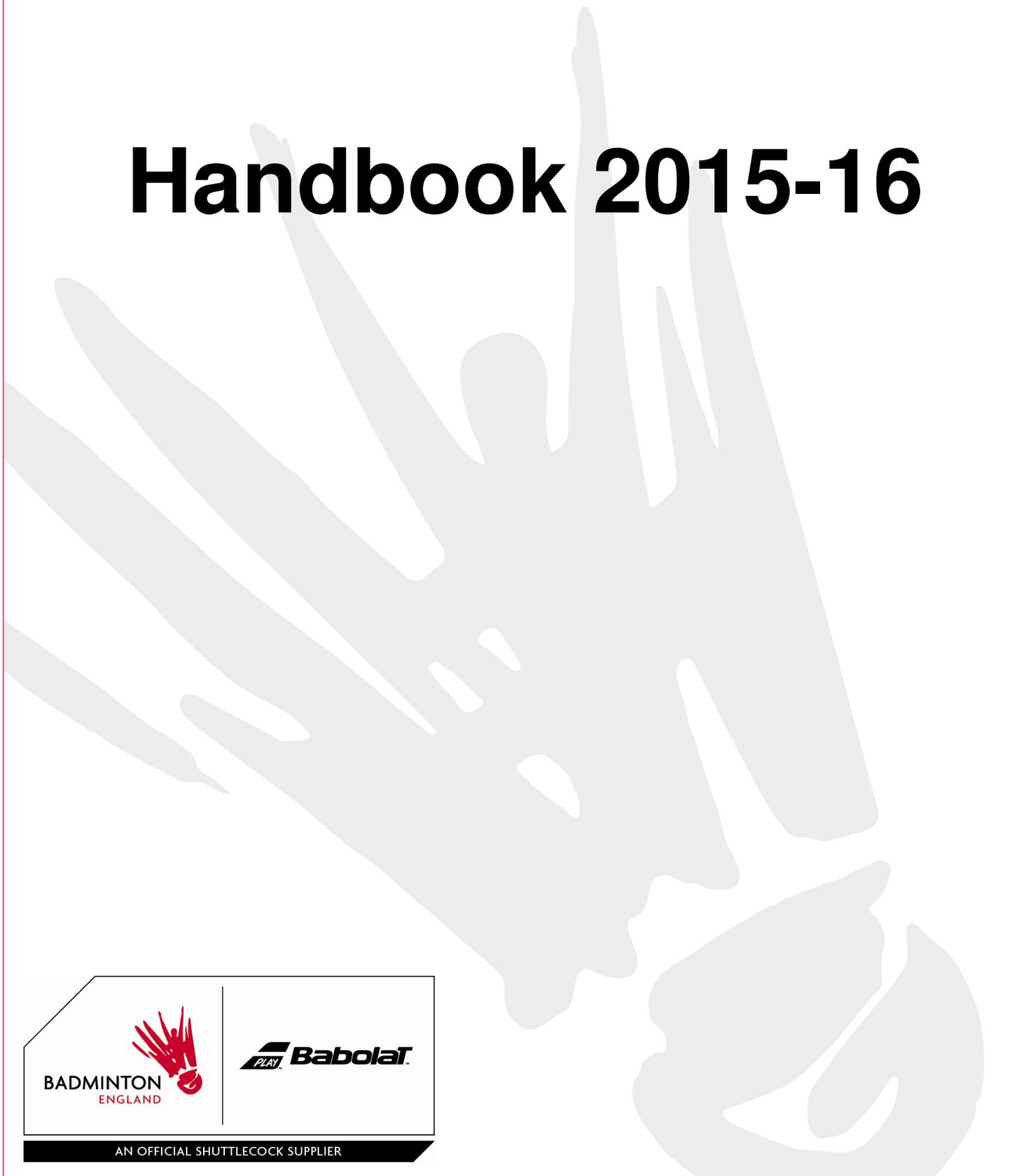


**BADMINTON**  
ENGLAND



**COUNTY  
COMPETITION**

# Handbook 2015-16



**BADMINTON**  
ENGLAND



**PLAY Babolat**

AN OFFICIAL SHUTTLECOCK SUPPLIER

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# The Badminton England Senior County Championships 2015/16

## Divisions & Sections

### Premiership

<p><b>Avon</b></p> <p><b>Buckinghamshire</b></p> <p><b>Cheshire</b></p> <p><b>Glasgow &amp; North Strathclyde</b></p> <p><b>Lancashire</b></p> <p><b>Middlesex</b></p> <p><b>Nottinghamshire</b></p> <p><b>Surrey</b></p> <p><b>Warwickshire</b></p> <p><b>Yorkshire</b></p>
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### Division 1

<b>North</b>	<b>South</b>
<p><b>Derbyshire</b></p> <p><b>Lanarkshire</b></p> <p><b>Leicestershire</b></p> <p><b>Leinster</b></p> <p><b>Mid Glamorgan</b></p> <p><b>Worcestershire</b></p> <p><b>Yorkshire 2</b></p> <p><b>Yorkshire 3</b></p>	<p><b>Essex</b></p> <p><b>Hampshire</b></p> <p><b>Hampshire 2</b></p> <p><b>Hertfordshire</b></p> <p><b>Hertfordshire 2</b></p> <p><b>Middlesex 2</b></p> <p><b>Surrey 2</b></p> <p><b>Sussex</b></p>

## Division 2

North	Central	South East	South West
Cheshire 2	Buckinghamshire 2	Berkshire	Avon 2
Glasgow & NS 2	Cambridgeshire	Essex 2	Devon
Lancashire 2	Derbyshire 2	Hertfordshire 3	Devon 2
Lancashire 3	Leicestershire 2	Kent	Dorset
Lothian	Oxfordshire	Middlesex 3	Gloucestershire
Northumberland	Shropshire	Norfolk	Somerset
Ulster	Staffordshire	Suffolk	Wiltshire
Yorkshire 4	Warwickshire 2	Sussex 2	West Glamorgan

## Division 3

North	Central	South East	South West
Cumbria	Bedfordshire	Berkshire 2	Cornwall
Durham	Cambridgeshire 2	Buckinghamshire 3	Jersey
Isle of Man	Essex 3	Hampshire 3	Dorset 2
Lothian 2	Norfolk 2	Kent 2	Gloucestershire 2
Northumberland 2	Northamptonshire	Kent 3	Guernsey
Nottinghamshire 2	Staffordshire 2	Middlesex 4	Oxfordshire 2
Nottinghamshire 3	Warwickshire 3	Surrey 3	Oxfordshire 3
Yorkshire 5	Worcestershire 2	Sussex 3	Wiltshire 2

## Division 4

North	Central	South East	South West
Cumbria 2	Avon 3	Bedfordshire	Cornwall 2
Durham 2	Avon 4	Cambridgeshire 3	Devon 3
Lanarkshire 2	Cheshire 3	Lincolnshire	Dorset 3
Northumberland 2	Derbyshire 3	Lincolnshire 2	Isle of Wight
	Leicestershire 3	Norfolk 3	Isle of Wight 2
	Shropshire 2	Northamptonshire 2	Somerset 2
	Worcestershire 3	Northamptonshire 3	Somerset 3
	Worcestershire 4	Suffolk 2	Wiltshire 3

## Competition Dates

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
<b>Premiership</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Premiership</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> December		<b>Premiership</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Regional Divisions</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Regional Divisions</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> December*	<b>Regional Divisions</b> 30 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup> January	<b>Regional Play-Offs</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> March

\*Division 3 North will be played on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December due to hall availability.

# Regulations for the Badminton England Senior County Championships 2015/16

## SENIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. They will be competed for annually in accordance with the following regulations, or such other regulations as Badminton England, may from time to time approve, and the Laws of Badminton as adopted by the Badminton World Federation [BWF].

The County Championships shall be managed by Badminton England. Subject thereto each competing county shall be responsible for all matters affecting its county's teams.

The Senior County Championships shall be governed by the following Regulations.

## COMPETITION STRUCTURE

2. The Championships shall comprise:  
The Premiership and Regional Divisions.
  - (a) The Premiership shall comprise the top ten county first teams, 2<sup>nd</sup> teams are not permitted in the premiership.
  - (b) Division 1 shall comprise the next sixteen county teams, split geographically into two sections of 8 (North and South).
  - (c) The remaining Regional Divisions shall consist of all other county teams, split geographically into four sections of 8. If there are less than 32 teams in the lowest division, Badminton England shall designate the sections.
  - (d) A maximum of two teams from the same county are allowed in a regional division and shall be in the same section.

