

# **Lawn Tennis Association Limited**

## **The Rules**

Effective 18 May 2017

## **Lawn Tennis Association Limited**

### **The Rules**

#### **INTERPRETATION**

##### **1. Defined Terms and Interpretation**

1.1 In the Articles and these Rules, unless the context requires otherwise:

“Articles” means the articles of association of the Company as in force from time to time;

“Associate” means an entity which is registered as such by its National, County or Island Association in accordance with Rules 27 and 28;

“Association” means the Lawn Tennis Association;

“Board” means the board of directors of the Company;

“Board Nominations Committee” means the nominations committee of the Company established by the Board to deal with nominations in accordance with its terms of reference;

“British Tennis Member” means a person admitted as a member of British Tennis under Rule 43;

“Chairman” means the independent chairman of the Company appointed in accordance with Rule 7;

“Chief Executive” means the chief executive of the Company appointed in accordance with Rule 8;

“Company” means Lawn Tennis Association Limited;

“Council” means the Council of the Company for the time being constituted in accordance with the Articles, the Standing Orders and these Rules;

“Council Board Member” means a director of the Company elected by Council in accordance with Standing Order 53 of the Standing Orders;

“Councillor” means any person for the time being appointed to and serving on the Council;

“Council Nominations Committee” means the nominations committee of the Company established by Council to deal with nominations in accordance with its terms of reference;

“Deputy President” means the deputy president of the Company;

“Eligible Council Member” means every member of Council excluding (a) past presidents of the Association; (b) Honorary Life Vice-Presidents; (c) Vice-Presidents who had attained the age of 70 by 31st December in the preceding calendar year; (d) Honorary Life Councillors; and (e) Independent Councillors;

“Finance Director” means the finance director of the Company appointed in accordance with Rule 8;

“Game” means the game of Lawn Tennis;

“Honorary Life Councillor” means an honorary life councillor of the Company referred to in Rule 15;

“Honorary Life Vice-President” means an honorary life vice-president of the Company referred to in Rule 15;

“Independent Councillor” means an independent councillor of the Company elected pursuant to Rule 18;

“Independent Board Member” means an independent non-executive director of the Company nominated by the Board Nominations Committee in accordance with Rule 10, with 'independent' having the meaning given to it in the document entitled 'A Code for Sports Governance', as published by UK Sport and Sport England from time to time;

“Junior” means a player aged 18 and under;

“International Lawn Tennis Club of Great Britain” means the Member known as The International Lawn Tennis Club of Great Britain;

“Member” means a member of the Company;

“Past President” means a past President or a past president of the Association;

“Player Representative Councillor” means a councillor appointed under Rule 19;

“President” means the president of the Company;

“Rules” means the rules of the Company as in force from time to time;

“Rules of Tennis” means the Rules of Tennis and the Rules and Regulations of the International Tennis Federation as in force from time to time;

“Secretary” means the secretary of the Company appointed in accordance with Rule 11;

“Standing Orders” means the standing orders of the Company as in force from time to time;

“Tennis Foundation” means the Member which is a charitable company limited by guarantee with company registration number 2138124 and charity registration number 298175;

“Tennis Industry Association” means the Member which is the tennis industry’s trade association known as the Tennis Industry Association;

“Vice-President” means a vice-president of the Company referred to in Rule 15;

- 1.2 Words denoting the singular number include the plural number and vice versa; words denoting the masculine gender include the feminine gender; words denoting persons include bodies corporate (however incorporated) and unincorporated, including unincorporated associations of persons and partnerships; and every reference to Great Britain includes the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.
- 1.3 Unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these Rules bear the same meaning as in the Articles.

## **OBJECTS**

### **2. Objects**

The Company shall be the governing body of the Game and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the Game, to promote an increase in participation at all levels of the Game and generally to do all such acts, matters and things in connection with, or incidental to, those objects.

## **BOARD**

### **3. Composition of the Board**

Subject to the Companies Acts and the Articles, the Board shall ordinarily be comprised of: (i) the Chairman; (ii) the President; (iii) the Deputy President; (iv) the chairperson of each of the Tennis Development Committee and the Tennis Performance Committee; (v) two Council Board Members; (vi) three Independent Board Members; (vii) the Chief Executive; (viii) the Finance Director; and (ix) no more than two executives recommended by the

Chief Executive and the Board Nominations Committee. The nomination and election procedures for these roles are set out in Rules 7 to 10, Rule 14 and in the Standing Orders.

**4. Secretarial attendance**

The Secretary shall attend meetings of the Board, unless the Chairman directs otherwise. Such attendance shall not carry voting rights.

**5. Invitees**

Meetings of the Board may be attended in whole or in part by any person invited by the Chairman to speak on particular business. Such attendance shall not carry voting rights and shall normally be confined to specific items on the agenda.

**6. Minutes**

Minutes of each meeting shall be circulated to each member of the Board within 21 days of the meeting of the Board.

**APPOINTMENT, NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND SECRETARY**

**7. Appointment of the Chairman**

On the recommendation of the Board Nominations Committee, the Board shall appoint the Chairman, subject to Council's approval.

**8. Appointment of Chief Executive and Finance Director**

On the recommendation of the Board Nominations Committee, the Board shall appoint the Chief Executive and the Finance Director, in each case in an *ex officio* capacity.

