
- 18). If mutually agreed each game may have a scorer.
- 19). The final will be played with feather shuttlecocks unless mutually agreed otherwise by both teams.
- 20). No extensions beyond the closing date for each round will be granted.
- 21). The decision of the tournament Committee on all matters will be final.