## DEFINITIONS

3. For the purposes of these regulations the following definitions shall apply;  
Events - men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles are different 'events'.  
Match - the best of three games is a 'match'.  
Section - the combination of county teams which shall be scheduled to play each other in the Regional Divisions shall be known as sections.  
Tie - the competition between one county team and another is known as a 'tie'.  
Weekend – the designated dates (Saturday and Sunday) on which the Premiership and Regional divisions are contested.

## ELIGIBILITY

4. The Championships shall be open to:
  - (a) Every English county association affiliated to Badminton England.
  - (b) The different Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, if governed by an association recognised as a county association by and affiliated to Badminton England.
  - (c) Any Irish, Scottish or Welsh regional association, if similarly governed and subject to the sanction of its own national



- |   |      |
|---|------|
| (b) Regional Division                         |      |
| For each team affiliated to Badminton England | £650 |
| For each other team                           | £700 |

## **PROGRAMME OF COMPETITION**

7. (a) Premiership  
Teams shall play each other once as determined by Badminton England (Regulation 10(a) refers).
- (b) The Regional Divisions
- (i) This shall consist of Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 etc. Division 1 shall be divided into two sections of 8 teams. Each remaining Division shall be divided into four sections of eight teams. Should the lowest division comprise less than 32 teams, sections will be determined by Badminton England.
- (ii) In each section of 8 teams, teams shall play each other once as determined by Badminton England (Regulation 10(b) refers). Should a county have two teams in the same section, their tie shall be the first tie played in that section.
- (iii) In any section of 4 or 5 teams, teams shall play each other twice as determined by Badminton England (Regulation 10(b) refers). Should a county have two teams in the same section, their ties shall be the first ties played in that section.

## **TROPHIES**

8. (a) The county winning the Premiership shall be regarded as the champion county and shall have the right to hold until the following 1st March the trophy presented by the Chester, Claughton, Grosvenor and Wallasey Badminton clubs.
- (b) The top 2 teams in Division 1, North & South shall play-off to decide the winners of Division 1. The winners shall have the right to hold until the following 1<sup>st</sup> March the trophy presented by Brigadier R. Bruce Hay DSO.
- (c) The trophies shall remain the property of Badminton England, which shall be responsible for insurance and engraving. The holders shall be responsible for their care and maintenance.

## **PROMOTION AND RELEGATION**

9. (a) Following the Division 1 Play-Offs, promotion from Division 1, North & South to the Premiership shall be determined as follows:
- (i) The best two play-off teams eligible under Regulation 2(a) shall be promoted to the Premiership. If there is only one eligible team then the 9<sup>th</sup> placed Premiership team will not be relegated. If there are no eligible teams then no Premiership teams will be relegated.
- (ii) the format of all play-offs shall be decided by Badminton England;
- (b) Promotion from Division 2 of the Regional Divisions to Division 1 North & South shall be determined as follows:
- (i) if the four teams winning the sections of Division 2 are eligible under Regulation 2(b) and 2(d), they will play-off as determined by Badminton England;
- (ii) if the winning team of any section is ineligible, then if the second placed team of that section is eligible for

- promotion under Regulation 2(b) and 2(d), they shall be included in the play-offs;
- (iii) the format of all play-offs shall be decided by Badminton England;
  - (c) In all other Divisions, teams finishing top of their section will be promoted, if eligible under Regulation 2(b) and 2(d).
  - (d) If a lower team from a county is in a position of promotion over a higher team from a county, then the lower team would be promoted, but renamed to the higher team number of that county.
  - (e) The bottom two teams in the Premiership shall be relegated unless two teams are not eligible for promotion from the division 1 play-offs, Regulation 9(a) above refers.
  - (f) The bottom team in Division 1 North and the bottom team in Division 1 South shall be relegated.
  - (g) The bottom team in each section of the remaining Regional Divisions, except the lowest Division, shall be relegated, except where no team in the lower Division is eligible for promotion. If there are more than 4 sections in the lowest division, all section winners shall be promoted and teams finishing second bottom of their sections in the division above shall be relegated to accommodate them. The teams to be relegated shall be determined by points scored.
  - (h) If a team is relegated to a lower Division in which the county already has a team or teams, so that Regulation 2(d) is breached, then the lowest existing team in the lower Division shall also be relegated.
  - (i) Notwithstanding the foregoing Regulations, Badminton England shall be empowered to promote and to relegate teams and to alter sections at its absolute discretion.

#### **ARRANGEMENTS FOR PLAYING TIES**

- 10. (a) Premiership. The division shall be completed in three weekends on dates and at venues determined by Badminton England.
- (b) Regional Divisions. Each Division shall be completed in three weekends on dates and at venues determined by Badminton England.
- (c) Badminton England will provide feather shuttlecocks for all ties unless notified by them to the contrary.
- (d) Badminton England shall have the power to decide any point upon which competing Counties are unable to agree, and for which these Regulations make no provision.

#### **EXPENSES OF TIES**

- 11. (a) The costs of venues, shuttlecocks and other incidental expenses shall be borne by Badminton England.
- (b) Accommodation and travelling expenses shall be borne by each team or its county.
- (c) Badminton England shall be empowered, at its discretion, to make grants towards travelling expenses, subject to the availability of finance.
- (d) Badminton England shall have the power to make, at its discretion, charges and or grants towards expenses incurred for any play-offs for promotion.

## **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

12. Providing players meet all the criteria outlined below they will be qualified to play;
- (a) In good standing with their national association
  - (b) Meet the criteria set out in Appendix A
  - (c) Paid members of Badminton England with the exception of Social Membership.

## **CONSTITUTION OF TIES**

- 13.
- (a) Each team shall be arranged in such a way as to provide for three men's singles players, two women's singles players, two men's doubles pairs, two women's doubles pairs and two mixed doubles pairs. The pairs in each doubles event shall be composed of entirely different players. All players and pairs shall be listed strictly in descending order of merit. Not doing so will result in all results in an event being forfeit.
  - (b) Captains shall present the composition of their teams in writing to the Referee at least fifteen minutes before the scheduled start of the tie and, unless instructed by the Referee, e.g. for a breach in Regulation 13(a), no alteration shall be made thereafter except as provided in Regulation 14(b).
  - (c) There is no limit on the number of players which may play over a weekend. Different players and pairs may be selected for different ties subject to Regulations 13(d) and 15.
  - (d) Each player may only compete in a maximum of two events per tie.
  - (e) Any county objecting to the composition or ranking of their opponents team must appeal to the Referee before the commencement of any event in which such a player is competing (See Regulations 18 (b) and (f)). If the dispute is not resolved the complainant should ensure that the objection is noted on the result submitted online to Badminton England and send a supporting letter to be received by Badminton England within four days of the tie.
  - (f) If a county has two teams in the same section, then for the opening tie(s) between those teams, it is expected that a minimum of 6 of any nominated players for the teams shall play. If this is not the case, written reasons must be given to the match referee and reported with the result. Badminton England reserves the right to apply sanctions.
14. General
- (a) A county shall appoint a captain of its team for each tie and in default a team shall appoint its own captain.
  - (b) A captain shall be entitled to include a substitute for a player nominated in accordance with Regulation 13(b) and 15(d):
    - (i) in the event of the player having failed to arrive by the time that player is required to play their first match; or
    - (ii) in the event of any player being incapacitated after play in a tie has begun, so that they cannot continue playing, for any subsequent matches in which such incapacitated player should have taken part. The injury or other incapacity must be caused entirely after play has begun and not be due solely to tiredness or the worsening of an existing ailment; and providing that in either case.
    - (iii) the Referee (Regulation 17) AND the opposing team captain have been notified of the intention to substitute the

absent or incapacitated player. An incapacitated player, having been substituted, is no longer eligible to take any further part in the tie.

- (iv) the substitute shall be available to play when required.
- (v) there is no breach in Regulation 13(a).

Subject to the foregoing, if a substitute is required for a player selected for two events, a different substitute may be included for each such event, but no substitute shall be a player who has already been selected to play in that particular event within that tie. The Referee's decision in any dispute about a substitution shall be final.

- (c) If any county has difficulty fielding teams when more than one team is playing on the same day then the higher team must take priority.

### **NOMINATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

15. (a) Every county that has more than one team entered in the Championships shall send in writing to the Championships Secretary by the 15th October, the full names of at least five men and four women for each team except the lowest. The men and women nominated shall be entirely different for each team.

**ALL PLAYERS IT IS INTENDED TO PLAY REGULARLY IN THAT TEAM SHALL BE NOMINATED.**

The eligibility of these nominated players shall previously have been ascertained and their assent obtained and they shall not be eligible to play at any time during the season for a lower team or for any other county. Counties should make their nominations in the spirit of the competition.

