



RULES & REGULATIONS

(REVISED 1st March 2021)

DEFINITIONS

The SSRA Committee is hereafter referred to as the “Committee”.

The NSL Committee appointed by the SSRA is hereafter referred to as the “Sub-Committee”.

“Club” is hereafter referred to any organization that is registered under the Societies Act or incorporated under the Companies Act or otherwise constituted under any written law, entities within the Singapore Government or statutory boards or any interest groups and Institutes of higher learning.

THE COMMITTEE

1. The NSL shall be under the control of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Committee.
2. Any questions to the interpretation or construction of the Rules & Regulations shall be decided by the Sub-Committee. The Committee shall not be initially involved, unless referred by the Sub-Committee or following an appeal.
3. In the interest of national youth development, the Sub-Committee has the right to field a national youth team in any grade.
4. The Sub-Committee shall have the authority to impose such penalties as it may deem appropriate for any breach of the Rules & Regulations. Such penalties will include:
 - a. The forfeit of partial or full match points, and including possible penalty points
 - b. Suspension of offending teams.
 - c. Suspension of Individual Players; individuals suspended from the league may be subject to further disciplinary actions by the Committee.
 - d. Suspension for any number of matches or for the entire competition
 - e. A fine of \$100.00 may be imposed on walkovers conceded.
5. The Sub-Committee shall have the authority at any time to demand from any Club or Individual entered for any league competition of the SSRA, information regarding any league-related matter. Failure to supply such information within the time specified by the Sub-Committee may tantamount to a breach of the Rules & Regulations.

WINDOWS AND TIME FRAMES

6. The annual Grading exercise windows and registration time lines shall be adhered to as per the table set out below.

WINDOW	EVENT	REMARKS
Season 1		May – Aug 2021
1 st – 12 th March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release of NSL registration forms • NSL 2021 grading exercise 	Grading Exercise for upgrade/downgrade begins. To use Form G .
By 19 th March 2021	Grading Exercise results from SSRA	
26 th March 2021	Form A submission deadline	
By 2 nd April 2021	Release of NSL Fixtures	
9 th April 2021	Form B and C submission deadline	
16 th April 2021	Release of Team captain contacts	
3 rd May 2021	NSL Begins	
TBC	Season 1 Mid-season changes	
Season 2		Aug – Nov 2021
TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release of NSL registration forms • NSL 2021 grading exercise 	Grading Exercise for upgrade/downgrade begins. To use Form G .
TBC	Grading Exercise results from SSRA	
TBC	Form A submission deadline	

TBC	Release of NSL Fixtures	
TBC	Form B and C submission deadline	
TBC	Release of Team captain contacts	
TBC	NSL Begins	
TBC	Season 2 Mid-season changes	

**Above timeline may be subjected to change*

PROTESTS AND APPEALS

7. All protests shall be lodged in writing with the Chairman of the Sub-Committee within 48 hours of the time which the alleged breach of the Rules and Regulations was committed.
8.
 - a. Unless an appeal against any interpretation or decision by the Sub-Committee regarding the Rules & Regulations is lodged in writing with the Secretary of the SSRA within 2 days from the notification of the decision of the Sub-Committee, the decision shall be enforced.
 - b. Should there be an appeal against a Sub-Committee decision, any penalty imposed by the Sub-Committee shall not be enforced until the Committee has deliberated and decided on the matter being appealed against.
 - c. Any appeal of a Sub-Committee decision or interpretation may be directed in writing to the Committee. Decision of the Committee will have to be made within 5 days. All decisions or rulings of the Committee shall be final.
 - d. The Sub-committee reserves the right to raise a suspected breach of the Rules & Regulations, and impose a relevant penalty at any point during the league season, if it deems that a team or club may have unfairly used the terms of the Rules & Regulations inappropriately, and against the sportsmanship of the league.

ENTRIES IN THE NSL

9. An entrance fee as determined from time to time by the sub-committee shall be charged for each team and shall be paid to the SSRA at the time of entry application. Entries from teams with outstanding amounts may be rejected. The Committee may disqualify any team that has outstanding dues after the mid-season break. Cheques are to be made out in favour of the **"SSRA"**.
10.
 - a. Each club may field a maximum of two teams in each grade.
 - b. The Sub-Committee reserves the right to assess each player and to determine the appropriate grade to assign such player.

