

## **Baltimore Women's Paddle Interclub Rules**

Revised 10/9/18

### 1. Member Teams:

- Clubs located in the Baltimore City and County - clubs include Baltimore Country Club, Elkridge Club, L'Hirondelle Club, Charm City Paddlers, Roland Run and Pine Valley.
- Each team must be willing to field at least 8 players per team each week of play.

### 2. League Structure:

- The Spirit of the League is fair play, whether it be with lineups, or how matches are played. The League Facilitator has the discretion to treat situations individually. If the Spirit of the League has been violated, notification will be given after a decision has been made by the commissioner and the committee.
- Play schedules will be determined on a yearly basis.
- Designated clubs must be willing and able to provide 2 courts each week of play according to the league schedule.
- Play will begin in October and finish in March. Length of season will depend on the number of teams and weather related postponements we have that year. Level 3 and 4 teams will play on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Levels 1 and 2 will play Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm.
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### 3. Rules for Matches:

- APTA Rules of Play shall govern all matches, unless otherwise stated in these rules.
- Format of play is 4 courts of doubles. A match is best 2 out of 3 sets with a tiebreaker at 6-all. Maximum warm-up time is 15 minutes.
- Home team provides balls for all regular season matches. Extra balls should be available. Any APTA approved ball is acceptable.
- There are no rest breaks between sets. A maximum of one minute is allowed on changeovers, and 10 minutes for an injury. A quick bathroom break may be taken at the end of a set.
- A Pro from a club is not allowed to coach at the site of play for scheduled matches.

### 4. Player Eligibility:

- Each player must be a member or an employee of her club. No player may play for more than one team.

- A player may only play up or down one position. Example- If a player plays the #2 position, then they can only ever play 1 or 3. If they play the #1 position, they will never play 3 again that season.
- It is the responsibility of the opposing team captain to challenge the questionable line up and contact the Commissioner. For example if a player played 1 moves down and plays 3, it is the opposing captain that must contact the Commissioner before the next match is played.
- A Roster for the Play-offs must be submitted by each team to the Commissioner 24 hours prior to the first play-off match.

5. Team Captains' Responsibilities:

- To advise their players of League rules, match schedules, tournaments and weather related postponements.
- To submit a team roster to the Commissioner by October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Home team captain is to post the match scores and team players on the website by Sunday at noon. The opposing team captain is responsible for checking the accuracy of these scores and names of players. If there is a discrepancy, the visiting team captain should contact the home captain before the next match. If there is a dispute, then the Commissioner needs to be contacted.

6. Host (home) captain responsibilities:

- Make certain your team has for new balls available for the match.
- Make arrangements with her home club for snow/leaf/debris removal during the playing season. Courts must be playable by the scheduled match time. If the courts are unavailable, notify the visiting captain to try to make arrangements to play at another club, or at another mutually agreeable time. If there is a problem, the Commissioner should be called.
- Arrange for available court time for team play on match days (Wednesday evenings) starting at 6:15 pm. All teams may begin matches prior to 6:30 pm, if it is by mutual agreement.
- If the courts are not playable for a team match, the opponents must be notified as soon as possible to reschedule the match. If the courts are not ready within 30 minutes of the regularly scheduled match time, the opposing team has the right to reschedule the match and play it on the opposing team's courts. If a team continually fails to provide courts at the regularly scheduled time, the Commissioner reserves the right to deduct sets.

7. Commissioner Responsibilities:

- If the Spirit of the League has been violated, the Commissioner along with a volunteer committee of 2 team captains, has the discretion to treat situations involving 'fair play' individually.
- To receive and review rosters for playoffs ensuring the rules of fair play are upheld.
- Will determine whether a weather postponement is called and will text the captains and post on the website by 5:00 pm that play is cancelled for the night.
- Maintain the Interclub website with the season schedule, interclub teams and players and the overall team scores.

#### 8. Defaults:

- A default is declared if a player fails to show for the match 15 minutes after starting time. Teams scheduled to play at 6:30 must default if not present by 6:45, those starting at 7:30 must default if not present by 7:45.
- If a team is known to be short of its full 8 players in advance of the match, it must notify the other team captain by noon prior to the match, if possible. Upon default, if possible, please try to fill the space with another player so that play can continue to play that evening to encourage the spirit of play.
- After 3 defaults during the season, the Commissioner will deduct a point for each default after the 3<sup>rd</sup> default. A team will not get penalized if a request to reschedule is made in advance. The match must be played before the next scheduled match.

#### 9. Postponements:

- All matches must be played on the scheduled time and date unless weather or hazardous driving conditions prohibit their taking place, i.e. ice or snow-blocked roads; electrical storms; or cold to an extreme that constitutes a hazard to the health of the players. The Commissioner will determine weather delays by 5:00 pm on Wednesday and it will be posted on the website.
- If the Visiting Team encounters an emergency or delay en route, notify the home team captain by phone. If player is late, still play but take the forfeit.
- The League Facilitator must be advised of all postponements
- Interrupted matches:
  - If a match is already in progress and must be discontinued because of hazardous playing condition (such as ice on the court, lightning, heavy rains) it shall be resumed prior to the next Wednesday, with the same players and at precisely the same point in the interrupted game, same serve, same server, same sides of the court, and same order of service.
  - A warm-up preceding resumption of play is allowed.

10. League Scoring :

- Scoring for the season is cumulative, with each match worth one point. Ties are broken by head-to-head results. Further ties are broken by counting sets won, games won, and total sets lost.
- In a default, the score is considered to be 6-0, 6-0.
- In a retired match (not completed due to injury or other complication), whatever games and sets are required to complete the match are awarded to the victors.
- Scores are tallied, and will determine seeding for the play-offs.
- Ties:
  - All end-of-season ties between teams competing for a trophy shall be determined by the results of head to head statistics.

11. Play-Offs:

- Top eight teams will play in the play-offs.
- The play-offs will be held at the courts of the higher seeds. The final will be held at a court of higher seed or where is mutually agreed upon by the top two team captains and the commissioner.

12. Clubs with Multiple Teams:

- For clubs that are fielding multiple teams, the expectation of the league is that ability of players is equally distributed among the teams. Not doing so goes against the purpose of this league which is to encourage, enjoy and grow the sport of paddle. It is each clubs, and captains within that club responsibility to work together to manage this in an equitable and fair manner. Not doing so goes directly against the spirit of the league.
- All clubs who have more than one team may pull from one general list of subs, but once the sub has played for a particular team then they may not play for any other team.