

FAVERSHAM TENNIS CLUB
BOX LEAGUE RULES SPRING 2023



1. Each round of the box league has 5 members and lasts about 8 weeks.
2. Each player gets to play all other players in the same division.
3. At the end of the round, the player who comes top gains promotion to the division above, while the player who comes last moves down to the division below.

Promotion is determined by:

- a. Greatest number of wins
 - b. Head-to-head results (if only two players are tied)
 - c. Highest percentage of matches won
 - d. Highest percentage of sets won
 - e. Highest percentage of games won
 - f. Draw by lot
4. If there is a significant amount of bad weather, the round may be extended by an additional week.
 5. Players should contact each other player in their division to arrange a match at a time that is suitable to both players. Contact details for all players are included in the WhatsApp Groups which are amended at the beginning of each new season.
 6. By participating in the league, all players agree that their contact details will be shared with the other players in the league
 7. Match Format Box league matches will be played as best of 3 sets. The first 2 sets will be regular sets with a standard 7-point tie break played if the score reaches 6 games all. If the score is one all after 2 sets have been played, a championship tie break (first to 10 points, 2 points clear) should be played as a final set to decide the match.
 8. Some players have expressed a wish to play a full set as the third set. They may do so, as long as they are both agreed, and make the decision before the start of the match, but the score for the final set should be entered as if it was the score in a championship tie break (10-8) to the winner, to keep the scores the same as players who play the tie break. If both players are not agreed, the tie break must be played.
 9. When no matches have been played in a division, then no players will move up, and therefore no players will move down from the division above. The entire box may forfeit its place at the discretion of the competition organiser if no matches are played. If players will be moving up from the division below, then the players who will move down will be decided by the discretion of the competition organiser.
 10. Playing no matches in a round will likely result in demotion to the next division below. The decision to will be taken by the competition organiser.
 11. Occasionally adjustments to positions may be necessary due to players dropping out of the league, or new players entering. While players may promoted up a division due to these adjustments, every effort will be made to ensure that players are not moved to lower divisions as a result. If a player is moved up in this way, it will normally be a player who has retained their place in the lower division who moves up, rather than one staying in the higher division when they have come in the bottom two. The decision will be taken by the competition organiser.
 12. Submitting results: To ensure that the players placed in the groups matching their skill level, it is essential that all players submit their results online at the end of each match. In order to submit a result, select the relevant Box League and the relevant match under the Upcoming Matches section. Once a player has submitted the match result no further modifications can be made to the results. Only the competition organiser can make changes to the result when a dispute is flagged. Such flag to occur before the end of the period cut-off date. In addition

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to capturing your results on the LTA Competition system, your results should also be published on this Singles WhatsApp Group. Log standings and can be accessed online at any time.

13. New players:
 - a. New to tennis, entering the box league will usually be entered into the lowest division available (the Challengers Boxes), from where they can try to move up in the next round.
 - b. Players who are returning after having previously withdrawn from the league will usually be allowed to challenge back into the division where they would have been in the round following their withdrawal.
 - c. New experienced or rusty racquet players may challenge into a box where we feel they could compete. If you need help deciding your approximate standard for guidance, request a hit with a member of the club's coaching team. If your challenge is successful, you will be entered into that box next period. If your challenge is unsuccessful, you can challenge one box lower. If you win the challenge easily, you can challenge a higher box again, provided you can play your match before the start of the new scheduled season.
14. Walkovers - A player may claim a walkover if they are unable to arrange a match at any time during the round with another player, due to the opponent being unable to play. To be able to claim a walkover, the player must have offered at least 3 dates to play, and the opponent must have refused these dates, and not offered any alternative dates - if both players have suggested a date, then no walkover can be claimed. If two players arrange to play a match, and one fails to turn up on the arranged date, the other player should claim a default win. If a match is organised and agreed between two players and one player cancels the scheduled match for a reason other than the courts not being playable, then they should concede a walkover to their opponent. This includes for reasons of being injured, caught up with work etc.
15. Retirements - If a player cannot complete a match because they are injured during or before a match and cannot continue, they should retire injured and record the match as such. Should a player be injured, and time runs out on the box, walkovers will be awarded to players trying to schedule matches with the injured player before the box end date.
16. Time - If players run out of court time in a scheduled match. They should pause the match and continue and complete the match at the next available opportunity. If the remaining portion of the match cannot be rescheduled, the players will inform the competition organiser to agree the best course of action.

Most important, have fun out there! Warm regards,

Competition Organiser – Jeremy Hewlett hewlettjeremy@gmail.com

<https://competitions.lta.org.uk/>