



# Rules

[8 & Under](#)

[9 & Under](#)

[10 & Under](#)

[12 – 18 & Under](#)

[Open](#)

[Problem Solving Issues & Regulations](#)  
[\(All age groups, all tiers\)](#)

## **Team Tennis 2019**

### **8&U Age Group Rules (County Tier)**

#### **1. Eligibility**

##### **Venue Eligibility**

1.1 Entry to Team Tennis ('the Competition') is open only to LTA registered venues, defined as Associates in Rule 28 of the LTA.

##### **Team Eligibility**

1.2 Event: Mixed 8 & under (born on 1 September 2010 or later).

1.3 A venue may enter more than one team in the event.

1.4 Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, the 'A' team should be the strongest team based on ratings, and if applicable, the 'B' team should be stronger than the 'C' team based on ratings etc.

1.5 Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may 'play up' on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in their lower team. Once a player has represented a higher team on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent the lower team. In the case of a venue having two teams in the same division, players will only be able to play for the team they represent in their first match.

##### **Player Eligibility**

1.6 A player may only:

- I. Represent one venue in the Team Tennis competition.
- II. Play in a maximum of two age groups.

1.7 All players must:

- I. Have a British Tennis Membership number which links to the venue they are competing for.
- II. Have a Mini Tennis rating.
- III. Be a member of the LTA registered venue they are competing for as of 1 April 2019, and commit to representing that venue.
- IV. Be of the correct age (see rule 1.2).

#### **2. Competition Structure**

2.1 County Tier

Teams shall be entered in a County Tier league based on their LTA venue registration code. Each league will be divided into divisions of 3-6 teams. Each team will play each other team in their division once. Counties may run a central venue event at 8&U.

#### **3. Match Arrangements**

3.1 Time & Date

Fixtures shall be played on the fixed dates specified. It is both team captains responsibility to contact each other before the fixture. There will be flexibility to play before a fixed date if both teams agree and there is prior consent from the league organiser. Fixtures scheduled on Saturday match dates can be played on the immediate Sunday following (next day) if both team captains agree. There will also be flexibility for teams to play one or more fixtures on the same day at the same venue with agreement of the opposing teams and the league organiser. If opposing teams don't agree the fixture is to be played on the fixed date specified.

Matches are to start between 10am-2pm unless both teams agree otherwise, or the league organiser instructs differently. The home team must confirm start time with the away team a minimum of 14 days before the match date. It is both team captains responsibility to contact each other to confirm start times. By the Tuesday, the week prior to the fixture, the away team must also confirm their team's attendance. 3 rubber points may be deducted from the match accumulated league total at the discretion of the league organiser for non compliance from either team. Each team must have an adult captain (age 18+) present at each match. The home team captain shall be responsible for welcoming the away team and organising refreshments.

3.2 Courts and Equipment

The home venue shall provide a minimum of 2 mini-red courts (preferably 4); supply the court equipment and set-up the court in line with the Competition Framework - [www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions](http://www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions)

3.3 Balls

The home team shall supply a minimum of 3 red balls (sponge for indoor; felt for outdoor) for each rubber.

3.4 Match Format

A match shall consist of 16 singles rubbers. Each player shall play all opposing players. There are no doubles. Counties using a central venue format are permitted to adjust the match format at their discretion.

3.5 Team Format

A team shall consist of 4 players of any gender. There are no additional players or substitutions permitted at a match.

3.6 Singles Nominations

At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players which should be in order of merit.

Singles Playing Order

Players with a Priority 1 rating must play above Priority 2 rated players (see table below).

Priority 1	Priority 2
Eligible orange rated players in order of merit (see rule 1.2)	Red players in order of merit (captains decision)

If players have the same rating, the captain can decide the team order which may change from fixture to fixture. Note; boys and girls may play against one another.

### 3.7 Order of play (based on 4 mini-red courts)

	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3	Court 4
Round 1	1 v 1	2 v 2	3 v 3	4 v 4
Round 2	1 v 2	2 v 1	3 v 4	4 v 3
Round 3	1 v 3	2 v 4	3 v 1	4 v 2
Round 4	1 v 4	2 v 3	3 v 2	4 v 1

Each round should take approximately 15 minutes. Matches should follow one another immediately. Home players stay on same court.

### 3.8 Rubber Scoring

	Set 1
8&U	Match Tie Break (to 10 points, with 2 clear)

### 3.9 Match Scoring

A team is awarded 2 points for each rubber won.

### 3.10 Match Result

The team with the most rubber points shall win the match. If teams are level on rubbers the match shall result in a draw. A team will receive 2 match points on the league table for a match win and 1 match point for a draw.

Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecards, and retain their copy. The winning captain (or home captain if a draw) must then submit the result online within 48 hours. The result may be added by the losing team captain if agreed on match day. Any teams found guilty of submitting false results shall be subject to rule 17.2.

### 3.11 Division Standings

The final standings in each division shall be determined by the following:

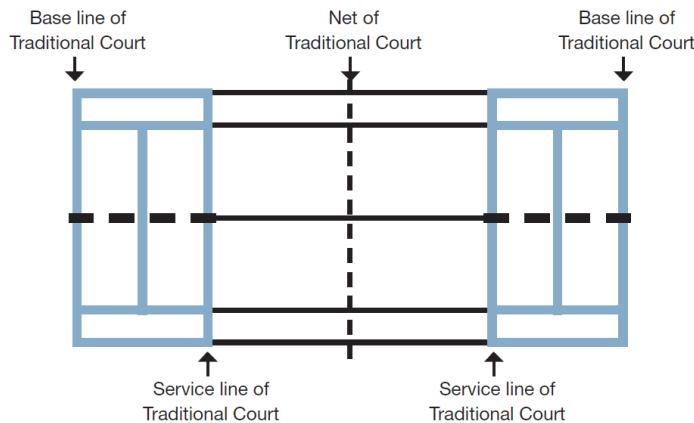
- I. The team with the greatest number of match points.
- II. If match points are equal, the team with the greatest number of rubber points.
- III. If only two teams are level on match points and rubber points; their head to head result.
- IV. If more than 2 teams are level, the round robin rule in the LTA Competition Regulations will determine the league standings.

