

RULES OF LEAGUE AND CUP COMPETITIONS SUMMER & WINTER SEASONS 2021

National League West of Scotland

8u – 18u Junior Leagues & Adult Mixed League

<https://www.tenniswos.co.uk/2021-league--cup-competition.html>

General Rules for all Tennis West of Scotland competitions

www.tenniswos.co.uk

Qualification

1. The league and cup competitions shall be open to clubs and tennis venues affiliated to Tennis West of Scotland, a Company limited by guarantee. A club or venue becomes affiliated once it has signed and submitted an Affiliation Form and has paid its annual affiliation fee which is set at the Annual General Meeting of the Company. Team entries will be not accepted from any club which has not paid the previous season's [i.e. summer or winter season] entry fees.
2. A club or tennis venue wishing to compete shall enter competitions online by an entry date notified to clubs. An entry fee per team as determined at the Annual General Meeting shall be paid by a date set by the Company.
3. All players who participate in competitions must have an Advantage [formerly British Tennis] Membership and/or World Tennis Number which links to the place to play they are competing for.
 - **To become an Advantage Member – www.lta.org.uk – and remember to link your membership number to your club by 'managing your venue'.**
4. The playing year will be split into two Seasons-- the Summer Season will run from 1st March until 31st July and the Winter Season will run from 1st August until the end of February. No adult shall be allowed to play for more than one club in West of Scotland competitions during either of these seasons. An adult player may compete for a different club of which he or she is a member and to which his or her Advantage [formerly British Tennis] Membership number is linked, in any league or cup competition only if that player's club has not entered any team into that competition.

5. A junior player may represent one club in junior league and cup competitions and another club in adult league and cup competitions, in the same season, so long as the player has his/her Advantage [formerly British Tennis] membership number linked to both clubs. **Junior players may play in up to two age groups in the National League Summer season and up to two age groups in the National League Winter season.**

FAQ An Advantage [formerly British Tennis] Member's membership number may be linked to more than one club. A Member can do this online by logging onto www.lta.org.uk and 'managing their venue'.

Arbitration

The LTA Code of Conduct will apply to all players who compete in West of Scotland league and cup competition matches

6. All questions of eligibility, qualification of competitors, or interpretation of rules shall be referred firstly to the League Manager and, if required, to the appropriate Committee or Board, whose decision shall be final.
7. Any dispute arising between clubs shall be referred firstly to the League Manager and, if required, to the appropriate Committee or Board, whose decision shall be final and binding on both clubs. Should either of the two clubs have a member on that sub-committee, such member(s) shall not participate in voting on the dispute or protest.
8. Complaints relating to a fixture should be in the hands of the League Manager within 7 days of the date of the fixture.
9. The day to day organisation of the league and cup competitions shall be carried out by the League Manager under the auspices of the Tennis West of Scotland Board of Directors. The League Manager shall have the power to decide on matters of interpretation of these regulations, to impose penalties including, but not limited to, the deduction of points and suspension for breaches of these Regulations; to suspend or modify any of these Regulations in appropriate circumstances.
The League Manager's decision on all matters is final.
10. The Board may delegate all or any of the powers given to them under these rules to a sub-committee appointed by them for the purpose.

11. The Board shall have power to alter or add to these rules as they may from time to time deem expedient, as well as to introduce other competitions and determine the structure and composition of divisions and sections.

Arrangement of Fixtures

12. All matches shall be arranged at a meeting of team captains, specially convened for the purpose, at which all competing clubs must be represented. The Board shall fix dates between which matches shall be played i.e. the competition period. Fixtures for the Premier and First Divisions of the summer doubles leagues, together with fixtures for the Spring League Competition, the 60 & Over League Competition and National League junior competitions, will be fixed by the League Manager. If it is not possible to hold a meeting of captains then the League Manager may schedule fixtures in additional divisions of any league. Schedule fixture dates may thereafter be changed up to a date set by the League Manager if both captains agree to do so. For all matches, the home team captain must confirm arrangements for the match, by text or by telephone call, with the away captain at least 5 days before the match date.

Matches will be played outdoors. The safety of players is the responsibility of the home venue and current government guidelines must be adhered to for the duration of the competition. Any club which does not follow such guidelines will be asked to withdraw all its teams if no appropriate steps are taken to comply with these guidelines.

