

PROMOTION & RELEGATION FAQ.

Each new season, Tennis West of Scotland invites team entries from clubs for the leagues which it organizes. As each new season's competition is therefore a new competition, no rules are published with regard to promotion and relegation.

Every year, some clubs enter additional teams or withdraw existing teams. If one of these very much outweighs the other, the number of sections within the lower leagues may be changed in order to create sections with the ideal number of teams which is 9 [+/-1] teams. The lowest divisions in any leagues are therefore fluid.

On the assumption that there is no change to the number of teams, the following principles apply to promotion and relegation.

SUMMER DOUBLES [Men's & Women's Leagues]

Premier Division

The bottom team is relegated to Division 1/1

The second from bottom team plays off, at home, against the second top team in Division 1/1 on a date fixed by the league organizer and published before the start of the competition.

Division 1/1

The bottom team is relegated to Division 1/2

The second from bottom team plays off, at home, against the second top team in Division 1/2 on a date fixed by the league organizer and published before the start of the competition.

Division 1/2

The two bottom teams are relegated – one to each of the two Division 2 sections

The team which ends top of the 'relegation stage' will remain in Division 1/2. The third from bottom team in Division 1/2 i.e. second top of the 'relegation stage' will play off, at home, to the winner of a playoff between the second top teams in each of the Division 2 sections.

In all other Divisional sections, two teams will be promoted. If a team withdraws from a higher league, three teams may be promoted to 'fill' the vacancy created.

In most other Divisional sections, two teams will be relegated however the following scenarios should be noted:

1. If Division 5 is divided into two sections and the lower Division 6 into three sections then two teams will be promoted from each of the three Division 6 sections and three teams will be relegated from the two Division 5 sections.
2. If Division 6 is divided into three sections and the lower Division 7 into four sections then two teams will be promoted from each of the four Division 7 sections and three teams will be relegated from the three Division 6 sections. However, the team with the highest set percentage of the three third from bottom teams will not be relegated.
3. In all sections of Division 7, two teams will be relegated and replaced by two teams from any of the four Division 8 sections.

Divisional Championship Playoffs

These are played, on dates fixed by the league organizer and published before the start of the competition, between the teams which finish in top position in each section of a Division.

Home and away is also fixed by the league organizer and published before the start of the competition.

In a Division of three Sections, a round robin league will be played on fixed dates between the three top teams.

In a Division of four Sections, an elimination draw will be played on fixed dates between the four top teams.

There are no championship playoffs in the Premier, Division 1/1 and Division 1/2 leagues. The top team will be the champion of that Division.

AUTUMN WINTER DOUBLES [Men's & Women's 40 & Over Leagues]

Leagues are created with 6 [+/-1] teams in each Section of a Division. Matches will be arranged by team captains within an advised competition period.

- In all Sections, two teams are promoted and move into different Sections of the next higher Division. Two teams are relegated and move into different Sections of the next lower Division.
- Either the third-placed or fourth-placed teams in each Section of a Division are switched to the other Section in that Division with the result that no team should play any other team in two consecutive seasons.
- In the two Division 2 sections, one team only is promoted to take the place of the two teams relegated from Division 1 which has only one Section.
- If a team withdraws to leave five teams in a section, only one of the remaining teams will be relegated at the end of the season.

60 & OVER DOUBLES [Men's & Women's Summer and Autumn Leagues]

The principle of two teams promoted and two teams relegated applies where practicable. The 60 & Over Summer and Autumn Leagues operate independently from each other.

YOUTH LEAGUE [Junior Age Groups]

In 2024, Divisions and Sections within Divisions will be compiled each season based on team entries and whether clubs enter teams into Division 1 or Division 2 onwards.