



# **Masters Handbook 2021 – 2022**

## **MASTERS POLICY GROUP**

The 2020/21 Masters Policy Group consists of the following members:

Roy Carder	Chairman & Challenge Co-ordinator 07734 008006
Margaret Houlton	Championships Secretary 01962 869443
Sue Warnock	Masters' Development Officer 07584 5658962
Liz Austin	) National and International
Christine Crossley	) selection and seeding group
Peter Emptage	) McCoig, Nations
Suzanne Brewer	) Cup, Worlds and
Mark King	) Europeans organisers
Tim Moore	
Jon Hancock	Badminton England. Competition Manager 01908 268411

## **MASTERS COMPETITION KEY EVENTS**

Cumbria Silver	16/17 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
Kent Gold	29/31 <sup>st</sup> October 2021
Northumberland Silver	6/7 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Nationals</b>	<b>19/21<sup>st</sup> November 2021</b>
World Masters	<b>28<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>
<b>County Challenge</b>	<b>8/9th January 2022</b>
West of England Silver	22/23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2022
Lancs Silver	29/30 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Hampshire Silver	19/20th February 2022
<b>McCoig Trophy</b>	<b>4th March 2022</b>
Yorkshire Gold	4/6th March 20/22
<b>County Champs Playoffs</b>	<b>26/27th March 2022</b>
<b>All England Masters</b>	<b>1/3rd April 2022</b>
Guernsey Silver	17 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
<b>County Champs Finals</b>	<b>23/24th April 2022</b>
<b>Masters Annual Coordinators meeting</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>
<b>Essex</b>	<b>TBA</b>

# MASTERS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS DIVISIONS

## Over 40

North	Midlands: East	Midlands: West	S&E: South	S&E: East	South West
Cheshire Lancashire Yorkshire	Cambridgeshire 1 Lincolnshire Norfolk Suffolk	Oxfordshire Nottinghamshire Staffordshire Warwickshire Worcestershire	Hampshire Kent Middlesex Surrey Sussex	Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire 2 Essex Hertfordshire	Avon Devon Dorset Somerset Wiltshire

## Over 45

North	Midlands	S & E South	S&E: East	South West
Cheshire Cumbria Lancashire Yorkshire	Derbyshire Nottinghamshire Shropshire Warwickshire Worcestershire	Buckinghamshire Hampshire Middlesex Oxfordshire	Essex Kent Surrey Sussex	Devon Gloucestershire I.O.W Wiltshire

## Over 50

North	Midlands: East	Midlands: West	South S & E		South West
Cheshire Lancashire West of Scotland Yorkshire	Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Lincolnshire Suffolk	Leicestershire Oxfordshire Nottinghamshire Shropshire Warwickshire	Essex Hampshire Hertfordshire Kent Middlesex Surrey Sussex		Avon Cornwall Devon Wiltshire 1 Wiltshire 2

## Over 55

North	Midlands	S&E: South	S&E: East	South West
Cheshire Lancashire Yorkshire	Buckinghamshire Nottinghamshire Warwickshire Worcestershire	Kent Middlesex Surrey Sussex	Cambridgeshire Essex Hertfordshire Norfolk Suffolk	Devon Hampshire Somerset

## Over 60

North	Midlands	S&E: South	S&E: East	South West
Cheshire Lancashire Yorkshire	Leicestershire Lincolnshire Nottinghamshire Shropshire 1 Shropshire 2 Warwickshire Worcestershire	Buckinghamshire Middlesex Surrey Sussex	Essex Hertfordshire Kent Suffolk	Avon Devon Hampshire Wiltshire

### Over 65

North	Midlands	S & E South	S & E East	South West
Cheshire Lancashire 1 Lancashire 2 Yorkshire	Leicestershire Nottinghamshire Staffordshire Worcestershire 1 Worcestershire 2	Berkshire Buckinghamshire Surrey Sussex	Essex 1 Essex 2 Hertfordshire Kent Suffolk	Avon 1 Avon 2 Devon Dorset Hampshire Somerset Wiltshire

### Over 70

South West	South East	Midlands	North
Avon Cornwall Devon 1 Devon 2 Dorset Hampshire I.O.W Wiltshire	Kent 1 Kent 2 Surrey Sussex	Leicestershire Middlesex Northamptonshire Oxfordshire	Cheshire Lancashire 1 Lancashire 2 Yorkshire

