



Table Tennis England league and fixture management platform Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

General

1. Why did Table Tennis England decide to move away from TT365 League Manager?

It's our duty to always make sure that we are procuring our members the best value, most effective option for our services. TT365 is no longer affordable and, for the same amount we were paying them this season, we can build our own system and ensure that it will always be available to our members and not subject to sudden price rises or other external business factors.

2. Why should the membership move to TTE Fixtures and League Platform?

We have committed to providing our affiliated leagues and players with access to a league and fixture management system as the most directly tangible benefit of membership. The new system will do everything we need it to, we will have the ability to develop and add tailored formats to suit most needs before the season commences. Vitally, it will be owned by Table Tennis England – not by a third party. That makes it a lot more sustainable and cost-effective over the long term.

3. Does Sport England pay for League Manager?

No. Access to a league and fixture management system is just one of the benefits you get from being part of the table tennis family when you become a member of Table Tennis England.

4. Apparently you were offered the chance to buy TT365, why didn't you?

Any discussion to buy the platform predates the current leadership and therefore we aren't able to confirm or deny if such an offer was made or what discussions took place.

5. Why did Table Tennis England choose Rocca Creative and SportPAD?

- a. They are a leading provider of multisport fixtures platforms. They have a decade of sporting software development experience including fixtures management and audience engagement for a number of sectors. Their expertise in this field, along with their ability to develop bespoke software to tight timescales made them an ideal partner.
- b. Rocca have worked with Sheffield Hallam, Leeds, York, Hull, Portsmouth, Bristol, Brighton, Manchester, Norwich & Loughborough Universities to manage their multi-sports leagues and fixtures
- c. Finally, a deal like this allows us to own the technology we're all using – that makes a partnership like this much more sustainable for our sport.

6. Are Rocca Creative a going concern? Are their accounts in order?



Absolutely. We do due diligence on every partner we work with. Rocca Creative publish their accounts in line with all regulations and the fact they work with huge corporations as well as smaller organisations gives us great confidence. This is a company that has been growing for a decade.

7. How will the situation with Rocca Creative be any different to TT365?

Instead of doing everything through a third-party provider who has the ability to change the terms of business, we have paid for the development and will then own the product at the end. We will continue the development and roll out irrespective of the demand as it is an investment for now and the future. We have no intention of charging our affiliated leagues and the players for use of the TT Leagues platform outside of membership fees - it is a core benefit of membership.

8. How is a one-size-fits-all-product going to work for table tennis?

This is not a one size fits all solution – an established sports league management platform is being adapted for table tennis with the assistance of a team of league admins - people who run leagues on a day-to-day basis and have experience of what is required.

9. Have Rocca Creative worked on table tennis-specific platforms previously?

Yes, they are developers of multisports fixtures platforms which already include table tennis. Rocca are also working with three current league administrators to ensure the platform is 'table tennis ready'.

10. Will there be an affiliation fee increase to cover the development costs of the new system?

No. The costs of development are covered by the agreed 19/20 budget. Furthermore, the Board will propose to the AGM to keep affiliation fees at the 18/19 level for next season.

11. Do you have to pay additional fees if you play in multiple leagues?

No, you are affiliated to Table Tennis England, therefore you can play in any affiliated leagues.

12. Will the new system be ready for the new season?

Yes. We will launch it in plenty of time for the new season. It will be available for you to use from July, once all the testing has been completed. See below for how leagues can get involved in the test phase.

13. How can we get involved in testing?

Contact Joanna.keay-blyth@tabletennisengland.co.uk

14. Is there a risk that it will not be as usable as the current system?

The top priority is to ensure all the necessary functionality exists and it is easy to use. Extra functionality is being commissioned to improve upon the current system. Some leagues will use all the extra functionality while others will just want to do what they've always done.



15. Will there be training?

Yes - training will be available to you in a variety of formats, including video help guides, a helpdesk, and regional 'champions' – trained league administrators who will pass on their knowledge. More than 70 leagues will be helping us fine-tune the system too and we want them to help others learn the ropes too.

16. What IT assistance will there be to help us set up?

There will be a video guides, help guides and a specific helpdesk contact, the support of our internal Customer Service team and our regional teams.

17. How can we make sure we don't lose our historic data from TT365 and get it onto SportPAD?

There's no reason for you to lose historic data. We will work with TT365 to retain this data for you and help transfer it to the new system. But if you are concerned, there is a simple way for you to save your data which we can then transfer to the new platform. This involves creating a CSV file that we will send instructions on how to do nearer the time.

TTE Fixtures & League Platform

18. Who was involved in the specification of the new Table Tennis England fixtures & leagues platform?

People like you. A group of current League Administrators have been meeting the developers regularly to ensure the platform is table tennis-specific and meets the needs of Table Tennis England and our Leagues.

