

Teams Meeting for 2021/22 on 19/09/2021

1. League rule changes

Since COVID there has been a bit of an amalgamation of clubs with smaller teams disappearing, while the larger clubs have seen an increase in the number of beginners joining. In an attempt to make sure the league has enough teams to sustain a league, the following league rules were proposed and agreed upon

- Teams may play with 5 players if a team member has to pull out due to self isolation rules. The team shall play with a phantom server such that every 6 serves, they skip that server without suffering a penalty point.
- The transfer rules will be simplified such that any player can transfer from one team to another and back again once in a season. This just requires an email to the fixtures secretary no later than 48 hours after the match that the player makes a switch for.
- Within each of the 3 leagues, each club can elect up to two players that are eligible to play on two teams for that club without requiring a transfer. Allocation of those two players can be made on a "just in time" basis, being nominated by an email to the fixtures secretary no later than 48 hours after the match in which they play for the second team.
- The requirements on players having to wear shirts with unique numbers on shall be waived for the season. Players on a team should attempt to wear shirts that can be distinguished from each other, for example by colour.

2. Team Entries

- Men's League (7 teams): Winchester Eagles 1, Winchester Eagles 2, Roke Polonia, Roke Men, SVC Men, NFV 1, NFV 2 (both NFV teams to be confirmed on 21st Sept)
- Ladies League (4 teams): Winchester Ladies, Roke Ladies, SVC Ladies, NFV Girls (team to be confirmed on 21st Sept)
- Mixed League (7 teams): Winchester Eagles 1, Winchester Eagles 2, Roke Muppets, Gosport Jedi, SVC Mixed 1, SVC Mixed 2 (to be confirmed), A Roke/Winchester combined team (to be confirmed)

3. Competition Format

The men's and mixed leagues have 7 teams, so with teams playing twice and each having 6 fixtures, there are a total of 14 fixtures for each league

The ladies' league has 4 teams, so with teams playing four times and each having 6 fixtures, there are a total of 8 fixtures for the league

That gives a total of 36 fixtures across the whole season, starting on 8th October and finishing on 3rd June

4. Covid 19 protocols

With covid rules being relaxed somewhat, the following rules are being put in place for the leagues

- Each team should have a nominated person that can act as the covid officer for the night of each fixture
- Each team will have a “referee’s box” containing all of the equipment they need to referee
- Electric whistles will be used only
- The Sports Hall doors to the outside must be open for the evening except when any rain may cause a slippery surface
- The ball must be cleaned between each set
- There are no covid-related restrictions on the number of attendees
- Track and trace responsibilities are delegated to the individual clubs

4. AOB

- Teams should provide the dates they cannot attend
- Teams are encouraged to push attendance of the referee’s night

1. Fees

- £20/match/team
- New teams £40 for deposit

1. Matches

- 1.1 Each team will have their own dedicated match-box with the equipment for them to officiate with. You must not use any other team's equipment. The box will contain:
 - this protocol document
 - an attendance sheet for your team. This will be split into players, bench personnel and spectators. You **MUST** include the name and contact details (email or phone number) for every person from your club as this is needed for track-and-trace. Details **MUST** be legible.
 - The player list on the attendance sheet can be shown to the scorer when your team plays and then return it to your box (the scorer should not need to touch the team sheet).
 - two score sheets (one for the match you will officiate and one spare)
 - pens, only to be used by the scorer
 - electric whistles for each referee
 - a scoreboard to be used only for that match
 - a coin for deciding the server
- 1.2 The teams assigned to set up and take down the net must wipe down the posts using the cleaning equipment in their match-box after handling the posts.
- 1.3 In order to prevent the risk of teams touching the oppositions warm-up balls, teams **MUST NOT** share the net during warm-up. The warm-up will consist of:
 - 8 minutes general warm-up with each team using their side of the court
 - 3 minutes where one team practices hitting over the net and serving
 - 1 minute change over
 - 3 minutes where the other team practice hitting over the net and serving
- 1.4 Matches will now be played to 18 points in the first 2 sets (2 clear, capped at 20) and 15 points in the 3rd set (capped at 17).
- 1.5 Between every set, the ball should be cleaned (by an on-court player using the cleaning equipment from that team's match-box), and all on-court players should hand-sanitise.
- 1.6 The referee should check that all players' hands are dry before restarting play by asking the teams if they are ready.
- 1.7 If non-court players touch the ball (even spectators), the ball must be sanitised by an on-court player using the wipes in that team's match-box.
- 1.8 Post-match handshakes are no longer allowed and should be skipped.
- 1.9 If a player dives on the floor and leaves any sweat, a single participant will dry the area with a single towel. That participant will then hand-sanitize before any play continues.

