

NOTICE!

ENCLOSED ARE RULE CHANGES MADE
BY THE INTERNATIONAL BADMINTON
FEDERATION WHICH AFFECT THE
RULES HEREIN.

RULE 4 HAS BEEN AUGMENTED, THE
FORMER RULE 22 IS NOW RULE 21,
AND FORMER RULES 21 & 23 HAVE
BEEN COMBINED INTO THE NEW RULE
22.

United States Badminton Association
March 1, 1986

THE SHUTTLE

Principles

The shuttle may be made from natural, synthetic or other manufactured product or any of those combinations.

The feel on the racket and the flight characteristics, generally, should be similar to those produced by the natural feathered shuttle, which has a cork base covered by a thin layer of leather.

Having regard to the principles:

4. (a) General Design

- (i) The shuttle shall have 14 to 16 feathers fixed in the base.
- (ii) The feathers can have a variable length from 64mm. to 70mm. ($2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches), but in each shuttle they shall be the same length when measured from the tip to the top of the base.
- (iii) The tips of the feathers shall form a circle with a diameter within the range of 58mm. to 68mm. ($2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches).
- (iv) The feathers shall be fastened firmly with thread or other suitable material.
- (v) The base shall be
—25mm. to 28mm. (1 inch to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches) in diameter
—rounded on the bottom.

(b) Weight

The shuttle shall weigh from 4.74 to 5.50 grammes (73 to 85 grains).

(c) Non-Feathered Shuttles

- (i) The skirt, or simulation of feathers in synthetic or other manufactured materials, replaces natural feathers.
- (ii) The base is described in paragraph 4 (a) (v).
- (iii) Measurements shall be the same as in paragraph 4 (a) (i)-(iv). However, because of the difference in the specific gravity and behaviour of synthetic and manufactured materials in comparison with feathers, a variation of up to ten per cent in the stated measurements is acceptable.

(d) Pace and Flight

A shuttle shall be deemed to be of correct pace when it is hit by a player with a full underhand stroke from a spot immediately above one back boundary line in a direction parallel to the sidelines and at an upward angle, to fall not less than 530mm. (1 foot 9 inches) and not more than 930mm. (3 feet 3 inches) short of the other back boundary line.

(e) Modifications

Subject to there being no variation in the general design, pace and flight of the shuttle, modifications in the above specifications may be made, with the approval of the national organization concerned:

- (i) in places where atmospheric conditions due either to altitude or climate make the standard shuttle unsuitable;
or
- (ii) if specific circumstances exist which make it otherwise necessary in the interests of the game.

THE RACKET

4. (f) (i) The hitting surface of the racket shall be flat and consist of a pattern of crossed strings connected to a frame and alternatively interlaced or bonded where they cross—and the stringing pattern shall be generally uniform and, in particular, not less dense in the centre than in any other area.
- (ii) The frame of the racket, including the handle, shall not exceed 680mm. in overall length and 230mm. in overall width.

- (iii) The overall length of the head shall not exceed 290mm.
- (iv) The strung surface shall not exceed 280mm. in overall length and 220mm. in overall width.
- (v) The frame, including the handle, and the strings—shall be free of attached objects and protrusions, other than those utilized solely and specifically to limit or prevent wear and tear, or vibration, or to distribute weight, or to secure the handle by cord to the player's hand, and which are reasonable in size and placement for such purposes; and—shall be free of any device which makes it possible for a player to change materially the shape of the racket.

GENERAL

15. The server may not serve till his opponent is ready, but the opponent shall be deemed to be ready if a return of the service be attempted.
16. The server and the player served to must stand within the limits of their respective service courts (as bounded by the short and long service, the centre, and side lines), and some part of both feet of these players must remain in contact with the surface of the court in a stationary position until the service is delivered. A foot on or touching a line in the case of either the server or the receiver shall be held to be outside his service court (vide Law 14 (c)). The respective partners may take up any position, provided they do not unsight or otherwise obstruct an opponent.
17. (a) If, in the course of service or rally, the shuttle touches and passes over the net, the stroke is not invalidated thereby. It is a good return if the shuttle having passed outside either post drops on or within the boundary lines of the opposite court. A "Let" may be given by the umpire for any unforeseen or accidental hindrance.
 - (b) If, in service, or during a rally, a shuttle, *after passing over the net*, is caught in or on the net, it is a "Let."
 - (c) If the receiver is faulted for moving before the service is delivered, or for not being within the correct service court, in accordance with Laws 14 (c) or 16, and at the same time the server is also faulted for a service infringement, it shall be a let.
 - (d) When a "Let" occurs, the play since the last service shall not count, and the player who served shall serve again, except when Law 12 is applicable.
18. If the server, in attempting to serve, misses the shuttle, it is not a fault; but if the shuttle be touched by the racket, a service is thereby delivered.
19. If, when in play, the shuttle strikes the net and remains suspended there, or strikes the net and falls towards the surface of the court on the striker's side of the net, or hits the surface outside the court and an opponent then touches the net or shuttle with his racket or person, there is no penalty, as the shuttle is not *then* in play.
20. If a player has a chance of striking the shuttle in a downward direction when quite near the net, his opponent must not put up his racket near the net on the chance of the shuttle rebounding from it. This is obstruction within the meaning of Law 14 (j).
A player may, however, hold up his racket to protect his face from being hit if he does not thereby balk his opponent.

(CONTINUED ON BACK)

***22. Continuous Play, Misconduct and Penalties**

- (a) Play shall be continuous from the first service until the match be concluded except that:
 - (i) in international competitive events, there shall be allowed an interval not exceeding five minutes between the second and third games of all matches;
 - (ii) in countries where conditions render it desirable, there shall be allowed, subject to the previously published approval of the national organization concerned, an interval not exceeding five minutes between the second and third games of a match, either singles or doubles or both;
 - (iii) when necessitated by circumstances not within the control of the players, the umpire may suspend play for such a period as he may consider necessary. If play be suspended, the existing score shall stand and play be resumed from that point.
- (b) Under no circumstances shall play be suspended to enable a player to recover his strength or wind, or to receive instruction or advice.
- (c) Except in an interval provided above, no player shall be permitted to receive advice during a match or, without the umpire's consent, to leave the court until the match be concluded.
- (d) The umpire shall be the sole judge of any suspension of play.
- (e) A player shall not:
 - (i) deliberately cause suspension of play, or
 - (ii) deliberately interfere with the speed of the shuttle, or
 - (iii) behave in an offensive manner, or
 - (iv) be guilty of misconduct not otherwise covered by the Laws of Badminton.
- (f) The umpire shall administer any breach of (e) by:
 - (i) issuing a warning to the offending side;
 - (ii) faulting the offending side, if previously warned;
 - (iii) in case of flagrant offence or persistent offences, faulting the offending side and reporting the offending side immediately to the Referee, who shall have the power to disqualify.
- (g) Where a Referee has not been appointed, the responsible tournament official shall have the power to disqualify.