

### **Rules of Badminton: Single Leagues (2 players match):**

#### **Serving and receiving courts**

- 1) You shall serve from, and receive in, the right service court when you or your opponent has scored an even number of points in that game.
- 2) You shall serve from, and receive in, the left service court when you or your opponent has scored an odd number of points in that game.
- 3) You and your opponent will hit the shuttle alternately until a 'fault' is made or the shuttle ceases to be in play.

#### **Scoring and serving**

- 1) You score a point and serve again from the alternate service court when your opponent makes a 'fault' or the shuttle (aka birdie) ceases to be in play because it touches the surface of your opponent's side of court.
- 2) No points will be scored when you make a 'fault' or the shuttle ceases to be in play because it touches the surface of your side of court. The serving right will then be transferred to your opponent.

### **Rules of Badminton - Doubles (4 players match):**

- 1) At the start of the game, and each time a side gains the right to serve, the service shall be delivered from the right service court. Only your opponent standing diagonally opposite of you shall return the service.
- 2) Should your opponent's partner touched or hit the shuttle, it shall be a 'fault' and your side scores a point.

#### **Order of play and position on court**

- 1) After the service is returned, either you or your partner may hit the shuttle from any position on your side of the net. Then either player from the opposing side may do the same, and so on, until the shuttle ceases to be in play.

#### **Scoring and serving**

- 1) In badminton, the serve must be hit in an upwards direction, with an underarm hitting action. You are not allowed to play a tennis style serve. The main rule here is that when you hit the shuttle, it must be below your waist. To be exact, the rules define this to be a height level with the lowest part of your ribcage. In other words, you can serve from a bit higher than the top of your shorts, but not much. For doubles, the serve cannot go past the closer line at the far end of the court.

- 2) If you are serving or receiving first at the start of any game, you shall serve or receive in the right service court when your side or your opponent's side scored an even number of points.

- 3) You shall serve from or receive in the left service court when your side or your opponent's side has scored an odd number of points.

The reverse pattern shall apply to your partner.

- 4) In any game, the right to serve passes consecutively from the initial server to the initial receiver, then to that initial's receiver's partner, then to the opponent who is due to serve from the right service court, then to that player's partner, and so on.

- 5) Must win by two; games are best of 3 (play up to 15 points)

NOTE: You shall not serve out of turn, receive out of turn, or receive two consecutive services in the same game, except as provided in service court errors and 'lets'.

**\*\*See diagram below for more info**

#### **Faults**

The rules of badminton consider the following as faults:

- 1) If the shuttle lands outside the boundaries of the court, passes through or under the net, fail to pass the net, touches the ceiling or side walls, touches the person or dress of a player or touches any other object or person.
- 2) If the initial point of contact with the shuttle is not on the striker's side of the net. (The striker may, however, follow the shuttle over the net with the racket in the course of a stroke.)
- 3) If a player touches the net or its supports with racket, person or dress, invades an opponent's court over the net with racket or person except as permitted.

#### **References**

<http://www.badminton-information.com/rules-of-badminton.html>

<http://www.bwfbadminton.org/page.aspx?id=14914>

In a doubles match between A & B against C & D. A & B won the toss and decided to serve. A to serve to C. A shall be the initial server while C shall be the initial receiver.

Course of action / Explanation	Score	Service from Service Court	Server & Receiver	Winner of the rally					
	Love All	Right Service Court. Being the score of the serving side is even.	A serves to C A and C are the initial server and receiver.	A & B	<table border="1"> <tr><td>C</td><td>D</td></tr> <tr><td>B</td><td>A</td></tr> </table>	C	D	B	A
C	D								
B	A								
A & B win a point. A & B will change service courts. A serves again from Left service court. C & D will stay in the same service courts.	1-0	Left Service Court. Being the score of the serving side is odd	A serves to D	C & D	<table border="1"> <tr><td>C</td><td>D</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>B</td></tr> </table>	C	D	A	B
C	D								
A	B								
C & D win a point and also right to serve. Nobody will change their respective service courts.	1-1	Left Service Court. Being the score of the serving side is odd.	D serves to A.	A & B	<table border="1"> <tr><td>C</td><td>D</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>B</td></tr> </table>	C	D	A	B
C	D								
A	B								
A & B win a point and also right to serve. Nobody will change their respective service courts.	2-1	Right Service Court. Being the score of the serving side is even.	B serves to C	C & D	<table border="1"> <tr><td>C</td><td>D</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>B</td></tr> </table>	C	D	A	B
C	D								
A	B								
C & D win a point and also right to serve. Nobody will change their respective service courts.	2-2	Right Service Court. Being the score of the serving side is even.	C serves to B	C & D	<table border="1"> <tr><td>C</td><td>D</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>B</td></tr> </table>	C	D	A	B
C	D								
A	B								
C & D win a point. C & D will change service courts. C serves from Left service court. A & B will stay in the same service courts.	3-2	Left Service Court. Being the score of the serving side is odd.	C serves to A	A & B	<table border="1"> <tr><td>D</td><td>C</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>B</td></tr> </table>	D	C	A	B
D	C								
A	B								
A & B win a point and also right to serve. Nobody will change their respective service courts.	3-3	Left Service Court. Being the score of the serving side is odd.	A serves to C	A & B	<table border="1"> <tr><td>D</td><td>C</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>B</td></tr> </table>	D	C	A	B
D	C								
A	B								
A & B win a point. A & B will change service courts. A serves again from Right service court. C & D will stay in the same service courts.	4-3	Right Service Court. Being the score of the serving side is even.	A serves to D	C & D	<table border="1"> <tr><td>D</td><td>C</td></tr> <tr><td>B</td><td>A</td></tr> </table>	D	C	B	A
D	C								
B	A								

Note that this means:

- The order of server depends on the score odd or even same as in singles.
- The service courts are changed by the servicing side only when a point is scored. In all other cases, the players continue to stay in their respective service court from where they played previous rally. This shall guarantee alternate server.