A match may be played indoors but only if current guidelines permit and both team captains have agreed in advance.

A club may not participate if toilet facilities are not available for all players.

The safety of players is the responsibility of the home venue.

A competition period for all events will be advised by the League Manager. Matches cannot be played out with this period.

13. The club on whose ground the match is played shall provide three approved balls per court but, if the match is played on neutral ground, such expenses shall be divided between the competing clubs unless otherwise arranged.

In 2021, teams must NOT provide hospitality. This may change depending on government guidelines.

14. The official ball for all West of Scotland events is the Dunlop Fort ball.

15. Clubs with fewer than three courts shall not be eligible to take part in the competitions unless they are prepared (if called on to do so by their opponents) to play their matches on their opponent's courts, always provided that the opponents

have three courts available. The club on whose ground the match is played shall provide balls.

This rule does not apply to clubs with two all-weather courts and floodlights.

Recording Match Scores

16. In all league and cup competitions, the winning team captain must record player details for both teams and the individual set scores for all rubbers played **within 24 hours** of the match being completed.

Each team captain will be issued with a login and password to provide online access.

17. **Walkovers** must **NOT** be entered online by a team captain but the details of any claim for a walkover should be e-mailed to the county office with the opposing team captain being copied into any correspondence otherwise the claim will be disregarded. The League Manager will decide whether a walkover is merited and will record the walkover online and award appropriate penalty points to the team forfeiting the match.

18. If an 'unknown player' is selected, a comment **MUST** be added to the online match scorecard to provide the player's name and Advantage [formerly British Tennis] membership number or World Tennis Number if known.

If a player cannot be 'found', it is most likely that the player's Advantage [formerly British Tennis] membership is not linked to the club. It is the responsibility of the player's club to sort this, as a matter of urgency, otherwise the player is not eligible to represent the club.

19. 24 hours after completion of the match, it is the responsibility of the losing team captain to check the recorded result and notify the county office by e-mail if there is any related query.

20. Team captains should be made aware that data **cannot be edited** after being submitted and confirmed. Any error must be notified to the league organiser – either online or by email - within 48 hours of the match being completed.

21. Final dates for the online submission of match scores will be published online and on the web site. Once final league standings have been published by the county office, no amendments will be made to the standings unless an error has been made by the county office.

22. Team Captains are advised to check online leagues on a regular basis and report problems to the county office, either by e-mail or by comment on the tournament software web site, throughout the period of competition.

At the end of the competition period, the appropriate penalty will be incurred by both teams in any match for which no match score has been recorded online i.e. the match will be deemed not to have been played.

Postponements and Cancellations

23. In exceptional circumstances, and only if mutually agreed by the clubs concerned, the date of any match in Division 2 or below may be altered to a new date within the competition period set for that competition. The home team captain must reschedule the match date online as soon as possible after agreement is made. An agreed date should only be changed in very exceptional circumstances.

24. Any club intending to concede a match shall advise the League Manager by email before the date agreed upon for playing and must copy in the opposing team captain. Careful consideration should be given to any potential concession as it has a very negative impact on all other teams in the division.

25. In the cases of matches postponed on account of the weather or not concluded owing to an agreed time limit or interruption, the home Team Captain must offer three dates on which to conclude the match to the visiting Team Captain. This offer must be made within three days after the original date of the match.

Such rescheduled matches shall be played as soon as possible. In the event of clubs not reaching agreement within seven days of the original date, notification of this failure to agree a date must be sent by the Secretary of the home club to the League Manager who will then fix a date for the match to be played.

In the Premier Division and Division 1 of the men's and women's leagues, postponed matches must be arranged to be concluded before the date of the last scheduled match. If the last scheduled match is postponed, it must be played one week after the date of the postponed match or before if mutually agreed by both captains.

If the match is not played on this date, **neither team will be awarded points.**

26. An entry fee is due for any competition in which the majority of teams have played two or more matches.

Rules of Play

27. All midweek adult league matches (except those being played during May, June and July) shall start not later than 6.30 p.m. unless mutually agreed by the clubs concerned or unless, owing to exceptional circumstances, the League Manager shall have, in advance, approved a later start.

