

General Regulations for Tournaments 2025

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The [Laws of Badminton](https://www.bwfbadminton.org) are available from the Badminton World Federation (www.bwfbadminton.org).

*All references to BWF Laws and Regulations are as of 1 January 2025. The alternative service laws shall be used in all tournaments unless otherwise stated in the terms and conditions of that tournament.

Regulation updates are highlighted in red.

BADMINTON England shall be referred to throughout as BE.

1. APPLICATION

- 1.1 The competition season shall be from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025.
- 1.2 With the exception of International Tournaments sanctioned by BWF/Badminton Europe, these regulations apply to all BE sanctioned tournaments, unless otherwise stated in the Tournaments Terms and Conditions. (This covers without exception the BE Circuits for Gold, Silver, Bronze and Tier 4 tournaments.)
- 1.3 Further guidance and regulations specific to technical officials can be found in the 'Technical Official Regulations for Tournaments' (TORT).
- 1.4 By organising, entering, playing badminton in/or participating in any way in a BE sanctioned tournament a person or entity agrees to be bound by and to comply with the following:
 - 1.4.1 The Regulations for Tournaments, Technical Officials Regulations for Tournaments and Codes of Conduct: Copy is available at <https://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/on-court/competition-regulations-and-faqs/>
 - 1.4.2 BE Rules and Regulations, including but not limited to Disciplinary Regulations, Safeguarding for Young People and Adults, Sports Integrity: Copy is available at <https://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/about-us/rules-and-regulations/>
 - 1.4.3 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policies, including but not limited to Equality Act 2010, Equality and Diversity Policy, Transgender Policy: Copy is available at <https://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/about-us/equality-diversity/>
 - 1.4.4 DATA PROTECTION By entering this tournament, you agree to the organisers holding your personal information in order to contact you about future badminton tournaments and other relevant badminton opportunities. It will not be shared with any third parties. If you do not want your personal information used beyond this tournament, please contact the tournament organiser listed on the prospectus.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 2.1 Players residing in England must have a valid membership that covers on court activity.
- 2.2 Non-resident members must be a valid member of another National Badminton Association, that is affiliated to the Badminton World Federation, and that provides appropriate insurance for that player to compete in the tournament. They may be required to sign-up for a free non-resident member account so that tournaments can be entered online.
- 2.3 All players may choose to upgrade their membership with the 'Compete' upgrade, which provides additional benefits and allows the player to enter as many BE Circuit tournaments for the duration of their membership with no additional tournament fees. Players without the 'Compete' upgrade will be required to pay an additional 'BE Competition Fee' for each tournament.

Join or upgrade your membership online at www.badmintonengland.co.uk

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 3.1 **Tournament Entry close date must not be later than two weeks before the first day of competition, unless approved by Badminton England and/or the Circuit Management Group.**
- 3.2 The seeds and acceptance lists should be published at least 10 days before the start day of the tournament, subject to 3.1.
- 3.3 The anticipated time of a player's first match should be notified to players at least 7 days before the start day of the tournament.
- 3.4 The draw should be published no less than 48 hours before the start of the tournament.

- 3.5 Entries must be made by the closing date and through the official entry process with payment. Any entry will otherwise be rejected, except at the discretion of the tournament committee concerned, **to accept an entry (provided that it is before the entry has closed).**
- 3.6 In doubles, both members of the doubles pair must complete their entry and payment to be considered.
- 3.7 Tournaments may offer a 'partner wanted' option in doubles. By entering partner wanted you accept that the tournament committee will pair you with another player at their discretion, and **by refusing a provided partner you will be subject to a £10 withdrawal fee for that event only.** The tournament committee cannot guarantee to find you a partner.
- 3.8 While every effort will be made to check all entries, it is ultimately the responsibility of the player to ensure that they comply with eligibility and entry regulations, and to ensure that all details are completed in full and correctly.
- 3.9 No player/pair shall enter or be entered in events of two competitions if the published dates of the events overlap unless otherwise agreed with the organisers of both tournaments (this includes domestic and international tournaments).
- 3.9.1 A player is deemed to have entered, for the purpose of this regulation, if the entry has been made and not withdrawn on the closing date. Any subsequent withdrawal by a player / pair accepted in a tournament will not allow them to enter in any other tournament with overlapping dates.
- 3.9.2 **Where an organiser is running two tournaments over a weekend, that a player can play in both, ranking points will be awarded to the player for both tournaments.**
- 3.9.3 Players in breach of this regulation will not be awarded ranking points for either tournament, and shall forfeit their entry fee.
- 3.10 Provided an event is not full the Tournament Committee, at its discretion, may accept late entries after the closing date. This must not otherwise result in the rejection of an entry in that event which was received before the closing date. The Tournament Committee may apply a late entry surcharge of £5 per player.
- 3.11 Tournament Organisers are not liable for any expenses incurred as a result of a tournament/event being cancelled or postponed due to circumstances outside of their control. Organisers can only use their best judgement in respect to the health and safety of all players/volunteers/staff at the tournament.