**9. Appointment of additional executives**

The Chief Executive and Board Nominations Committee shall agree up to a maximum of two additional executives for appointment to the Board in an *ex officio* capacity and recommend these appointments to the Board. The Board shall approve or reject the appointment of these executive members to the Board.

**10. Nomination of Independent Board Members**

On the recommendation of the Board Nominations Committee, the Board shall appoint three Independent Board Members. The appointments shall be reported to the next meeting of Council.

## **11. Appointment of the Senior Independent Director and the Secretary**

- 11.1 On the recommendation of the Board Nominations Committee, the Board shall appoint one of the Independent Board Members as the Senior Independent Director upon such terms as it shall from time to time think fit (and such appointment shall be reported to the following meeting of the Council).
- 11.2 On the recommendation of the Board Nominations Committee, the Board shall appoint the Secretary (and such appointment shall be reported to the following meeting of the Council).

## **COUNCIL**

### **12. Powers**

Notwithstanding the power of the Board to manage the Company, Council has the powers set out in the Articles.

### **13. Membership: general**

13.1 The Council shall consist of:

- (A) a President;
- (B) a Deputy President;
- (C) Past Presidents;
- (D) Vice-Presidents;
- (E) Honorary Life Vice-Presidents and Honorary Life Councillors;
- (F) Member-nominated Councillors, elected pursuant to Article 25 and Rule 17;
- (G) Independent Councillors;
- (H) Player Representative Councillors;
- (I) Councillors, nominated by the Board, appointed pursuant to Rule 20;
- (J) five Councillors, nominated by the Tennis Foundation, appointed pursuant to Rule 21; and
- (K) a Councillor, nominated by the Tennis Industry Association, appointed pursuant to Rule 22.

**14. President and Deputy President**

- 14.1 The President and Deputy President shall be appointed to office in accordance with Article 19 and the Standing Orders.
- 14.2 The President and Deputy President shall each serve on Council for a maximum aggregate term of three years if re-appointed to office in accordance with Article 19 and the Standing Orders.
- 14.3 Subject to Rule 14.2, upon completion of a nine year term on Council, a Councillor elected as President or Deputy President may serve on Council in either of those positions for up to three further years (a maximum aggregate term of 12 years on Council).
- 14.4 A President or Deputy President shall be eligible for re-appointment to Council in a role other than as President or Deputy President, provided a period of at least four consecutive years has passed since the date upon which they ceased to hold office.

**15. Honorary Life Vice-Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Honorary Life Councillors**

- 15.1 Certain persons have been appointed as Honorary Life Vice-Presidents, Vice-Presidents and/or Honorary Life Councillors by virtue of special services rendered in connection with the Game, or a significant period of outstanding service to Council, and their rights and obligations as such are set out in this Rule. For the avoidance of doubt, all persons appointed as honorary life vice-presidents, vice-presidents and/or honorary life councillors of the Association have been appointed as Honorary Life Vice-Presidents, Vice-Presidents and/or Honorary Life Councillors. No further candidates for Honorary Life Vice-President, Vice-President or Honorary Life Councillor shall be proposed.
- 15.2 Each of an Honorary Life Vice-President and an Honorary Life Councillor is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a Councillor except that s/he is not entitled to attend Council meetings. S/he shall not be eligible for election or re-election to any office or position on Council nor for appointment or nomination as a representative of the Company on any other body or organisation.
- 15.3 Up to the age of 70, a Vice-President is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a Councillor. After reaching the age of 70, a Vice-President is not entitled to attend Council meetings. S/he shall not be eligible for election or re-election to any office or position on Council nor for appointment or nomination as a representative of the Company on any other body or organisation.

**16. Past Presidents**

- 16.1 A Past President shall be shall be entitled to certain rights and privileges for life.

16.2 A Past President shall be entitled to attend Council for a period of three years following the year in which s/he reaches the maximum term of 12 years as specified in Rule 14.3, during which s/he shall:

(A) not, without specific invitation by the Chairman or President of Council be entitled to speak, nor propose or second a motion or vote, at a Council meeting; and

(B) not be eligible for election or re-election to any office or position on Council.

## **17. Councillors nominated by Members**

17.1 Members entitled to representation on Council shall elect their representatives from time to time in accordance with the Articles, this Rule, the Councillor profile issued from time to time by Council and available from the Secretary and in accordance with their own rules or in such manner as they may decide.

17.2 Subject to the Articles, the representation to which a Member is entitled is set out in Appendix 1 to these Rules.

17.3 Each Member nominated Councillor shall serve for a term of three years and may, at their discretion and with the approval of their Member, continue for a maximum of two further terms of three years. A Member nominated Councillor who has served for a maximum aggregate term of 9 years shall, provided a period of at least four consecutive years has passed since the date upon which they ceased to hold office, be eligible for re-appointment to Council in a role other than their previously held Member nominated Councillor position.

17.4 Any failure or omission by a Member to comply with this Rule shall be dealt with in such manner as the Board and Council may decide.

## **18. Independent Councillors**

18.1 In order to secure special knowledge or experience, Council may appoint any person who is not a councillor nor a paid executive of the Company to be a councillor.

18.2 An Independent Councillor shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a member of Council save that s/he shall not be eligible for election to any office or position on Council. An Independent Councillor shall not be entitled to make nominations or vote in the election of members of Council to any office or position on Council.

18.3 The Chairman and the Independent Board Members shall be Independent Councillors *ex officio* and shall be nominated by the Board as such in accordance with this Rule and their appointment approved by Council.