A penalty may be imposed on counties considered to have breached this Regulation (see Regulation 24). In the event of any county not having submitted such nominations before playing its first tie in any section the players who took part in that county's first tie in each section shall be regarded as having been nominated for the team in question, unless subsequently de-nominated under Regulation 15(b).

- (b) When a player has played no more than one weekend for a team for which they have been nominated a county may apply, stating reasons, to the Championships Secretary, for de-nomination. Should such de-nomination be granted then the player may not play in the higher team during the rest of the season.
- (c) In addition, in a season, players shall not be eligible to play for lower teams if they shall have played for a higher team on more than one weekend as defined in Regulation 3.
- (d) In the event of two or more ties in different Divisions or Sections, involving two or more teams of a county, being played at the same time, a player may not play under the terms of Regulations 13 for more than one of these teams.

- (e) Players selected for any play-off shall have played for one or more teams a total of three ties in the competition in the current season. In the event of a player having been absent through serious injury, serious illness or pregnancy application for exemption may be made in writing to the Championships Secretary. The decision of Badminton England shall be final.
- (f) A player may only represent one county in a season unless their circumstances change significantly, e.g. moving house making travel to their nominated county unrealistic. In any case, any wish to change counties must be made in writing to the Championships Secretary. The decision of Badminton England shall be final.

16. General

- (a) Unless mutually otherwise agreed, the order of play in each tie shall be firstly all singles matches, secondly all men's and women's doubles matches and thirdly all mixed doubles matches. The order of play in each of these events shall be decided by the Referee.
- (b) The revised Laws of Badminton as introduced by the BWF in May 2006 shall be used, including the Rally Points Scoring System, intervals and coaching. Each match shall be the best of three games of 21 points except that if the score reaches 20-all the winner is the player/pair with 2 clear points or whose score reaches 30 first.
- (c) Any player or pair absent or unwilling to play when required to do so shall forfeit the match concerned, which shall be scored as a win for the opponents by two games to love, except that thirty minutes' grace shall be granted from the time fixed for the commencement of the tie, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the two captains.
- (d) A player is entitled to at least twenty minutes rest after every singles match, and at least ten minutes rest after any doubles match, before their next match.

**REFEREES AND THEIR DUTIES**

- 17. Badminton England shall appoint a referee to all ties. The same person may be appointed to referee two or more ties at the same venue and at the same time. Any card issued to a player during a tie must be submitted to the Championships Secretary within 4 days of the tie.
- 18. It shall be the duty of the Referee:
  - (a) to be in overall charge of the tie or ties;
  - (b) to settle any matters of dispute, including, but not restricted to, the speed of shuttles, order of players (Regulations 13(a), substitutions (Regulation 14(b) and 15(d), order of play (Regulation 16), & clothing (Regulation 21 & Appendix A);
  - (c) to fulfill the duties concerning misconduct within the Laws of Badminton, disqualification of players, and appeals on questions on the Laws of Badminton;
  - (d) to fulfill the duties under Regulation 20 regarding notification of results and affiliation numbers;
  - (e) to fulfill the duties under Regulation 22 concerning Umpires;
  - (f) to report to the Championships Secretary any complaints or unresolved disputes in writing within four days of the tie.

## **DECISIONS OF TIES AND SECTIONS**

19. (a) One point will be awarded for each match won.
- (b) The winner of a Division or section shall be the team which wins the most number of points.
- (c) The winner of a tie shall be decided by the number of matches won in such a tie.
- (d) Should two or more teams be equal on points the following shall decide the standings;
- (i) The team who wins the most ties.
- (ii) If two teams have won the same number of ties the winner of the tie between them.
- (iii) If there is no winner under (ii), or if three or more teams are equal these teams will be placed in descending order according to overall game difference. NB Game difference is number of games won minus games lost.
- (iv) If two teams are then equal the winner of the tie between them.
- (v) If there is no winner under (iv), or if three or more teams are equal these teams will be placed in descending order according to overall points difference. NB Points difference is number of points won minus points lost.
- (vi) If three or more teams are still equal Badminton England will decide.

## **NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS**

20. (a) The result of every tie in the Premiership, together with the full scores of all matches therein and the names of players and the required affiliation numbers, signed by the captain or other official of both teams, shall be given to the Referee by the winning team. The Referee shall be responsible for confirming the accuracy of the result sheet.
- (b) The result of every tie in the Regional Divisions, together with the full scores of all matches therein and the full names of the players and the required affiliation numbers, signed by the captain or other official of BOTH teams and the Referee confirming the accuracy of the result sheet, shall be sent using the online results system by the winning team to reach the Championships Secretary within four days of the tie.

## **CLOTHING**

21. The BWF Clothing Regulations as adopted by BE shall apply (see Appendix B). Please note;
- (a) For the Premiership team kit bearing the full county name, except where permission is sought to use an abbreviated name from Badminton England, shall be worn by each individual player for the duration of their first match of each tie as a minimum and such kit should be worn throughout the whole tie if at all possible.
- (b) Whilst Regulation 21(a) is not mandatory for regional divisions it is recommended that it is adhered to wherever possible.

## **UMPIRES**

22. (a) Badminton England, in conjunction with the Badminton Umpires

Association of England (BUAofE) will appoint umpires to ties wherever possible.

- (b) When umpires and service judges are appointed by the BUAofE to officiate, the BUAofE shall also appoint a manager of umpires. The manager of umpires shall appoint umpires and service judges to individual matches. The team captains or Referee shall not make any such appointments nor make any stipulation as to the identity of such officials.
- (c) The Referee shall have the right to request the manager of umpires to replace an umpire or service judge during the course of a match if the Referee considers that the official is not carrying out their duties in a satisfactory manner and such a request shall not be refused. The Referee shall then submit a written report to the Honorary Secretary of the BUAofE within 7 days.
- (d) Where insufficient umpires are available for all matches to be service judged, then the Referee may request the manager of umpires to appoint such an official to a particular match.

### **COMPLAINTS**

23. Any complaint made by the Referee, team managers or captains, the manager of umpires or a player shall be submitted in writing to Championships Secretary to be received within four days of the tie concerned.
- The Championships Secretary shall then take such action as may be appropriate under these Regulations or Badminton England's disciplinary procedures.

### **PENALTIES**

24. (a) Any county which shall fail to carry out any or all the commitments of any of its teams in any season shall be liable to a fine of £200.00 and/or to have a section point or points deducted, and shall be liable to have the entry of the defaulting team rejected in the following season.
- (b) Badminton England may also require a county to pay by a specified date a deposit of £200.00 per team, in default of which the entry of the team or teams shall be rejected. This deposit shall be forfeit if any of its commitments are not carried out in the following season. The deposit shall be reviewed annually, and may be retained for the following seasons until the conduct of the county is considered satisfactory.
- (c) Any county failing to play all the scheduled matches in a tie as a result of having an incomplete team, unless caused by illness or injury arising during the tie, will be fined £50 for each player missing in each tie;
- (d) Any county which shall fail to complete records required by these Regulations or who shall play a player who is ineligible under Regulations 12 - 15 inclusive will be fined £50.00 for each match in which such a player competes, in addition to the deduction of points won.
- (e) If any player nominated under Regulation 15(a) fails to play for that team during the season and if this reduces the number of nominated

men or women to less than five for men and four for women, a fine of £50 will be imposed.

- (f) A county failing to comply with Regulation 20 shall be fined £25 on each occasion in addition to any other action, which may be taken under this Regulation.
- (g) A county failing to comply with Regulation 21 shall be fined £25 per offence, per player, per tie.
- (h) Badminton England shall have the power to cancel results in any event, and to award walk-overs to the other team, if, after full consideration, any protest made in writing within four days of the date of the tie is upheld, or if Badminton England considers it to be in the best interests of the competition.
- (i) Badminton England shall have the power to withhold any monies that may be allocated or won and/or deduct points from teams if it is considered to be in the best interests of the competition.
- (j) Any appeal made against any penalty imposed must be made in writing to the Championships Secretary within 21 days of the date on the letter from Badminton England imposing the penalty, and must be accompanied by a cheque payable to Badminton England Ltd for the full amount of any fine.
- (k) The Penalty System as detailed in the Badminton England Regulations for Tournaments shall apply, with specific reference to (although not exclusive to) Cards for Misconduct.

#### **GENERAL**

- 25. Badminton England shall have full powers to decide any matters not covered by the foregoing Regulations.

## **Appendix A - Badminton England County Competition Eligibility:**

The following regulations apply to all Badminton England County Championship and Challenge competitions.

All players must be in good standing with Badminton England and be either; a playing member of Badminton England or registered with Badminton England if they are member another national association affiliated to the Badminton World Federation.

A player shall be eligible to represent a County if they:

- a) Were born in that county
- b) Currently reside in that county
- c) Currently in full time education in that county
- d) Last represented that county

A player may not represent more than one county during the same season without special dispensation.

