

Captain's Reminders

Every team **MUST** have an on-court captain. There are a number of tasks for the captain on the night of a match and they must also work with the opposing team's captain in the event that an issue arises, to find a solution. Solving problems such as those below are not the responsibility of the Umpires! Whilst these notes are intended to provide a quick guide to the main issues that might arise at a match they are **not a substitute to reading the League Rules which ALL captains should do before the season starts.**

Tasks – every match

- Make sure you know if you are home or away, get your team on court promptly and ready to play
- Make yourself known to the two umpires
- If your team has young players ensure the Safeguarding Lead makes themselves known to the two umpires
- Ensure plans are in place to pay your umpire, thank the umpires of your match

Issues that might arise

If your opposing team are **late arriving** it is up to the two captains to agree whether the team on court want to take the points for the match or are willing to play the match as competitive just with reduced time – obviously this will depend how late the opposing team are. Teams only need 5 players to start a match. For example if a team has 4 players and 2 who are in the car park at match start time then the captains may agree to a 5 minute delay.

If a team is **missing their scorer** it is up to the Captain's to agree whether that team needs to drop a player to score or if they are happy for the game to go ahead with one scorer, umpires should not be asked to score. If the match goes ahead with one scorer there will be no option for the team without a scorer to appeal the score at the end.

If one of **your players is injured** Captain's should check with the player that they can continue. This is particularly important if the impact has been in the head area. In these circumstances Umpires may stop the match to check that the player is okay to continue and will ask the Captain to verify the conversation. Responsibility for ensuring the welfare of players rests with the team's official present at the match – captain, coach, safeguarder.

Captain's may need to take the lead, ensuring injured players are removed from the court safely but as soon as is possible and any required first aid is administered. If it isn't possible to remove the player then the two Captains' should get together and agree a way forward. Umpires can be consulted too. There is no specific rule on what should happen but try to complete the game if possible. Should the game be abandoned due to injury, the time of the match and current score should be reported on the team sheet. If possible abandoned games will be rearranged but note that this **may not be possible in all instances.**

If an **issue arises with the facility** on the night, the two Captain's should get together to agree a way forward. Umpires can be consulted for their opinion too but ultimately it is the Captain's who (in consultation with their team) should agree on a solution. Matches abandoned on the night for a reason connected with the facility should be recorded as above with the time and current score noted on the team sheet. As above abandoned matches will be rearranged but note that this **may not be possible in all instances.** If the teams involved wish to submit further information regarding the abandonment this should be done via the Issue Form on the website.

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