

RULES OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED YORKSHIRE DOUBLES LEAGUE 2025

1. The competition shall be called the "Yorkshire Visually Impaired Doubles League".
2. The visually impaired League shall be played at venues registered with the LTA and who are Associate Members of Yorkshire Tennis.
3. The Visually Impaired League shall be managed by the Yorkshire Tennis VI League Delivery Group and shall include a League Organiser.
4. Players may play within the league if they have signed up as either a Play, Play+ or Compete member on Advantage. Players will pay an entry fee to compete. By participating, players agree to abide by these Rules.
5. Four Teams shall be selected

East Yorkshire

North Yorkshire

South Yorkshire

West Yorkshire

6. Teams shall consist of B1 Mixed Doubles, B2+ Mixed Doubles and Open Doubles. Each team shall nominate a Captain.

Qualification of players

7. Visually impaired players must seek a valid recreational sight classification from British Blind Sports. Exception will be considered by the League Organiser.

Fixture organisation

8. Fixtures shall be arranged by the League Organiser. The League Organiser shall plan fixture dates with participating venues. Fixtures shall be Grade 6, Closed.
9. Fixtures dates shall be posted as soon as possible once confirmed.
10. Team captains shall submit the doubles pairings prior the fixture to the League Organiser by a date advised by the League Organiser.
11. All matches and re-arranged matches shall be completed by the due dates advised by the League Organiser at the start of the season.
12. If a match is postponed because of bad weather, the League Organiser shall within 7 days submit further date when the fixture may be played.

Team Format

13. General rule for the mixed doubles, is that any gender combination can form a pair. This is also true for the Open Doubles.
14. B1 mixed doubles matches shall consist of pairs who must wear eye patches underneath a Paralympic recognised eye shade. Exception to this rule must be agreed with each Team Captain and the League Organiser.
15. B2+ mixed doubled matches must consist of at least 1-player per team who has a sight classification of B2.
16. Open matches are open to all sight categories, including sighted players.

Inclusion of sighted players

17. Sighted players or unclassified players may be included in the open category. A doubles pairing must not have more than 1 sighted player, and the inclusion must be agreed with the opposing Team Captain. A team consisting of a sighted player, who are playing a

team with sight classified players shall be handicapped by 1-point in each game. Sighted players wishing to join in the league must have a WTN for doubles that is equal to, or greater than 28.

Match procedure

18. Match start times shall be scheduled per venue and will take place on either a Saturday or a Sunday.
19. Any pair(s) not on court and ready to play within 15 minutes of the agreed start time shall concede the rubber(s) in question and the score(s) recorded as 6-0, 6-0 (or 4-0, 4-0), for those rubber(s), in favour of the opponents.
20. The LTA Code of Conduct shall apply on match days. The team captain is responsible for the behaviour of their team both on and off the court. Recognised tennis clothing shall be worn for all matches.
21. The League Organiser shall organise the marking out the courts according to the current visually impaired rules for court markings and shall be the final arbitrator on whether the courts are fit for play.
22. The League Organiser shall appoint umpires to score each match.
23. Matches shall be played in accordance with the current visually impaired rules.

Scoring

24. Depending upon court availability and time, each match shall be either
 - a. Best of 3 sets, up 6, with a sudden death tie break
 - b. Two Fast 4, with a sudden death tie break
 - c. Or single sets, in either 6 game or 4 game formats.
25. General rules:
 - a. All games sudden death at deuce.
 - b. All set tie breaks sudden death at 6-6
 - c. All match tie breaks sudden death at 12-12.
26. If any match is unfinished, it may be continued by mutual consent prior to the next league fixture, with the same players.
27. The captain of the home team shall report results to the League Organiser who will coordinate the inputting of the scores on competition part of LTA website within 48 hours of completion of match. All team Captains shall verify scores and notify the League Organiser of corrections within a week of completion of fixture.

League positions

28. A team shall score 2 points for a win and 1 point for a draw. Teams shall be positioned in league according to the number of points won, then number of rubbers won.
29. It is the responsibility of the team captains to fulfil their match commitments. If, however, a team concedes a match for whatever reasons, then that team shall be deemed to have lost that match and shall be deducted 2 points. The team having won by forfeit shall be awarded 2 points and 9 rubbers, 18 sets.
30. If a pair is absent from a match, the two rubbers conceded shall be forfeited with the score recorded as 6-0, 6-0, in favour of the opponents, for each rubber.

Trophies

31. The winners of all League trophies, cups and shields shall be entitled to hold them until the end of the following season. A club holding any trophy, cup or shield shall be

responsible for its safe custody and return to Yorkshire Tennis and bear the cost of insuring it against loss.

32. The property in every trophy, cup and shield shall be vested in Yorkshire Tennis, and no other prize or award (other than club colours) shall be given to or accepted by a winning club without the sanction of Yorkshire Tennis.

Discipline

33. For any breach of these rules, the League Committee may impose such penalties as it may think fit, by points deduction or otherwise.
34. Any appeal or dispute shall be made to Yorkshire Tennis. Short particulars thereof shall be sent in writing to the Chair of the Yorkshire Tennis VI League Delivery Group by the clubs concerned, who may be represented at any meeting convened to deal with the matter. Prior notice of any meeting shall be given in writing. Any decision of Yorkshire Tennis shall be final