

Winter Regional Tour Information

Jan-Mar 2021

CONTENTS

[What changes are there for Jan – Mar 2021 Tour?](#)

[How can players enter a tournament in the Tour?](#)

[What is the structure & format for each age group?](#)

[What happens if a tournament does not have many entries as at the closing deadline?](#)

[Are late entries accepted before the draw has been made?](#)

[What are the acceptance criteria?](#)

[In which events are Wild Cards awarded?](#)

[When are acceptances published?](#)

[How are reserves managed?](#)

[What if a player needs to withdraw?](#)

[When and how is the draw made?](#)

[How are finalists rewarded?](#)

Please read all sections of this information pack as it may relate to you during the winter season.

What changes are there for the Jan - Mar 2021 Tour?

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused challenges for all areas of everyday life. The LTA has endeavoured to plan a winter circuit of indoor competition for the January – March. With the challenges of not all venues being open for contact, of staffing levels significantly lower than usual, of priority being given to club members by venues, there is some uncertainty over the venues we have provisionally booked for the Tour.

Additionally, there is still the possibility that the virus could peak again, forcing certain counties, or the whole country, into lockdown once more. This means that whilst we have created an opportunity for each age group, between 9U – 18U, to participate in a Regional Tour competition over a weekend, we cannot guarantee that the tournament will take place as planned.

The LTA will continue to follow the Government guidelines, and will also liaise with all venues to follow their individual guidelines and restrictions. These will of course vary from one venue to another.

At all times we will keep players updated, but because of the nature of the pandemic please be aware that notice times of any change may be extremely short.

We thank you for your interest in the Regional Tour and thank you for your understanding of the situation.

Key Changes

- Between January – March 2021 there will be two competition weekends for each age group between 9U – 18U.
- All tournaments for the 9U – 12U age groups will be held indoors.
- Whilst the first competition weekend for the 14U – 18U age groups will be held indoors, the second competition weekend will be outdoors.
- The number of wild card spaces available in the 9U – 12U age groups has changed – please see table below.
- We ask that parents are mindful of the precarious health situation and that wherever possible players attend a tournament with only one adult – a parent/guardian/coach.

How players enter a tournament in the Circuit?

All entries for WRT events must be made by online entry via [Competition Search](#), by entering the relevant tournament code.

- The following rule is in [the LTA Competition Regulations](#) 3.10b and applies to LTA Staged Winter Competitions; it restricts the number of competitions a player can enter: *'In relation to LTA Staged Winter Competitions (i.e. National Tour, weekend Winter Regional Tour, and weekend Winter County Tour tournaments) a Player can enter only one competition at each grade in the same age group taking place on the same weekend.'*
- Payment will be taken at time of online entry via Stripe:
Indoor events
9U-10U: £21.00
11U-18U: £27.00

Outdoor events
10U: £15.00
11U – 18U: £21.00
- Ensure you complete the check-out process on your payment transaction. **If you are experiencing issues with the entry / payment please contact the Tournament Organiser whose details are listed on each Tournament Factsheet, BEFORE the closing deadline.**
NOTE: Players who have not paid online and who have not made contact with the Organiser regarding any online entry issues they may be experiencing, before the closing deadline, cannot be accepted on to the entry list.
- Once entered you must check your name appears on the entry list for that tournament using the [Competition Search](#). It is your responsibility to ensure your name is on the entrant list before the closing deadline in order to be considered for the tournament.
- If you experience any problems with online entry, or your name does not appear on the entrants list, you must **contact the Tournament Organiser before the entry closing deadline** (the time of voicemails/emails will be taken into consideration if they are before the entry deadline).

- Once entered you should receive one email acknowledging receipt of entry and a second email confirming that payment has been taken. **This is not an acceptance notification.** If you do not receive this email you must contact the Tournament Organiser straight away, and **before** the entry closing deadline.

Please keep both of these automated email acknowledgements of entry & payment which you should receive after successfully submitting an online entry.

- Please remember to keep your contact details up to date in your LTA Members area. These will be used to communicate with you by the Organiser & the Referee.

What is the structure & format for each age group?

Due to Covid-19, all structure and formats are subject to change by the LTA at short notice.

KEY R – Round MD – Main Draw C – Consolation RR – Round Robin QF – Quarter Final SF – Semi-Final F – Final

	Draw Type	Draw Size	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
16U-18U Age Group	Knock Out*	16	None	Two tie-break sets & a deciding match tie-break if the score reaches one set all
	<p>The event consists of 1 main draw with first round consolation; played over 2 days, with 8 players required on Day 2;</p> <p>Day 1: MD R1 & MD QF; C QF</p> <p>Day 2*: MD SF, MD F & MD 3rd/4th play-off; C SF, C F & C 3rd/4th play-off;</p> <p>*Only 4 players from the Main Draw event & 4 from the Consolation event are required on Day 2</p> <p>Consolation event is compulsory for all first round losers</p> <p>Play-off matches on Day 2 are compulsory for all players</p>			