18.4 If appointed, an Independent Councillors shall serve for a term of three years and may, at their discretion and, with the nomination of the Council Nominations Committee and with the approval of Council, continue for up to two further terms of three years. An Independent Councillor shall, provided a period of at least four consecutive years has passed since the date upon which they ceased to hold office, be eligible for re-appointment to Council in a role other than as an Independent Councillor.

18.5 The total number of persons appointed Independent Councillors shall not exceed six.

## **19. Player Representative Councillors**

19.1 Any person shall be eligible to be a full Councillor provided that:

(A) s/he has competed professionally within 10 years of the date of appointment; and

(B) s/he is a British Citizen (as defined by the British Nationality Act 1981 as amended from time to time) or is eligible to represent Great Britain (including the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man).

19.2 Each candidate shall be officially nominated by the International Lawn Tennis Club of Great Britain in writing to the chairperson of the Council Nominations Committee on or before 1 July in each year stating full name, address and date of birth together with reasons for nomination and confirmation that the candidate satisfies the eligibility criteria.

19.3 The Council Nominations Committee may only put forward a maximum of two candidates in any one year (preferably one male and one female representative) for consideration by Council and if there is no objection their names will be formally confirmed by the Board.

19.4 If appointed, a Player Representative Councillor shall serve for a term of three years and may, at their discretion and with the approval of the International Lawn Tennis Club of Great Britain and the Council Nominations Committee, continue for up to two further terms of three years. A Player Representative Councillor shall, provided a period of at least four consecutive years has passed since the date upon which they ceased to hold office, be eligible for re-appointment to Council in a role other than as a Player Representative Councillor.

19.5 In the event of a casual vacancy, the International Lawn Tennis Club of Great Britain may provide notice in writing to the chairperson of the Council Nominations Committee of such vacancy and propose a candidate to fill the vacancy stating the full name, address and date of birth together with reasons for nomination and confirmation that the candidate satisfies the eligibility criteria. If the Council

Nominations Committee approves the nomination, it shall submit the name of the candidate for confirmation at the next Council meeting.

## **20. Councillors nominated by the Board**

20.1 In order to secure special knowledge, expertise and diversity on Council, any person shall be eligible to be a full Councillor provided that:

- (A) each candidate shall be officially notified in writing to the Secretary on or before 1 July in each year stating full name, address and date of birth together with reasons for nomination; and
- (B) the Board may put forward a maximum of eight candidates for consideration and approval by Council and if there is no objection their names will be formally confirmed by the Board.

20.2 If appointed, a Councillor nominated by the Board shall serve for a term of three years and may, at their discretion and with the approval of the Board, continue for up to two further terms of three years. A Councillor nominated by the Board shall, provided a period of at least four consecutive years has passed since the date upon which they ceased to hold office, be eligible for re-appointment to Council in a role other than as a Councillor nominated by the Board.

20.3 In the event of a casual vacancy, the Board may propose a candidate for confirmation at the next Council meeting.

## **21. Councillors nominated by the Tennis Foundation**

21.1 Any person nominated by the Tennis Foundation shall be eligible to be a full Councillor provided that:

- (A) each candidate shall be officially nominated in writing to the chairperson of the Council Nominations Committee on or before 1 July in each year stating full name, address and date of birth together with reasons for nomination and confirmation that the candidate satisfies the eligibility criteria;
- (B) the candidate is not a paid employee of the Tennis Foundation;
- (C) the Tennis Foundation has consulted with the relevant representative body where applicable; and
- (D) the candidate has been selected as a suitable representative from British Tennis including, but not limited to, education including primary and secondary education and higher and further education, coaching, Local Authorities and sports development bodies, disability sport and the Tennis Foundation.

- 21.2 The Tennis Foundation may only put forward a maximum of five candidates in any one year for consideration by the Council Nominations Committee.
- 21.3 The Council Nominations Committee may only put forward a maximum of five candidates for consideration by Council and if there are no objections their names will be formally confirmed by the Board.
- 21.4 If appointed, a Councillor nominated by the Tennis Foundation shall serve for a term of three years and may, at their discretion and with the approval of the Tennis Foundation and the Council Nominations Committee, continue for up to two further terms of three years. A Councillor nominated by the Tennis Foundation shall, provided a period of at least four consecutive years has passed since the date upon which they ceased to hold office, be eligible for re-appointment to Council in a role other than as a Councillor nominated by the Tennis Foundation..
- 21.5 In the event of a casual vacancy, the Tennis Foundation may provide notice in writing to the chairperson of the Council Nominations Committee of such vacancy and propose a candidate to fill the vacancy stating the full name, address and date of birth together with reasons for nomination and confirmation that the candidate satisfies the eligibility criteria. If the Council Nominations Committee approves the nomination, it shall submit the name of the candidate for confirmation at the next Council meeting.

## **22. Councillor nominated by the Tennis Industry Association**

- 22.1 Any person (who is associated with a Commercial Tennis Club operator) may be nominated by the Tennis Industry Association and shall be eligible to be a full Councillor provided that:
- (A) each candidate shall be officially notified in writing to the chairperson of the Council Nominations Committee on or before 1 July in each year stating full name, address and date of birth together with reasons for nomination;
  - (B) the Tennis Industry Association may only put forward one candidate for consideration by the Council Nominations Committee.
- 22.2 The Council Nominations Committee may only put forward one candidate for consideration by Council and if there are no objections their name will be formally confirmed by the Board.
- 22.3 If appointed, a Councillor nominated by the Tennis Industry Association shall serve for a term of three years and may, at their discretion and with the approval of the Tennis Industry Association and the Council Nominations Committee, continue for up to two further terms of three years. A Councillor nominated by the Tennis Industry Association shall, provided a period of at least four consecutive years has passed since the date upon which they ceased to hold office, be eligible for re-appointment

to Council in a role other than as a Councillor nominated by the Tennis Industry Association.

