

R S R A
ROCHESTER SQUASH RACQUETS ASSOCIATION
RSRA WINTER TEAM LEAGUE RULES

1. TEAM

a. Levels of play are as follows:

Division I = USSRA rating 3.6-4.4

Division II = USSRA rating 3.0-3.8

Division III = USSRA rating 2.2-3.2

The upper bound in each rating range is the enforced limit; the lower bound is a guideline to captains for selecting team members. There is no rating limit on the player playing in the top position for a Division I team in any regular season or playoff match.

b. Teams at a given level of play (Div I,II,III, etc.) will consist of either three or five players.

c. No regular player can represent more than one team in a league.

d. Players may move to a higher or lower league during the season as a result of club challenge matches.

f. Team captains are to arrange their team lineups each week according to the most recent club ladder standings. A captain may alter a lineup only with the approval of the involved players and only for reasons which do not violate the principles of fair play. Moving a weak player up and the stronger players down in order to unfairly strengthen the lower team position is an example of flagrant violation. The penalty for all such infractions will be the forfeiture of all matches involved.

2. ORGANIZATION

a. Leagues shall be divided into divisions based on the following formula:

Four to eight teams - one division.

Nine to nineteen teams - two divisions.

b. Placement of teams within a division will be made by the Rules/Competition Committee with final approval given by the RSRA Board. Guidelines include the separation of teams sponsored by the same club and the desire for balanced competition.

c. All clubs and teams must confirm their commitment to league play by October 1st.

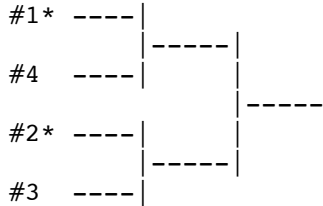
d. The Scheduling Committee shall complete the league schedules by October 14th. Each team shall play between 12-17 matches with no fewer than 50% played on their home court. However the scheduling committee reserves the right to alter the number of home games due to scheduling conflicts. The Committee may include any of the following scheduling options to meet these conditions:

1. Play each team an equivalent number of times in the league.
2. Play each team once in the league plus random draw for additional matches to complete schedule.
3. Play each team within a division either once or twice plus a random draw to complete the schedule. Matches within division shall be on a home and away basis.
4. Position weeks.

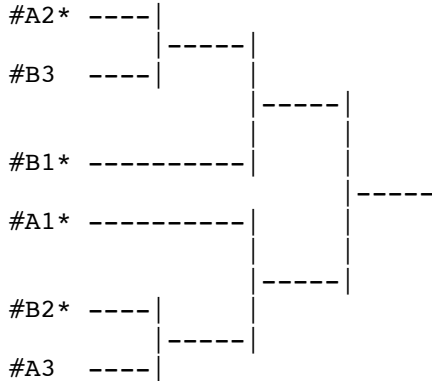
e. Individual trophies shall be presented to each regular player of a division winning team. In 5-player leagues, there shall be a maximum of six individual trophies provided -- four trophies in 3-player leagues. Additional trophies may be purchased by a team for any individual who would have been qualified to represent the team in the playoffs.

f. Playoffs shall be conducted according to the following formulas:

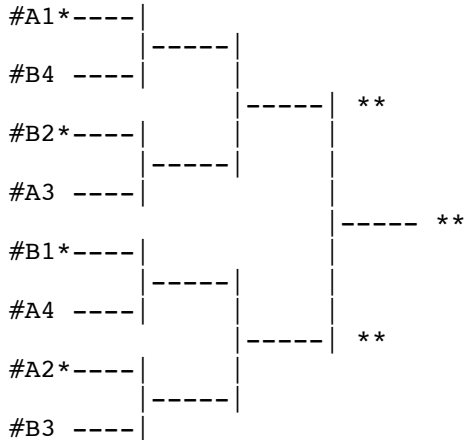
1. Eight teams or less.



2. Nine thru Fifteen teams (A and B divisions).



3. Sixteen thru Nineteen teams (A and B divisions).



*Match shall be played on this team's court.
 **Match site to be on court of team with most wins.

Playing times and courts shall be scheduled by the League Chairperson each Monday following weekend play. Trophies for the league championship shall be presented to the playoff winners. A maximum of four or six individual trophies shall be provided.

