

Networking the SOA Laptops

Networking has always a few problems, often seeming more of a black art than a science.

The SOA laptops should all network together without any changes to the settings, but if other laptops are to be connected the following may be needed.

Networking is faster to start if laptops are **given fixed IP addresses** and these should be in the range 192.168.1.nnn. nnn should be chosen to be different from any other device connected to the network and should be between 10 and 254.

Firewalls can sometimes interfere with networking and switching the off temporarily can help or follow this advice from SU UK:

On your master laptop that has the database, open up port 1433 in Windows Firewall. If you are using McAfee or Norton and they are controlling the firewall, you will need to either disable these firewalls in favour of Windows firewall or open up a port in these products.

Two laptops can be connected by any network cable. It is no longer necessary to use a cross-over cable.

If more than two laptops are to be used a "switch" or "hub" is used. These can be daisy chained with, for example, a second switch at live results or at commentary.

If the laser printer is connected to the switch, it can be accessed from any of the laptops.