- 22.4 In the event of a casual vacancy, the Tennis Industry Association may provide notice in writing to the chairperson of the Council Nominations Committee of such vacancy and propose a candidate to fill the vacancy stating the full name, address and date of birth together with reasons for nomination. If the Council Nominations Committee approves the nomination it shall submit the name of the candidate for confirmation at the next Council meeting.

### **23. Convening a Council meeting**

- 23.1 Council meetings shall be convened and conducted in accordance with the Standing Orders in force from time to time.

### **24. Eligibility for Council**

- 24.1 A person must be 18 or over to be eligible for election in any capacity.
- 24.2 No person shall be eligible as a councillor who is a paid executive of the Company or of the Tennis Foundation.

### **25. Voting**

No person shall represent more than one organisation or have more than one vote (except for the chairperson's casting vote following an equality of votes) upon Council.

### **26. Financial interests**

Any person accepting nomination to Council who has any financial interest in the Game must, before his or her election, state in writing to the Company all such interests. Failure to do so will lead to automatic disqualification from Council membership. Council has the right to veto such an election if, in its opinion, it is not in the best interests of the Game.

### **27. Associates**

- 27.1 An entity shall become an Associate when it is registered as such by and through its National, County or Island Association (as appropriate).
- 27.2 For the avoidance of doubt, where an entity has headquarters, grounds or any other presence in two or more geographical areas, such entity must register through its National, County or Island Association (as appropriate) in each geographical area.
- 27.3 An entity shall qualify for registration as an Associate (and be registered as an Associate) if:

- (a) the relevant National, County or Island Association deems (in accordance with guidelines set out by the Company and as determined by the Board) that it provides organised tennis opportunities. Such an entity shall include, but not be limited to:
  - (i) a members' or commercial tennis club;
  - (ii) a park-based tennis programme;
  - (iii) a school-based tennis programme for the community which operates out of curriculum hours;
  - (iv) an indoor pay and play tennis centre;
  - (v) a tennis academy; and/or
  - (vi) a further education or higher education tennis club.
- (b) it has a written constitution or a set of rules governing its operation approved, if required, by the relevant National, County or Island Association.

27.4 If a dispute arises as to whether an entity qualifies to be an Associate then the President shall decide the issue and his or her decision shall be final.

## **28. Subscriptions for Associates**

28.1 Subject to Rules 28.3, 28.4 and 28.5, and unless the directors and Council expressly approve or have approved a lesser amount or special arrangement on a case by case basis, the minimum annual subscription for each Associate which shall be deemed to include any taxation which may be payable thereon shall be calculated by multiplying the number of courts of each surface to which the Associate has "regular access" (whether through a lease, user agreement and/or such other arrangement or understanding) by the applicable "court fee".

28.2 For the purpose of Rule 28.1:

- (A) "court fee" means the annual fee per court (which may vary depending on the court surface) as determined by the directors and Council; and
- (B) "regular access" means access on an exclusive basis for at least 15 hours per week (for at least 40 weeks per year).

28.3 If an Associate does not have regular access, a fixed fee, to be determined annually by the directors and Council shall be payable.

- 28.4 Unless the directors and Council determines otherwise on a case by case basis, the annual subscription in respect of each year to 30 September shall be payable between 1 October and the following 28 February.
- 28.5 The annual subscription may be paid to the Company as agent and the Company will pay the proceeds to the National, County or Island Association(s) by and through which the Associate is registered.
- 28.6 The annual subscription (if any) of each Associate shall include the amount, if any, payable in respect of benefits or services provided by the Company.

## **29. Non-payment of subscription**

- 29.1 Any Associate whose first subscription remains unpaid for one calendar month after the receipt of notice of membership, or whose annual subscription in any subsequent year remains unpaid by 28 February, shall, if the directors so resolve and Council so approves, cease to be eligible for grants and other advantages offered to Associates (or such of them as the directors shall decide and Council shall approve).
- 29.2 If an Associate gives notice of deregistration to its National, County or Island Association as the case may be the Associate shall no longer be eligible for grants and other advantages offered to Associates with immediate effect.

## **30. Subscription of Members**

- 30.1 Unless otherwise stated in the Articles, the annual subscription in respect of each year to 30 September for each Member, which shall be deemed to include any taxation which may be payable thereon, shall be fixed by the directors and approved by Council and fall due for payment (unless the directors and Council determine otherwise on a case by case basis) between 1 October and the following 28 February each year.
- 30.2 Unless otherwise stated in the Articles, any Member whose first subscription remains unpaid for one calendar month after the receipt of notice of membership, or whose annual subscription in any subsequent year remains unpaid by 28 February, shall, if the directors so resolve and Council so approves, cease to be eligible for grants and other advantages offered to Members (including the right, if any, to elect representative(s) to Council) or such of them as the directors shall decide and Council shall approve.
- 30.3 Unless otherwise stated in the Articles, any Member whose subscription remains unpaid by 1<sup>st</sup> September shall, subject to any further period of grace that may be authorised by the directors and approved by Council, cease to be a Member, but without prejudice to its indebtedness.

