

# Dorset County Badminton Association

## Information about Competitive Badminton Opportunities for Juniors in Dorset.

This document is aimed at all juniors in Dorset, making them aware of the opportunities for competitive badminton, what information is available and where it can be found.

The most established ways for players to compete are individually in tournaments<sup>1</sup>, team events playing for a county<sup>2</sup>, club<sup>3</sup> or school<sup>4</sup>. This document includes information on these opportunities and any associated requirements and conditions.

Dorset Badminton hold Junior Trials every year in June and from those who attend we invite over 130 players to our Sunday morning training sessions. For those who perhaps are beginners then we have Saturday Morning clubs for players to attend. Check with our Junior Secretary, Julie Bliss 01202.842618

There is more information available on the badminton England website - most of what you require can be found under the 'Competition' tab here [www.badmintonengland.co.uk/competition](http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/competition).

## 1. Tournaments

There are a number of junior tournament circuits covering all standards of play from inexperienced grass roots players right through to the best national standard players. The following table shows the various levels of tournament and who they are aimed at. All tournaments include singles and level doubles events, some also include mixed doubles.

Circuit	Age Groups	Who can enter / tournament conditions
Nationals	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Players who are eligible to represent England and have qualified through the Gold, Silver and Bronze circuit tournaments for the relevant age group.
Gold	U13, U15, U17, U19	More than 150 BE circuit tournaments available, rated Gold, Silver and Bronze: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gold – For the most talented players in the country who train hard to compete.</li><li>• Silver – More experienced players testing their competitive level.</li><li>• Bronze – Introductory tournaments for any player interested to gain more competitive experience.</li></ul>
Silver	U15, U16, U17, U18, U19	
Bronze	U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U18, U19	
		Players are awarded grading and ranking points for playing these tournaments to help guide players to the right level for them. Please note that 'Grade' restrictions apply to each level of event and will be indicated on the entry regulations.
		There are a number of Junior Tournaments in Dorset so check out the web site <a href="http://www.dorsetbadminton.co.uk">www.dorsetbadminton.co.uk</a>

Membership is required to enter Bronze, Silver, Gold and Nationals tournaments. This can be directly as an individual member or through your club if they are affiliated. Visit [www.badmintonengland.co.uk/membership](http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/membership).

### 1.1 Age Groups 2016-17

Born in	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
---------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

Age Group	U19	U18	U17	U16	U15	U14	U13	U12	U11
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

## 1.2 Find a Tournament - Nationals, Gold, Silver, Bronze [www.badmintonengland.co.uk/compete](http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/compete)

You can search through more than 250 tournaments to find the right one for you.

- Search by circuit: 'Bronze' / 'Silver' / 'Gold'
- Search by age group: 'Masters' / 'Senior' / 'U19' / 'U18' / 'U17' / 'U16'...'U11'

Search by combination of above as well as by date and location to find the right tournament for you. Scroll down to the tournament(s) you are interested, click to open and you will see a page which will give you the details of the tournament including the events being played and entry fees, regulations and an online entry link if it still open.

All members are set up with an online entry account – you can find out your username and password using your email address if required. If your email address is not recognised then contact us with your membership number and/or details (name, address, date of birth) at [competition@badmintonengland.co.uk](mailto:competition@badmintonengland.co.uk).

By following the links you can see all the details of who has entered, after the closing date who has been accepted, and then just before the event the draw will be shown. After and possibly during the event all the results will be published.

## 1.3. Badminton Dorset [www.dorsetbadminton.co.uk](http://www.dorsetbadminton.co.uk)

The **Tournaments** page of the Dorset Badminton website shows all tournaments being run in Dorset during the current season. If you click on the tournament you are interested in you will find downloadable entry forms or links to online entry. Please take careful note of the closing dates, as many tournaments now charge an additional fee for late entries. Please also ensure the appropriate fees are paid at the time of entry.

## 2. County Team Events

### 2.1. Shires League [www.shiresbadminton.co.uk](http://www.shiresbadminton.co.uk)

Shires league is an inter-county team competition involving around 40 counties and 130 teams in a league through the season. Dorset enters representative teams at **Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18** age groups. Matches are played in regional groups throughout the season, with Play-offs and National Finals at the end of season. The website outlines all the details of fixtures, results, venues and county contacts.

Dorset are always keen to find new players for Shires League teams, if you would like to find out more contact our **Junior Secretary, Julie Bliss. 01202.842618. email [juliebliss@btinternet.com](mailto:juliebliss@btinternet.com)**

### 2.2.South West Regional League

Dorset also enter the South West Inter County League at **Under 12, 14, 16 and 18**. These matches are sometimes combined with Shires League matches, but a South West match comprises six boys and 6 girls so offers more games and more players than a Shires League match where only 4 boys and 4 girls are needed.

### 2.3. U18 Inter County Championships [www.badmintonengland.co.uk/ict](http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/ict)

The pinnacle team event for county junior badminton: 4 Days, 30 Courts, 35 Teams and over 350 Players...ICT is the highlight of the year, based in the Easter holidays teams descend on Nottingham for 4 days of competition,

beating drums and air horns. **Contact Tom Ashford our Under 18 Team Manager on 07870345073 for more information. Email [tomashford92@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tomashford92@hotmail.co.uk)**

#### **2.4. Senior County Championships [www.badmintonengland.co.uk/scc](http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/scc)**

The Senior County Championships is the flagship county tournament with over 120 teams representing their county. It is played over three weekends in the season, with all teams in each division coming together in a central venue for a big weekend of badminton. If you are good enough, you are old enough.

**Dorset enters 3 teams in the BE Senior County Championships. Contact our Squad Manager, Tom Dudley 07867498743 for more information. Email [tomcoachingdorset@gmail.com](mailto:tomcoachingdorset@gmail.com)**

**We also run Masters Inter County matches and ages run from Over 40 to Over 70 so anyone interested in competing at that level should contact Brain Randall on 01202.873745 email [brandalluk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brandalluk@yahoo.co.uk)**

A list of all junior and senior county teams for Dorset can be found on the **County Teams** page of the Dorset Badminton website, together with results and match reports during the season.

### **3. Club Team Events**

#### **3.1. Find a club <http://clubfinder.badmintonengland.co.uk/bec/>**

There are over 1,800 badminton clubs across England, search for a local club and get in touch to find out more about their club nights, social sessions or even local league teams.

#### **3.2. National Junior League [www.badmintonengland.co.uk/njl](http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/njl)**

Launched in September 2015, the National Junior League (NJL) attracted 16 leagues and over 1,500 players in its first season. The NJL aims to provide recreational players with an introduction to competition as the first step to moving into higher level competitions such as county and circuit tournaments.

The NJL has a national final, providing leagues with the opportunity to visit the National Badminton Centre in an attempt to be crowned National Junior League Champions. The league is open to recreational players aged between 10 and 16 years of age. **The Dorset league is part of the National Junior League.**

#### **3.3 County Junior League**

**This section gives information about the Dorset County League which provides inter-club competition for junior/senior teams. Complete if not part of National Junior League or there is another county league competition available.**

### **4. National Schools Championships**

The National Schools Championships is one of the largest secondary school competitions in England attracting over 8000 teams and 40,000 players. Free for every secondary, middle and independent school in England to enter, the Championships are made up of four rounds of competitive badminton team match-play culminating in a National Final. With 1 in every 3 secondary and middle schools represented on court, has your school entered?

Find out more [www.badmintonengland.co.uk/nsc](http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/nsc) for players, schools, young officials, and organisers.