- c. The Men's Veterans League is divided into 2 divisions. Players graded A, B and C shall play in Division I, while players graded D, E and F shall play in Division II.
 - i. In Division I, the playing format will be as follows - No. 1: A or lower; No. 2: B or lower; No. 3: C or lower; No. 4: C or lower.
 - ii. In Division II, the playing format will be as follows – No. 1: D or lower; No. 2: D or lower; No. 3: E or lower; No. 4: E or lower.
 - iii. The playing order of players registered in the Veterans' 1 and Veterans' 2 teams must reflect the order of merit in the primary grades which the same players may also be concurrently registered in, failing which may subject the team to a breach as per clause 17a.

- d. The Ladies Division is divided into 2 divisions. Players graded Ladies C and D shall play in Ladies Division I, while players graded Ladies E and F shall play in the Ladies Division II.
 - ii. For Division 1, the playing format will be as follows - Pos. 1 & 2: C or lower; Pos. 3 & 4: D or lower
 - iii. For Division II, the playing format will be as follows - Pos.1 & 2: E or Lower; Pos. 3 & 4: F or lower.

- e. Ladies in D grade and above, interested in taking part in the Men's League for the first time will be subject to the following guidelines:
 - Ladies' A grade = Men's C grade and above;
 - Ladies' B grade = Men's D grade and above;
 - Ladies' C grade = Men's E grade and above;
 - Ladies' D grade = Men's F and above.
 - Ladies, who have been assigned a Men's grade, shall play in that grade or according to the equation table above, whichever is higher.

- f. For all grades, a minimum of TWO (2) registered player in the team are to be from that grade of which the team is participating in. On match days, at least one of these players must play.

- g. For Men's Premier League, on match day, at least one A-grade (A1 or A2) player must play, but not more than two A1 grade players are allowed to be fielded.

- 11. a. Each team must have a home court, captain and a vice-captain, whose names and contact details (email and mobile number, at a minimum) shall be provided on the entry form.

- b. If a team captain or vice-captain withdraws from a team, a replacement must be appointed and his or her name and contact details (see 9a above) must be forwarded to the Coordinator of that particular League Grade and the SSRA office within 7 days of such replacement.

- c. The number of players registered in a team must be a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 15.

- d. The number of teams per grade category must be a minimum of 4 teams to start.

- 12. The League is open to all clubs in Singapore that are affiliated to SSRA. An affiliation fee, as determined by the Sub-Committee, shall be charged for each club and shall be paid to the SSRA at the time of entry application. No clubs or organizations will be accepted for the league unless they have paid up all outstanding dues before 31 Mar of the current year.

REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS AND FEES

13. A League affiliation fee of \$150 shall be payable by the club to enable participation in the league.

Any organization that is registered under the Societies Act or incorporated under the Companies Act or otherwise constituted under any written law will be accorded SSRA Organization Membership.

Each player shall be subjected to a \$25 registration fee to participate in the league.

Life members are not subjected to the registration fee of \$25.

Full names, Identity Card/Passport numbers (last 4 characters), email address and contact number of players shall be registered with the SSRA for the league. **Failure to provide player's information details shall render such registration null and void.**

Upon receipt of the player entry fee, only Singaporeans and Singapore Permanent Residents will be granted SSRA membership for the year, ending 31 December. No SSRA member will be eligible for voting unless they have paid up all outstanding dues before 31 August of the current year.

14. No unregistered player shall play in the league. Fielding an unregistered player is a serious breach of the Rules & Regulations, and the team in question is liable to be penalized by the Sub-Committee as it may deem fit.
15. a. No player, having been registered to play for a Club, shall be allowed to transfer to another Club between the date of such registration and the completion of the league. Provided that a team is forced to withdraw from the league under exceptional circumstances, the Sub-Committee may at its discretion allow the players affected to be re-registered in another Club based on the merits of the case.
- b. Special concession may be granted to ladies wishing to join a Men's team from another club or for a lady-player already participating in a Men's team wishing to join a Ladies' team from another club, provided that both affected clubs do not have competing teams in the same Men's or Ladies' categories which the involved ladies player is participating in, at one club or the other.
- c. Players may similarly be permitted to play for two different clubs in the Men's and Veterans' League if either club that they represent in one League, does not have a team in the other League. No such exception is applicable for the graded events.
16. Any new additional players must only be registered during the official mid-season. Registration must be forwarded to the respective coordinators and the Sub-Committee. The new registration must indicate his/her correct order in the team. Payment must accompany such new registration(s) as per clause 13.
17. a. All correspondence to the respective coordinators regarding team changes, registration of new players etc, will not be accepted unless approved and signed off by the Secretary/acting Secretary of the Club or Team Captain.
- b. De-registration is permitted but only for valid reasons such as reassignment to another country, pregnancy, etc. Upon de-registration he/she shall not be eligible to be re-registered for the competition.
- c. It is the sole responsibility of the club concerned to ensure that the players registered for the league are playing in the correct grade(s) as listed in the latest SSRA Grading Lists. Failure in such compliance may result in the team in question being penalized by the Sub-Committee as provided for in Clause 4 of the Rules & Regulations. Thereafter,

SSRA will have the authority to re-grade a player where information of the player had not been updated correctly or withheld by the club and any change will take immediate effect from the date of the notification.

