

AEGON Team Tennis Schools Year 8 & 10 Rules 2010

1. Eligibility

School Eligibility

- 1.1 Entry to AEGON Team Tennis Schools Year 8 & 10 ("the Competition") is open only to schools in England, Scotland, Wales, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

Team Eligibility

- 1.2 Events
Year 8 Boys, Year 8 Girls, Year 10 Boys and Year 10 Girls
- 1.2 A school may enter more than one team in each event.
- 1.3 Where a school 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.
- 1.4 Where a school 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 on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent the lower team.

Player Eligibility

- 1.5 A player must be a registered member of the school on 1st September 2009.¹
- 1.6 Year 8 Boys & Year 8 Girls - A player must be in Years 7-8 or born between 1st September 1998 and 31st August 1996 inclusive.
Year 10 Boys & Year 10 Girls - A player must be in Years 7-10 or born between 1st September 1998 and 31st August 1994 inclusive.
- 1.7 A player may only represent one school in the competition.
- 1.8 A player may only compete in one event in the competition.

2. Competition Structure

- 2.1 League Stage
Local leagues (comprising of two divisions; division 1 and division 2) are coordinated by a league organiser who has the discretion in conjunction with the national organisers to organise local leagues in the most appropriate way for their area.
- 2.2 Knockout Stage
The top team from each division 1 will progress to the knockout stage. This is co-ordinated by the national organisers.
- 2.3 Quarter Finals
The 16 winning teams in each event from the knockout stage will compete in one of four regionalised quarter finals. Prior to the quarter finals, teams shall nominate a maximum of 5 players for the day. The national organisers shall seed 2 teams in each draw based on nominated player LTA ratings. The team captain will be allowed on court during rubbers and will be subject to the 'on court team captains' Code of Conduct.
- 2.4 Finals
The winning teams in each event from the 4 regionalised quarter finals will compete in the finals. Prior to the finals, teams shall nominate a maximum of 5 players for the weekend. The National Organisers shall seed 2 teams in the draw based on nominated players LTA rating. The team captain will be allowed on court and will be subject to the 'on court team captains' Code of Conduct.²

3. Match Arrangements

- 3.1 Dates
Matches shall be played on the dates specified by the league organiser. However, there will be flexibility to play before the date if both teams agree and there is prior consent from the league organiser. Each team must have an adult captain present at each match.
- 3.2 Balls
The home team shall supply 3 LTA approved balls for each rubber.
- 3.3 Match Format
Boys and girls events shall consist of 4 singles and 2 doubles rubbers.
- 3.4 Match Nominations
A team shall consist of 4 players for each match. There are no additional players or substitutions permitted at a match.
- 3.5 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 LTA Ratings. If players have the same rating, the captain can decide the team order which may change from match to match. Players with no LTA rating must play in order of merit but not above any rated player.
- Doubles Nominations
Doubles nominations must be submitted at the same time as the singles nominations. The doubles pairings are at the discretion of the teacher in charge of the team, except that the Number 1 singles player must play in the Number 1 doubles pair.

3.6 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		

¹ With the exception; where players move schools between local league and the knockout stages they may continue to represent their original school. If they wish to represent their new school they may only do so if they have not represented any other school in the previous term in either age group or division.

² The order of play for matches at the finals will be doubles 2, doubles 1 followed by singles 4, singles 3, singles 2 and singles 1.

3.7 Rubber Scoring³

Singles & Doubles	Each rubber is one set with a tiebreak at 6/6
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3.8 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. The doubles team may be any two players who have played the match. 1 bonus point will be awarded to the winning team in a tiebreak shoot-out, (i.e. a 7-6 result).

3.9 Match Result

The team with the most rubber points shall 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. The winning team captain must submit the result within 48 hours.

Walkovers must be inputted with no players entered.

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 Tournament Regulations will determine the division standings.

4. Problem Solving Issues

4.1 Late Arrival

If a team arrives more than 30 minutes after the agreed start time, the opponents can claim the two doubles rubbers by a score of 6-0. If a team has not arrived 1 hour after the agreed start time, the opponents will be awarded the match by a score of 12-0.

4.2 Incomplete Teams

If a school is unable to field a complete team for the match then they shall first forfeit the lowest singles rubber and the second doubles rubber, followed by the next lowest rubber and so on. The opposing team shall be deemed to have won any forfeited rubbers by a score of 6-0.

4.3 Player Retirement

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

4.4 Completion of Matches

If a match cannot be started due to rain or rain stops play then the match may be rearranged on or before the rain date at the original venue as set by the League Organiser.

If play is suspended after a match has started then the match shall resume at the point of suspension. All points played shall stand. If a player is unavailable when a match resumes, the suspended rubber and all subsequent rubbers for that player are awarded to the opponent(s).

4.5 Team Withdrawal

Teams receiving an entire team walkover will win all rubbers 6-0, and will receive maximum rubber points and a match win.

4.6 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. Where doubles pairings are not in line with Rule 3.5 that club shall forfeit both doubles rubbers. 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.

5. Regulations

5.1 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 Tournament Regulations, the LTA Code of Conduct, and the competition rules (in the event of any inconsistency, the competition rules 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.

5.2 The day to day organisation of the Competition shall be carried out by the league organiser under the auspices of the LTA National Competitions Department (NCD). The Competition is sanctioned by the LTA under the management of the NCD. The NCD shall have the power to decide on matters of interpretation of these rules, to impose penalties including, but not limited to, the deduction of points and suspension for breaches of these Rules; to suspend or modify any of these Rules in appropriate circumstances. The NCD decision on all matters is final.

5.3 Any complaint/dispute shall be made in writing on email to the League Organiser (copying in schoolscompetition@LTA.org.uk) by the team captain within 48 hours of the cause of the complaint/dispute arising. Nevertheless, the League Organiser/NCD shall have the power to consider any matter coming to their attention subsequently.

5.4 All players are subject to the Rules 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.

To feedback on these rules please email schoolscompetition@lta.org.uk.

³ In division 2 each rubber may be a short set (to 4 games) with a tie-break (to 7 points, with 2 clear) if 4-4 is reached.