**LTA National League Winter (Cheshire) 2021/22 – RULES**

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT LEAGUE ORGANISER MIKE ATHERFOLD – 07984 973887** **point-onetennis@hotmail.com** **WITH ANY QUESTIONS.**

**QUICK VIEW MATCH FORMATS:**

**MINI RED (MIXED) DIVISION 1 AND 2** – 4 PLAYERS PER TEAM. BEST OF 16 RUBBERS. ALL RUBBERS FIRST TO 10 POINTS BY 2 CLEAR POINTS. IF THE MATCH FINISHES 8 RUBBERS ALL THEN THE MATCH IS A DRAW

**MINI ORANGE (MIXED) DIVISION 1 AND 2** – 4 PLAYERS PER TEAM. BEST OF 10 RUBBERS (8 SINGLES AND 2 DOUBLES). ALL RUBBERS BEST OF 3 TIEBREAKS TO 7 POINTS BY 2 CLEAR POINTS. IF THE MATCH FINISHES 5 RUBBERS ALL THEN TH EMATCH IS A DRAW

**MINI GREEN (MIXED) – DIVISION 1 AND 2** - 4 PLAYERS PER TEAM. BEST OF 6 RUBBERS (4 SINGLES AND 2 DOUBLES). ALL RUBBERS TWO SETS TO 4 GAMES (TIEBREAK AT 4 GAMES ALL TO 7 POINTS). IF SETS ARE SPLIT THEN TIEBREAK TO 10 POINTS IS TO BE PLAYED. SHOOTOUT (TIEBREAK TO 10 POINTS BY 2 CLEAR POINTS) TO BE PLAYED IF THE MATCH FINISHED AT 3 RUBBERS ALL.

**BOYS U11 DIV 1, BOYS U12 DIV 1, BOYS U14 DIV 1, MENS DIV 1 AND 2 AND LADIES DIV 1 AND 2**

4 PLAYERS PER TEAM (A MAXIMUM OF 2 ADDITIONAL PLAYERS CAN PLAY AS DOUBLES ALTERNATES IF REQUIRED). BEST OF 6 RUBBERS (4 SINGLES AND 2 DOUBLES). ALL RUBBERS TWO SETS TO 6 GAMES (TIEBREAK AT 6 GAMES ALL) U11 MATCHES ARE SHORT SETS TO 4 GAMES (FAST 4). IF SETS ARE SPLIT THEN A TIEBREAK TO 10 POINTS IS TO BE PLAYED BY 2 CLEAR POINTS. SHOOTOUT (TIEBREAK TO 10 POINTS BY 2 CLEAR POINTS) TO BE PLAYED IF THE MATCH FINISHED 3 RUBBERS ALL

**BOYS U11 DIV 2, BOYS U12 DIV 2, BOYS U14 DIV 2, BOYS U16 DIV 1 AND 2, BOYS U18 DIV 1 AND 2, ALL GIRLS EVENTS** – 2 PLAYERS PER TEAM (A MAXIMUM OF 2 ADDITIONAL PLAYERS CAN PLAY AS DOUBLES ALTERNATES IF REQUIRED). BEST OF 3 RUBBERS. ALL RUBBERS TWO SETS TO 6 GAMES. U11 MATCHES ARE SHORT SETS TO 4 GAMES (FAST 4). (TIEBREAK AT 6 GAMES ALL BY 2 CLEAR POINTS). IF THE SETS ARE SPLIT THE A TIEBREAK TO 10 POINTS TO BE PLAYED BY TWO CLEAR POINTS.