### Mini Tennis Red

Equipment & court lay-out

For more information please visit [www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions](http://www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions)

<b>Ball:</b>	Red (sponge indoor, felt outdoor)
<b>Court:</b>	11m x 5.5m (ok to use badminton court lines)
<b>Net Height:</b>	80cm
<b>Recommended Racket Size:</b>	Up to 58cm (23")



## **Team Tennis 2019 9&U Age Group Rules (County Tier)**

### **4. Eligibility**

#### **Venue Eligibility**

4.1 Entry to Team Tennis ('the Competition') is open only to LTA registered venues, defined as Associates in Rule 28 of the LTA.

#### **Team Eligibility**

4.2 Event: Mixed 9 & Under (born between 1 September 2009 - 31 August 2010). Players who are in their last or one from last season in Red Ball and have earned an orange ball rating are eligible to compete in the 9&U event. Passport players will be allowed to play up in line with the Player Passport system.

4.3 A venue may enter more than one team in the event.

4.4 Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, the 'A' team should be the strongest team based on ratings, and if applicable, the 'B' team should be stronger than the 'C' team based on ratings etc.

4.5 Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may 'play up' on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in their lower team. Once a player has represented a higher team on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent the lower team. In the case of a venue having two teams in the same division, players will only be able to play for the team they represent in their first match.

#### **Player Eligibility**

4.6 A player may only:

- I. Represent one venue in the Team Tennis competition.
- II. Play in a maximum of two age groups.

4.7 All players must:

- I. Have a British Tennis Membership number which links to the venue they are competing for.
- II. Have a Mini Tennis rating.
- III. Be a member of the LTA registered venue they are competing for as of 1 April 2019, and commit to representing that venue.
- IV. Be of the correct age (see rule 4.2).

### **5. Competition Structure**

5.1 County Tier

Teams shall be entered in a County Tier league based on their LTA venue registration code. Each league will be divided into divisions of 3-6 teams. Each team will play each other team in their division once.

### **6. Match Arrangements**

6.1 Time & Date

Fixtures shall be played on the fixed dates specified. It is both team captains responsibility to contact each other before the match. There will be flexibility to play before a fixed date if both teams agree and there is prior consent from the league organiser. Matches scheduled on Saturday's can be played on the immediate day after the match date (next day) if both team captains agree. There will also be flexibility for teams to play one or more matches on the same day at the same venue with agreement of the opposing teams and the league organiser. If opposing teams don't agree the match is to be played on the fixed date specified. On match day the home team captain shall be responsible for welcoming the away team and organising refreshments.

Matches are to start between 10am-2pm unless both teams agree otherwise, or the league organiser instructs differently. The home team must confirm start time with the away team a minimum of 14 days before the match date. It is both team captains responsibility to contact each other to confirm start times. By the Tuesday, the week prior to the fixture, the away team must also confirm their team's attendance. 3 rubber points may be deducted from the match accumulated league total at the discretion of the league organiser for non compliance from either team. Each team must have an adult captain present at each match. The home team captain shall be responsible for welcoming the away team and organising refreshments.

6.2 Courts and Equipment

The home venue shall provide 2 mini-orange courts. Where more than one court surface is used, the away team shall have the choice of court allocation. The home team captain shall supply the court equipment and set up the court in line with the National Competition Framework - [www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions](http://www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions)

6.3 Balls

The home team shall supply a minimum of 3 orange balls for each rubber.

6.4 Match Format

A match shall consist of 8 singles and 2 doubles rubbers.

6.5 Team Format

A team shall consist of 4 players of any gender. There are no additional players or substitutions permitted at a match.

6.6 Singles Nominations

At least 15 minutes before the start time of each match, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players in order of merit in accordance with current Mini Tennis ratings.

Singles Playing Order

Players with a Priority 1 rating must play above Priority 2 rated players and so on (see table below).

Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4
Eligible Green rated players in order of merit (see rule 4.2)	Orange 1*	Orange 1	Orange 2-4 in any order (captains decision)

If players have the same rating, the captain can decide the team order which may change from fixture to fixture. Note; boys and girls may play against one another.

#### 6.7 Doubles Pairings

Pair 1: Singles players 1&2.  
Pair 2: Singles players 3&4.

#### 6.8 Order of Play

	Court 1	Court 2
Round 1	Doubles 1	Doubles 2
Round 2	Singles 2v2	Singles 4v4
Round 3	Singles 1v1	Singles 3v3
Round 4	Singles 1v2	Singles 3v4
Round 5	Singles 2v1	Singles 4v3

Matches should follow one another immediately.

#### 6.9 Rubber Scoring

Singles & Doubles

	Sets 1 & 2	Set 3 (if necessary)
9&U	Tie Break (to 7 points, with 2 clear)	Tie Break (to 7 points, with 2 clear)

#### 6.10 Match Scoring

A team is awarded 2 points for each rubber won.

#### 6.11 Match Result

The team with the most rubber points shall win the match. If teams are level on rubbers the match shall result in a draw.  
A team will receive 2 match points on the league table for a match win and 1 match point for a draw.

Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecards, and retain their copy. The winning captain (or home captain if a draw) must then submit the result online within 48 hours. The result may be added by the losing team captain if agreed on match day. Any teams found guilty of submitting false results shall be subject to rule 17.2.

