



British Dodgeball Community Adult Regulations 2019/20

A. Club and Team Membership

- 1) To compete in a British Dodgeball championship or league in 2019/20 a team must belong to a club that is a member of British Dodgeball for 2019/20. British Dodgeball club membership is not required to enter opens.
- 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 2019/20 British Dodgeball league teams will be able to compete in league competitions, and teams may only be registered to one club.
- 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 in 2019/20, all players must have completed [playing registration](#) with British Dodgeball and agree to abide by the British Dodgeball Code of Conduct, confirm understanding of how their data is handled and confirm their fitness to play. Participation includes being a named substitute at an event. Players under 18 will require a parent/guardian to complete [playing registration](#) for them.
- 2) Teams may register their players in bulk by downloading, completing and submitting the excel file on the [playing registration page](#). As this will not update on the system automatically, this must be sent to alice@britishdodgeball.com a minimum of three working days before the event is due to begin in order to allow for administration time.
- 3) Anyone found to be playing at any event who has not completed [playing registration](#) will face sanctions of being ineligible for further play until registration is complete. Additionally, their team will forfeit all matches played on that day so far.
- 4) All players are encouraged to take up additional British Dodgeball adult membership, offering them voting rights, an invitation to the AGM, and other benefits.
- 5) British Dodgeball will hold a database of all players with British Dodgeball membership and all registered players who have competed in British Dodgeball events, in accordance with the British Dodgeball privacy policy.
- 6) Adult players may participate for a maximum of two community clubs and one university club in British Dodgeball leagues and ranking events in 2019/20. The first club will be their 'primary club' that they represent. They can also represent a 'secondary' community club for development purposes. Separate to this, a player may represent a university club if studying at that establishment and eligible – refer to the British Dodgeball University Regulations for more information on this.
 - a. A player may compete for a community club and a university club without requesting permission from British Dodgeball. Where a league or competition is open to community and university clubs, the player must select just one of these clubs to compete for throughout that league/ competition.
 - b. A player may compete for two community clubs (for instance, one in regional leagues and one in national and mixed leagues), but only with the permission of the British Dodgeball Rules Committee.





The player will need to demonstrate to British Dodgeball that this request is to aid development of the sport (e.g. helping a new club). To do this, the player needs to name their secondary club in their [player registration](#) and email jess@britishdodgeball.com outlining their reasons.

- 7) Transfer requests to change a player's primary club or add a secondary 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.
 - 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.
 - b. Transfer requests will need to be approved by three sources before they can officially be confirmed: a representative from the club the player intends to transfer from, a representative from the club they intend to transfer to and the British Dodgeball Rules Committee.
- 8) Participating in national league or ranking events for clubs other than their primary club, secondary club or university club during 2019/20 (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.
- 9) For teams competing in any British Dodgeball league during 2019/20, clubs will be required to submit a roster of all players selected to play in [each team](#) one week in advance of the first league meet. Each team must have a minimum of 6 players listed in each team at any one time. The list of players registered to each team is the club's 'squad list' and may be added to and amended through the season in line with the regulations around club registration and transfers.
- 10) 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, or if any players listed on the team sheet have not submitted [playing registration](#), they may not be allowed to participate in that match, alongside any subsequent matches until a team sheet is completed.
- 11) There is no limit to the number of players who may be registered to one team. However, any awards, medals or prizes will be limited to 10 per qualifying team.
- 12) 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.
- 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 when submitting the player's [playing registration](#).
- 14) At community Championship events, players must play for their primary club. Players with a secondary club may only represent their secondary club at Championship events where their primary club is not participating.

C. Gender

- 1) Adult 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 primary community club, one secondary 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 a player’s sex, the player must have lived as their affirmed gender for a minimum of one year before confirming this as their gender on their [playing registration](#). They can then begin to participate in a British Dodgeball event as their affirmed gender. For more details, please refer to our Transgender Policy.
 - a. Players may not change their gender, for sporting purposes, for at least one year once it has been confirmed.
 - b. If players, coaches or event coordinators have genuine concerns regarding player safety when trans players are competing, they are encouraged to contact the Head of Rules, jess@britishdodgeball.com, in order to discuss this. For more information, please refer to our Transgender Policy.

D) British Dodgeball Leagues and Ranking Events

- 1) British Dodgeball Leagues and ranking events will run from September 2019 to the end of June 2020.
- 2) For the 2019/20 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 and regional leagues
 - a. The English National Community Leagues (Men’s and Women’s)
 - i. The Men’s English Superleague
 - ii. The Women’s English Superleague
 - iii. The Men’s English National Division 1
 - iv. The Men’s English National Division 2
 - v. The Men’s English National Division 3
 - vi. The Women’s English National Division 1
 - b. The Welsh Superleague
 - c. The Northern Irish National Community Leagues (Men’s and Women’s)
 - i. The Men’s Northern Irish Superleague
 - ii. The Men’s Northern Irish Division 1
 - iii. The Women’s Northern Irish Superleague
 - d. The Scottish Superleague
 - e. The English Mixed Leagues
 - i. The Mixed English Superleague
 - ii. The Mixed English Division 1
- 3) British Dodgeball community leagues above will only be open to community teams and university leagues will only be open to university teams, with the exception of mixed, Welsh, Northern Irish and Scottish leagues. 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 primary, secondary or university 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) National Championships 2020 and British Championships 2020

- 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 2020 will be a 15-minute half match format event, with qualification solely via the British Dodgeball national community men’s and women’s leagues. Players may play for their national league community club only.
- 3) Qualifying spots at the Men’s British Championships 2020 will be available for:
 - a. The Men’s British Champions 2019
 - b. The five highest-placed finishers in the Men’s English Superleague 2019/20
 - c. The two highest-placed finishers in the Men’s Northern Irish Superleague 2019/20.
 - d. The two highest-placed finishing men’s teams in the Scottish Superleague 2019/20.
 - e. The two highest-placed finishing men’s teams in the Welsh Superleague 2019/20.
- 4) Qualifying spots at the Women’s British Championships 2020 will be available for:





