

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Club Championships are a great opportunity for everyone at the club to battle it out to become university champion! The finals day can be a big event with spectators invited and other fun competitions/social events taking place around the tennis matches to help promote your tennis club.

There are a range of different formats that you can use to run your Club Championships:

PROGRESSIVE DRAWS

What is it?

With a progressive draw, different levels of players will join the draw at different stages. This enable stronger players to feed into the draw at a later stage, giving less experienced players an opportunity to play a few matches before meeting a higher ranked/rated player.

A typical format would be:

Monday: All beginners compete, with the two finalists progressing into Tuesday's competition.

Tuesday: All intermediate players compete along with the two players who advanced from Monday's competition, with the two finalists progressing into Wednesday's competition.

Wednesday: All team players compete along with the two players who advanced from Tuesday's competition, with the winner of the whole competition being decided on this day.

Benefits of using this format:

Many clubs choose to use this format as they can use different scoring systems for different groups of players based on what the different standards of players feel comfortable with. This also allows all players to compete against a similar standard in the same competition.

KNOCK OUT DRAWS WITH CONSOLATION

What is it?

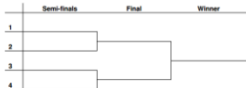
Players will compete against each other, with the winner advancing to the next stage and the loser of each match being eliminated from the competition (similar to the format of Wimbledon). A consolation draw can also be added so that players who lose their first round compete in a knock out draw, resulting in a winner of the consolation draw.

Many clubs choose to use this traditional format as it is very simple to run and the tournament can easily be completed in a short amount of time. With this format, every player will also get more than one match.

8 Player Knock-out Draw with Consolation



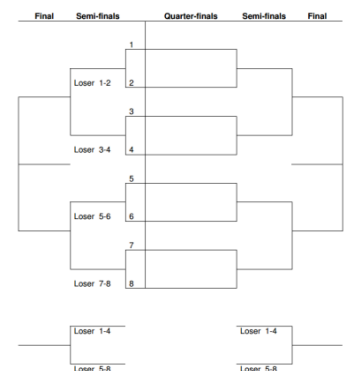
Consolation



COMPASS DRAW

All players will play-off progressively in pairs at every stage of the competition. In the first round, winners will move into the main draw whilst losers will go enter the consolation draw.

The difference between this format and a knock out draw with consolation (see above) is that all players will compete in the same amount of matches, resulting in every player having a finishing position.



THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING YOUR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

FORMAT

- What events are you going to run? (E.g. singles or doubles). If you are running a doubles competition, will players need to enter as a pair?
- How are the matches going to be scheduled? Some clubs allow players to schedule their own matches as long as each round is completed by a 'play-by-date' whilst other clubs schedule times for each match.
- How many courts and what court time do you have access to? Ensure that you have enough court time to complete all of the matches in your tournament.
- Ensure that you plan your championships at an appropriate time so that more students can take part. Avoid arranging the event close to exam period or reading weeks.

PROMOTION

- How will people hear about your event? Many clubs choose to advertise their event through social media and posters. Editable posters to promote your tournament can be found on [My Tennis Toolkit](#).
- Who are you promoting your Club Championships to? Are you targeting your team players or all members of your club?
- How will people enter your tournament? Some clubs will hand out entry forms whilst others will have a system where players can enter online (if you choose to use TTP to run your tournament, you will be able to setup a website where people can enter into the draw).

FINALS DAY

- If you are planning on running a finals day, this could be a big event for your club! Some clubs have chosen to hold bake sales, BBQ's and other exhibition matches and fun events to make the day something to remember. This is also a great way to raise money to support your club or a charity close to the club. Make sure that you get in touch with RAG at your university if you are planning on holding a charity event.
- What prizes can you offer to your players? Most clubs will present trophies to their finalists which may mean that you need to charge an entry fee. Other clubs will offer prizes such as tickets to sports events, individual coaching sessions etc.

SUBMITTING YOUR RESULTS

- Make sure that you submit the results from your Club Championships to ensure they count towards LTA ratings. We offer several resources to help you submit your results, ranging from software packages such as Tennis Tournament Planner (TTP) to online results submission tools such as Results Manager. Make sure you read the '**Results Submission Guide**' to see what resources would be most suitable for your club.

QUESTIONS AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions about the information above, or would like advice regarding which format would be best for your university, please contact Katie Evans at katie.evans@lta.org.uk or 020 8487 7184.