



## **British Dodgeball Adult Regulations 2018/19**

### A. Club and Team Membership

- 1) To compete in a British Dodgeball ranking event or league in 2018/19 a team must belong to a club that is a member of British Dodgeball for 2018/19. British Dodgeball club membership is not required to enter non-ranking events.
- 2) All clubs that are British Dodgeball members must have a unique club name, by which they should be members of British Dodgeball.
- 3) Clubs may have as many teams as they like registered to their club for British Dodgeball events. Only teams listed as 2018/19 British Dodgeball league teams will be able to compete in league competitions, and teams may only be registered to one club. Club teams will be invited by British Dodgeball to participate in the 2018/19 British Dodgeball leagues.
- 4) Every team name within a club must be unique. A team may only change their name once they have received permission to do so in writing from British Dodgeball.

### B. Player Affiliation and Eligibility

- 1) To participate in any British Dodgeball events or leagues (ranking or non-ranking) in 2018/19 all players must be player members of British Dodgeball and agree to abide by the British Dodgeball Code of Conduct. Participation includes being a named substitute at an event.
- 2) A player will become a playing member of British Dodgeball automatically on being listed on a teamsheet at any British Dodgeball event.
- 3) All players are encouraged to take up additional British Dodgeball junior or adult membership, offering them voting rights, an invitation to the AGM, and other benefits.
- 4) British Dodgeball will hold a database of all players with British Dodgeball membership and all players who have competed in British Dodgeball events, in accordance with the British Dodgeball privacy policy.
- 5) Players may consider themselves part of more than one British Dodgeball member club, however they may only participate for a maximum of one community club and one university club in British Dodgeball leagues and ranking events in 2018/19. The club for which a player competes in national leagues and ranking events is referred to as their “main club”.
- 6) Transfer requests to change a player’s main club will be considered on a case by case basis and should be sent in writing to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary, to be reviewed by the British Dodgeball Rules Committee. Email [jess@britishdodgeball.com](mailto:jess@britishdodgeball.com).



- a. Transfer requests between clubs will not be approved where there is evidence that a player owes money to the club that they are looking to leave. A player will not be permitted to compete in further British Dodgeball events until any outstanding debt has been settled.
- 7) Participating in national league or ranking events for more than one club during 2018/19 (September 2018 until June 2019) without having had a transfer request approved by British Dodgeball will result in disciplinary action for the player and clubs involved as decided by the British Dodgeball Rules Committee.
- 8) For teams competing in British Dodgeball community leagues during 2018/19, clubs will be required to submit a roster of all players selected to play in each team two weeks in advance of the first league meet.
- 9) At the beginning of every British Dodgeball event, the completion of a team sheet will be required for each participating team. If a team has not completed their team sheet prior to their first scheduled match, they may not be allowed to participate in that match, alongside any subsequent matches until a team sheet is completed.
- 10) There is no limit to the number of players who may be registered to one team. However, a maximum of 10 players may be listed on the team sheet at any one event, and any awards, medals or prizes will be limited to 10 per qualifying team.
- 11) Matches at British Dodgeball events will be 6 a side. A team requires a minimum of 4 registered players present in order to be permitted to play. If a team is unable to field 4 players, the match will be forfeited.
- 12) League and championship events are “ranking” events. All other events are “non-ranking” (open) events.
- 13) Adult events are for ages 16+. Players under 16 are permitted to compete in adult events as part of a team featuring players aged 16+, but parental consent must be provided.

## C. Gender

- 1) British Dodgeball events are designated as “men’s”, “women’s”, or “mixed”.
- 2) Where an event is “women’s”, teams must consist only of female players.
- 3) Where an event is “men’s”, female players are permitted to compete. However, they may only have one main community club (and one main university club where applicable) across all competitions – therefore their main community club for men’s events must be the same as their main community club for women’s events.



- 4) Where an event is “mixed”, both male and female players are permitted to compete. Of the six players on court at the start of a set (including any players in the penalty box), at most three can be female and at most three can be male. Squads containing more than 6 players can have an unequal mix of genders.
- 5) Players may compete in accordance with their gender identity. Where this is different from their sex, players are requested to sign and submit a gender declaration before first participating in a British Dodgeball event under this gender.

