

BLACKPOOL and DISTRICT BADMINTON ASSOCIATION



CONSTITUTION, STANDING ORDERS and COMPETITION RULES

CONTENTS		
CONSTITUTION	Name	
	Aims and Objectives	
	Membership	Member Clubs
		Individual Members: Full Membership
		Individual Members: Honorary Membership
		Individual Members: Associate Membership
	Fees	
	Council	Authority of Council
		Membership of Council
		Council Meetings
		Council Votes
		Sub-committees
	Finance	
	General Meetings	Quorum
		Voting Powers
	Annual General Meeting (AGM)	Attendance
		Notice
		Proposals
		Nominations
		Agenda
		AGM Quorum
	Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)	
Dissolution		
STANDING ORDERS	Membership	Affiliation of Clubs
		Registration of Full Members
		Eligibility of Players
		Player Playing Levels
		Starring of Players
	Fees	
	Council	Officers
		President and Immediate Past President
		Ordinary Council Members
		Quorum
		Voting
		Sub-Committees
Finance		
General Meetings	Annual General Meeting	
	Proposals	
	Voting	
Disputes and Discipline		
Laws of the Game		
LEAGUE COMPETITION RULES	Player Selection	
	Teams	
	Reserve Players	
	Shuttlecocks	
	Matches and Postponement of Matches	
	Scoring	
	Scorers and Umpires	
	Results	
	Non-Completion of Matches	
	Non-Completion of Fixtures	
	League Divisions	Composition of Leagues
		Promotion and Relegation
		Withdrawal of a Team
		Resignation of a Club
Trophies		
HANDICAP KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION RULES	Competitions Description	
	Handicapping	
	Shuttlecocks	
	Player Selection and Reserve Players	
	Teams	
	Scoring	
	Results	
	Trophies	
TOURNAMENT RULES	Competitions Description	
	Eligibility of Players	
	Handicapping	
	Tournament Format	
	Trophies	
BLACKPOOL JUNIOR BADMINTON CLUB (BJBC)	Club Mission	
	Method of Working	
	Eligibility	

1. CONSTITUTION

1.1. Name

The Association shall be called Blackpool and District Badminton Association (BDBA).

1.2. Aims and Objectives

BDBA's aims and objectives shall be to:

- promote and further the interests of badminton throughout the district,
- improve the standard of play of its members,
- supervise and develop a badminton league and other competitive activities for its members,
- further the interests of badminton in schools, by supporting events and activities, encouraging links between schools and clubs and providing coaching to schools, and
- ensure fair, honest and impartial treatment of its members.

1.3. Membership

1.3.1. Member Clubs

All Badminton Clubs in Blackpool and District shall be eligible to apply for BDBA membership. Membership applications will be considered at a meeting of the Council and the Council shall have power to refuse any application.

All Member Clubs and Individual Members shall be subject to this Constitution and to the Standing Orders and League, Trophy and Tournament Competition Rules that are subordinate to it. By joining BDBA they shall be deemed to have accepted the regulations and code of conduct implicit in them.

1.3.2. Individual Members: Full Membership

Individual players who are registered with Member Clubs and who have paid current registration fees through their club shall be known as Full BDBA Members. They shall be eligible to take part in BDBA activities and competitions subject to the Constitution, Standing Orders and League, Trophy and Tournament Competition Rules. They shall also be entitled to contact the Council on any matter relating to BDBA.

1.3.3. Individual Members: Honorary Membership

The Council may create Honorary Life Members for exceptional service to BDBA. Honorary life members shall be eligible to take part in BDBA activities and competitions subject to the Constitution, Standing Orders and League, Trophy and Tournament Competition Rules. They shall be entitled to contact the Council on any matter relating to BDBA.

1.3.4. Individual Members: Associate Membership

The Council may allow Associate BDBA Membership for individuals with no ties to any particular Member Club but who wish to be informed of BDBA events and activities and to take part in BDBA restricted tournaments. They shall be entitled to contact the Council on any matter relating to BDBA. Individuals wishing to become associate members may contact the BDBA Secretary at any time.

1.4. Fees

Registration and affiliation fees shall be set annually and agreed by the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

1.5. Council

1.5.1. Authority of Council

The BDBA Council shall have the authority to discharge BDBA business in accordance with its stated aims and objectives.

