

**Northerns Squash Association By-Laws
for League Play for 2016**

Revision: January 2016

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INTRODUCTION

Spirit of the Game

The essence of successful squash matches is fair competition. We cannot hope to encapsulate all the nuances of what is required to achieve fair competition in the By-laws of the game, nor can we hope to adjudicate with wisdom the many disputes that might arise if the spirit of fair competition is not an important part of our philosophy concerning participation in squash. In this light, we would strongly recommend that each club and player endorses practices and openly acknowledges the following principles:

The better player on the day should win – this has important implications for the referee’s interpretation and knowledge of the rules, impartiality and firm enforcement of the rules.

The officiating person has to be acknowledged by the participating players as a person rendering a service for which no payment is asked. To referee well, in a keenly contested match, even with fair-minded players, can be a daunting task. It would be a breach of the fair-competition philosophy to resort to intimidatory behavior to influence a decision.

The order in league sides should reflect, as accurately as possible, playing strength, which should also be reflected on clubs’ ladders.

There is indeed a very important spirit to this game of ours – which we need to cherish – as we do compete on the same side of the “net”

Dr Alan Colburn

(Past President of the Northerns Squash Federation)

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1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 “Association” or “NSA” shall mean Northern Squash Association represented by the duly elected Management Committee.
- 1.2 “Arrangements” shall mean telephonic or verbal communication between two players where actual consensus has been reached. One way communications by means of “SMS” or voicemail are excluded from the meaning of reaching consensus.
- 1.3 “Club Captain” shall mean over and above the Chairman of the Club, the person who represents the particular Club from a league perspective.
- 1.4 “Federation” or “NSF” shall mean Northern Squash Federation represented by the duly elected Board, to whom the NSA is affiliated to as member in conjunction with the constitution of the NSA.
- 1.5 “Tie” shall mean the best of five games between two players, duly refereed as provided for in the applicable World Squash Singles Rules.
- 1.6 “Match” shall mean 4 ties (the best of 5 (five) games) played between the players of the two sides.
- 1.7 “Fixture” shall mean a scheduled league match between two teams at the venue as stipulated in the approved league fixture list.
- 1.8 “League week” shall mean a week starting on a Thursday night and ending on the next Wednesday night scheduled for league. The fixture numbers will be numbered in consecutive order from the first week to the last week or the first fixture to the last fixture. A break or recess due to holiday/school holiday, between league weeks, does not affect the league week.
- 1.9 “Written” shall mean any correspondence in writing of which proper proof of sending and receiving can be produced i.e. registered mail or facsimile with corresponding transmittal report or hand delivered mail with proof of receipt or e-mail with proof of receipt i.e. return e-mail confirming receipt.

2. APPLICATION

- 2.1 These By-laws shall apply to all NSA events conducted by the Association or any other body affiliated to the NSA. Any amendment/s to these by-laws will only come into effect after having been approved by the Association and the Board of the Northern Squash Federation.
- 2.2 Each club must nominate a Club Captain whose duty it is to learn and understand the by-laws. The Club Captain in turn must assist his team captains with any queries or possible disputes that may arise.
 - 2.2.1 Club captains will be invited to discuss any disputes that their club might become involved in.
- 2.3 NSA League stewards will be appointed annually who will be on call every league night to handle queries or disputes pertaining to the by-laws. Club captains will have the cell numbers of all the league stewards.

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2.4 Where the contents of these By-laws conflict with a provision in the Constitution of the Association, the provision of the Constitution shall prevail.

3. LEAGUE PLAYING SYSTEM AND SCORING

3.1 Number of Players per League Team

A league shall be run each year for teams consisting of four (4) players each.

3.2 Numbers of Teams per League

Each league shall consist of ten (10) teams per league, unless under extraordinary circumstances where the Association may approve fewer teams per league.

3.3 League Commencement Dates and Duration

The commencement dates and the duration of all leagues shall be determined by the Association.

3.4 Matches Played Earlier on the Same Day

League teams shall play the fixture laid down by the Association on the date and time at the venues determined by the Association. Concession to play the abovementioned fixture/s or tie/s at an earlier time on the same designated day at any venue must be by mutual consent of both Captains and players involved. (Also see clause 9.1.1.)

3.4.1 If two teams agree to a changed starting time normal late arrival rules will only apply from 6pm to the remaining ties in the fixture.

3.5 Treatment of "No Shows"

Clubs must field a full side for each league team at the fixtures laid down by the Association. "No shows" will be penalized by awarding the match 3/0 to the opponent. Should a higher ranked player be the "No Show" the tie and ties below will be awarded 3/0 to the opposition regardless of what the results were.

