

**CHANGES TO REGULATIONS  
AND RANKING GUIDELINES UPDATE**



**Changes to Regulations**

There have been a number of changes to the Regulations governing tournaments that came into force with effect from 1 August 2021. These changes are highlighted in yellow in the Regulations and can be found on the Table Tennis England website in Our Sport – Governance – Laws and Regulations. The following link may be helpful:-

<https://tabletennisengland.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/B-Tournament-Regs-2122.pdf>

I would particularly draw your attention to Regulations: Part B: TOURNAMENTS Annex B items 56, 57a, 57b and 58; these sections refer to Player Consent and GDPR requirements.

It is important that you make yourself conversant with the Regulations Parts A and B, and the changes referred to above.

**Ranking Guidelines**

There is one update to the ranking guidelines that I would particularly like to bring to your attention; this is relevant to regulated external events e.g. 1 Star, 2 Star, 4 Star tournaments etc.

The level of the event at which a player gains their initial rating may constrain the potential value of that initial rating.

If an unrated player is experienced and capable, as opposed to a beginner, it is important to:-

- a) ensure the event is the correct level in order that the initial rating is gained against opponents of an appropriate rating
- b) actively liaise with the Referee of the event to ensure that the seeding/banding/grouping is appropriate for an unrated player

If an Entry Form does not include the ability to state this information, it is recommended that an unrated player contact the Referee directly prior to the event draw. Failure to do so may result in an undervalued initial rating, though it is appreciated that such an undervaluation should normalise with further competition. It is recommended that you consider including on an Entry Form a section for an unrated player to provide the appropriate information.

The following is a link to the Ranking Guidelines on the Table Tennis England website: -

<https://tabletennisengland.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Ranking-Guide-Aug-2021.pdf>

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John Mackey

Chairman

Tournament Approval Panel