

2016-17 B League Rules

B League is divided into Two Divisions

B+

Brookline Paddle Club
Cape Ann Platform Tennis
Concord Country Club
Dedham Country & Polo Club
Gilfoy Platform Tennis Club
North Andover Country Club
The Country Club

B-

Brae Burn County Club
Eastern Yacht Club
Essex County Club
Myopia Hunt Club
Wellesley Country Club
Weston Golf Club
Winchester Country Club

2016-2017 Schedule

Divisional assignments are made based on prior-year finish. The 2016-17 schedule has each team play divisional opponents twice and two other teams in the other division once. The non-divisional opponents have been determined by schedule fit and to minimize schedule conflicts. (See schedule on GBPTL website)

Scheduling Conflicts:

Because of differences in the A and B league schedules, conflicts necessarily arise. The schedule automatically puts the B match on the Tuesday night in these cases. Please go through your schedules carefully to identify these conflicts well in advance of playing these matches. Since our regular season ends before the A league, we may also run into scheduling conflicts during the playoffs. B captains may have more leverage for scheduling home playoff matches if the B league accepts responsibility for playing Sunday or Tuesday night for regular season conflicts.

Weather:

In case of inclement weather, the commissioner will determine whether the evening's matches will be cancelled and will send out an email to all captains by no later than 3 PM on the day of the scheduled matches. If the matches are cancelled, no teams will be awarded points even if teams decide on their own to play. Matches that are cancelled will be made up on the Monday of the bye week of February, President's Day. If more than one match is cancelled during the season, only the first cancelled match will be made up (though divisional make-ups take priority).

The Matches:

Each team needs to field at least six lines and teams are encouraged to field as many as can be completed by 10 PM for a B League match. Matches between two B+ teams shall have a minimum number of 8 lines (excepting matches at Gilfoy which will have 6 lines). Regularly scheduled Monday matches are to begin at 6:00 PM. No lines should be scheduled to start after 9:00 PM. The B League schedules lines #2, 4, and 6 at 6:00 PM (or 2, 4, 6, and 8 at sites with four courts). (Matches at Gilfoy may start earlier.)

Captains have SOME flexibility on timing based on player availability and opponent consent.

Players are expected to get to match sites early and be ready to step on the court for warm ups at the scheduled time. Warm-ups should last no longer than 10 minutes. Matches should commence within 10 minutes of scheduled time. Late arrivals **may** be subject to penalty of one game per 5 minutes after the 10 minute flex time expires. All players are responsible for keeping matches on-schedule. Late starts of 6:00 PM lines affect the timing of all the lines that follow. Enforcement of defaults at two-court sites is encouraged. Captains should try to schedule dependable, timely participants for early starts.

Scoring and Reporting Match Scores:

Players are responsible for reporting the score of their match to their captains and **they should agree on the score before they leave the court.** It is recommended that the server state the score of his service game before each point to avoid confusion. Both captains should agree on the line scores and periodically confirm the score as the match progresses. Any match short of the required lines will default the lowest line 6-0, 6-0, and any team that defaults will always lose any unplayed games. The team that wins more lines wins the match and two points in the standings. In the event that an even number of matches is played and the number of lines won is tied, then the tie is broken by number of sets won. If the number of sets won is even, then the match will be settled by the number of games won. If the match is tied after the second tie breaker, each team will be awarded one point. The home captain is responsible for recording the score of the match on the GBPTL website by noon of the day following the match.

Home Team's Responsibilities:

During the regular season, the home teams shall provide:

- 1) Water, soft drinks and beer for all participants;
- 2) Sufficient food for all participants;
- 3) A minimum of one new Viking (or equivalent) paddle ball for each match. Other brands may be used if both captains agree beforehand. Low-bounce balls may be used by mutual consent of captains on days with warmer weather conditions. The home captain needs to make sure a new sleeve of balls is available at 6:00 PM.

The home team should make sure the courts are playable that heaters and lights work, etc. In the event of inclement weather, the heaters should be turned on at least an hour in advance of the match so that the courts are playable at 6:00 PM. The home team may have to default one line per unavailable court if one or more courts are not ready for play (due to non-functioning heaters or lights and fewer than three courts are ready for play) for each hour of scheduled lines.

Player Eligibility:

All players in the B League must be members of the club for which they play. Club professionals and guests are not allowed to play in the B League. All players who play in a league match need to be listed on the roster on the GBPTL website. "Ringers" are not allowed in the B League. Use of non-rostered players may result in default of a line or multiple lines (at the commissioner's sole discretion) for that match. If the captain has a new member who is not rostered, he should inform the opposing captain and the commissioner by noon of the day of the match.

Players on A rosters may be used in B matches, but may not be one of ten frozen players on the A roster. B League teams at clubs with C League entries must freeze 10 players who will be ineligible to play in C matches. Clubs are encouraged to have independent rosters and thus minimize movement between the A, B, and C Leagues.

A player is eligible to play in B league playoffs:

- 1) Played at least 4 B League matches; and
- 2) Played more B League matches than A League matches.

Requests for injury or health exceptions may be submitted to the commissioner.

Playoffs: Feb 27, March 2 and Finals March 6

The playoffs will commence on February 27. Only six teams in each division will make the playoffs. The first round will feature #3 v 6 and 4 v 5. Seeds #1 and 2 get byes. Seeding will be based on regular-season finish within division and record versus divisional opponents. Second round #1 v winner of 4 v 5; #2 v #3 v 6 winner. Higher seed will host.

Tie-breakers are based upon: 1) head-to-head match outcomes, 2) head-to-head line results, 4) head-to-head set results, 5) head-to-head game results, 6) coin flip.

Playoff teams will share the provisioning of food, beverages, water, and balls.

Seven lines are required in all playoff matches. Lines 2, 4, and 6 will play at 6:00 PM.

Playoff line-ups must be submitted to the commissioner by noon on the day of the match. If a pairing of weaker players is placed higher in the line-up than a pairing of notably stronger players, the commissioner may require that the line-up be re-ordered.

Sportsmanship:

Players should conduct themselves as gentlemen at all times. Throwing paddles, abusing equipment and/or courts and screens, and loud or abusive language are not appropriate. When traveling to another

club, participants and their guests should abide by guest rules of the hosting club at all times. In keeping with B league tradition, players should avoid foot faulting on service and any ball that is seen out should be called out- regardless of whether the hitter or receiver calls it. If there is any doubt, the ball is in and should be played. A player who hits the net before the ball hits the deck loses the point and should make that call on himself.

Foot Faults, Serving and the Rules:

Captains should read and understand the rules as published on the APTA website. Servers should keep their feet planted and behind the line, for example. Foot faulting teammates should be made aware of their breach by their captains (use of cell phone video is helpful!) and work on eliminating violations.

Post-Season Play

After the playoffs conclude, the B league will conduct a tournament to be held at various clubs over the course of four or five weeks. Individuals may sign up to play with any other player on a GBPTL B roster. Each pair may also be submitted with one substitute if an absence is expected. We would hope to have a North Shore bracket and a Metrowest Bracket. Losers will play in consolation and reprieve brackets. Exact details will be determined as the regular season progresses.