3.5.1 In the event of other official squash events (matches or tournaments), the fixture/tie/s may be rescheduled for a convenient time for both players/teams to be played before the original scheduled fixture, provided that a written request is received by the Association at least 7 days before the scheduled fixture should be played.

3.5.2 The Association may grant rescheduling of matches but this permission will be limited to a maximum of two (2) consecutive fixtures.

3.5.3 The rescheduled match/tie must be played before the original scheduled date at a fair time to the team or player that is being inconvenienced.

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3.5.4 Clubs must fill up their league sides from the top down. All no shows on a league night will result in a 2 point penalty for the offending side. An additional 2 point penalty will be given if a team does not enter a player's name in the offending position/s.

3.5.4.1 In the event that a club is unable to field a full team, but is able to inform the opposition before three o'clock on the afternoon of the fixture, this team will be allowed to enter the name of the player who could not be at the fixture without the penalties being applied.

3.5.4.2 In the event that no communication is received regarding a no show, an email must be sent to admin@northerns.co.za so that the necessary penalty points can be applied.

3.6 Over-ruling "No Shows" and Extreme Circumstances

A "No show" can only be over-ruled by a League Steward at the start of the match in extreme circumstances if an alternative arrangement has been agreed upon by both players and the League Steward. Extreme circumstances include general power failure in the area, natural disasters and other "acts of God." eg, floods, fires and earthquake. Any other circumstance such as a car accident, a "smash & grab" etc, will not be considered an extreme circumstance.

3.7 Scoring of Fixture Points

League teams shall score points as follows:

3.7.1 Each team shall score one point for each game won.

3.7.2 The team winning the most ties shall receive an additional bonus point for every tie won.

3.7.3 In the event of both teams winning an equal amount of ties, the games won shall be counted and the team with the most games won will receive an additional bonus point for every tie won.

3.7.4 In the event of both teams winning an equal amount of games, the points shall be counted and the team with the most points will receive an additional bonus point for every tie won.

3.7.5 In the event of both teams having an equal number of ties, games and points, a draw will be declared and both teams will receive 2 (two) bonus points each.

3.8 Procedure when Teams End on Equal Points at the End of the Season

3.8.1 When teams end on equal log points at season end, the team that won more ties in the season wins, if ties are also equal games won (less games lost) will be compared to determine the winner, if games

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are equal then points won (less points lost) are compared to determine the winner

3.8.2 If still drawn the results between the teams will determine the league winner on the same basis as 3.8.1.

3.8.3 If still level a play off is required

3.9 Withdrawing a Team from League

3.9.1 In the event of a team withdrawing or being withdrawn from any league, all the fixtures played and points scored by and against the team at the time of such withdrawal, shall be cancelled immediately and the league shall then be completed by the remaining teams.

3.9.2 The club of the team withdrawn as set out in clause 3.7 shall be penalized by having to pay a fine to the Association equal to the league team affiliation fee for that team in addition to the annual league team affiliation fee for the team. The said fine shall be payable within 14 days of the date of an account being sent from the Association.

3.10 Point Scoring

3.10.1 For league matches shall be as found in the applicable World Squash Singles Rules.

4. COMPOSITION OF LEAGUES

4.1 The basis of league allocation shall be promotion - relegation. The top two teams in each league shall automatically have the right to be promoted to the higher league the following season and the bottom two teams will conversely be relegated to the lower league the following season.

4.1.1 The Association may at its discretion accommodate a Tertiary Institutional team in the 1st league. Leagues will be restricted to a maximum of 10 teams per league.

4.2 Clubs may however elect not to accept the promotion of a league side. This must be communicated to the Association in writing on or before 10 December of each year. An allocation list will be compiled and sent to all the clubs by 15 January of each year, In order to notify clubs of any resulting vacant positions in any of the leagues. Final applications will be considered and must be submitted to the NSA office by 31st January of each year. Final allocations will be sent to the clubs by 03 February of each year. In the interest of squash and other club players, all club chairmen must ensure not to accept any league side/s for which they know their club can not field the necessary strength of players for that league side/s. If a club does elect not to accept the promotion, the Association will have the final say as to who will be promoted, based on motivations as received from the Clubs.

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4.3 In the case of a club waiving the promotion of a league side as per clause 4.2 herein, only clubs accepting the promotion may be promoted. The club placed third will only be given the option of promotion at the discretion of the Association based on written motivation (refer clause 4.2).

5. ENTRY OF TEAMS

5.1 Application for League Sides

Application for league sides will be done in accordance with the results of the previous season and in terms of the promotion - relegation principle. Clubs are to submit their applications for league sides for the following season, in writing, on or before 10 December of each year. (If on a Saturday, Sunday or Public holiday the last working day before 10 December) Transgressing clubs will be allocated leagues as the NSA sees fit in terms of the promotion-relegation principle.