### OVER 75

Dorset Kent Wiltshire

**MASTERS COUNTY CHALLENGE 2021/22 Divisions**

<b>040 Premier</b>	<b>045 Premier</b>	<b>050 Premier</b>	<b>055 Premier</b>	<b>060 Premier</b>	<b>065 Premier</b>
<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>
<b>Milton Keynes</b>	<b>Worcester</b>	<b>Milton Keynes</b>	<b>Milton Keynes</b>	<b>Worcester</b>	<b>Worcester</b>
Bedfordshire	Derbyshire	Cambridgeshire	Buckinghamshire	Cheshire	Avon
Devon	Essex	Essex	Cheshire	Essex	Cheshire
Dorset	Gloucestershire	Hampshire	Essex	Lancashire	Essex
Essex	Kent	Lancashire	Hampshire	Middlesex	Glasgow N
Glasgow N	Middlesex	Nottinghamshire	Lancashire	Surrey	Kent
Lancashire	Surrey 1	Surrey	Surrey 1	Worcestershire	Lancashire 1
Yorkshire	Yorkshire	W of Scotland	Yorkshire	Yorkshire	Surrey
<b>040 Div 1A</b>	<b>045 Div 1A</b>	<b>050 Div 1A</b>	<b>055 Div 1A</b>	<b>060 Div 1A</b>	<b>065 Div 1A</b>
<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>
<b>Worcester</b>	<b>Wolverhampton</b>	<b>Wolverhampton</b>	<b>Wolverhampton</b>	<b>Wolverhampton</b>	<b>Wolverhampton</b>
Cambridgeshire 1	Buckinghamshire	Cheshire	Cambridgeshire	Buckinghamshire	Lancashire 2
Cheshire	Cheshire	Lincolnshire	Notts 1	E .Scotland	Nottinghamshire
Derbyshire	Lancashire	Norfolk	Notts 2	Shropshire 1	Worcestershire 1
Lincolnshire	Nottinghamshire	Shropshire	Warwickshire	Shropshire 2	Worcestershire 2
Nottinghamshire	Shropshire	Warwickshire	Worcestershire		Yorkshire
Oxford	Worcester	Yorkshire			
Worcestershire					
			PLAY TWICE	PLAY TWICE	PLAY TWICE
<b>040 Div 1B</b>	<b>045 Div 1B</b>	<b>050 Div 1B</b>	<b>055 Div 1B</b>	<b>060 Div 1B</b>	<b>065 Div 1B</b>
<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Laying at</b>
<b>Eastleigh</b>	<b>Eastleigh</b>	<b>Eastleigh</b>	<b>Eastleigh</b>	<b>Bournemouth</b>	<b>Eastleigh</b>
Berkshire	Devon	Avon	Devon	Avon	Berkshire
Hampshire	Hampshire	Devon	Hertfordshire	Devon	Devon
Kent	I.O.W	Hertfordshire	Kent	Hampshire	Hampshire
Middlesex	Oxfordshire	Kent	Middlesex	Hertfordshire	Hertfordshire
Somerset	Surrey 2	Middlesex	Somerset	Kent	Somerset
Surrey	Sussex	Oxfordshire	Surrey 2	Suffolk	Sussex
Sussex	Wiltshire	Sussex	Sussex	Wiltshire	

<b>040 Div 2B</b>		<b>050 Div 2B</b>	<b>070 Premier</b>	<b>070 Div 1A</b>	<b>070 Div 1B</b>
<b>Playing at</b>		<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>	<b>Playing at</b>
<b>Bournemouth</b>		<b>Bournemouth</b>	<b>Worcester</b>	<b>Wolverhampton</b>	<b>Bournemouth</b>
Avon		Bedfordshire	Devon	Lancashire 2	Avon
Cambridgeshire 2		Cornwall	Hampshire	Leicestershire	Cornwall
Hertfordshire		Suffolk	Kent 1	Staffordshire	I.O.W
Suffolk		Wiltshire	Lancashire 1	Wiltshire	Kent 2
Wiltshire			Surrey		Middlesex
			Sussex 1		Sussex 2
			Yorkshire		
		PLAY TWICE		PLAY TWICE	

## MASTERS COUNTY CHALLENGE VENUES 2021/22

### Eastleigh

040 Div 1B	045 Div 1B	050 Div 1B	055 Div 1B	065 Div1B
Berkshire	Devon	Avon	Devon	Berkshire
Hampshire	Hampshire	Devon	Hertfordshire	Devon
Kent	I.O.W	Hertfordshire	Kent	Hampshire
Middlesex	Oxfordshire	Kent	Middlesex	Hertfordshire
Somerset	Surrey 2	Middlesex	Somerset	Somerset
Surrey	Sussex	Oxfordshire	Surrey 2	Sussex
Sussex 1	Wiltshire	Sussex	Sussex	

### Bournemouth

040 Div 2B	050 Div 2B	060 Div 1B	070 Div 1B	
Avon	Bedfordshire	Avon	Avon	
Cambridge 2	Cornwall	Devon	Cornwall	
Hertfordshire	Suffolk	Hampshire	I.O.W	
Suffolk	Wiltshire	Hertfordshire	Kent 2	
Sussex 2		Kent	Middlesex	
Wiltshire		Suffolk	Sussex 2	
		Sussex		
	PLAY TWICE			

### Milton Keynes

040 Premier	050 Premier	055 Premier		
Bedfordshire	Cambridgeshire	Buckinghamshire		
Devon	Essex	Cheshire		
Dorset	Hampshire	Essex		
Essex	Lancashire	Hampshire		
Glasgow N	Nottinghamshire	Lancashire		
Lancashire	Surrey	Surrey 1		
Yorkshire	W of Scotland	Yorkshire		

**Wolverhampton**

<b>045 Div 1A</b>	<b>050 Div 1A</b>	<b>055 Div 1A</b>	<b>060 Div1A</b>	<b>065 Div 1A</b>	<b>070 Div 1A</b>
Buckinghamshire	Cheshire	Cambridgeshire	Bucks	Lancashire 2	Lancashire 2
Cheshire	Lincolnshire	Notts 1	E of Scotland	Nottinghamshire	Leicestershire
Lancashire	Norfolk	Notts 2	Shropshire 1	Worcestershire 1	Staffordshire
Notts	Shropshire	Warwickshire	Shropshire 2	Worcestershire 2	Wiltshire
Shropshire	Warwickshire	Worcestershire		Yorkshire	
Worcestershire	Yorkshire				
		PLAY TWICE	PLAY TWICE	PLAY TWICE	PLAY TWICE

**Worcester**

<b>040 Div 1A</b>	<b>045 Premier</b>	<b>060 Premier</b>	<b>065 Premier</b>	<b>070 Premier</b>
Cambridgeshire 1	Derbyshire	Cheshire	Avon	Devon
Cheshire	Essex	Essex	Cheshire	Hampshire
Derbyshire	Gloucestershire	Lancashire	Essex	Kent 1
Lincolnshire	Kent	Middlesex	Glasgow N	Lancashire 1
Nottinghamshire	Middlesex	Surrey	Kent	Surrey
Oxfordshire	Surrey 1	Worcestershire	Lancashire 1	Sussex 1
Worcestershire	Yorkshire	Yorkshire	Surrey	Yorkshire