In case of a tie in the number of wins, the following criteria shall be applied, in order, to break the ties. All ties, either for a position or a home court advantage shall be broken in this manner.

1. # matches won in head to head play.
2. # games won in head to head play.
3. # matches won against common opponents.
4. # games won against common opponents.
5. Flip of the coin by the League Chairperson.

3. RULES / COMPETITION COMMITTEE

The Rules/Competition Committee, appointed by the RSRA President, will have the jurisdiction to move a player from one league to another if, upon review of the previous year's competition, it is determined that the player is registered for an inappropriate category. League chairpeople are responsible for submitting names and records to the committee chairperson for consideration.

4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

All regular and substitute players must satisfy one of the following residence requirements:

- a. He/she must be a permanent resident of Monroe County or one of the adjacent counties.
- b. He/she must be a full-time student at one of the universities or colleges in Monroe County or the five-county surrounding area.
- c. Any player who has not paid his/her RSRA dues before playing his/her third match will forfeit that match and all subsequent matches until his/her dues are paid. This rule will be strictly upheld through subsequent weeks of competition until the appropriate fees are received by either their team captain or the RSRA Treasurer.

5. SUBSTITUTES

- a. A player from a higher league may not substitute in a lower league.
- b. Teams may carry extra players who substitute on a regular basis throughout the season. A substitute must play at a position commensurate with ability. Ability shall be judged by the team captain according to the player's position on the club's challenge ladder, city challenge ladder, performance in club matches or leagues, frequency of recent play, injuries, etc. The team lineup shall be adjusted such that the substitute's position shall not be above that of a teammate of greater ability nor below that of a teammate of lesser ability.
- c. Only the lowest positions of a team may be substituted for by players from a lower league. Regular team members must move up to fill any vacancies at the higher positions. An individual may play as a regular of his/her team as well as substitute for the higher team during the same week. The same player may not substitute for 3 consecutive weeks; a different player from a lower league must be used.
- d. Non-members of the RSRA may play as a substitute in any league two times. Any individual who plays in a given league more than twice must be a paid member of the RSRA. Infractions of this rule will result in forfeiture of the matches involved.
- e. A substitute playing for a team in a league playoff match (if not from a lower league) must have played with the team at least four times during the

regular season and played at least 50% of his or her substitute matches for that team. "Play" in this case means either actually played on the court or won by default or forfeit.

f. If a substitute player is needed for a playoff match, and that substitute has not played in at least 4 league matches (as stated in 5e above), a waiver must be requested by the team captain. Waivers are granted by the RSRA Vice President after consideration of the following: RSRA dues paid, the substitute's rating, and the circumstances.

6. SCHEDULING / RESCHEDULING

- a. Matches are expected to be played at the scheduled times. Division I will play Tuesdays 7:00-9:30 PM or Saturdays 8:00-10:30 AM, depending on location. Divisions II and III will play Thursdays 7:00-9:30 PM or Saturdays 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM, depending on location.
- b. Flexible start times: Captains, by mutual agreement, will be able to communicate exact start times for individual players who do not want to wait around for the entire team's matches to take place.
- c. Rescheduling allowed: For personal emergencies and irresolvable conflicts, players will be allowed to negotiate alternate locations and match times within the same week as long as there is mutual team and player agreement. No player should feel obligated to agree to a reschedule request. If there is no agreement otherwise, captains are required to field a full team of players at the scheduled match time. This option should be used sparingly to preserve team camaraderie and to prevent empty courts at clubs where reservations need to be made in advance.
- d. The regularly scheduled times for league play shall rotate among the league levels from year to year, so that all league levels will have the opportunity to play at each time.

7. SCORING

- a. A team will be awarded one point for each individual match (best three of five games) won.
- b. Match results, including each player's first and last names and games won, must be reported to the League Chairperson before the Monday following the scheduled date of play. Late or incomplete scores will not be counted in determining the league standings.

8. HOME COURT ADVANTAGE

The home team will assign courts for match play except under the following circumstances:

- a. If the league match is the second (2nd) visit of the season for the opposition, i.e., the opposition had no opportunity for home court advantage because of scheduling, the opposing team may assign courts at the scheduled match location for this second match.
- b. All courts originally scheduled for matches must be used, i.e., a court may not be held open as a result of court assignments.
- c. Court assignments at the scheduled match location for playoffs will be determined by a spin of the racquet between team captains.