If a county proposes to use a player who has played for another county in the preceding season that county must notify the match secretary of the previous county, and Badminton England Competitions Team, of the change as soon as it is known and before the player plays for the new county for the first time.

Junior County; players must be below the qualifying age groups by the 1st January of that season.

Masters County; players must fall within the qualifying age groups at the start of the tie. Masters participating in the Masters County Championships and Masters County Challenge must represent the same county in both competitions if there is a team entered in the appropriate age group, however if such a team is not entered the player may represent another county provided they are otherwise eligible.

Should a county be in any doubt regards a player's eligibility then these should be made in writing to Badminton England Competitions Team by following the Appeals process laid out.

Badminton England reserves the right to grant special dispensations.

### **Definitions**

#### **a) Were born in that county**

A player will be required to supply a copy of their birth certificate. County of birth will be determined using the County Boundaries.

#### **b) Currently reside in that county**

A player is considered to be resident in a county where, for the time being, it is usual for them to live and forms part of their regular and habitual mode of life for more than 183 days and nights of the year (31<sup>st</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August). If residence is less than 183 days of the year then special dispensation is required.

In considering whether a person is resident, all the circumstances of the particular case will need to be considered and evidence to support the case by providing:

- i) Two pieces of documentation from the list below. Players may provide evidence in their parents or legal guardians' name.
- ii) Can demonstrate that they will be at this address for 183 days of the year as part of their regular life (eg. reason for change, personal circumstance, work, school, family, property, social ties). Where the player is over 18 and has not provided two pieces of documentation in their own name then further evidence may be requested.

Documentation for proof of address:

- Current lease/tenancy agreement showing name and address.
- A mortgage statement from a recognised Lender (issued within the last 12 months).
- Residence you are named on the Land registry (eg. solicitor's letter confirming recent house purchase or land registry confirmation).
- Household bill eg. council tax, utility bill, current television license, fixed line telephone (not mobile phone, satellite/cable TV or internet printed bills). (Issued within the last 6 months).
- Current full UK photo-card driving license or paper driving license, showing name and address. A provisional licence is only acceptable for individuals aged under 18.
- HM Revenue & Customs (Inland Revenue) tax document eg tax assessment, statement of account, PAYE coding notice, tax credits. It must contain your full name and current address (issued within the last 12 months). Please note pay slip, P45s and P60s are NOT acceptable.
- Notification of entitlement from the relevant agency confirming the right to benefits, state pension, educational grant, or other government/local authority grant (issued within the last 12 months).

For valuable documents you may prefer to send us certified copies rather than the original documents.

### **c) Currently in full time education in that county**

The county will be determined for the place of education based on the admissions address. Proof of education may be required, whereby the following will apply:

By law, all children between 5 and 16 must receive full-time education that meets their needs (eg if they have special educational needs). This may be at school or home educated. For players over the age of 16 to count as a full-time student, your course must:

- i) last at least 6 months (where you are required to attend for at least 24 weeks of the year)
- ii) involve at least 12 hours tuition or work experience per week during term time

As a guide this includes full-time college or university students, postgraduates, student nurses, apprentice schemes.

Documentation for proof of education:

- Letter of admission from the School, or letter from the school that demonstrates you are at that school.
- UCAS letter or student loan agreement from a Local Education Authority (issued within the last 6 months).

- Certificate of student status provided by your university or college (it is a requirement of the law for them to provide you a certificate if requested for up to a year after you complete your course).
- Council Tax Exemption Certificate that shows you are recognised as being in full time education.

It might be necessary for a class schedule to be requested, or list of courses you are registered to attend in order to demonstrate at least 12 hours tuition or work experience per week.

#### **d) Last represented that county**

Badminton England records of recognised County Tournaments will be used.

Players must have previously met other qualifying criteria to qualify under this regulation.

#### **Appeals Process**

The following amendments in italics to be made to the regulation:

If a county proposes to use a player who has played for another county in the preceding season that county must notify the match secretary of the previous county, and Badminton England Competition & Events Team, of the change as soon as it is known and before the player plays for the new county for the first time. It is the responsibility of the new County to ensure that all players meet the qualification criteria and may be required to provide evidence to such effect.

Should a county be in doubt regards a player's eligibility and can provide good reason or evidence to suggest that they may not be eligible then the following process shall be followed:

- i) The case should be made in writing to Badminton England Competition & Events Team on an official form.
- ii) Badminton England shall respond within 7 days to acknowledge receipt.
- iii) Badminton England will contact the relevant county whose responsibility it will be to provide evidence on behalf of the player within 28 days of notice. During this period the player may continue to play; however this is at the risk that results may be discounted at a later point if found ineligible.
- iv) Where appropriate evidence has been supplied then Badminton England will confirm the player's eligibility to both counties involved.
- v) If the appropriate evidence cannot be provided by the County within 28 days then the player will be deemed ineligible until appropriate evidence can be supplied and will no longer be permitted to play.
- vi) The County may submit a request for special dispensation for that player.

Badminton England reserves the right to grant special dispensations. Requests for special dispensation must be made on the official form on the website. Badminton England will acknowledge receipt of the request within 7 days. Special dispensation must be signed off by Badminton England. There is no fixed time for an outcome decision. During this period the player will not be allowed to represent the County.

## **Appendix B - Badminton England Clothing Regulations:**

### **B.1 CLOTHING (General)**

B.1.1 For the purpose of these Regulations, an article of clothing shall be defined as anything worn or carried by a player during play, except the racket, and including, but not limited to, pullovers, shirts, shorts, skirts, socks, shoes, headbands, towels, wristbands, bandages and medical supports.

B.1.2 In order to ensure attractive presentation of Badminton at tournaments organised or sanctioned by BE, all clothing worn by players shall be acceptable Badminton sports clothing. It is not acceptable to tape over nor to pin on, advertising nor in any other way to modify such clothing to comply with advertising or other regulations.

B.1.3 Regulations regarding advertising apply only to clothing worn during play.

B.1.4 In applying these Regulations the decision of the Referee shall be final.

### **B.2 COLOUR OF PLAYERS CLOTHING**

B.2.1 Each article of clothing may be of any colour or combination of colours.

B.2.2 It is recommended that both players in a pair wear shirts and shorts (or equivalent articles of clothing) of the same colour and similar design throughout a match.

### **B.3 DESIGNS ON PLAYERS' CLOTHING**

B.3.1 Each article of clothing may only bear a design as provided in Regulations B.3.2 to B.3.4.

B.3.2 Abstract designs are permitted when devoid of advertising, commercial or promotional content.

B.3.3 The front of the shirt may carry the flag along with the country name or abbreviation thereof or national emblem of the association represented not exceeding 20 square centimetres in total. The country name on its own and / or along with sponsor's name or logo shall not be permitted.

B.3.4 A design is allowed when it forms part of an advert permitted by Regulation B.5 and falls wholly within the permitted dimensions.

### **B.4 LETTERING ON PLAYERS' CLOTHING**

B.4.1 Each article of clothing may only have visible lettering as provided in Regulations B.4.2 to B.4.5.

B.4.2 Colour, style and height of lettering

B.4.2.1 Lettering shall be in capital letters in the Roman alphabet (except as in Regulation B.4.5.2), and in one single colour contrasting with that of the shirt.

B.4.2.2 If there is a pattern on the back of the shirt, the lettering should be on a contrasting panel.

B.4.2.3 In order that the player's name be legible from a distance for spectators in the stadium and television viewers, lettering must be a minimum height of 6 centimetres and a maximum height of 10 centimetres.

B.4.2.4 The country or county name must be a height of 5 centimetres.

B.4.2.5 Lettering should be horizontal, or as close to horizontal as practically possible, and placed near the top of the shirt.

#### B.4.3 Player names

The name of a player must on the back of the shirt for the English National Championships and shall meet all requirements of Regulation B.4. The player's name shall include the family name (or an abbreviation thereof) and, if desired, the initials of the given name(s) or nickname and shall correspond with the name on the Match Team Sheet.

#### B.4.4 Country or County Name

The name of the player's country or county may appear on the back of the shirt and, shall meet all requirements of Regulation B.4. The country name, if used, shall be either full country name in English or Olympic approved abbreviation. The county name shall be the full county name in accordance with Regulation 28 (a).

#### B.4.5 Lettering sequence and use in advertisements

The sequence on the shirt from top to bottom shall be player name (if present), country or county name (if present), and advert (if present).

### **B.5. ADVERTISING ON PLAYERS' CLOTHING**

B.5.1 Each article of clothing may only have advertising as provided in Regulations B.5.2 to B.5.5.

