

**Regulations Part B: TOURNAMENTS****REGULATIONS**

- 1 Definitions
- 2 Classification
- 3 Permission
- 4 Other Applicable Regulations
- 5 Tournament Officials
- 6 Entry Form & Entries
- 7 The Draw
- 8 Banded Events
- 9 Playing Conditions & Equipment
- 10 Programme
- 11 Finals
- 12 Reports
- 13 English National Championships

**Annexes**

- A Notes for Organisers
- B Entry Form Check List
- C Eligibility Check
- D Grand Prix Tournaments

*Forms OT1, OT3, OT4 and OT5 can be downloaded from the TTE website under Coach-Officials-Tournament Organiser Forms*

**1 DEFINITIONS**

- 1.1 Open Tournament: A tournament for which entry is open to the players of any Association affiliated to the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).
- 1.2 Closed Tournament: A tournament for which entry is restricted to members of a particular community, such as an organisation or a profession.
- 1.3 Invitation Tournament: A tournament for which entry is restricted to particular players or teams, individually invited.

**2 CLASSIFICATION**

- 2.1 Open Tournaments will be classified by the Tournament Approval Panel (TAP) as Development, 1-Star, 2-Star, 3-Star or 4-Star in order of rising standards.

**3 PERMISSION**

- 3.1 The TAP is responsible for arranging the Competition Calendar for each Membership Year.
- 3.2 No Open Tournament, and no Invitation Tournament to which players from more than one County are invited, can be run without permission from the Board or from the TAP on behalf of the Board. *(The jurisdiction of a County Association over events and activities within its area is defined in Regulations Part C: County Administration.)*
- 3.3 Application to run an Open Tournament must be sent on Form OT1 to the TAP Secretary
  - 3.3.1 for a Development Tournament not later than 4 weeks before the proposed date.
  - 3.3.2 for a 1 Star-graded tournament not later than 3 months before the proposed date.
  - 3.3.3 for a 2-4 Star-graded tournament not later than 6 months before the proposed date.
- 3.4 The TAP may, at its discretion, accept late applications.

**4 OTHER APPLICABLE REGULATIONS**

- 4.1 Regulations Part A: Regulated Competitions apply to all tournaments;
- 4.2 Unless variations are stated in these Regulations, the RC Regulations or the entry form, the ITTF Regulations for Open Competitions are mandatory for all Open Tournaments and are recommended for Closed and Invitation Tournaments. *(See Annex A to the RC Regulations for specifications of playing conditions, equipment and clothing.)*

**5 TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS**

- 5.1 The Organiser and Referee of an Open Tournament must be Affiliated Members and they, or responsible deputies, must be present throughout play.
- 5.2 The identities, and whereabouts during play, of the Organiser and Referee must be made known to participants.
- 5.3 The Organiser of a 2- or 3-Star tournament must be qualified to at least Level 2 (T02) and of a 4-Star tournament to at least Level 3 (T03).
- 5.4 The Referee of a Development or 1-Star tournament must be a suitably experienced person whose appointment will be subject to approval by the TAP.
- 5.5 The Referee of a 2- or 3-Star tournament must be qualified to at least Level 1 (Tournament Referee) and of a 4-Star tournament to at least Level 2 (National Referee); a Deputy Referee of a 3- or 4-Star tournament must be qualified to at least Level 1.
- 5.6 All matches in Star-graded tournaments must be controlled by an umpire.

- 5.7 Umpires qualified to Level 1 (County Umpire) or above must be appointed for all knock-out matches in 4-Star tournaments and the finals of 3-Star tournaments, and it is recommended that they be appointed for all knock-out matches in 3-star tournaments and the finals of 2-star tournaments.
- 5.8 An Organising Committee must be appointed for 2-, 3- and 4-Star tournaments and is recommended for Development and 1-Star tournaments.

