

IOM SRA Squash Leagues 2021/22

Jurisdiction

The IOMSRA Committee shall have absolute power to deal with any matter that may arise in connection with all competitions and which is not provided for in these rules. In particular the Committee may waive the application of any rule if it considers that exceptional circumstances warrant it. The decision of the Committee on any such matter or on the interpretation of any rule shall be final.

Rules of the Game

All matches will be played under the rules of World Squash Singles Rules 2020.

Eligibility

Only players who have paid full membership of the IOM SRA are eligible to play in leagues. IOM SRA membership fees are to be paid to the treasurer within 1 month of the start of the season. The fees are £35 for seniors and £20 for under 19's. If a Player joins the IOM SRA after Christmas this fee is reduced to £25 for seniors and £10 for under 19's. Any player who has outstanding debts with the IOMSRA from previous seasons will not be allowed to play in the 2021/22 leagues until the debt has been settled in full.

League Format

- The League is split into 3 Divisions, A, B & C. With A being for the higher ranked players and for C the lower.
- Each league tie shall be a best of 5 matches. The A Division shall play PAR to 11 and the B and C Divisions shall play PAR to 15.
- In the case of the A Division if the score is 10-10 then play continues until a player wins by 2 clear points. However, the score will be recorded as 11-10.
- Match Points Scoring -
 - Matches will be scored by adding the scores of the best 3 games for each player.
 - The match score for each player will then be added together to give a Total score for the Team.
 - Bonus points are then allocated to the team which wins the most matches in the tie to arrive at the Grand Total for the tie. In the A Division the bonus is 15 points. In the B and C Divisions it's 25 points.
- The League takes place over a 20 week season, starting in September through until May.
- The Autumn League takes place over 10 weeks prior to Christmas and the Winter League takes place over 10 weeks after Christmas.
- For Divisions A & B, each team will play at least twice against the other teams in their Division, with fixtures scheduled at the League Secretary's discretion.
- For Division C, if there are more than 5 teams in the Division the fixtures will be scheduled at the League Secretary's discretion.
- If at the end of the season, the same team has won both the Autumn and Winter Leagues, they shall be deemed the winner of the Division. If, however, different teams have won the Autumn and Winter Leagues, the two winning sides will play a Division Final to determine the overall winning team for the season. Each Division will have a winner at the end of the season.

Squad Nomination and Team Selection

- Teams must nominate a minimum of 5 players.

- Prior to the Autumn League and potentially prior to the Winter League, the nominated players will be assessed for eligibility and be ranked within the team based on their national ranking within the IOM SRA national ranking system (currently viewable on the Squash Levels web site). The Rankings on the 31st August will be used to determine eligibility and the nominations for the Autumn League and the Rankings on the 31st December will be used for the Winter League.
- Players are expected to register for a team in a division that reflects their ability and the IOM SRA national rankings will be used to determine a player's eligibility to play in any division.
 - If a player is ranked 25 or above they may only play in the "A" division.
 - If a player is ranked 50 or above they may only play in the "A" or "B" divisions.
- If a team is struggling to field a team and needs to add a player to their squad, they must contact the League Secretary and, in most circumstances, this will be permitted.
- The top 4 nominated players are deemed to be the core players, and these may not play in a lower division than the one they are nominated in. Players nominated 5 and lower may play down 1 division as long as their ranking allows them to do so as described above.
- At any point during the season the league secretary can amend the core players in a team under certain circumstances, such as:-
 - A player expresses a desire to play in a higher or lower division than his/her ranking dictate – this could be due to a variety of reasons such as the match night of the division or a friendship group.
 - A player joining a team who has a higher national ranking than one of the existing members of the core team.
 - A player initially having a national ranking higher or lower than he should due to injury/health or circumstances that may have affected his/her playing level.
- Once a player has been nominated for a team, he cannot play for another team in that Division until the start of the Winter League. A player may play for different teams in the same Division in the Autumn and Winter Leagues.