	Draw Type	Draw Size	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
14U Age Group	Compass Draw	16	None	Two tie-break sets & a deciding match tie-break if the score reaches one set all
	<p>The event consists of 1 main draw played over 2 days. It is a compass draw which means ALL players are required for both days.</p> <p>Day 1: MD R1, MD QF; C QF</p> <p>Day 2: MD SF, MD F & MD 3rd/4th play-off; C SF, C F & all other play-offs</p> <p>All matches are compulsory; matches to the left of the draw are the built-in consolation matches.</p>			

	Draw Type	Draw Size	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
12U Age Group	Compass Draw	16	Maximum of 2 WCs	Two tie-break sets & a deciding match tie-break if the score reaches one set all
	<p>The event consists of 1 main draw played over 2 days. It is a compass draw which means ALL players are required for both days, regardless of losing any match.</p> <p>Day 1: MD R1, MD QF; C QF</p> <p>Day 2: MD SF, MD F & MD 3rd/4th play-off; C SF, C F & all other play-offs</p> <p>All matches are compulsory; Matches on left of the draw are the built-in consolation matches.</p>			

11U Age Group	Draw Type	Draw Size	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
	Compass Draw	16	Maximum of 2 WCs	Two tie-break sets & a deciding match tie-break if the score reaches one set all
<p>The event consists of 1 main draw played over 2 days. It is a compass draw which means ALL players are required for both days, regardless of losing any match.</p> <p>Day 1: MD R1, MD QF; C QF Day 2: MD SF, MD F & MD 3rd/4th play-off; C SF, C F & all other play-offs</p> <p>All matches are compulsory; Matches on left of the draw are the built-in consolation matches.</p>				

10U Age Group	Draw Type	Draw Size	Qualifiers Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
	Compass Draw	8	Maximum of 1 WC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAST 4 format First to 4 games Tie-break at 3-games all (first to 7 points; two points clear at 6 points all) Match tie- break if the score reaches 1 set all (to 10 points, 2 clear at 9 points all) No advantage scoring Normal service let rule Click here for full details on the scoring format
<p>The event consists of 1 main draw played on 1 day. It is a compass draw which means ALL players are required to play 3 matches regardless of losing any match. Day 1: MD QF, F, SF & 3rd/4th play-offs; C SF, F, & 3rd/4th play-off</p> <p>All matches are compulsory; Matches on left of the draw are the built-in consolation matches.</p>				

9U Age Group	Draw Type	Draw Size	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
	Round Robin to Compass Draw play offs	16	Maximum of 2 WCs	Best of 3 tie-breaks to 7, winning by 2 clear points
<p>A tournament played over 1 day. The draw starts with 4 round robin groups going into 2 compass draws of 8 players. All matches are compulsory</p> <p>Stage 1: RR – top 2 players in each group qualify for MD; Stage 2: 8 player MD compass draw (Matches on left of the draw are the built-in consolation matches) ;and 8 player extra ratings matches compass draw</p>				

Alternative draw formats may be used where the number of participants is less than the stated draw size.

What happens if a tournament does not have many entries as at the closing deadline?

If the entry list is under-subscribed at the closing deadline, options will be considered by the Competitions Team on how best to increase entry numbers as we endeavour to make sure the event goes ahead.

Are late entries accepted before the draw has been made?

With one exception, late entries may be accepted to the entry list if the tournament is not full or there is space available on the reserve list.

Exception: If, at the time of entry, a player requests to be a late entry and he/she would be seeded, that player cannot be accepted.

If at the time a player requests to be a late entry and that player would not be a seed, his/her entry can be accepted and placed as follows if the draw has not been made yet:

- a) If the tournament is not full the player can be accepted directly
- b) If there is a reserve list, this player will be placed at the bottom and will be accepted into the tournament when the player reaches the top of the reserve list and a space becomes available regardless of if the player would be a seed or not

Please see below in 'Reserves' the process to be used if a reserve that would now be seeded is moved into the tournament AFTER the draw has been made.

Payment for late entries: The player will be sent a request for payment via PayPal which must be paid within 48 hours.

What are the acceptance criteria?

9U – 10U age groups

1. Wild cards - 1 wild card for every 8 places of the draw size
2. Recent Form (a player's best three tournament performance at that ball colour within the last 6 months)
3. By lot if more than one player has the same recent form

11U age group

1. Wild cards - 1 wild card for every 8 places of the draw size
2. LTA Ranking
3. By lot if more than one player has the same ranking

12U age group

1. Wild cards - 1 wild card for every 8 places of the draw size
2. LTA Rankings
3. By lot if more than one player has the same ranking

14U – 18U age groups

1. LTA Rankings
 2. By lot if more than one player has the same ranking
- There are no wild card spaces for the 14U – 18U age groups.

In which events are Wild Cards awarded for LTA staged Regional Tour?

Wild cards can only be awarded in the 9U, 10U 11U & 12U WRT events.

Wild cards are awarded on an entirely discretionary basis and we shall not enter into any correspondence as to why a particular player was (or was not) issued a wild card

- To be eligible for a wild card in the LTA staged WRT tournament, a player must have entered the tournament by the closing deadline. **All entered players will be considered for a wild card and applications for wild cards are not required by players.**
- In the 9U, 10U, 11U & 12U WRT events, wild cards may be awarded up to **one place in eight** of the draw size in accordance with the [LTA's acceptance & seeding criteria](#).
- Wild cards are awarded by the Performance Team.