## **PLAYERS AND TOURNAMENTS**

### **31. Conditions Governing Players**

- 31.1 A player, when participating in any event or training organised or authorised by the Company or by any Member or Associate, or when playing in Great Britain in any event organised by any other body:
- (A) shall accept the conditions of entry of the event which s/he has entered, including the conditions of any code of conduct adopted for that event;
  - (B) shall not compete in two or more concurrent tournaments except when the overlap is two days or less. (Rating events may constitute an exception to the Rule, but the requirements of a non-rating event shall take precedence);
  - (C) shall not commit a “Doping Offence” as defined in the Disciplinary Code and shall submit at any reasonable time within or outside the actual dates of the event or training, if required by an official of the Company or of the event, to a general or random dope control test conducted in general accord with Sports Councils or International Tennis Federation practice and with the Disciplinary Code;
  - (D) shall not play with or against a person who is under suspension in events authorised by the International Tennis Federation or any member of associate thereof;
  - (E) shall not participate in the profit or gross receipts of a tournament, match, exhibition match or other competition;
  - (F) shall not breach any of the regulations concerning match fixing, financial speculation and betting as set out in the Disciplinary Code;
  - (G) Council shall, pursuant to the Articles and these Rules, have full power to suspend or otherwise discipline in Great Britain any British player who fails to comply with the above conditions and may delegate such power to act in accordance with the Disciplinary Code.

### **32. Non-Playing Captains**

A non-playing Captain of a team shall be subject to all Rules governing players except in regard to sex or age.

### **33. Age Limit**

- 33.1 Council may stipulate a maximum age limit for any tournament, match or competition and in those circumstances only those who have not reached that maximum age limit shall be eligible to compete.

- 33.2 In any tournament, match or competition in which there is a minimum age limit, only those who have or will have reached the minimum age limit on or before 31st December in the year of any match or competition in which they are entered as competitors shall be eligible to compete.

#### **34. National Qualifications**

- 34.1 The qualification of a player to represent Great Britain shall, subject to any regulations for a particular match or competition, be in accordance with the appropriate ITF Rule. In the application of that rule the term "National" means "British Citizen" (as defined in the British Nationality Act 1981 as amended from time to time), and "Country", in connection with residence, refers to Great Britain, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.
- 34.2 The qualification of a player to represent England, Scotland or Wales shall be in accordance with Rule 34.1 above except that:
- (A) "Country", in connection with residence, refers to England, Scotland or Wales respectively;
  - (B) the authority to decide any appeal for special treatment equivalent to paragraph (d) of the ITF Rule 'Eligibility of a player to represent a country' shall be Council; and
  - (C) exercising a qualification for Great Britain does not affect a qualification to play for England, Scotland or Wales, nor vice versa.

#### **35. Area Qualifications**

- 35.1 For the purposes of this Rule, a competition, the entries for which are restricted to persons having a qualification for a County, Island or other area as provided by Rule 34, is referred to as an "area competition".
- 35.2 A player is qualified to represent an area in a match or to play in an area competition if:
- (A) s/he is a British Citizen in accordance with the British Nationality Act 1981 (as amended from time to time); or
  - (B) s/he is qualified to represent Great Britain under the appropriate ITF Rule; or
  - (C) Great Britain has been his or her permanent place of residence for a period of 24 consecutive months (12 months in the case of Juniors) immediately preceding the relevant match or competition;



and

- (i) his or her place of birth or permanent residence at date of birth is in such area; or
- (ii) his or her place of permanent residence has for at least one year immediately preceding the match or competition (six months in the case of Juniors) been in such area; or
- (iii) at any time his or her place of permanent residence has for a period of five consecutive years been in such area; or
- (iv) s/he is serving full-time in the British Regular Armed Forces and s/he has resided in such area for at least six months immediately preceding the match or competition; or s/he is the spouse or child of such a person and s/he has so resided with his or her spouse or parent.

35.3 The above provisions are subject to the following:

- (A) War service or conscripted service under the orders of the government shall be held not to break any period of residential qualification.
- (B) A player who has once played under the birth qualification in (i) may not exercise a birth qualification for another area in the event of a change of boundary having taken place since his or her date of birth.
- (C) A player who has once played under either of the residential area qualifications in (ii) or (iii) may continue to do so until such time as s/he exercises any qualification in respect of another area when s/he shall forfeit all residential area qualifications previously exercised.
- (D) No player may represent more than one area in any one competition and no player may represent an area if s/he has exercised a qualification in respect of another area during the previous 12 months (six months in the case of Juniors).
- (E) A player is deemed to have represented an area if s/he has been nominated to play in a match for that area and has accepted such nomination, and to have played in an area competition if his or her entry for the same has been accepted.
- (F) A British Citizen born abroad is entitled to adopt the area birth qualification of either parent (but this election may only be made once).
- (G) Any person who, following a change of boundary or of the division or grouping of counties under these Rules, acquires a qualification for an area for which s/he was not qualified immediately prior to such change, is, subject to Rules 35.3(B) and (D), permitted to adopt and exercise such qualification

(or, subject to the consent of the Company, another qualification to which s/he is entitled) on the next occasion when s/he exercises an area qualification, notwithstanding that s/he may have exercised a different area qualification during the previous 12 months (six months in the case of Juniors); and in the event of his or her playing in one area competition while another area competition in which s/he has played is still in progress s/he is permitted until the end of the competition which started first to represent the one area in one competition and the other area in the other.

