

2026 WINTER : SEPTEMBER 2026 - JANUARY 2027

WEEKLONG (HOLIDAY) TOURNAMENTS (GRADES 3 & 4): October Half Term & Christmas holidays

If you are interested in delivering a weeklong (holiday) competition during either October Half Term, or the Christmas holidays, please read the important information below.

KEY INFORMATION – GRADE 3 & GRADE 4 WEEKLONG COMPETITIONS

Only LTA Registered Venues are able to run Grade 1 to 6 competitions. This ensures all tournament venues meet Safeguarding Minimum Standards and have adequate insurance cover in place to protect officials, organisers, players and spectators.

2026 WINTER HOLIDAY COMPETITIONS SCHEDULE

Your competition week must be selected from the options below, other dates may be considered at the discretion of the National Competitions Team. All tournaments must adhere to the standard tournament week (Sunday – Saturday).

- October Half Term: Sunday 25 October – Saturday 31 October 2026
- Christmas Holidays Week 1: Sunday 20 December - Saturday 26 December 2026
- Christmas Holidays Week 2: Sunday 27 December 2026 – Saturday 2 January 2027

Where the Christmas holiday dates provide scheduling challenges, we will make an exception to the standard tournament week rule and approve competitions to take place across two weeks.

Other important dates to consider (*below national tour dates are still provisional and may be subject to change*):

- 9U National Tour: Saturday 31 October / Sunday 1 November 2026
- 10U National Tour: Monday 26 – Thursday 29 November 2026
- 11U & 12U Indoor National Championships: Saturday 24 – Wednesday 28 October 2026
- 14U Indoor National Championships: Monday 26 – Friday 30 October 2026
- 16U & 18U National Tour: Friday 30 October – Sunday 1 November 2026
- National Officiating Conference: Saturday 28 October - Sunday 29 October 2026

REFEREES

- All referees delivering LTA Approved competitions graded 1-5 must hold a valid LTA Officials Licence. Competitions must have a referee assigned at the point of creation and this will be checked as part of the approval process.
- A referee with a minimum grade of R2 must be appointed for Grade 3 competitions, and for Grade 4 competitions the referee must have a minimum grade of R3. (Lower graded referees may be considered at the discretion of the LTA Competitions Team, but approval must be sought in advance of the competition).

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APPLICATION PROCESS

- If you would like to apply, please read the important information below, and then submit an application online by creating your competition in the Competition Management System (CMS). The application window will be open from the **18th May 2026 – 14th June 2026**. Please note the dates and grades of any competitions you apply for are not guaranteed.
- Successful applications will be confirmed by **Friday 17th July 2026**.

GRADE 3 WEEKLONG (HOLIDAY) COMPETITION INFORMATION

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF THE HOSTING ORGANISER / VENUE

Organisers and/or tournament venues must ensure they meet the following minimum requirements before submitting an application:

- Grade 3 venues must have a minimum of 6 courts (subject to the draw sizes proposed) Multiple venues can be used if necessary but all venues must be LTA Registered.
- Suitable toilet, shower and changing facilities on site
- Catering facilities available throughout the duration of the tournament
- Court supervisors, a minimum of 1 court supervisor per six courts*
- The use of helpers/scorers for red and orange events is advised

**LTA Officiating can assist in providing tournament officials as long as a request is submitted at least two months prior to the start of the tournament.*

Tournament Administration and Presentation

- All Grade 3 tournaments **must** use online entry via the LTA website
- The tournament **must** be set-up to accept payment online via Stripe
- All event dates and draw sizes **must** be clearly provided on the tournament factsheet.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT – Grade 3 Competitions

The event dates for each age group must be specified when the tournament application is submitted.

Tournaments should consider running the following age groups:

- 8U Boys Singles and 8U Girls Singles
- 9U Boys Singles and 9U Girls Singles
- 10U Boys Singles and 10U Girls Singles
- 11U Boys Singles and 11U Girls Singles
- 12U Boys Singles and 12U Girls Singles
- 14U Boys Singles and 14U Girls Singles
- 16U Boys Singles and 16U Girls Singles
- 18U Boys Singles and 18U Girls Singles
- Open Men's & Open Women's Singles

11U events - The format for 11U events should be either a Round Robin to Elimination or a Compass Draw. The minimum format is an elimination draw with first match consolation.

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Doubles - Tournaments should run a minimum of four doubles events in their competition.

Scoring Formats - The following scoring formats must be used for Grade 3 competitions:

- 9U: Best of three tiebreaks to 7 (winning by 2 clear points)
- 10U: Two FAST4 sets with a deciding match tie-break
- 11U – Open: All main draw matches to be two full sets with a deciding match tiebreak. FAST4 scoring to be used for consolation and Doubles matches only.

GRADE 4 WEEKLONG (HOLIDAY) COMPETITION INFORMATION

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF THE HOSTING ORGANISER / VENUE

Organisers and/or tournament venues must ensure they meet the following minimum requirements before submitting an application:

- Venues must have a **minimum of 4 courts** (subject to the draw sizes proposed)
- Suitable toilet and changing facilities must be available on site
- Catering facilities should ideally be available throughout the duration of the tournament
- The use of court supervisors should be considered*
- The use of helpers/scorers for red and orange events is advised

**LTA Officiating can assist in providing tournament officials as long as a request is submitted at least two months prior to the start of the tournament.*

Tournament Administration and Presentation

- All grade 4 tournaments **must** use online entry via the LTA website
- The tournament **must** be set-up to accept payment online via Stripe
- All **event dates and draw sizes** must be clearly provided on the tournament factsheet.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

Whilst some Grade 4 competitions are successful as weeklong competitions, the most successful competitions have adapted their format in recent years. You may wish to consider the following:

- Organisers have found that running all Red, Orange and Green events on the same day has proved successful, especially on a weekend.
- Where possible yellow ball events should be run over one day, targeting a maximum of 8 or 16 player draws.
- One day should be set aside for all doubles events.
- Organisers are encouraged to run a selection of age groups, e.g. 12U and 16U Girls or 14U and 18U Girls but not necessarily every age group to try and maximise entries.
- Running open singles and doubles events for both Men and Women are recommended. These events should be run at the weekend if possible.

11U events - Where possible, the draw format for 11U events should be either a Round Robin to Elimination or a Compass Draw. The minimum format for this age group is an elimination draw with first match consolation.