

## **Braintree & District League – League Structure – 2009-10**

The purpose of the new two part structure is partly to contain the season within the months September to April, but also to give many players a chance of facing different opponents in the second part of the season. More competitive interest should also be maintained throughout the season by using the Part 2 results to determine the final team ranking list which will be used when deciding the league structure the following season, although this will of course depend on any new entries, drop-outs or rearrangement of teams.

The season will be in two parts.

### **Part 1**

Part 1 will consist of 27 teams divided into 3 divisions of 9 teams with each team playing each other twice to give 16 matches in an 18 week league period.

After those matches, the top team in Division 2 and the top team in Division 3 will be declared champions of their division. (The champions of Division 1 will not be decided until after the final round of matches which follow the split.)

### **Part 2**

The 27 teams will then be split to form 4 groups (1 of 6 teams and 3 of 7 teams) for Part 2 of the league programme where teams within each group will play each other once.

As well as determining the champions of Division 1, the matches will also be used to determine the final team ranking list. A Consolation Trophy event will be run to give the remaining Division 3 teams an end of season incentive.

The split will be made as follows:-

**Super League** (6 teams) will be the top 6 teams from the original Division 1 in Part 1 of the season.

**Playoff Group 1** (7 teams) will be the bottom 3 teams from the original Division 1 plus the top 4 teams from the original Division 2.

**Playoff Group 2** (7 teams) will be the remaining 5 teams from the original Division 2 plus the top 2 teams from the original Division 3.

**Consolation Trophy** (7 teams) will be the remaining 7 teams from the original Division 3.

### **Super League**

The teams in this league will have their points carried forward from their original Division 1 matches. The top team in this league will then be declared champions of Division 1. The teams will then take positions 1 to 6 in the team ranking list.

### **Playoff Group 1**

Teams will not have any points carried forward.

The results of these matches will determine the next 7 positions in the team ranking list.

### **Playoff Group 2**

Teams will not have any points carried forward.

The results of these matches will determine the next 7 positions in the team ranking list.

### **Consolation Trophy**

Teams will not have any points carried forward.

Teams in this competition are playing for the new Consolation Trophy which will be awarded to the winners.

The results of these matches will determine the remaining positions in the team ranking list.