

2025 WINTER - COMPETITION PLANNING FAQs

WHAT ARE THE PLANNING DEADLINES FOR COMPETITIONS TAKING PLACE IN WINTER 2025?

Competition Type	Tournament Period	Organiser Action	Opens	Closes	Next Step
Grade 3 – Grade 5 Padel Competitions	Competitions taking place during the period from 1 September 2025 – 4 January 2026	Submit application via '2025 G3-G5 Padel Competitions September – December' application period on CMS Please refer to further information on Padel Competitions	19 May 2025	15 June 2025	Allocations confirmed to organisers w/c 14 July
One Day G4 and/or G5 competitions	Competitions taking place during the period from 1 September 2025 – 4 January 2026	Complete preferences via the 'Tournament Availability' tab in the CMS* (<i>one availability form per venue</i>) Please check the 2025 Winter One Day competition calendar and refer to further information on One Day Competitions	19 May 2025	15 June 2025	Allocations confirmed to organisers w/c 7 July
Weeklong G3 and/or G4 competitions	Competitions taking place during the period from 1 September 2025 – 4 January 2026	Submit application via 'Grade 3 & 4 Holiday Competitions September 2025 - January 2026' application period on CMS Please refer to further information on Weeklong G3/G4 competitions .	19 May 2025	15 June 2025	Allocations confirmed to organisers by 18 July

HOW DO I APPLY TO RUN COMPETITIONS?

GRADE 4 & GRADE 5 ONE DAY COMPETITIONS

Read the [2025 Winter One Day Competition Planning information](#) and check the [Grade 4 & 5 one day competition calendar](#).

Submit an availability form via your Organiser Portal in the Competition Management System to indicate which events you are available to run at your venue on each date (**see example below**):

2025 WINTER - COMPETITION PLANNING FAQs

Use the 'Additional Information' field on the availability form to tell us key information you would like us to consider when allocating events:

The LTA Competitions Team will review all availability and assign events to organisers based on the location of events within the region (we need to ensure sufficient access to competition according to the player base within a region) and previous tournament delivery experience.

Ensure you submit your availability form by the deadline in the above table.

GRADE 3 & GRADE 4 WEEKLONG (HOLIDAY) COMPETITIONS

Read the [2025 Weeklong \(Holiday\) Competition Planning information document](#).

Submit an application via your Organiser Portal in the Competition Management System (**see example below**):

2025 WINTER - COMPETITION PLANNING FAQs

The screenshot shows the LTA Tennis website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the LTA logo and user information for Amanda King (LTA). Below the navigation bar, the 'Tournament Applications' link is highlighted with a red box. The main content area shows a grid of competition cards. The card for '2025 Grade 3 & 4 Holiday Competitions Janu...' is highlighted with a red box. The card details include the competition name, dates, application deadline, and a green '+' button with a count in parentheses.

Competition	Dates	Application until	Count
Grade 6 Matchplay & Grade 7 Internal Comp...	15/05/2020 to 31/12/2025	31/12/2025 23:59:59	(460d)
LTA Youth Matchplay (use for ALL junior mat...	01/01/2023 to 30/04/2025	31/12/2024 23:59:59	(95d)
Seniors 2024	01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024	31/12/2024 23:59:59	(95d)
Disability Competitions 2024	01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024	31/12/2024 23:59:59	(95d)
2025 Grade 3 & 4 Holiday Competitions Janu...	13/01/2025 to 31/08/2025	16/10/2024 23:59:59	(19d)
2025 Padel Competitions January - April	01/01/2025 to 31/04/2025	16/10/2024 23:59:59	(19d)

The LTA Competitions Team will review all applications and make decisions on which competitions to approve based on the ability of a tournament to meet the minimum requirements as well as data from the tournament in previous years. Please note that the competition grade requested at the point of application is not guaranteed.

Ensure you submit your application by the deadline published in the above table

GRADE 3 – 6 PADEL COMPETITIONS

Read the [2025 Padel Competitions September - December Competition Planning Information](#).