#### D) British Dodgeball Leagues and Ranking Events

- 1) British Dodgeball Leagues and ranking events will run from beginning of November 2018 to end of June 2019.
- 2) For the 2018/19 season, at least the following British Dodgeball adult community leagues are proposed, all using British Dodgeball Five Ball Rules and in addition to a number of university leagues:
  - a. The Men’s English Superleague
  - b. The Women’s English Superleague
  - c. The Men’s English National Division 1
  - d. The Men’s English National Division 2
  - e. The Men’s English National Division 3
  - f. The Women’s English National Division 1
  - g. The Welsh Superleague
  - h. The Men’s Irish Superleague
  - i. The Men’s Irish Division 1
  - j. The Women’s Irish Superleague
  - k. The Scottish Superleague
- 3) British Dodgeball community leagues will only be open to community teams and university leagues will only be open to university teams. Other ranking events will clearly specify on the event entry page whether they may be entered by community teams, university teams, or both.



- 4) At the end of the league season a final ranking of teams will be available from league positions, and this will determine the basis by which leagues will be structured for the following season. This ranking will use the following criteria:
  - a. Where leagues are not split into regions, the bottom two finishers in one league will be ranked lower than the top two teams in the next league down.
  - b. Where leagues are not split into regions, the bottom two finishers in one league will be ranked higher than the third placed team in the next league down.
  - c. Where leagues are split into regions, a team in one region will be grouped with the teams finishing in the equivalent positions in the other regional league. Of these teams, the team with the greatest number of points per match during the league season will be ranked higher. This ranking will be superseded by results at any finals days where these exist.
  
- 5) Multiple teams from the same club are permitted to participate in any British Dodgeball league – including second teams taking up spots alongside their first teams in superleagues. Where multiple teams are in the same league, within-club transfers across the season will be monitored closely.

#### E) British Dodgeball Non-Ranking Events

- 1) Non-ranking or “open” events are any competitions where there are no eligibility requirements. Players do not have to play for their main club.
  
- 2) The majority of non-ranking British Dodgeball adult events will be played to British Dodgeball Five Ball Rules. Where an event instead is played to a different ruleset this will be clearly specified on the event entry page on the British Dodgeball website.
  
- 3) Non-ranking events will follow a standard structure, beginning with pre-announced, unseeded groups. When group play has finished, the teams finishing at the top of these groups will progress to the knockout stages (usually quarter finals onwards).
  
- 4) All non-ranking events will aim to feature both Men’s and Women’s competitions. These competitions will usually take place on the same day.

#### F) University Event Eligibility

- 1) University players are permitted to compete in both university and community events, and can have a main community club and a main university club.
  
- 2) University leagues, university ranking events and university non-ranking events are only open to British Dodgeball-affiliated university clubs/ players.



- 3) To be eligible to play in a University event, a player must currently be enrolled in a University or education institution course, and must be able to produce a valid student ID card on request.
- 4) The University team for which a player competes in ranking events must be the only British Dodgeball university team that the player is registered for.
- 5) Players eligible to play in university events are permitted to have both a university main club and a community main club. For any ranking event or competition open to both university and community teams, players may not play for both their main university club and main community club.
- 6) A player may play for a team belonging to a different University or education institution to the one at which they are enrolled, by making a request for special permission in writing from British Dodgeball. Please note that choosing to play for a university team different to the university to which the player is enrolled will remove the player's option to also play for a community team.

G) National Championships 2019 and British Championships 2019

1)The National Championships and the British Championships tournaments will be ranking events and will take place following the conclusion of the league season.

2)The British Championships 2019 will be a 15-minute half match format event, with qualification for English and Northern Irish teams solely via the British Dodgeball adult community leagues in those nations, and for Scottish and Welsh teams via the Scottish Championships and Welsh Championships.

3)Qualifying spots at the Men's British Championships 2019 will be available for:

- a. The Men's British Champions 2018
- b. The five highest-placed finishers in the Men's English Superleague 2018/19.
- c. The two highest-placed finishers in the Men's Northern Irish Superleague 2018/19.
- d. The winner of the Men's Scottish Championships 2019.
- e. The winner of the Men's Welsh Superleague 2018/2019.

4)Qualifying spots at the Women's British Championships 2019 will be available for:

- a. The Women's British Champions 2018
- b. The six highest-placed finishers in the Women's English Superleague 2018/19.
- c. The winner of the Women's Northern Irish Superleague 2018/19.
- d. The winner of the Women's Scottish Championships 2019.
- e. The winner of the Women's Welsh Championships 2019.



5) The English Championships will be an 8-minute half match format ranking event, enterable by any adult community team registered in England. Entry will initially be limited to first teams only until the end of April 2019. Following this if any spaces remain they will be made available for second teams.

6) The Scottish Championships, Irish Championships, and Welsh Championships will be 8-minute half match format ranking events.