#### 6.12 Division Standings

The final standings in each division shall be determined by the following:

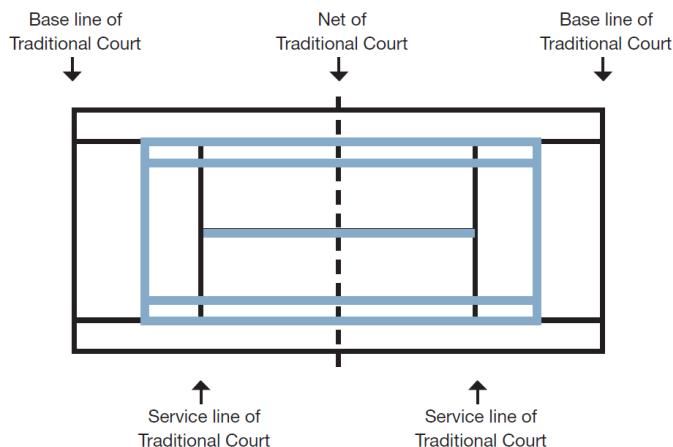
- I. The team with the greatest number of match points.
- II. If match points are equal, the team with the greatest number of rubber points.
- III. If only two teams are level on match points and rubber points; their head to head result.
- IV. If more than 2 teams are level, the round robin rule in the LTA Competition Regulations will determine the league standings.

### Mini Tennis Orange

Equipment & court lay-out

For more information please visit [www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions](http://www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions)

<b>Ball:</b>	Orange
<b>Court:</b>	Singles court: 18m X 6.5m; Doubles court: 18m X 8.23
<b>Net Height:</b>	80cm (at middle of net)
<b>Recommended Racket Size:</b>	58cm - 63cm (23" - 25")



## **Team Tennis 2019 10&U Age Group Rules (County Tier)**

### **7. Eligibility**

#### **Venue Eligibility**

7.1 Entry to Team Tennis ('the Competition') is open only to LTA registered venues, defined as Associates in Rule 28 of the LTA.

#### **Team Eligibility**

7.2 Event: Mixed 10 & Under (born between 1 September 2008 – 31 August 2009). Mini Tennis orange players will be allowed to play up when in their final season of orange ball if they have reached an orange 1 or orange 1\* Mini Tennis rating. Passport players will be allowed to play up in line with the Player Passport system.

7.3 A venue may enter more than one team in the event.

7.4 Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, the 'A' team should be the strongest team based on ratings, and if applicable, the 'B' team should be stronger than the 'C' team based on ratings etc.

7.5 Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may 'play up' on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in their lower team. Once a player has represented a higher team on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent the lower team. In the case of a venue having two teams in the same division, players will only be able to play for the team they represent in their first match.

#### **Player Eligibility**

7.6 A player may only:

- I. Represent one venue in the Team Tennis competition.
- II. Play in a maximum of two age groups.

7.7 All players must:

- I. Have a British Tennis Membership number which links to the LTA registered venue they are competing for.
- II. Have a Mini Tennis rating.
- III. Be a member of the venue they are competing for as of 1 April 2019, and commit to representing that venue.
- IV. Be of the correct age (see rule 7.2).

### **8. Competition Structure**

8.1 County Tier

Teams shall be entered in a County Tier league based on their LTA venue registration code. Each league will be divided into divisions of 3-6 teams. Each team will play each other team in their division once.

### **9. Match Arrangements**

9.1 Time & Date

Fixtures shall be played on the fixed dates specified. It is both team captains responsibility to contact each other before the fixture. There will be flexibility to play before a fixed date if both teams agree and there is prior consent from the league organiser. Fixtures scheduled on Saturday's may be played on the immediate day after the match date (next day) if both team captains' agree. On match day the home team captain shall be responsible for welcoming the away team and organising refreshments.

Matches are to start between 10am-2pm unless both teams agree otherwise, or the league organiser instructs differently. The home team must confirm start time with the away team a minimum of 14 days before the match date. It is both team captains responsibility to contact each other to confirm start times. By the Tuesday, the week prior to the fixture, the away team must also confirm their team's attendance. 3 rubber points may be deducted from the match accumulated league total at the discretion of the league organiser for non compliance from either team. Each team must have an adult captain present at each match. The home team captain shall be responsible for welcoming the away team and organising refreshments.

9.2 Courts

The home team shall provide 2, 3 or 4 courts of the same surface. Where more than one court surface is used, the away team shall have the choice of court allocation.

9.3 Balls

The home team shall supply a minimum of 3 green balls for each rubber.

9.4 Match Format

A match shall consist of 4 singles and 2 doubles rubbers.

9.5 Team Format

A team shall consist of 4 players of any gender. There are no additional players or substitutions permitted at a match.

9.6 Singles Nominations

At least 15 minutes before the start time of each match, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players in order of merit in accordance with current Mini Tennis ratings.

#### **Singles Playing Order**

Players with a Priority 1 rating must play above Priority 2 rated players and so on (see table below).

Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4
Eligible British Tennis rated players in order of merit (see rule 7.2)	Green 1*	Green 1	Orange 1*, Orange 1 and/or Green 2-4 in any order (captains decision)

If players have the same rating, the captain can decide the team order which may change from match to match. Note; boys and girls may play against one another.

- 9.7 Doubles Pairings  
 Pair 1: Singles players 1&2.  
 Pair 2: Singles players 3&4.

9.8 Order of Play

	On 2 Courts	On 3 Courts	On 4 Courts
Round 1	Singles 1&2	Singles 1&2, Doubles 2	Singles 1-4
Round 2	Singles 3&4	Singles 3&4, Doubles 1	Doubles 1&2
Round 3	Doubles 1&2		

There is to be a maximum of 30 minutes rest between rounds.