19. Will the new Table Tennis England fixtures and league platform be providing a website for the clubs?

Club websites will be looked at in Phase 2 of the project which will start in September, Phase 1 will focus on leagues

20. Will there be an email facility for leagues to contact their members?

Yes, this will be provided free of charge and with no limits on the number of emails sent.

21. Can we utilise our current website if linked to TT365?

There is a new modern website attached to the new system so it would be more beneficial to transfer. We'll be making this as easy and simple as possible.

22. Can SportPAD link to our current website that is not TT365?

Yes, it can.

23. Have SportPAD made their system specific to table tennis?

Yes, the developers have spent many hours with current league administrators to ensure fixture lists and match formats that are widely used within table tennis are incorporated. SportPAD serves as the 'framework' for the Table Tennis England league and fixture



management platform – the platform itself will be table tennis specific and be branded as a Table Tennis England product.

24. Will we be able to enter results at the fixtures?

Yes, this can be completed through a mobile app or weblink and is planned in phase 1.

25. Will the system produce ranking lists?

Yes, it will have the capability to include a ranking module. We will work with leagues to understand exactly what is wanted and include it in Phase 2 of development which will start in September

26. Will player averages be a feature?

Yes.

27. Will the new league and fixture management platform link to the new Table Tennis England Membership Platform created by Sport:80?

Yes – and member data will pull through into the league and fixture platform.

28. Will there be an app?

Yes, you will be able to enter results and check fixtures from your phone.

29. Will all league formats be available?

Commonly-used formats will be available first as highlighted below and then the others added following consultation with members on additional formats.

2-a-side (4 singles sets), 2-a-side + Doubles (5 sets), 3-a-side (9 sets), 3-a-side + 1 doubles (10 sets), 3-a-side + 3 doubles (12 sets), 4-a-side + 1 doubles

30. Will there be the ability to sell advertising?

Yes, this has been programmed for Phase 2 and, subject to member requirements, will allow leagues to generate income for themselves by selling local advertising. There is also the possibility of Table Tennis England placing relevant partner advertisements too.

Data

31. Who owns membership information and data?

Table Tennis England is the owner.

32. Who owns Local League data?

Data about affiliated leagues is owned by Table Tennis England.

Data about league results is owned by TT365.

33. Who owns rankings and ratings lists?



Table Tennis England, owns the national ranking list currently generated by TT365 but this will be generated by the new Membership System Sport 80.

The local ranking lists are in Phase 2 of the new League Manager system

34. Who owns British League data?

Table Tennis England is the owner.

Affiliation

35. If an Affiliated League disaffiliates from Table Tennis England, can Affiliated Members still play in that League against unaffiliated players?

There is no current Regulation to prevent this.

36. If members of an Affiliated League do not wish to maintain an England ranking or to compete in tournaments and other competitions authorised by Table Tennis England, do they need to affiliate as Player Members?

They must affiliate as Player Members if they still wish to play in the League competition.

37. Do all players competing in a Table Tennis England Affiliated League need to be Player Members?

Yes.

38. Do members of an Affiliated League who do not wish to compete in the league competition have to affiliate as Player Members?

No, they can affiliate free as Associate Members.

39. What are the consequences of a league disaffiliating from Table Tennis England?

The league and its members would cease to have a relationship with the National Governing Body. Not only would it lose the benefit of public liability and private accident insurance (which are both expensive to obtain elsewhere) and the right to appoint a Company Member to vote on its behalf, but it would also be turning its back on the only Rules and Regulations established to regulate table tennis in England. It would no longer be helping to fund the future development of the sport. The league and its players would cease to receive the support of Table Tennis England, losing access to grants, expertise, training and support, as well as programmes and initiatives designed to help sustain the sport in the long term.

40. Does playing an unaffiliated League constitute 'Competitive Table Tennis'?

No, because it does not comply with the definition in Table Tennis England Regulations Part A.

AGM



41. There is a proposition (proposition 4) going to the AGM seeking a £7 reduction in membership fees in order to divert this money to TT365 for League Manager. What effect will a £7 reduction fee from Table Tennis England?

It's important for a national governing body to raise its own revenue in order to support a number of key programmes that may not be funded by public funding from Sport England. Any deduction in the revenue we receive from membership fees will have an impact on some of the programmes we deliver, including TT Kidz (a new programme aimed at getting more 7-11 year olds in the sport, our elite team and our national competitions. To help you understand where your membership fees go and how important they are to the sport, we have published an article explaining how your fees help support you and the sport you love. <https://tabletennisengland.co.uk/news/featured-news/what-your-membership-fees-fund/>