# Regulations for the Badminton England Masters County Championships 2021/22

## GENERAL

1. The competition shall be called the Masters County Championships. It will be competed for in accordance with the following regulations, or such other regulations as Badminton England, or the Masters Policy Group (hereinafter called the Committee) may from time to time determine, and the Laws of Badminton as adopted by the Badminton World Federation.
2. The Competition shall be open to every English county, if governed by a county association affiliated to Badminton England, the different Channel Islands and the Isle of Man if governed by an association recognised as a county association and affiliated to Badminton England, provided that the full affiliation fees are paid. Entries from associations affiliated to other National Associations may be accepted at the discretion of the Committee.
3. Entry forms will be circulated to counties in April and these must be returned to the Championship Secretary by the closing date stipulated on the entry form. Entry fees will be invoiced direct by Badminton England. Counties may enter more than one team in each age group. An additional fee shall be payable by those counties qualifying for the National finals.

## THE DIVISIONS AND FINALS

- 4a) The country will be divided into 4 regions where possible, in which a competition for age groups over 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 and 75 will take place (subject to sufficient entries being received). It may be necessary to split age groups within an area based on standard or geography, as determined by the Committee, taking in the views of the counties involved.
- b) Where there are two divisions by standard the team winning Division 1 will proceed to the National finals and the top team in Division 2 will be promoted to Division 1 and the bottom team in Division 1 will be relegated.
- c) Where regions have been split geographically the winning teams from each section will play off on a pre-determined date to qualify for the National finals.
- d) In the event of there being only 5 teams or less in any region, then normally they will play group matches at home and away, otherwise teams will compete on a home OR away basis, alternating if possible each year.
- e) To qualify for the finals, the region winning team will be the one with the highest number of points based on:

For the Over 40,45, 50,55, and 60 age groups there will be 3 points for a win, 2 points for a winning draw, 1 point for a losing draw and none for a defeat. In the Over 65 and 70's there will be 3 points for a win and none for a defeat. In the case of a walkover three points will be given to the non offending team and none to the defaulting team.

In the event of 2 or more teams having the same number of points, the winners will be decided on matches won to lost. If 2 counties are still tied the result of the tie between them or, where home and away fixtures are played, the combined results of the ties between them will decide.

Where a tie that has not been played affects the winner of a league this will be referred to the MPG to make a decision on the outcome of the final positions in the division.

f) Each year the age group winners will play off over a weekend for the National League title on a knock out basis. A draw will be made before the event with semi- finals on the Saturday, with the winners contesting the final on Sunday and losers competing for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place.

g) If there are only three regions in any age group then each team will play each other.

h) Unless there are time restrictions the same rules apply for the finals as for the area ties.

i) The Referee's decision on all matters is final.

## THE FIXTURES

5a) When making fixtures the home team must offer two dates to the away team. If during the season an away team is unable to field a full team and cancels the fixture every effort must be made to rearrange the fixture but the home side is not obliged to offer two further dates to their opponents.

If travelling distance is too great it is possible for the tie to be played at a mutually agreed venue with shared expenses. Where possible teams should complete half their ties prior to 31<sup>st</sup> December and all ties by 31<sup>st</sup> March each year, except where a play off is involved when ties must be completed at least a week before the play off date.

The dates, times and venues of all home fixtures shall be notified to the Masters Coordinator of each opposing county and the Championship Secretary by 31<sup>st</sup> August preceding the season of competition. This should be achieved by using the Confirmation of Home Fixtures Form supplied.

b) In an area with more than one team from an individual county (i.e. a county first and second team), these two teams **must** play each other before the 31<sup>st</sup> December. Failure to adhere to this requirement will lead to the tie(s) being considered as 'Not Played' and no points will be awarded to either team.

c) A tie should be played on at least two courts allowing 8 hours playing time per tie. For Over 65 & Over 70 ties 6 court hours should be allowed. For an Over 75 tie 4 court hours should be allowed.

d) When a tie is cancelled by the away team and the home team can demonstrate

that cancellation charges for hall hire will be incurred, then the away team may be asked to pay (or contribute towards) the cost. If a tie is cancelled because of bad weather then any costs should be shared by the two counties.

- e) The home team is responsible for all the tie expenses and should provide light refreshments.
- f) If a fixture is postponed or rearranged the home county must advise the Championships Secretary as soon as possible and if appropriate the new date and details if amended.
- g) Feather shuttlecocks must be used.

## ELIGIBILITY of PLAYERS

- 6a) All players must be eligible to play for their county under the current County Competition regulations (page16 - Appendix A).
  - (i) If a player is playing in the Masters County Challenge, that player must play for the same county if that county enters a team of the appropriate age group within the Masters County Championships. If such a team is not entered, the player may play for another county provided that the player is otherwise eligible.
  - (ii) No player shall play for more than one county in the Championships during the same season of competition
  - (iii) A player must be a member of Badminton England **and hold a current and valid Compete Membership**. Players not living in England and members of another association must be registered as a non-resident.
  - (iv) **Every player will be required to hold a Compete Membership to be eligible to represent their county within the Masters Championship. To assist counties every match can be played using one “wild card” to cover last minute non-compete players up to 31<sup>st</sup> December each year, AND from January 1st may have up to two “wild cards” for any match. The Challenge weekend will count as one “wild card”. A player may only have two wild cards in a season which may be two Championship matches or one Championship match and the Challenge weekend. If that player plays again without a compete licence their games will be voided.**
- b) Players must be over the age of 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 and 75 at the start of a tie, except any over 40 team may play up to two players aged over 38 at the start of a tie.
- c) **Nominations for squad members in all teams must be made before that county’s first tie or by 31st October, whichever is earlier.** Details of subsequent players added to a squad must also be advised as soon possible to the Championship Secretary before they compete.
- d) A player who has been nominated for a particular team may play as a reserve for other teams on three occasions in total. An ‘occasion’ means a Championship tie; or a play-off; or the semi-final/final weekend (ie. the semi-final and final is only considered as a single occasion). However a player may not play as a reserve in other teams if there are sufficient available nominated players in the team in question.