## **6 ENTRY FORM AND ENTRIES**

- 6.1 An entry form is required for all Star-graded tournaments and is recommended for Development Tournaments.
- 6.2 The entry form must include the items shown in the Entry Form Check List (*Annex B*) and shall be submitted for TAP approval at least 2 weeks before publication. (*Annex A*)
- 6.3 Entries must be numbered in order of receipt; if it is necessary to restrict entries, priority shall be given in order of receipt except that, in a 4-Star tournament, valid entries from Junior Boys rated 1-50 in the Rating List current at the closing date and from Cadet Boys, Junior Girls and Cadet Girls rated 1-32 must be accepted, with priority thereafter being given to Junior Boys rated 51-500 and Junior Girls rated 33-250, in order of receipt.

## **7 THE DRAW**

- 7.1 The Referee of an Open Tournament is responsible for the conduct of the draw in accordance with the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.
- 7.2 The draw for all events must be displayed in the playing venue and regularly updated to show the progress of play.

## **8 BANDED EVENTS**

- 8.1 An Open Tournament may include events from which players above and below certain rating points totals are excluded, the limits being by the ratings shown on the relevant National Rating List.
- 8.2 Such events must be called 'Band 1 Men's Singles', 'Band 2 Women's Singles', 'Band 3 Boys' Singles' etc, as appropriate.
- 8.3 Bands must be clearly indicated in the entry form - eg 'from 1000-1499', or 'above (or below) 1000'.
- 8.4 To be eligible to enter the appropriate event a player must, at the closing date for entries, have a rating within the range set for the chosen band.

## **9 PLAYING CONDITIONS AND EQUIPMENT**

- 9.1 The playing conditions and equipment appropriate for each class of Open Tournament are set out in Annex A to the Regulated Competitions (RC) Regulations.
- 9.2 Score indicators must be provided for at least the finals of a 1-Star tournament and for all matches in other Star-graded tournaments.

## **10 PROGRAMME**

- 10.1 It is recommended that a programme with draw sheets be supplied free to all competitors in a 2-, 3- or 4-Star tournament, either electronically or as hard copy.
- 10.2 For 3- or 4- Star tournaments the programme should show individual match times.

## **11 FINALS**

- 11.1 Finals of 2-, 3- and 4-Star tournaments should be played on a clearly defined 'show table'.
- 11.2 For finals of 3- and 4-Star tournaments there should be no play on immediately adjacent tables.

## **12 REPORTS**

- 12.1 Not later than 14 days after an Open Tournament the Organiser must send to the Table Tennis England (TTE) Office
  - 12.1.1 the results together with a list of entries and, for a Star-graded tournament, completed draw sheets, 2 copies of any programme produced and any Day Licence fees collected; (*Form OT4*)
  - 12.1.2 a report of disciplinary actions, if any, taken by umpires or the Referee. (*Form OT3*)
- 12.2 The TAP may appoint a Tournament Observer to report on the conduct of an Open Tournament, and the Organiser of a 1- or 2-Star tournament can submit a self-assessment. (*Form OT5*)

## **13 ENGLISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- 13.1 The schedule of events in English National Championships will be determined by the Competitions and Events Manager and published on the TTE website.
- 13.2 All competitors must be eligible to represent England in international competitions. (*Annex C*)

## **Annex A to Tournament Regulations: NOTES FOR TOURNAMENT ORGANISERS**

*It is expected that communication referred to in these notes will normally be by email, but traditional hard copy communication is equally acceptable.*