9.9 Rubber Scoring

	Sets 1 & 2	Set 3 (if necessary)
10&U	First to 4 games (with 2 clear), tiebreak at 4-4	Match tiebreak (to 10 points, with 2 clear)

9.10 Match Scoring

A team is awarded 2 points for each rubber won.  
 At 6 points each, a doubles tiebreak shoot-out (to 10 points, with 2 clear) shall be played. No bonus rubber point will be awarded to the winning team in a tiebreak shoot-out.

Tie-Break Shootout (1 pair):

Player 1: One of the players from the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> singles rubbers.  
 Player 2: One of the players from the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> singles rubbers.

9.11 Match Result

The team with the most rubber points shall win the match, in the event of a tie, the winner of the tiebreak shoot-out will win the match.  
 A team will receive 2 match points on the league table for a match win.

Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecards, and retain their copy. The winning captain must then submit the result online within 48 hours. The result may be added by the losing team captain if agreed on match day. Any teams found guilty of submitting false results shall be subject to rule 17.2.

9.12 Division Standings

The final standings in each division shall be determined by the following:

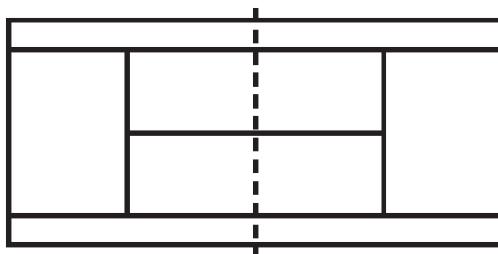
- I. The team with the greatest number of match points.
- II. If match points are equal, the team with the greatest number of rubber points.
- III. If only two teams are level on match points and rubber points; their head to head result.
- IV. If more than 2 teams are level, the round robin rule in the LTA Competition Regulations will determine the league standings.

**Mini Tennis Green**

Equipment & court lay-out

For more information please visit [www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions](http://www.lta.org.uk/minitenniscompetitions)

<b>Ball:</b>	Green
<b>Court:</b>	Singles & Doubles are both played on the full regulation singles court
<b>Net Height:</b>	91.4cm (3ft - as per regulation court)
<b>Recommended Racket Size:</b>	63cm - 66cm (25" - 26")



## **Team Tennis 2019**

### **12&U – 18&U Age Group Rules (County Tier & Premier 12&U-18&U)**

#### **10. Eligibility**

##### **Venue Eligibility**

10.1 Entry to Team Tennis ('the Competition') is open only to LTA registered venues, defined as Associates in Rule 28 of the LTA.

##### **Team Eligibility**

###### **10.2 Events:**

Girls/Boys 12 & Under (born 1 September 2006 – 31 August 2008)	Girls/Boys 16 & Under (born 1 September 2002 – 31 August 2008)
Girls/Boys 14 & Under (born 1 September 2004 – 31 August 2008)	Girls/Boys 18 & Under (born 1 September 2000 – 31 August 2008)

Mini Tennis green players will be allowed to play up (in 12&U yellow ball only) when in their final season of green ball if they have reached a green 1 or green 1\* Mini Tennis rating. Mini Tennis Passport players will be allowed to play up in line with the Player Passport system.

10.3 A venue may enter more than one team in each event.

10.4 Where a venue has two or more teams in an event, the 'A' team should be the strongest team based on ratings, and if applicable, the 'B' team should be stronger than the 'C' team based on ratings etc.

10.5 Where the venue has two or more teams in an event, a player may 'play up' on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in their lower team. Once a player has represented a higher team (e.g. 'A' team in Premier 14&U) on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent the lower team (e.g. 'B' team in County Tier 14&U).

In the case of a venue having two teams in the same division, players will only be able to play for the team they represent in their first match.

##### **Player Eligibility**

10.6 A player may only:

- I. Represent one venue in the 8&U-18&U age groups in the Team Tennis competition
- II. Play in a maximum of two age groups, including Open (adult). Exceptions apply in Scotland where 10U players from the summer season 2019 may represent 12U and 14U teams from the same venue in the autumn.

10.7 All players must:

- I. Have a British Tennis Membership number which links to the venue they are competing for.
- II. Have a British Tennis rating.
- III. Be a member of the LTA registered venue they are competing for as of 1 April 2019, and commit to representing that venue.
- IV. Be of the correct age (see rule 10.2)

#### **11. Competition Structure**

11.1 County Tier

Teams shall be entered in a County Tier league based on their venue registration code. Each league will be divided into divisions of 3-6 teams. Each team will play each other team in their division once.

11.2 Premier 12&U-18&U

The Premier 12&U-18&U is open to 12&U, 14&U and 18&U age groups only. The top 6 teams in 4 set regions (determined by LTA venue registration codes and the competition structure) may be accepted in each age group event. Acceptance will be based on the combined rankings of 6 players, as at the closing date. Teams are required to nominate 6 players at the time of entry in line with rule 10.6 and 10.7. Further players can represent the team during the season in line with rule 10.5, 10.6 and 10.7.

11.3 Premier 12&U-18&U Finals

The winning team from each regions Tier 1 division will qualify to the finals. The Referee shall seed 2 teams in the draw. Players must have played in one league stage fixture for the qualifying team to be eligible to compete in the Finals and may only play in one age group at the Finals. Teams may nominate one player who has not played a league stage fixture, provided she or he is ranked no better than the lowest ranked nominated player who has played in at least one league stage fixture. Qualifying teams who have played two or less fixtures in the league season may nominate one player of any standard who has not played in the league stage.

Team captains will be allowed on court during the Finals and will be subject to the LTA Code of Conduct.