If a player is found to have exceeded the three reserve appearances, then the scores in the first three ties will stand but the scores in any subsequent reserve appearances will be conceded to the opponents. The player will be allowed to play

for the team for which /she was originally nominated in any remaining ties. Players will be allowed to play for two teams on the same day providing they qualify age wise, and are not exceeding three reserve appearances and that it does not cause undue delay. A player nominated in a lower age group may play as often as they like in the Over 75's without effecting reserve appearances.

- e) Where counties have 2 teams or more in an age group, at least 4 men and 4 women must be nominated prior to the start of that county's fixtures as first team players, except in the over 65 and over 70 age group, for which at least 3 men and 3 women must be nominated. Nominations must be sent to the Championships Secretary 10 days before that County's first match in that age group. Nominated first team players will be allowed to play for the second team once only, and no more than one man and one woman from the first team may play in any single second team tie.

Second team players may play for the first team on two occasions but if they should play a third time they will be deemed to be part of the first team and cannot play for the second team again.

- f) To qualify to play in the finals a player must have competed in at least two league ties or one tie and a play off. In those age groups and areas where a team plays only four ties or less a player must have competed in at least one league tie or a play off to qualify to play in the finals.
- g) If a team is withdrawn after the competition has begun all fixtures played by that team shall be discounted.

## THE TEAM

7. A team should consist of a minimum of 4 men and 4 women and with a maximum of 6 men and 6 women. An over 65 or over 70 team should consist of a minimum of 3 men and 3 women and with a maximum of 5 men and 5 women. An over 75 team should consist of 2 men and 2 ladies with a maximum of 3 men and 3 ladies.

## THE TIE

- 8a) (i) Over 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 age groups  
A tie will consist of 12 matches. Each team shall provide 2 men's doubles pairs, 2 women's doubles pairs and 4 mixed doubles pairs. In the men's and women's doubles events each pair of a team will play each of the opposing 2 pairs. In the mixed doubles each pair will only play their opposite number and they must play in strength order.
- (ii) Over 65 & 70 age groups  
A tie will consist of 9 matches. Each team shall provide 3 men's doubles pairs (each man shall play twice), 3 women's doubles pairs (each woman shall play twice) and 3 mixed doubles pairs. All pairs must play in strength order, i.e. Man 1 & 2, 1 & 3, 2 & 3, Lady 1 & 2, 1 & 3, 2 & 3 followed by the Mixed again in order of strength of the pairs
- (i) Over 75 age group  
A tie will consist of 6 matches. There will be men's and ladies doubles followed by 1v 1 mixed, 2 v 2 mixed and reverse. Mixed pairs must be in order of strength.
- b) Completed team sheets should be exchanged before commencement of the tie. A copy must also be given to the Referee or organiser, when requested to do so. Ineligible players must be declared before the tie starts. If a team is fielding an ineligible player(s) in order to give opponents their full quota of matches they must be considered as the weakest player(s) where matches are to be played in order of strength.

- c) Each match will be the best of three games of 21 points except that if the score reaches 20- all the winner is the pair with 2 clear points or whose score reaches 30 first. This is known as the Rally Point Scoring System as under the revised Laws of Badminton as introduced by the BWF in May 2006.

*Note: there shall be NO intervals when a side reaches 11 points in a game, NOR be between the first and second or second and third games.*

- d) In the event of an injury, illness or emergency in the first round of men's or women's doubles a substitute (if available) may play in the second round. An injury, illness or emergency substitution can be made for the mixed doubles providing it is done before that mixed match has commenced (i.e. once the first service has started).

In the event of an injury, illness or emergency in the level doubles and no reserve is available to play in the mixed, the mixed doubles matches will be played in the same order as decided at the outset of the tie with no changes allowed in the pairings. The mixed match in which the injured player was due to play will be conceded to their opponents 21-0, 21-0.

If an injury, illness or emergency prevents a match being completed any points or games won by the defaulting pair shall stand with their opponents being awarded the necessary points and games to win the match.

A substitution can be made using a player who has played for another team on the same day provided they qualify age wise, are not exceeding three reserve appearances and that it does not cause undue delay. It should be borne in mind that even if the substitute plays only a mixed match it will count as a reserve appearance.

Any substitution must not cause undue delay.

- e) The winner will be decided on the higher number of matches won. Should the tie finish level on matches, a winning draw will be awarded to the team winning the most games; if equal then the most points and if still equal the result of the 1st mixed (see regulation 4e regarding the points awarded for draws). In the Over 65 and Over 70 age group the winner of a tie will be the team winning the most matches.
- f) Full results shall be submitted online within 7 days by the TEAM PLAYING AT HOME. A county failing to comply shall be fined £25 on each occasion. On the first occasion the home county do not submit the result within 7 days they will receive a written warning allowing a further 7 days before the fine is imposed. The away county shall have a further 7 days to confirm the result. If this is not done then it will be assumed to be correct and the Championship Secretary will confirm the result 14 days after the match.  
Any dispute must be raised with the Championship Secretary within 14 days of the match.

