

PSRA League Playing Rules (updated 8/31/2021)

1. This Association shall abide by The Playing Rules of Squash as specified by US Squash. See <https://ussquash.org/rules-of-squash/>, including those rules for lets, strokes and mandatory eyewear.

2. Regular Season

2.1. Scheduling

2.1.1. Except as may otherwise be designated by the Executive Committee, the scheduled days for league matches shall be as follows:

- Open & 5.0 Singles - Wednesday
- 4.5 Singles - Thursday
- 4.0 Singles - Tuesday
- 3.2 Singles - Monday
- A Doubles - Thursday (Winter)
- Super-B Doubles - Tuesday (Winter)
- B Doubles - Wednesday (Winter)
- C Doubles - Thursday (Winter)
- Veteran (40+) Doubles - Tuesday (Fall)
- Senior (50+) Doubles - Thursday (Fall)
- 60+ Doubles - Monday (Fall)
- U40 Doubles - Monday (Fall)
- Mixed-AB Doubles - Wednesday (Fall)
- Mixed-BC Doubles - Wednesday (Fall)

2.1.2. The Executive Committee shall decide the number of times each team entered in any league shall play pursuant to the suggestions of the Scheduling Committee.

2.2. Team Format

2.2.1. Doubles teams shall consist of two (2) pairs of players.

2.2.2. Singles teams will consist of three (3) players.

2.2.3. Lineup

2.2.3.1. Stacking of a lineup is not permitted - may result in default of entire match

2.2.3.2. For Singles, all playing positions on the team will be determined by the player's rating or by documented challenge match (entered appropriately into the US Squash match database). If there is no rating available for a player, then the best judgment of the captain of the team is assumed.

2.2.3.3. For Doubles, all playing positions on the team shall be determined internally according to challenge ladder results or, if no challenge match results are available, on order of ability as determined by the best judgment of the team captain.

2.3. Captain's Responsibilities

- 2.3.1. Captains are expected to manage their rosters and report/confirm results through the web application supplied by USSquash. Appropriate links to the location are available at the PSRA PhillyBoast website.
- 2.3.2. Captains are expected to produce lineups for all regular season and playoff matches, and to confirm that their player's memberships are up to date.
- 2.3.3. Captains are expected to communicate with opposing captains to confirm scheduling of regular season and playoff matches.

2.4. Eligibility

- 2.4.1. All players are required to be both PSRA and USSquash members at the time that a match is scheduled to be played. Please note that both the PSRA and USSquash uses a rolling membership year, and that the membership dates for the PSRA and USSquash coincide (except in the case of lifetime memberships in either).
- 2.4.2. In case of the emergency situation where a non-roster player is used for a match, that player is required to be a PSRA and USSquash member at the time of the match.
- 2.4.3. In the event that a player is not a current member of the PSRA and USSquash, the offending team will lose credit for the match win.
- 2.4.4. We have enabled a grace period for each season that ends 2 weeks after the first day of the first league to start. We have also enabled grace period of one week from the scheduled date of each match. If the membership is made current within the current season's grace period or within the match grace period, the match win(s) will be restored.
- 2.4.5. (New) All players must be vaccinated for COVID-19 to participate in any league match. Any match played by an unvaccinated player will, of course, be subject to default, although the match should not be played at all.**

2.5. Referee Exam (currently for singles only)

- 2.5.1. To encourage better knowledge of the Rules and safer play, teams in each league will be rewarded with additional points if all of their active players have taken and passed the US Squash Club Referee exam as of midnight of the last match date of each season. In regards to this rule, active players shall include any who have earned a match by default. The referee exam points shall be the equivalent of having won an additional league match vs. the Referee Exam Team by a score of 4-0, 3-0 or 2-0 as is applicable for that leagues format and failure to meet the requirements shall be the equivalent of having lost an additional league match vs. the Referee Exam Team by a score of 0-4, 0-3 or 0-2 as applicable).

2.6. Exclusions

- 2.6.1. The Ranking Committee has the authority to certify all players for league play regardless of their age and former league record.
- 2.6.2. Male Squash Pros are not eligible to play in the Mixed AB Doubles league. Exceptions to this rule may be granted by the ranking committee, based on the age and/or skill level of the player involved.
- 2.6.3. No player can represent more than one member club in the same league, nor can a player represent one member club on two different teams in the same league. If a player does participate on a second team in the same league, or on a team of a different member club in the same league, all such matches played by such individual for the second team or for the team of a second member club will be forfeited.
- 2.6.4. Players under 21 are not permitted to play in the C Leagues without permission of the Executive Committee.

2.7. Substitutes Players

- 2.7.1. In the event that a regular member of a team is unable to play, a substitute player may be added to the team's roster and shall be allowed to play for the team.
- 2.7.2. The substitute player must meet all playing qualifications of a previously rostered player, include membership status and playing ability.
- 2.7.3. The player shall be substituted at his or her level of ability rather than the position of the player being substituted for.
- 2.7.4. If no player is substituted, the player or players below the absent member shall move up one position to fill the missing position and the lowest match position on the team shall be defaulted.
- 2.7.5. A player classified in a lower league may play as a substitute on a higher league team and his right to play on his regular team will not be affected. A player who substitutes more than two times in a higher rated league will be reclassified at the higher level and will be ineligible to play in the lower level league from that time forward through the end of the season, including playoffs.