2. Teams

- 2.1 Teams are limited to 10 individuals, including coaches. For each individual fixture, a team may negotiate with the other teams to use their allocation (i.e. TeamA can bring 11 if TeamB bring 9), but we must not have more than 30 individuals across the evening.
- 2.2 Spectators must remain socially distanced at all times; spectator groups should not exceed 6.
- 2.3 Each team must have a designated COVID19 officer at their matches. This person must be aware of these protocols and should remind all participants in their team of the protocols.
- 2.4 When not playing a match, attendees must wear a face mask.
- 2.5 Each team is responsible for cleaning it's own balls from the warm-up before and after the fixture.
- 2.6 Attendees must self-assess for symptoms (high temperature, persistent cough, loss of sense of taste or smell) before attending a club event, and will not attend if they have any symptoms.
- 2.7 Attendees must follow government guidance (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>) on travel to and from events.
- 2.8 Attendees must follow any venue guidance.
- 2.9 Attendees must not congregate in the reception at Woodlands. If you arrive early, you must wait outside or in your car.
- 2.10 Attendees must arrive dressed ready to play and avoid using changing rooms.
- 2.11 Attendees must obey government guidance on social distancing before, during and after fixtures. This includes during breaks of play such as substitutions and time-outs.
- 2.12 Personal possessions should be spaced out around the sports hall.
- 2.13 Sharing personal equipment is not permitted.
- 2.14 Congratulatory touches are not permitted.
- 2.15 Shouting is not permitted.
- 2.16 Attendees must bring their own hand sanitizer.
- 2.17 Attendees should avoid touching their face directly with their hands.
- 2.18 Every player on every team must have signed a form to say that they have read and understood the risk assessment, and that they will follow all of the COVID-19 protocols. Signed forms can be left in your team's match-box. For players under 18 years old, the form must also be signed by a guardian. The form should be signed before that player plays for that team. If a player has not signed the form by the time of that team's next fixtures then the team may be docked league points.

3. Association

- 3.1 SADVA will collect the boxes and restock on Monday evenings (72 hours after previous matches and >72 hours before next matches).
- 3.2 SADVA will make the risk assessment and protocols available to all member clubs (via email at the start of the season and on website).
- 3.3 A local lockdown (covering any participating team or the SADVA venue) will result in a suspended league with matches being rescheduled for after the lockdown where there is time left in the season.
- 3.4 If a team is unable to field a team due to players contracting COVID19 that team's matches will be rescheduled where possible. Where they cannot be rescheduled, that team forfeits those matches.

4. Officials

- 4.1 All officials must wear a face mask.
- 4.2 Each team must provide a first referee, a second referee, one scorer, 2 lines-people. Each individual MUST perform that duty for the whole match: teams are NOT allowed to change any official once the match has started.
- 4.4 Referees must not use blown whistles; they must use an electric whistle (provided in match-box).
- 4.5 Scorers
 - 4.5.1 Only the scorer should touch the scoresheet and pen.
 - 4.5.2 The scorer only needs to write down the player numbers. The team's attendance sheet should be shown by that team, copied by the scorer then taken back by the team.
 - 4.5.3 The scorers table should be as far back from the 2nd ref as possible.
 - 4.5.4 Line-up sheets will not be used. At start of set, players stand in correct place, the coach/captain tells scorer their positions and scorer writes them down. The 2nd ref checks that scorer has done this, and that the teams are happy.
- 4.6 At the end of the match, only the scorer needs to sign the scoresheet. The scoresheet should then be returned to your team's match-box.
 - Team captains should check that the winner and score is identified correctly, and ask for it to be corrected immediately if wrong.
- 4.7 Officials may sanction or expel a player who *deliberately* spits on the ground or at another player, coughs on another player or engages in any other conduct unnecessarily which may, in the official's reasonable opinion, increase the spread of transmission. Remember the sanction scale:
 - warning (single yellow): no point penalty
 - penalty (single red): team loose point and serve
 - expulsion (red + yellow together): player not allowed to play for remainder of that set.
 - disqualification (red + yellow apart): player is ejected from the match.Expelled/Disqualified players must be legally substituted. If this is not possible, that team forfeits the set (or match if disqualified)