Note: All expenses are at the sole risk of the competitor, and we recommend all bookings are made so they can be cancelled at short notice.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF ENTRY

- 4.1 Acceptance of entry shall be pursuant to a player meeting the conditions of entry.
- 4.2 **Entry itself does not mean that a player has been accepted into the tournament.** Entry acceptance is only confirmed in writing by the organiser, generally by way of the acceptance letter with a players first match time.
- 4.3 The tournament committee reserves the right to restrict entries where an event(s) is oversubscribed. The order in which eligible entries are accepted shall be based on selection and seeding section '5. SEEDING & SELECTION'.
- 4.4 Surplus entries may be placed on a reserve list and will be invited to play should places become available. If the player is placed onto a reserve list and is not later promoted or declines to be promoted to the main draw they shall be provided a full refund of entry fee. If they accept and subsequently withdraw, they will be liable to the normal withdrawal fees.
- 4.5 The Organiser/Organising Committee may refuse an entry with permission of BE, provided it is made on reasonable grounds and is otherwise lawful.
- 4.6 If an event has less than 4 entries at the closing date players may have the opportunity to change their entry/withdraw within 48 hours of that date and receive a full refund. The player must contact the organisers in writing.

Note: No BE National Ranking points are available for fewer than 4 entries (a pair is one entry) at the point the draw is made, **with the exception of U11 circuit tournaments, where ranking points will be awarded for draws of 3 entries.** BE Masters Ranking points are awarded points for all draw sizes. This does not preclude an event running with less entries.

5. SEEDING & SELECTION

- 5.1 In doubles, after the closing date, players may only be paired up when the event is undersubscribed, in order to fulfil a vacancy in the draw.
- 5.2 The order in which eligible entries are accepted shall usually be based on merit, unless additional or alternative selection processes are published in the Tournament Terms and Conditions. The tournament committee reserve the right to use other criteria where standard of competitors is not known.
- 5.2.1 For BE Circuit Tournaments and Age Group English National Championships:
- Selection and Seeding shall firstly use the BE Player Grading List followed by the English National Ranking list (both at the closing date, unless stated in the tournament terms and conditions, and even if some results of completed tournaments have not been incorporated in these grading or rankings).
- 5.2.2 For doubles use the pairs average for both grade and rank.
- 5.2.3 If there are more players / pairs that have the same grade and rank than available places in the draw, the selection of entries shall be done by drawing lots.
- 5.2.4 The tournament committee will determine the position of players where they do not have both a grade and rank (for example, non-resident players who do not have a ranking).
- 5.2.5 Seeding and selection by grade and rank order to determine positions cannot be appealed. Seeding and selection positioning pursuant to 5.2.4 may be appealed within 72 hours of the seeds and selections being published.
- 5.2.6 Any exceptions to this shall be published in the Tournament Terms and Conditions.
- 5.2.7 Other BE processes include, but not limited to:
- Senior English National Championships shall seed using the English National Ranking list.
 - Senior Tier 4 may where advertised accept up to 50% of entries based on first received basis, but remainder must be accepted pursuant to regulation 5.2.1.
 - International tournaments may follow the prescribed selection and seeding processes of the relevant international body or tournament regulations.
- 5.3 Selection and seeding may be appealed if the published process has not been followed, pursuant to meeting other relevant regulations.
- 5.4 The decisions on seeding and selection appeals will be final and binding on all parties (including all relevant players) and no one will have the right to appeal against the process or otherwise challenge such decisions.
- 5.5 Seeds - the number of seeds for either KO or group format will be determined by size of the draw (for more entry sizes refer to Appendix A 'Byes & Seeding Positions in a Draw').

Entries	Seeds
3 - 11	2
12 - 23	4
24 - 47	8
48 - 64	16

6. THE DRAW

- 6.1 The order in which players/pairs will play one another will be determined by a draw.
- 6.2 The draw (including when Tournament Planner is used) will be conducted by the referee (or, in the absence of a referee an impartial person/committee). The referee or other persons making the draw cannot play in the tournament.
- 6.3 The draw should be published no less than 48 hours before the start of the tournament.

