

Mark Bates Ltd Junior & Under 21 National Championships 2025

Reference Document

General Information

Date: Saturday 17th – Sunday 18th May 2025
Venue: Arena Sports Kettering, Thurston Dr, Kettering NN15 6PB
Entry Closing Date: Midnight on Wednesday 23rd April 2025
Draw Date: w/c Monday 28th April 2025
Ranking Lists: All invites will be based on the 24/07 snapshot ranking list (Published 12th March 2025)
Seedings will be based on the 24/08 snapshot ranking list (Published 9th April 2025)
Ranking Weighting: This event carries a Table Tennis England Ranking weighting of x 2.0

Should you have any queries regarding this event please contact the Tournament Director Mark Pinder at mark.pinder@tabletennisengland.co.uk or 01908 208871

1. Authority

The English Table Tennis Association shall organize the Junior & Under 21 National Championships
President: Mrs. Jill Parker MBE

2. Table Tennis England Board

Ms. Sally LOCKYER, Table Tennis England CEO
Mr. Kwadjo ADJEPONG, Appointed Director
Mr. Richard AYERS, Appointed Director
Mr. Paul BISHOP, Appointed Director
Ms. Kath CURRAN, Appointed Director
Mr. Ray JAMES, Appointed Director
Ms. Anna WHOWELL, Appointed Director
Ms. Sally HUGHES, Elected Director
Mr. Jos KELLY, Elected Director
Mr. Don PARKER, Elected Director
Mr. Ritchie VENNER, Elected Director

3. Championship Jury

The Championship Jury will be made up of the following positions:

- Competition Referee
- Tournament Director (as Chair)
- Head of Competition & Events (if present)

4. Tournament Director

Should you have any queries regarding this event, please contact:

Tournament Director: Mr. Mark Pinder mark.pinder@tabletennisengland.co.uk

5. Officials

Referee: Joshua Reynolds (NR)
Deputy Referee: Kim Mudge-Johnson (TR)
Referees Assistant: Jim Kenny (NR)
Umpires' Manager – Margaret Welch (TO3)

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6. Events

The following Championship events will take place:

Junior Boys Singles (those born in 2006 or later)	Junior Girls Singles (those born in 2006 or later)
Junior Boys Doubles (those born in 2006 or later)	Junior Girls Doubles (those born in 2006 or later)
U21 Boys Singles (those born in 2004 or later)	U21 Girls Singles (those born in 2004 or later)
U21 Boys Doubles (those born in 2004 or later)	U21 Girls Doubles (those born in 2004 or later)
Mixed Doubles (Those born in 2004 or later)	
Para Junior Singles (those born in 2006 or later)	

7. Criteria for invitation

Table Tennis England will invite eligible players as below. Please note that rankings remain live until the end of the season, and published places in a given ranking list may change slightly following subsequent month's ranking runs – for this reason, invitations are done on a fixed 'snapshot' basis and will not themselves change if the live list changes retrospectively.

Junior invitations

- 20 Boys and Girls from the Table Tennis England Ranking list
- 10 Boys and Girls as qualifiers from the 4* leaderboard from designated events in 24/25
- 2 Wildcards for Boys and Girls will be selected by Table Tennis England

Under 21s invitations

- 30 Boys and Girls from the Table Tennis England Ranking list
- 2 Wildcards for Boys and Girls will be selected by Table Tennis England

Should an athlete decline their invitation, the next eligible player listed on the 24/07 snapshot ranking list will be invited up to player number 50.

All double categories:

Doubles events will be restricted to 16 pairs. Players are only eligible to play in the single-gender Doubles category in the age group which they have been invited to play in the Singles event e.g. if invited for Junior Boys singles only they can only play in Junior Boys Doubles.

All invited Singles players are eligible to play in the Mixed Doubles events.

Para invitations

Table Tennis England will invite Para players based on BPTT selection policy for this event. BPTT are responsible for the selection and criteria.

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8. Fees & Membership

Each player will be required to pay an entry fee. Payment must be paid via Sport:80. Instructions for payment will be detailed within the entry system.

All entrants must have a Table Tennis England Compete Plus Membership.

Category	Fees	Category	Fees
1. Under 21 Boys Singles	£43.00	6. Junior Boys Singles	£35.00
2. Under 21 Girls Singles	£43.00	7. Junior Girls Singles	£35.00
3. Under 21 Boys Doubles	£36.00	8. Junior Boys Doubles	£30.00
4. Under 21 Girls Doubles	£36.00	9. Junior Girls Doubles	£30.00
5. Under 21 Mixed Doubles	£36.00	11. Junior Para Singles	£35.00

Refunds for entries will only be issued to players who have withdrawn in the below timescale:

- Prior to the deadline date – Full refund minus a £5 admin charge.
- After the deadline date and prior to the draw date – Full refund minus a £10 admin charge.
- After the draw there will be no refunds available.

9. Formats

The format of the Singles categories will be group stages followed by knockout matches. All group and knockout matches played to the best of 5 games, 11 up. There will be no consolation event.

Doubles matches will be played on a knockout basis, played to the best of 5 games, 11 up.

10. Photography and Streaming

Table Tennis England will be taking photos and live streaming matches during this event which may include (but not limited to), using them in our printed and online platforms, social media, press releases and funding applications. If you do not give permission to take photographs and/or video of you (or individuals for whom you are legally responsible), please contact competitions@tabletennisengland.co.uk.