B.5.2 The shirt may carry advertising as in Regulations B.5.2.1 to B.5.2.2.

B.5.2.1 A maximum of one advertisement may appear on each of the following locations; left sleeve, right sleeve, left shoulder, right shoulder, left collar, right collar, right chest, left chest and centre chest. The shoulder is defined as the visible part of the shoulder on the front of the shirt. There must be no more than five advertisements in total and National flags or emblems for the purpose of this regulation count as advertisements. Each advertisement, including National flags or emblems, must be 20 square centimetres or less.

B.5.2.2 Advertising contained in a band of uniform width not exceeding 10 centimetres on the front and not exceeding 5 centimetres on the backs. Such a band may be at any angle and may be on the front of the shirt, the back of the shirt, or both.

B.5.2.3 If, in the Referee's sole judgment, there is a clash between the content of the advertising in Regulation B.5.2.2 and the tournament sponsors or the TV broadcasters, or if the content of the advertising would infringe local laws or be considered offensive, then the Referee may limit advertising on the shirt to Regulation B.5.2.1.

#### B.5.3 Other Clothing

B.5.3.1 Each sock may carry two advertisements of 20 square centimetres or less.

B.5.3.2 Each other article of clothing may carry one advertisement of 20 square centimetres or less.

B.5.3.4 Clothing worn under player shirts, shorts, skirts or dresses, shall be known as 'underclothing' and not categorised as 'articles of clothing', and if visible must not display advertising.

#### B.5.4 Restrictions on the advertising

B.5.4.1 The advertisements in Regulations B.5.2 and B.5.3 may be the clothing manufacturer's emblem or that of any sponsor.

B.5.4.2 Each advertisement shall only be of one organisation or product.

B.5.4.3 The advertisements shall follow the International Olympic Committee principles and shall not contain any political, religious messages or anything which is not a commercial brand, registered mark or trade mark. (e.g. I don't have a sponsor, I am nice, etc.).

B.5.4.4 Players displaying tattoos, paints, transfers or similar (which are not on clothing) may not display any tattoo, paint or transfer which is illegal, defamatory or commercial in nature or otherwise in breach of the principles relating to advertising on clothing outlined in B.5.4.3

#### B.5.5 Member Association advertising

B.5.5.1 Member Associations may use an area not exceeding fifty square centimetres on their players' shorts or lower part of dresses or skirts.

B.5.5.2 The area shall typically be used for a Member Association's logo or an advertisement for a Member Association's sponsor provided it conforms to Regulation B.5.4.2.

B.5.5.3 If the Member Association does not use such area, that area shall not be utilized for any other advert.

B.5.5.4 If players wear advertising on their shorts or skirts, or lower part of dresses at a match this must be the advertising agreed between the Member Association and BE. All players from the same Member Association in a tournament do not have to wear advertising on their shorts, skirts, or lower part of dresses.

B.5.5.5 Any Member Association wishing to use this type of advertising must have written permission from BE for doing so.

# The Badminton England Senior County Championships 2015/16

## MATCH SECRETARIES CONTACT DETAILS

### AVON

Stephen Bird	15 Sabrina Way	01179683281 (H)	
	Stoke Bishop	07779719001 (M)	stevebrenda.bird@btinternet.com
	Bristol		
	BS9 1ST		

### BEDFORDSHIRE

Darren Kerins	25 Newton Way	01525374439 (W)	
	Leighton Buzzard	01525381658 (H)	drkerins@eclhws.com
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	LU7 4SU		

### BERKSHIRE

Alex Elliott	1 Chrysanthemum Drive		
	Shinfield	07798714096 (M)	alex@elliott10.plus.com
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	Berkshire		
	RG2 9DQ		

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

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	Badminton Centre		mark@stringsnthings.org.uk
	Crest Road		
	High Wycombe		
	HP11 1UA		

### CAMBRIDGESHIRE

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	Peterborough		neilplace101@googlemail.com
	Cambridgeshire		
	PE2 8DS		

### CESHIRE

Kay Vickers	Melgarth	07811362932 (M)	
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	CH3 7AS		

## CORNWALL

Sue Biscoe	3 Lower Rosewin Row	01872242293 (H)	
	Truro	07977250152 (M)	bertbiscoe@btinternet.com
	Cornwall		
	TR1 1EN		

## CUMBRIA

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## DERBYSHIRE

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## DEVON

Malcolm Slack	Nethway Farm	01803752477 (W)	
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	Kingswear	07538364454 (M)	
	Devon		
	TQ6 0EE		

## DORSET

Roy Carder	17 Wessex Trade C	01202735944 (W)	
	Ringwood Road	01425674898 (H)	royccarder@gmail.com
	Poole	07734008006 (M)	
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	BH12 3PF		

## DURHAM

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	Burnopfield	07870318623 (M)	kim.robson100@googlemail.com
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	Durham		
	NE16 6PH		

## ESSEX

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	78 Mill Lane	07703192773 (M)	eric.richardson@btinternet.com
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	CM3 4HX		

## GLASGOW & NORTH STRATHCLYDE

David Forbes	Flat 2/4 59 Fairly Street Glasgow GL51 0UL	07904609832 (M)	davetforbes@hotmail.com
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## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Graham Siddle	Sarum Lodge Broad Street Hartpury GL19 3BN	07803078777 (M)	gsiddle@airtubegroup.co.uk
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## GUERNSEY

Sarah Garbutt	Alsara Clos De La Rocquette Guernsey GY5 7AY	01481200825 (W) 01481251000 (H) 07781125768 (M)	garbuta@hotmail.com
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## HAMPSHIRE

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## HERTFORDSHIRE

Nigel Abdullah	35 Rushfield Potters Bar Hertfordshire EN6 3HN	01707645490 (H) 07970473986 (M)	nigelabdullah@bluebottle.com
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## ISLE OF MAN

Sharon Nicholson			sharoncyg@yahoo.co.uk
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## ISLE OF WHITE

Richard Gray	37 Alvington Road Carisbrook Newport Isle of Wight PO30 5AR	01983822086 (H) 07970836244 (M)	richardgray32@aol.com
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## JERSEY

Emily Temple Redshaw	Flat 2, Channel Mews 108 Rouge Boulion St Helier Jersey JE2 3ZU	07797849292 (M)	emsy_t-r@live.com
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## KENT

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## LANARKSHIRE

Frank Turnbull	5 Glengowan Millheugh Larkhall ML9 1AS	01698881123 (H)	fturn48880@aol.com
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## LANCASHIRE

Brian Greenwood	26 Hala Grove Lancaster Lancashire LA1 4PS	0152467866 (H) 07979264638 (M)	brian@greenwood2626.fsnet.co.uk
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## LEICESTERSHIRE

Louise Lester	Apartment 12 79 Princess Road East Leicestershire LE1 7DQ	07922351196 (M)	louise.e.lester@hotmail.co.uk
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## LEINSTER

Siobhan Byrne	Tenenure Badminton Centre Whitehall Road Dublin	0035 314505966 (H)	generalsecretary@lbbui.ie
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## LINCOLNSHIRE

Mike Willans	The Warren Church Lane Lincoln Lincolnshire LN1 2XW	01522730719 (H) 07885 562360 (M)	mikewillans@outlook.com
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## LOTHIAN

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	Cardiff		
	CF3 0NU		

## MIDDLESEX

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	Surrey		
	SW9 9AN		

## NORFOLK

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			louise.culyer@btinternet.com

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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## OXFORDSHIRE

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## SHROPSHIRE

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## SOMERSET

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## STAFFORDSHIRE

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	B15 1NJ		

## SUFFOLK

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	Ipswich		
	Suffolk		
	IP2 9DT		

## SURREY

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## SUSSEX

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	Haywards Heath		
	Sussex		
	RH16 2QP		

## ULSTER

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## WARWICKSHIRE

Sue Spink	54 Cambridge Way Acocks Green Birmingham B27 6SF	01217071722 (H) 07810562027 (M)	aspink2@hotmail.com
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## WEST GLAMORGAN

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## WILTSHIRE

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## WORCESTERSHIRE

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## YORKSHIRE

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## The Badminton England Senior County Championships Past Winners