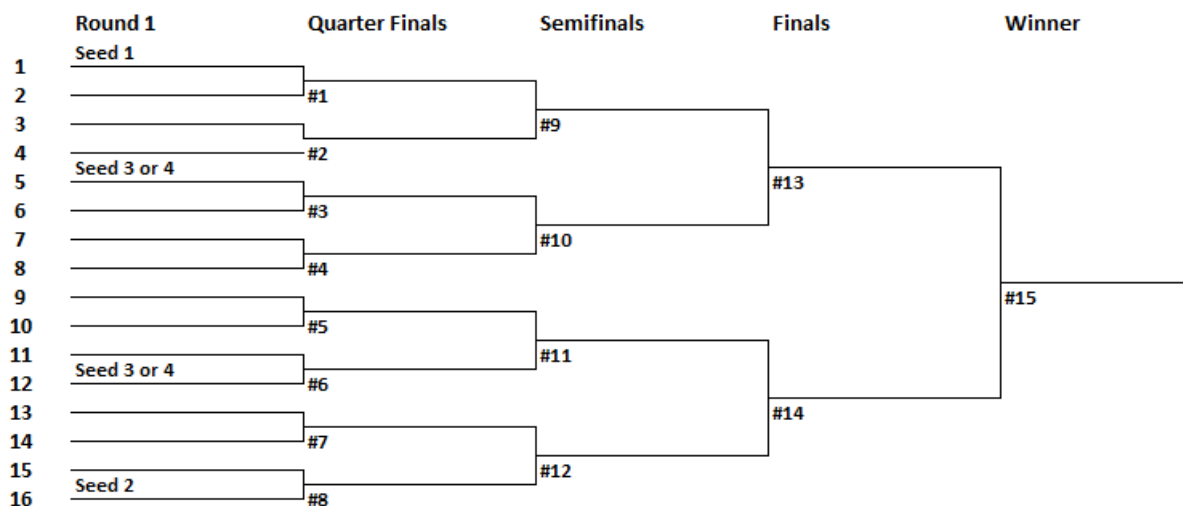
- 6.4 There shall be no alteration in the published draw, except as permitted under regulation for withdrawals and substitutions, or due to possible omissions/errors.
- 6.5 Under no circumstances shall any player be permitted to compete more than once in the same event at any tournament.
- 6.6 All draws shall be made in the manner set out below and no dummy entry is permitted.
- 6.7 BYES: A Bye is where a Player advances automatically to the next round of the draw without being drawn to play, so as to produce a full second round of matches.
- 6.8 Separation of Entries:
- 6.8.1 Player separation is recommended for all tournaments conducted at any level of competition.
- 6.8.2 Wherever possible, entries from the same Member Associations (such as County as used in Badminton England Circuit tournaments) should be separated into separate sections of the draw. This shall include where drawing seeds within a seeding group by lot.
- 6.8.3 In doubles, member association separation only occurs when a pair is made of players from the same member association (I.e. a pair from two different Member Associations shall be regarded as not coming from any particular Member Association).

Note: When using tournament planner this is referred to as 'optimal separation' when making the draws. Also note that Tournament Software uses 'Club' field for BE 'Counties'.

KNOCKOUT OR ELIMINATION DRAW

- 6.9 Players will be drawn to meet each other in pairs, with progressive elimination until a winner is decided. Draws shall be made in the following sizes as a power of two; 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128...etc.

Example:



- 6.10 If the number of entries is not a number in the following sequence (2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128...etc), byes will be inserted throughout the draw.
- 6.11 Seeds and byes:
- 6.11.1 The number of seeds and byes shall be placed per Appendix A.
- 6.11.2 The top two seeded entries shall be dealt with as follows: 1 seed placed at the top of the draw; and 2 seed placed at the bottom of the draw.
- 6.11.3 If more than two seeds are drawn, then they shall be drawn by in the allocated slots for that seeding group. Eg. The 3/4 seeds drawn by lot to the remaining two quarters of the draw. The 5/ 8 drawn by lot to the remaining eighths of the draw...etc
- 6.12 Once the seeds and Byes have been placed in the draw, the remaining entries will be drawn by lot for the remaining positions, taking into account separation of entries (Regulation 6.9).

GROUP OR ROUND ROBIN DRAW

- 6.13 The terms Pool/Group/Round Robin may be used interchangeably.
- 6.14 Players will be arranged into a number of groups to progress to the final stage, which may be organised as a round robin or a knock-out format. Alternatively, an event may comprise solely of a single round robin main draw.
- 6.15 Groups are traditionally labelled by either letters, numbers or a combination of both. For the purposes of these regulations letters in alphabetical order will be used.
- 6.16 Each Player will play all the other players in the group.
- 6.17 All matches in the same group stage must be played to the same scoring format of games/points.
- 6.18 Groups of different sizes:
 - 6.18.1 Groups of different sizes can be drawn but shouldn't be any more than one entry (player/pair) of one another. However, withdrawals/substitutions may affect your final group sizes being played.
 - 6.18.2 If there are byes in the next round, then the largest groups should always be placed as those with a bye. After this, it is recommended to place the larger groups as those with seeded players, starting with the highest seeded player/pair and working downwards.

Note: Having some groups with one more entry can help make arranging groups easier when dealing with late withdrawals/substitutions (see regulation '8.5.1).

