

Illustrative Operational Process for Formation of Divisions in British League

This process is supplementary to the British League Regulations (comprising BL-LG, BL-LJ, BL-SG, BL-LV & BL-LW), and exists for the purposes of guidance and transparency. British League utilises the [Tournament Software online fixtures/ results platform](#)



Junior British League (JBL)	Senior British League (SBL)	Veterans British League (VBL)	Women's British League (WBL)
<p>Structure <u>Boy's</u>: Linear <u>Girl's</u>: Linear</p> <p>Fixtures take place over 2 national weekend events</p> <p>Standard Divisions The standard divisional size will be 6 teams, playing 10 fixtures. Divisions of 8, playing 10 fixtures, may be created at the discretion of the BL Committee, based on entry numbers.</p> <p>Population of League Divisions and the draw matrix will be populated contiguously based on the aggregated Junior rating of the highest-rated 3 players (see BL-LJ 2.1)</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 6 teams <u>Weekend #1 Fixtures (Matches 1-5)</u> Drawn using matrix (see Appendix A).</p> <p>Weekend #2 is also provisionally drawn at this stage, with H/A reversed from Weekend #1 fixtures.</p> <p><u>Weekend #2 Fixtures (Matches 6-10)</u> Order of provisionally drawn fixtures to be revised using matrix, based on league positions following Weekend #1.</p>	<p>Structure Pyramid - Premier > Championship > Tier A (2 divisions) > Tier B (4 divisions) > Tier C (c.4-8 divisions)</p> <p>The Premier division shall take place on a Home and Away basis. All other divisions shall take place over a number of divisional weekend events</p> <p>Standard Divisions The Premier division shall typically be 8 teams, with a 1st phase playing round-robin, followed by a 2nd phase split top and bottom mini-leagues. The Championship shall be 10 teams playing 18 fixtures over 4.5 weekends. The standard divisional size for Tiers A-C will be 8 teams, playing 14 fixtures over 3.5 weekends.</p> <p>A Premier division of 6 or 7 teams, and divisions of 6 teams in Tier C, may be created at the discretion of the BL Committee, based on entry numbers.</p> <p>Population of League Promotion/ relegation shall be applied as per the SBL regulations, noting that promotion to the Premier division – and consequently the respective relegation from the Premier division - shall not necessarily be enforced.</p> <p>The SBL Committee will allocate places to teams in Divisions A-C at its discretion on an overall best-fit geographical basis, dependent on host venues. Specific requests cannot be accommodated.</p>	<p>Structure <u>Men's</u>: Parallel twin linear, with single Premier <u>Women's</u>: Linear</p> <p>Fixtures take place over 2 national weekend events</p> <p>Standard Divisions The standard divisional size will be 6 teams, playing 10 fixtures. Divisions of 8, playing 10 fixtures, may be created at the discretion of the BL Committee, based on entry numbers.</p> <p>Population of League Promotion/ relegation shall be applied as per the VBL regulations. In the men's structure, this will be applied linearly with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 5th and 6th in Premier to 1st in 1A or 1B on a random basis * 1st in 1A and 1B to 5th and 6th in Premier on a random basis * 3rd in 1A to 1B; 3rd in 1B to 1A * 6th in 1A to 2B; 6th in 1B to 2A * 2nd in 2A to 1B; 2nd in 2B to 1A * 4th in 2A to 2B; 4th in 2B to 2A * 6th in 2A to 3B; 6th in 2B to 3A * 2nd in 3A to 2B; 2nd in 3B to 2A * 4th in 3A to 3B; 4th in 3B to 3A * 6th in 3A to 4B; 6th in 3B to 4A * 2nd in 4A to 3B; 2nd in 4B to 3A 	<p>Structure Linear</p> <p>Fixtures take place over 2 national weekend events</p> <p>Standard Divisions The standard divisional size will be 6 teams, playing 10 fixtures. Divisions of 8, playing 10 fixtures, may be created at the discretion of the BL Committee, based on entry numbers.</p> <p>Population of League Promotion/ relegation shall be applied as per the WBL regulations.</p> <p>Teams relegated from Divisions above shall occupy the highest position(s) in the Divisional draw matrix. Teams promoted from Divisions below shall occupy the lowest position(s), excepting those teams finishing in a relegation position who retained their positions due to withdrawals (see <i>Withdrawals</i>). Teams neither promoted or relegated shall be ordered as per their finishing positions in the previous season.</p> <p>Withdrawals from previous season Notwithstanding the above, vacancies created by withdrawals from previous</p>