During May, June and July, such matches shall start not earlier than 7.00 p.m. unless both captains agree to an earlier start time.

28. Teams and pairs within teams shall be played in order of playing strength as **determined by the team captain**, and captains, if requested, shall provide written copies of their teams in order of pairing prior to going on court.

Once an order of pairs in a team has been established in any one season, this order cannot be reversed.

Example

If Players A and B play together at second pair above Players C and D who play together at third pair then C+D as a pair can never in a future match that season play above A+B as a pair. C or D could partner another player and play above A+B as a pair. Similarly A or B could partner another player and play below C+D as a pair.

Any two players, playing up from a lower team and paired together, must be placed in order below any other pair containing a player nominated for the higher team.

FAQ

A player who is playing up from a lower team, and partnering a nominated player of the higher team, can play at any position in the higher team. This does not apply to a player 'playing up' into a Premier League team when Rule 30 applies.

29. In the men's and women's Premier leagues, clubs must list not more than 10 nominated players in ranking order by a date notified annually to Club Main Contacts. At the start of each match, a team's doubles pairings will be nominated in accordance with the lowest cumulative total of the nominated positions of the players. A player who is nominated for a lower team will have a ranking of 10. Where the total is the same, the pairing with the highest rated player shall be nominated as the higher pair.

Example1

If the players nominated at positions 2 and 6 play as a pair, and the players nominated at positions 3 and 5 play as a pair then pair (2+6) would play above pair (3+5).

Example 2

If player 1 partners a player nominated for the club's second team (1+10) then this pair would play above a pair (5+6).

Any player participating in the last scheduled match in the Premier and Division 1/1 and Division 1/2 must have represented the club in that competition in that season or the previous season.

30. To avoid arguments, it is recommended that, prior to a match on courts without floodlights, the captains of each team should agree upon the time limit beyond which play will not be continued.

31. Should the match not be completed (at the expiry of the time limit or because of interruption due to inclement weather) the match shall be continued from the point at which it was stopped, on the same courts, and by the same players as soon thereafter as possible. If it is impossible for all the same players to play on the continuation, up to two substitutes shall be allowed in the same position as the players for whom they are substituting so that the team plays in the same order as the original selection. The rule only operates in the absence of mutual agreement between the clubs, i.e. they may agree to replay the whole match -in which case different teams may be selected.

The players who conclude the match are the players who are recorded online.

Rule 25 will apply in relation to arranging a date to complete the match.

32. If a player is not changed and ready to play 15 minutes after the time appointed for the commencement of the match, the defaulting team shall lose the first set on the court concerned to love. 45 minutes after the time appointed for the commencement of the match, if play has still not started the second set is forfeited. If a player is not changed and ready to play one hour and 15 minutes after the time appointed for the commencement of the match, all three sets are forfeited on all courts. No additional penalty is incurred.

Where further rounds apply (e.g. in the Calcutta Cup, or where a league match is being played at a two-court club) this readiness rule shall operate from the start of each round.

The captain of the non-defaulting team must intimate to the captain of the defaulting team before play starts on the court concerned that he/she is invoking this Rule.

33. If a team defaults or concedes a match more than once in a season, all matches played by that team will be declared void, with consequent demotion. In such circumstances, a team in Division 3 or higher in the open and senior players' leagues will be demoted two divisions.

Note that National League junior rules state that any team giving a walkover cannot participate further in that competition. However, the county office has the power to consider a team's position regarding a team walkover with extenuating circumstances, in which case a team receiving the walkover will win all rubbers 6-0, 6-0 and will receive 12 rubber points and a match win.

34. In the **Men's and Women's Adult Doubles** leagues, teams representing the clubs in each division or section will play each season against each other club in that particular division or section. In the Summer Doubles Premier Divisions, clubs will play each other team in their division both home and away. All matches shall be played under the tournament rules of the LTA, so far as these are applicable to and not inconsistent with the rules of this league.

35. Teams must consist of six women, or six men, and each pair shall play three sets against the opposing corresponding pair, with a tie break operating at six games all in each set.

In exceptional circumstances, team size may be reduced for any competition.

A team which attempts to play a match without the full complement of players shall concede that match however.....

