

GENERAL

1. When do the LTA Youth Box Leagues start and finish?

All leagues will start on Thursday 4th June and should finish by Sunday 26th July.

2. How have boxes been decided?

Your Regional Organiser has set up the boxes based on age, rating and location. We have tried to provide as appropriate matches as possible, however it does depend on who else enters!

3. Are there prizes?

Yes, as well as the chance to enter a free bonus prize draw if you complete three matches by the midpoint of a round, the winner of the group will also receive a prize.

4. How many matches will I have to play?

There should be at least 5 matches and a maximum of 7 matches to play, depending on how many people join.

5. Do these matches count for anything?

The most important thing is that it's a great chance to get back on court after a long break from competitive tennis and work on your game. You should be able to learn something from every match – win or lose. The LTA Youth Box Leagues will be Grade 6 events and therefore these matches will count for LTA Ratings, the ITF World Tennis Number (when it goes live) and matches will also be sent to UTR.

6. Why is FAST 4 being used?

We needed a quick format as some venues are limiting court bookings to 60 minutes. We also want to ease players back into competition after a long break.

7. How will the group winner be decided?

The player with the most number of wins will be the group winners; if players are equal then it will go on a head to head between the two players. If there is a tie between three or more players – we just let the computer work it out!

HOW TO SET UP YOUR MATCHES?

1. When and where are matches played?

All matches should be played at LTA registered venues. These venues have certain standards in place including a venue risk assessment, safeguarding standards including welfare officer and appropriate insurance. You can find an LTA registered venue here (www.lta.org.uk/rally). Matches are arranged between opponents at a mutually convenient time and place. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure the court is fit for play.

2. Who should set up the matches?

Parents or carers should be arranging the matches, not the players. Personal details such as the address and phone number of juniors should not be shared.

3. Any tips for setting up Matches?

- Email everyone in your group as soon as you can. Let them know the times you are free to play. Emailing one person at a time is often the best approach.
- Organise your first match quickly! What seems like a long time in which to play soon becomes a last-minute scramble.
- Remember, if you play THREE matches by the half-way point you get entered into a prize draw.
- Try always to respond to requests for matches - especially if they have been sent to you personally.

4. What if I have to reschedule a match?

If you have to reschedule a match give as much time as possible - and if you are on the wrong end of a rescheduling, try to be sympathetic; you never know when you may have to do the same. We want to see matches played, however if a player try's to reschedule with only 24 hours' notice you can claim a walkover. Court costs should be shared in the normal way.

5. What if I don't hear back from other players?

We recommend:

- email people individually with your availability
- offer to book the court
- book a court and offer the time to one or all players (you can always cancel the court if no one can play – make sure you check the cancellation rules)
- if you have tried all the above, contact your Regional Organiser and they will try to help.

6. How long should we book a court for?

Ideally 90 minutes however we understand some venues may limit to a 60 minute slot.

7. My club doesn't allow non-members/visitors at the moment?

We understand that and suggest you play at your opponent venue or even look for a public court via www.lta.org.uk/rally

8. Why pays for the courts?

Please share the cost of the courts or any visitors' fees. Please let your opponent know in advance the cost of the court.

9. We can't agree on a venue?

Matches can be played at any registered venue and on any surface. If players can't agree on the venue, the player who is listed on the left in the matches tab will be the home player. We have used the TTP software to balance home & away matches between players.

ON THE DAY

1. Who should bring the balls?

We suggest both players bring a tube of balls and mark each ball with an initial. You would then serve with your own balls.

2. Do I need to be supervised by a parent?

We advise that players 10, 11 and 12 years of age are supervised by parents at all times. However, all venues will have different rules, which may include that supervision is required for anyone under the age of 18. You should confirm with the venue before play commences. Parents are responsible for ensuring the court surface and its surrounds are safe to play including following adverse weather.

3. What if the venue doesn't have access to toilets?

Some venues will have toilet facilities open, however we are aware that many are closed. Parents & players will need to use common sense based on the venue. Please let your opponent know in advance if toilet facilities are available.

4. If a player does not turn up at the agreed time, or is more than half an hour late?

The other player can claim a walkover or the match can be re-scheduled. Either way, the cost of the court should be shared in the normal way. If you are running late please make sure you have a way of communicating with your opponent.

5. What if it rains before the match starts?

The whole match must be re-scheduled. Please be careful about making assumptions about the weather, and to avoid the possibility of a no-show walkover, if cancelling because of the weather, always contact your opponent and get a reply.

6. What if it rains during the match?

If court conditions deteriorate either player or their parent may decide to call a halt to the match, but the match must still be completed. Matches should be re-started with whatever the score was when play stopped. Players must share any additional court fee. If re-scheduling becomes impossible, the score must be reported as it stands (please note the match remains a "to be completed" match and the scores stand even if one of the players is subsequently injured/withdraws from the round).

7. What happens if a match is unfinished?

The use of FAST4 should hopefully mean that matches can be finished. Please ensure you start your matches promptly (5 minute warm up). If you do run out of time on your court you can do the following:

- Move courts or wait for another court – we suggest waiting no more than 30 minutes
- If you cannot finish the match, please enter the score online showing the match as unfinished

8. What if there is a dispute?

Matches are obviously self-umpired and should be conducted in the spirit of fair play. We ask that parents do not get involved and the players should sort the situation themselves. Players are responsible for calling the ball on their side of the court and ensure you call the score after every point so you don't forget the score. If players do forget the score they should go through the game owning each of the points, points which they disagree on should be disregarded.

9. Can photos be taken?

LTA YOUTH BOX LEAGUES FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



If photos of children are to be taken, then parental consent must have been provided for this activity and the intended use of the photos. Consent is not required where the photos are of your own child.