1.5.2. Membership of Council

The Council shall consist of the Officers, Immediate Past President and Ordinary Council Members. The BDBA Officer positions are:

- President,
- Chairman,
- Vice Chairman,

- Secretary,
- Treasurer,
- Match Secretary,
- Tournament Secretary,
- Coaching Secretary,
- Social Secretary,
- Press & Publicity Secretary,
- Safeguarding Officer.

An individual is not precluded from holding more than one Officer position. Officers and Ordinary Council Members shall be Full BDBA Members or Honorary BDBA members.

1.5.3. Council Meetings

Meetings shall be convened by the Secretary. The Council shall meet in ordinary session no less than three times per year.

1.5.4. Council Votes

Only the Officers, Immediate Past President and Ordinary Council Members shall have the right to vote at meetings of the Council.

1.5.5. Sub-Committees

The Council shall have the authority to appoint sub-committees as necessary and to co-opt other BDBA members, including Associate Members as appropriate, to assist with the work of a particular sub-committee.

Co-opted members shall not have voting rights at Council or in committee but may attend and speak at Council meetings at the discretion of the Chairman.

1.6. Finance

BDBA finances shall be administered by the Treasurer. Working funds shall be held in a current bank account. Additional funds may be invested as agreed by Council.

An audited annual balance sheet shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

All payments using BDBA funds must be approved by the Treasurer or the Chairperson. All cheques drawn on BDBA funds shall be signed only by the Treasurer or the Secretary or the Chairperson. Where payment by bank transfer is appropriate, the Treasurer will be responsible for making the payments on behalf of BDBA. The Treasurer and the Chairperson must both be informed about and acknowledge the signing of a cheque for £500.00 or more.

1.7. General Meetings

1.7.1. Quorum

At any BDBA General Meeting, a quorum shall consist of representation from not less than one half of the Member Clubs.

1.7.2. Voting Powers

Voting at all BDBA General Meetings shall be restricted to representatives of Member Clubs. A motion shall be carried by a simple majority of votes cast, except when the motion is a constitutional amendment, which shall require at least two thirds of all eligible votes (i.e. not just those at the meeting) to be cast in favour of the change.

1.7.3. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

1.7.3.1. Attendance

Any BDBA member may attend the AGM.

1.7.3.2. Notice

Notice of the AGM shall be given by the Secretary to the secretaries of all Member Clubs, BDBA Officers, Immediate Past President, Ordinary Council Members, Honorary and Associate BDBA members. The Secretary shall ensure that written notice is given at least 21 days prior to the AGM.

1.7.3.3. Proposals

Proposals to amend the Constitution, Standing Orders or League and Trophy Competition rules may be made by the Council or by any Member Club.

1.7.3.4. Nominations

All nominations for Officers and Ordinary Council Members shall either be received by the Secretary prior to the AGM or made from the floor at the AGM. All nominees shall indicate their consent before a vote is taken.

1.7.3.5. Agenda

The business of the AGM shall include:

- Apologies
- Minutes of Last Meeting.
- Matters Arising.
- Correspondence.
- Adoption of Officers' reports and Audited Accounts.
- Chairman's Report.
- Proposals to Amend the Constitution.
- Proposals to Amend the Standing Orders.
- Proposals to Amend League and Trophy Competition Rules.
- Election of Officers and Ordinary Council Members.
- Appointment of Honorary Members.

1.7.3.6. AGM Quorum

If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the notified time of the meeting, the meeting shall be postponed for at least seven and not more than twenty-one clear days. Due notice of at least five clear days having been given, the postponed meeting shall then be held and, irrespective of the number of members present, the meeting shall be empowered to transact legally the business of the AGM.

1.7.4. Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

An EGM may be convened only by a resolution from the Council, or by written request to the Secretary supported by at least five Member Clubs. Such request shall state the specific purpose of the meeting, and no other business shall be discussed or transacted at that meeting. An EGM shall be held within four weeks of the formal request and notice shall be provided by the Secretary on the same basis as the AGM. Proposals to amend the Constitution, Standing Orders or League and Trophy Competition rules may be considered at an EGM notwithstanding the time of year at which it is held.

If there is no quorum at an EGM, the motion(s) on the agenda shall be deemed to have been defeated and the meeting shall be concluded.

1.8. Dissolution

BDBA may be wound up only as the result of a motion carried at a General Meeting by a two-thirds majority of all eligible votes.