Submit an application via your Organiser Portal in the Competition Management System (see **example below**):

The screenshot shows the LTA Tennis website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the LTA logo and user information for Amanda King (LTA). Below the navigation bar, the 'Tournament Applications' link is highlighted with a red box. The main content area shows a grid of competition cards. The card for '2025 G3 - G5 Padel Competitions April - Augu...' is highlighted with a red box. The card details include the competition name, dates, application deadline, and a green '+' button with a count in parentheses.

Competition	Dates	Application until	Count
Grade 6 Matchplay & Grade 7 Internal Comp...	15/05/2020 to 31/12/2025	31/12/2025 23:59:59	(350d)
LTA Youth Matchplay (use for ALL junior mat...	01/01/2023 to 31/12/2025	31/12/2025 23:59:59	(350d)
Seniors 2025	01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025	31/12/2025 23:59:59	(350d)
Play Your Way to Wimbledon - Venue Stage 2...	03/03/2025 to 25/06/2025	02/02/2025 23:59:59	(18d)
LTA ONLY: Play Your Way to Wimbledon - Co...	14/06/2025 to 09/08/2025	24/02/2025 23:59:59	(40d)
Disability Competitions (2025)	01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025	31/12/2025 23:59:59	(350d)
2025 G3 - G5 Padel Competitions April - Augu...	22/04/2025 to 31/08/2025	02/02/2025 23:59:59	(18d)

The LTA Competitions Team will review all applications and make decisions on which competitions to approve based on the location of events, previous tournament history and the required provision

2025 WINTER - COMPETITION PLANNING FAQs

at each grade. Please note that the competition grade requested at the point of application is not guaranteed.

Ensure you submit your application by the deadline published in the above table

WE'D LIKE TO RUN PADEL COMPETITIONS BUT HOW CAN WE FIND A REFEREE?

In this scenario please submit the application(s) for your Padel competition(s), and then once the application period has closed we will contact all those that have submitted applications to confirm how they can request support with finding officials for their event(s) (e.g. you will need to complete a short online form providing the details of your competition(s) and we will then circulate this to qualified Padel referees and ask them to contact you directly if they are able to officiate at the event).

HOW CAN I LET YOU KNOW IF I HAVE A PREFERENCE TO RUN CERTAIN AGE GROUP EVENTS IN THE ONE DAY PROGRAMME SO YOU CAN CONSIDER THIS WHEN ALLOCATING EVENTS?

Please use the 'Additional Information' field on the availability form in CMS to let us know any specific information you would like us to consider when we are allocating events to venues/organisers. e.g. If your venue has a strong 10U programme and you would therefore like to run more 9U and 10U events you can use this box to let us know this information.

How can I get further support with the competition planning process?

For specific competition planning queries please contact us at competitionplanning@lta.org.uk

For enquiries relating to competitions that have already been approved please contact the LTA Customer Support Team – [Enquiry Form](#)

What venue can I use to run my competitions?

Only LTA Registered Venues are able to run Grade 1 to 6 competitions. This ensures all tournament venues meet Safeguarding Minimum Standards and have adequate insurance cover in place to protect organisers, officials, players and spectators. Prior to submitting any availability or application you must ensure that the venue you are planning to use is LTA Registered (you will not be able to submit availability or a competition application for a venue that is not LTA registered).

CAN I RUN MORE THAN ONE EVENT/AGE GROUP ON THE SAME DAY?

Where court space allows, venues/organiser are encouraged to run multiple events on one day across different age groups and grades.

It is important to prioritise the competition experience for the players and so please be sure to plan your competitions carefully, to avoid excessive wait times between matches.

WHY ARE THE 9U AND 10U COUNTY TOUR (GRADE 4) COMPETITIONS GENDER SPECIFIC, WHEREAS LOCAL TOUR (GRADE 5) COMPETITIONS CAN BE MIXED?

Grade 4 events will be single gender in the 10U and 9U age groups to better prepare children playing higher graded events for the next stage of the pathway. Any organisers wishing to run mixed gender competitions should apply for Local Tour (Grade 5) competitions.

