

SURREY PADEL LEAGUES REGULATIONS SPRING 2023

- These regulations are drawn up by the Competitions Committee who may vary them at their discretion. Such regulations will apply in all County Competitions except where amended or superseded by special regulations.
- Competitions under these regulations shall be conducted by the Competitions Committee, whose decision on all matters relating thereto shall be final.
- Competitions are open only to registered venues of the Association and to members thereof.
- Players in County Competitions must have British Tennis membership as a minimum and be linked to the venue they represent.
- Only playing members of a registered venue may play in county competitions
- The Competitions Committee may divide any or all of the competitions into groups and/or divisions at their discretion.
- The council has the right to refuse any entry, and to transfer any entry where it deems appropriate.
- A player may only play for one venue in the Surrey Padel Leagues.
- Only venues that have one or more padel courts may enter teams in the Surrey Padel Leagues

Verbal Abuse, Harassment, Intimidation & Threatening Behaviour:

If a parent, member of staff, consultant, coach, official or volunteer acts in an abusive way toward their child or a player then you should report the concern to the LTA Safeguarding team via: <https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk/>. If you believe the child/player is in immediate danger please call the Police on 999 or if it is not deemed an emergency, please report via 101. For additional advice, you can also contact the NSPCC and/or other Surrey local authority children services:

- *Local Authority Children's Social Care Services*
- *Local Authority Adult Social Care Services*

If there is an incident where no referee is present, then any complaint about the conduct of a player and/or their entourage should be made to the Surrey Competitions Manager by the Captain of the team (in team competitions) or individual players (in knockout matches). All complaints must be made within 2 days of the alleged incident occurring. The complaint must be made in writing (which includes e-mail) and shall set out full details of the incident giving rise to the complaint and identifying all the players involved. Any supporting evidence must be submitted with the complaint.

1.) **Surrey Padel League format:** For the inaugural league season it is proposed that four events will be run, namely

Mens doubles
Womens doubles
Mixed doubles
Centurion doubles

For the mens, womens and mixed events there will be a two tiered league system that will be dependent upon player ability.

The Diablo Leagues are aimed at players that fall into the LTA padel rating system of 4.0 and higher, whilst the Cobra Leagues are for players rated below 4.0.

Players that have represented their club in the Diablo leagues are not permitted to play in the Cobra Leagues.

The Centurion doubles event is open to all genders, with the only stipulation that all pairings must have a combined age of 100+ years. Players of any LTA rating can participate in this event. Any team that fields pairing with a combined age of less than 100 years will forfeit all rubbers played by that pair 0-6, 0-6.

LTA registered venues located in Surrey with at least one padel court can register a maximum of two teams in each tier for each of the mens, womens and mixed events plus two teams for the Centurion League.

OTHER LEAGUE RULES

2.) **Lateness of a team:** If a player is absent without good cause when called upon to play at the expiration of thirty minutes from the time agreed for the commencement of the match, his opponent or opponents shall be entitled immediately to one love set, and at the expiration of sixty minutes to a further love set.

3.) **Player Retirement:** If a player retires during a rubber, the opponent shall be deemed to have won all remaining games and sets necessary to win the rubber. For example, if they were winning 4-2 and withdrew, they would lose the match 4-6, 0-6. They can however return for the 2nd rubber if they wish. If they do not return for the second rubber, then that match is also forfeited by 0-6, 0-6.

4.) **Rain Delay:** If a match is postponed due to inclement weather the match is decided as follows: If two or more rubbers have been completed at the point of cessation, the match stands. The remaining rubbers are then halved. If two rubbers have not been completed, the match is replayed from scratch. You will not require the same players to play if the match is replayed from scratch. Scores for any rubbers unfinished should be recorded as "not played, match postponed" and 6-4, 4-6 regardless of the score at the point of cessation. You must let Surrey Tennis know once you have entered the result.

Please note, if both captains are in agreement then the match can be continued from the point of cessation when the weather permits. If this decision is agreed, then the exact same team of players must return to compete.

- i.) If captains are not in agreement on the playability of the courts, then both teams must re-arrange the match using one of the available rain dates or another suitable date carrying on from the point of cessation. If a date cannot be agreed upon then you must contact the County office who will decide the outcome.
- ii.) If the home team deems that the match should not be postponed due to weather prior to the scheduled start time, then the away team must travel to the home venue before any further decision on the match can be made.
- iii.) We would expect captain's to wait at least 30 minutes after the scheduled start time, to allow the courts to become playable.

5.) **COVID:** There are currently no COVID restrictions in place relating to the Padel Surrey Leagues outside of the NHS guidelines which all clubs, teams and players must follow. We do advise that home captains relay any COVID procedures adopted by their club to the opposition before the day of the match.

6.) **Balls/Hospitality:**

- i.) Players should bring their own drinks / snacks to matches.
- ii.) Home teams must offer access to water and access to toilet facilities. Clubs are not obliged to open changing room facilities.
- iii.) There is no obligation for home teams to provide refreshments however if both captains agree, it is allowed as long as all current government COVID guidance is followed.
- iv.) Home teams must provide a minimum of 3 brand new balls for rubbers D1 vs D1 and D2 vs D2. The same balls can then be used for the following 2 rubbers. Clubs are allowed to provide new balls if they wish after the first two rubbers are completed, however both captains must be in agreement.