2.8. Defaults

- 2.8.1. In the event a player (including any substitute player) is unable to play a match on the evening of date originally scheduled (or rescheduled by mutual agreement of the team captains) such match shall be defaulted to the player (including any substitute player) who was ready to play on the scheduled date unless the match is cancelled by agreement of both team captains, in which case neither team will be awarded a point for the match. Any match which is rescheduled by mutual agreement of the team captains and which is unplayed, for whatever reason, in the six (6) days after the date originally scheduled shall be deemed cancelled with neither team being awarded a point for the match.
- 2.8.2. If a court is available for play and a player or team is not ready for play within 30 minutes of the official starting time, the tardy player or pair of players is liable to default at the option of the player or team prepared for play, unless by prior mutual agreement a contrary arrangement has been made subject to these rules.
- 2.8.3. Any team that defaults 25% or more of their individual matches during the season will not be eligible to win its league and shall not participate in league playoff competition.
- 2.8.4. If any player in league competition fails to show for two or more individual matches, he or she shall be barred from playing in the leagues for the following year. Notification of the desire to reschedule an individual match under rule 6 of these rules must be given to the opposing team captain at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled match time. Appeals from decisions barring a player under this rule may be made to the President of the Association.

- 2.9. If you feel the recorded results are in error, please contact the league recorder [Ken Jaffe](#). If you feel that membership information is incorrect, please contact the US Squash Membership Officer, [Bill Buckingham](#).

3. Playoffs

- 3.1. In order to qualify for playoff positioning, ALL regular season matches need to be completed by the date of the last scheduled regular season match on the league's schedule, and that ALL results, including player names, must be submitted by the end of that next day through the web site, or by email to the league recorder [Ken Jaffe](#) if the website is unavailable.
- 3.2. The order of finish at the end of the season, in preparation for the playoffs, will be determined by the following:
 1. Percentage of individual matches scheduled which were won.
 2. Highest percentage of games won vs. matches scheduled (a default win = 3-0).
 - *Note that this order (#2 vs #3) has been modified as of Fall 2021.*
 3. Lowest percentage of games lost vs. matches scheduled (a default loss = 0-3).
 4. Head-to-head match(s) between the tied teams, based on individual matches won.
 5. Head-to-head match(s) between the tied teams, based on most number of games won (default win = 3-0 win).
 - *Note that this order (#5 vs #6) has been modified as of Fall 2021.*
 6. Head-to-head match(s) between the tied teams, based on least number of games lost (default loss = 0-3 loss).
 7. If both teams would still make the playoffs, then a coin toss will determine the order of finish.
 8. If one of the teams would not be included in the playoffs, then a (regular season format) playoff match between the teams will be held at a neutral court. The winner of the playoff match will be determined by:
 1. Matches won
 2. Games won
 3. Points won
 4. Sudden death game will be played commencing within 5 minutes of determination that a tie did exist. Each club may select a player (singles) or form a 2-player team (doubles (one male and one female for Mixed Doubles)) from the players utilized in the tied play-off match.
- 3.3. In the event that one Team (A) has a substantial number of default wins where they make the playoffs to the detriment of another Team (B) that has a higher percentage of actual (non-default) wins vs number of matches played that were likewise not default wins, but doesn't make the playoffs, then, upon appeal from Team B, *within 24 hours of playoff matches being announced*, the league committee and association president may elect to hold a playoff feed-in match between the 2 teams. Factors may be taken into account such as the default record of each of the teams.
- 3.4. In order to be eligible to participate on a team in league playoff competition, a player must have competed in at least two league matches for that team during the regular season. A win by default does count as an exposure. A loss by default does not count as an exposure. *At least one league exposure must actually be played (i.e. not a default).*

- 3.5. Every playoff match (whether in a preliminary or final round) for a league title shall be played on the evening of the date scheduled unless both team captains agree, with the approval of the President of the Association, to reschedule the match, or unless the match cannot be played on the date scheduled by reason of an Act of God or unplayable courts (in which case the match shall be rescheduled by the President of the Association).
- 3.6. For singles leagues, all playoff matches will be of the same format as the regular season matches, and subject to the same rules (except substitution of previously non-rostered players).
- 3.7. For the A, Mixed-AB, Mixed-BC and 60+ doubles leagues, all playoff matches will be of the same format as the regular season matches, and subject to the same rules (except substitution of previously non-rostered players).
- 3.8. For doubles leagues other than A, Mixed-AB, Mixed-BC and 60+, playoffs matches will consist of 3 matches. Thus, each team must qualify 6 players for the playoffs. If a team is unable to field 6 players, then they will default the 3rd spot (and thus must win both the number one and two matches in order to advance). These playoff matches are otherwise subject to the same rules as regular season matches (except substitution of previously non-rostered players).
- 3.9. All playoff matches, including finals, will be hosted by the team that finished higher in the division. A neutral court for the finals will only be used in the case where there are two separate but equal divisions in the league, where the first place team from each division plays the second place team in the other division in the semi-finals, and the resultant winners playing in the finals are of equal seeding.
- 3.10. The winning team of a playoff match shall be decided by:
 1. Matches won
 2. Games won
 3. Points won
 4. Sudden death game will be played commencing within 5 minutes of determination that a tie did exist. Each club may select a player (singles) or form a 2-player team (doubles (one male and one female for Mixed Doubles)) from the players utilized in the tied play-off match.

4. District Tournaments

- 4.1. A team which wins the Philadelphia District SB, B, C or D Doubles Tournament shall not be eligible to participate in such tournament for a period of 5 years; however, the individual members of a team which wins the Philadelphia District SB, B, C or D Tournament shall be eligible to participate with a new partner in such tournament if the entry constitutes a bona fide team at the appropriate level.
- 4.2. Age Exception
 - 4.2.1. A player, due to their age, may request dispensation to compete in a lower skill level doubles tournament than they have competed in the past. Such requests should be directed to the tournament director(s) and/or president of the association.
 - 4.2.2. The Ranking Committee has the authority to certify all players for tournament play regardless of their age and former league record.