#### **12. Match Arrangements**

12.1 Time & Date

Fixtures shall be played on the fixed dates specified. It is both team captains responsibility to contact each other before the match. There will be flexibility to play before a fixed date if both teams agree. Fixtures scheduled on Saturday's may be played on the immediate day after the match date (next day) if both team captains agree. On match day the home team captain shall be responsible for welcoming away teams and organising refreshments.

Fixtures are to start between 10am-4pm unless both teams agree otherwise. Exception, where one way travel distance exceeds 120 miles from club to club (based on Google Maps), start time must be between 11am and 2pm unless both teams agree otherwise. The home team must confirm start time with the away team a minimum of 14 days before the match date. Away teams must still be active in obtaining the time. By the Tuesday, the week prior to the fixture, the away team must also confirm their team's attendance. 3 rubber points may be deducted from the match accumulated league total at the discretion of the league organiser for non compliance from either team. Each team must have an adult captain (age 18+) present at each fixture. The home team captain shall be responsible for welcoming the away team and organising refreshments.

In exceptional cases, fixtures may be rescheduled at a later date where 2 or more nominated players in the same team are involved in an 'LTA Staged' activity that takes place on the same date. LTA staged activities includes National Camps, International Representation or other National/International competitions taking place in Great Britain (e.g. County Cup, Junior Internationals). This must be approved by the league organiser (in writing) a minimum of 14 days in advance of the original match date.

- 12.2 Courts  
The home team shall provide 2, 3 or 4 courts of the same surface. Where more than one court surface is used, the away team shall have the choice of court allocation.
- 12.3 Balls  
The home team shall supply a minimum of 3 new ITF approved balls for each singles rubber.
- 12.4 Match Format  
A match shall consist of 4 singles and 2 doubles rubbers. County Tier Division 2 onwards may apply a 2 singles & 1 doubles rubber format.
- 12.5 Team Format  
A team shall consist of four to six players. Four players shall play one singles rubber each and the 5th and/or 6th player(s) may be selected for one doubles rubber only. Where the format is 2 singles, 1 doubles rubber, a team shall consist of two or three players. Two players will play one singles rubber each and the 3rd player may be selected for the doubles rubber only.
- 12.6 Singles Nominations
  - I. County Tier  
At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players in order of merit in accordance with current British Tennis ratings. In the County Tier 12&U event, Green 1\* players will play above 9.2 rated players, but below 9.1 rated players. Green 1 players will play above 10.1 players but below 9.2 players. If players have the same rating, the captain can decide the team order which may change from fixture to fixture. Any player(s) playing doubles only must be nominated at the same time.
  - II. Premier 12&U-18&U  
At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players in order of merit in accordance with current British Tennis rankings. In the Premier 12&U event, Green 1\* players will be deemed to have a ranking of 750 on match day. Green 1 players will be deemed to have a ranking of 1,250 on match day. If players have the same ranking, the captain can decide the team order which may change from fixture to fixture. Any player(s) playing doubles only must be nominated at the same time.
- 12.7 Doubles Pairings  
Pair 1: Singles players 1&2.  
Pair 2: Singles players 3&4.
- A 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> player can substitute directly for any of the four singles players (e.g. if player number 5 substitutes for the singles player number 2, then player number 5 will play in the number 1 doubles pair). The nominated doubles substitutions must be on site at the agreed start time of the fixture.
- 12.8 Order of Play
 

	On 2 Courts	On 3 Courts	On 4 Courts
Round 1	Singles 1&2	Singles 1&2, Doubles 2	Singles 1-4
Round 2	Singles 3&4	Singles 3&4, Doubles 1	Doubles 1&2
Round 3	Doubles 1&2		
- There is to be a maximum of 30 minutes rest between rounds.
- 12.9 Rubber Scoring
 

	Sets 1 & 2	Set 3 (if necessary)
12&U – 18&U	Tiebreak at 6-6	Match tiebreak (to 10 points, with 2 clear)
- 12.10 Match Scoring  
A team is awarded 2 points for each rubber won.  
At 6 points each, a doubles tiebreak shoot-out (to 10 points, with 2 clear) shall be played. No bonus rubber point will be awarded to the winning team in a tiebreak shoot-out.
- Tie-Break Shootout (1 pair):  
Player 1: One of the original players from either the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> singles rubbers or number 1 doubles pair.  
Player 2: One of the original players from either the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> singles rubbers or number 2 doubles pair.
- 12.11 Match Result  
The team with the most rubber points shall win the match, in the event of a tie, the winner of the tiebreak shoot-out will win the match.  
A team will receive 2 match points on the league table for a match win.
- Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecards, and retain their copy. The winning captain must then submit the result online within 48 hours. The result may be added by the losing team captain if agreed on match day. Any teams found guilty of submitting false results shall be subject to rule 17.2.
- 12.12 Division Standings  
The final standings in each division shall be determined by the following:
  - I. The team with the greatest number of match points.
  - II. If match points are equal, the team with the greatest number of rubber points.
  - III. If only two teams are level on match points and rubber points; their head to head result.
  - IV. If more than 2 teams are level, the round robin rule in the LTA Competition Regulations will determine the league standings.

## **Team Tennis 2019**

### **Open (adult) Age Group Rules (County, Regional & National Tier)**

#### **13. Eligibility**

##### **Venue Eligibility**

13.1 Entry to Team Tennis ('the Competition') is open only to LTA registered venues, defined as Associates in Rule 28 of the LTA.

##### **Team Eligibility**

13.2 Events: Men's & Women's Open.

13.3 A venue may enter as many teams as it wishes in the competition but may have no more than 2 teams in any division of the National, Regional or County Tier. This rule applies to men and women separately.

13.4 Where a venue has two or more teams in the National and/or Regional Tier the top 4 rated players nominated may only play for team 'A'. Any other nominated players in the venue may play up or down in line with rule 13.5.