5.2 Opening in League

Clubs are restricted to two sides in any particular league. The clubs must however obtain the sides through the process of promotion - relegation. The Association may at its discretion allocate a league side to a club making application for such league side where an opening arises due to the withdrawal of another league side. Such application must be in writing and must be submitted to the Association on or before 10 December of each year. (If on a Saturday, Sunday or Public holiday the last working day before 10 December)

5.3 Requisite Affiliation Fee

The requisite annual affiliation fee determined by the Association shall be payable within 30 days of invoice being sent out and by latest 31st March each year. Written application for a maximum extension to 30th April will be considered by the NSA.

5.4 Penalties for Late or Non-Payment

Clubs failing to make payment as required in clause 5.3 above will not earn league points until fees are paid. League points so lost are not recoverable.

5.4.1 Offending clubs will be notified in writing of their pending non earning of points.

5.5 Requirement to be in Good Standing

Only affiliated clubs in good standing with the Association and Squash S.A. may play league.

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5.6 Registration of Players

Every club must ensure that all league players are registered with the Northern Squash Federation before playing any league matches for any club/side/team. Transgressing players will be penalized by awarding the match 3/0 to the opponent and by deducting 2 penalty points from the team for each unregistered player. (Also see clause 7.1 and 7.2)

5.7 Duly Registered with the NSF

No player will be permitted to partake in the league or any competition/tournament organized by the Association, unless such a player has been duly registered with the NSF and activated to do so. Registration is done by the Club through the Administrator on the Northern website (www.northern.co.za).

6. SELECTION OF CLUB LEAGUE TEAMS

6.1 Eligibility to Play League

Only bona fide members of a NSA affiliated club, in good standing with their club, the NSA, Squash SA and registered with the NSF, may play league.

6.5.1 The NSA may from time to time suspend players from playing league if they are deemed not to be in good standing with the players club, NSA another provincial association or Squash SA. Not in good standing can mean under a disciplinary suspension, owing money or other reasons reported to the NSA.

6.2 Appointment of a Club Captain

Each club participating in the NSA League shall be required to have a Club Captain who is responsible for amongst other things two updated ladders, one for the men and one for the ladies. The selection of league teams shall be done in accordance with the rating of players on the club's ladder, arranged in descending order of strength.

6.3 Updated Ladder

The most recent/updated ladder must be displayed at the club for reference by visiting teams.

6.4 Position of Players in a Team

The position of players in any team shall also be in accordance with the ladder rating.

6.4.1 Players ranked in the top 20 on the South African National Rankings must play strictly according to the National Ranking order. i.e: A player

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ranked in the top 20 may not play below another player in his/her club who is not ranked above him/her nationally. A Nationally Ranked player in the top 20 may not play in a lower position than someone ranked below him/her due to an injury, if a player is fit to play a match he/she must play in accordance with the National Rankings.

6.5 Fielding an A- and B Team

In the case of a club fielding two teams in a league the order of both teams must be declared before the first match of the season. The declared players may only play in their originally declared teams.

6.5.1 Reserves may play for either side in a higher league which has two teams but once they have represented one of the higher teams they may not play for the other team.

6.5.2 If A club fielding two teams in the same league wishes to change the players in either of the two teams the club may make representation to the NSA, the NSA may give permission for the club to change the players, however the situation in 6.5 and 6.5.1 will still apply from the first match of the second half of the season.

6.6 Request to Furnish a Latest Ladder

Upon request, a club may be required to furnish the Association with its current ladder of relative strength.

6.7 Playing in Different League Teams

No player will be allowed to play for two (2) different men's- or ladies league teams during the same league week. Transgressing player/s will forfeit the second match played 3/0 to the opponent and the team fielding the transgressing player will be penalized by deducting 2 penalty points from the team for every transgressing player and 2 penalty points for each player below the transgressing player.

6.8 Lady Players Playing in Men's League and Vice Versa

Lady players may be allowed to play in the men's league, based on the principles of strength as set out in clauses 6.1 to 6.5. Men will not be allowed to play in the ladies league.

6.9 Movement of Players Up the Order

Players can move up the ladder to (fill teams short of players) as long as it is according to ladder positions. However, no player may play more than 2 positions down in the ladder between consecutive fixtures.

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6.9.1 Players may only leap frog 2 people up or down the club ladder between consecutive fixtures.

6.9.2 Teams who simply change their order of play by playing the no 4 at no 1 position will be penalized by losing all ties 3/0.

6.10 Penalties when Playing in the Incorrect Order

In the event of any club/team/teams playing a player/s ineligible in terms of clauses 6.1 or 6.2 or 6.4 or 6.5 or 6.6 or 6.8, the team involved will be penalized by forfeiting the tie 3/0 to the opponent and being fined 2 penalty points, provided the ineligible player played in the no 4 position.

