

LEEDS TENNIS LEAGUE

VETERANS' DOUBLES LEAGUE RULES

PURPOSE

1. To encourage exercise and competitive tennis for those who are 50 years old and over and able to play mid-week during the day when it is off-peak usage at clubs.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

2. A player, he or she, must be:
 - a. At least 50 years old at the start of a Season (two Seasons in a year, Summer – 1st May to 16th October; and Winter - 1st November to 16th April); and
 - b. A paid up and current member of a tennis club that is affiliated to the Leeds Tennis League.
3. Play must happen only on a weekday in the day time, between 10.00am and 5.00pm.

DIVISION CONDITIONS

4. A doubles team can be drawn from a pool of either minimum two or maximum three players, all of whom must be notified to the Veterans League Co-ordinator prior to the start of play of a new set of matches. (Three players permitted so as to allow for such situations as one player absent due to holidays or injuries.)
5. One team will be the designated 'home' team, who will book and pay for the courts.
6. The designated 'away' team must provide a tube of new tennis balls of a recognised tournament make such as Head, Wilson, Slazenger / Dunlop – Nearly new tennis balls are not permissible.
7. If the Summer season, then play is expected to be outside.
8. If Winter season then play expected to be inside, but if both pairs agree, then play could be outside if a fine weather day.
9. Each Division to consist of 7 doubles teams, unless numbers dictate otherwise – with 3 home and 3 away matches to be played in a Round.
10. Each Round is expected to last for 8 weeks, so that there will be 3 Rounds in a Season.
11. At the end of a Round after playing each other once, there will be promotion and relegation, with two teams up and two down.

MATCH DATES AND TIMES

12. It will be the responsibility of the home team captain for that match to take the initiative and to email or phone the away team captain to suggest 3 alternative dates with times only on a weekday in the day time, between 10.00am and 5.00pm.
13. The away team captain should then respond within 72 hours to the home team captain so that the date and time can be fixed.
14. Once the date and time are fixed then it can only change by mutual consent of both the team captains.
15. A team will automatically default a set if they arrive more than 20 minutes after the scheduled time.

MATCH FORMAT

16. Each match will be two tie-break sets, normal rules. If at the conclusion it is one set all, a Championship Tie Break will be played, with the winner being the first to 10 and two clear points. Tie break to continue if a 10-10 situation until one team moves two points clear.

POINTS AWARDED FOR EACH MATCH

17. Points will be awarded as follows:
- A Win: 4 points
 - A Draw: 2 points, providing there's a need to stop because of bad weather and at least first set is played and second set has 7 or more games played but there is no two game advantage. Similarly, if into the Championship Tie Break and weather stops play then a draw if no team is two points up
 - A Loss: 1 point
 - Game not arranged and not played – No points
 - Game arranged and one team did not show - deduct 1 penalty point to the 'no show' team

RECORDING AND SUBMITTING MATCH SCORES

18. To begin with, we will use a process of emailing of results by teams to the Vets League Co-ordinator who in turn will record the results and update a spreadsheet for each table.
19. So, for each match played:
- Match scores must be recorded on a scorecard and signed off after the match by the Winning and Losing captains. The scorecard should be retained by the Winning captain.
 - The Winning team captain must then *within 48 hours of playing the match*, email the scores to the Veteran Doubles League Section Co-ordinator, Mike Green, at email address mjgreen1@btinternet.com
 - The Winning team captain should copy the Losing team captain in on his email to the Vets League Co-ordinator.
 - The Losing captain should then *within 48 hours of receiving the email*, do a 'reply all' to the Vets League Co-ordinator and the Winning Captain to confirm or otherwise the result.
 - Any discrepancies on scores will be followed-up by the Vets Section Co-ordinator.

BAD WEATHER

20. Only if it is really bad, 'inclement' weather on the day should the match be called off, or if during play then play stopped. Both captains should talk this through with each other and then reach agreement.

GOOD CONDUCT THROUGHOUT AND FAIR PLAY

21. Throughout the process of arranging a match and then playing it, captains and players will conduct themselves in a polite and friendly manner.
22. During the match itself, the League expects all players to behave well, avoid the use of bad language and undertake 'fair play'. If in any doubt of what this means, then all players should go to the League's website www.leadstennis.org.uk and read the Fair Play Charter.

DISPUTES

23. If any disputes should arise between team captains or teams, then they should be reported in the first instance to the Vets Doubles League co-ordinator who will try to sort the matter out with

those concerned. If this proves not possible, the section league Co-ordinator will refer this to the Chairman and Secretary of the League and their ruling will be final.

PRICE OF ENTRY

- 24. For each person entering in a doubles team of 2 or 3 people - £5.00 per person for the Summer competition and if entering the Winter competition, also £5.00 per person.
- 25. *Please note: The Leeds Tennis League hopes this will be a once-off starting fee per competition for each player. However the League reserves the right to review after 3 years and then thereafter.*

APPLICATIONS AND CHEQUES

- 26. Please complete the Application Form as given on the next page, answering all questions.
- 27. Please sign and date the Declaration.
- 28. The Application Form and accompanying cheque(s), made payable to “Leeds Tennis League”, to then be sent prior to the start of that season or, if coming in part way through a season prior to the start of a new Round to:
 - a. Mike Green, Vets Doubles League Co-ordinator, Leeds Tennis League, at address:
15 Linton Avenue, Wetherby, LS22 6SQ Contact details mjgreen1@btinternet.com
01937 582810 or 07885 440278

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