In the event of such a motion being passed, the elected Officers, on behalf of BDBA shall put in place the following actions:

- Payment of outstanding debts and liabilities, where possible;
- Disposal of trophies, or return to donors, where possible;
- Disposal of assets; and
- Return of any residual funds, no later than six months after dissolution, to Member Clubs in proportion to the number of their registered members at the date of dissolution.

In the event that BDBA assets are insufficient to enable it to honour all its outstanding debts and liabilities, responsibility for these shall pass to the Member Clubs in proportion to the number of their registered members at the date of dissolution.

2. STANDING ORDERS

2.1. Membership

2.1.1. Affiliation of Clubs

Clubs applying for BDBA membership for each season shall:

- do so on the application form as directed by the Secretary,
- send the completed application form, with the appropriate registration fee, to the Secretary to arrive by the date stated on the application form.

2.1.2. Registration of Full Members

Each season, Member Clubs shall register their member players and pay the appropriate registration fees directly to BDBA, using the forms and the payment arrangements provided by the Secretary, within 14 days of the start of the League Season or, for new players in-season, within 14 days of a new player becoming a member of the Club.

The BDBA fee should be paid by each playing member.

2.1.3. Eligibility of Players

A player is eligible to play for a Member Club in League and Trophy Competitions provided that they:

- are Full BDBA Members;
- have an agreed starring level;
- have not represented another club playing in the BDBA League and Trophy competitions in the same season, unless in exceptional circumstances and with the prior permission of the Match Secretary.

2.1.4. Player Playing Levels

All players, including floating or casual players must be given a playing level.

During the season, a new player to a club, who may not yet be registered with the club and has not played for another club in the same season, should have his/her playing level communicated to the Match Secretary for agreement before they play in a match and the registration forms must be submitted according to these Standing Orders.

The Match Secretary may rule on the playing level of any player.

2.1.5. Starring of Players

Member Clubs shall complete starring cards for their players at the start of each season and also when new players join the club during each season.

The starring card for a team may show "additional starred players", e.g. a floating player who has a playing level above that of the lowest team. Players not normally expected to appear for a club's bottom team must be so identified.

Starring cards shall be completed, submitted to and agreed by the Match Secretary prior to:

- the club's first match, and
- a new player playing for the club in a match.

Failure to reach agreement with the Match Secretary on starring of a player or players before they play in a match may result in the opposition being awarded games won by the player(s) to love. No player may play for a team below the level at which they have been starred.

If, in a single season, a player (Player A) starred for a particular team ceases to be available for selection, they must immediately be replaced, either by one of the additional starred players or by re-starring a player from a lower team (Player B).

If Player A then subsequently becomes available to play again, they must return to their original starred position, with Player B being de-starred and made available immediately to play for their original team.

The Match Secretary must be informed of changes to player starring,

In the event of a player of outstanding ability becoming available during the season, the club must apply to the Council to have a starred 'A' Team player released immediately for their 'B' team. The new member would automatically become a starred player for the 'A' Team. This principle also applies in the case of a new player entering the 'B' Team and releasing a starred player to the 'C' Team, etc.

2.2. Fees

All fees for each season, as agreed at the AGM, will be published in the AGM minutes and on the BDBA internet site.

2.3. Council

BDBA and all its Competitions shall be managed by the Council which shall have the power, at its absolute discretion, to deal with any complaint or dispute and to give a decision on any matter relating to BDBA activities.

2.3.1. Officers

All BDBA Officers, except the President, shall be elected annually at the AGM. If a vacancy occurs during the season, the Council may appoint a replacement from the Council for the remainder of that season only.

2.3.2. President and Immediate Past President

The President shall be elected at the AGM for a 3-year term, and the retiring President shall automatically become the Immediate Past President for a 3-year term. The elected President may not serve for consecutive terms.

2.3.3. Ordinary Council Members

There shall be a maximum number of ordinary Council Members allowed, where the maximum number permitted is equivalent to the number of Member Clubs.

Ordinary Council members shall be elected at the AGM for a 3-year term.

A minimum of 3 ordinary Council members shall retire each year on rotation. If a vacancy occurs during the season, the Council may appoint a replacement ordinary Council member for the remainder of that season only.

2.3.4. Quorum

A quorum at all Council Meetings shall consist of 5 Members.

2.3.5. Voting

The Chairman shall have the casting vote on all matters at Council Meetings.

2.3.6. Sub-Committees

The President and Chairman shall be ex-officio members of all Sub-Committees.

2.4. Finance

The Financial Year End shall be March 31st.

