

The Lord Percival Cup

The Lord Percival Cup was founded in 1992 by Dick Boenning, Bill McLaughlin, Joe Ashman and others at the Racquet Club of Philadelphia. It was meant to be an equivalent of the Whitney Cup for B, C and D players. "This year the club will host the new Lord Percival Cup, based on the Whitney Cup format, except that this event will be primarily for handicap 30-and-up players," reads the 1991 USCTA *Annual Report*. Since then, the tournament has risen and fallen in popularity. To infuse it with new energy, we suggest the following.

Format

- All players from each team must be present for the entirety of the match in case of injury.
- Each side will have three teams.
- Team A with both players with handicaps between 30-39, Team B with 40-49 and Team C 50+.
- Team A and Team B's matches will be played off half handicap. If a team's handicap is below the required handicap they must play at FULL HANDICAP.
- Team C's matches will be played off full handicap.
- If the Field is at 8 teams. There will be 2 Four team Round Robins with One team coming out of each Round Robin to play the Championship.
 - a) The matches will be 45 mins long or first to 8 games.
 - b) In a Round Robin format the scoring system will be Total Games Won, Total Games Lost, Then Head- To Head.
- If the Field is greater than 8 teams but no more than 11 teams. The Format will be a straight draw with a BACK DRAW included. * If a 12th team comes in then the First Match will start Thursday Evening.
 - a) The matches will be 45 mins long or first to 8 games.
 - b) The scoring system is TWO out of THREE matches won.

Championships. Two out of three sets; 3-all in the third; no-ad.

Substitutions

- If a person gets injured or doesn't show up that team can substitute within their squad. If someone gets injured or no shows in Pair 1, they have to grab from Pair 2 and play off a 39. If someone gets injured or no shows from Pair 2, they have to grab from Pair 3. If someone gets injured or no shows from Pair 3, then they must grab a player from Pair 2, using his/her full handicap.
- If the team has no substitutions to fill in then the match will go down as a default with the result going as it was. i.e. Team A player gets injured with the score at 3-3 match would go to Team B 8-3.

Timing

Start first matches Friday morning at 10am. Even though there are rules and regulations to this event, we do not want to lose sight of the fact that this is a weekend of comradery. Look to have a Percy-only social event on Saturday evening, formal (a dinner at the Philadelphia Club) or informal (beers at the Happy Rooster) that supports the tournament's separate identity from the Irish.

Future

Look to have one team from every active U.S. club: eight clubs. Additionally, invite UK and Aussie clubs (Manchester almost won the inaugural event in 1992).

Look to add a similar event for racquets, making the weekend into another Jimmy Dunn, signature type of RCOP event.