## **COMMITTEE POWERS**

- 9 The Masters Policy Group shall have full powers to decide on matters not covered in the foregoing regulations and shall rule in the event of any disputes.



# Regulations for the Badminton England Masters County Challenge 2021/22

## GENERAL

- 1 The competitions shall be called the Masters County Challenge. They shall be competed annually in accordance with the following regulations, or such other regulations as Badminton England, or the Masters Policy Group (hereinafter called the Committee) may from time to time determine, and the Laws of Badminton as adopted by the International Badminton Federation.
- 2 The Challenge shall be open to every English county, if governed by a county association affiliated to Badminton England, the different Channel Islands and the Isle of Man if governed by an association recognised as a county association and affiliated to Badminton England, provided that the full affiliation fees are paid. Entries from associations affiliated to other National Associations may be accepted at the discretion of the Committee.
- 3 Separate challenge teams shall be run for Over 40s, Over 45s, Over 50s, Over 55s, Over 60s, Over 65s, and Over 70's.
- 4 Entry forms will be circulated to counties in April and these must be returned to the Challenge or Championship Secretary by the stipulated closing date. Counties may enter more than one team in each age group. Entry fees will be invoiced directly by Badminton England.
- 5 The Challenge will be held over the second Saturday/Sunday in January annually at various venues, to be arranged by the Challenge Organiser. Feather shuttlecocks will be used.

## DIVISIONS

- 6 Teams will be placed in strength order as determined by the Committee, with a Premier Division, followed by Divisions 1A and 1B based on strength and geographical location and then 2A and 2B likewise. This is subject to entries received by Badminton England.
- 7 At the end of the season, the two lowest teams from each age group in the Premier Division will be relegated to Division 1. The top team from 1A and from 1B in each age group will be promoted to the Premier Division. The lowest team in each age group from Division 1A and from 1B will be relegated to Division 2 provided there is a relevant age group. The top team from 2A and from 2B in each group will be promoted to Division 1. However there may be circumstances which need to be considered in respect of promotion and relegation. The Committee's decisions on these circumstances will be final.

## ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 8 All players must be eligible to play for their county under the current County Competition regulation (page 16, Appendix A).

If a player is playing in the Masters County Championships, that player must play for the same county if that county enters a team of the appropriate age group within Masters County Challenge. If such a team is not entered the player may play for another county provided he/she is eligible.

- (a) A player must possess a Compete membership with Badminton England through either Club or Direct membership. Players not living in England and members of another association must be registered as a non-resident.
- (b) Every player will be required to hold a Compete Membership to be eligible to represent their county within the Masters' Challenge. To assist counties every team can use up to two "wild cards" for the whole weekend to cover last minute non-compete players. A player may only have two wild cards in a season which may be two Championship matches or one Championship match and the Challenge weekend. If that player plays again without a compete licence their games will be voided.
- 9 Players must have reached, or be over, the appropriate age category on the day they are due to play. As a concession a team Over 40 may use up to two players who are Over 38 at the time of the first event.

## TERMINOLOGY

- 10 Tie – competition between one county and another.  
Event – a Women's Doubles, a Men's Doubles or a Mixed Doubles.  
Match – an event consisting of the best of three games of 21 points, except that if the score reaches 20-all, the winner is the pair with 2 clear points or whose score reaches 30 first.  
*Note: there shall be NO intervals when a side reaches 11 points in a game, NOR between the first and second games, and the second and third games.*

## TEAMS

- 11 Each squad, except the Over 65s, Over 70s and Over 75's should consist of not less than 4 women and 4 men and not more than 6 women and 6 men. Over 65s and Over 70s squads should consist of not less than 3 women and 3 men and not more than 5 women and 5 men. Before the competition starts each team must submit the names of all its squad members to the Referee, or if one is not appointed, the appropriate Organising Committee.

Provided it does not contravene the maximum number of nominations for a squad and that they are eligible for the age groups, a player may be nominated in more than one age group. The player(s) would have to be included on both team sheets and once he/she has played he/she is committed to that team for the whole weekend.

Teams may be changed for each tie within the parameters of the squad that has been nominated, as set out above.

No player may play in more than one event in any one tie.

No substitution shall be permitted in a match at any stage once play in that match has commenced (i.e. once the first service has started).

If a team is unable to field a full team in a tie they must try and arrange for an ineligible player to play (either a player who has not reached the qualifying age, a player playing in more than one event in that tie, or a player from another county team). They must inform the referee 30 minutes before the tie which event they will be forfeiting and at that time whether they are able to field an ineligible player or not. The referee will notify the opposition who shall be allowed to rightfully alter their pairings before the tie starts and the 2 games of the forfeited event will be awarded to them 21-0, 21-0. The ineligible player would not be able to play the 1<sup>st</sup> mixed doubles where pairs must play in order of strength. Failure of a team to declare an ineligible player would mean a 4-0 or 3-0 defeat depending on the age group.

## **FORMAT OF A TIE**

- 12 The competition will be played as ties between the county teams with each team playing each of the other teams in the group.

In the Over 40s, 45s, 50s, 55s and 60s age groups a tie shall consist of four events:

A Women's Doubles, a Men's Doubles, a 1<sup>st</sup> Mixed Doubles and a 2nd Mixed Doubles. The Mixed pairs must be ranked in order of strength.

In the Over 65s and Over 70s a tie shall consist of three events: A

Women's Doubles, a Men's Doubles and a Mixed Doubles.

- 13 The order of play shall be as above, unless otherwise agreed by the Referee, or if one is not appointed, the Organising Committee.

Pairs shall play at such time and on such court as may be specified by the Referee, or if one is not appointed, the appropriate Organising Committee.