<p>This process shall be undertaken and updated on the fixtures website within 4 weeks of Weekend #1.</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 8 teams <u>Weekend #1 Fixtures (1-5)</u> Drawn using matrix (see Appendix B1). Matches 6 & 7 are also drawn at this stage.</p> <p><u>Weekend #2 Fixtures (6-10)</u> Match 6 & 7 drawn as above. Matches 8-10 drawn following Match 7 (see Appendix B1), with H/A reversed as required.</p>	<p>Teams relegated from Divisions above shall occupy the highest position(s) in the Divisional draw matrix. Teams promoted from Divisions below shall occupy the lowest position(s). Teams neither promoted or relegated shall be ordered as per their finishing positions in the previous season.</p> <p>Vacant positions and Withdrawals from previous season Notwithstanding the above, vacancies created by unequal numbers of promoted and relegated teams, and withdrawals from previous seasons, will typically be filled on a merit basis by additional teams promoted on a points/ game ratio. The Committee reserves the right to promote new or existing teams into vacated positions if they would otherwise be playing at a significantly lower level than their demonstrable strength.</p> <p>Fixtures - Premier Division The SBL Committee shall devise an appropriate structure and fixture schedule, based on the number of teams and scheduled fixture dates. Fixtures in the 1st phase will be randomised; fixtures in the 2nd phase will adhere to the principles shown in Appendix B2</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 8 teams A full season of H and A fixtures will be drawn using matrix (Appendix B1)</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 10 teams A full season of H and A fixtures will be drawn using matrix (Appendix C)</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 6 teams A full season of H and A fixtures will be drawn using matrix (Appendix A)</p>	<p>* 4th in 4A to 4B; 4th in 4B to 4A * where two or more teams from the same club appear in any division, such steps will be taken to keep them separate insofar as possible</p> <p>Teams relegated from Divisions above shall occupy the highest position(s) in the Divisional draw matrix. Teams promoted from Divisions below shall occupy the lowest position(s). Teams neither promoted or relegated shall be ordered as per their finishing positions in the previous season.</p> <p>Withdrawals from previous season Notwithstanding the above, vacancies created by withdrawals from previous seasons will typically be filled on a merit basis by additional teams promoted on a points/ game ratio. The Committee reserves the right to promote new or existing teams into a vacated position if they would otherwise be playing at a significantly lower level than their demonstrable strength.</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 6 teams <i>See JBL.</i> Additionally, where there are two teams from the same club in the same division they shall play each other in the first round of each weekend</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 8 teams <i>See JBL.</i> Additionally, where there are two teams from the same club in the same division they shall play each other in the first applicable round of each weekend</p> <p>Waiting List/ New Entries A Waiting List of teams registering an interest in entering WBL will be maintained. Teams will be added to the waiting list in the order in which interest is registered.</p> <p>Teams at the top of the waiting list will be invited to enter the lowest tier of the League based on availability. If a team on the Waiting List declines an invitation, they will be removed from the Waiting List and can re-register if they wish.</p>	<p>seasons will typically be filled in the first instance by suspending relegation of teams from that division, and thereafter on a merit basis by additional teams promoted on a points/ game ratio. The Committee reserves the right to promote new or existing teams into vacated positions if they would otherwise be playing at a significantly lower level than their demonstrable strength.</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 6 teams <i>See JBL.</i> Additionally, where there are two teams from the same club in the same division they shall play each other in the first round of each weekend</p> <p>Fixtures - divisions of 8 teams <i>See JBL.</i> Additionally, where there are two teams from the same club in the same division they shall play each other in the first applicable round of each weekend</p> <p>Waiting List/ New Entries A Waiting List of teams registering an interest in entering WBL will be maintained. Teams will be added to the waiting list in the order in which interest is registered.</p> <p>Teams at the top of the waiting list will be invited to enter the lowest tier of the League based on availability. If a team on the Waiting List declines an invitation, they will be removed from the Waiting List and can re-register if they wish.</p>
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Please note that these processes do not constitute regulations and are offered as an illustration only