- 1 For permission to run a 1 Star-Graded Tournament you must apply to the Tournament Approval Panel (TAP) Secretary\* at least 3 months before the proposed date.
- 2 For permission to run a 2 Star or above Graded Tournament you must apply to the TAP Secretary at least 6 months before the proposed date.
- 3 For permission to run a Development Tournament you must submit your application not later than four weeks before the proposed date. Development Tournaments will not be entered on the Competitions Calendar.
- 4 No tournament will be entered on the TTE Calendar until a fully completed and approved Form OT1 has been submitted and approved.
- 5 You are advised to discuss possible dates with the TAP Chairman\* before submitting a formal application, so that a suitable date can be chosen within an increasingly crowded Competitions Calendar.
- 6 The application form must be countersigned by the General Secretary of your County Association before it is submitted. You must inform your County Association if you propose to change the date of your tournament after the form has been countersigned.
- 7 If the Tournament venue is in the area of jurisdiction of another County Association, you must inform that County Association of the proposed date and venue of the Tournament at the same time as you send the application form to your own County Association.
- 8 A draft entry form must be sent to the TAP Entry Form Checker\* for approval at least 14 days before being finalised. After checking, a copy will be returned to the Tournament Organiser with a note of any alterations required, and the other will be retained for reference.
- 9 As soon as the entry form (including any required amendments) has been finalised, a copy must be sent to the TAP Entry Form Checker\*, when it will be added to the TTE website. *(This is the only way entry forms can be included in the website.)*
- 10 Within 14 days after the last day of the tournament you must send:
  - To the TTE Office:
    - (a) A record of the number of entries and winners and runners-up in each event (Form OT4)
    - (b) Two copies of any programme produced
    - (c) A fully made up draw sheet for each event showing scores
    - (d) Completed Entry Forms
    - (e) Tournament Report (Form OT6) (1- or 2-Star only)

To the TAP Sanction Scheme Administrator\*:  
Misconduct Report (Form OT3) if appropriate

\* The names of the TAP members currently responsible for these functions can be found on the TTE website at *Our sport/About us/Support and Advisory network*. Messages and documents intended for them should be headed 'for the attention of.....' and sent to [help@tabletennisengland.co.uk](mailto:help@tabletennisengland.co.uk), or by post to the TTE Office, and they will be forwarded.

## Annex B to Tournament Regulations: ENTRY FORM CHECKLIST

- A Items 1-48 must be on a part of the form that can be retained by the entrant.
- B Items 21-35 must be in the section headed "Regulations".
- C Items 49-58 must be on the part of the form that the competitor sends in.
- D The exact wording must be used for all items marked \*.

### General (Items 1-16)

- 1 Name of tournament
- 2 Tournament category: "4-Star", "3-Star", "2-Star", "1-Star" or Development
- 3\* "The tournament is/is not included in the Computer Ranking Scheme." (*delete as appropriate*)
- 4 Promoting body
- 5 That the tournament is approved by TTE and, if the County Association is not the promoting body, by the appropriate County Association
- 6 Venue: Address, directions and telephone number (if any)
- 7 Referee: Name and qualification
- 8 Deputy Referee (3- and 4-Star only): Name and qualification
- 9 Tournament Organiser: Name, postal/email address and telephone number and, for 2-Star and above, qualification
- 10 Organising Committee: Names of members
- 11 Entry Forms: Name, postal/email address and telephone number of person from whom they are available
- 12 Date(s) on which tournament is to be played
- 13 Time(s) of start of play
- 14 Draw: Date on which it will be made
- 15 Admission charge to venue and whether any is payable by competitors
- 16 Admission charge, if any, to parents of Junior/Cadet competitors

### Entry Provisions (Items 17-20)

- 17 Entries: Name and postal/email address of person to whom entry should be sent
- 18 Closing date for entries (*The ranking list at that date will be applicable to the tournament*)
- 19\* For all tournaments except Junior 4-Star:  
"If it becomes necessary to restrict entries, priority will be given in order of receipt."  
For Junior 4-Star:  
"If it becomes necessary to restrict entries, priority will be given in order of receipt, except that all valid entries for Junior Boys rated 1-50 in the Rating List current at the closing date and for Junior Girls, Cadet Boys and Cadet Girls rated 1-32 will be accepted, with priority thereafter being given to Junior Boys rated 51-500 and Junior Girls rated 33-250."
- 20\* If applicable, "No entry will be accepted after the draw has been made."