- 6.19 Seeds:
 - 6.19.1 The number of seeds shall be based on the size of entry as per Appendix A.
 - 6.19.2 Regardless of the number of seeds, the 1 seed shall be placed at the top of Group A and the 2 seed at the top of Group B.
 - 6.19.3 With four or more seeds, the 1 and 2 seeds shall be placed as above, and two 3/4 seeds shall be drawn by lot into groups C and D and again placed at the top of their respective group....5/8 seeds shall be drawn by lot into groups E-H and again placed at the top of their respective group...and so on.
 - 6.19.4 If there are more seeds than groups, once each group has been allocated a seed, then any remaining seeds shall continue to be drawn by lot as per their seeding group and be added from the lowest seeded group up to the highest in reverse group order.

Note: Tournament planner will automatically place them in the correct group. However, it will not automatically place them to play last in the group rounds, so this change may need to be manually made.

- 6.20 Byes:
 - 6.20.1 Byes are not required in the first 'qualifiers' stage of a Group Draw, as groups are set based on the number of players in that group.
 - 6.20.2 Byes should not be required where the final stage is also in groups.
 - 6.20.3 Byes may be required where the final stage of a Group Draw is a knock-out format. This shall be drawn in accordance with the regulations for 'Knockout Draw 6.10 to 6.14'.
- 6.21 Once the seeds and Byes have been placed in the draw, the remaining entries will be drawn by lot for the remaining positions, taking into account separation of entries (regulation 6.8).

Example:

Group Stage

Group A					
1	Seed 1				
2					
3					
4					
5					

Group B					
1	Seed 2				
2					
3					
4					
5					

Group C					
1	One of 3/4 seed				
2					
3					
4					

Group D					
1	One of 3/4 seed				
2					
3					
4					

Group E					
1	One of 5/8 seed				
2	One of 5/8 seed				
3					
4					

Group F					
1	One of 5/8 seed				
2	One of 5/8 seed				
3					
4					

Final Knock Out Stage

Quarter-Finals		Semi-Finals		Final	Winner
1	Winner Group A	Winner Group A			
2	Bye	#1			
3	Winner Group D				
4	Winner Group F	#2			
5	Winner Group E				
6	Winner Group C	#3			
7	Bye	Winner Group B			
8	Winner Group B	#4			

6.22 Order of Play:

- 6.22.1 Where there are two seeded players in a group these should be scheduled to play one another in the last group round of matches. Note: Tournament Planner does not do this automatically.
- 6.22.2 Where there are players from the same Member Association in the same group, the match or matches between them should be completed first, irrespective of their rankings in the group.

6.22.3 The following order of plays are recommended for groups; however these may be adapted such as where there is more than one seed in a group, or where it supports tournament scheduling.

Group of 3	Group of 4	Group of 5	Group of 6
2 v 3	1 v 4	2 v 5	1 v 6
1 v 2	2 v 3	3 v 4	2 v 5
1 v 3	1 v 2	1 v 2	3 v 4
	3 v 4	3 v 5	1 v 2
	2 v 4	1 v 3	3 v 5
	1 v 3	4 v 5	4 v 6
		2 v 3	1 v 3
		1 v 4	2 v 6
		2 v 4	4 v 5
		1 v 5	1 v 4
			2 v 3
			5 v 6
			1 v 5
			2 v 4
			3 v 6

Note: These orders are the same as in Tournament Planner. However, adjustments are required for player positioning in accordance with regulations 6.22.1 and 6.22.2.

6.23 Results

6.23.1 If a player/pair is required to withdraw from their group due to illness, injury or other unavoidable hindrance before they have completed all their group matches, the results of all matches played by that player/pair must be discounted when deciding the group positions and will be positioned bottom of the group.

6.23.2 The method of deciding the winner and ranking of a group depends on the format of play:

In a group where each match is one game (with or without extended scoring):	In a group where each match is two games or best of three games the winner shall be (with or without extended scoring):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The player/pair who wins the most games. ii) If two players/pairs have won the same number of games the winner of the game between them. iii) If there is no winner under (ii), tied players/pairs will be placed in order of their overall points difference (Points difference is number of points won minus points lost). iv) If two players/pairs are then equal the winner of the game(s) between them. v) If there is no winner under (iv), tied players/pairs will be placed in order of the total points scored by each of the players/pairs. vi) If two players/pairs are still equal the winner of the game(s) between them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The player/pair who wins the most matches. ii) If two players/pairs have won the same number of matches the winner of the match between them. iii) If there is no winner under (ii), or if three or more players/pairs are equal these players/pairs will be placed in descending order according to overall games difference. NB Games difference is number of games won minus games lost. iv) If two players/pairs are then equal the winner of the match between them. v) If there is no winner under (iv), or if three or more players/pairs are equal these players/pairs will be placed in descending order according to overall points difference. NB Points difference

vii) If there is still a three way tie the referee must use his discretion.	is number of points won minus points lost. vi) If two players/pairs are still equal the winner of the match between them. vii) If three or more players/pairs are still equal the referee must use his discretion.
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7. SCHEDULING PLAY/REST TIMES

