

## Team Tennis 2012 Key Changes & Information

After the Team Tennis 2011 season, extensive feedback was received from team captains, players, parents, counties and league organisers through online surveys, emails and face to face discussions. The feedback has been reviewed and the competition team wish to highlight some 'key changes and information' for Team Tennis 2012 which is important for all people involved

Please note these are not the competition rules

The 2012 rules will be available from 1 December 2011 at [www.LTA.org.uk/AEGON-Team-Tennis](http://www.LTA.org.uk/AEGON-Team-Tennis)

### All Age Groups / All Tiers

- **Representing One Place to Play (Junior/Adult)** – Players competing for one place to play in the 14&U - 18&U events can choose to represent a separate place to play in the Open (adult) age group. Players will only be able to play in 2 age groups (e.g. 16&U and Open)
- **Walkovers** – Team's conceding a walkover during the season will take no further part in the league because of the negative impact on all those involved. Matches can be played before the match date at the County Tier, at a different start time, or played with less than 4 players to avoid entire team walkovers and allow those available players the chance to play
- **Match Experience** – It is both team captains' responsibility to contact each other in good time about the match date and start time. Welcoming teams to your place to play and providing refreshments during and after the match is something the competition team greatly encourages, and will help create a unique and more enjoyable atmosphere
- **Commitment** – Understanding the commitment involved to Team Tennis is important because of all the people affected (players, parents, and clubs). Helpful tools for team captains will be available from the entry stage at [www.LTA.org.uk/AEGON-Team-Tennis](http://www.LTA.org.uk/AEGON-Team-Tennis)

### Mini Tennis 8&U-10&U

- **Mini Tennis Ratings** – Team Tennis 2012 has updated the rules regarding the playing order of players in matches for improved suitability. Players with Mini Tennis 1\* or 1 ratings will take precedence over Mini Tennis 2-4 ratings. However, Mini Tennis 2-4 ratings will be able to play in any order (captain's decision). Full details are in the rules
- **Suitability of Matches** – Team Captains / Places to Play have flexibility on how they manage their teams and can use boys and/or girls to make up Mini Tennis teams of a suitable standard. However, we recommend all places to consider entering extra teams in lower divisions if boys/girls at the club are not able to access suitable competition

### National/Regional Open (adult)

- **Player Nominations** – Only players with a British Tennis Rating of 4.1 or better or with an ATP/WTA singles ranking of 750 or better as of 5 March 2012 need to be nominated
- **Team Nominations** – Places to play with 1 team in the National/Regional Tier will continue to nominate 12 players based on the player nomination criteria above. For each additional team in the National/Regional Tier, a further 9 players rated 4.1 or better can be nominated
- **National Open Playoffs** – Changes will be made and communicated regarding the National Open Playoffs 2012 with more or less teams from certain regions earning playoff places. Information will be available from 1 December 2011 on the Team Tennis website
- **National/Regional Open Structure** – It will be possible for a place to play to have 2 teams in the National Tier should the second team earn promotion from the Regional tier