

This document cancels and replaces the issue dated 28.7.23

Note: While the current competition review is in progress it may be necessary for the Board to use its power to amend these regulations during the playing season.

1 CONSTITUTION OF DIVISIONS

- 1.1 Teams shall be divided into male divisions and female divisions.
- 1.2 There shall be a male and a female Premier Division.
- 1.3 The Committee may decide to have two or more divisions of equal status.
- 1.4 Each division, including the Premier Divisions, shall consist of not more than eight nor fewer than five teams, as determined by the Committee.

2 FORMATION OF DIVISIONS

- 2.1 Teams will be allocated to all divisions based on the totals of the ranking points of their three highest placed players as in the Junior Rating list published after new season opening ratings are published. As from Season 25/26, the aggregated ranking process will additionally incorporate 'bonus points' related to i) previous season finishing position, ii) Premier/ Associate/ Registered club affiliation status, iii) 1st team entry, and iv) player retention from the previous season. All players, including foreign and Home Countries players, who do not yet have a TTE Junior rating will be allocated a dummy rating for this purpose only. New divisions will be created to satisfy the number of teams applying, these divisions will be vertically structured i.e. Premier, Division 1, Division 2, Division 3 etc. Divisions that cannot be accommodated in the current setup will play at a separate venue on a separate date.
- 2.2 If a team withdraws before the first round of matches their place will be taken by the highest rated team from the division below and eventually a new team will be entered into the bottom division.
- 2.3 There shall be no more than one team from the same club in any division.

3 PLAYING FORMAT

- 3.1 Each team shall consist of three players selected from those registered for that team.
- 3.2 A team match shall consist of six singles matches, played in the following order: A v Y, B v X, C v Z, A v X, C v Y, B v Z.
- 3.3 Until 30 minutes before the starting time for the match the order in Regulation 3.2 may be varied by agreement of both team captains and the Referee.
- 3.4 All individual matches shall be played.
- 3.5 No registered player may represent another team in the same or a lower division.
- 3.6 Clubs which have more than one team in the League may play any of their players from a lower-ranked team in any higher-ranked team, with the proviso that the player may not replace a lower-rated player; on playing up in three rounds the player becomes restricted to play for that higher-ranked team.

4 REGISTRATION & TRANSFER

- 4.1 The latest date for registration or transfer is 48 hours before the first match of the season.

- 4.2 If a player whose rating points are used in the team's calculations is registered but does not play in any matches without an acceptable reason, the club will be fined £100 for each such player.
- 4.3 In divisions other than the Premier Division and Division 1, after the first weekend and up to 48 hours before the first match of the second weekend, a club can register further players for its lowest team provided their rating points are less than those of the lowest-ranked registered player in that team. See also LG 4.2.8.

5 PLAYER RANKING

- 5.1 The online club ranking order module will be accessible shortly after the closing date for entries has passed and will remain open through to July 31 for clubs to submit their club ranking order.
- 5.2 All players who have actual or dummy ratings, or are deemed to be of that standard from a reliable source of information received, in the top 50 boys or top 30 girls of the appropriate TTE rating list, must be ranked contiguously from number 1 in the same order for their club and above any who have no such rating; the Executive Officer/Referee will make any adjustment necessary to achieve this.
- 5.3 Immediately before each weekend of competition, the Executive Officer or the Referee shall rank the players in each team in accordance with the procedure of 5.2; these rankings will be published in the programme for the relevant section for that weekend and must be observed.
- 5.4 For each team the players present must be declared to the Referee not later than 1 hour before the scheduled start of play.
 - 5.4.1 If after a match a player nominated to play was not present, the team's order shall be amended to show the missing player as No 3 and the results amended accordingly with respect to Regulation 5.5.
- 5.5 If a team plays out of ranking order, a player of that team shall forfeit with the score of 0-11, 0-11, 0-11 any match played against a player against whom he would not have played if his team had played in ranked order and the team will be liable to the fine specified in BL General Regulations. This includes the case where a team plays an ineligible player and this affects the ranking position of another player, or players.

6 SYSTEM OF PLAY

- 6.1 The League shall be completed over two weekends, preferably not more than ten weeks apart.
- 6.2 In 6-team divisions each team shall compete against all other teams in its division at both weekends.
- 6.3 In 8-team divisions each team shall compete against all other teams once (five sessions of the first weekend and the first two sessions of the second weekend).
 - 6.3.1 Two mini-divisions of four will then be formed based on the finishing positions (teams 1-4 and 5-8), with each team competing against all the other teams in its mini-division over the final sessions of the second weekend.
 - 6.3.2 Results of all matches will be carried forward from the first seven sessions to the appropriate 4-team mini-division.

7 AWARDS

- 7.1 Medals will be awarded to players in all first- and second-placed teams, to a maximum of four per team.
- 7.2 Where perpetual trophies are awarded, it shall be the responsibility of the recipients to return the trophies in good condition and engraved, by arrangement with the Administrator.
- 7.3 Medals will be awarded to the boys' and girls' teams nominated as Teams of the Weekend and to the boy and girl nominated as "Players of the Weekend".

8 ELIGIBILITY

- 8.1 Players must not be under any current TTE sanctions (See TTE Regulations for Regulated Competitions - Suspension of Right to Play).
- 8.2 A club cannot register for any team more than one player who is not affiliated to the National Association of a Home Country. Where such a player may be eligible to play in a higher-ranked team under Regulation 3.6, then no more than one such player may play in any fixture.
- 8.3 All players must be under 19 years of age on 31st December during the current Membership Year.

9 THE PLAYING AREA

- 9.1 The following individuals are authorised to be at the playing area and to give advice:
 - 9.1.1 all players named on the matchcard
 - 9.1.2 all players registered for the team in question
 - 9.2.3 up to three coaches and/or non-playing captains

10 EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- 10.1 In exceptional circumstances, the Committee shall have power to take such action as it considers necessary, including redefinition of the structure and temporary waiving of regulations.