- 7.1 Play in any tournament shall not take place on days other than those specifically sanctioned.
7.1.1 It is recommended that any draw below 8 players/pairs should be considered to be played over 1 day only. This will be at the discretion of the referee.
7.2 No competitor shall be obliged to start a match before 9 a.m.
7.3 No competitor shall be obliged to start a match after (based on tournament age group):

	Senior	Under 19-16	Under 15-12	Under 11 and below
Saturday	10:00pm	9:00pm	8:00pm	7:00pm
Sunday	9:00pm	8:00pm	7:00pm	6:00pm

- 7.4 Any competitor who is not prepared to play outside the times of play above shall be entitled to a refund of their entry fee.
7.5 Every player must be offered a minimum rest period as shown below (from the end of the match to the start the next match):

Scoring System Being Used	Singles	Doubles
Best of 3 to 21 points	30 minutes	15 minutes
Best of 3 to 15 points	20 minutes	10 minutes
Best of 3 to 11 points	10 minutes	5 minutes
1 game to 21 points	10 minutes	5 minutes

8. WITHDRAWALS & SUBSTITUTES

- 8.1 After the seeding and selection have been published, by retiring or withdrawing from an event the player must be withdrawn from all other events in which they are entered. The referee has the discretion to overrule this regulation, where a player is unable to start or complete a game.
8.2 Seeding and selection should be updated following withdrawal/player changes up to the point of the draw being made, such that when the draw is made it is with a full allocation of seeds and players. If players withdraw after the draw is made, seeding of players should not be changed unless there is a redraw for that event.
8.3 The referee may redraw a particular event if it has not yet begun and it has been rendered significantly imbalanced.
8.4 Once the draw has been made, if a player withdraws before a match starts and there is no substitute then it shall be recorded as a 'walkover' to the opponent. All other matches for the retired player in that event shall be considered a walkover (for example more group matches).
8.5 Stopping midway in a match shall be considered as 'retired' and the scores recorded as reached, and the opponent as the winner. All other matches for the retired player in that event shall be considered a walkover (for example more group matches).
8.6 The referee shall only permit alterations to the draw if prior to the first scheduled match of that event a player is prevented from competing due to illness, injury or other unavoidable hindrance. Alterations may include:
 - Moving players in a group draw (regulation 8.7)

- Substitution (regulation 8.8)

8.7 Moving players in a group draw - if you cannot find a substitute, it may be possible to move players such that:

- 8.7.1 Where some groups are larger than others, then the player drawn into the bottom of a larger group may be used to substitute into another group to bring that group up to normal size. This is provided that it does not reduce the donor group below the average size and the player is not from the same Member Association as any player in his new group. Should the proposed replacement be from the same Member Association as someone in the new group, then the player drawn above should become the replacement.
- 8.7.2 Groups may be combined to provide an even number of entries in all groups, or to meet the minimum number of games as stated in the tournament T&C's. Any new groups formed must conform with 8.7.1 above. A re-draw may be necessary depending on the circumstances.
- 8.7.3 Where possible every effort should be made to substitute within the same eighth, quarter or half of the draw and to maintain the integrity of the seeding.

8.8 Substitution must be made in accordance with the rules below:

8.8.1 Substitution in singles:

- 8.8.1.1 By players firstly from the reserve list who entered that event, and then by players who entered that tournament, and then by late entries to that tournament (if accepted by the tournament committee).

8.8.2 Substitution in doubles:

8.8.2.1 If only one player in a pairing withdraws, substitution is permitted to enable the remaining player to find a new partner:

- If there are reserve pairs (or two entries on the reserve list who could form a pair) then the substitute must be a player who has already entered the tournament.
- If there are no reserve pairs (or no two entries on the reserve list who could form a pair), then a late entry may be accepted as a substitute.

If the player remaining in the draw cannot find a partner within a reasonable time, then they will forfeit their place in the draw.

8.8.2.2 The constitution of any other pair in the main draw shall not be affected, except that if there are withdrawals from two pairs the remaining players shall be permitted to partner each other.

8.8.2.3 If a pair withdraws, then firstly by pairs from the reserve list, then by pairs formed from partner wanted entries on the reserve list or that have entered the tournament, and then by late entries (if accepted by the tournament committee).

8.8.3 Any substitute player/pair (formed pairs) is permitted only if they would have been unseeded or seeded in no higher a seeding group than the seeding group of the original player/pair. The seeding groups are 1 and 2, 3 to 4, 5 to 8 and 9 to 16. (Unless otherwise stated in the terms and conditions for that specific tournament.)