### Regulations Section (Items 21-35)

- 21\* "For development and 1-star tournaments: "Every entrant must be affiliated as a Compete Member or be a member of another National Association in membership of the ITTF."
- 22\* For 2-Star and above: "Every entrant must be affiliated as a Compete Plus Member or provide proof of being a member of another National Association affiliated to the ITTF, and is not affiliated to TTE."
- 23\* "TTE Regulations Part A (Regulated Competitions) and Part B (Tournament Regulations) apply to the tournament."
- 24\* "ITTF Regulations for International Competitions apply to the tournament except where otherwise specified in TTE Regulations Parts A or B, or in this form."
- 25 If applicable, any further variations of ITTF Regulations
- 26\* For 4- and 3-Star: "Players may/will/will not be expected to umpire group matches." (*Delete as appropriate*)
- 27\* For 2-Star, 1-Star and Development: either "No competitor will be obliged to umpire" or "All competitors may be required to umpire at least one match in each event entered."
- 28 System of play: Whether in groups and/or knockout
- 29 Number of games to be played in each match
- 30 Qualifying age(s) for players in any events having an age qualification
- 31 If applicable, eligibility for banded events
- 32 Players' Clothing: 2-Star & above: as specified in TTE Regulations Part A  
Development & 1-Star: main colour of clothing must be different from colour of ball
- 33\* "No competitor or official shall engage in betting on players or matches."
- 34\* "Doping shall not take place either before or during play."
- 35\* "Completion and submission of this Entry Form signifies agreement by the entrant to the conditions of the competition, including any variations of ITTF regulations."

**Playing Conditions and Equipment (Items 36-42)**

- 36 Tables: make and number
- 37 Nets and posts: make and type
- 38 Balls: make/name, grade and colour of currently ITTF-approved balls to be used
- 39 Courts: Whether or not each table is in an individual court enclosed by surrounds  
Dimensions of court.  
Minimum height of playing area (floor to ceiling)  
Minimum height of lighting from floor
- 40 Lighting: Whether over each table or only general  
Type (traditional, tungsten, fluorescent, quartz-halogen etc)
- 41 Floor: Type (wood, plastic, etc)
- 42 Score indicators: 4\*- & 3-Star: that they will be used for all matches  
2-Star, 1-Star & Development: whether or not they will be used for all matches

**Information Section (Items 43-48)**

- 43 That doping control tests may take place
- 44 Practice: Whether or not any separate practice facilities and, if so, how many tables and whether or not with same playing conditions as tournament
- 45 Changing facilities: Details, including whether or not hot showers are available
- 46 Car Parking: What facilities are available and whether free or at a charge
- 47 Catering: Details, including whether or not full meals are available
- 48 Prizes: Whether cash, vouchers, goods or trophies  
To whom to be awarded (eg 'to all winners and runners-up')  
Except where trophies only are awarded, a full list of prizes, showing the amount of each cash prize and the approximate value of each prize consisting of vouchers or goods

**Entry section (Items 49-58) (Properly separable from portion containing obligatory information)**

- 49 Events: Name of every event being run  
Entry fees: Amount for each event
- 50 Player's Name (*Block Capitals*)
- 51 If not affiliated to TTE, name of National Association
- 52 Membership/Player Licence Number
- 53 County of Affiliation
- 54 In any event with age restriction: Space for date of birth
- 55 TTE Levy: (*Current levy: Senior Events: £2.00, Junior Events: £1.50*)
- 56\* Player's Undertaking: "I undertake to observe the regulations of the tournament, to abide by the decisions of the Referee, and to fulfil the schedule of play arranged for me unless prevented from doing so by circumstances beyond my control and accepted as such by the Referee."

Signature.....

- 58\* Data protection: "Table Tennis England uses the above information only for the purpose of administering the competition. To facilitate the running of the competition, the information will be shared with the appointed event committee/organisers in order that the event can be arranged and delivered. If you would like any further information please refer to the TTE privacy policy which can be found on the TTE website at '*Our Sport/Governance/Data Protection Guidance*'.  
I confirm that I am the person named above or, if not, that I have been authorised to give TTE the above details. I am aged 16 or over and have read, understood and agree with the way the data will be used by TTE."

Signature .....

Date .....