- 14 Before commencement of each tie, teams will exchange team sheets giving the eight names (or six for Over 65s and Over 70s and 4 for Over 75;s) and their pairings to play that tie with the mixed doubles pairs, where appropriate, ranked in order of strength.
- 15 If a match shall not be completed the existing score (if any) of the defaulting pair shall stand and their opponents shall be credited with the number of points and games required to win as appropriate.
- 16 The decision of a tie shall be determined by the number of matches won. In the event of both teams being unable to field a pair for a match it will be deemed "not played" and neither team will be awarded the match or part thereof. Teams will be awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss. For the O65's and Over 70s team 2 points for a win and 0 points for a loss.



## **GROUP POSITIONS**

- 17 The position of each team in each age group shall be determined as follows:
- (a) the number of points awarded.
  - (b) if two teams are equal, the winner of the tie between them. If drawn, then count back from that tie of games won to lost and if still equal then count back from that tie on points won to lost and if still equal then the result of the first mixed.
  - (c) If three or more teams are equal then the team(s) with the most wins. If there are two teams left with the same number of wins then 17b applies.
  - (d) if two teams are still equal the winner of the tie between them as in (b).
  - (e) if three or more teams are still equal the team from among them for whom, overall, matches won minus matches lost is greatest.
  - (f) if two teams are still equal the winner of the tie between them as in 17b applies.
  - (g) if three or more teams are still equal the team from among them for whom, overall, games won minus games lost is greatest.
  - (h) if two teams are still equal the winner of the tie between them as in 17b applies.
  - (i) If three or more teams are still equal the team from among them for whom overall points won minus points lost is greatest.
  - (j) If two teams are still equal the winner of the tie between them as in 17b applies.

## **TROPHIES**

- 18 A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the champion county in each age group of the Premier Division. The trophies will remain the property of Badminton England, which shall be responsible for insurance, but the holders shall be responsible for their care and maintenance.

## **GENERAL**

- 19 Badminton England's current Tournament Regulations shall apply.
- 20 The Masters Policy Group shall have full powers to decide on matters not covered in the foregoing regulations and shall rule in the event of any disputes.

# The Badminton England Masters County Championships 2020/21

## COORDINATORS CONTACT DETAILS

### AVON

Bob Hammersley 3 Cooper's 01249 782079 (H) bob.hammersley@hammersley.co.uk  
(Co-ordinator + Meadow Yatton 07974 183582 (M)  
Masters Keynell  
Development Chippenham  
Officer) Wiltshire SN14  
7PZ

Joanna Elson 14 Belvedere 01179 733391 (H) c.j.elson@bris.ac.uk  
(Fixtures Road Redland 07807 542432 (M)  
Secretary) Bristol  
BS6 7JQ

### BEDFORDSHIRE

Matt Molyneux 52a High Road 01462 711638 (H) molyneux71@btinternet.com  
Shillington  
Hitchin  
SG5 3LL 07770 588253

### BERKSHIRE

Derek Penn 4 Barclay Road 0118 961 4034 (H) derek.c.penn@ntlworld.com  
Calcot Reading  
Berkshire RG31  
7EL

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Mike Clarke 48 Moore End 01628 312521 (H) mikeclarke794@hotmail.com  
Maidenhead SL6 07836 246065 (M)  
2YJ

### CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Helen Taylor 25, High Street 01954 230997 (H) yes.helen@gmail.com  
Over Preferred number  
Cambridge 07825 740506(M)  
CB245NB

### CHESHIRE

Derek Neary 28 Manor Way 01512 914677 (H) d.neary@liv.ac.uk  
Woolton Liverpool 07981 121218 (M)  
L25 8QZ

### CORNWALL

Brian Hannibal Trelan, Rospeath 01736 740913 (H) brianhannibal@hotmail.co.uk  
(Co-ordinator + Ave. Crowlas 07770442800 (M)  
Development Penzance TR20  
Officer) 8DU

## CUMBRIA

Malcolm Grayson 39 Hunters Drive 01900 64118 (H) m.grayson58@outlook.com  
Seaton 07714 994 633 (M)  
Workington  
CA14 1QJ

Nicola Highmore 07823 325 909 niclozluk@gmail.com  
(Fixtures)

## DERBYSHIRE

Simon Freeman 102,Bishop Hall 07795 284860 (M) Freebo1275@gmail.com  
Road,  
Ashby-de-la-  
Zouch  
LE65 2UR

## DEVON

Lorna See Woodrow Farm 07762 910012 Lorna.see@cloud.com  
(Co-ordinator) Ashreigney 01769 520998  
Chumleigh  
Devon  
EX18 7PN

Lynne Hunt 38,Baring Street 07766 431673 lynne.hunt1963@gmail.com  
(Challenge) Plymouth  
PL4 8NG

## DORSET

Brian Lockie 6,Parkside Road, 01202 249110(H) brianlockie@hotmail.co.uk  
(co-ordinator) Poole 07824 904734(M)  
BH14 8PE

Roy Carder 17 Wessex Trade 01202 735944 (W) royccarder@gmail.com  
(Fixtures Centre Ringwood 07734 008006 (M)  
Secretary and Road Parkstone 01425 674898 (H)  
Dev. Officer) Poole  
Dorset BH12 3PF

## DURHAM

Jackie Hurst 34 Tarr Steps 01642 762759 (H) shuttlecock@sky.com  
Ingleby Barwick 07954 437648 (M)  
Stockton-on- Tees  
TS17 0NG

## EAST OF SCOTLAND

Ross Gladwin 60 Barntongate 07539 970548 Ross.gladwin02@gmail.com  
Drive  
Edinburgh EH4  
8BY

## ESSEX

Trevor Rogers 19,Lexden Rd, 01206 242067 (H) trev.deb@btinternet.com  
West Bergholt, 07966437614 M)  
Colchester  
C06 3BT

