

LTA Competition Regulations

Overlapping Competition Regulation – LTA Weeklong

What is the regulation?

LTA Competition Regulations 3.10 (c)

In relation to weeklong holiday tournaments a Player can only enter one competition at each grade in the same age group (where that age group is 12U – Open) taking place during one week.

For the avoidance of doubt, the competition week runs from Sunday through to Saturday, some competitions that run for 8 days may start on the day preceding the competition week or finish the day after the competition week but fall into the competition week where the majority of the competition is held.

If a player is found to have contravened the overlapping competitions regulation and competed in more than one event in breach of Regulation 3.10 then he/she will lose all ranking points obtained from the relevant competitions.

What tournaments does this apply to?

The LTA Weeklong Overlapping Competition Regulation will apply to all LTA Sanctioned Grade 3 weeklong holiday tournaments.

Please note that the LTA Weeklong Overlapping Competition Regulation will not apply to Christmas Holiday Tournaments taking place from 15th December 2018 to 6th January 2019 inclusive.

Does it apply to all age groups?

No. The LTA Weeklong regulation will only apply to 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U and Open singles events.

Does this regulation apply to doubles as well?

No. Doubles events are excluded from this rule.

What does the competition week mean?

The competition week runs from Sunday through to the following Saturday. All competitions must run within these 7 days unless permission is granted by the LTA Competitions Team.

If a competition is granted permission to start on the Saturday before the start of the competition week and/or finish on the Sunday of the following competition week it will fall into the competition week where the majority of the competition lies.

The following tournament dates would all be considered to lie in the same competition week:

- Monday 3rd – Saturday 8th April 2017
- Sunday 2nd – Saturday 8th April 2017
- Saturday 1st – Saturday 8th April 2017
- Saturday 1st – Sunday 9th April 2017
- Sunday 2nd – Sunday 9th April 2017

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Which dates are used to determine which week a tournament falls into?

The rule goes by the tournament start/end date and not the event start/end date.

For example, a Grade 3 14U event which starts on the Monday and ends on the Wednesday and a Grade 3 14U (different) event which starts on the Wednesday and ends on the Thursday is still classed as Overlapping if the tournament as a whole runs for the whole week.

Why has this regulation been introduced?

The rule means many more players will be accepted into competitions at the closing date because players will not be able to hold multiple spaces in competitions of the same grade. It also means its fair for all players as it doesn't allow the minority to pick their most favourable event.

Organisers and officials had also expressed concerns regarding the number of withdrawals they experience in between the closing and withdrawal deadlines. This has not only affected their ability to plan the competition in advance but events which may have been liable at the closing deadline became cancelled as at the withdrawal deadline.

What will happen if I breach the LTA Weeklong Rule?

A player who is found to contravene the Overlapping Competition Regulations will lose all ranking points gained from all competitions.

Are there any other regulations I need to consider?

Players may continue to enter competitions of differing age groups or grades.

If a player is entering more than one event per week where the tournament dates overlap. Player's must be aware of the full Overlapping Competitions Regulations (3.10) and understand that if a Player, in order to play in an overlapping event:

- a) Withdraws from an event after having started a match in that event;
- b) fails to appear at an event ready and prepared to play without having Withdrawn;
- c) retires during an event; and/or
- d) gives a walkover during an event;

he/she will lose all Ranking points obtained from all of the overlapping events and may incur further disciplinary action.

Ultimately the player must decide if they can play in both events or if they will have to withdraw from all but one of the competitions entered before the respective withdrawal deadlines in order to avoid penalty.

If a player is found to have contravened the regulations, then they will lose all ranking points obtained from both competitions.

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Appendix A: LTA Staged vs LTA Weeklong

		<u>LTA Staged</u>	<u>LTA Weeklong</u>
Rule Criteria		Same Event Type Same Grade Same Age Group Same Weekend	Same Event Type Same Grade Same Age Group Same Tournament Week
Rule Application		Winter Regional Tour Winter County Tour (Grade 4) Summer County Tour British Tour Tier 3	Grade 3 Holiday Tournaments – excluding 2018W Christmas Holiday Tournaments
Mini	Singles	YES	NO
	Doubles	N/A*	NO
Junior	Singles	YES	YES
	Doubles	YES	NO
Open	Singles	YES	YES
	Doubles	N/A*	NO

*The LTA Staged rule is not applicable to these events as they are currently not scheduled in our competition calendar.