## Annex C to Tournament Regulations: ELIGIBILITY CHECK

Whether or not the player is eligible under regulation 13.2 can be established by answering the following questions, stopping as soon as “ELIGIBLE” or “NOT ELIGIBLE” has been reached.

1	Is the player affiliated to TTE?	YES NO	Go to question 2 NOT ELIGIBLE
2	Has the player represented an Association other than England in the past 3 years?	YES NO	NOT ELIGIBLE Go to question 3
3	Does the player have British nationality?	YES NO	Go to question 4 Go to question 5
4	Was the player born in, or have his or her main residence in, England?	YES NO	ELIGIBLE Go to question 5
5	Has the player previously represented England ?	YES NO	Go to question 6 NOT ELIGIBLE
6	Has the player represented an Association other than England since last representing England?	YES NO	NOT ELIGIBLE ELIGIBLE

### Extract from ITTF Eligibility Regulations 2019/20 (for information only - not part of TTE Regulations)

- 3.8.3 A player is eligible to represent an Association only if he is a national of the country in which that Association has jurisdiction, except that a player who has represented an Association of which he was not a national in accordance with previous rules may retain that eligibility.
- 3.8.3.1 Where the players of more than one Association have the same nationality, a player may represent one of these Associations only if he was born in, or has his main residence, in the territory controlled by that Association.
- 3.8.3.2 A player who is eligible to represent more than 1 Association shall have the right to choose which of the relevant Associations he will represent.
- 3.8.5 A player shall not represent different Associations within a period of 3 years.

## Annex D to Tournament Regulations: GRAND PRIX TOURNAMENTS

### GENERAL

- 1.1 Grand Prix and Satellite Grand Prix are open tournaments organised directly by, or on behalf of, Table Tennis England (TTE).
- 1.2 Grand Prix will be played in accordance with the regulations for 3 star tournaments and Satellite Grand Prix in accordance with those for at least 2 star tournaments, and both must meet the additional requirements set out below.
- 1.3 In any Membership Year there will be at least 5 Grand Prix and up to 5 Satellite Grand Prix.
- 1.4 Each Grand Prix or Satellite Grand Prix is a stand-alone tournament and not part of a series.
- 1.5 Details of entry fees and prizes will be contained in each tournament's entry form.

### 2 EVENTS

- 2.1 Subject to 2.2 and 2.3, the events to be played are:
  - Men's and Women's Singles
  - Men's and Women's Band 1 Singles
  - Men's and Women's Band 2 Singles
  - Men's and Women's Band 3 Singles
  - Men's and Women's Band 4 Singles
  - Men's Band 5 Singles
  - Men's Band 6 Singles
  - Under 21 Men's and Women's Singles
  - Open Veterans' Singles
  - Open Doubles (*Players in this event cannot enter the U-21 or veteran events.*)
- 2.2 Satellite Grand Prix need not include all banded events but must run at least every alternate band (for example 1, 3, 5) so as broaden the range of possible entries.
- 2.3 The Competitions and Events Manager can give permission for Satellite Grand Prix to replace the standard events with events of their own choosing.

### 3 BANDS

- 3.1 All tournaments must adhere to the following bands:

Men's Band 1	1701 - 2200	Women's Band 1	1601 - 2000
Men's Band 2	1351 - 1700	Women's Band 1	1201 - 1600
Men's Band 3	1101 - 1350	Women's Band 3	1001 - 1200
Men's Band 4	551 - 1100	Women's Band 4	0 - 1000
Men's Band 5	401 - 550		
Men's Band 6	0 - 400		
- 3.2 Eligibility for Banded Events will be determined by players' ratings on the TTE Ratings List current at the closing date for entries.
- 3.3 Players who do not appear on the TTE Ratings List may be given a tournament dummy rating so that they are placed appropriately in the bands, but will have zero points on the Ratings List unless they are in the top 30% of the ITTF World Ranking List.
- 3.4 Players can enter their own band and/or the one immediately above. (*For example, if only Bands 2, 4, 5 and 6 are being run, a Band 5 player can enter band 4 but a Band 4 player cannot enter Band 2.*)