- a. The Women's British Champions 2019
 - b. The seven highest-placed finishers in the Women's English Superleague 2019/20.
 - c. The two highest-placed finishers in the Women's Northern Irish Superleague 2019/20.
 - d. The highest finishing women's team in the Scottish Superleague 2019/20.
 - e. The winners of the Women's Welsh Championships 2020.
- 5) Qualification spots from English Superleague are in addition to the spot taken by the defending champions. Therefore, if the men's defending champion finishes in the top 5 in the Men's English Superleague, the sixth placed team will also qualify for British Championships. If the women's defending champions finishes in the top 7 in the Women's English Superleague, the eighth placed team will also qualify for British Championships.
- 6) The English Championships will be an 8-minute half match format ranking event, enterable by any adult community team registered in England. Players may only play for their primary or secondary club in this event. Entry will initially be first-come first-served and limited to first teams only initially.
- 7) The Scottish Championships, Irish Championships, and Welsh Championships will be 8-minute half match format ranking events.
- 8) Players can only represent their primary club at community championship events. Those with a registered secondary club may only represent their secondary club at championship events where their primary club is not present.

G) Clothing

For clothing guidance please view our [Kit Guidance](#) document.

H) Safety & Safeguarding

- 1) 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.
- 2) Players who have medical conditions or are pregnant should not participate in dodgeball as a player or as a coach. Participating in dodgeball carries a risk of injury and even death. Anyone with a medical condition or pregnancy that insists on playing or acting as a coach must understand that this is performed at their own risk. To act as a coach or player whilst possessing a known medical condition or whilst pregnant, an individual must submit a written health and safety waiver to the Head of Rules and Disciplinary Committee acknowledging their acceptance that British Dodgeball will not be held accountable and absolving British Dodgeball of all responsibility for any unfortunate events which occur at a British Dodgeball competition.
- 3) At community events there may be a range of players of different ages. Adults (unless they are parents) should not use the same changing facilities as children under the age of 18 unless there are separate cubicles. If there are no separate cubicles, over 18's should change in the specified changing room at adult events whilst under 18's should arrive changed and ready to play or change in a toilet cubicle. Conversely, under 18's should change in the specified changing room at junior events whilst adults should not enter unless they are parents or there is an urgent safety issue.

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 in either paper or electronic form. All players from a club who are fielded by or substitutes for that team on that day must





be listed on the team sheet. In league events players may only play for one of their primary or secondary clubs (whichever of these they are registered to for that type of event – for instance, they may be registered to their primary club for national men's community league). If they wish to change teams between their primary and secondary clubs in the event that both are entered into the same league, they must complete a transfer request by emailing jess@britishdodgeball.com.

- 2) If a team has not completed their team sheet prior to their first scheduled match, or if any players listed on the team sheet have not completed [playing registration](#), they may not be allowed to participate and that match may be forfeited, alongside any subsequent matches until a team sheet is completed or the player is registered.
- 3) 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.
- 4) A player's registered club for a particular type of league (for instance, for the English National Community Leagues – men's/ women's) will remain their registered club (and the only club they can play for in that league type and its associated ranking events) until end of June 2020. This must be either their primary or secondary club. Transfer requests to change the club a player is registered to for a particular competition will be considered on a case by case basis and should be sent in writing to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary, jess@britishdodgeball.com.
- 5) British Dodgeball will hold a list of all players registered to play for a club in a particular type of league (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 no later than 48 hours before the first competition that the added player will participate in.
- 6) Transferring between teams at the same club is permitted during the course of a league or ranking competition.
 - a. For all leagues, players on a club's squad list for that league system may transfer between teams at the same club without requiring permission from British Dodgeball where they are transferring to a higher team. In this case a team's team sheet at the start of each ranking competition or league fixture will be considered notification of any within-club transfers.
 - i. A player may only play for one team in a single round of fixtures.
 - ii. At any one time, there must be a minimum of 6 players listed on the squad list of each of a club's teams.
 - iii. Where a player is transferring to a lower-ranked team, an email must be sent to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary requesting approval for the proposed transfers, no later than 48 hours before the start time of the event they wish these transfers to be in place from. Players and clubs should be aware that there is no guarantee that a transfer will be approved, and a transfer has not been confirmed until written confirmation from the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary/ British Dodgeball Rules Committee has been received.
 - iv. Clubs with teams in the same league are considered equally ranked, and so an email must be sent to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary requesting approval for the proposed transfers, no later than 48 hours before the start time of the event they wish these transfers to be in place from. Players and clubs should be aware that there is no guarantee that a transfer will be approved, and a transfer has not been confirmed until written confirmation from the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary/ British Dodgeball Rules Committee has been received.





- 7) 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.
- 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.
- 9) Where a player plays or is a named substitute for a team that they are not eligible to play for at an event, the team will forfeit all matches at that event.

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 two Mondays (12 days) before the weekend of the event, or when all competition spaces are filled, whichever is sooner.
- 6) 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.
- 7) 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.
- 8) 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 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
 - i. 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
 - i. 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. For fifteen-minute half formats, the score will be a 30-0 win to the opposing team*. For eight-minute half formats, the score will be a 16-0 win to the opposing team.
 - a. Where a team forfeits a match in a league fixture, they will receive a points deduction of 1 point from the league table.
 - b. 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.

*30-0 forfeit score may be reviewed dependent on context and size of league.

- 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. 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.
- 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, and nil league points for the match.