League Administration

- The IOM SRA administers the league through the League Master website.
- All team captains and vice captains will be issued with a League Master login, such that the home side can record the results of a league tie. All results and the status of the league can be viewed on League Master. Information relating to each team including contact details and player nominations can also be viewed on League Master.
- At the start of the season, teams are asked to submit applications to join the League. They are to give details of the team name, the names of the Team Captain and Vice-Captain along with contact email/telephone numbers, as well as which Division they would like to join. In event of over applications for a Division, the team will be allocated to a Division at the League Secretary's discretion.
- Ideally the A & B Divisions will consist of 5 teams and the balance of the teams will play in the C Division. However, in the case of Divisions being under or over-subscribed the League Secretary will determine the allocation of teams across the Divisions.
- Division A will play on Thursday nights, Division B on Monday nights and Division C primarily on Tuesday nights, but may if required, also play on Friday nights.

League Finance

- The annual cost of registering a team in the league is £80. This is to be paid to the IOM SRA Treasurer, within 1 month of the start of the season.
- The NSC invoices the IOM SRA for court costs on a quarterly basis. The IOM SRA treasurer will calculate the amount owed by each team and invoice the team captains accordingly. An estimated cost can be provided prior to the first match, but as a rule of thumb, if each player pays a match fee of £5 per game, this will cover the cost of the team registration and the courts for the year.

- A player that is not a member of the IOM SRA can guest for a team. A guest must pay a £5 'Guest' fee in addition to any team match fees. A player may only guest for a team on 2 occasions, as on the third occasion they must join the IOM SRA. It is the team captain's responsibility to collect the IOM SRA guest fee, and to pass this on to the IOM SRA treasurer.

Ball

- The double-yellow dot ball (very slow) is recommended for Divisions A & B unless court conditions are cold enough to warrant using a single-yellow dot ball (slow).
- The single-yellow dot ball (slow) is recommended for Division C, unless the ability of the players or court conditions are such to warrant a different ball.
- Any change of ball from the preferred ball must be agreed by both players, if both players fail to reach an agreement then the recommended ball should be used.

General League Rules

- Only nominated eligible players can play in a match.
- The home team must enter the result of a tie on League Master within 2 days of the tie having taken place.

Match Night Rules

- At least 3 of the team must be there at the start of the match, preferably the players playing at 5, 4 and 3. The 1 and 2 players may arrive 30 minutes later BUT it is best if the team captains contact each other prior to the match to arrange the order of play as there maybe some special requests regarding this.
- The position that a player plays within a team is determined by their national ranking on the night of the tie, as per the Squash Levels website. The highest ranked player must play at no. 1, the 2nd highest at no. 2, etc.
There are two exceptions to this rule -
 - If a captain feels that the ranking order is temporarily wrong due to an unusual result, players can play in a different order from the rankings, BUT ONLY if the opposing team captain agrees.
 - If a player does not have a national ranking, then the team captain should play him in a position that reflects his ability compared to the rest of the team.
- The Order of Play on Match nights is to be 5, 4, 3, 2 then 1.

League Sanctions

- In a situation where it has not been agreed between the two team captains beforehand that matches will be played out of ranking order and the next match in the sequence is ready to start and one of the players is absent, the team who's player is present is within its rights to claim a walkover for that match.
- In a situation where a player fails to arrive for his match without good reason, all matches from that position downward are voided in favour of the opposing side. Should the player have a genuine reason (at the league secretary's discretion should the two captains not be able to agree), then just the match that was not able to be played shall be scored 45-0 in favour of the player able to play.
- If a team is found to have played out of the National Ranking order without consent from the opposing team captain, the offending team will be given a final warning. Should a team transgress again during the course of the whole season, the tie where the 2nd offence (and any subsequent offending ties) shall be awarded 180-0 in the case of Division A and 250-0 in the case of Divisions B & C in favour of the opposing team.
- In a situation an illegible player is fielded, all matches from that position downward are voided in favour of the opposing side. Should the team transgress again during the course of the whole season, the tie where the 2nd offence (and any subsequent offending ties) shall be awarded 180-0 in the case of Division A and 250-0 in the case of Divisions B & C in favour of the opposing team.

- If the scores are not entered on League Master within 2 days by the home team, a forced match result of 180-0 for Division A and 250-0 for Divisions B & C will be applied in favour of away team.

League Etiquette

- The home team (the team first named on the fixture list) will provide the balls, marking sheets and pens for all matches.
- The home team is responsible for marking the matches and entering the scores on there League Master Website
- In the warm up do 'Share the Ball', limit yourself the 4 or 5 hits back to yourself before you hit it to your opponent.