

## AEGON Team Tennis Schools National Championships Rules 2010

### 1. Eligibility

#### School Eligibility

- 1.1 Entry to AEGON Team Tennis Schools Senior Students ("the Competition") is open only to schools and Further Education Colleges in England, Scotland, Wales, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

#### Team Eligibility

- 1.2 Events  
Boys (Glanvill Cup) and Girls (Aberdare Cup)
- 1.3 A school may enter a maximum of two teams in each event.
- 1.4 Where a school has two teams in an event, the 'A' team must be the strongest team based on ratings.
- 1.5 Where a school has two teams in an event, a player may 'play up' on a maximum of one occasion without the 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 a lower team.<sup>1</sup>

#### Player Eligibility

- 1.6 A player must be a registered member of the school on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009.
- 1.7 A player must be in Years 7-13 or born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 1998 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 1991 inclusive.
- 1.8 A player may only represent one school in the competition.

### 2. Competition Structure

- 2.1 Knockout Stage  
Teams shall be entered in 1 of 12 groups based on geography. Four teams in each event will be pre-seeded to the finals based on the LTA ratings of the nominated players. No 'B' teams can be pre-seeded.
- 2.2 Finals  
The 12 winning teams in each event from the knockout stage, as well as the four pre-seeded teams, will compete in the finals. The four pre-seeded teams will be seeded in the draw. Prior to the finals, teams shall nominate a maximum of 5 players for the week. The team captain will be allowed on court during rubbers and will be subject to the 'on court team captains' Code of Conduct.

### 3. Match Arrangements

- 3.1 Dates  
Matches shall be played on the fixed dates specified. However, there will be flexibility to play before a fixed date if both teams agree and there is prior consent from the national organisers. 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 or 5 players for each match. Four players shall play one singles rubber each and the 5<sup>th</sup> player may be selected for the doubles only.
- 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. At the same time, captains shall provide the name of any other player who may be selected for the doubles only.
- 3.6 Doubles Nominations  
The team captains shall nominate their doubles pairings after the singles rubbers have been completed. The doubles pairings shall be nominated in accordance with the sum of the singles positions of the players in each pairing (see below). Where a player is nominated for a doubles rubber only then his/her singles position should be regarded as number 5.

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 the first pair). If one player from a team of 4 is unable to play the doubles, the nominated pair must play number 1.

#### 3.7 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		

#### 3.8 Rubber Scoring

	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3
Singles & Doubles	Tiebreak at 6-6	Tiebreak at 6-6	Match tiebreak (to 10 points, with two clear) in place of 3 <sup>rd</sup> set

<sup>1</sup> Where a team is pre-seed, the top 4 nominated players, based on LTA ratings from the entry form, are not eligible to represent the 'B' team.

### 3.9 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)

### 3.10 Match Result

The team with the most rubber points shall win the match.

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. Walkovers must be inputted online with no players entered.

## **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, 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, 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, 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, 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.

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 and where doubles pairings are not in line with Rule 3.6 that club shall forfeit both doubles rubbers.

## **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 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 [schoolscompetition@LTA.org.uk](mailto:schoolscompetition@LTA.org.uk) by the team captain within 48 hours of the cause of the complaint/dispute arising. Nevertheless, the 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](mailto:schoolscompetition@lta.org.uk).