Dated: 30/07/20

Appendix A: Draw Matrix for 6-team Divisions

<u>Team</u>	<u>Match 1/6</u>	<u>Match 2/7</u>	<u>Match 3/8</u>	<u>Match 4/9</u>	<u>Match 5/10</u>
1 plays	6(H)	5(A)	4(H)	3(A)	2(H)
2 plays	5(H)	4(A)	3(H)	6(H)	1(A)
3 plays	4(H)	6(A)	2(A)	1(H)	5(A)
4 plays	3(A)	2(H)	1(A)	5(H)	6(A)
5 plays	2(A)	1(H)	6(A)	4(A)	3(H)
6 plays	1(A)	3(H)	5(H)	2(A)	4(H)

Matches 6-10 have H/A reversed

Appendix B1: Draw Matrix for 8-team Division

For SBL only: matches 8-14 have H/A reversed

For JBL/ VBL/ WBL only: teams play each other once, with matches 1-5 taking place on the first weekend and the remaining two (match 6 and 7) on the second weekend, after which, according to the league tables, each division is divided into top 4 and bottom 4, and in each mini-division teams will play each other once (matches 8-10), thus completing 5 matches for the second weekend. All scores will be carried forward from the main division to the mini divisions.

Team	Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7
1 plays	8(H)	7(A)	6(H)	5(A)	4(H)	3(A)	2(H)
2 plays	7(H)	6(A)	5(H)	4(A)	3(H)	8(H)	1(A)
3 plays	6(H)	5(A)	4(H)	8(H)	2(A)	1(H)	7(A)
4 plays	5(H)	8(A)	3(A)	2(H)	1(A)	7(H)	6(A)
5 plays	4(A)	3(H)	2(A)	1(H)	7(A)	6(H)	8(A)
6 plays	3(A)	2(H)	1(A)	7(H)	8(A)	5(A)	4(H)
7 plays	2(A)	1(H)	8(A)	6(A)	5(H)	4(A)	3(H)
8 plays	1(A)	4(H)	7(H)	3(A)	6(H)	2(A)	5(H)

Appendix B2: Draw Matrix for Top/ Bottom split in 8-team Division (JBL/ VBL/ WBL only)

Team	Match 8	Match 9	Match 10
1 plays	3	4	2
2 plays	4	3	1
3 plays	1	2	4
4 plays	2	1	3

Home or Away will depend on previous fixtures (see Appendix B1)

Please note: where a game in round 8 would be a duplicate of round 6 or 7, a manual amendment will be used to prevent Teams playing each other twice on the same day, if mathematically possible whilst still keeping 1v2 as key principle and final game.

Appendix C: Draw Matrix for 10-team Division (SBL only)

Team	Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7	Match 8	Match 9
1 plays	10(H)	9(A)	8(H)	7(A)	6(H)	5(A)	4(H)	3(A)	2(H)
2 plays	9(H)	8(A)	7(H)	6(A)	5(H)	4(A)	3(H)	10(H)	1(A)
3 plays	8(H)	7(A)	6(H)	5(A)	4(H)	10(H)	2(A)	1(H)	9(A)
4 plays	7(H)	6(A)	5(H)	10(H)	3(A)	2(H)	1(A)	9(H)	8(A)
5 plays	6(H)	10(A)	4(A)	3(H)	2(A)	1(H)	9(A)	8(H)	7(A)
6 plays	5(A)	4(H)	3(A)	2(H)	1(A)	9(H)	8(A)	7(H)	10(A)
7 plays	4(A)	3(H)	2(A)	1(H)	9(A)	8(H)	10(A)	6(A)	5(H)
8 plays	3(A)	2(H)	1(A)	9(H)	10(A)	7(A)	6(H)	5(A)	4(H)
9 plays	2(A)	1(H)	10(A)	8(A)	7(H)	6(A)	5(H)	4(A)	3(H)
10 plays	1(A)	5(H)	9(H)	4(A)	8(H)	3(A)	7(H)	2(A)	6(H)

Matches 10-18 have H/A reversed