GRADING OF PLAYERS

18. a. Clubs must register all players in order of merit. The team line-up submitted to the Sub-Committee must be in compliance with the prevailing SSRA grading list, e.g. a D grader cannot be registered in a position above a C grader in the team line-up. This applies to players of the same grade, e.g. D2 cannot play above D1. Should a club enter two league teams (maximum) in the same grade, registered players of each team may not be exchanged at any time during that league season (see also Clause 15a).
- b. Players may apply directly to the Sub-Committee for alteration of their playing grade during the grading exercise windows stipulated in Clause 6 above. With the players' consent, Clubs may also apply on behalf of its players for alteration of their playing grade.
- c. Players who are not listed in the grading list must submit in writing his/her current playing records. The sub-committee shall accord a probationary grade to the player. I.e NG(C2), NG(E1), etc. Any player who fail to submit the said requirement will not be allowed to participate in the league.
- d. No alteration of the graded order as advised and confirmed by the Sub-Committee will be permitted prior to the commencement of the competition. During the progress of the league, the Sub-Committee has the right to re-grade a player where information of the player had not been provided correctly or withheld by the club and any change will take immediate effect from the date of notification.
- e. A player may be subjected to an upgrade when he/she beats 3 players of higher grades. His/her new grade will be the average of the 3 players which he/she has beaten, e.g. an F grade player wins against an E1, D2 and D1 grade player, he/she will be promoted to D2. The coordinator in charge shall notify the team captain of his/her player's promotion with the effective date of promotion (Minimally 1 week's notice). Team captain must submit a new team lineup within the 1 week's notice. This rule extends to all matches in Grades Premier, B, C, D, E, F and Ladies divisions but does not apply to the veteran categories. Failing to do so may result in the team conceding points for playing out of order.
- f. Any player who has successfully downgraded during the grading exercise, shall not be able to support any higher grade teams during the same season.
- g. Should a team fail to play its players in the correct order of merit as last confirmed in writing to the Sub-Committee, it shall forfeit all matches which were played out of order. The correct order shall be determined by the player who plays in position 1 in any given match, whereupon, all the matches that follow the player must be below the order of merit of the player above.
- f. In the event of a dispute arising from the playing order of any team, the match shall be played under protest. The Sub-Committee shall determine the matter upon receipt of a complaint in writing.
- h. Captains must submit the full details of their players in order of merit for mid-season changes or new registration(s) by the deadline advised by the Sub-Committee.

FORFEITS AND SUBSTITUTES

19. A player may register to play in his/her current grade and in any grade higher within the same club. If a player is upgraded during the league season, then he/she shall not be allowed to play in the lower grade in which he/she was originally registered in.
20.
 - a. If any team receives a walkover from any other team, it shall be awarded all matches, games, and points. In the event of default, it shall be awarded all uncompleted matches, games and points.
 - b.
 - i. If a team wishes to forfeit a match, the remaining matches shall proceed as per the lineup submission.
 - ii. Teams that are found to forfeit matches frequently, shall be issued a warning for the first offense. A 1-point deduction from the team's overall points standing for the second offense. Third offense and above will be subjected to the disciplinary decisions of the Sub-Committee.
 - iii. Teams conceding TIE walkovers i.e. Entire team not showing up entirely, will incur a 2-point deduction from the team's overall points standing and will be subjected to a minimum fine of \$50.00 for the first offence. The team could be ban from further participation in the league.

INTERCLUB LEAGUE MATCHES

21. All matches will be played according to the **PAR (point-a-rally) scoring system** for all grades. Each game will be scored to 11pts, and in the event of a deuce (10-all), a player must win by 2 points to win the game. All matches will be played to the best of 5 games.
22.
 - a. All matches shall be played under the current World Squash Federation (WSF) Squash Singles Rules and the final interpretation of which shall be decided by the Sub-Committee in case of any dispute.
 - b. The League shall be run for the following Grades:
 Men's: Premier, B, C, D, E and F
 Ladies: Division I (C & D), Division II (E & F)
 Veterans I & II: Division I (A, B & C), Division II (D, E & F)
 (Age 40 and above)

 The cut-off date for the determination of age will be based on 1st January of the League competition year.
 - c. The weekly playing days for the respective grade categories are as such:

