

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS & INFORMATION

It is important that all competitors read and understand these regulations. Please take time to do this. Competitors should also ensure that they retain this sheet for reference purposes.

1. The English National Championships are only open to those players who are eligible to play for England. If you are in any doubt about this, please telephone the Events Department on 01908 208871 or e-mail mark.pinder@tabletennisengland.co.uk for clarification and advice.
2. Players must be eligible on the date entries close and must remain eligible up to the time of playing the tournament. If, after the completion of a championships, it is found that a title winner was ineligible to play then their name will be expunged from the records.
3. Entrants must be affiliated as a Member of Table Tennis England and hold a current Table Tennis England 'Complete Plus' membership (formerly known as Player Licence) or hold an existing 'Compete' membership and also pay the single competition licence fee.
4. The Championships will be played under the Laws of Table Tennis and Table Tennis England Tournament Regulations. ITTF Regulations for International Competitions apply except those relating to matters covered by items marked (X) in these regulations.
5. Completion and submission the entry form signifies agreement by the entrant to the conditions of the competition including the variations from the ITTF requirements.
6. Entrants in Junior events must have been born in 2004 or later, in Cadet events must have been born in 2008 or later, and in U17's events must have been born in 2006 or later (X)
7. In Doubles events **"Partner Wanted" entries will not be accepted**. Any entrant whose nominated doubles partner does not enter will be withdrawn from that event. Should a doubles partner withdraw after the draw has been completed, Table Tennis England may invite the remaining player to nominate a replacement partner of a similar or lower standard in order to maintain the integrity of the competition.
8. **Doubles:** Doubles will be restricted to 16 pairs in each category. Entries will be accepted provided a correctly completed entry form is received from both partners with payment. Only players qualified to enter the Junior Singles can enter the single-gender Junior Doubles. Only players qualified to enter the U17s Singles can enter the U17 Doubles. Only players qualified to enter the Cadet Singles can enter the Cadet Doubles. Eligible players can enter either Cadet OR U17 Doubles, but not both. In the single-gender Doubles category - pairings which include a player in the top 8 of the Cadet, U17s and Junior 22/08 April 2023 ranking list will be given priority in the respective age category.
In the Mixed Doubles – If this event is oversubscribed, pairings will be prioritized to those which include either a male or a female in the top 8 of the Junior, within the 22/08 April 2023 ranking list. Any places that are still available will be then accepted on a last entry in first out policy, in order of Juniors, U17's and then Cadets, based on the date of payment made by both players. Should a player withdraw from the doubles after the closing date, their doubles partner will have an agreed time to find a replacement, of lower ranking to the withdrawn player, before the next pairing are accepted.
9. Entries will be acknowledged automatically; a player not having received such acknowledgement by Thursday 6th April 2022 should telephone the events department on 01908 208871.
10. The deadline date for receipt of entries is midnight, Wednesday 4th April 2023.
11. The draw will be held on Sunday 16th April 2023.
12. The right is reserved to alter the schedule of playing times and/or table for any match. Entrants, if absent at any time when scheduled to play, are liable to disqualification from the event.
13. The tournament referee reserves the right to cancel any event for which fewer than 8 entries are received and to hold qualifying competitions or merge events if necessary. No entry will be accepted after the draw, however, Table Tennis England reserves the right in exceptional circumstances to invite additional wildcards to fulfil vacant gaps in the groups.
14. Play throughout will be with SANWEI ABS pro 40+ 3* plastic ball (white) and on Butterfly Europa 25 tables (blue), minimum court size 10m x 5m. The make of nets and posts will be Butterfly. Wooden sprung flooring will be used.
15. The format of the Singles categories will be group stages played to the best of 5 games, 11 up, 4 players in each group with top 2 players going through to knockouts. All groups played on 1 table, matches played to the best of 5 games, 11 up. Knockout matches played to the best of 5 games, 11 up.
There will be no consolation event.
16. Doubles matches will be played on a knockout basis, played to the best of 5 games, 11 up.
17. Each match will be controlled by an umpire, whose decision will be final on matters of fact. No competitor will be obliged to umpire. The Referee's decision shall be final on points of law in any dispute as to the interpretation of these regulations and on any matter not covered by them. Scoring machines will be used for all matches.
18. **Cadet & U17 Events** will be played on Saturday 29th April 2023, with play starting at 9am.

19. **Junior Events** will be played on Sunday 30th April 2023 with play starting at 9am.
20. Rackets: The surface of one side of the racket can now be either pink, violet, green, blue or the normal bright red and the surface of the other side shall remain black, whether or not both sides are used for striking the ball and must conform to ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.
21. **At all times when playing, competitors are required to display their name on the back of their playing shirts. Clothing must comply with ITTF Reg. 3.02.02.** Players must wear rubber soled shoes and clothing which complies with Table Tennis England Tournament Regulations. ITTF Regulation 3.2.2.9 applies for finals only (X).
22. No competitor or official shall engage in betting on players or matches.
23. Signing the entry form constitutes agreement by the competitor, under the Data Protection Act 1984, to the storing of his or her name, address and date of birth on a computer system.
24. There will be separate practice tables available throughout the competition, **competitors only** will be permitted to practice on any free match table at the discretion of the Referee BUT will be required to be suitably attired with one ball allowed at a time.
25. Suitably engraved medallions will be awarded to the finalists and both losing semi-finalists.
26. Competitors are required to sign an undertaking*: I undertake to (1) observe the regulations of the tournament (2) abide by the decision of the Referee and Championship Jury (3) fulfil the schedule of play arranged for me unless prevented by circumstances beyond my control and accepted as such by the Referee.
27. *This undertaking may be signed on behalf of a Junior, Under 17's or Cadet competitor by a parent or legal guardian but not by a coach.
28. Doping shall not take place before or during play. This tournament may be subject to drug testing.
29. Changing facilities, including showers, are available at the venue.
30. Car parking is available at the venue.
31. All competitors must report to the control table on arrival and must not leave the venue without first obtaining permission from the Referee.
32. Table Tennis England may authorise photographers and other media representatives to record the event.
33. For entrants aged 17 and under, no entry will be accepted unless the person having legal responsibility for the entrant has completed and signed the Anti- Doping Consent and Agreement form.
34. Notification – Entrants will be notified of the time of their first match on each day by e-mail only, therefore an email address MUST be supplied.

**If you are unable to attend the event or need to contact Mark Pinder, Table Tennis
England, on 01908 208871**

TROPHIES

Competitors should note that Table Tennis England retain the ownership of all Perpetual Trophies but each winner will continue to receive a medal as currently provided. If a player requests permission to retain a trophy for a period of time, this is acceptable providing the player signs a guarantee of safe return form.

PROVISIONAL PLAYING SCHEDULE WILL FOLLOW

Details for the playing schedule will be circulated to the players and will be posted on the Table Tennis England website. It may be subject to alteration by the Referee depending on the number of entries for each event and other extraneous factors. Completing and signing this form constitutes the player's acknowledgement of this.

Saturday 29th April 2023

Cadet & U17s Singles groups start at 9.00am
Followed by Doubles and Knock outs

Sunday 30th April 2023

Junior Singles groups start @ 9.00am
Followed by Doubles and Knock outs, and Mixed Doubles

Further schedule information will be available in due course and will be circulated to players.