



British Dodgeball University Regulations 2019/20

A) Club and Team Membership

- 1) To compete in a British Dodgeball university championship, league or open in 2019/20, a team must belong to a university club that is a member of British Dodgeball for 2019/20. British Dodgeball club membership is not required to enter university 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 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 one university club in British Dodgeball leagues and ranking events in 2019/20. They can also represent a community club separate to 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 not compete for two university clubs.





- 7) Transfer requests to change a player's university 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 Rules & Disciplinary committee.
- 8) 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.
- 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, 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.
- 10) 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.
- 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.

C) Gender Eligibility

- 1) University 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 university club across all university competitions – therefore their university club for men's events must be the same as their university 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 at 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

- 1) British Dodgeball University Leagues will run from September 2019 to the end of June 2020.
- 2) For the 2019/20 season, at least the following British Dodgeball university leagues are proposed, all using British Dodgeball Five Ball Rules and in addition to a number of community and regional leagues
 - a. The English University Leagues (Men's and Women's)
 - a. The Men's University Superleague
 - b. The Women's North University League
 - c. The Men's North University League
 - d. The Women's Midlands University League
 - e. The Men's Midlands University League
 - f. The Women's South West University League
 - g. The Men's South West University League
 - h. The Women's South East University League
 - i. The Men's South East University League
- 3) British Dodgeball community leagues 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) University Championships 2020

- 1) The University Championships will be a ranking event and will take place following the conclusion of the league season.
- 2) The University Championships 2020 will be a 8-minute half match format event, enterable by any university team. Entry will initially be first-come first-served.

F) British Dodgeball University League & Championship Eligibility

- 1) These have been written so that they are in alignment with BUCS competition rules. For a student to be eligible to participate in British Dodgeball league competitions, they shall:
 - a. Be a registered student at an institution which holds a level of BUCS membership which entitles them to participate in BUCS competitions.
 - b. Establishing for whom an individual student may compete on an annual academic basis is determined via which playing entities are being utilised to function within British Dodgeball competitions and the individual's relationship to them.
 - c. No student may compete for more than 1 university team in a season (1 August – 31 July) & be aged 18 or over.
 - d. Students studying at BUCS member institutions in Scotland will be eligible to compete in all BUCS competitions from the age of 17.
 - e. Be registered on a course which is at or above one of the following minimum levels:
 - i. Level 4 on the Framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ).
 - ii. Level 7 on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).
 - iii. Level 3 on the Regulated Qualifications Framework for England and Northern Ireland (RQF).
 - iv. Level 3 on the Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales (CQFW).
 - v. Level 3 standalone QAA Access to HE DiplomaAND
 - f. Be undertaking a study programme equivalent to:
 - i. Where the course is credit rated under CATS (Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme), at least 60 credits per year.
 - ii. Where the course is run using guided learning hours, a minimum of 225 hours.
 - iii. Where the course is a postgraduate course which is not credit rated, no less than 50% of the full time student programme.
 - g. A year will be taken as 12 months from the start date of their course. If a course finishes in the middle of the academic year then they can finish the British Dodgeball season representing their university.
AND
 - h. Have paid the appropriate Athletic Union or equivalent subscription if this is applicable to their university club.
- 2) The following individuals are classified as eligible to represent their institution in BUCS competitions:
 - a. A sabbatical officer of an Athletic Union or equivalent who has paid the appropriate Athletic Union or equivalent subscription.
 - b. A student satisfactorily finishing their course of study after the start of December will be eligible until the end of the academic year provided their Athletic Union or equivalent subscription has been paid and their institution still classifies them as a registered student.
 - c. Satisfactorily finishing a course of study is not when a student graduates, but is deemed to be when their teaching, research and/or examinations are completed.





- d. Suspension of studies is not classed as satisfactorily finishing a course of study. Any student who has their studies suspended must wait until their studies recommence to compete again, so long as they still meet the eligibility requirements above.
 - e. A student from a university club embarking on a Sandwich Course and/or Study Abroad Course is eligible during this time provided all of the following:
 - i. They have paid the appropriate Athletic Union or equivalent subscription;
 - ii. The duration of the placement/course in industry and/or study abroad is 1 year or less.
 - iii. If the duration is more than 1 year, then the student will be deemed ineligible after the passing of the 12-month mark.
- 3) A visiting student doing a Study Abroad Course (e.g. Erasmus) at a university club is eligible during this time provided that they and their study programme meet the requirements of the above.
 - 4) Any player who is serving an Anti-Doping Rule Violation will not be eligible to participate in any British Dodgeball competitions.
 - 5) Disqualification of results in competitions subsequent to sample collection or commission of an Anti-Doping rule violation In addition to the automatic disqualification of the results in the competition which produced the positive Sample, all other competitive results of the player obtained from the date a positive sample was collected (whether in-competition or out-of-competition) shall, unless fairness requires otherwise, be disqualified, with all resulting consequences including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes.
 - 6) If more than 2 team members in a team sport are found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation during an event period, British Dodgeball shall impose the appropriate sanction which will be determined by the Rules and Disciplinary Committee.
 - 7) Allowing ineligible participants to represent an institution will result in appropriate disciplinary action. Athletic Union or equivalent staff should in cases of doubt refer the circumstances to the Head of Rules and Disciplinary.

G) British Dodgeball University Opens Events & Eligibility

- 1) University open events are competitions where there are no eligibility requirements outlined other than players needing to be students as outlined in section B.
- 2) All British Dodgeball university opens will be played to British Dodgeball Five Ball Rules.
- 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.
- 5) University players are permitted to compete in both university and community events, and can be registered to a community club and a university club.
- 6) 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.



H) Clothing

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

I) 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.

J) 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.
- 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) 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.
- 5) Transferring between teams at the same club is permitted during the course of a league.
 - 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.
- 6) Teams cannot name 'guest players' from other clubs as members of their team at a league or championships 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) 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.

K) 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) 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 university 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.

L) 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.





M) 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.