## H) Equipment, Clothing and First Aid

- 1) All players competing in the same team in Superleague or Women's Superleague events, or the British Championships, should wear coordinating uniforms. This should include bottoms of the same colour (a mixture of styles is permitted), and tops of the same colour and design. All playing tops should feature a number that is unique for each player (numbers may be attached separately).
- 2) All players competing in the same team in other league events or ranking events (including mixed leagues and national championships) should wear coordinating uniforms. This should include bottoms of the same colour (a mixture of styles is permitted), and tops of the same colour. All playing tops should feature a number that is unique for each player (numbers may be attached separately).
- 3) All players competing in the same team in non-ranking events should wear tops of the same colour.
- 4) Any questions on kit, including clarification of where tops are considered the same style, should be sent to the rules and disciplinary committee. Where adherence to any rules and regulations around equipment or clothing is not considered possible on medical or religious grounds, this should be raised with the rules and disciplinary committee in advance of the first relevant event or fixture.
- 5) All players compete in British Dodgeball events at their own risk, and first aid provisions are the responsibility of the club and player. Where possible British Dodgeball will also have a first aider on site.

## I) Club Registration and Transfers

- 1) At the beginning of every league event, the completion of a team sheet will be required by each team. All players from a club who are fielded by or substitutes for that team on that day must be listed on the team sheet. Only players for whom that team's club is the player's main community or university club are permitted to play for a team in a league event. If a team has not completed their team sheet prior to their first scheduled match, they may not be allowed to participate and that match may be forfeited, alongside any subsequent matches until a team sheet is completed.



- 2) If a team competing in the British Dodgeball leagues fails to submit payment by the relevant deadlines, they may be docked one point for every 24 hour period until payment has been received. A delay of more than seven working days may result in the team or teams being removed from the league.
- 3) A club becomes a player's main club as soon as they are first listed on a matchday team sheet for that club in a league or ranking event.
  - i. A player's main club will remain their main club (and the only club they can play for in ranking competitions and leagues unless they are eligible to have both a university main club and a community main club) until end of June 2019. Transfer requests to change a player's main club will be considered on a case by case basis and should be sent in writing to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary.
- 4) British Dodgeball will hold a list of all players for whom a club is their main club – the club's 'squad list'. Eligible players may be added throughout the season. Where clarification of eligibility is sought, this should be sent to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary via email by midnight on the Wednesday before the first competition that the added player will participate in.
- 5) Transferring between teams at the same club is permitted during the course of a league or ranking competition.
  - a. For ranking competitions and all but the "final rounds" of the British Dodgeball leagues, players on a club's squad list may transfer between teams at the same club without requiring permission from British Dodgeball. A player may only play for one team in a single round of fixtures. A team's team sheet at the start of each ranking competition or league fixture will be considered notification of any within-club transfers.
  - b. For the "final rounds" of the British Dodgeball leagues, clubs must submit a "final rounds team squad list" for each of their teams by midnight on the deadline for submission. This deadline will be confirmed to all team clubs. The players listed are then locked in and are the only players who can compete for that team in rounds 7, 8 and 9 of a 9-fixture league, and 6 and 7 of a 7-fixture league.
    - i. Any transfers between teams at the same club during the final rounds should be sent in writing to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary. Transfers within a club will only be approved in exceptional circumstances during the "final rounds", on a case by case basis.
    - ii. Transfers between clubs during the "final rounds" will not be permitted.
- 6) Teams cannot name 'guest players' from other clubs as members of their team at a league event or other ranking event. Only players who are listed on the team's team sheet at the beginning of the event will be able to participate. Players may only be on the team sheet for one team at any one event.



- 7) Teams must compete with 4 or 5 registered players from their own club if they have less than a full team present at an event.
- 8) If a player is a registered player with a league team in another home nation, they are not eligible to play for a team in the official national leagues of another recognised British Dodgeball country.

J) Competition Formats and Entry

- 1) Where possible the schedule for events will be available via the British Dodgeball website prior to the event. This will include match timings and line refereeing duties, though will be limited to group stages only where relevant.
- 2) Where an event has group stages, groups will be drawn by British Dodgeball prior to the event. For non-ranking events no seeding will be used. For ranking events, seeding will be based on league ranking at the date of the draw.
- 3) Where a match is British Dodgeball Five Ball rules and comprised of two fifteen minute halves, 45 minutes will be allowed per match. This includes a 5 minute warm-up period that will be timed by the referee. At events with two fifteen minute halves, participating teams will be guaranteed a minimum of 2 scheduled matches.
- 4) Where a match is British Dodgeball Five Ball rules and comprised of two eight minute halves, 25 minutes will be allowed per match. This includes a 5 minute warm-up period that will be timed by the referee. At events with two eight minute halves, participating teams will be guaranteed a minimum of 4 scheduled matches.
- 5) Event entry is available through the British Dodgeball website only, and payment must be made in order to confirm entry. Event entry will close at midnight on the Monday before the weekend of the event, or when all competition spaces are filled, whichever is sooner.
- 6) University teams are able to request an invoice for league fees or other event entry fees.
- 7) Where a team withdraws from an event prior to the event entry Monday deadline, a refund or entry credit will be issued. Following the event deadline, the full entry fee will be forfeited by any team who withdraws from or does not attend the event.
- 8) Any overseas teams looking to enter British Dodgeball events will be required to pay an additional charge of 5% of the entry fee to cover international transaction fees.





