

# Winter Regional Tour Information 2018 – 2019

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**Please read all sections of this information pack as it may relate to you during the winter season.**

## What changes are there for the 2018 – 2019 Tour?

Entry fee is:

9U-10U: £21.00

12U-18U: £27.00

## How can players enter a tournament in the Circuit?

All entries for WRT events must be made by online entry via [Competition Search](#), by entering the relevant tournament code.

- The following rule is in [the LTA Competition Regulations](#) 3.10b and applies to LTA Staged Winter Competitions; it restricts the number of competitions a player can enter:

*'In relation to LTA Staged Winter Competitions (ie. National Tour, weekend Winter Regional Tour, and weekend Winter County Tour tournaments) a Player can enter only one competition at each grade in the same age group taking place on the same weekend.'*

- Payment will be taken at time of online entry via PayPal:  
9U-10U: £21.00  
12U-18U: £27.00
- Once entered you must check your entry has been received by logging on to the LTA website and going to the entrant list for that tournament using the [Competition Search](#). It is your responsibility to ensure your name is on the entrant list before the closing deadline in order to be considered for the tournament.
- If you experience any problems with online entry, or your name does not appear on the entrants list, you must **contact the Tournament Organiser before the entry closing deadline** (the time of voicemails/emails will be taken into consideration if they are before the entry deadline).
- Once entered you should receive one email acknowledging receipt of entry and a second email confirming that payment has been taken. **This is not an acceptance notification.** If you do not receive this email you must contact the Tournament Organiser straightaway, and before the entry closing deadline.

Please keep both of these automated email acknowledgements of entry & payment which you should receive after successfully submitting an online entry.

- Please remember to keep your contact details up to date in your British Tennis Members area. These will be used to communicate with you by the Organiser & the Referee.

## What is the structure & format for each age group?

### KEY

R – Round MD – Main Draw C – Consolation RR – Round Robin QF – Quarter Final SF – Semi-Final F – Final

	Draw Type	Draw Size	Qualifiers	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
16U-18U Age Group	Knock Out*	16	Links**	None	Two tie-break sets & a deciding match tie-break if the score reaches one set all
	A series of 4 rotations of tournaments, each consisting of 1 main draw with first round consolation; played over 2 days, with 8 players required on Day 2; <b>Day 1:</b> MD R1 & MD QF; C QF <b>Day 2*:</b> MD SF, MD F & MD 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> play-off; C SF, C F & C 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> play-off; * Only 4 players from the Main Draw event & 4 from the Consolation event are required on Day 2 <b>Consolation event is compulsory for all first round losers</b>				

	Draw Type	Draw Size	Qualifiers	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
14U Age Group	Compass Draw	16	Links**	None	Two tie-break sets & a deciding match tie-break if the score reaches one set all
	A series of 4 rotations of tournaments, each consisting of 1 main draw played over 2 days. It is a compass draw which means ALL players are required for both days. <b>Day 1:</b> MD R1, MD QF; C QF <b>Day 2:</b> MD SF, MD F & MD 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> play-off; C SF, C F & all other play-offs <b>All matches are compulsory; matches to the left of the draw are the built in consolation matches.</b>				

	Draw Type	Draw Size	Qualifiers	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
12U Age Group	Compass Draw	16	Links**	Maximum of 4 WCs	Two tie-break sets & a deciding match tie-break if the score reaches one set all
	A series of 4 rotations of tournaments, each consisting of 1 main draw played over 2 days. It is a compass draw which means ALL players are required for both days. <b>Day 1:</b> MD R1, MD QF; C QF <b>Day 2:</b> MD SF, MD F & MD 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> play-off; C SF, C F & all other play-offs <b>All matches are compulsory; Matches on left of the draw are the built in consolation matches.</b>				