8.8.4 When more than one vacancy occurs in the draw such vacancies shall be filled by lot subject to ensuring that those with a bye are filled in preference to those without.

8.8.5 Reserves should be notified to confirm being entered into the draw.

9. REFUND OF ENTRY FEES

9.1 A full refund is entitled:

9.1.1 If the player withdraws before the entry closes.

9.1.2 If the player is placed onto a reserve list and is not later promoted, or declines to be promoted, to the main draw.

9.1.3 In doubles, where a player withdraws, their partner is entitled to a full refund. However, the withdrawing player will be subject to normal refund policies below.

- 9.1.4 Where entry conditions are changed or where the entry is less than 4 and the player chooses to withdraw at the point of being notified.
- 9.2 Any withdrawal will be subject to the refund policies below:
 - 9.2.1 After entry has closed and before 48 hours of the published tournament start time any competitor who may be prevented from playing by illness, injury or other unavoidable hindrance, shall have their entry fees returned in full, less £10 set handling charge.
 - 9.2.2 No refund will be paid if withdrawal is within 48 hours of the published tournament start time.
- 9.3 Tournament refunds must be dealt with within 14 days following the last day of the tournament.

10. PLAYER ATTENDANCE

- 10.1 Each player must sign-in or inform the referee/tournament organiser of their arrival at least 15 minutes before the start of their first match. A player will be deemed to be absent unless and until this is done.
- 10.2 Any competitor not ready to play when called will be liable to be scratched. Each player is responsible for ascertaining when they are scheduled to play.
- 10.3 If a player is going to be late for a scheduled match, they must contact the referee/organiser using the given details, explain the reason for the lateness and provide an estimated time of arrival.
- 10.4 The referee may, in their absolute discretion, delay the start of the match accordingly (in which case the Referee must inform the opponent(s) immediately).
- 10.5 Players should not leave site without the permission of the referee or organiser if they still have matches left to play.

11. CONDITIONS OF PLAY

- 11.1 Players under the age of 16 must always have a parent/carer in attendance at the tournament. We recommend players between 16 and 18 years of age are accompanied by a parent/carer but must provide contact details for a parent/carer in the case of an emergency.
- 11.2 The period for knocking up before any match shall not exceed two minutes.
- 11.3 A player may only leave the court during a match (including during the warm-up) with the permission of the umpire. Where no umpire is present, a player may only leave the court during a match (including during the warm-up) with the permission of the referee or to call the referee to court.
- 11.4 The Tournaments Terms and Conditions shall be published on the tournament entry and shall reference those items listed in the TORT.
- 11.5 Any safeguarding concerns can be made to the appointed Safeguarding person at the tournament, or for further guidance on reporting please refer to the Badminton England Safeguarding policy at <https://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/about-us/safeguarding/>
- 11.6 Ranking and Grading points - see the BE website for full details <https://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/on-court/rankings-and-gradings/>
- 11.7 Any changes to the conditions of play must be notified to the players. Affected competitors have the right to withdraw resulting from any significant change and receive a full refund of their entry fees. These refunds should be made by the tournament organiser within 14 days of the last day of the tournament.

12. INJURY, ILLNESS AND OTHER INCIDENTS ON COURT PROTOCOL

The referee shall put the best interests of players first and in fairness to all, try to ensure that all those involved are kept informed and given every consideration when making their decision.

The referee has a similar duty of care to all officials and other volunteers working within the field of play.

Technical Officials refer to TORT for further guidance.

13. CLOTHING

The following regulation relates to domestic competition to provide flexibility whilst retaining a general consistency and appropriateness of clothing. Clothing worn in international competition should refer to the Badminton World Federation website clothing regulations.

- 13.1 All clothing must be appropriate sports attire, or that is required for medical, religious or cultural reasons (replica or other sport specific is not allowed).. Suitability will be at the discretion of the referee.
- 13.2 Player name on shirts:
 - 13.2.1 Optional, except for Senior English Nationals where it shall be mandatory.
 - 13.2.2 Where included must be the correct name for that player, placed near the top and horizontal across the back of the shirt.
 - 13.2.3 Where included must include the family name (or abbreviation) and if desired may include further initials.
 - 13.2.4 If team, county or country name is also included, player name should be on top.
- 13.3 Team, County or Country name on shirts:
 - 13.3.1 Optional, except for the Premier Division of the Senior County Championships, where it shall be mandatory for the duration of the player's first match of each tie.
 - 13.3.2 Where included must be placed near the top and horizontal across the back of the shirt.
- 13.4 Text/Lettering:
 - 13.4.1 Should be of suitable size such that it be in sensible proportion to be visibly practical, with a recommendation of between 4 -10cm.
 - 13.4.2 Must be in capital letters in the Roman alphabet and in one single colour contrasting with that of the shirt (if there is a pattern on the back of the shirt, the lettering should be on a contrasting panel).
- 13.5 Advertising and placements of advertising shall not be limited, except for anything that is, or has the potential to be;
 - 13.5.1 Political or religious in nature.
 - 13.5.2 Insulting or offensive in nature.
 - 13.5.3 Harmful to the reputation of the relevant competition, BE, and/or any of BE's partners.
 - 13.5.4 Anything which is not a brand, registered mark or trademark.
- 13.6 Players displaying tattoos, paints, transfers or similar (which are not on clothing) must ensure such displays comply with the advertising requirements.
- 13.7 Colour;
 - 13.7.1 May be of any colour or combination of colours.
 - 13.7.2 It is recommended that doubles partners wear the same colours and similar design, except for the Senior English Nationals where it is mandatory, and players would also need to wear different coloured clothing to their opponent(s).
- 13.8 Some tournaments or competitions may introduce event specific clothing regulations which would otherwise supersede the above.