7.) **Result entry:** The result must be entered online within 48 hours of match completion by the winning team captain. We urge losing captain's to check the result has been entered correctly after 48 hours. If there is an issue, please contact your league organiser.

8.) **Playing Order:**

HOME 1 vs. AWAY 1
HOME 2 vs. AWAY 2
HOME 1 vs. AWAY 2
HOME 2 vs. AWAY 1

9.) **Scoring formats:**

Men's Doubles:

2 full sets with a championship (to 10) at 1 set all.

Women's Doubles:

2 full sets with a championship (to 10) at 1 set all.

Mixed Doubles:

2 full sets with a championship (to 10) at 1 set all. Sudden death at deuce.
Receiver chooses side.

Centurion Doubles:

2 full sets with a championship (to 10) at 1 set all.

10.) How final league standings are calculated:

- i.) Match Points. If tied...
- ii.) Percentage of rubbers won to rubbers played. If tied...
- iii.) Percentage of sets won to sets played. If tied...
- iv.) Percentage of games won to games played.

11.) Final online league positions: At the end of the season, all league standings shown online will be final. In incidents where the table online is shown incorrectly, we will make all Captains aware and issue the correct standings.

12.) Floodlights: For clubs with a floodlight curfew of 21:30 or earlier, we require home captains to offer the following to the opposition captain:

- Earlier start time between 18:00 and 18:30
- Championship tie-break to 7 instead of 10
- Short sets (first to 4 games with tie-break at 4-4).

The opposition can choose whether or not to accept any of these options to ensure the match gets completed, but they are not obliged to. Regardless, if the floodlights turn off during the match, then the 'Rain Delay' ruling will apply (see point 4.)

13.) Match Times:

- i.) All league matches are to be played between 23rd January and 10th May 2023
- ii) Finals Day to be held on May 20th 2023
- iii) Match dates and times are to be determined and agreed by the two team captains. It is suggested that at least two weeks notice is given

14.) Walkover Claims: If a team pulls out of match within 96 hours of the arranged start time, then they will immediately concede the walkover and receive the penalty point unless captains mutually agree another date to play. Walkovers **CAN ONLY** be sanctioned/ entered by the Surrey Office or league coordinators.

15.) Two player teams: To ensure matches are played, clubs are entitled to field two player teams for a league match in cases where raising a full team is not possible. They would therefore begin the match by conceding the two rubbers for which they have no players and begin 0-2 down. The team with two players

is then able to achieve a draw at best. We do ask that out of courtesy, the team fielding two players ensures they warn the opposition captain in advance of the start time, that they will be only bringing two players.

16.) **Court Surface/Indoor:** Any surface is permitted to be played on, it is the decision of the home team. However once a match starts on a chosen surface, unless weather intervenes, then the match must NOT be moved to another surface during the rubber unless captains mutually agree. Matches are permitted to take place indoors if the home venue has the option.

17.) **Fixed/Play By/Week Commencing Dates:**

i) Fixed Dates: The Surrey Padel Leagues are not operating on a fixed date basis.

•
ii.) Play by Dates: The Surrey Padel Leagues are not operating on a strict play by date basis. However, it is recommended that Captains organise matches as early as possible to ensure

18.) **Surrey Padel League Champions:**

For each event, participating teams will be placed into a number of group leagues for each tier. Depending upon the total number of entries in each event, either the top team or top two teams from each group will proceed to finals day which is set for 21st May 2023. Semi-finals and finals will be played on Finals Day.

19.) **League Deadline:** League matches must be completed by 10th May 2023 at the latest. This is to ensure that the line up for the Finals Day to be held on the 21st May is known in sufficient time.

i) If an insufficient number of matches have been played by a team in a division, then the County will investigate the reasoning behind the un-played matches and will take necessary action that the County deems as appropriate.

20.) **Multiple Clubs:** Players are only able to represent one club in the Surrey Padel Leagues. Any example of players representing a second club in the same event will result in all rubbers containing the ineligible player for that subsequent club being conceded 0-6, 0-6. The results for the first club they represented will not be affected.

21.) **Age Restrictions:**

i.) A minimum age requirement of 16 is set for competing in the Surrey Padel Leagues.

ii) In the Centurion League, the combined age of each player pairing **MUST** be over 100 years.

22.) **All White Clothing:** We do not believe that this is a requirement of any venue competing in the Surrey Padel Leagues.

23.) **Trans-Gender:** Surrey Tennis sanctions trans males and females wishing to take part in any Surrey Tennis competition. We recognise, however, that there may be some concerns about fairness in the women's and mixed game. Our policy assumes that trans women (male-to-female trans person) wishing to compete in mixed or female sanctioned tennis competitions do so with the best of intentions and with no intent to deceive about their status to gain any competitive advantage. Accordingly, you should accept people in the gender they present and verification of their identity should be no more than that expected of any other player. If you need more information regarding our policy on trans players or if you would like to discuss a concern about competing against a trans player, then please contact competitions@surrey.tennis