2025 WINTER - COMPETITION PLANNING FAQs

WHICH DRAW AND SCORING FORMAT SHOULD I USE FOR MY COMPETITION?

For the One Day County (Grade 4) and Local (Grade 5) Tour circuits, you should choose one of the following:

Age Group(s)	Draw Format	Scoring Format	Rationale / comments
8U / 9U	Round Robin to Elimination with Consolation or Compass OR Round Robin draw	1 x Match Tiebreak to 10 points	The Round Robin format allows younger/starter players to settle into the competition, as opposed to the overall outcome being based on the result of their first match
10U	Compass Draw OR Round Robin to Elimination with Consolation or Compass Draw	1 x FAST4 set OR 2 x FAST4 sets and 1 x Match Tiebreak if one set all	Your chosen draw format should be based on the experience of the entrants and/or the number of entrants. Both Round Robin and Compass draws help to ensure that all entrants compete in the same number of matches
11U – 18U & Open	8 or 16 player compass draw OR Elimination draw with first match consolation	2 x FAST4 sets and 1 x Match Tiebreak if one set all	Older competitors are usually better equipped for a pivotal first match, but it is important to ensure that everyone gets at least one more match

At Grade 3 weeklong (holiday) competitions the following scoring formats must be used:

- 9U: Best of three tiebreaks to 7 (winning by 2 clear points)
- 10U: Two FAST4 sets with a deciding match tie-break
- 11U – Open: All main draw matches to be two full sets with a deciding match tiebreak. FAST4 scoring to be used for consolation and Doubles matches only.

WHAT TIME SHOULD MY EVENTS START AND FINISH?

When scheduling your competition please consider the planned finish time of your event. We'd like to stress that events for younger juniors should not be scheduled to finish late into the evening on either Saturday or Sunday. We appreciate that available court time is often limited but we would ask that organisers adhere to the following when planning their competitions:

Age group	To finish no later than:
9U/10U	7pm
11U/12U/14U	8pm Sat / 7pm Sunday
16U/18U	9pm

2025 WINTER - COMPETITION PLANNING FAQs

CAN THE LTA OFFER ANY ADDITIONAL DATES ON WHICH I CAN RUN COMPETITIONS AND WHY ARE CERTAIN DATES NOT AVAILABLE?

We continue to offer more event dates on which Grade 5 competitions can be delivered, with options including weekdays during school holidays. The only dates Grade 5s will not be available as an option will be when directly clashing with Youth League Winter fixtures, to encourage juniors to prioritise team competition.

Any organiser that wishes to submit a request for Grade 5 events that don't fall in line with the County and Local tour requirements, should contact competitionplanning@lta.org.uk during the application period and request any additional events/formats formally in writing for the LTA Competitions Team to consider. The Competitions Team will review and approve at their discretion. Please keep in mind that the aim is to ensure consistency where possible, but due to differing player bases it is important to have a flexible approach to ensure players are supported.

WHAT CAN I DO IF I MISS THE AVAILABILITY DEADLINE (ONE DAY COMPETITIONS) OR APPLICATION DEADLINE (WEEKLONG COMPETITIONS)?

Late applications will not be considered. However, if in advance of the deadline, you foresee any difficulties in applying on time, please contact competitionplanning@lta.org.uk at the earliest opportunity and we will be able to provide further support.

HOW DOES THE LTA ALLOCATE COMPETITIONS FROM THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND WHY WAS I NOT ALLOCATED EVERYTHING FOR WHICH I MADE MYSELF/MY VENUE AVAILABLE (ONE DAY) OR FOR WHICH I APPLIED (WEEKLONG)?

Whilst we will endeavour to allocate you as many one day competitions as we can, venues/organisers will be selected according to their availability, the location of events within the region, previous tournament delivery experience, and the required provision in the county/region.

When reviewing weeklong applications, we conduct an open application process. Please remember that venues who have previously hosted a grade 3 tournament are not guaranteed a successful grade 3 application in subsequent years, although the history of the tournament will be considered.

We need to ensure sufficient access to competition according to the player base within a region and the concentration of both competition venues and organisers varies from area to area.