## GLASGOW

Ashley Sharp (Over 65's)	14 Glebelands Way Beith Ayrshire KA15 1AS	07789 095382 (M)	sharpashley@sky.com
Lynne Campbell (over 40's)	3/3, 21 Meadow side Quay Sq. Glasgow G11 6BT	07940 234453	lynne011@googlemail.com

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Liinda Pearcy	Whites Farm Shutter Lane Gotherington Cheltenham GL52 9EZ	01242 672202(H) 07791 330697(M)	alistairpearcy@hotmail.co.uk
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## HAMPSHIRE

Margaret Houlton (Joint Co-ordinator)	56 Teg Down Meads Winchester SO22 5ND	01962 869443 (H)	mhoulton@gmail.com
Linda Coombes (Joint Co-ordinator and fixtures)	35 Blackwater Grove, Alderholt Fordingbridge SP6 3AD	01425 657166	Linda_coombes@sky.com

## HERTFORDSHIRE

Steve Willis	2 Church Fields Sheering Nr Bishops Stortford Herts CM22 7FG	07887 514276 (M)	steve586@msn.com
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## ISLE OF WIGHT

Richard Gray (Fixtures 045))	37 Alvington Road Carisbrook Newport PO30 5AR	07970 836244 (M) 01983 822086	richardgray32@aol.com
Neil Cain (Co-ordinator) (Fixtures 070)	Beacon View, Broadway Totland IOW PO39 0BU	07958 205359(M)	Neil_cain_1@yahoo.co.uk

## KENT

Ian Brothers	46 Maidstone Road Rainham Gillingham Kent ME8 0DQ	01634 363083 (H) 07753 428681 (M)	ian.brothers@yahoo.co.uk
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## LANCASHIRE

Roger Taylor	15 Walton Close Heywood Lancashire OL10 2BN	07796 331244 (M)	rt2507@hotmail.com
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## LEICESTERSHIRE

Sue Mahmood	440.Welford Rd Leicester LE2 6EL	07879023281(M)	suemahmood@hotmail.co.uk
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## LINCOLNSHIRE

Peter Crawshaw 13 Cecil Street, Lincoln, 07977 887336 (M) petecrawshaw@hotmail.co.uk  
LN1 3AT 01522 422266 (H)

## MIDDLESEX

Lynn Davies (Co-ordinator) 125 Stevenage Rd Fulham London SW6 6PA 07801 705517 (M) lynnmdavies01@gmail.com

Parool Durbar (Fixtures) 114, Cavendish Ave Harrow Middx HA1 3RQ 07711 562722(M) parooldarbar@hotmail.com

Liane Irish (Dev Officer) 79 Elmgrove Rd Harrow, Middx 07949 405041 lianeirish@gmail.com

## NORFOLK

Sarah Farquhar Blackhorse Cottage. The Street Flordon. Norwich NR15 1RN 07740983275 01508 473016 sarah@dodifferent.co.uk

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Beryl Goodall 30 Newton Rd Geddington Kettering NN14 1AU 01536 743626 (H) 07879622074 (M) j.goodall490@btinternet.com

## NORTHUMBERLAND

Muriel Burgess Old Vicarage Hedgefield Ryton Tyne & Wear NE21 4NN 0191 4135599 (H) muriel.vicarage@hotmail.co.uk

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Gill Maloney (Joint Co-ordinator) 53 Springfield Drive Nottingham NG6 8WD 07905 458314(M) Gildmaloney@gmail.com

Alan Hunt (Joint Co-ordinator) 57, Burnside Drive Bramcote Nottingham NG9 3EF 0115 9223654

Jenny Abbott (Championships Secretary) 20, Winterbourne Drive, Stapleford Nottingham NG9 8NH 0115 9171536 jenny.colin.abbott@ntlworld.com

## OXFORDSHIRE

Paul Casey (Co-ordinator) 34 Meadow Close Farmoor Oxford OX2 9NZ 07711 407884 (M) 01865 865322 (H) pncasey@btinternet.com

Andi Padbury (O70 Co-ordinator) The Bears Mere Road Finmere Buckingham MK18 4AW 07720402552 (M) 01280 847196(H) andi.padbury@gmail.com

## SHROPSHIRE

Sue Warnock (Co-ordinator) 20 Reynolds Wharf Coalport Shropshire TF8 7HU 01952 581768 (H) 07584 568962 (M) sue.warnock1@btinternet.com

**SOMERSET**

Sarah-Jane Trask	61 Champion Way Wilstock Village Bridgwater TA5 2FB	07798727081	Sjt0901@hotmail.com
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**STAFFORDSHIRE**

Peter Blake	2 Goldthorn Ave Cannock Staffordshire WS11 6LF	01543 324653 (H) 07548 901163 (M)	peter07blake@yahoo.co.uk
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**SUFFOLK**

Sue McKinley	18 Tayberry Place Ipswich Suffolk IP3 9GP	01473 728262 (H) 07860 812605 (M) Use mobile please	sue.mckinley2410@gmail.com
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**SURREY**

Doug Green (Co-ordinator)	12 Orwell Rd Petersfield Hampshire GU31 4LQ	07792424844 (M0) 01730 300347 (H)	Dr.dou@outlook.com
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Brenda Creasey (Fixtures Secretary)	30 Anne Boleyn's Walk Cheam Surrey SM3 8DF	07932 615246 (M)	brenda.creasey@gmail.com
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**SUSSEX**

Sara Foster	18 Roman Rd Hove, Sussex	01273 443405 (w) 07555776484	<a href="mailto:scba.secretary@mail.com">scba.secretary@mail.com</a>
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**WARWICKSHIRE**