9) Clubs will only be permitted to enter or compete in British Dodgeball events where they have no outstanding debt to British Dodgeball.

K) Assistant officials

1) It is a requirement for all teams competing in British Dodgeball events to be able to provide a minimum of 4 (usually 5) assistant officials during any match in which they are not playing. Any instances of teams failing to do so will be reviewed by the British Dodgeball rules and disciplinary committee and may result in points deductions or other sanctions.

a. British Dodgeball referees or other officials may be asked to rate the performance of a team's assistant officials following each match. Where this rating is not satisfactory, the British Dodgeball rules and disciplinary committee may decide that sanctions apply.

2) Where 5 assistant officials are required, this will usually involve:

a. 1 x assistant centre referee

They will support the head referee and take up position on the opposite side of the court to the head referee. Teams should put forward their most experienced players/ referees as assistant centre referees, though referees qualifications are not required. Assistant centre referees are in charge of the side of the court to their left and will call "play ball" and lead on calling "hits", "catches", and other "outs" for this side of the court. They are able to make calls directly, not just through the head referee.

b. 2 x ball return line officials

Assistant officials acting as "ball return line officials" should be positioned on the left side of each team's half of the court, next to the ball return line. Their main role is to check for ball return line faults - for instance, false start offences (a false start only becomes a false start offence if the individual moves in any way/ enters court before the whistle AND advances past the ball return line), and balls not being made live when returning to court via a retriever or spectator/ following the opening rush (in these cases the ball must be received by a player with both feet in contact with the ground and fully behind the ball return line). They should make the head referee aware of any dead balls that have been released, and where possible warn a team that a ball is not yet live. They may also call players "out" for hits, catches and other offences, and are able to make calls directly, not just through the head referee.

c. 2 x back line officials



- d. Assistant officials acting as "back line officials" should be positioned on the right side of each team's half of the court, by the back line. Their main role is to check for back line faults - a player is "out" if they touch on or over the back line with any part of their body or clothing. They should call players "out" for any such offences, and may also call players "out" for hits, catches, and other offences. They are able to make calls directly, not just through the head referee. They are also looking for "false starts" - so where a player moves in any way or direction following the call to be "ready" but before the whistle, or where a player is positioned over the back line following the call to be "ready" but before the whistle. They should flag this to the ball return line official who will confirm whether the ball return line was crossed.
- 3) Please note that where the playing teams require the assistant officials to act as "basic retrievers", the "ball return line officials" will be used for this purpose.

## L) Forfeits

- 1) Where a player or team wishes to forfeit a set they should leave the court with one hand in the air and ask the referee to "re-set". There is no limit to how early or late in a set a set may be forfeited. Forfeiting will result in a score of 0 players on court for the team forfeiting.
- 2) An official registration time will be set for all British Dodgeball events. All participating players are expected to be at the venue by this time. Teams must not enter the sports hall more than 30 minutes in advance of the official registration time. Contraventions to these rules may result in sanctions for the offending teams.
- 3) If a team fails to attend an event they were scheduled to compete in, they will forfeit the match(es) that they were scheduled to play. The score will be a 20-0 win to the opposing team, with all set scores 6 players to nil.
  - a. Where a team fails to attend two or more rounds of league fixtures, the British Dodgeball sanctions committee reserves the right to discount any scores against the forfeiting team from the league table and to void any of the forfeiting team's own points.
- 4) The first three minute period of the match will begin at the end of the 5-minute warm-up time following the match start time. Any team that is not present by this time (or present with insufficient players to compete) will forfeit that period, and any following three minute period that they are not lined up on court at the beginning of, with a score of 6 players to nil to the opposing team, or nil-nil players if both teams are not present. After three consecutive forfeited sets by the same team in any match, that team will forfeit the match.
- 5) For any match in which a team has fielded any number of ineligible players, this will be seen as the offending team forfeiting this match. The revised score will be a 20-0 win to the non-forfeiting team, with all set scores 6 players to nil.



- 6) In the instance that both teams in a match are not in attendance or both have fielded ineligible players, the match will be declared as a non-result draw, i.e. both teams will finish the match with nil points from games, nil players on and nil league points for the match.