- (H) Residence at or in connection with an educational or training establishment does not of itself constitute a residential qualification.

35.4 All questions of interpretation or application of this Rule and any applications for consent of the Company under this Rule shall be determined by the Secretary. All such questions or applications must be made in writing to the Secretary. Such applications must be made not less than two months before the relevant match or competition, and must be accompanied by all relevant facts. The Secretary may request such further information, make such further enquiries and seek such advice as s/he deems necessary. Where the application is for the consent of the Company, the consent shall be given by the Secretary if the full circumstances warrant the consent being given.

### **36. Eligibility for a National Championship**

In a National Championship of Great Britain a player is eligible to compete only if:

- (A) s/he is qualified under Rule 34 to represent a country named therein; and
- (B) s/he has not competed in the 12 months preceding the event in a National Closed Championship of a country other than those named in Rule 34; and
- (C) s/he is a British Tennis Member.

### **37. County Boundaries**

For the purposes of these Rules, the county boundaries of England shall be those which apply for the purposes of local government as defined from time to time by Act of Parliament, except as follows: for reasons of county size, communications or otherwise Council shall authorise and define, and publish as Appendix 1 to these Rules, the division of any such counties and/or the grouping of any two or more of such counties or parts thereof, to operate as "County Associations" for the purposes of lawn tennis administration and area competitions. Corresponding arrangements for the districts of Scotland and the counties of Wales shall be under the control of the respective National Associations.

### **38. Definition of a Tournament Committee**

For the purposes of these Rules a tournament committee is an organisation (other than member or associate) of not less than three persons associated together for the purpose of promoting and managing an official championship or tournament or public competition.

### **39. Open Championships and Tournaments**

For the purposes of these Rules an open tournament is any tournament at which cups, prizes or rewards are competed for by more than eight players whether as individuals or as doubles partnerships) over a period of more than two days, with the following exceptions:

- (A) Any tournament, the entries for which are restricted to full playing members of a particular club.
- (B) Any tournament, the entries for which are restricted to persons having a fixed place of residence within a radius of 25 miles of the ground where the tournament is held.
- (C) Any tournament promoted by a member or associate, the entries for which are restricted to its own members, or to the members of its associates, or, in the case of a National, County or Island Association, to persons having the relevant qualification.
- (D) Any tournament which is not publicly advertised nor for which general or official invitations to play are issued, nor at which either gate money or its equivalent is taken.
- (E) Any public competition as defined in Rule 41.

### **40. Sanction for Tournaments**

No open tournament shall be held on a registered ground in Great Britain, nor with the consent or assistance of a member or associate, without the written sanction of the Company nor on dates other than those sanctioned. Such sanction, which shall confer the title of official championship or official tournament as the Company may decide, shall be granted only to Members and/or Associates. The Company's Regulations for the Management of Lawn Tennis Tournaments shall apply to all sanctioned tournaments. No application for a new or revived official tournament nor for a change from the dates equivalent to those of the previous year shall be considered without reference to the member, if any, within whose area of jurisdiction such tournament is proposed to be held. Application must be made annually to the Company on a form to be obtained from the Competitions Team of the Company, or similar, and such form duly filled up must be returned to the Company on or before the first day of October (or whatever date is decided by the Company in the case of

tournaments which are to be included in the ITF Calendar) immediately preceding the date of the proposed tournament, accompanied by such fee as shall be fixed from time to time by the Company.

#### **41. Public Competitions**

Any competition in which the matches are played over an extended period and/or at different places, shall be known as a public competition and shall require the sanction of Council unless it comes within one of the exceptions set out in (A) to (D) of Rule 39. Council shall decide from time to time the terms upon which such sanction shall be granted and the fees payable in connection therewith.

#### **42. Exhibition Matches**

42.1 For the purposes of these Rules an exhibition match is any game of tennis to which members of the public are admitted for a cash or other consideration, or which is broadcast on radio or television, or recorded on film or tape etc for such purposes in the future, other than:

- (A) An international team match approved by the Company;
- (B) An open tournament as defined in Rule 39 or a tournament comprised in the exceptions (A) to (D) of that Rule;
- (C) A public competition as defined in Rule 41.

42.2 It is not permitted to stage an exhibition match in Great Britain without the written permission of Council (and, if required, of the International Tennis Federation).

### **BRITISH TENNIS MEMBERS AND AWARDS**

#### **43. British Tennis Membership**

43.1 The directors and Council may admit persons as British Tennis Members upon such terms and at such rates of subscription as they may from time to time think fit. The liability of each British Tennis Member shall be limited to the amount of the annual subscription which s/he has or ought to have paid.

43.2 The following individuals will be eligible to be a British Tennis Member free of charge:

- (a) tennis members of an Associate;
- (b) card holders at an Associate running a park-based tennis programme and/or an indoor pay and play tennis centre;

- (c) adults and Juniors involved in an organised tennis programme at an Associate; and/or
- (d) LTA accredited coaches at the Associate.

43.3 If a dispute arises as to whether an individual is eligible for free British Tennis membership then the President shall decide the issue and his or her decision shall be final.

#### **44. Meritorious Service Award**

44.1 Not later than 15 December in any year, a person may be nominated by a member for the Meritorious Service Award.

44.2 Such person will have given exceptional service to the Game in their local community.

44.3 Any such nomination shall be in writing and sent to the Secretary with the consent of the nominee for consideration by the directors, who may themselves make nominations.