2.5. General Meetings

2.5.1. AGM

The AGM shall be held not later than the middle of June.

2.5.2. Proposals

Proposals to amend the Constitution, Standing Orders, League and Trophy Competition Rules and Tournament Rules shall be submitted to the Secretary not later than 28 days before the date of the AGM.

2.5.3. Voting

All Member Clubs may vote at all General Meetings. A vote may be cast for each team of the Member Club actively participating in the league, i.e. one vote per active team.

2.6. Disputes and Discipline

The Disputes and Disciplinary Committee shall deal with all complaints and their decision shall be binding.

Complaints regarding League and Trophy Competition matches should be made in writing to the Match Secretary. Complaints on any other matter should be made in writing to the Secretary.

2.7. Laws of the Game

The Laws shall be those of Badminton England, with the following exceptions:

- Those clubs which, by virtue of the limitations imposed by the structure and fabric of the building which houses the court(s), are unable to comply with the minimum conditions laid down by Badminton England, can join BDBA provided that the BDBA Council approves their conditions.

3. LEAGUE COMPETITION RULES

3.1. Player Selection

A player may be selected to play for a Member Club in the League Competition provided that they:

- are Full BDBA Members;
- have an agreed playing level and are starred for a team;
- have not represented another club playing in the BDBA League or Trophy competitions in the same season, unless in exceptional circumstances with the prior permission of the Match Secretary. Players however may play for a different Levels and Mixed team.

Notes:

Games won by unregistered players, unless the player's registration documents and fees are received within 14 days of the match, or players whose playing level has not been agreed with the Match Secretary in advance of playing in a match, will be deducted and awarded to the opposing team.

All questions of eligibility and qualification of players shall be referred to the Match Secretary within seven days of the match having been played.

3.2 Teams

In the mixed league each team shall consist of 3 ladies and 3 men playing 12 events (i.e. 3 ladies' doubles, 3 men's doubles and 6 mixed doubles).

Each player plays 2 level and 2 mixed events.

To form the level doubles, the men and ladies are paired with each of the other men and ladies in the team:

1 st Men's pairing:	1 st Man and 2 nd Man
2 nd Men's pairing:	1 st Man and 3 rd Man
3 rd Men's pairing:	2 nd Man and 3 rd Man
1 st Ladies' pairing:	1 st Lady and 2 nd Lady
2 nd Ladies' pairing:	1 st Lady and 3 rd Lady
3 rd Ladies' pairing:	2 nd Lady and 3 rd Lady

The mixed pairings need not correlate to the level's pairings. The men and ladies form 3 mixed pairings of their choice.

The following is a suggested order of play:

Ladies' 1 st v 1 st	Men's 1 st v 1 st	
Ladies' 2 nd v 2 nd	Men's 2 nd v 2 nd	
Ladies' 3 rd v 3 rd	Men's 3 rd v 3 rd	
Mixed 1 st v 1 st	Mixed 2 nd v 2 nd	Mixed 3 rd v 3 rd
Mixed Home 1 st v Away 3 rd	Mixed Home 2 nd v Away 1 st	Mixed Home 3 rd v Away 2 nd

Each captain shall present, in writing, the composition of his/her team, for all events, to the opposing captain before the time fixed for the start of play.

3.3. Reserve Players

If a player needs to miss a match for any reason they may be replaced by a reserve, drawn from the club's remaining registered players for whom a playing level has been agreed with the Match Secretary.

Any player may play for a higher team but a **seventh** appearance above the lowest team for which he/she has played shall automatically 'tie' the player to the next team above.

Tied players may not play for a lower team unless they miss three consecutive league matches of the team to which they have become tied.

Under no circumstances will substitutes be allowed for any player once he/she has commenced playing in a match.

3.4. Shuttlecocks

All teams in Divisions One and Two shall play with feather shuttlecocks only in all matches. Cork based shuttles (i.e. feather shuttles or cork based synthetic shuttles) may be used in all other matches, as chosen by the home team.

3.5. Matches and Postponement of Matches

All matches shall be played on a Home and Away basis according to the Fixture List.

Any club having two teams in the same division shall play each other as their first match of the season.

Only non-availability of hall or an unavoidable clash with a Town Team fixture will be accepted as a reason for postponing a match. Any club desiring postponement of a match for these reasons must make application to the Match Secretary **at least three days prior** to the date of the match.

