

County Challenge - January 13/14th 2024

Hi all,

VERY IMPORTANT EMAIL

Sorry for the delay in publishing the match schedules. **You will find attachments below and it is very important you send this email on to all your Captains or Team Managers. Please check that they actually receive it.**

If there any issues or problems then please let me know immediately.

This year has been very difficult with team changes, but asking you to complete the Nomination forms by the 13th November has worked to around 90%. Hopefully the plan will continue to work and there can be no cancellations from now onwards please. If you have a last minute player sickness you must still turn up a player short, unless you have a replacement ready to go.

So thank you all for your work.

We have had difficulties at Worcester, where having reserved the venue for the whole weekend back in January 2023 they gazumped us by insisting on time on Sunday for a National Basketball League match. Obviously with TV and spectators they wanted us out, so please take care when looking at the match schedules for Worcester. Basically we have to play a bit later on Saturday but all matches will finish earlier on Sunday.

So matches will take place at the Arena on Saturday as normal for everybody, BUT then our event is split into three venues.

On Sunday at Worcester

The **Over 40 and 50 Premier Divisions** will finish their matches at the Arena, University of Worcester, Severn Campus, WR2 5JN Tel no: 01905 544444 (finishing by 12 noon).

The **Over 50 div 1A and Over 60 div 1A** go to Perdiswell Leisure Centre, Bilford Rd, Worcester WR3 8DX Tel no 01905 457289 (finishing around 3pm).

The **Over 70's** go to St Johns Sports Centre, 13 Malvern Rd, Worcester WR2 3LE Tel no 01905 42990 (finishing by 4pm).

There are no issues at the other four venues and any new information for them will be imparted immediately when known.

All the hotels are full to my knowledge which is great. All Dinner/Discos are scheduled from 7.30pm for an 8pm start. A record number of 196 are booked in at the Norton Park Hotel, Sutton Scotney (playing at Eastleigh) and do not forget to use their Leisure, Fitness suites and Indoor pool.

At Wolverhampton and Bournemouth do not forget to book your car in at reception on arrival.

This event relies heavily on Team Captains being alert for their next matches, to ensure there are no empty courts, so please do your best to help the tight schedules along.

Wishing you and all your helpers a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and a huge thank you from Margaret and me for all your help. Actually a huge thank you to Margaret Houlton for dealing with over 1000 nominations, and to Beryl Ashford (I.O.W) for the mammoth task of scheduling over 450 matches. We hope you will have a great weekend.

Best Wishes
Roy Carder