

## **SUMMER MIDDLESEX CUP RULES**

### **Men's and Ladies' Doubles**

1. The competition shall be competed for annually in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the LTA. It shall be managed by the Middlesex LTA Competition Committee, and will be divided into Divisions, each of which will be run by a Divisional Secretary.

2. The competition is open to all Clubs which are affiliated to the Middlesex LTA.

The winning Club in each Division shall hold the cup provided by Middlesex LTA until the start of the following year's competition when it should be returned to the Middlesex LTA office. Medals will be presented to all finalists.

3. Entry Forms will be sent to the Secretaries of all affiliated Clubs but the Committee reserves the right to refuse an entry without assigning a reason.

4. The qualification to play for a Club shall be bona fide membership of that Club on 1 May in any year. No one can play for more than one Club during the same season, and no one shall be entitled to take part in this competition who has already played during the same season in a similar knock-out cup competition promoted by any other county.

By a bona fide member is meant:-

- One who is liable for payment of the subscription for membership for the current season.
  - A life member.
  - A permanent official of the Club.
  - Additionally the qualification for a player to take part in the final round of the competition is that he/she must have played for his/her Club in at least one previous round.
5. New balls, of a make approved by the LTA, shall be provided by the home team.

6. The draw will be forwarded, together with Round dates, as soon as possible after the closing date.
7. The tie must be played on courts of a like surface. If the home team does not have three like courts then the opposing team has the option to take over the tie as the home team and the Divisional Secretary **must** be notified.
8. In all Divisions the Club having choice of ground may decide on what surface the tie is played. All ties shall be played outdoors unless mutually agreed.
9. The Captain of the winning team shall notify the result to the Divisional Secretary within twenty four hours and return a completed Match Card within two days.
10. Each team shall consist of 3 pairs, who shall play against each pair of the opposing team. Each rubber shall be the best of three sets. **Sets one and two will be tie-break sets – any third set will be a Match Tie-Break (first to 10 but with two clear points)** The order of play shall be decided by lot. No pair shall play more than once on the same court.
11. The team which wins the majority of rubbers is the winner of the tie. If the tie is unfinished, due to bad weather or failing light, but the first two rounds have been completed, the tie will be decided on those two rounds only. If the number of rubbers is equal the tie will be decided on the number of sets won and if the tie is still equal then the number of games won will decide the winner.
12. If two rounds of the tie have not been completed it must be replayed before the date of the next tie. In the event of a dispute please contact your Divisional Secretary. If he/she is unavailable please contact the Middlesex LTA Office.
13. A Club is not bound to play the same team throughout the competition, but no substitutes are allowed once a tie has started.
14. Play shall start not before 12 noon nor later than 2.30 pm.
15. Any pair not ready to play within 30 minutes of the start time shall concede the first rubber 0/6 0/6.
16. Any Club intending to scratch must give three days notice to the opposition and the Divisional Secretary.