1930-31 MIDDLESEX	1976-77 ESSEX
1931-32 MIDDLESEX	1977-78 ESSEX
1932-33 MIDDLESEX	1978-79 LANCASHIRE
1933-34 CHESHIRE	1979-80 LANCASHIRE
1934-35 MIDDLESEX	1980-81 LANCASHIRE
1935-36 MIDDLESEX	1981-82 SURREY
1936-37 MIDDLESEX	1982-83 SURREY
1937-38 LANCASHIRE	1983-84 SURREY
1938-39 MIDDLESEX	1984-85 SURREY
1939 to 1946 No Competition	1985-86 LANCASHIRE
1946-47 CHESHIRE & MIDDLESEX (un-played)	1986-87 ESSEX
1947-48 YORKSHIRE	1987-88 SURREY
1948-49 CHESHIRE	1988-89 SURREY
1949-50 CHESHIRE	1989-90 SURREY
1950-51 MIDDLESEX	1990-91 SURREY
1951-52 CHESHIRE	1991-92 HERTFORDSHIRE
1952-53 MIDDLESEX	1992-93 SURREY
1953-54 KENT	1993-94 SURREY
1954-55 SURREY	1994-95 ESSEX
1955-56 SURREY	1995-96 ESSEX
1956-57 SURREY	1996-97 ESSEX
1957-58 SURREY	1997-98 ESSEX
1958-59 SURREY	1998-99 LANCASHIRE
1959-60 KENT	1999-00 YORKSHIRE
1960-61 SURREY	2000-01 YORKSHIRE
1961-62 SURREY	2001-02 YORKSHIRE
1962-63 SURREY	2002-03 YORKSHIRE
1963-64 ESSEX	2003-04 YORKSHIRE
1964-65 SURREY	2004-05 WARWICKSHIRE
1965-66 SURREY	2005-06 YORKSHIRE
1966-67 SURREY	2006-07 YORKSHIRE
1967-68 SURREY	2007-08 YORKSHIRE
1968-69 SURREY	2008-09 YORKSHIRE
1969-70 SURREY	2009-10 YORKSHIRE
1970-71 SURREY	2010-11 YORKSHIRE
1971-72 SURREY	2011-12 SURREY
1972-73 SURREY	2012-13 YORKSHIRE
1973-74 SURREY	2013-14 SURREY
1974-75 SURREY	2014-15 YORKSHIRE
1975-76 LANCASHIRE	2015-16 ...



## **MASTERS POLICY GROUP**

The 2015/16 Masters Policy Group is made up of the following members.

Roy Carder – Chair  
Liz Austin  
Christine Crossley  
Peter Emptage  
Margaret Houlton  
Debbie Rigby  
Simon Gilhooly  
Steve Pope

## **MASTERS COUNTY COMPETITION KEY EVENTS**

### **County Challenge – 9/10<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

Andover, Bournemouth, Wolverhampton, Milton Keynes, Worcester

### **County Championships Playoffs – 2/3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016**

Regionally organised venues

### **County Championships Finals – 23/24<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

Stoke Mandeville Stadium

### **Masters Coordinators Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

National Badminton Centre

# MASTERS DIVISIONS

## Over 40

North	South East	South	South West	Midlands
Cheshire Lancashire Northumberland Yorkshire	Bedfordshire Essex Hertfordshire Suffolk	Hampshire Kent Middlesex Surrey Sussex	Avon Devon Gloucestershire Isle of Wight Somerset Wiltshire	Derbyshire Leicestershire Lincolnshire Nottinghamshire Oxfordshire Worcestershire

## Over 45

North	East	South	South West	Midlands East	Midlands West
Durham Lancashire West of Scotland Yorkshire	Cambridgeshire Essex Hertfordshire Suffolk	Kent Middlesex Surrey Sussex	Devon Hampshire Isle of Wight Wiltshire	Derbyshire Leicestershire Northamptonshire Nottinghamshire Oxfordshire	Cheshire Shropshire Staffordshire Warwickshire Worcestershire

## Over 50

North	East	South	South West	Midlands West	Midlands East
Cheshire Cumbria Lancashire Nottinghamshire Yorkshire	Cambridgeshire Essex Hertfordshire Norfolk Suffolk	Hampshire Kent Middlesex Surrey Sussex	Avon Cornwall Devon Dorset Somerset 1 Wiltshire	Derbyshire Oxfordshire Shropshire Warwickshire Worcestershire	Buckinghamshire 1 Buckinghamshire 2 Leicestershire Lincolnshire Northamptonshire

## Over 55

North	South East	South West	Midlands
Durham Lancashire Yorkshire	Essex Hertfordshire Kent Middlesex Suffolk Surrey	Avon Devon Hampshire Somerset	Cheshire Leicestershire Nottinghamshire Worcestershire

## Over 60

North	East	South	South West	Midlands
Cheshire Lancashire Nottinghamshire Yorkshire	Buckinghamshire Essex Hertfordshire Suffolk	Berkshire Hampshire Kent Surrey Sussex	Avon 1 Avon 2 Devon Dorset Isle of Wight Wiltshire	Leicestershire Shropshire Warwickshire Worcestershire

**Over 65**

<b>North</b>	<b>South East</b>	<b>South West</b>	<b>Midlands</b>
Cheshire 1	Berkshire	Avon	Buckinghamshire 1
Cheshire 2	Essex	Cornwall	Buckinghamshire 2
Lancashire 1	Hampshire	Devon	Northamptonshire
Lancashire 2	Kent	Dorset	Oxfordshire
Yorkshire	Middlesex	Gloucestershire 1	Staffordshire
	Surrey	Isle of Wight	Warwickshire
	Sussex	Somerset	Worcestershire
		Wiltshire	

**Over 70**

<b>South</b>
Devon
Dorset
Gloucestershire
Hampshire
Isle of Wight
Kent
Surrey
Wiltshire



# Regulations for the Badminton England Masters County Championships 2015/16

(Amendments from 2014/15 in BOLD)

## GENERAL

1. The competition shall be called the Masters County Championships. It will be competed for in accordance with the following regulations, or such other regulations as Badminton England, or the Masters Policy Group (hereinafter called the Committee) may from time to time determine, and the Laws of Badminton as adopted by the Badminton World Federation.
2. The League shall be open to every English county, if governed by a county association affiliated to Badminton England, the different Channel Islands and the Isle of Man if governed by an association recognised as a county association and affiliated to Badminton England, provided that the full affiliation fees are paid. Entries from associations affiliated to other National Associations may be accepted at the discretion of the Committee.
3. Entry forms will be circulated to counties in April/May and these must be returned to Badminton England with the appropriate fee per team by 31<sup>st</sup> May. Counties may enter more than one team in each age group. An additional fee shall be payable by those counties qualifying for the National finals.

## THE LEAGUE AND FINALS

4.
  - (a) The country will be divided into 4 regions where possible, in which a competition for age groups over 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65 and 70 will take place (subject to sufficient entries being received). It may be necessary to split age groups within an area based on standard or geography, as determined by the Committee, taking in the views of the counties involved.
  - b) Where there are two divisions by standard the team winning Division 1 will proceed to the National finals and the top team in Division 2 will be promoted to Division 1 and the bottom team in Division 1 will be relegated.
  - c) Where regions have been split geographically the winning teams from each section will play off on a pre-determined date to qualify for the National finals.
  - d) In the event of there being only 5 teams or less in any region, then normally they will play group matches at home and away, otherwise teams will compete on a home OR away basis, alternating if possible each year.

- e) To qualify for the finals, the region winning team will be the one with the highest number of points based on:

3 points for a win, 2 points for a 6 all win, 1 point for a 6 all defeat, and no points for a defeat. In the case of a walk-over, 3 points will be given to the non-offending side and none to the conceding team.

In the event of 2 or more teams having the same number of points, the winners will be decided on matches won to lost. If 2 counties are still tied the result of the tie between them or, where home and away fixtures are played, the combined results of the ties between them will decide.

Where a match that has not been played affects the winner of a league this will be referred to the MPG to make a decision on the outcome of the final positions in the league.

- f) Each year the age group winners will play off over a weekend for the National League title on a knock out basis. A draw will be made before the event with semi-finals on the Saturday, with the winners contesting the final on Sunday and losers competing for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place.
- g) If there are only three regions in any age group then each team will play each other.
- h) Unless there are time restrictions the same rules apply for the finals as for the area ties.
- i) The Referee's decision on all matters is final.

## THE FIXTURES

- 5a) When making fixtures the home team must offer two dates to the away team. If during the season an away team is unable to field a full team and cancels the fixture every effort must be made to rearrange the fixture but the home side is not obliged to offer two further dates to their opponents.

If travelling distance is too great it is possible for the tie to be played at a mutually agreed venue with shared expenses. Where possible teams should complete half their ties prior to 31<sup>st</sup> December and all ties by 31<sup>st</sup> March each year, except where a play off is involved when ties must be completed at least a week before the play off date.

The dates, times and venues of all home fixtures shall be notified to the Masters Coordinator or Championships Secretary of each opposing county and Badminton England by 31<sup>st</sup> August preceding the season of competition. This should be achieved by using the Confirmation of Home Fixtures Form supplied by Badminton England.

