

National Tour Competition Pack - 2021

Effective from 1 April 2021



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INTRODUCTION

The National Tour is an annual calendar of Grade 2 events. The tournaments are designed to offer the best players in the country (at the 10U – 18U age groups) the opportunity to compete against each other and to improve their match play and mental skills. In addition to providing relevant competitive opportunities the tour offers attractive ranking points supporting players with earning their place for the Junior National Championships.

From 1 April 2020 there was a new-look National Calendar that has been developed in close partnership with the Performance Team to support the LTA Player Pathway and to encourage the best British players to compete domestically. This calendar will be delivered by external venues and organisers, with the support of the LTA Competitions Team.

The information in this competition pack relates to National Tour events taking place from 1st April 2021 onwards.

KEY CHANGES

From 1 April 2020 there were a number of key changes to the National Tour calendar:

- The introduction of an 11U age group to the National Tour calendar (further information on Competition Age Group changes is available here – www.lta.org.uk/competitionagegroupchanges)
- The National Tour annual calendar will endeavour to offer surface-specific competitions designed to support players and coaches with planning training and competition activity on specific surfaces at certain times of the year.
- National Tour leader boards will cease to exist
- There will be no 10U National Tour Finals in the summer

GENERAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

The National Tour events are organised by venues, adhering to guidelines set by the LTA.

The Tournament Organiser, Referee and venue of each tournament will do their best to ensure the tournament runs smoothly and to provide the best possible experience for parents, players and coaches.

FORMATS

Age groups	Draw size	Draw format	Ball	Scoring Format	Number of Days	Entry Fee
10U Singles	24	Round Robin qualification groups with winner and runner up progressing to compass main draw. Third-place players in each box to compete in ratings only compass draw	Green	LTA Fast Four	Two days – all players required to compete on both days	£30 per player
11U Singles	16	Compass draw	Yellow	Best of 2 tie-break sets & match tie-break.	Two days – all players required to compete on both days	£30 per player
12U-18U Singles	32	Elimination draw with optional consolation; players must sign-in by the stated deadline to participate in the consolation event.	Yellow	Best of 2 tie-break sets & match tie-break. The main draw singles final will be the best of 3 tie-break sets.	See event dates for each tournament	£30.00 per player
12U – 18U Doubles	Min. 3 pairs (for ranking purposes)	Elimination draw: players must sign-in by the stated deadline to participate	Yellow	Best of 2 tie-break sets & match tie-break: no-advantage deuce to be used in all matches	See event dates for each tournament	£10.00 per player

RESTRICTIONS

Subject to eligibility, players may enter a maximum of 2 consecutive singles events in one tournament.

At the Tournament's discretion a player may enter more than one doubles event and there is no disruption to the scheduling.

SINGLES - ACCEPTANCE & SEEDING CRITERIA

11U – 18U events

Acceptance is based on a player's LTA combined ranking as at the closing deadline. Where this is equal the players will be drawn by lot, ie. randomly.

Seeding will be based on a player's LTA combined ranking as at the date the singles' draw is made.

10U events

1. Acceptances will be based, as at the entry deadline, on the NEW Recent Form – which is **a player's best three tournament performances at that ball colour within the last 6 months**
2. Where this is equal the players will be drawn by lot, i.e. randomly

Seeding will be based on the above criteria as at the date the draw is made.

DOUBLES - ACCEPTANCE & SEEDING CRITERIA

Doubles acceptance will give priority to players in the following order:

1. 2 players in same age group singles main draw
2. 1 player in same age group singles main draw + 1 player in another age group singles main draw
3. 1 player in same age group singles main draw + 1 reserve or non-entered singles player
4. 2 reserve or non-entered singles players

Where an event is over-subscribed selections will be made based on the above order of priority and according to:

1. Combined domestic age group ranking (using the data available at the time the singles draws were made)*
2. Where pairings are tied the pair with the highest singles ranked player will take precedence*
3. By lot where pairs are still tied.

WILD CARDS

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to issue wild cards, in accordance with LTA Competition Regulations (3.20-3.22), in both singles and doubles events. The Tournament Committee or the LTA will not enter into any correspondence regarding wild card decisions which are made on an entirely discretionary basis and are not subject to appeal.

- 10U - 18U: Wildcards may be awarded up to a maximum of 1 place in 8.

Allocation of wild cards – 10U, 11U, 12U, and 14U events The LTA Performance Team will select wild cards, but if they do not use any/all wild card spaces these can be awarded at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

Allocation of wild cards – 16U and 18U events

These wild cards may be awarded at the discretion of the Tournament Committee and occasionally the LTA Performance Team.

Please refer to each tournament factsheet for more specific information on the allocation of wild cards.

ADVERSE WEATHER

If a National Tour competition is affected by adverse weather the Referee will endeavour to keep disruption to a minimum and will inform all players of any necessary changes to the tournament schedule.

Whilst some National Tour venues may have access to a small number of indoor courts there is no obligation for a National Tour competition to provide indoor court back up.

For more specific information on each tournament please refer to the relevant tournament factsheet.

Click [here](#) for National Tour tournament codes & dates