9. DEFAULTS

- a. An individual match will be defaulted if a player is not ready to play within 30 minutes of the scheduled time.
- b. If a player defaults a match, either that position will be defaulted or the lower positions may move up and position #5 will be defaulted.
- c. Any match played by an ineligible player (see Rule 4) will be defaulted. League Chairpersons and team captains are responsible for enforcing this rule.

10. NO SHOWS

- a. If any player simply fails to show without notifying his/her opponent or the opponent's captain in advance, the match will not only be defaulted, but the absent player's team will be PENALIZED ONE POINT from its MATCHES WON COLUMN. Notification will not be deemed to have occurred until the notifying player has received acknowledgement from the notified player or captain.
- b. If a player no-shows a second time within the season, he/she is automatically barred from league play and league playoffs for the remainder of the league season. Appeals must be made in writing to RSRA Vice-President.

11. STANDINGS

League standings will be based on the number of wins accumulated. Won-lost percentages will be irrelevant.

12. MATCH RULES AND INTERPRETATIONS

- a. All USSRA rules apply to league matches. In all matches played without a referee, any point honestly disputed shall be ruled a let.
- b. If a dispute cannot be resolved, it should be taken to the League Chairperson for settlement.
- c. RSRA members may appeal in written form to the RSRA Vice-President any decision made by a League Chairperson. The Vice-President will make the final ruling.
- d. All players must wear protective eye wear consisting of non-metallic industrial safety or athletic frames with polycarbonate lenses (3 mm minimum thickness) covering the eye orbit. Full face masks of polycarbonate are also acceptable. A match will be forfeited if the protective eye wear is not worn during the match. To claim a forfeiture, a player must request his/her opponent to secure and wear the eye wear before the start of the match. An opponent has 5 minutes to secure the eye wear and begin the match to avoid forfeiture. RSRA officials (league coordinator, referee or Board member) may also request any player to wear eye protection prior to the start of the match or between any games during the match. Failure to comply within the 5 minute time allotment will result in forfeiture of the match. If both players fail to secure and wear eye protection, the match will not count in the standings.

REVISIONS

revised 11/23/85 for eye wear - 11/3/86 Board Meeting vote

revised 10/2/88: change team fee due date to 12/1 from 8th week(per phone call from Wilkens); (FJB)

revised 9/9/96: section 6e -- increase from 2 to 4 the number of matches that a player must play for a team to represent that team in the playoffs. "Play" in

this case is to mean either actually played on the court or won by default or forfeit.

revised 9/9/96: section 2a -- decrease from 10 to 8 the number of teams at a given level that will play as a single division in the winter league. Levels with 9 or more teams will play as two divisions.

revised 10/6/97: section 3 - Registration -- consolidated into section 4 - Player Eligibility and changed to require that dues be paid by the third match played by the player; reference to team dues deleted.

revised 10/6/97: Section 6 - Scheduling -- added requirement that start times per league rotate from year to year.

revised 10/6/97: Section 14 - Challenge Ladder -- moved into separate document on ladder rules.

revised 12/22/99:

Section 1 - change to rating system.

Section 2d - each team shall play between 12-17 matches (not 15-17), 50% of matches at home(not 7), scheduling committee reserves right to alter this percentage due to conflicts.

Section 5f - If a substitute player is needed for a playoff match...that has not played at least 4 league matches... a waiver must be requested...from RSRA Vice President.

Section 6a - matches may be played up till the following Tuesday (not Sunday)

Section 7b - scores must be reported by Tuesday (not Sunday) evening.

Section 10c - failure to reschedule by Tuesday (not Sunday) results in no point awarded.

revised 10/3/00: changes related to move to no-reschedule leagues

revised 10/8/03:

Section 1 - no rating limit for top player in each Division I team.

Section 2e - trophies may be purchased for playoff-qualified players.

Section 4c - clarification of forfeiture for non-payment of dues.

Section 6a,b,c - flexible start times and limited rescheduling of matches allowed.

Section 7 - clarification of what constitutes a complete and timely report of match results.

Section 8 - 'No Shows' deleted.

Section 9 - 'Home Court Advantage' becomes Section 8

Section 10 - 'Defaults' becomes Section 9; last paragraph of this section becomes the new Section 10 'No Shows' and clarification added on what constitutes adequate notification.