6.10.1 Where an ineligible player plays in a higher position than his teammates, team mates under his position will also forfeit their ties 0/3.

6.11 Ladder Movement During Breaks in the Season

In the event of a 4 week or longer break between league fixtures, players may move up more than 2 places on their club ladder. These changes must however be sent to the NSA office before the next league fixture takes place, if the player wishes to move up or down more than the allowed 2 places.

6.12 Next Available Player Rule

Next available player rule – in certain instances clubs need to move players up or down from their positions the previous week, in order to fulfil a fixture. To avoid penalties being imposed due to breaching by-laws 6.5.1, 6.9.1 and 7.6.2, a club may move players up or down more than two positions on their ladder by making use of the next available player. This rule in effect allows the club to ignore a player who may not play for a certain league side where such club has two sides in the same league (rule 6.5.1), and also where a team already has two external players in it (rule 7.6.2), the next available player will need to be a local player even if such player is two positions further down the ladder due to external player/s being between the next available local player and the team above. The following week, such player may also move back to his previous position without any penalty. (Refer to annexure H – next available player)

NOTE: The preferred order of play will be 4, 3, 2 and 1.

7. PLAYERS

7.1 Registration of Players

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No player shall be eligible to play for any team representing a club unless the player has been registered as a playing member of that club for the current year before playing any matches. Registration is the responsibility of the club and is done through the Administrator on the Northerns website: www.northerns.co.za. Transgressing players will be penalized by awarding the tie 3/0 to the opponent and by awarding 2 penalty points to the team for each unregistered player. (Read in conjunction with clause 5.7)

7.2 Transfer of Players between Clubs

Players may only change clubs: by completing the "Player Transfer Form" (included as Annexure A). The form must be signed by the Chairman /Club Captain of the club the player is leaving as well as the Chairman/Club Captain of the club the player intends moving to. Players not transferred will lose their ties 0/3 and receive 2 penalty points.

7.21 The last date for the transfer of players between clubs is the 15th of January each year

7.22 Only in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Association, will the transfer of a player be allowed after 31st January each year. The decision shall firstly rest with the two chairmen involved and then with a motivation to the Association for the final approval.

7.3 Disputes Relating to Transfer of Players

In the case of any dispute arising as a result of the transfer, the transfer may be referred to the Association for a decision, with the right to appeal.

7.4 Transfers after Cut-Off Date

No Player will be allowed to transfer after the final transfer date of 31 January during the first four (4) league fixtures after which, if a player wishes to transfer after the 4th match, a transfer form must be completed by all parties concerned. In addition the transferring player may not play for his/her previous or new club for two (2) consecutive league matches from the date the transfer form is accepted by the NSA. However, should the transferring player not have played league for a period of four(4) league matches prior to the date of the transfer (last signature date , Transfer form being accepted by the NSA), then the transferring player may represent his or her new Club immediately after or on the transfer date.

7.5 Requirement to Notify NSA of Transfers

The Association must be notified of any transfer of players taking place between clubs in order to keep the player database updated.

7.6 External Player

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7.6.1 An external player for the purpose of these By-laws shall be defined as a player:

7.6.1.1 Who has represented another province, and has not transferred to Northerns by the 1st March of the relevant year. Be it in an official or invitation team.

7.6.1.2 Who is a foreign national i.e. not a SA passport holder or SA Citizen.

7.6.1.3 Who resides outside the Tshwane (Pretoria) metropolitan area and has not, in writing advised Squash SA of his/her availability to be selected for Northerns.

7.6.2 Each league team must comprise of at least 2 players eligible to represent the NSA at Jarvis / Kaplan. The restriction on external players will be confined to Men's': 1st, 1st Reserve and 2nd leagues as well as Ladies 1st league.

7.6.3 The penalty for fielding a team with three or more external players will result in the team forfeiting the ties of the no3 and no4 players to the opponents and a further penalty of 2 for transgressing the by-laws.

7.6.4 An external player participating in a league must play 50% of the total league matches for his/her club in the current season, failing which, his/her team will be penalized by forfeiting all points allocated to the player and the results will be offending player will be regarded as a "NO SHOW", resulting in the team forfeiting all matches below the offending player 3/0.

7.6.4.1 In the event of a team fielding three or more external players, the league match will not count towards the third (and fourth) external player's required 50% of total league matches. I.e. The match will only count towards the first two external players' league season match count.

7.6.5 No external player will be registered or transferred after the first half of the league season has been completed. Only in exceptional circumstances with written motivation and with the final approval of the Association, will an outsider be registered or transferred after the first half of the league season has been completed.

