

7/ PLAYERS

a. Registration & Eligibility

Players shall not be eligible to participate in league fixtures or tournaments unless their parent club has registered such players with the PHBA. The player must be registered at least one day prior to their playing in a match.

A registered player is one whose name has been registered with the PHBA to play league fixtures.

A club's players should be registered by the start of the club's fixtures. Any player registered thereafter shall not be eligible to play in any league fixture for a period of one day. Any team that plays an unregistered player or a player who has not been registered for the requisite one day shall forfeit that player's events. The one day period shall commence when the designated PHBA form or e-mail is received by the League Secretary.

A player registered for one club but playing for more than one club must be named as an Associate Member of the other club. The PHBA player registration fee needs only to be paid once. A player may play for more than one club in any/all of the three sections of the league (Ladies, Mixed, Mens) but must not play for another club in an equivalent sectional division; *ie* they can play for three clubs in each of the three sections but not play for two clubs in any of the three sections during the season, regardless of which division those clubs may be in.

Clubs may not register any new players for fixtures after 28th February. The Committee may consider exceptional circumstances.

b. County players

Players nominated for the Hampshire county 1st Teams, or having played for these teams, may not play in the league during that season or the subsequent three seasons. Players who have played for the Hampshire county 2nd, 3rd Teams may play in the league. Only two players per match are allowed and they must not play as a pairing.

This rule applies to other UK counties' 1st, 2^d, 3^d teams.

Those counties' 4th teams or lower will be classified at the standard of the Hampshire county team.

The clarification of 'county' is any county within the UK and the equivalent or higher standard for any overseas players whose countries have different areas or provinces *etc*.

Club Secretaries are responsible for notifying the League Secretary as soon as a member has been either nominated for, or played for, any county team or equivalent as mentioned above.

The above Rule refers to 'Seniors' (aged 19 to 39). Both 'Juniors' (aged under 19) and 'Masters' (aged over 40) are eligible to play in the PHBA league even if they play for those county teams. If a Junior or a Master- plays for the Hampshire county Senior 1st, 2nd, 3rd teams then the above ruling on UK county teams and overseas players applies.

c. Nominations

Ladies, Mens and Mixed sections: When a club enters two teams in the same section of the league the four best players must be nominated the 'A' team before the start of the club's matches.

When a club enters three teams in a section, then the next four best players must be nominated as the 'B' team before the start of the season, and so on. Nominated players cannot play down into a lower division. Nominated players can play up into a higher division; by one team level only. See Rule 7d for further clarification.

These nominations should be posted/e-mailed to the League Secretary at least three days prior to the first fixture played by the club.

d. Playing up or down

A player may play up to two fixtures at a higher level, without change of nomination. On playing a third fixture at a higher level the player automatically changes nomination to the higher level.

The club should ensure their player is made aware of the imposed change of nomination prior to the player playing a third fixture at a higher level.

A nominated player will be restricted to playing for one team only, should the club have more than one team in a division. Un-nominated players may play either up or down to another team, regardless of which division that team is in, but only by one team level. Any un-nominated player may only play fixtures at two levels from whichever team they play their first fixture for; *ie* either up one team or down one team. *Eg* a player playing their first fixture for their club's third team can then only play either up to the second team (not the first team) or down to the fourth team (not the fifth team). Nominated players cannot play down to a lower team.

Players who have not yet played for their designated team may be re-nominated to another team provided the League Secretary is notified in writing/e-mail before they play for the new team.

Players who have played for their team may only play regularly for a lower team if they have not already played more than two fixtures but the League Secretary must be notified that the player will be dropped down for the remainder of the season. Under no circumstances will the player then be able to play for a higher team.