James Savin	Winton House Upper Quinton Stratford upon Avon CV37 8SX	0207 0423382(W) 01789 720500(H) 07970111363(M)	James.savin@proforce.co.uk
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**WEST OF SCOTLAND**

Gordon Milne (Co-ordinator)	20, Rodel Drive Polmont Stirlingshire FK2 0XL	07771773887(M)	wgordonmilne@gmail.com
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Dougie McBriar (Fixtures Secretary)	26 Stephen Crescent Garrowhill Glasgow G69 6JD	07474 969090 (M)	dr.doug@outlook.com
--	---	------------------	---------------------

## WILTSHIRE

Maureen Willcox Little Orchard, 01373832171 (H) mawillcox@aol.com  
 Court Lane, 07765954075 (M –  
 Corsley, emergency only due  
 Warminster, to poor reception at  
 BA12 7PA home)

## WORCESTERSHIRE

June Totney 35, Argyle 07773 013883 (M) junietot@googlemail.com  
 Close  
 Stourbridge  
 West Midlands  
 DY8 4XT

## YORKSHIRE

Ian Hunter Hawkley, 07896362819 (M) yorkshiremasterscoordinator@gmail.  
 Lancaster Lane 01257 462146(H) com  
 Parbold,Lancs  
 WN8 7AA

# The Badminton England Masters County Challenge Past Winners

	<b>O 40</b>	<b>O 45</b>	<b>O 50</b>	<b>O 55</b>	<b>Over 60</b>	<b>O 65</b>	<b>O 70</b>	<b>O 75</b>
2000	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	LANCS	NOTTS			
2001	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	KENT	CUMBRIA			
2002	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	KENT	CUMBRIA			
2003	DERBYS	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	YORKS			
2004	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	YORKS	CHESHIRE		
2005	LANCS	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	HANTS	NOTTS		
2006	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	STAFFS	KENT	CUMBRIA		
2007	ESSEX	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	NOTTS		
2008	LANCS	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	HANTS	YORK		
2009	GLOUCS	ESSEX	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	CUMBRIA		
2010	CHESHIRE	ESSEX	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	KENT		
2011	CHESHIRE	LANCS	SURREY	LANCS	YORKS	HANTS		
2012	ESSEX	LANCS	YORKS	SURREY	SURREY	KENT	DORSET	
2013	GLOUCS	ESSEX	YORKS	SURREY	SURREY	HANTS	DEVON	
2014	ESSEX	ESSEX	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	DEVON	
2015	YORKS	ESSEX	YORKS	YORKS	LANCS	KENT	WILTS	
2016	ESSEX	ESSEX	ESSEX	SURREY	ESSEX	YORKS	KENT	
2017	YORKS	ESSEX	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	KENT	
2018	YORKS	GLOUCS	YORKS	ESSEX	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	
2019	YORKS	GLOUCS	ESSEX	ESSEX	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	
2020	NO FINALS	DUE TO	CORONA	VIRUS				WILTS
2021	NO COMP	DUE TO	CORONA	VIRUS				

# The Badminton England Masters County Championships Past Winners

	Over 40	Over 45	Over 50	Over 55	Over 60	Over 65	Over 70
1986	LANCS	YORKS					
1987	LANCS	YORKS	ESSEX				
1988	LANCS	MIDDX	LANCS				
1989	DURHAM	YORKS	SURREY				
1990	KENT	KENT	ESSEX				
1991	LANCS	KENT	SURREY				
1992	LANCS	KENT	ESSEX				
1993	ESSEX	KENT	NOTTS	ESSEX			
1994	LANCS	LANCS	YORKS	SURREY			
1995	ESSEX	ESSEX	YORKS	ESSEX			
1996	ESSEX	LANCS	NOTTS	YORKS	MIDDX		
1997	ESSEX	LANCS	LANCS	CUMBRIA	HANTS		
1998	DURHAM	LANCS	NOTTS	LANCS	ESSEX		
1999	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	YORKS	CUMBRIA		
2000	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	SURREY	NOTTS		
2001	SURREY	LANCS	ESSEX	NOTTS	NOTTS		
2002	DEVON	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	CUMBRIA		
2003	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	YORKS	CUMBRIA	
2004	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	YORKS	CUMBRIA	
2005	HERTS	LANCS	LANCS	LANCS	LANCS	NOTTS	
2006	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	ESSEX	KENT	NOTTS	
2007	ESSEX	LANCS	SURREY	ESSEX	KENT	NOTTS	
2008	ESSEX	LANCS	SURREY	ESSEX	KENT	YORKS	
2009	HERTS	CHESH	SURREY	LANCS	LANCS	YORKS	
2010	HERTS	ESSEX	LANCS	LANCS	KENT	KENT	CUMBRIA
2011	GLOUCS	DERBYS	SURREY	LANCS	HANTS	HANTS	HANTS
2012	GLOUCS	HERTS	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	NOTTS
2013	CHESHIRE	HERTS	LANCS	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	DORSET
2014	LEICS	HERTS	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	DEVON
2015	ESSEX	W. SCOT	SURREY	SURREY	LANCS	KENT	HANTS
2016	ESSEX	HERTS	ESSEX	SURREY	SURREY	YORKS	KENT
2017	ESSEX	ESSEX	YORKS	SURREY	LANCS	YORKS	KENT
2018	YORKS	HERTS	LANCS	LANCS	SURREY	LANCS	KENT
2019	ESSEX	HANTS	YORKS	YORKS	LANCS	SURREY	KENT
2020	ESSEX	HERTS	ESSEX	ESSEX	SURREY	LANCS	KENT
2021	NO	COMPETITION	DUE	TO	CORONA	VIRUS	