14. COACHING

- 14.1 For the purposes of these regulations, a coach refers to all coaches, team managers, and/or other participants who sit in or around the coaches' chair(s) behind the competition court, and on court during intervals, in a coaching capacity for a match.
- 14.2 The normal BWF coaching regulations shall apply, unless specified in the Tournament Terms and Conditions. Where coaching is permitted, this shall include but is not limited to:
 - 14.2.1 Coaching between points and intervals.
 - 14.2.2 Coaches must be seated in their designated seats and must not stand court-side during the match except at during the permitted intervals.
 - 14.2.3 Coaches are not allowed to move their chairs from the designated positions without the Referee's permission.
 - 14.2.4 There must not be any distraction or disruption to play by any Coach.

- 14.2.5 Coaches must not attempt to communicate in any way with opposing players, coaches, team officials or on court technical officials during a match.
- 14.2.6 Coaches at courtside must not use any electronic device for any purpose, except at the referee's discretion.
- 14.2.7 Clothing must be appropriate, acceptable sports clothing (replica or other sport specific is not allowed), and its suitability, within the regulations, will be at the discretion of the tournament Referee.
- 14.2.8 The referee may remove a coach from a match or tournament for an appropriate duration (e.g. the remainder of a match, a session or day) depending upon the seriousness and recurrence of the offence.

15. PHOTOGRAPHY

Where photography is permitted at an event:

- 15.1 Professional Photography - anyone appointed as an official event photographer/videographer at a BE sanctioned event must contact/seek accreditation from BE and the local organiser of the event and provide photo identification.
 - 15.1.1 Players/parents should be informed that this is taking place, and appropriate consent given to the use of photos/video taken.
 - 15.1.2 The professional photographer should be identifiable at all times.
- 15.2 Photography/videography at junior events:
 - 15.2.1 Tournament regulations must state that there will be photography/videography, and put in the place as a minimum the following protocols:
 - 15.2.1.1 Players who do not wish to be photographed/filmed can inform the organisers at the event and be provided with a wrist band to identify them to others.
 - 15.2.1.2 Anyone wishing to photograph/video should inform a tournament official, and they shall be informed of the following:
 - Individuals that do not want to be photographed/filmed can be identified by their wrist band.
 - Photographs and images must reflect the positive aspects of playing and enjoying badminton and players will be suitably attired.
 - Filming should only take place to the side or back of the court (dependent on access) and permission should be sought from the coach/parents of all players involved. Matches shall not be filmed if any one coach/parent objects to filming of their player.
 - Don't share or publish images/videos from the tournament online unless you have requested their permission.
 - 15.2.2 If parents have any particular concern about their young person being photographed or filmed, they should notify the organisers. Further guidance and best practice should be sought in the Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Guidelines.

16. PENALTY SYSTEM

The following penalty system shall apply to all sanctioned tournaments.

16.1 Offences/Penalties for Tournaments

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| i) | Failure to arrive without notification | Penalty £50.00 |
| ii) | Failure to arrive with notification but without proper reason
E.g. In breach of Regulation 9.12 | Penalty £25.00 |
| iii) | Late arrival on court without proper reason | Penalty £20.00 |
| iv) | Failure to pay entry fee to any tournament sanctioned by BE | Debarred from playing in all sanctioned tournaments. |

v)	Failure to meet clothing regulations (where play is permitted by the referee)	Penalty £25.00
vi)	Yellow Card for Misconduct	1 st Offense: Written Warning 2 nd Offense: Penalty £20.00 3 rd Offense: Referred to a disciplinary hearing as set out in the Disciplinary Procedure of BE.
vii)	Red Card for Misconduct	1 st Offense: Penalty £40.00 2 nd Offense: Referred to a disciplinary hearing as set out in the Disciplinary Procedure of BE.
viii)	Black Card for Misconduct	Referred to a disciplinary hearing as set out in the Disciplinary Procedure of BE.
ix)	Failure to pay a penalty	Suspension from tournaments.

