

## A BRIEF GUIDE TO CLUB PLAY

Club play is mainly based on:-

- Doubles play
- The peg board system for player selection
- 1 set of play; the first pair to win 6 games by a minimum of a 2-game margin (i.e. 6 – 4) wins. If the score is 5 – 5, players can choose either to play a single-game decider or a tie-break.

### ON COURT

- As soon as you arrive on court to play doubles, the first task is to sort out who partners who. This can be agreed informally or by the spin of rackets (the 'smooths' play the 'roughs!'). The next task is to decide which pair serves first – by a spin of the racket. If you win, you may choose to serve first, receive first, pick which end of the court you want to start playing on or ask your opponents to choose. Finally agree with your partner who will play on which side of the court and who will serve first.
- A 5-minute "warm-up" is permitted prior to playing the first set of the club play session. To make the best use of this time, it is usual to warm up in pairs, hitting only to your opposite number on the other side of the net. Start with base line shots (trying to hit your shots directly to your opponent), followed by volleys at the net, smashes and finally serving. Courtesy dictates that you should not practice your service return when your opponent practices his/her serve.

### KEY RULES

- The server should announce the score in games at the start of each game and the points score at the start of the second point and each subsequent point in each game.
- Call your own lines and let your opponent hear the call. If there is a disagreement, offer a let. In other words, replay the point, even if it was a second service.
- If you touch the net with your racket or any part of your body while the ball is in play you forfeit the point.
- Hitting the ball while it is on the opponents side of the net is not allowed, unless spin or wind takes the ball back over the net after bouncing on your side of the court.
- At the end of a set, leave the balls by the net on your court.
- Lower the net on your court at the conclusion of club play.

One final point...

**SOCIAL CLUB PLAY IS MORE ABOUT ENJOYING YOURSELF  
AND LESS ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING...  
SO PLAY THE GAME IN GOOD SPIRIT**