Day	Season 1	Season 2
Mon	F	C
Tues	D	B
Wed	Veterans II	Premier
Thurs	E	Veterans I
Fri	Ladies Division I	Ladies Division II

- d. There shall be a maximum of 16 teams per grade. Only grades that have a participation of 8 teams or less, will be accorded a returned match. I.e. Home & Away

- e. Grades that have a participation of 9 or more teams will be played on a round robin basis.
- 23. The Home team will always be listed first in the schedule of fixtures. Teams shall compete in a TIE with best of 4 matches. Each match to the best of 5 games. In each match, the Number 1 player from each team will play each other, the Number 2 will play each other and so on.
- 24. It shall be the responsibility of the Home team to confirm with the visiting team on the upcoming match at least 2 days before the scheduled date. Failure to do so may result in the home team being penalized. This is basic courtesy which all clubs should be adhering to.
- 25. Home teams are to ensure that their courts are available for all matches on match-day. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of the match unless an alternative arrangement had been made with the dual approval of the grade Coordinator and the visiting team.
- 26. All teams must ensure that players' names and grades are submitted accurately and fully in the scorecard. Clause 17c (above) applies. Participating clubs must ensure that information submitted during registration is accurate and up to-date and which tally with the official NSL Team listing. An administration fee of \$50 may be levied for each inaccurate submission requiring amendment. Ladies players participating in the Men's league must be registered in that team.
- 27. The home team shall provide new double-yellow dot balls on match day as well as replace any damaged or unplayable ball. A used double yellow dot ball may be used if both teams mutually agree.
- 28. The order of play shall be 1,2,3,4 unless otherwise mutually agreed upon by both teams.
- 29. The team line-up must be declared/filled by 7pm. Play shall commence at 7 pm on match day but no later than 7.30pm unless otherwise mutually agreed upon between captains. The draw must be adhered to throughout the duration of the league.
- 30.
 - a. Walkovers – subject to clause 29, if there are no players present from a team by 7:30 PM, the team that is present can claim a walkover. This must be reported to the Grade coordinator by sending an email or text message immediately with a copy to the opposing captain.
 - b. Should the first match be forfeited, the second match shall begin no later than 7.30pm. The succeeding matches shall be continuous without undue delay.
- 31. Penalty for walkover / forfeit – There will be no penalty points of walkovers unless the whole team fails to show up, in which case, there will be a penalty of 2 points to the offending team & a financial penalty (see clause 20biii).
- 32. All Matches shall be officiated in accordance with current World Squash Federation (WSF) Squash Singles Rules. Each team shall provide a Marker and Referee alternately. The marker and referee shall be players from both competing teams unless otherwise mutually agreed upon by both teams.

RESULTS

- 33. For all TIES played during the competition, 1 bonus point shall be awarded to the winning team and 1 point shall be awarded for each match won by either team. To decide the winner of any TIES, the basis shall be determined by the scores of all matches played, followed by Games score and Points score counted. When the calculated TIE total points are even with both Teams, no bonus point will be awarded.

34. No points are awarded for teams having a bye. Where a team withdraws from the League, all points scored by and against the team shall be disregarded.
35. All score cards must be fully completed with the participants' particulars, including their prevailing grades, detailed results and order of play.
36. The winning team captain shall input the results of each TIE into the online tournament software and email the results on the official score card to the coordinator in charge within 2 days after the TIE has been played.
37.
 - a. The team with the highest number of points in each grade at the conclusion of the League competition will be declared the winning team in that grade. In the event of a tie, the results of the head-to-head matches between the two teams will decide the winner. If there is still a tie, the number of games won, followed by the number of points won will be used.
 - b. Prizes will be awarded to the first 3 teams in each grade with participation of 8 or more teams.
 - c. Prizes will be awarded to the first 2 teams in each grade with participation of 4 to 8 teams.
 - d. Points will be awarded accordingly to determine 'NSL Club Champion':
1st – 4 points, 2nd – 2 points, 3rd – 1 point.
Should there be a tie in the total points the club with the most 1st team placings will be the winner. If there is still a tie, 2nd and then 3rd placings will be counted. If there is more than 1 team in each grade from a same club, then only the team with the higher points earned will be considered in the calculation for the 'NSL Club Champion' award.

POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

38. With the approval of the SSRA Management Committee, the Sub Committee may waive or modify any of the above Rules & Regulations
39. All clubs must ensure that their home courts are well maintained and in good playing condition. The Sub-Committee will bar the use of any courts for SSRA-sanctioned events if these are found to be unsuitable or unsafe for play. The club concerned must then provide an acceptable alternative venue in time for the scheduled competition.