- Any wild card spaces not used will be released and the next eligible player(s) on the reserve list will move up accordingly.
- No wild card spaces are available for the 14U – 18U WRT events.

When are acceptances published?

Acceptances will be published online, via [Competition Search](#) within 72 hours of the closing deadline and will indicate a player's status – either accepted or reserve status. An email will be sent to players informing them this status has been published, and **it is the player's responsibility to check his/her status for each event entered.**

How Reserves are managed – before & after the draw is published

Reserves are important to any tournament and may be called upon to play if other players withdraw.

- Before the withdrawal deadline it is the responsibility of reserves to check the website to track their status, as reserves will not be contacted.
- After the withdrawal deadline a reserve will be contacted if a space becomes available. **However it is still the responsibility of each player to check the website entry list up to 24 hours before the start of the event, to see if they have been accepted into the competition from the reserve list.**
- Any reserve not available to play must withdraw before the withdrawal deadline and an automatic refund will be made.
- Players, who remain on the reserve list after the withdrawal deadline, are committed to being available for the competition and may not withdraw without incurring penalty points (except as detailed below).
- A reserve may only decline an offer to play without incurring a penalty if the player is contacted during the 24 hours immediately before the event date.
- If a reserve that would now be a seed is moved into the main draw after the draw is made the following process will take place:
 - **Before 8pm the day before the tournament:** In the situation of the reserve being seeded, the seeding will be adjusted according to Competition Regulations. **This may involve time changes & changes of opponent for players, so a player may be required to report earlier than previously notified. We will contact the player by phone to let them know of this change. If no one is available a message will be left and an email sent**
 - **After 8pm the day before the tournament:** In the situation of the reserve being seeded, the reserve will move into the vacant position. It is possible that this position may be against a seed

What if a player needs to withdraw?

Any player not available to play must withdraw before the withdrawal deadline or he/she will incur withdrawal penalty points.

- The withdrawal deadline for each tournament can be found in the age group [calendars](#) or by referring to the tournament details in [Competition Search](#), by putting in the relevant tournament code.
- If the competitor is withdrawing **before** the withdrawal deadline he/she must withdraw online **and the entry fee will be refunded automatically, and an administration charge will be applied.**
- Players who are experiencing problems withdrawing online, prior to the withdrawal deadline, should contact the Tournament Organiser immediately, to update the Organiser of the problem. If the Organiser is contacted after the withdrawal deadline with a request to withdraw due to problems before the withdrawal deadline, the withdrawal will be treated as a late withdrawal and the entry fee will be retained and withdrawal points incurred.

If voicemails are left for the Organiser, or an email is sent then they must be followed up to make sure the communication has been received by the Organiser.

- If a competitor withdraws **after** the withdrawal deadline **he/she** will incur withdrawal points **and the entry fee will be retained.**
An exception applies if a player is contacted less than 24 hours before the published start time of an event and declines an invitation to play, in which case no penalty will be incurred and the entry fee will be refunded.
- If the competitor is withdrawing **after** the withdrawal deadline, please **contact the Tournament Referee by phone as soon as possible.** The Referee contact details can be found on the website on the relevant tournament page. If voicemails are left for the Referee, or an email is sent then they must be followed up to make sure the communication has been received by the / Referee.

If voicemails are left for the Organiser/Referee, or an email is sent then they must be followed up to make sure the communication has been received by the Tournament Organiser / Referee.

- See information on withdrawing from an LTA Official Competition in [the LTA Competition Regulations](#)

When and how is the draw made?

The draw will be published no later than 2 days before the event.

- Tennis Tournament Planner (TTP) software is used to make the draw. The software makes the draw in a similar manner for professional tournaments i.e. seeded players are placed on their designated line on the draw (as per [LTA Competition Regulations](#)), whilst the unseeded players are randomly assigned to the remaining places in the draw. Where possible, players from the same county will be separated in the initial stage of the draw.
- Before the draw is made, the ranking / recent form for each player is updated to ensure the draw is made using current information - i.e. ranking / & recent form is updated from that of the closing deadline.
- Seeding for the 11U – 18U WRT events will follow the acceptance criteria and will use current LTA rankings as of the day the draw is made. Where this is equal the players will be drawn by lot, i.e. randomly.

- Seeding for 9U & 10U mini events will follow the acceptance criteria and will use a player's LTA recent form as of the day the draw is made; where this is equal the players will be drawn by lot, i.e. randomly.
- Although the ranking / recent form information is updated for all players, before the draw is made, the reserve list order will not change as a result of this update
- First match start times will also be emailed to all players who are in the draw, but it is the responsibility of the player to check the website for match times

How are finalists rewarded?

- Each finalist will receive a medal

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO SEE THE JAN – MAR 2021 WINTER REGIONAL TOUR CALENDARS](#)

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO ENTER ONLINE](#)