- b) In an area with more than one team from an individual county (i.e. a county first and second team), these two teams **must** play each other before the 31<sup>st</sup> December. Failure to adhere to this requirement will lead to the tie(s) being considered as 'Not Played' and no points will be awarded to either team.

- c) A tie should be played on at least two courts allowing 8 hours playing time per tie. For Over 65s & Over 70's tie 6 court hours should be allowed.
- d) When a match is cancelled by the away team and the home team can demonstrate that cancellation charges for hall hire will be incurred, then the away team may be asked to pay (or contribute towards) the cost. If a tie is cancelled by mutual agreement because of bad weather then any costs should be shared by the two counties.
- e) The home team is responsible for all the tie expenses and should provide light refreshments.
- f) If a fixture is postponed or rearranged the home county must advise the Championships Secretary as soon as possible and if appropriate the new date and details if amended.
- g) Feather shuttlecocks must be used.

### **ELIGIBILITY of PLAYERS**

- 6a) All players must be eligible to play for their county under the current County Competition regulation 14.
  - (i) if a player is playing in the County Challenge or Masters County Challenge, that player must play for the same county if that county enters a team of the appropriate age group within the Masters County Championships. If such a team is not entered, the player may play for another county provided that the player is otherwise eligible.
  - (ii) no player shall play for more than one county in the Championships during the same season of competition
  - (i) a player may be an individual member of Badminton England through the 'Club England Active Membership' scheme or the Coaches Register instead of being a member of an affiliated club.
- b) Players must be over the age of 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65 or 70 at the start of a tie.
- c) **Before the first tie is played counties must nominate all squad members for each age group on the forms supplied. Details of subsequent players added to a squad must also be advised as soon possible to Badminton England, and the Championship Secretary before they compete.**
- d) A player who has been nominated for a particular age group may play as a reserve for other age groups on three occasions in total. An 'occasion' means a Championship tie; or a play-off; or the semi-final/final weekend (ie. the semi-final and final is only considered as a single occasion).

If a player is found to have exceeded the three reserve appearances then the scores in the first three ties will stand but the scores in any subsequent reserve appearances will be conceded to the opponents. The player will be allowed to play for the team for which he/she was originally nominated in any remaining ties.

Players will be allowed to play for two teams on the same day provided they qualify age wise, are not exceeding three reserve appearances and that it does not cause undue delay.

- e) Where counties have 2 teams in an age group, at least 4 men and 4 women must be nominated prior to the start of that county's fixtures as first team players, except in the over 65 and over 70 age group, for which at least 3 men and 3 women must be nominated. Nominations must be sent to the Championships Secretary 10 days before that County's first match in that age group. Nominated first team players will be allowed to play for the second team once only, and no more than one man and one woman from the first team may play in any single second team tie.

Second team players may play for the first team on two occasions but if they should play a third time they will be deemed to be part of the first team squad and cannot play for the second team again.

- f) To qualify to play in the finals a player must have competed in at least two league ties or one tie and a play off. In those age groups and areas where a team plays only four ties or less a player must have competed in at least one league tie or a play off to qualify to play in the finals.
- g) If a team is withdrawn after the competition has begun all fixtures played by that team shall be discounted.

## **THE TEAM**

- 7 A team should consist of a minimum of 4 men and 4 women and with a maximum of 6 men and 6 women. An over 65 or over 70 team should consist of a minimum of 3 men and 3 women and with a maximum of 5 men and 5 women.

## **THE TIE**

- 8a) (i) Over 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 age groups

A tie will consist of 12 matches. Each team shall provide 2 men's doubles pairs, 2 women's doubles pairs and 4 mixed doubles pairs. In the men's and women's doubles events each pair of a team will play each of the opposing 2 pairs. In the mixed doubles each pair will only play their opposite number and they must play in strength order.

- (ii) Over 65 & 70 age groups

A tie will consist of 9 matches. Each team shall provide 3 men's doubles pairs (each man shall play twice), 3 women's doubles pairs (each woman shall play twice) and 3 mixed doubles pairs. All pairs

must play in strength order, i.e. Man 1 & 2, 1 & 3, 2 & 3, Lady 1 & 2, 1 & 3, 2 & 3 followed by the Mixed again in order of strength of the pairs.

- b) Completed team sheets should be exchanged before commencement of the tie. A copy must also be given to the Referee or organiser, when requested to do so. Ineligible players must be declared before the tie starts. If a team is fielding an ineligible player(s) in order to give opponents their full quota of matches they must be considered as the weakest player(s) where matches are to be played in order of strength.
- c) Each match will be the best of three games of 21 points except that if the score reaches 20-all the winner is the pair with 2 clear points or whose score reaches 30 first. This is known as the Rally Point Scoring System as under the revised Laws of Badminton as introduced by the BWF in May 2006.  
Note: there shall be NO intervals when a side reaches 11 points in a game, NOR between the first and second games, and the second and third games.  
Coaching will NOT be permitted during or between games.
- d) In the event of an injury, illness or emergency in the first round of men's or women's doubles a substitute (if available) may play in the second round. An injury, illness or emergency substitution can be made for the mixed doubles providing it is done before that mixed match has commenced (i.e. once the first service has started).

In the event of an injury, illness or emergency in the level doubles and no reserve is available to play in the mixed, the mixed doubles matches will be played in the same order as decided at the outset of the tie with no changes allowed in the pairings. The mixed match in which the injured player was due to play will be conceded to their opponents 21-0, 21-0.

If an injury, illness or emergency prevents a match being completed any points or games won by the defaulting pair shall stand with their opponents being awarded the necessary points and games to win the match.

A substitution can be made using a player who has played for another team on the same day provided they qualify age wise, are not exceeding three reserve appearances and that it does not cause undue delay. It should be borne in mind that even if the substitute plays only a mixed match it will count as a reserve appearance.

Any substitution must not cause undue delay.

- e) The winner will be decided on the higher number of matches won. Should the tie finish 6 matches all, a winning draw will be awarded to the team winning the most games; if equal then the most points and if still equal the result of the 1st mixed (see regulation 4e regarding the points awarded for draws). In the Over 65 and Over 70 age group the winner of a tie will be the team winning the most matches.

- f) Full results shall be submitted online within 7 days by the county WHOSE TEAM WERE PLAYING AT HOME. A county failing to comply shall be fined £25 on each occasion. On the first occasion the home county do not submit the result within 7 days they will receive a written warning allowing a further 7 days before the fine is imposed.  
The away county shall have a further 7 days to confirm the result. If this is not done then it will be assumed to be correct and the Championship Secretary will confirm the result 14 days after the match.  
Any dispute must be raised with the Championship Secretary within 14 days of the match.

## **COMMITTEE POWERS**

- 9 The Masters Policy Group shall have full powers to decide on matters not covered in the foregoing regulations and shall rule in the event of any disputes.



# Regulations for the Badminton England Masters County Challenge 2015/16

(Amendments from 2014/15 in BOLD)

## GENERAL

- 1 The competitions shall be called the Masters County Challenge. They shall be competed annually in accordance with the following regulations, or such other regulations as Badminton England, or the Masters Policy Group (hereinafter called the Committee) may from time to time determine, and the Laws of Badminton as adopted by the International Badminton Federation.
- 2 The Challenge shall be open to every English county, if governed by a county association affiliated to Badminton England, the different Channel Islands and the Isle of Man if governed by an association recognised as a county association and affiliated to Badminton England, provided that the full affiliation fees are paid. Entries from associations affiliated to other National Associations may be accepted at the discretion of the Committee.
- 3 Separate championships shall be run for Over 40s, Over 45s, Over 50s, Over 55s, Over 60s, Over 65s and Over 70s (subject to sufficient entries being received).
- 4 Entry forms will be circulated to counties in April/May and these must be returned to Badminton England with the appropriate fee per team by 31<sup>st</sup> May. Counties may enter more than one team in each age group.
- 5 The Challenge will be held over the second Saturday/Sunday in January annually at various venues, to be arranged by Badminton England. Feather shuttlecocks will be used.

## DIVISIONS

- 6 Teams will be placed in strength order as determined by the Committee, with a Premier Division, followed by Divisions 1A and 1B based on strength and geographical location and then 2A and 2B likewise. This is subject to entries received by Badminton England.
- 7 At the end of the season, the two lowest teams from each age group in the Premier Division will be relegated to Division 1. The top team from 1A and from 1B in each age group will be promoted to the Premier Division. The lowest team in each age group from Division 1A and from 1B will be relegated to Division 2 provided there is a relevant age group. The top team from 2A and from 2B in each group will be promoted to Division 1.

However there may be circumstances which need to be considered in respect of promotion and relegation. The Committee's decisions on these circumstances will be final.

