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Regulations Part B: TOURNAMENTS

REGULATIONS

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Forms OT1, OT3, OT4 and OT5 can be downloaded from the TTE website under Coach-Officials-Tournament Organiser Forms

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An Open Tournament is a tournament for which entry is open to all eligible TTE Affiliated Members including members of home country Associations with reciprocal membership and members of other ITTF Associations with visiting membership.
- 1.2 A Closed Tournament is a tournament for which entry is restricted to bona fide members of a particular Affiliated Organisation.
- 1.3 An Invitation Tournament is a nationally authorised tournament which complies with all the regulations for an Open Tournament except that it is not open to every Affiliated Member.
- 1.4 If any question arises as to whether a particular competition is an Open Tournament, an Invitation Tournament or a Closed Tournament it shall be determined by the Tournament Approval Panel (TAP).

2 CLASSIFICATION

- 2.1 Open Tournaments will be classified by the Tournament Approval Panel (TAP) as 1*, 2*, or 4* in order of rising standards. The Competitions Committee may give each standard of tournament a brand name for publicity, marketing or sponsorship purposes.
- 2.2 Unless a dedicated women and girl's event, all main events and all banded events in a 1*, 2* and 4* tournament must offer male and female categories at the point of entry. The Referee may combine the male and female categories into an open mixed event if the number of entries is insufficient to support separate events.

3 PERMISSION

- 3.1 TAP is responsible for arranging the Competition Calendar for nationally authorised competitions for each Membership Year.

- 3.2 Application to run an Open Tournament must be sent on Form OT1 to the TAP Secretary:
- 3.2.1 for a 1* tournament not later than 3 months before the proposed date.
- 3.2.2 for a 2* or 4* tournament not later than 6 months before the proposed date.
- 3.3 TAP may, at its discretion, accept late applications.

4 OTHER APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

- 4.1 The Regulations Part A: Regulated Competitions (including the use of ITTF regulations where Part A specifies that) apply to all tournaments.

5 TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

- 5.1 The Organiser and Referee of an Open Tournament must be separate Affiliated Members and they, or responsible deputies, must be present throughout play.
- 5.2 The Organiser, Referee and Deputy Referee must not participate in the tournament as a player, umpire or coach.
- 5.3 The identities, and whereabouts during play, of the Organiser and Referee must be made known to participants.
- 5.4.1 The Organiser of a 2* tournament must be qualified to at least Level 2 (T02).
- 5.4.2 The Organiser of a 4* tournament must be qualified to at least Level 3 (TO3) or be an experienced TO2 as approved by TAP and TOC for a maximum of one year.
- 5.5 The Referee of a 1* tournament must be a suitably experienced person.
- 5.6.1 The Referee of a 2* tournament must be qualified to at least Level 1 (Tournament Referee).
- 5.6.2 The Referee of a 4* tournament must be qualified to at least Level 2 (National Referee), or be an experienced Level 1 as approved by TAP and TOC for a maximum of one year.
- 5.6.3 A Deputy Referee of a 4* tournament must be qualified to at least Level 1.
- 5.7 All matches in an open tournament must be controlled by someone acting in the role of an umpire.
- 5.7.1 Umpires for 4* finals and 4* main event semi-finals must hold a valid umpire qualification.
- 5.7.2 4* main events semi-finals and finals must include two umpires qualified to at least Level 2.

6 ENTRY FORM AND ENTRIES

- 6.1 An entry form is required for all open tournaments.
- 6.2 The entry form must include the items shown in the Entry Form Check List and is to be submitted for TAP approval.
- 6.3 Entries must be numbered in order of receipt; if it is necessary to restrict entries, priority shall be given in order of receipt except that, in a 4* tournament, valid entries from the top 50 ranked males and top 30 ranked females in the event age group must be accepted.

7 THE DRAW

- 7.1 The Referee of an Open Tournament is responsible for the conduct of the draw in accordance with section 3.6 of the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.
- 7.2 The draw for all events must be displayed in the playing venue and regularly updated to show the progress of play.

7.3 The draw will use the rating list current at the time of the draw.

8 BANDED EVENTS

- 8.1 An Open Tournament may include events from which players above and below certain rating points totals are excluded, the limits being by the ratings shown on the relevant National Rating List.
- 8.2 Such events must be called 'Band 1 Men's Singles', 'Band 2 Women's Singles', 'Band 3 Boys' Singles' etc, as appropriate.
- 8.3 Bands must be clearly indicated in the entry form – e.g. 'from 1000-1499', or 'above (or below) 1000'.
- 8.4 To be eligible for a banded event a player must have a rating (or a dummy rating allocated by the Referee) within that band at the time the draw takes place.

9 PLAYING CONDITIONS AND EQUIPMENT

- 9.1 The playing conditions and equipment appropriate for each class of Open Tournament are set out in Annex A to the Regulated Competitions Regulations.
- 9.2 Score indicators must be provided for at least the finals of a 1* tournament and for all matches in 2* and 4* tournaments.

10 MATCH SCHEDULE

- 10.1 For Senior 4* tournaments, a match schedule shall be made available on the day

11 FINALS

- 11.1 Finals of 2* and 4* tournaments must be played on a clearly defined show table.

12 REPORTS

- 12.1 Not later than 7 days after an Open tournament, or by the published ranking deadline (whichever is sooner), the Organiser must send to the Table Tennis England Office
- 12.1.1 the results together with a list of entries and, for an open tournament, completed draw sheets and 2 copies of any programme produced. *(Form OT4)*
- 12.1.2 a report of disciplinary actions, if any, taken by umpires or the Referee. *(Form OT3)*
- 12.2 TAP may appoint a Tournament Observer to report on the conduct of an Open Tournament, and the Organiser of a 1* or 2*, can submit a self-assessment. *(Form OT5)*

13 NATIONAL INVITATION EVENTS

- 13.1 The schedule of events in closed National Championships/ Cups Series organised by TTE will be determined by the Competitions and Events Manager and published on the TTE website.
- 13.2 All competitors must meet all the following criteria:
- Be a current Compete or Compete Plus member of Table Tennis England
 - 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
- 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 membership year (1 August to 31 July)