44.4 The directors shall decide on the successful recipients who will be notified and presented with the Meritorious Service Award at the next annual general meeting or other venue of their choosing.

#### **45. Honorary membership**

45.1 Council may admit persons as 'Honorary Members' of the Company (for the avoidance of doubt, Honorary Members shall not be entitled to attend or vote at Council meetings and/or general meetings of the Company).

45.2 Such membership may be given to exceptional individuals in recognition of their outstanding contribution to British Tennis.

45.3 Nominations, in writing, are to be sent to the Secretary by 15th September in any year with the consent of the nominee for consideration by the directors, who may themselves make nominations.

45.4 Nominations approved by the directors shall be placed on the agenda of the next general meeting of the Company and shall require a simple majority of those present and eligible to vote.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

## **46. Property of the Company**

- 46.1 Without prejudice to the generality of the Articles, Council may (upon request by the directors):
- (A) appoint any person or persons or corporation to act as nominee or nominees or trustee or trustees for the Company; and/or
  - (B) engage any firm or corporation to manage any property or fund on behalf of Council.
- 46.2 Any such appointment or engagement shall reserve power to Council to terminate it and shall otherwise be on such terms as Council may think fit.
- 46.3 Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing sub-Rule:
- (A) any trustee, nominee or manager may be remunerated on such scale as may be agreed by Council;
  - (B) any manager may be given power to exercise discretions on behalf of Council and to direct any nominee or trustee as to dealings with any property of the Company held by such nominee or trustee; and
  - (C) the appointment or engagement of any trustee, nominee or manager may contain such provisions as to the liability of the person, corporation or firm so appointed or engaged for breach of trust, negligence or other default, or for relief against such liability, as Council may think fit.
- 46.4 Any appointment or engagement pursuant to the foregoing provisions may be made in such form as Council may think fit, provided that the appointment of a trustee of any land of the Company shall be by deed, and for this purpose the Finance Director is nominated as the person to appoint new trustees or a new trustee within the meaning of section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925 and s/he shall by deed appoint the person or persons nominated in that behalf by Council and the provisions of the Trustee Act 1925 shall apply to any such appointment. Any statement of fact in any such deed of appointment in favour of a person dealing bona fide with the Company or Council shall be conclusive evidence of the facts so stated.

## **47. Travelling Expenses**

Every member of Council or of a committee attending a meeting officially convened for the purpose of transacting the business of the Company shall be entitled to be reimbursed out of the funds of the company travelling and incidental expenses as may from time to time be approved by Council.

#### **48. Right of Appeal**

Any Associate, or any person being a member of any Associate, being aggrieved by a decision or ruling of the governing body of a Member, may appeal against such decision in accordance with the procedures set out in the Disciplinary Code.

#### **49. Appendices**

49.1 The following shall be appended to these Rules:

- (A) regulations regarding the grouping of Members and Council representation, as Appendix 1;
- (B) regulations regarding the eligibility of a player to represent a country, as Appendix 2.

49.2 Notwithstanding Article 49, the column in Appendix 1 headed “including” and the entirety of Appendix 2 may be amended by the Board.

#### **APPENDICES**

##### **APPENDIX 1 – GROUPING OF COUNTIES**

##### **APPENDIX 2 – ELIGIBILITY OF A PLAYER TO REPRESENT A COUNTRY**

# **The Rules**

## **Appendix 1 – Grouping of Counties**

18 May 2017



**Grouping of Counties and Council Representation (see Rules 17 and 37)**

The following table lists Members and their entitlement to representation on the Council of the Association.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Including</b>	<b>Representation on Council</b>
Scotland		1
Wales		1
Avon	Unitary Authorities of Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol City, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire	1
Bedfordshire	Unitary Authorities of Luton, Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Council	1
Berkshire	Unitary Authorities of Bracknell Forest, Windsor & Maidenhead, Reading, Slough, West Berkshire and Wokingham	1
Buckinghamshire	Unitary Authority of Milton Keynes	1
Cambridgeshire	Unitary Authority of Peterborough	1
Channel Islands		1
Cheshire	Unitary Authorities of Cheshire West & Chester, Cheshire East, Halton, Warrington and the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral and those parts of the Metropolitan Boroughs of Stockport and Tameside and the Unitary Authority of Trafford which are South of the River Mersey or east of the River Tame	1
Cornwall		1
Cumbria		1
Derbyshire	Unitary Authority of Derby City	1
Devon	Unitary Authorities of Plymouth and Torbay	1

Dorset	Unitary Authorities of Bournemouth and Poole	1
Durham & Cleveland	Unitary Authorities of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland, the Metropolitan Districts of Sunderland, Gateshead and South Tyneside and the Local Authorities of Chester le Street, Derwentside, Durham, Easington, Stockton, Sedgefield, Teesdale and Wear Valley	1
Essex	Unitary Authorities of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock and the London Boroughs of Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest	1
Gloucestershire		1
Hampshire & Isle of Wight	Unitary Authorities of the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton	1
Herefordshire & Worcestershire	Unitary Authority of Herefordshire	1
Hertfordshire		1
Isle of Man		1
Kent	Unitary Authority of Medway and the London Boroughs of Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich and Lewisham	1
Lancashire	Unitary Authorities of Blackburn & Darwen, Blackpool and the Metropolitan Districts of Bolton, Bury, Knowsley, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, St Helens, Salford, Sefton and Wigan and those parts of Stockport, Tameside and Trafford which are North of the River Mersey or West of the River Tame	1
Leicestershire	Unitary Authorities of Leicester and Rutland	1
Lincolnshire	Unitary Authorities of North and North East Lincolnshire	1
Middlesex	City of London and the London Boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Camden, Ealing, Enfield, Hackney, Hammersmith & Fulham, Haringey, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Islington,	1