**It is the responsibility of both the home and away team captains to contact each other to arrange a start time for the matches.**

**The home team will provide the away team with a start time on the scheduled date between the hours of 10am and 5pm.**

**Matches are to be played on the scheduled dates only, unless both captains agree to change the date. If a date is changed then a comment must be inserted on the system stating the changed date.**

**If the match is unable to be played because of the weather, then both captains must aim to agree a revised date to play the fixture as soon as possible. For mini green and all yellow ball events, If a match has started and one or more rubbers have been completed then the winner of the match shall be the team winning the most completed rubbers.**

**If a team is unable to make a match, then the opposition will be awarded a walkover victory winning all rubbers in the match to nil.**

**If an ineligible player competes then the singles rubber involving the player concerned, and all singles rubbers lower in the team order shall be forfeited by a score of 0-6, 0-6. In addition, that team shall have 3 rubber points deducted from their match score for each ineligible player.**

**If a player retires during a rubber, the opponent shall be deemed to have won all the remaining games and sets necessary to win the rubber. The player retiring from the rubber shall be eligible to compete in any remaining rubbers/tiebreak shoot-out.**

**Players must play in ratings order where applicable. Please check players ratings before the start of each match. If you have any questions regarding playing order, then please contact the league organiser.**

**Box winners will qualify for playoffs and finals at the end of the season. Details to follow early in 2022.**

**8&U (Mini Red) Age Group Rules**

**Eligibility**1. Mixed 8 & under (born in 2014 or later).

1. Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may ‘play across’ on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in any other teams in that age group. Once a player has represented a team in that age group on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent any other teams in that age group from that point onwards.
2. Players must play in ratings order
3. Players may only represent one club in the winter league and must have a BTM number registered to that club

 **Match Arrangements**

1. The home venue shall be responsible for providing courts and balls
2. At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players which should be in order of merit.

3. If a player has not arrived or isn’t ready to play within 15 minutes of the start time of their rubber then that particular rubber shall be awarded to the opposing team to nil.
4. The team with the most rubber points shall win the match. If teams are level on rubbers then a match shootout (tiebreak to 10 points by two clear points) shall be played. In this situation captains will need to pick one player from seeds 1 and 2 and one player from seeds 3 and 4 to play in the shootout. This will not be required in mini red and orange. If the match is a draw in these events then the final result is a draw.

5. Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecard and retain their copy. The winning captain (or home captain if a draw) must then submit the result online within 48 hours.

**9&U Age Group Rules**

**Eligibility**1. Mixed 9 & under (born in 2013 or 2014).

1. Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may ‘play across’ on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in any other teams in that age group. Once a player has represented a team in that age group on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent any other teams in that age group from that point onwards.
2. Players must play in ratings order
3. Players may only represent one club in the winter league and must have a BTM number registered to that club

 **Match Arrangements**

1. The home venue shall be responsible for providing courts and balls
2. At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players which should be in order of merit.

3. If a player has not arrived or isn’t ready to play within 15 minutes of the start time of their rubber then that particular rubber shall be awarded to the opposing team to nil.
4. The team with the most rubber points shall win the match. If teams are level on rubbers then a match shootout (tiebreak to 10 points by two clear points) shall be played. In this situation captains will need to pick one player from seeds 1 and 2 and one player from seeds 3 and 4 to play in the shootout. This will not be required in mini red and orange. If the match is a draw in these events then the final result is a draw.

5. Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecard and retain their copy. The winning captain (or home captain if a draw) must then submit the result online within 48 hours.

**10&U Age Group Rules**

**Eligibility**1. Mixed 10 & under (born in 2012 or 2013).

1. Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may ‘play across’ on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in any other teams in that age group. Once a player has represented a team in that age group on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent any other teams in that age group from that point onwards.
2. Players must play in ratings order
3. Players may only represent one club in the winter league and must have a BTM number registered to that club

 **Match Arrangements**

1. The home venue shall be responsible for providing courts and balls
2. At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players which should be in order of merit.

3. If a player has not arrived or isn’t ready to play within 15 minutes of the start time of their rubber then that particular rubber shall be awarded to the opposing team to nil.
4. The team with the most rubber points shall win the match. If teams are level on rubbers then a match shootout (tiebreak to 10 points by two clear points) shall be played. In this situation captains will need to pick one player from seeds 1 and 2 and one player from seeds 3 and 4 to play in the shootout. This will not be required in mini red and orange. If the match is a draw in these events then the final result is a draw.

5. Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecard and retain their copy. The winning captain (or home captain if a draw) must then submit the result online within 48 hours.

**11&U Age Group Rules**

**Eligibility**1. Mixed 10 & under (born in 2011 or 2012).

1. Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may ‘play across’ on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in any other teams in that age group. Once a player has represented a team in that age group on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent any other teams in that age group from that point onwards.
2. Players must play in ratings order
3. Players may only represent one club in the winter league and must have a BTM number registered to that club

 **Match Arrangements**

1. The home venue shall be responsible for providing courts and balls
2. At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players which should be in order of merit.

3. If a player has not arrived or isn’t ready to play within 15 minutes of the start time of their rubber then that particular rubber shall be awarded to the opposing team to nil.
4. The team with the most rubber points shall win the match. If teams are level on rubbers then a match shootout (tiebreak to 10 points by two clear points) shall be played. In this situation captains will need to pick one player from seeds 1 and 2 and one player from seeds 3 and 4 to play in the shootout. This will not be required in mini red and orange. If the match is a draw in these events then the final result is a draw.

5. Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecard and retain their copy. The winning captain (or home captain if a draw) must then submit the result online within 48 hours.

**12&U – 18&U Age Group Rules**

**Team Eligibility**

1. Events:
Girls/Boys 12 & Under (born in 2010 or 2011)

Girls/Boys 14 & Under (born in 2018 to 2011)

Girls/Boys 16 & Under (born in 2006 to 2011)

Girls/Boys 18 & Under (born in 2004 to 2011)

1. Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may ‘play across’ on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in any other teams in that age group. Once a player has represented a team in that age group on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent any other teams in that age group from that point onwards.
2. Players must play in ratings order
3. Players may only represent one club in the winter league and must have a BTM number registered to that club

 **Match Arrangements**

1. The home venue shall be responsible for providing courts and balls
2. At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players which should be in order of merit.

3. If a player has not arrived or isn’t ready to play within 15 minutes of the start time of their rubber then that particular rubber shall be awarded to the opposing team to nil.
4. The team with the most rubber points shall win the match. If teams are level on rubbers then a match shootout (tiebreak to 10 points by two clear points) shall be played. In this situation captains will need to pick one player from seeds 1 and 2 and one player from seeds 3 and 4 to play in the shootout. This will not be required in mini red and orange. If the match is a draw in these events then the final result is a draw.

5. Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecard and retain their copy. The winning captain (or home captain if a draw) must then submit the result online within 48 hours.

**Open (adult) Age Group Rules**

**Eligibility**

1. Where a venue has two or more teams in the event, a player may ‘play across’ on a maximum of one occasion without loss of eligibility in any other teams in that age group. Once a player has represented a team in that age group on more than one occasion, they are no longer eligible to represent any other teams in that age group from that point onwards.
2. Players must play in ratings order
3. Players may only represent one club in the winter league and must have a BTM number registered to that club

 **Match Arrangements**

1. The home venue shall be responsible for providing courts and balls
2. At least 15 minutes before the start time of each fixture, team captains must nominate in writing (on a Team Tennis scorecard) their singles players which should be in order of merit.

3. If a player has not arrived or isn’t ready to play within 15 minutes of the start time of their rubber then that particular rubber shall be awarded to the opposing team to nil.
4. The team with the most rubber points shall win the match. If teams are level on rubbers then a match shootout (tiebreak to 10 points by two clear points) shall be played. In this situation captains will need to pick one player from seeds 1 and 2 and one player from seeds 3 and 4 to play in the shootout. This will not be required in mini red and orange. If the match is a draw in these events then the final result is a draw.

5. Both captains must complete and sign the Team Tennis scorecard and retain their copy. The winning captain (or home captain if a draw) must then submit the result online within 48 hours.