7.7 Playing under a False Name

Any player guilty of playing under a false name or NSF number will lose their tie 0/3 with a further 6 (six) point penalty against the team.

8. MARKERS AND REFEREES

8.1 Each team member shall act as a referee or marker, depending on the situation

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- 8.2 Clubs must ensure that league players are familiar with the applicable World Squash Singles Rules, the responsibilities of the Marker and Referee as well as the responsibilities of the players. (Refer to the NSF website for a link to WSF rules and regulations)
- 8.3 No 1st league match result shall be recorded unless refereed as required in the applicable World Squash Singles Rules, Rule 18: CONTROL OF A MATCH, by a player or referee with at least a level 2 Marking and Refereeing qualification.
- 8.4 All league players (men and ladies) are encouraged to obtain a valid level 2 or higher marking and refereeing qualification

NOTE: It is preferred that the players of the home team for the fixture shall act as the Referees and the players of the visiting team shall act as the Markers.

9. FIXTURES AND MATCHES

9.1 Fixtures

- 9.1.1 Every fixture shall be played on the date and venue as laid down in the fixture list drawn up by the Association. No league fixture shall be played on a Public Holiday unless unavoidable, and no rescheduling of matches or fixtures shall be allowed except with the prior approval of the Association which shall grant such rescheduling only on the grounds of an individual, team or club having other commitments to squash. (read in conjunction with clause 3.4)
- 9.1.2 The scheduled starting time for all league fixtures is 18:00, and the first tie shall commence by not later than 15 minutes after the starting time and thereafter play is to be continuous, i.e. ties between players at the venue are to commence within 10 minutes of the completion of the previous tie. As per clause 3.4 teams may agree to change the starting time but not the day of the fixture.
- 9.1.3 The home team shall be responsible for the booking of courts failing which the home team will be penalized by awarding the ties 3/0 to the opponents.

9.2 Ties/Matches

- 9.2.1 Each player of a team shall play one tie to consist of the best of five games.
- 9.2.2 All ties shall be refereed as required in the applicable World Squash Singles Rules, Rule 18: CONTROL OF A MATCH, by a member of the team. (Also see clause 8.3)

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9.3 Claiming a Match

9.3.1 A team may claim the first tie (no 4 pos) at 18h15 and the rest of the ties at 15 minute intervals from 18h15 (in order 3, 2 & 1), provided that:

9.3.1.1 The team has 4 players present and is ready to play, and

9.3.1.2 It has not been possible to commence the tie due to the opposition not being present and ready to play.

9.3.1.3 If one or more ties have been completed before 19:00 and there is not another pairing present and ready to play, the remaining ties may not be claimed until 19h00. A written explanation for the claim should be included on the result sheet. The Association will apply penalty points in accordance with clause 3.5 to the defaulting team. (read in conjunction with clause 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7)

9.3.2 The team claiming a fixture/match shall submit a fully completed Score sheet and a written explanation for the 16/0 claim.

9.3.3 Penalised teams may appeal the above penalties where “acts of God” were the cause thereof.

9.4 Fixtures Affected by Load Shedding

Should any fixture be affected by load shedding the following rules will be applied by Northerns in determining points with immediate effect:

9.4.1 Each captain must write the team order down with the players who are able to play on the evening, the team members may not be changed once a fixture is affected by load-shedding.

9.4.2 Fixtures affected by load shedding must be conveyed to Northerns at admin@northerns.co.za within 24 hours so that no late penalties are implemented when the results are entered.

9.4.3 Any individual matches completed will stand and count towards the final result.

9.4.4 Any individual matches not yet completed must be started from the beginning and may be arranged at the convenience of the two players concerned.

9.4.5 Any matches not completed must be completed before the next league fixture takes place.

9.4.6 Player names can be changed on application

10. SCORECARDS

10.1 The Captain of either the winning or losing team is responsible for ensuring that the result of the fixture is processed on the web site within 2 working days of the fixture and the onus is both captains to confirm that the result is a true reflection of the result. Should the score not be confirmed then the score is considered to be correct. If the score entered is disputed, then a dispute arises and NSA will ask both Clubs involved submit their version of the event.

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Any objections must be forwarded to the Association as soon as possible in order to keep the web site accurate and up to date. Both teams shall keep a copy of the official scorecards (Refer annexure B) signed by both Captains for reference purposes.

- 10.2 If the result is not processed on the website within two working days as specified in Clause 10.1, no points will be awarded to either team.
- 10.3 Players registering as Northern Squash Federation members are issued a player code in the form of NSF****. The NSF code is retained for life regardless of the Club for which the player plays for.
- 10.4 In the case of a no show the missing players name and NSF number must still be filled in on the score card.