If the postponement is agreed, then two alternative dates must be offered to both the Match Secretary and the opposing club within a fortnight, with the match to be played within four playing weeks of the original date, except as agreed otherwise by the Match Secretary.

When the new date has been agreed by the two clubs concerned, the Match Secretary must be informed by the home club. Failing mutual agreement between the two clubs concerned, the Match Secretary shall fix a date.

In the event of a team failing to attend on the date fixed by the Match Secretary, that team shall forfeit the match to love.

3.6. Scoring

Each event shall consist of two games using the Rally Point Scoring system.

Games shall be played to 21 points, except where if the score reaches 20 all, the side which gains a 2-point lead first, wins that game, if the score reaches 29 all, the side scoring the 30th point, wins that game.

3.7. Scorers and Umpires

Scorers may be appointed by mutual consent.

Umpires may be appointed by application to the Match Secretary prior to the date of the match.

3.8. Results

Results of league matches submitted by the home team must be received by the Match Secretary within 72 hours of the match being played. Failure to comply with this rule may lead to forfeiture of the match to love in favour of the visiting team.

Full details of the league, division, teams and full players' names must be recorded on the match slips provided. The final result of the match should be correctly recorded, and the slip signed by both home and away team captains.

Individual games shall count in the result. If these are equal the result is a draw. The following points shall be awarded:

Win	3 points
Draw	2 points
Loss when at least 8 games are won	1 point
Loss when fewer than 8 games are won	0 points

3.9. Non-Completion of Matches

When clubs are obliged to vacate premises at a certain time, by mutual consent the score can stand. However, both teams have the option to complete the match; and the Match Secretary shall be informed within 48 hours if an unfinished match is to be completed at a later date.

3.10. Non-Completion of Fixtures

The Council reserves the right to refuse re-entry to the League of any team which did not fulfil its fixtures in the previous season.

3.11. League Divisions

3.11.1. Composition of Leagues

Divisions shall consist of 8 teams, except as otherwise decided by the Council according to the number of teams entered.

Not more than two teams from the same club shall normally be allowed to compete in the same division of the League.

After promotion and relegation issues have been decided, teams from multi-team clubs will have their teams placed in order of strength.

All new teams accepted into the leagues shall normally be placed in the bottom division.

3.11.2. Promotion and Relegation

The teams in each division shall be subject to promotion and relegation:

- the top two teams to be promoted to the division above, except in the top division, and
- the bottom two teams to be relegated to the division below, except in the bottom division.

In the event of a tie in the number of league points the final league positions will be decided by whichever of the following criteria is met first:

1. the number of games won;
2. in the event of a tie in the number of games won, the total game points for and against;
3. if the teams are tied on total game points the total, in matches between them, of:
 - games won;
 - game points won;
4. if, in the games between them, the teams are still tied on game points, a further single match will be played between the teams, the home team to be decided on a coin toss.

3.11.3. Withdrawal of a Team

If a multi-team club wishes to withdraw one of its teams from the League this will normally be the club's lowest team.

3.11.4. Resignation of a Member Club

If any Club resigns from the league, a relegated team shall have preference over other teams in the lower division when deciding promotion and relegation.

3.12. Trophies

A Club whose team wins the championship of one of the divisions of the league shall be entitled to hold the appropriate trophy for a period of twelve months. On receipt of a trophy, a club shall provide the name and address of the club member responsible for the safe-keeping and return of the trophy.

4. HANDICAP KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION RULES

4.1. Competitions Description

The competitions shall be called the Gazette Trophy and the Bridgewood Trophy and shall be held annually, as decided by the Council according to the number of teams entered.

The competitions shall be handicapped and decided on the knock-out principle.

Teams shall be included in the Gazette and Bridgewood Trophy Competitions as decided by the Council.

Each club playing in the League may enter the same number of teams in the trophy competitions as they have entered into the league competitions.

If a club does not wish to enter a team in the trophy competitions, they must inform the Match Secretary not later than the date set each season by the Council.

The Council shall make the draw and all matches shall be played on the court(s) of the first named club on the dates specified by the Council.

The matches shall be played on the normal match night of the home drawn team. In the event of the home team being unable to accommodate the match, or offer an alternative venue on the specified dates, the match shall be reversed.

No deviation shall be allowed from these conditions except by consent of the Match Secretary.

The Council shall arrange the dates and venue of the finals and shall cover the cost of the hall hire. In the finals the home team shall be the first team as shown on the official trophy draw.

