

## North Devon Knock- Out Cup Rules amended 2019

1. ELIGIBILITY. All teams entered in the North Devon Tennis League, and registered with the Lawn Tennis Association, are eligible. The KO Cup is one competition divided into two sections:

a) the Premier Cup for teams in the upper divisions – Men & Ladies

b) the Pete Stacey Cup for teams in the lower divisions – Men & Ladies

Exactly which divisions are eligible for each trophy is decided each year at the League's pre-season meeting.

2. VENUE. A coin will be tossed by the organising committee to decide home and away.

3. PAIRINGS. Each team shall consist of two pairs.

4. STATUS. Where clubs enter more than one team, all teams other than the lowest must be nominated. Nominations must be received by the league fixtures secretary by the team's first match. If nominations are not received by this date, the players in the first match will be the nominated team. Players nominated for a team may not play for a lower team. Players must be nominated, and play, in merit order. A player may play up once without altering their status. If a player plays in a higher team more than once, they cannot play down again in the current season.

NB. If a team fields an ineligible player then rule 13 will apply.

***(i) NO PLAYER WHO PLAYS IN THE UPPER DIVISIONS; OR IS OF THAT STANDARD, MAY PLAY IN THE PETE STACEY CUP.***

NB The make-up of the upper divisions being decided at the pre-season meeting.

5. CLUB REPRESENTATION. Players may represent a different club in the KO/Pete Stacey Cup from that which they have represented in the league; providing they are a bona fide member of that club. See also Rule 4 (i)

6. COURSE OF PLAY. Each match will consist of 4 rubbers, two tie-break sets and a third set championship tie – break (first to 10 points or two points clear thereafter). ***If a set all in the first rubber, the championship tie break third set is to be played before the start of the second rubber.***

7. ORDER OF PLAY. Each pair will play two rubbers (one against each opposing pair). Visiting team captains have the choice of courts and order of play. The home team changes courts after completion of first rubbers.

8. SCORING. One point will be awarded for each rubber won, making a total of 4 points. The team winning the most rubbers will win the match. In the event of a draw in rubbers won, the match shall be awarded to the team winning the most sets. If the number of sets is equal the winner shall be the team winning the most games. If these are also equal, and the match tied, each team must nominate one of the pairs to play a deciding championship tie-break.

ROUND ROBINS:

A round robin format will be used if there are four, or fewer, entries. Each match will be scored as above (hence no draws allowed).

The round robin will be won by the team winning most matches. If this is equal, then the percentage of rubbers won will decide. If still equal, the percentage of sets won will decide. If still equal, the percentage of games won will decide. If still equal, the head-to-head record will decide the placing.

9. DATES. Dates of rounds will be with the Cup entry form, which will be circulated following the publication of the League fixtures. Matches to be Played *ON* or *BEFORE* that date. Any re-arrangement to be mutually agreed by both teams. The fixtures Secretary *does not* need to be notified.

(ii) Matches to start at agreed time, or 10.30am, if no alternative arrangement has been made. Players arriving 15 to 30 minutes late forfeit 1<sup>st</sup> set, 30 to 45 mins late 1<sup>st</sup> rubber forfeited, more than 45mins walkover given. See also rule 12.

10. ABANDONDED MATCHES. An abandoned match is one in which bad weather forces play to be stopped before its conclusion. The decision to abandon must be by mutual agreement between the Captains and made with due regard to the safety of the players. Where the first two rubbers have been completed, the match shall be decided on the results of the completed sets. See rule 8.

Where the first two rubbers have not been completed, the match must start from scratch at a later date, mutually agreed by the clubs.

See also rule 11

11 POSTPONEMENTS. The only reason for a postponement shall be bad weather. The decision must be made by the home captain with due regard for the safety of the players. An alternative venue may be sought with the agreement of both captains. The home captain must offer three dates as soon as possible and notify the Cup fixtures secretary within one week. Failure to do so will mean that the match may be awarded to the away team. If there is no response from the away team, the home team should notify the Cup fixtures secretary and they shall be awarded the match, at the discretion of the committee.

12. WALKOVERS. Should, on the specified day of the match, a team fail to turn up; a walkover will be given to the opposing side. See also Rule 9. The captain of the team ready to play must notify the league fixtures secretary within one week or they may forfeit the match. The team giving the walkover will be fined £10
13. INCOMPLETE TEAMS. If a team is unable to provide a complete team, they may field one pair, plus an ineligible pair (declaring this before the match); whose scores would not count. Alternatively, they may field only one pair, and start the match two rubbers to nil down.
14. SCORE CARDS. The captain of the home team is responsible for submitting the result of the match on-line to the League Planner. You will need full names of the players and the full score of all rubbers, sets, and games won or lost. This should be done as soon as possible, but definitely within two weeks of the conclusion of the match. No results will be accepted if names of all players are not included. A record of the score and names of players should be retained by both captains. The captain of the away team should confirm the result on-line.
15. FINALS. The date and location of the finals will be fixed by the Cup fixtures secretary. The finals of all the events will be played on the same day at the same venue.
16. TROPHIES. Cup winners shall hold the respective trophies for one year, they will be signed for, and the club is responsible for returning them to the league fixtures secretary by the date specified by NDFTA committee.
17. MOBILE PHONES. These are not to be switched on during matches unless otherwise agreed beforehand.
18. RULES. The Cup fixtures secretary has full powers to enforce the Cup rules. A written appeal may be made to the committee regarding the enforcement of the rules.
19. DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE. These are to be taken as final.