16.2 Imposition of Penalties

16.2.1 Cards for Misconduct at Badminton England sanctioned tournaments will be dealt with by BE. These are kept on record for each season, and penalties only apply to cards received within a single season. Appeals may be made within 28 days of the penalty notice being received.

16.2.2 Penalties (except for Cards for Misconduct) will be dealt with by the tournament organiser. Any penalty must be in writing and either given at the tournament or posted within 7 days of the completion of the tournament to the address or email address on the player's entry form. A player who is penalised under the penalty system has the right of appeal against the penalty imposed in writing to the issuer of the penalty within 28 days of the penalty notice being received, and the issuer of the penalty shall have 28 days from the date of appeal to respond.

16.2.3 Notice of penalties must include the reason for the penalty (as in 11.1), the amount of the penalty and reference to the Competition Appeal procedure (as in 12).

16.2.4 All penalties must be paid within 28 days of their imposition

16.3 Reporting:

Tournament Committees must, via the Referee's report, inform the BE Head of Competition within 7 days of the completion of the tournament, details of all cards of misconduct and penalties imposed as well as the names of those who did not arrive in time for their matches without adequate notification or reason, whether penalised or not.

17. GENERAL

Where the Laws & Regulations do not govern, the Tournament Referee's decision shall be final in all matters, including high level concerns around health & safety or safeguarding of players, volunteers or staff.

BE shall have full power to decide upon any points not covered by the foregoing regulations and shall have the right to vary the foregoing regulations in the interests of promoting and developing the game.

Deviation from these regulations should only be made with BE approval.

Appendix A: Byes and Seeding Positions in a Draw

Placing of byes and seeds in a draw shall follow the regulations below unless otherwise stated in the specific tournament regulation.

Table 1 (for 3 to 16 entries) On a draw sheet numbered 1 to 16.

Entries	No of seeds	Seed 1	Seed 2	Seeds 3/4	No of byes	Placement of byes	
3	2	1	8		1	2	
4	2	1	8		0		
5	2	1	8		3	2, 4, 7	
6	2	1	8		2	2, 7	
7	2	1	8		1	2	
8	2	1	8		0		
9	2	1	16	-	7	2, 4, 6, 8,	11, 13, 15
10	2	1	16	-	6	2, 4, 6,	11, 13, 15
11	2	1	16	-	5	2, 4, 6,	11, 15
12	4	1	16	5, 12	4	2, 6,	11, 15
13	4	1	16	5, 12	3	2, 6,	15
14	4	1	16	5, 12	2	2,	15
15	4	1	16	5, 12	1	2	
16	4	1	16	5, 12	0	-	

Table 2 (for 17 to 32 entries) On a draw sheet numbered 1 to 32.

Entries	No of seeds	Seed 1	Seed 2	Seeds 3/4	Seeds 5/8	No of byes	Placement of byes	
17	4	1	32	9, 24	-	15	2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16,	19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31
18	4	1	32	9, 24	-	14	2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14,	19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31
19	4	1	32	9, 24	-	13	2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14,	19, 21, 23, 27, 29, 31
20	4	1	32	9, 24	-	12	2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14,	19, 21, 23, 27, 29, 31
21	4	1	32	9, 24	-	11	2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14,	19, 23, 27, 29, 31
22	4	1	32	9, 24	-	10	2, 4, 6, 10, 14,	19, 23, 27, 29, 31
23	4	1	32	9, 24	-	9	2, 4, 6, 10, 14,	19, 23, 27, 31
24	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	8	2, 6, 10, 14,	19, 23, 27, 31
25	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	7	2, 6, 10, 14,	23, 27, 31
26	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	6	2, 6, 10,	23, 27, 31
27	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	5	2, 6, 10,	23, 31
28	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	4	2, 10,	23, 31
29	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	3	2, 10,	
30	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	2	2,	
31	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	1	2	
32	8	1	32	9, 24	5, 13, 20, 28	0	-	

Table 3 (for 33 to 64 entries) On a draw sheet numbered 1 to 64.

Entries	No of seeds	Seed 1	Seed 2	Seeds 3/4	Seeds 5/8	Seed 9/16	No of byes	Placement of byes
33	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		31	See TORT
34	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		30	See TORT
35	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		29	See TORT
36	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		28	See TORT
37	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		27	See TORT
38	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		26	See TORT
39	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		25	See TORT
40	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		24	See TORT
41	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		23	See TORT
42	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		22	See TORT
43	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		21	See TORT
44	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		20	See TORT
45	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		19	See TORT
46	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		18	See TORT
47	8	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56		17	See TORT
48	16	1	64	17, 48	9, 25, 40, 56	5, 13, 21, 29, 36, 44, 52, 60	16	See TORT