11. OBJECTIONS/APPEALS

11.1 A team captain may phone a league steward during a match for clarification on a by-law issue and not a "Rules of squash issue". The league steward has the authority to make a decision with regard to the by-laws. If either team objects to the steward's decision or were unable to speak to a steward for a decision or if either party are unhappy or in disagreement with the decision the following procedure applies:

11.1.1 The objecting team captain must prepare a written complaint.

11.1.2 The captain must then present said complaint to his Chairman/Club captain for approval. Chairman/club captain must sign the complaint if it is to be submitted to the NSA office.

11.1.3 The NSA will respond either in writing or by arranging a meeting to settle the matter within 7 calendar days.

11.1.4 Should the NSA decide to refer the complaint directly to the appeals board the complainants club will still be advised within the 7 calendar days.

11.2 Third party objections or appeals, (Where your club is not involved but affected by improper conduct during any fixture.) the following procedure applies:

11.2.1 A written complaint/appeal must be submitted to the NSA at any time but for first half of the season fixtures this must be done within 7 calendar days after the halfway point in the season (generally fixture 9); And for second half fixtures or within 7 calendar days after the season ending fixture (generally fixture 18).

12. BALL

12.1 The official ball is the ball as determined by The NSA is the Dunlop High Altitude (Green Dot) ball for the period 1 September to 30 April for all league play. From 1 May to 31 August the Dunlop High Altitude (Green Dot) ball will be the official ball for Men's 1st and Reserve league and Ladies 1st League. From 1 May to 31 August the Dunlop Pro Revelation (Double Yellow Dot) ball

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will be the official ball for Men's 2nd league and lower and Ladies Reserve league and lower. In the event that both players wish to play and both agree, in the lower leagues the Dunlop High Altitude (Green Dot) ball may be used.

13. GENERAL

13.1 Court Bookings

To obviate confusion the Home Team shall be responsible for the court bookings, whether at their own club or not, and for the supply of the regulation type squash balls. The Home Team will be indicated on the league fixture lists. In the event of the fixture not being played at the club of the Home team, notification of such change of venue has to be sent in writing to the Visiting team concerned as well as the Association, at least 1 (one) week prior to the fixture being played.

13.2 League Standings

The results of all league matches will be entered directly onto the website by the Association. League standings, team results and individual results are all available on the website.

13.3 Entry of Results

The onus rests with each team captain to ensure that results have been correctly entered or captured on the website by visiting the website regularly and confirming the results are correct. Any objections or differences must be brought to the attention of the Association within 3 (three) weeks of the website being updated. (read in conjunction with clause 10.1 to 10.4)

13.4 Limited By-Law Amendments

Where amendments to the By-laws are suggested by the NSA and it's members such amendments must be presented to the NSF for approval. Upon NSF approval a special delegates meeting must be held to advise clubs of the approved amendments.

13.5 Amalgamation of Clubs

Amalgamation between clubs shall only be permitted in accordance with the Constitution and the approval of the Association.

13.6 Delegates Meetings

Clubs shall send a representative to the Delegates Meetings and Annual General Meeting of the Association to receive information, discuss issues and decide on proposals or to vote on issues concerning the Association.

13.7 Clothing

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Playing clothing for men shall consist of a short sleeved shirt, shorts and playing shoes.

Playing clothing for woman shall consist of a shirt worn with a skirt or shorts and playing shoes or a dress and playing shoes.

Other garments, such as part or all of a tracksuit, may be worn during play with the permission of the referee.

14. PENALTIES

In the absence of a penalty for a transgression, the Association may decide on an applicable penalty. The Association's decision shall be final. See Annexure D.

15. DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND PROCEDURE

Should any incident, conduct or other matter relating to a squash match or otherwise require disciplinary action, the complainant or his or her club shall report the matter within 24 hours after the incident to the Association on the Official form (attached as Annexure C), signed the complainant and Chairman/Club Captain.

The Secretary of the Association shall immediately, on receipt of the written complaint, furnish copies thereof to the Chairman, or, if he is not available, the Vice-Chairman or any member of the Management Committee of the Association for purposes of appointing a Disciplinary Committee to deal with and finalise the matter as soon as possible. Copies of the written complaint shall also be furnished to the accused player and his or her club, and the complainant's club.

The accused player shall be requested to answer the allegations in the written complaint or to give an explanation within 36 hours of receiving such notice. Copies of the answer shall immediately be given to everyone concerned and mentioned above.

If the complainant wishes to reply to the answer or explanation, such written reply shall be given to the Secretary of the Association within 36 hours of receiving the answer or explanation. The Secretary of the Association shall immediately furnish copies thereof to those concerned.

The Disciplinary Committee shall deal with the matter as soon as possible and may have a hearing of the matter in order to come to a final decision before the next league match of the accused player and, if deemed suitable, a penalty which shall come into immediate effect pending confirmation by the Association.