Note: a club's lowest team* in this competition may, up to a maximum of two times in a season, consist of four players [instead of six] who will play at pairs 1 and 2 or two players [instead of four] who will play at pair 1. The team will concede three sets at pair 3/pair 2 0-6 0-6 0-6. The team must advise the opposing team in advance when possible. If the team thereafter concedes a match in the same competition, Rule 33 will apply and the team will be withdrawn from the competition.

For 2021 season only, any team may play with a reduced team without incurring penalty if the cause of the reduction is Covid-related. Note that, if two teams from one club are scheduled to play on the same date, the lower team should be reduced in size unless it is logistically not possible to do this.*

36. Clubs with more than one team in the leagues shall nominate, in writing, the players for all teams of that club by a date advised annually to Club Main Contacts. A team nomination list must have at least the minimum number of players required to play a match.

If a nominated list is not received, the team players which represent the team in its first match will be deemed to be nominated.

Players in teams in the Men's and Women's Summer Doubles Premier League must be nominated in ranking order. (refer to Rule 29).

37. A nominated player may play up one team not more than twice in any league competition. This is allowed at any time in the competition.

Where there are two teams from the same club in the same section or division, a player may only play once against any other team in that section or division.

A player may play up two or more teams once in any league competition but not on a date when a team or teams immediately higher than the player's nominated team has a scheduled fixture unless the two higher teams are in the same section of a division when they will count as one team

A nominated player is ineligible to play in any lower team at any time.

A player omitted from a team nomination list who subsequently plays for a team is deemed to be a nominated member of that team and will be subject to all relevant rules.

FAQ

- a. *A player who is nominated for the club's third team 'plays up' for the club's second team in the first match of the season. Can the player play for the third team the following day?*
 - o *Yes, a player can 'play up' two times at any time during the competition period.*
- b. *The same player 'plays up' a second time for the club's second team. Thereafter, the first team captain asks the player to 'play up' to the first team. Is this allowed?*
 - o *Yes, the player can 'play up' to the first team once during the competition period. Note that the player cannot 'play up' to the first team on the same day that the second team has a scheduled match.*

EXAMPLE 1

A nominated 4th team player is ineligible to play for the 1st team or 2nd team on the same date as the 3rd team has a fixture i.e. the 3rd team's strength cannot be maintained at the expense of the higher team.

Subject to the League Manager's discretion, in the above example, both the higher team and the 3rd team would forfeit their matches, losing any points won.

EXAMPLE 2

A nominated 4th team player has 'played up' into the 1st team on one occasion. Can he thereafter 'play up' into the 2nd team?

No - however he can 'play up' into the 3rd team two more times.

EXAMPLE 3

Lenzie M1 and Lenzie M2 are both in the same section of Division 4 of a league. Player A, nominated for Lenzie M2, plays up against Lanark M1. Player A cannot thereafter play for Lenzie M2 against Lanark.

If Lenzie M2 had already played Lanark then Lenzie M1 cannot draw up any Lenzie M2 player who played in that match.

38. In the Men's and Women's Premier Leagues, a club must apply by email to add a player to the team nomination list at least 3 days before the player is due to play. The club must state in that email that the player is a bona fide member of the club, is

eligible to represent the club in that competition and that the player's British Tennis membership number is linked to the club.

In the Men's and Women's Summer Doubles Premier League, the League Manager will decide the position of such a player in that team's ranking order.

If no decision has been made by the League Manager prior to the match being played, the player is ineligible to play.

39. Any sets (points) won by an ineligible player will be awarded to the opponents. Any sets (points) won by a pair or pairs below the pair containing the ineligible player will also be awarded to the opponents.

In addition, the team fielding the ineligible player will incur a penalty of 3 points.

40. The League Manager has the discretion to reinstate an ineligible player upon application in writing by his / her club.

41. Championship playoff matches will be played between the Section winners of those Divisions which are split into more than one section. The date of these playoffs will be set in advance by the League Manager and may only be changed or postponed with the agreement of the League Manager. In any Division with more than two sections, an appropriate playoff format will be played. Match dates will be scheduled and published at the start of the season.

Playoff information is appended to these Rules.

