

FELIXSTOWE, IPSWICH & DISTRICT FLOODLIT TENNIS LEAGUE RULES

1. CONSTITUTION.

- a. To be known as the Felixstowe, Ipswich & District Floodlit Tennis League.
- b. Clubs must be members of Suffolk L.T.A.
- c. Controlled by Chairman, Secretary, Fixture Secretary, Results Secretary and Treasurer elected at A.G.M. Venue Organisers to be nominated by each venue for court conditions and match rebookings.
- d. Annual General Meeting to be held by 31st August, attended by anyone, but each member club allowed only one vote. First matches not to be scheduled until at least 14 days after AGM.
- e. Rules altered only at A.G.M. or meeting specially convened for that purpose.
- f. Written proposals of alterations to rules or resolutions to be given to League Secretary by 31st May.
- g. Committee to have full jurisdiction over any matter not covered by rules and its decision will be final.
- h. League trophies to be held for one year by winners who are responsible for their safekeeping and return to the Secretary.

2. COMPOSITION.

- a. Men's, Ladies and Mixed teams arranged in divisions.
- b. Each division to contain 4, 5, 6, or 7 teams.
- c. The first named team to be regarded as the 'Home' team.
- d. Teams to consist of two pairs who will play two sets against each opposing pair.
- e. Number of sets won to decide result of match; two points awarded for a win and one point for a draw.
- f. Position of teams with equal points at end of season will be decided by comparing ratio of sets won against sets lost. If sets ratios are equal than a comparison of the sets ratios between the relevant teams in their games against each other will decide. If these are equal then a comparison of the games ratio between the relevant teams in their games against each other will decide.
- g. Normally top two teams in each division to displace bottom two teams in next higher division for following season, at the discretion of the Committee.
- h. Clubs to enter teams by the date requested on the entry form.
- i. The Committee has the right to refuse the entry of any team if more than one match was conceded or any match was unresolved by that team in the previous season or if its fees were not paid promptly
- j. Committee to prepare composition of sections and divisions.
- k. Ladies may play in men's teams, provided there is no ladies team at the club.

3. FIXTURES.

- a. Will be made by the Fixture Secretary prior to the A.G.M.
- b. Will be arranged to take place between 1st September and 31st March.
- c. Fixture Secretary to distribute Fixture List to all Clubs at the A.G.M.
- d. Fixture dates may not be altered. Postponed or uncompleted matches are to be re-arranged at the **earliest suitable date** and booked through the Venue Organiser. **Both** team captains have a responsibility to ensure this happens.
- e. Permission is not required for postponement caused by weather.
- f. Failure to fulfil a fixture, except for full and sufficient reason will result in opponents receiving a walk-over.

4. MATCHES

- a. Match Fee to be fixed at each A.G.M. League Administration expenses to be shared by the venues proportionately to number of matches played at each.
- b. All matches shall be played according to L.T.A. rules.
- c. Matches to be played at Venues considered most suitable by the League Management Committee.
- d. The 'Home' team (See 2c) to provide 8 **GOOD CONDITION** balls on which the makers name is clearly readable. One set of balls to be used for no more than two matches.
- e. Matches must start at 7pm or earlier if mutually agreed.
- f. 'Knocking up' is not allowed after starting time of match.
- g. Any pair responsible for play not starting on any court within 10 minutes of starting time shall forfeit one game and if not within 20 minutes shall forfeit two games and after 30 minutes shall forfeit one set.
- h. A match shall have started on playing of first point by any one pair.
- i. If play is suspended the score and occupancy of court will hold good on resumption unless both captains agree otherwise.
- j. The 'Away' captain shall decide whether or not conditions are suitable for play.
- k. Play shall not be resumed or completed on any date after that on which a result is obtained for the match.
- l. The 'Away' pairs play all their sets on the same court.

5. RESULTS

- a. Shall be sent to Fixtures/Results Secretary on official card by Home Team Captain as soon as possible after a match.
- b. Club Floodlit Co-ordinators to send match fee forms and match fees to the Hon. League Secretary within **10 days** of the last match.
- c. Closing date for receipt of any result, claim or statement on any match shall be **31st March**
- d. Committee to adjudicate on information received about any unresolved matches.
- e. Results Secretary to prepare mid season and final league tables as soon as possible.

6. PLAYERS

- a. Shall not play for more than one team in the same division during a season.
- b. Shall not play in a lower nominated team after playing twice in higher nominated teams in a section during a season.
- c. Every effort must be made to complete unfinished matches with the original players. If this proves impossible a maximum of 2 substitutes is allowed in a team provided that they are:
 - (i) Players not previously involved in the match.
 - (ii) Of a reasonable comparable standard to original player
 - (iii) Acceptable to opponents.
 - (iv) Approved by League Representative if any dispute arises.
- d. A player who is unable to continue playing shall concede the unfinished sets of that rubber. The second rubber, if still to be played, shall also be conceded if the player or a substitute as defined in 6c is unable to contest it when it is due to be played.

7. SETS.

- a. A set to be completed when one pair has won 6 games with a margin of at least 2 clear games.
 - b. If a score of 6 games each is reached then a deciding tie-breaker game shall be played in accordance with L.T.A. rules.
 - c. A tie breaker game shall be won by the pair who first obtain seven points or a clear margin of two points after a score of six points each has been reached.
 - d. In a tie-break game:
 - (i) All players receive service in same positions as previous game.
 - (ii) Player whose normal turn it is to serve shall serve the first point from the right-hand court.
The second and third points are then served by the opponent whose normal turn it is to serve next from the left and right-hand courts respectively.
Thereafter each player shall serve in their normal rotation for two points only, first from the left court and second from the right court until the game is decided.
 - (iii) Players shall change ends after every 6 points and at the end of the game.
 - (iv) The tie-break game counts as service game to the pair who serve first.
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