The accused player shall be advised of the penalty and the reasons therefore at the hearing.

The accused player/club shall have a right of appeal to the NSF appeals board within 24 hours.

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16. ANNEXURES

16.1 ANNEXURE A: CLUB ELIGIBILITY TRANSFER FORM

Please see <http://www.northerns.co.za/sample-page/nsa-documents/> for the official Club Eligibility Transfer Form.

16.2 ANNEXURE B: NSF SCORESHEET

Please see <http://www.northerns.co.za/sample-page/nsa-documents/> for the official Score Sheet.

16.3 ANNEXURE C: CONDUCT ON COURT VIOLATION REPORT SHEET

Please see <http://www.northerns.co.za/sample-page/nsa-documents/> for the official Conduct Violation Report Sheet.

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16.4 ANNEXURE D: DEFINITIONS OF ON-COURT CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATIONS

TIME WASTING

The unreasonable delaying of play, including unduly slow preparation to serve or to receive service, prolonged discussion with the Referee, unnecessary or excessive wiping of eyewear, or delay in returning to court.

AUDIBLE OBSCENITY

The use of words commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by the Referee or spectators.

VISIBLE OBSCENITY

The making of signs by a player using hands and/or racket or ball that commonly have an obscene meaning or import to reasonable people.

ABUSE OF BALL

Intentionally hitting a ball out of court, hitting a ball dangerously or recklessly within the court, or hitting a ball with negligent disregard of the consequences.

ABUSE OF RACKET, COURT, OR EQUIPMENT

Intentionally, dangerously or violently destroying or damaging a racket or equipment, or intentionally or violently hitting the court during a match.

VERBAL ABUSE

A statement directed at an official, opponent, spectator or other person that implies dishonesty, or derogatory or insulting.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

The unnecessary touching of an official, opponent, spectator or other person.

UNSPORTING CONDUCT

Any misconduct by a player that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the sport, but that does not fall into the prohibition of any specific on-site offence contained herein.

Unsporting conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the giving, making, issuing, authorizing of, or endorsing any public statement having or designed to have an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interests of the Tournament/League and/or the officiating thereof.

DISSENT

The making of unnecessary statements which demonstrate a disagreement with the Referee's decision/s.

REFEREE FAILURE

Where the Referee has failed to fulfil his responsibilities in terms of Rule 18: CONTROL OF A MATCH and Rule 20: DUTIES OF A REFEREE and this failure may have contributed to the game being brought into disrepute.

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16.5 ANNEXURE E: PENALTY POINTS TABLE

<i>By-Law</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Penalty Point(s)</i>
3	League System and Scoring	
3.5	Not fielding a full side, "No shows".	The transgressing player/s will forfeit the match 3/0. In the case of a higher ranked player in the team not showing for his tie, all the players in the team below the higher ranked player will also be penalised by awarding the match 3/0 to the opponent, no matter what the actual result was, for each player in the team below the higher ranked player.
5	Entry of Teams	
5.6	Unregistered players	The transgressing player/s will forfeit the match 3/0, and the team involved will be penalized by awarding 2 penalty points to the team for every transgressing player.
6	Selection of Club league teams	
6.7	No player will be allowed to play for two (2) different men's- or ladies league teams during the same league week.	The transgressing player/s will forfeit the second match 3/0, and the team involved will be penalized by awarding 2 penalty points to the team involved for every transgressing player.
6.2 or 6.3 or 6.8 or 6.9	Selection in accordance with ladder Position in team in accordance with ladder Principles of ladies playing men's league Movement of players on the ladder	The transgressing player/s will forfeit the match 3/0, and the team involved with an additional 2 penalty points for every transgressing player.
7	Players	
7.1	Registration of players	The transgressing player/s will forfeit the match 3/0, and the team involved will be penalized by awarding 2 penalty points to the team involved for every transgressing player.
7.2	"Players Transfer Form"	The transgressing player/s will forfeit the match 3/0, and the team involved will be penalized by awarding 2 penalty points to the team involved for every transgressing player.
9	Fixtures and Matches	
9.1.1	Play as stipulated by NSA Fixtures	Transgressing teams will be penalized by awarding only ½ (half) the points for the fixture.
9.3.1	Failure to arrive for match and No Shows	Refer Clause 3.4
10	Score Cards	
10.4	Score cards not received by NSA within 2 working days	No points will be awarded to either team, losing captain has right to appeal.
10.5	Incomplete score cards	Transgressing team/s will be penalized with 2 penalty points.
14	Penalties	
	Absence of penalties	Association may decide on an applicable penalty.

NOTE: Where penalties are covered under more than 1 clause, it will only be applied once.