42. The winners of the Premier Divisions will be the West of Scotland champions for that season.

43. The club with the highest number of points in a league shall be the champion club of the division or section. Should the points be equal, the head to head result will determine the winner. This will also determine the position of any two teams in a division with equal points.

Where more than two teams are tied, then the team with the higher percentage of games won to games played shall be placed in the higher position.

44. In a doubles league in which teams have six players, a team gaining a walkover will be credited with 9 points. In a doubles league in which teams have four players, a team gaining a walkover will be credited with 6 points.

Defaulting teams will receive the following penalty point deduction:-

- Doubles league [6 player teams] 10 points per default
- Doubles league [4 player teams] 7 points per default

At the end of a competition period, both teams in any match not played will be deemed to have conceded that match and the above penalty will be incurred by both teams.

45. **The following scoring options are permitted** and, before the start of the match and preferably when the match is confirmed, both team captains will agree the most appropriate format.

Order of preference:

- i. Three sets to six with a seven point tie-break played when games are six all.
This is the preferred scoring option. Formats below should only be played in exceptional circumstances and with both team captains' agreement.
- ii. As above but with a championship tie-break [first to ten points and winning by two clear points] played as the third set.
- iii. Three short sets to four with a seven point tie-break played when games are four all.
- iv. As above but with a championship tie-break [first to ten points and winning by two clear points] played as the third set.

46. One point shall be awarded for each set won

47. **Men's and Women's 60 & Over [Summer & Winter season competitions]** teams must consist of four women, or four men, and each pair shall play three sets against the opposing corresponding pair, with a tie break operating at six games all in each set. One of the alternative scoring formats may be used [Rule 45] if both captains agree.

The home team captain should confirm the start time when confirming the match. A match start time should not be before 1:00 pm or after 3:00 pm.

A team which attempts to play a match without the full complement of players shall concede that match however

- A club's lowest team in this competition may, **up to a maximum of two times** in a season, consist of two players [instead of four] who will play at pair 1. The team will concede three sets at second pair 0-6 0-6 0-6. The team must advise the opposing team in advance when possible. If the team thereafter concedes a match in the same competition, Rule 33 will apply and the team will be withdrawn from the competition.

48. One point shall be awarded for each set won.
49. In the 60+ league competition, participating players should reach the age of 60 by 31st December in the year of the competition.
50. The **Men's and Women's 40 and 55 & Over** competitions shall be open to all affiliated clubs. A club may enter one team in each competition.
51. In the 40 age group competition, participating players should reach the age of 40 by 31st December in the year of the competition; in the 55 age group competition, participating players should reach the age of 55 by 31st December in the year of the competition.
52. Teams must consist of two couples played in order of strength. Each couple will play a best of three sets match against the equivalent couple of the other team. Tie-breaks will operate at 6 games all in all sets.
Alternative scoring formats as described in Rule 45 may be used by mutual agreement of team captains.
53. Matches will be played on dates set by the League Manager or on an earlier date. Matches which are postponed because of the weather should be arranged on a mutually agreeable day during the following week and before the date set for the next round.
54. The team winning more sets will progress. If sets won are equal then games won will decide. In the event of a tie, the result of the match between the two first couples will decide the tie.
55. The match score must be entered online within 24 hours of the match being concluded.
56. A team which gives a walkover to its opponents in its first match is not eligible to participate in the Consolation Event.
57. The **Clydesdale Cup** competition shall be open to all affiliated clubs. If the entry is sufficient, the draw shall be made in two divisions. Placement into each division will

be based on the position of the first men's and first women's team in that season's Summer Doubles leagues.

58. Each team shall consist of 3 mixed couples. The captain of each team shall place his / her pairs in order of playing strength which shall then be placed against the equivalent pairs of the opposing team.
59. Each pair shall play three sets against the opposing corresponding pair with the tie break operating at six games all in each set.
Alternative scoring formats as described in Rule 45 may be used by mutual agreement of team captains.
60. The competition shall be on a knock out basis with the team winning the majority of sets progressing to the next round. The dates of the various rounds shall be decided by the League Manager.
61. The **Senior Calcutta Cup** competition shall be open to men's teams from affiliated clubs in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 of the Men's Summer Doubles league competition.
62. The **Junior Calcutta Cup** competition shall be open to men's teams from affiliated clubs in Division 4 and below of the Men's Summer Doubles league competition
63. Only players eligible to represent teams in that season's competition may participate. Any player nominated for a lower team may play at any stage of the competition irrespective of the number of times that player may have 'played up' that season in league competitions.