4.2. Handicapping

Each team entered in the Trophy competitions shall be handicapped; and the handicap so given shall apply to each match in the Trophy competitions. The handicaps for each Team shall be decided by the Council Handicapping Committee.

The Council shall, at all times, have the power to adjust any handicap.

Where the decision is taken to adjust a handicap, the adjusted handicap shall apply to each subsequent round in the Competition.

4.3. Shuttlecocks

All teams in the Gazette and Bridgewood Trophies shall play with feather shuttlecocks only in all trophy matches.

In matches prior to the finals, the home team shall provide the shuttles and the away team shall contribute an amount as decided by Council £24 towards the match cost.

In the finals the shuttles shall be provided by BDBA.

4.4. Player Selection and Reserve Players

As Standing Orders and League Competition Rules, except:

Addition: A player may play for a team in the Trophy competitions only if they are eligible to play for that team in the league.

An affiliated player must have played at least two League matches for the club before they are eligible for a Trophy competition match. This does not apply to a one team club or to a club's bottom team.

Exception: Appearances for a team in the Trophy competitions shall not count for tying purposes.

4.5. Teams

As League Competition Rules.

4.6. Scoring

As League Competition Rules, except:

Exception: If a game score reaches 20 points all, the game will be won by the first pair to reach 21 points.

4.7. Results

The winner of each match shall be the team winning the greater number of points. If there is a tie on points, the away team shall be the winner; except that in the semi-finals and finals, the Match Secretary will arrange for a replay of the match.

Results of all trophy matches, submitted by the home team, must be received by the Match Secretary within 72 hours of the match being played.

Result slips should be completed with full information as per League Competition Rules, except that the name of the Trophy Competition shall be included.

4.8. Trophies

The winning team shall be entitled to hold the appropriate trophy for a period of twelve months. On receipt of a trophy, a club shall provide the name and address of the club member responsible for the safe-keeping and return of the trophy.

It shall not be possible to win the trophies outright.

5. TOURNAMENT RULES

5.1 Competitions Description

Each playing season, BDBA may run three players' competitions:

- BDBA Gents Doubles Handicap,
- BDBA Ladies Doubles Handicap, and
- Crusaders Mixed Doubles Handicap.

The gents and ladies' doubles competitions will usually be run together on one Sunday in the first half of the playing season (before Christmas) and the mixed doubles competition will be run on a Sunday in the second half of the season (after Christmas).

The dates of these competitions and the entry fees required will be notified to players in advance via the BDBA website and the BDBA Facebook pages and by email to all Member Club secretaries.

Entry fees should be paid with the entry to the competition by the deadline for entries.

RPS scoring will be used and because these are handicap tournaments, the first pair to reach 21 points will win each game.

The tournaments will comprise of group stages, with top pairings in each group progressing to knockout stages. The number and size of groups will depend on the overall tournament entry.

5.2 Eligibility of Players

To play in a BDBA tournament, a player must have BDBA membership as described in the Constitution. The Associate Membership fee can be paid along with the entry fee to the first tournament entered each playing season and covers any other tournaments played during that playing season. In addition Associate Members must prove that they are currently registered as a player or coach with Badminton England.

5.3 Handicapping

Pairings entering for each tournament will be handicapped by the organising committee. Handicaps will be as fair as possible, based on knowledge of each player, the pairing and recent performance in the BDBA leagues and in past BDBA tournaments.

Associate members, whose playing level is not known to the tournament organising committee, may be asked to provide information about their playing career to assist with handicapping.

Handicaps may be adjusted during a tournament in the interest of fair play.

5.4 Tournament Format

Playing pairs will be organised into convenient groups, usually of 4 or more pairings, depending on the number of entries.

In a group, each pair will play all of the other pairs.

In the group stages each match will consist of two games. Group places will be determined on:

- a) total games won; then
- b) total points for: then
- c) total points against.

Knockout stages will usually be determined on the best of 3 games. Quarter finals and semi-finals will take place as determined by the tournament secretary for each tournament, taking account the number of groups and available time.

5.5 Trophies

Tournament winners and runners up will receive keepsake trophies.

Tournament winners will have their names engraved on the perpetual trophy for the competition.

Winners who are full BDBA members shall be entitled to hold a perpetual trophy for a period of twelve months and will be responsible for its safe keeping and return.

Winners who are Associate BDBA Members shall not be entitled to hold the perpetual trophies.

It shall not be possible to win the perpetual trophies outright.