13.5 Where a venue has two or more teams in the Competition (County, Regional or National Tiers) a player may 'play up' on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility for their lower team. Once a player has represented a higher team on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent the lower team.

In the case of a venue having two teams in the same division, players will only be able to play for the team they represent in their first match.

##### **Player Eligibility**

13.6 A player may only:

- I. Represent one venue in the Open (adult) age group in the Team Tennis competition.
- II. Play in a maximum of two age groups (including Open).

13.7 All players must:

- I. Have a British Tennis Membership number which links to the venue they are competing for.
- II. Have a British Tennis rating.
- III. Be a member of the venue they are competing for as of 1 April 2019 and commit to representing that venue
- IV. Be born on or before 31 August 2005

13.8 A venue with a team(s) in the County Tier, does not need to nominate players and can play players of any standard.

A venue with a team in the National or Regional Tier may nominate up to 12 players rated 3.2 or better no later than 23.59 on 4 March 2019. No player nominations will be accepted after 23.59 on 4 March 2019. Any venue failing to nominate by this deadline will not be allowed to field in their team(s) any player rated 3.2 or better. Venues with no players rated 3.2 or better do not need to nominate. Players rated 4.1 or worse as of 4 March 2019 may play in any fixture and do not need to be nominated. For each additional team in the National/Regional Tier, up to a further 9 players rated 3.2 or better may be nominated by the venue.

Of the nominated players a venue may include up to 2 players that have an ATP/WTA singles world ranking as of 4 March 2019 who have not played in at least 2 Team Tennis fixtures for the venue in each of the last 2 seasons.

This rule applies to men and women separately.

13.9 County Tier Play-offs

Players must have represented their venue in at least 1 division match prior to the Playoffs or have a rating of 4.1 or worse as of 4 March 2019.

Where two teams compete in a division match and a player is given a walkover, the rubber will count towards a player's eligibility.

##### **National Tier Play-offs & Finals**

Players must have represented their venue in at least 2 group matches prior to the Play-offs/Finals or have a British Tennis rating of 4.1 or worse as of 4 March 2019. Exception: Where less than 7 fixtures are played, for each fixture not played, teams are permitted to nominate 1 extra player who has represented the team in only one group match.

An entire team walkover does not count for player eligibility. All completed rubbers against a team which is subsequently withdrawn will stand for the purposes of player qualification to the Playoffs and/or Finals.

#### **14. Competition Structure**

14.1 County Tier

Teams shall be entered in a County Tier league based on their venue registration code. Each league will be divided into divisions of 3-6 teams. County exceptions may apply. Each team will play each other team in their division once.

##### **County Tier Play-off**

The winning team from each County Division 1 shall qualify to the County Play-offs for promotion to the Regional Tier.

14.2 Regional Tier

Comprises of 8 groups each consisting of up to 8 teams based on specific Counties which will remain fixed year on year. Each team will play each other team in their group once. The winning team in each group shall be promoted to its respective National Tier group.

- 14.3 National Tier  
Comprises of 4 groups each consisting of up to 8 teams based on specific regions (and therefore Counties) which will remain fixed year on year. Each team will play each other team in their group once. The winner of National Tier South East, South West, Midlands and North divisions will automatically qualify to the Finals.

Teams earning prize money in the National Tier must submit a prize money form to [teamtennis@LTA.org.uk](mailto:teamtennis@LTA.org.uk) no later than 30 September 2019.

#### National Tier Play-offs

Teams finishing in the following positions will compete in the National Open Playoffs.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL OPEN PLAYOFFS 2019	
2nd Place Midlands	3rd Place South West
2nd Place North	2nd Place South East
1st Place Scotland or 3 <sup>rd</sup> place North	3rd Place South East
2nd Place South West	4th Place South East

MEN'S NATIONAL OPEN PLAYOFFS 2019	
2nd Place Midlands	2nd Place South West
3rd Place Midlands	2nd Place South East
2nd Place North	3rd Place South East
1st Place Scotland or 3 <sup>rd</sup> place North	4th Place South East

A pre-playoff fixture will take place on Saturday 6 July where the 1<sup>st</sup> placed Scotland team will play at home to 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the North group. The winner of this fixture will compete in the National Open Playoffs. The draw for the National Open playoffs will take place on or before Tuesday 9 July 2019. 4 teams will be seeded based on the top 4 eligible players. Home/Away scheduling will be drawn by lot. Matches will take place at 12pm on Saturday 20 July 2019.

#### National Tier Finals

The top men's and women's teams in each of the 4 National Tier divisions are joined by the 4 winning play-off teams. Prior to the Finals, teams shall nominate 4 to 8 players. The Referee shall seed 4 teams in the draw. The top 4 players who are playing on Friday must be nominated by 6.00pm on the Thursday before the Finals to determine seeding for the event. Any team not adhering to this rule will be subject to a fine decided by the Competition Team which shall be deducted from any prize money earned. Team captains and/or nominated players will be allowed on court and will be subject to the Code of Conduct.

- 14.4 Open Promotion/Relegation

Refer to the online document 'Open (adult) Promotion/Relegation 2019' at [www.LTA.org.uk/Team-Tennis](http://www.LTA.org.uk/Team-Tennis) for full details.

### **15. Match Arrangements**

- 15.1 Time & Date

Fixtures are to be played on the fixed dates specified. It is both team captains responsibility to contact each other before the match. In the County Tier, there will be flexibility to play before a fixed date if both teams agree and there is prior consent from the league organiser. On match day the home team captain shall be responsible for welcoming the away team and organising refreshments.