For further details please see the Table Tennis England Photo and live streaming Policy:
<https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/about-us/safeguarding/photography-guidelines/>

11. Code of Conduct

All participants and attendees at Table Tennis England events are subject to Table Tennis England Codes of Conduct <https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/about-us/safeguarding/safeguarding-codes-of-conduct-and-terms-of-reference/>

We will not tolerate swearing or verbal abuse of volunteers, officials, staff or venue staff, nor a failure to follow the operational directions of stewards and event staff. We will treat all such instances extremely seriously and will rigorously pursue disciplinary sanctions if necessary. For further details, please see the Table Tennis England Workforce Protection Policy <https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/about-us/policies-and-procedures/>

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TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS & INFORMATION

It is important that all competitors read and understand these regulations.

Competitors should also ensure that they retain this sheet for reference purposes.

- 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.
- 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.
- All competitors must meet all the following criteria:
 - Be a current Compete or Compete Plus member of Table Tennis England.
 - Juniors must have competed in 2 x 4* events in the current season, competing in the age group in which invitation is sought.
 - Be a British national and be born in or have their main residence in England.
 - Have indicated 'England' nationality in their membership profile, and hence be eligible to appear on the Table Tennis England 'rankings' list
 - Not be currently under disqualification or suspension under the rules of Table Tennis England or ITTF & ETTU.
 - Not be currently serving any sanction for an anti-doping rule violation under any relevant anti-doping rules.
 And additionally in the case of players transitioning from eligibility for another federation:
 - Hold a current British Passport
 - Not have played in a National Championship of any other country in the same year (01 August to 31 July)

Junior Athletes may apply for mitigating circumstances, in the event that they are unable to complete 2 x 4* events. Athletes should apply to the Tournament Director as soon as possible ahead of the 24/07 ranking list is published. Injury and international representation are reasons that will be looked on favourably.

- 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. Table Tennis England Regulations are found at www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/about-us/articles-and-regulations/#regulations-for-competitions.
- Completion and submission the entry form signifies agreement by the entrant to the conditions of the competition including the variations from the ITTF requirements.
- Entrants in Junior events must have been born in 2006 or later, and in U21's events must have been born in 2004 or later (X)
- 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.
- 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 U21s Singles can enter the U21 Doubles. Only players qualified to enter the Juniors Singles can enter the Junior Doubles. All invited Singles players are eligible to play in the Under 21 Mixed Doubles events.
- If oversubscribed, priority will be given to pairs with the highest aggregate Junior ranking for Junior Doubles and U21 Ranking for Under 21's Doubles. Should a player withdraw from the doubles after the closing date, but before the event category commences, their doubles partner will have an agreed time to find a replacement player before the next pairing are accepted, at the discretion of the referee. The replacement player can't be higher ranked, and the combined ranking can't be lower than the highest ranked pair on the reserve list, should there be one.
- Any player withdrawing before the event in either the singles or doubles events, will then be withdrawn from all remaining categories of the competition.
- Entries will be acknowledged automatically; a player not having received such acknowledgement by Thursday 24th April 2025 should telephone the events department on 01908 208871.
- The deadline date for receipt of entries is midnight, Wednesday 23rd February 2025
- Table Tennis England retains the right to withdraw an invitation from an athlete under any of the following circumstances:
 - The athlete is no longer eligible for this event.
 - Any exceptional circumstances, which in the reasonable opinion of Table Tennis England, justifies the withdrawal of the athlete concerned.
- The draw will be held w/c Monday 28th April 2025.
- 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.
- 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.
- Play throughout will be with Double Fish V40+ 3* plastic ball (white) and on 16 x 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.
- 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.
- Doubles matches will be played on a knockout basis, played to the best of 5 games, 11 up.
- Each match will be controlled by an umpire, whose decision will be final on matters of fact. 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.
- Under 21 Events** will be played on Saturday 17th May 2025, with play starting at 9am.

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22. **Junior Events** will be played on Sunday 18th May 2025 with play starting at 9am.
23. 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. Racket testing may take place and randomly selected according to ITTF regulations.
24. **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).
25. No competitor or official shall engage in betting on players or matches.
26. 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.
27. 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.
28. Suitably engraved medallions will be awarded to the finalists and both losing semi-finalists in all events that have more than 14 entries.
29. 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.
30. *This undertaking may be signed on behalf of a Under 21 or Junior competitor by a parent or legal guardian but not by a coach.
31. Doping shall not take place before or during play. Players competing in this tournament may be subject to drug testing from UK Anti-doping.
32. Mobile phones are not permitted to be used within the match court area and should remain somewhere safe within your bag or with a parent or coach attending the event. Any player caught using their phone during time out, change of ends or during matches will forfeit the match.
33. Changing facilities, including showers, are available at the venue.
34. Car parking is available at the venue.
35. All competitors must report to the control table on arrival and must not leave the venue without first obtaining permission from the Referee.
36. Table Tennis England may authorise photographers and other media representatives to record the event.
37. For entrants aged 21 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.
38. 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

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.

Schedule Outline:

Saturday 09:00: Under 21's start group stages.

Followed by: Under 21's Doubles, Mixed Doubles and individual knockouts.

Sunday 09:00: Junior start group stages.

Followed by: Para Junior Singles Group Stages and Knockouts
Junior Doubles and Individual knockouts.