	Draw Type	Draw Size	Qualifiers	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
10U Age Group	Compass Draw	8	Links**	Maximum of 2 WCs	Two short sets & a deciding match tie-break if the score reaches one set all, <b>with no-advantage scoring</b>
	A series of 3 rotations of tournaments, played over 1 day. <b>Day 1:</b> MD QF, F, SF & 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> play-offs; C SF, F, & 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> play-off <b>All matches are compulsory;</b> <b>Matches on left of the draw are the built in consolation matches.</b>				

	Draw Type	Draw Size	Qualifiers	Wild Card (WC)	Scoring
9U Age Group	Round Robin to Compass Draw play offs	16	Links**	Maximum of 4 WCs	Best of 3 tie-breaks to 7, winning by 2 clear points
	A series of 3 rotations of tournaments played over 1 day. The draw starts with 4 round robin groups going into 2 compass draws of 8 players. <b>Stage 1:</b> RR – top 2 players in each group qualify for MD; <b>Stage 2:</b> 8 player MD compass draw (Matches on left of the draw are the built in consolation matches) ;and 8 player extra ratings matches compass draw <b>All matches are compulsory</b>				

Alternative draw formats may be used where the number of participants is less than the stated draw size.

\*\* These qualifiers refer to the winners from the linked LTA Staged Winter County Tour grade 4 events (WCT) tournaments. Check the tournament details for the number of linking events as the number of direct acceptances will vary.

## What happens if a tournament does not have many entries as at the closing deadline?

If the entry list is under-subscribed at the closing deadline options will be considered by the Competitions Team on how best to increase entry numbers as we endeavour to make sure the event goes ahead.

## Are late entries accepted before the draw has been made?

With one exception late entries may be accepted to the entry list if the tournament is not full or there is space available on the reserve list.

**Exception: If, at the time of entry, a player requests to be a late entry and he/she would be seeded that player cannot be accepted.**

If at the time a player requests to be a late entry and that player would not be a seed, his/her entry can be accepted and placed as follows if the draw has not been made yet:

- a) If the tournament is not full the player can be accepted directly
- b) If there is a reserve list, this player will be placed at the bottom and will be accepted into the tournament when the player reaches the top of the reserve list and a space becomes available regardless of if the player would be a seed or not

**Please see below in ‘Reserves’ the process to be used if a reserve that would now be seeded is moved into the tournament AFTER the draw has been made.**

Payment for late entries: The player will be sent a request for payment via Paypal which must be paid within 48 hours.

## What are the acceptance criteria?

### 9U – 10U age groups

1. Linked tournament winners\*
2. Wild cards - 1 wild card for every 4 places of the draw size
3. Mini Tennis Rating
4. Recent Form (a player's best tournament performance at that ball colour within the last 3 months)
5. By lot if more than one player has the same recent form

\*\*Recent form is the player's best individual tournament performance at that ball colour within the last 3 months. Please see the [Mini Tennis Acceptance & Seeding Criteria](#) for details

### 12U age group

1. Linked tournament winners\*
2. Wild cards - 1 wild card for every 4 places of the draw size
3. British Tennis Rankings
4. By lot if more than one player has the same ranking

### 14U – 18U age groups

1. Linked tournament winners\*
2. British Tennis Rankings
3. By lot if more than one player has the same ranking

There are no wild card spaces for the 14U – 18U age groups.

## What are 'linked' tournaments & 'linked' spaces?

Linked tournaments allow players to 'progress' from one grade of tournament to another tournament of a higher grade:

- A number of 'linked' spaces are reserved in specific LTA Staged WRT events for **winners** from specific LTA Staged Winter County Tour (grade 4) linked events - [Please click here for further information on this topic.](#)
- Similarly, a number of places are reserved in specific LTA Staged Winter National Tour events (grade 2) for **winners** from specific LTA Staged WRT linked events – [Please click here for further information on this topic.](#)
- **To claim the linked space in higher graded tournament the link winner must enter the higher graded before its closing deadline.** If the link winner does not enter before the closing deadline, but still wants to be in the higher graded tournament, their entry **can only be considered as a late entrant and standard late entry regulations will apply.**
- If the linked winners do not enter the higher graded tournament, the space will be allocated to the next eligible player on the reserve list.