	Kensington & Chelsea, those parts of Richmond-upon-Thames which are north of the River Thames and Westminster	
Norfolk		1
Northamptonshire		1
Northumberland	Metropolitan Districts of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and North Tyneside	1
Nottinghamshire	Unitary Authority of Nottingham City	1
Oxfordshire		1
Shropshire	Unitary Authority of Telford & Wrekin	1
Somerset		1
Staffordshire	Unitary Authority of Stoke-on-Trent and the Metropolitan Districts of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton	1
Suffolk		1
Surrey	London Boroughs of Croydon, Kingston-upon-Thames, Lambeth, Merton, those parts of Richmond-upon-Thames which are South of the River Thames, Southwark, Sutton and Wandsworth	1
Sussex	Counties of East and West Sussex and the Unitary Authority of Brighton & Hove	1
Warwickshire	Metropolitan Districts of Birmingham, Coventry and Solihull and the Local Authorities of North Warwickshire, Nuneaton & Bedworth, Rugby, Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick	1
Wiltshire	Unitary Authorities of Swindon and Wiltshire Council	1
Yorkshire	Counties of North, South and West Yorkshire, the Unitary Authorities of East Riding, Kingston-upon-Hull and York and the Metropolitan Districts of Barnsley, Bradford, Calderdale, Doncaster, Kirklees, Leeds, Rotherham, Sheffield and Wakefield and the Local Authorities of Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate, Richmond, Ryedale, Scarborough and Selby	1

	District	
The Armed Services	The Lawn Tennis Association of the Royal Navy, The Lawn Tennis Association of the Army and The Lawn Tennis Association of the Royal Air Force	1
The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club		1
The Association of British Tennis Officials		1
Seniors Tennis GB (The Veterans' Lawn Tennis Association of Great Britain)		1

# **The Rules**

## **Appendix 2 – Eligibility of a Player to Represent a Country**

18 May 2017

**Eligibility of a Player to Represent a Country (See LTA Rule 34.1)**

ITF Limited (trading as the International Tennis Federation)

Any tennis player who is in good standing with his National Association in accordance with the Company's Constitution shall be qualified to represent that country if he:

- (a) is a national of that country, has a current valid passport of that country and has lived in that country for 24 consecutive months at some time and has not represented any other country during the period of 36 months immediately preceding the event.

If a player is qualified under this sub-section above to represent more than one country and the National Association of one of those countries wishes to nominate him to represent it, that Association shall submit an application to the ITF, with a copy to any other National Association concerned. Such application must be received by the ITF at least six months prior to the event for which the player wishes to be nominated.

The Davis or Fed Cup Committee (as appropriate) will give a ruling, having taken into account all relevant matters.

- (b)
  - (i) A player who has represented, or has been eligible to represent a country and such country is divided into two or more countries, shall immediately be eligible to represent any one of those countries.
  - (ii) A player who has represented, or has been eligible to represent a country and such country is absorbed in whole or in part by another country, shall immediately be eligible to represent such other country.
- (c) A player shall be deemed to have represented a country if he shall have been nominated, and shall have accepted, the nomination to play in the Olympic Games Tennis Event or in any International Team Competition recognised by the ITF and listed in ITF Bye-Law 2.1(a).
- (d) A National Association may appeal to the Board of Directors to nominate a player who is not eligible under the above rules and the Board of Directors may agree the application if the full circumstances warrant an exception being made. Such application must be received by the ITF at least six months prior to the event for which the player wishes to be nominated.
- (e) The Davis or Fed Cup Committee (as appropriate) has the right to ask a National Association to produce evidence to show how a player is qualified to represent that country.

Notes:

1. A player who represented a country under the Rules in force in 1994 or prior thereto, shall continue to be eligible to represent that country even if he is no longer qualified to do so under the amended terms of this regulation.

2. Age eligibility criteria only apply to players participating in the Fed Cup. Only players who have reached their fourteenth birthday by the first day of the tie (for the World Group and World Group II) and the Monday of the week of the Zone Group event may participate in the Fed Cup Competition. (Reference Rule 30(a) in Fed Cup Regulations 2012).

### **Definition of Good Standing of a Player**

For the purposes of the ITF provisions relating to the Eligibility of a player to represent a country as set out above, the term “good standing” in connection with a player shall be defined as follows:

One whom:

- (a) Is not under a suspension imposed by his national association, or by the ITF, or through the imposition of a suspension under a Code of Conduct accepted and approved by the ITF.
- (b) Is accepted by his National Association as being under its jurisdiction while competing in events for which his Association has nominated him.
- (c) Makes himself available for selection for official team championships, the Olympic Tennis event and accepts the jurisdiction of his National Association while competing in events for which they have nominated him.
- (d) Respects the spirit of fair play and non-violence at all times.
- (e) Accepts the conditions of entry of the events he enters, including the conditions of any code of conduct adopted for those events.
- (f) Agrees to undergo any medical control, including gender control and tests, which are in operation at any event which he or she enters.