

Venue Registration Regulations 2023/2024

These frequently asked questions (FAQs) are designed to aid understanding but are not a substitute for (and do not amend) the Venue Registration Regulations. The Venue Registration Regulations should be read for the details of the regulatory scheme.

What are the Venue Registration Regulations?

These are the regulations which govern the registration (with the LTA) of venues (or other places where tennis or padel is played) and the owners / operators of them, including the eligibility criteria for registration and ongoing conditions which need to continue to be met once registered in order to maintain registration.

Why are the Venue Registration Regulations important?

The registration of “Registered Organisations” and “Registered Venues” is one of the LTA’s regulatory schemes. Other LTA regulatory schemes relate to accreditation of coaches and licensing of officials. These are all important in order to uphold standards and maintain confidence in the governance of tennis and to allow the LTA to take steps if those standards are not met.

Why have the Venue Registration Regulations been updated?

We wanted to make the regulations fairer and clearer by making sure that people understand what they need to do to apply to be registered, to maintain their registration and what may happen if they fail to comply with the eligibility criteria and ongoing conditions. In particular, the updated Venue Registration Regulations:

1. clarify that registration is not an automatic right and that the decision as to whether or not to register an organisation and/or venue sits with the LTA;
2. set out a clear list of eligibility criteria to be met in order to apply for registration;
3. set out a clear list of ongoing conditions which need to be met for registration to be granted and then maintained; and
4. explicitly make the link between Registered Organisations and Registered Venues and the LTA’s governing and regulatory documents (such as the LTA Rules, LTA Disciplinary Code and LTA Code of Conduct), rather than this being implied.

The main additions/changes are as follows:

1. a new “Good Conduct and Integrity Requirement”; and
2. introduction of an appeal right for applicants and Registered Organisations/Venues.

We have also updated the Venue Registration Regulations so that they align with the regulations for the other LTA regulatory schemes relating to accreditation of coaches and licensing of officials.

What is a “Registered Organisation”?

This is the owner or operator (as applicable) of a Registered Venue. It is the Registered Organisation which makes the application and takes on the obligations under the Venue Registration Regulations. For the avoidance of any doubt, an operator could include an entity or organisation which hires/leases premises for running tennis sessions. That operator would need to meet the eligibility criteria and ongoing conditions in its own right.

What is a “Registered Venue”?

This is a venue (or other place where tennis or padel is played) which meets the requirements set out in the Venue Registration Regulations and is owned or operated by a Registered Organisation.

Why do the new Venue Registration Regulations refer to both “Registered Organisations” and “Registered Venues”?

Both Registered Organisations, meaning the entity or person which owns or operates the relevant venue or place, and its Registered Venues, meaning the venue or place itself need to be registered.. This is because there are requirements which apply to the entity/person as well as others which apply to the venue/place. Additionally, a venue or place is not a legal person and so cannot have rights or obligations. Therefore, the relevant Registered Organisation needs to meet the requirements applicable to its Registered Venues, however only one application for the venue is required.

What is the difference between the eligibility criteria and the ongoing conditions?

The eligibility criteria need to be met in order for an organisation to be eligible to apply to be registered as a Registered Organisation and to have its venue(s) registered as a Registered Venue(s). If registered, the eligibility criteria and the ongoing conditions must be met (and continue to be met) in order to maintain the registration(s) throughout the registration year. The new Venue Registration Regulations set out how the LTA might deal with a situation where any of those criteria and/or conditions are not met at any time. Compliance will also be considered as part of any assessment of an application for renewal of registration.