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16.6 ANNEXURE F: AWARDS CALCULATION FORMULAE

Woody Kaiser Trophy

This trophy is awarded to the club playing in the NSA Men's winter league for the best overall performance and is calculated as follows:

1. To qualify for this award the number of a Club's mens league teams must at least be equal to or greater than 50% of the number of mens leagues of the Northern Squash Association.
2. The purpose of this award is the following:
 - (i) To distinguish between clubs which perform well in the higher leagues as opposed to the lower leagues and
 - (ii) To give credit to clubs which field two side in a league.
3. Calculations are worked as follows:
 - 3.1 The points earned in 1st League are regarded as full (100%) points as the leagues drop the proportion decreases. For example: In the case of 14 leagues, 1st league would be regarded as 14/14 where reserve league 13/14 and 13th league 1/14 multiplied by the points earned during the season.
 - 3.2 If a club has two sides in the same league both sides point will be multiplied by the same fraction.
 - 3.3 To calculate the aggregate, add all the calculated total for each team and divide by the number of teams the club entered in the men's leagues.
 - 3.4 The club with the highest aggregate score will be the winner of the trophy.

Uitsig Trophy

The Uitsig trophy is awarded to the club which has the highest percentage of winning teams in relation to the number of teams entered into both Men's and Women's league: For example a club winning 4 league of the 6 leagues entered would translate to $4/6 \times 100 = 66.67\%$.

Pieter Bell Trophy

The Pieter Bell trophy is awarded to the individual who performs best throughout the season. For example if there are more than one players who have won equal number of matches then the winner is determined by the number of games lost, the winner would be determined by the player who loses the least games.

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16.7 ANNEXURE G: BLITZ LEAGUE RULES

The “blitz League” competition is a league played by first league clubs before the start of the official winter league season. Blitz League was instituted as a warm-up league to get the players ready for the season.

Rules

1. The Blitz League is for first league teams.
 - 1.1 Blitz league is a stand alone league and has no bearing on the winter league season and as such does not fall into the by-laws relating to transfers etc.
2. A maximum of 10 teams will be permitted to compete in the Blitz League. All clubs who are fielding a team in the first league of the winter season are obliged to participate in the Blitz League.
3. The Format of the league will be 2 (two) pools of 5 teams maximum , once the pool round robins are complete , cross pool semi finals and finals will be contested.
4. Points are awarded as in the league season 1 point for each game won , 1 bonus point for each tie won by the winning team in the fixture max 16
5. In the event of two teams ending with the same number of points at the end of the pools then the result between the two teams will determine who finishes in the higher position.
6. For a player to be eligible to play in the cross pool play-offs they must have played in two or more of the pool matches.

Semi Final Match

1. Pool 1 pos 1 v Pool 2 pos 2
2. Pool 2 pos 1 v Pool 1 pos 2
3. Pool 1 pos 3 v Pool 2 pos 4
4. Pool 2 pos 3 v Pool 1 pos 4
5. Pool 1 pos 5 & Pool 2 pos 5 – bye

Finals

- Winner match 1 v winner match 2 (winner: pos 1, loser: pos 2)
 Loser match 1 v Loser match 2 (winner: pos 3 , loser: pos 4)
 Winner match 3 v Winner match 4 (winner pos: 5 , loser: pos 6)
 Loser match 3 v Loser match 4 (winner: pos 7 , loser: pos 8)
 Pool 1 pos 5 v Pool 2 pos 5 (winner: pos 9 , loser: pos 10)

7. The NSA will arrange a prize giving function to be held after the finals at the venue of the finals.

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16.8 ANNEXURE H: NEXT AVAILABLE PLAYER

Explanation of Next Available Player Rule

Scenario 1: All Local Players				
	Team A		Team B	
1	J Johnson	1	F Blaar	
2	P Peterson	2	G Mans	
3	M Macson	3	R Venter	
4	L Lipson	4	B de Beer	
		Team C		Comments
1		F Spruyt		Played for Team A - cannot play for team B
2		G Butler		Played for Team A - cannot play for team B
3		O Dibden		Can play for team B if needed with no penalty - next available player. Can also move back to no 3 in Team C the next week without penalty due to leap frogging.
4		S Wouter		

Scenario 2: Some External Players				
	Team A		Team B	
1	J Johnson	1	F Blaar	External player
2	P Peterson	2	G Mans	External player
3	M Macson	3	R Venter	
4	L Lipson	4	B de Beer	
		Team C		Comments
1		F Spruyt		Played for Team A - cannot play for team B
2		G Butler		Played for Team A - cannot play for team B
3		O Dibden (External)		Cannot play for team B as they already have two external players
4		S Wouter		Can play for team B - next available local player Can also move back to no 4 in Team C the next week without penalty due to leap frogging.