County Tier fixtures to start between 10am-4pm unless both teams agree otherwise. National/Regional Tier fixtures to start at 12pm unless both team agree otherwise. The home team must confirm start time with the away team a minimum of 14 days before the match date. By the Tuesday, the week prior to the fixture, the away team must also confirm their team's attendance. 3 rubber points may be deducted from the home teams accumulated league total at the discretion of the league organiser for none compliance from either team. Venues with two or more National/Regional Tier teams at home are permitted to stagger start times (e.g. 11am and 1pm).

- 15.2 Court Surfaces

The home team shall provide 2, 3 or 4 courts of the same surface. Where more than one court surface is used, the away team shall have the choice of court allocation for singles and doubles matches.

- 15.3 Balls

The home team shall supply a minimum of 3 new ITF approved balls for each singles rubber. At the National and Regional Tier, new balls shall be supplied for each doubles rubber.

- 15.4 Match Format

A match shall consist of 4 singles and 2 doubles rubbers.

- 15.5 Team Format

A team shall consist of four to six players. Four players shall play one singles rubber each and the 5th and/or 6th player(s) may be selected for one doubles rubber only.

- 15.6 Singles Nominations

At least 15 minutes before the start time of each match the team captains shall nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players in order of current British Tennis ratings. An ATP/WTA singles world ranking, followed by an ITF World Tennis Ranking of 1500 or better on match day must take precedence over British Tennis ratings. At the same time, captains shall provide the name of any other player(s) who may be selected for the doubles only. If players have the same rating, the captain can decide the team order which may change from match to match.

- 15.7 Doubles Nominations

The team captains shall nominate their doubles pairings 15 minutes after the singles rubbers have been completed. All players nominated for doubles must be on site at the time of nomination. The doubles pairings shall be nominated in accordance with the sum of the singles positions of the players in each pairing (see below). Where players are nominated for the doubles rubber(s) only then his/her singles position shall be regarded as:

Number 5 in the case of the 'doubles only player' with the higher rating (or current ATP/WTA ranking or ITF World Tennis Ranking of 1500 or better)  
Number 6 in the case of the 'doubles only player' with the lower rating.

If singles player number 1 plays with 5 and singles player 2 plays with 3 then 2 and 3 shall be the first pair. Where the total is the same, the pairing which includes the player who played in the highest order singles match shall be nominated as the first pair (e.g. if the pairings are 1 + 4 and 2 + 3, then 1 + 4 must be nominated as the first pair). If one player from a team of 4 is unable to play doubles, the nominated pair must play number 1.

#### 15.8 Order of Play

	On 2 Courts	On 3 Courts	On 4 Courts
Round 1	Singles 1&2	Singles 1-3	Singles 1-4
Round 2	Singles 3&4	Singles 4	Doubles 1&2
Round 3	Doubles 1&2	Doubles 1&2	

#### 15.9 Rubber Scoring

##### County Tier

	Sets 1 & 2	Set 3 (if necessary)
Singles & Doubles	Tiebreak at 6-6	Match Tiebreak (to 10 points, with 2 clear)

##### Regional/National Tier

	Set 1 & 2	Set 3 (if necessary)
Singles	Tiebreak at 6-6	Tiebreak at 6-6
Doubles	Tiebreak at 6-6	Match Tiebreak (to 10 points, with 2 clear)

#### 15.10 Match Scoring

A team is awarded 2 points for each rubber won.

At 6 points each a tiebreak shoot-out shall be played. No bonus rubber point will be awarded to the winning team in a tiebreak shoot-out. A tiebreak shoot-out shall consist of two singles tie breaks (to 10 points, with 2 clear) which are to be played at the same time followed by a doubles tiebreak (to 10 points, with 2 clear) if necessary. In the event that a team is reduced to 3 players, that team must concede the doubles tiebreak. In the event that both teams are reduced to 3 players and the singles tiebreaks are shared, a deciding doubles tiebreak (to 10 points, with 2 clear) shall be played between the remaining player and one of the singles shoot-out players. No substitutions or changes are permitted to the players who originally competed in the match. No player may play in more than one tiebreak. Players are to be nominated as follows:

Tiebreak 1 (Singles): One of the original players from the 1st/2nd singles rubbers.

Tiebreak 2 (Singles): One of the original players from the 3rd/4th singles rubbers.

Tiebreak 3 (Doubles): A pairing comprising any two of the other players who have played in the match.

#### 15.11 Match Result

The team with the most rubber points shall win the match, in the event of a tie, the winner of the tiebreak shoot-out will win the match  
A team will receive 2 match points on the league table for a match win.

Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecards, and retain their copy. The winning captain must then submit the result online within 48 hours. The result may be added by the losing team captain if agreed on match day. Any teams found guilty of submitting false results shall be subject to rule 17.2.

#### 15.12 Division Standings

The final standings in each division shall be determined by the following:

- I. The team with the greatest number of match points.
- II. If match points are equal, the team with the greatest number of rubber points.
- III. If only two teams are level on match points and rubber points; their head to head result.
- IV. If more than 2 teams are level, the round robin rule in the LTA Competition Regulations will determine the league standings.

## **Problem Solving Issues & Regulations (All age groups, all tiers)**

### **16. Problem Solving Issues**

#### **16.1 Late Arrival**

If any nominated player is not ready to play within 15 minutes of a rubber due on court then the opposing team shall be awarded a walkover for this rubber (by a score of 6-0, 6-0). No substitutions or alteration to the nominations or playing order may be made. The player concerned shall be permitted to play a doubles rubber (and tiebreak shoot-out) provided he/she is ready to play when the doubles rubber is due on court. If he/she is not ready when the doubles rubber is due on court the team will be deemed 'incomplete' and Rules 16.2 and 16.6 will apply.

In the event that the entire away team is going to be late for extenuating circumstances (e.g. motorway closure etc) and has contacted the home team in good time, a reasonable degree of flexibility on start time should be shown by the home team.