Each team shall consist of a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 5 players and each fixture shall consist of 3 singles matches (to be played first unless mutually agreed otherwise by both team captains) and two doubles rubbers. Each rubber shall be determined by the best of three tie-break sets with a match tie-break, first to 10 points and winning by 2 clear points, being played at one set all. Alternative scoring formats as described in Rule 45 may be used by mutual agreement of team captains. The order of play in both singles and doubles, in each round of the competition, shall be determined by the team captain. Doubles pairs and the order of these pairings should be declared at the start of the match and cannot thereafter be changed.

If a team wins all three singles rubbers and then loses both doubles rubbers, this will be deemed a 'draw' with the winning team decided by a 10 point shoot-out between one doubles pair, made up of one player from each of the doubles pairings, from each team.

A team conceding a doubles rubber will forfeit any subsequent shoot-out.

64. The final shall be played on the grounds of Hamilton Lawn Tennis Club if requested by that club.
65. In each round of the Calcutta Cup, the home team captain must offer at least two dates to the away team at least one week before the first date offered. In the event of failure to agree a date, the match will be played on the 'play by' date with a 1.00 pm start time. The date and time of the final will be decided annually by the League Manager.
66. **Winter Knock-Out Inter-Club Shield** teams will consist of two men and two women. A match will consist of four rubbers: men's doubles, ladies doubles and two mixed doubles. Rubbers will be the best of 3 sets, with a tie-break in the first two and a championship match tie break (first to 10 points and winning by 2 clear points) played if one set all. Substitutes are not allowed. The men's and women's doubles will be played first followed by two mixed doubles rubbers. Alternative scoring formats as described in Rule 45 may be used by mutual agreement of team captains.
67. Clubs may enter only one team for the knock out competition.
68. The result of a match is decided by rubbers won. Where rubbers are equal, sets are counted and the team with the most sets is the winner. Where sets are equal, games are counted, and the team with the higher games percentage is the winner. Games percentage is counted by dividing the number of games won by the total number of games played. If games are equal, the result of the match between the first pairs will decide.
69. If a match is interrupted by inclement weather, the match may be resumed at the score where stopped provided the teams remain the same and the match is resumed on the courts where started. If any new team members are introduced, the match must be replayed from the beginning.
70. The **Winter League** competition is run as separate Monday Floodlight and Sunday Afternoon leagues whose matches are played on a set day of the week. Clubs entering the evening leagues should have three floodlight all-weather courts available. Clubs may enter up to two teams in each league.
71. Matches may be played indoors however notice of this, by text or by telephone, must be given to the away team captain at least one week prior to the date of the match otherwise the away team may claim home advantage but must play on the scheduled match date.

72. Matches shall be played on the dates fixed, unless teams agree to postpone on the day because of bad weather. Postponed matches will be played on the same day of the week one week later, failing which on the first date suitable to both clubs.
73. Teams must consist of 3 ladies and 3 men, and each match in the Monday Floodlight league consists of three mixed doubles pairs played in order of strength determined by the team captain and in the Sunday Afternoon leagues consists of one women's doubles, one men's doubles and one mixed doubles - each of three sets with tie breaks in each set if needed.
Alternative scoring formats as described in Rule 45 may be used by mutual agreement of team captains.
74. One point shall be awarded for each set won in all winter competitions.
75. In the **Spring Singles** league, an affiliated club may enter up to 2 women's and 2 men's teams. Additional teams may be entered if a club has access to six courts to play two home matches on the same day.
76. Separate women's and men's leagues will operate, divided into divisions and sections as deemed necessary.
77. Each team shall consist of 4 players. Each player must have a current Advantage [formerly British Tennis] Membership / World Tennis number linked to the club that he/she is representing.
Join Advantage Tennis at www.lta.org.uk and link your membership to your club or venue.
- A participating club with only three courts will be permitted to play home matches only with a team of three players. This must be advised to opponents at the time of confirming match arrangements. The 4th rubber will be recorded online as 'not played, no players'.
78. Fixtures will be played on Saturdays or Sundays, determined by the home team captain, starting at 10.00 a.m. on the weekend dates fixed by the League Manager and issued before the start of the competition. In the event of a fixture being incomplete or unable to start because of bad weather, the match will start at 10.00 a.m. on the following day; or, if both clubs agree, at 6.30 p.m. on an evening before the next scheduled round of fixtures in this competition.
79. Clubs with more than one team in a competition must nominate players for all teams by a date set by the League Manager. Rule 37 also applies to this competition.
80. Refer to Rule 45 for permitted scoring options

