**Notes on Badminton**

* Games are played to 21 points, but winners must have at least a two point lead to win.
* Each team is allowed one hit to return the birdie over the net.
* Either player is allowed to hit the birdie, except on serves and when receiving a serve.
* A player continues to serve until their team commits a fault. When serving a server switches the side they serve from after each point that they score. This is the only time a player may switch sides of the court.
* Rally scoring- either team can score on all serves.
* Serves must be hit underhand and must land in the diagonal service court across the net.
* Serves may not land in the short service area.
* Only a serve missed entirely may be re-served. There is no “let” in badminton.
* Only the player in the diagonal service court may return the serve. After that, either player on each team can hit the birdie.
* A fault by one team results in a point for the other team.
* If a birdie flies outside of the net posts, it is out of bounds no matter where it lands.
* Lines are considered in bounds.
* The only time a birdie cannot land in the short service area is on the serve.
* A player may not touch the net or reach over the net while a birdie is in play.
* If the birdie touches the baskets or the ceiling then you may re-serve that point. The walls and bleachers are out of bounds.

Playing courtesies

* Announce score before each serve. Server should announce the score.
* Call faults when committed.
* If in doubt about a call, call in favor of opponent.
* Use rock, paper, scissors to determine first serve.
* Re-serve when you cannot agree on the call.
* Wait to retrieve birdie from another court until there is a break in play.

Double Strategies

* Front and back- the front player plays all net shots and front court from sideline to sideline. The back player takes all lobs and shots in the back half of the court from sideline to sideline.
* Side to side- players defend their assigned half of the court from net to baseline.

Faults

* Birdie lands on the court.
* Server serves to the wrong side of the court.
* Failure to hit the birdie over the net.
* Birdie lands out of bounds.
* Hitting the birdie in the short service court on a serve.
* Serve hits the net.
* Server serves from the wrong side of the court.
* Serve is made above the waist.
* One team hits the birdie more than one time to get it over the net.

Types of Hits

* Smash-attacking shot made with power and speed. Direct birdie downward with speed.
* Drive- a flat shot, kept low to net. Used to drive opponent side to side.
* Lob/Clear- defensive shot used to slow down game. Birdie must fly above opponents reach and fall near baseline