

Q: Do you have to have a partner to join in or does the club provide one..?

A: In nearly all cases players agree to pair up and enter as a team, however, there are exceptions...

If you are new to the club and would like to join in or simply you're not sure if there are any other members also looking for partners, probably the best way to get around this is to show up at the regular Rota sessions and simply ask other fellow players, alternatively you could let myself or Brady Wheadon know that you're looking for a doubles partner and he will put out a call of sorts through email, that method has worked in the past.

Q: Is it possible to enter the leagues after they have started..?

A: Yes, it is, in the first few weeks or so of the competition starting, and providing there is space in the league you would be most suited in, however, the chances are that there won't be a space available.

Q: Is it possible to have two different partners and enter as two separate teams..?

A: Yes. But no more than two different partners across all the leagues.

Q: How many matches are we expected to play..?

A: There's a general expectation that you will play at least 3 matches (hopefully, many more..!) over the 3 month period.

Many teams play the full complement, often as many as 9 or 10 matches.

It is a commitment playing in the Doubles Leagues but 1 match a month should be playable within most member's busy routines.

Do note though, that the biggest gripe amongst players is reserved for teams who only manage just a few matches.

Q: How to do you arrange matches..?

A: Firstly, it's good to come to some understanding with your partner and agree to who's going to play the main role arranging or accepting invites to play.

Once that's sorted, players often reserve a court using our online booking system and then offer an invite to the other teams in the league via text or email, this method is usually very effective.

Q: Is there an advantage in playing a real 3rd set...?

A: Yes. It gives the opportunity for whoever goes on to *lose* that set, of gaining a bonus point if they win at least 4 games.

Q: Are there set rules about promotion and relegation positions..?

A: Promotion positions are set. The top 4 teams in League 2 will be guaranteed promotion, top 4 teams in League 3, top 4 teams in League 4 and the top 5 teams in League 5.

Relegation is dependant on the overall makeup of the next set of leagues, and that depends on :

- a) the number of new teams entering the leagues
- b) the number of teams leaving the leagues

As a general rule it's best to avoid finding yourself in the precarious position of being in the lower half of the league, if you do not want the risk of being relegated.

Q: Do we have to polish the cups before returning them to the club for the next set of leagues..?

A: No. The cups are very special and never, ever tarnish or dis-colour in any way.

Q: What happens when a team can no longer play any more games, can the teams which haven't played them claim a walkover..?

A: No. Life just gets in the way sometimes and players for various reasons pullout.

Their results stand and it means if you haven't played them before they pullout, you've missed that opportunity to play them.

Q: Why are some teams so difficult to arrange to play a match with..?

A: Well, some players/teams have a lot of availability and others less so.

There are many players with family commitments, work demands, studies or other life pressures which make it difficult for them to commit or arrange matches.

When arranging matches it might be worthwhile to ask if one of the players of the other team is pressed for time and *ask them* to suggest when is a good time, and try and work around it.

Q: Why is a 2 set victory which gives you 6 points, awarded the same points as winning a 2-1 victory but with 4 games won in the losing set..?

A: Yes, that is the case.

This may be reviewed for future leagues if enough players think that a 2-0 victory is not awarded with enough points and does not reflect the result accurately enough.

A bonus point for achieving 4 games in a losing set is a reflection of the effort and closeness of that set and to encourage competitive play right to the very last game.

Q: When we get a Bagel point for winning 6-0, are there any real Bagels in the clubhouse ?

No, sadly the club does not have enough space in the fridge to store the Bagels.