81. The order of play shall be determined by players' World Tennis Number at the time of the match. It will be the responsibility of each team captain to ascertain current World Tennis Numbers before the start of each match as this number changes on a regular basis.
82. If clubs have a women's and a men's team home match on the same day, the men's fixture should start at 10.00 a.m. and the women's tie will start at 12.00 noon.
83. One point shall be awarded for each rubber won
84. A team will receive 2 match points on the league table for a match win. If the result is a draw, each team will receive 1 match point.
A team gaining a walkover will be credited with 2 match points, 4 rubbers and 8 sets.
A team which concedes a match will receive a penalty of 3 match points
The final standings in each division shall be determined by the following:
 1. The team with the greatest number of match points.
 2. If two teams are level on match points and rubber points; their head to head result.
 3. If more than 2 teams are level, the round robin rule in the LTA Competition regulations will determine the league standing.

CHAMPIONSHIP & PROMOTION/RELEGATION PLAYOFFS

MATCH ARRANGEMENTS

1. Playoff matches will be played on dates set by the League Manager and published at the start of the season [see below]
2. On the day of the match, teams should report early so that play, not the warm-up, has started no later than 6.30 pm
3. Playoffs in Divisions with three sections will take the form of a round robin and matches will be played on the set dates shown online.
4. Playoffs in Divisions with four sections will take the form of an elimination draw with semi-final and final matches will be played on the set dates shown online.
5. A team which is drawn at 'home' but has no floodlights will arrange the match at an alternative venue or give up home advantage to its opponents unless both teams agree to a 6.00 pm or earlier start.
6. Team players must be eligible to represent the team according to the nominations submitted at the start of the season and must have played at least once in the same season's competition. A player may be brought up from a lower team so long as he/she has played at least once for the club during the same season in the senior league competition and even although he/she may have played up twice in the same season for the higher team.
7. With regard to player eligibility, playoff matches are deemed to be part of that year's 'summer' season. [Refer Rule 4]

8. The home team captain must confirm match arrangements with the opposing captain no later than one week before the match is due to be played.
9. If the weather does not allow the match to be played on the due date, it will be played at the same venue one week later and will take precedence over other arranged matches.
10. Please note that dates of playoffs cannot be changed and other matches, scheduled for the same date, must be rescheduled if there is not sufficient number of courts to play both or if the matches involves the same players. If a match needs to be rescheduled because of a playoff match, the home team captain must offer three dates and the away captain must accept one of the offered dates.
11. Match scores must be submitted online by the winning team captain within 24 hours of the match being completed.
12. When possible, championship trophies will be presented after completion of the match.

2021 playoff dates: Women Tuesday 17th August: Men Friday 20th August



Autumn/Winter Season Men's & Women's Doubles

The Rules for the Summer Season Doubles apply to this competition.

- **Teams comprise of 3 pairs i.e. 6 players**
- **Team captains should be aware of Rule 45 – abbreviated scoring**
- **Only the 'lowest' team in either the men's or women's league can field two pairs if advance notice is given to opponents. This can be done twice after which the team is withdrawn from its league.**
- **A Player from a lower team can 'play up' to the next higher team two times.**
- **Clubs are recommended to nominate a pool of players for each team that reduces the number of times that a player has to 'play up'.**
- **Clubs are recommended to open team competition to their wider membership by restricting players to either the men's / women's doubles or the 60 & Over leagues. This is only a recommendation.**
- **Matches should be played on the scheduled date.**
- **No hospitality needs to be provided for matches in 2021.**
- **Matches should start at 6:30 pm unless a different start time is agreed by both team captains.**