## **ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

- 8 All players must be eligible to play for their county under the current County Competition regulation 14.
- (a) if a player is playing in the County Challenge or Masters County Championships, that player must play for the same county if that county enters a team of the appropriate age group within the Masters County Challenge. If such a team is not entered the player may play for another county provided that the player is otherwise eligible.
  - (b) a player may be an individual member of Badminton England through the 'Club England Active Membership' scheme or the Coaches Register instead of being a member of an affiliated club.
- 9 Players must have reached, or be over, the appropriate age category on the day they are due to play.

## **TERMINOLOGY**

- 10 Tie – competition between one county and another.  
Event – a Women's Doubles, a Men's Doubles or a Mixed Doubles.  
Match – an event consisting of the best of three games of 21 points, except that if the score reaches 20-all, the winner is the pair with 2 clear points or whose score reaches 30 first. This is known as the Rally Point Scoring System as under the revised Laws of Badminton, introduced by the BWF in May 2006.  
Note: there shall be NO intervals when a side reaches 11 points in a game, NOR between the first and second games, and the second and third games. Coaching will NOT be permitted during or between games.

## **TEAMS**

- 11 Each squad, except the Over 65s and Over 70s, should consist of not less than 4 women and 4 men and not more than 6 women and 6 men. Over 65s and Over 70s squads should consist of not less than 3 women and 3 men and not more than 5 women and 5 men. Before the competition starts each team must submit the names of all its squad members to the Referee, or if one is not appointed, the appropriate Organising Committee.

Provided it does not contravene the maximum number of nominations for a squad and that they are eligible for the age groups, a player may be nominated in more than one age group. The player(s) would have to be included on both team sheets and once he/she has played he/she is committed to that team.

Teams may be changed for each tie within the parameters of the squad that has been nominated, as set out above.

No player may play in more than one event in any one tie.

No substitution shall be permitted in a match at any stage once play in that match has commenced (i.e. once the first service has started).

Teams must declare to the referee any ineligible player(s) before the start of play and subsequently what match they will play in to the referee 30 minutes before any tie. A team may field an ineligible player so that opponents can play their full entitlement of matches. The referee will notify the opposition and two games will be awarded to them 21-0, 21-0. The ineligible player would not be able to play the 1<sup>st</sup> mixed doubles where pairs must play in order of strength. Failure of a team to declare an ineligible player would mean a 4-0 or 3-0 defeat depending on the age group.

## **FORMAT OF A TIE**

- 12 The competition will be played as ties between the county teams with each team playing each of the other teams in the group.

In the Over 40s, 45s, 50s, 55s and 60s age groups a tie shall consist of four events:

A Women's Doubles, a Men's Doubles, a 1<sup>st</sup> Mixed Doubles and a 2nd Mixed Doubles.

The Mixed pairs must be ranked in order of strength.

In the Over 65s and Over 70s a tie shall consist of three events:

A Women's Doubles, a Men's Doubles and a Mixed Doubles.

- 13 The order of play shall be as above, unless otherwise agreed by the Referee, or if one is not appointed, the Organising Committee.

Pairs shall play at such time and on such court as may be specified by the Referee, or if one is not appointed, the appropriate Organising Committee.

- 14 Before commencement of each tie, teams will exchange team sheets giving the eight names (or six for Over 65s and Over 70s) and their pairings to play that tie with the mixed doubles pairs, where appropriate, ranked in order of strength.

- 15 If a match shall not be completed the existing score (if any) of the defaulting pair shall stand and their opponents shall be credited with the number of points and games required to win as appropriate.

- 16 The decision of a tie shall be determined by the number of matches won. In the event of both teams being unable to field a pair for a match it will be deemed "not played" and neither team will be awarded the match or part thereof. Teams will be awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss. For the O65's and Over 70s this should read 2 points awarded for a win, 1 point for a draw in the event of the tie finishing 1-1 and a "not played" match and 0 points for a loss.

## GROUP POSITIONS

- 17 The position of each team in each age group shall be determined as follows:
- (a) the number of points awarded.
  - (b) if two teams are equal, the winner of the tie between them. If drawn by matches won to lost, then count back of the following: games won to lost, if still equal points (in games) won to lost and if still equal then the result of the first mixed.
  - (c) If three or more teams are equal, then the team(s) with the most number of tie wins will be top. If there are two teams left with the same number of tie wins then 17(b) applies.**
  - (d) if two teams are still equal the winner of the tie between them as in (b).
  - (e) if three or more teams are still equal the team from among them for whom, overall, games won minus games lost is greatest.
  - (f) if two teams are still equal the winner of the tie between them as in (b).
  - (g) if three or more teams are still equal the team from among them for whom, overall, points won minus points lost is greatest.
  - (h) if two teams are still equal the winner of the tie between them as in (b).

## TROPHIES

- 18 A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the champion county in each age group of the Premier Division. The trophies will remain the property of Badminton England, which shall be responsible for insurance, but the holders shall be responsible for their care and maintenance.

## GENERAL

- 19 Badminton England's current Tournament Regulations shall apply.
- 20 The Masters Policy Group shall have full powers to decide on matters not covered in the foregoing regulations and shall rule in the event of any disputes.

# The Badminton England Masters County Championships 2015/16

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# The Badminton England Masters County Challenge Past Winners

	<b>Over 40</b>	<b>Over 45</b>	<b>Over 50</b>	<b>Over 55</b>	<b>Over 60</b>	<b>Over 65</b>	<b>Over 70</b>
1986	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE					
1987	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE	ESSEX				
1988	LANCASHIRE	MIDDLESEX	LANCASHIRE				
1989	DURHAM	YORKSHIRE	SURREY				
1990	KENT	KENT	ESSEX				
1991	LANCASHIRE	KENT	SURREY				
1992	LANCASHIRE	KENT	ESSEX				
1993	ESSEX	KENT	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	ESSEX			
1994	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE	SURREY			
1995	ESSEX	ESSEX	YORKSHIRE	ESSEX			
1996	ESSEX	LANCASHIRE	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	YORKSHIRE	MIDDLESEX		
1997	ESSEX	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	CUMBRIA	HAMPSHIRE		
1998	DURHAM	LANCASHIRE	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	LANCASHIRE	ESSEX		
1999	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE	CUMBRIA		
2000	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	SURREY	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE		
2001	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	ESSEX	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE		
2002	DEVON	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	CUMBRIA		
2003	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	YORKSHIRE	CUMBRIA	
2004	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE	CUMBRIA	
2005	HERTFORDSHIRE	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	
2006	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	ESSEX	KENT	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	
2007	ESSEX	LANCASHIRE	SURREY	ESSEX	KENT	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	
2008	ESSEX	LANCASHIRE	SURREY	ESSEX	KENT	YORKSHIRE	
2009	HERTFORDSHIRE	CESHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE	
2010	HERTFORDSHIRE	ESSEX	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	KENT	KENT	CUMBRIA
2011	GLOUCESTERSHIRE	DERBYSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	HAMPSHIRE	HAMPSHIRE	HAMPSHIRE
2012	GLOUCESTERSHIRE	HERTFORDSHIRE	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
2013	CESHIRE	HERTFORDSHIRE	LANCASHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	DORSET
2014	LEICESTERSHIRE	HERTFORDSHIRE	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	DEVON
2015	ESSEX	W OF SCOTLAND	SURREY	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	HAMPSHIRE

# The Badminton England Masters County Championships Past Winners

	<b>Over 40</b>	<b>Over 45</b>	<b>Over 50</b>	<b>Over 55</b>	<b>Over 60</b>	<b>Over 65</b>	<b>Over 70</b>
2000	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE		
2001	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	KENT	CUMBRIA		
2002	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	KENT	CUMBRIA		
2003	DERBYSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	YORKSHIRE		
2004	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	YORKSHIRE	CHESHIRE	
2005	LANCASHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	HAMPSHIRE	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	
2006	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	STAFFORDSHIRE	KENT	CUMBRIA	
2007	ESSEX	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	
2008	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	HAMPSHIRE	YORKSHIRE	
2009	GLOUCESTERSHIRE	ESSEX	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	CUMBRIA	
2010	CHESHIRE	ESSEX	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	LANCASHIRE	KENT	
2011	CHESHIRE	LANCASHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE	HAMPSHIRE	
2012	ESSEX	LANCASHIRE	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	SURREY	KENT	DORSET
2013	GLOUCESTERSHIRE	ESSEX	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	SURREY	HAMPSHIRE	DEVON
2014	ESSEX	ESSEX	YORKSHIRE	SURREY	LANCASHIRE	KENT	DEVON
2015	YORKSHIRE	ESSEX	YORKSHIRE	YORKSHIRE	LANCASHIRE	KENT	WILTSHIRE