#### **16.2 Incomplete Teams**

If a venue is unable to field a complete team for the whole fixture then they shall first forfeit the lowest singles rubber and the second doubles rubber, followed by the next lowest rubber and so on. Incomplete teams will begin the fixture with 3 rubber points deducted where one player is missing and 6 rubber points from their match score where two or more players are missing. For example, an incomplete team consisting of 3 players will begin on -3 rubber points and will play 3 singles and 1 doubles rubber only. If the incomplete team win 3 rubbers (+6 rubber points) and lose 1 rubber the overall match score will be 6-3 to the complete team. As such no tiebreak shootout is to be played.

The complete team shall be deemed to have won the forfeited rubbers by a score of 6-0 6-0. Where one team is incomplete, the complete team may play any two of the nominated players as the No 1 doubles pair. When it is known before the match that one team is going to be incomplete, the lowest nominated singles player(s) of the opposing team does not have to be present for the fixture.

#### **16.3 Player Retirement**

If a player retires during a rubber, the opponent shall be deemed to have won all the remaining games and sets necessary to win the rubber. The player retiring from the rubber shall be eligible to compete in any remaining rubbers/tiebreak shoot-out.

#### **16.4 Completion of Matches (due to inclement weather)**

If play is suspended after a match has started then the match shall resume at the point of suspension.

If a match cannot be started due to rain or rain stops play before any rubbers have been completed then the match may be rearranged on or before the rain date at the original venue as set by the League Organiser. At the discretion of the league organiser, the home venue of a fixture may be reversed in the case of inclement weather and/or courts being unfit for play.

If a team has two matches rained off and schedules the first rained off match for the official rain date and cannot play the second rained off match prior to the rain date, then this second rained off match will be halved with both teams receiving 6 rubber points and 1 match point each. Where promotion/relegation is not affected, matches that are rained off on the agreed rain date will be halved with both teams receiving 6 rubber points and 1 match point each.

Where one or more rubbers have been completed, then the winner of the match shall be the team winning the most number of completed rubbers. 2 points shall be awarded for each completed rubber with any remaining points shared. For the purposes of final league placing calculations, the incomplete and unplayed rubbers shall be deemed shared by a score of 6-4, 4-6. Should each team have won an equal number of rubbers then each team shall receive 6 rubber points and 1 match point.

#### **16.5 Team Withdrawal**

A team giving a walkover shall take no further part in the competition. All results against this team will be declared null and void for the purposes of determining the final placing in its group. However, the League Organiser shall have the power to consider a team's position regarding a team walkover with extenuating circumstances, in which case the team receiving the walkover will win all rubbers 6-0, 6-0, and will receive 12 rubber points and a match win.

County Tier league organisers may - at their discretion - allow a team to fulfil their remaining fixtures following a walkover. However, the team will be retired at the end of the league season and as such all results will not be counted in the final league standings calculation. In the National Tier (Open age group) a team withdrawing at the Finals may forfeit prize money and be relegated.

#### **16.6 Playing out of order / Ineligible Player(s)**

If players play out of order then the singles rubbers involving those players shall be forfeited by a score of 0-6, 0-6.

If an ineligible player competes then the singles rubber involving the player concerned, and all singles rubbers lower in the team order shall be forfeited by a score of 0-6, 0-6. In addition, that team shall have 3 rubber points deducted from their match score for each ineligible player.

If both teams field a player out of order or an ineligible player then each team shall be deemed to have lost the singles rubber in a similar manner. Likewise if a team fields an ineligible player as a doubles only player they shall forfeit that rubber. Where doubles pairings are not in line with Rule 6.7/9.7/12.7/15.7 that team shall forfeit both doubles rubbers.

In the event of a match result being overturned by the League Organiser after the match has been completed which then results in a score of 6 points each then both teams will be awarded a half win (1 match point each). For 8&U/9&U/10&U age groups any forfeited/incomplete scores (as highlighted in rules 16.1-16.6) will be subject to the appropriate scoring format for that age group.

### **17. Regulations**

#### **17.1** All matches in the Competition shall be conducted in accordance with the ITF Rules of Tennis, the Rules and Regulations of the LTA, the LTA Competition Regulations, the LTA Code of Conduct and the Team Tennis Competition Regulations (in the event of any inconsistency, the Team Tennis Regulations shall prevail). Each player participating in the competition grants and assigns to the LTA the right to make, use and show from time to time and at its discretion, motion pictures, still pictures and live taped or filmed television and other reproduction of him/her

during the event and in connection with the promotion of the event without compensation for him/herself. Such promotional activities by the LTA shall not be identified as or represented to be an endorsement by the player of any product/company.

- 17.2 The day to day organisation of the Competition shall be carried out by the League Organiser under the auspices of the LTA Competitions Team (CT). The Competition is sanctioned by the LTA under the management of the CT. The CT shall have the power to decide on matters of interpretation of these regulations, to impose penalties including, but not limited to, the deduction of points and suspension for breaches of these Regulations; to suspend or modify any of these Regulations in appropriate circumstances. The CT decision on all matters is final.
- 17.3 Any complaint/dispute shall be made in writing on email to the League Organiser (copying in [teamtennis@LTA.org.uk](mailto:teamtennis@LTA.org.uk)) by the team captain within 48 hours of the complaint/dispute arising. Nevertheless, the League Organiser/CT shall have the power to consider any matter coming to their attention subsequently.
- 17.4 All players are subject to the Rules and Regulations of the LTA (including, without limitation, the LTA's Anti-Doping Programme, the Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Procedures and the Regulations Concerning Match Fixing, Financial Speculation and Betting) and fully and unconditionally submit to the jurisdiction and authority of the LTA by competing in the Competition.
- 17.5 Where a LTA registered venue is suspended, the LTA Competitions Team shall determine if the venue shall play any further part in the current or further stages of the Competition.