## In which events are Wild Cards awarded?

Wild cards can only be awarded in the 9U, 10U & 12U WRT events.

- To be eligible for a wild card in the LTA staged WRT tournament, a player must have entered the tournament by the closing deadline. **All entered players will be considered for a wild card and applications for wild cards are not required by players.**
- In the 9U & 10U WRT events wild cards may be awarded up to **one place in four** of the draw size in accordance with the [Mini Tennis Acceptance & Seeding Criteria](#)
- In the 12U WRT events wild cards may be awarded up to **one place in four** of the draw size.
- Wild cards are awarded by the Performance Team.
- Any wild card spaces not used will be released and the next eligible player(s) on the reserve list will move up accordingly.
- Wild cards are awarded on an entirely discretionary basis and we shall not enter into any correspondence as to why a particular player was (or was not) issued a wild card.
- No wild card spaces are available for the 14U – 18U WRT events.

## When are acceptances published?

Acceptances will be published online, via [Competition Search](#), within 72 hours of the closing deadline and will indicate a player's status – either accepted or reserve status. An email will be sent to players informing them this status has been published, and **it is the player's responsibility to check his/her status for each event entered.**

## How Reserves are managed – before & after the draw is published

(All players should read this information)

- Reserves are important to any tournament and may be called upon to play if other players withdraw.
- Before the withdrawal deadline it is the responsibility of reserves to check the website to track their status, as reserves will not be contacted.
- After the withdrawal deadline a reserve will be contacted if a space becomes available. **However it is still the responsibility of each player to check the website entry list up to 24 hours before the start of the event, to see if they have been accepted into the competition from the reserve list.**
- Any reserve not available to play must withdraw before the withdrawal deadline and an automatic refund will be made.
- Players, who remain on the reserve list after the withdrawal deadline, are committed to being available for the competition and may not withdraw without incurring penalty points (except as detailed below).
- A reserve may only decline an offer to play without incurring a penalty if the player is contacted during the 24 hours immediately before the event date.
- If a reserve that would now be a seed is moved into the main draw after the draw is made the following process will take place:
  - **Before 8pm the day before the tournament:** In the situation of the reserve being seeded, the seeding will be adjusted according to Competition Regulations. **This may involve time changes & changes of opponent for players so a player may be required to report earlier than previously notified. We will contact the player by phone to let them know of this change. If no one is available a message will be left and an email sent.**
  - **After 8pm the day before the tournament:** In the situation of the reserve being seeded, the reserve will move into the vacant position. It is possible that this position may be against a seed.

## What if a player needs to withdraw?

Any player not available to play must withdraw before the withdrawal deadline or he/she will incur withdrawal penalty points.

- The withdrawal deadline for each tournament can be found in the age group [calendars](#) or by referring to the tournament details in [Competition Search](#), by putting in the relevant tournament code.
- If the competitor is withdrawing **before** the withdrawal deadline he/she must withdraw online **and the entry fee will be refunded automatically.**
- If a competitor withdraws **after** the withdrawal deadline **he/she** will incur withdrawal points **and the entry fee will be retained.**

**An exception applies if a player is contacted less than 24 hours before the published start time of an event and declines an invitation to play, in which case no penalty will be incurred and the entry fee will be refunded.**

- See information on withdrawing from an LTA Official Competition in [the LTA Competition Regulations](#).
- If the competitor is withdrawing **after** the withdrawal deadline, please **contact the Tournament Referee by phone as soon as possible**. The Referee contact details can be found on the website on the relevant tournament page.

If voicemails are left or an email is sent then they must be followed up to make sure the communication has been received by the tournament Referee.

## When and how is the draw made?

The draw will be published no later than 2 days before the event.

- Tennis Tournament Planner (TTP) software is used to make the draw. The software makes the draw in a similar manner for professional tournaments i.e. seeded players are placed on their designated line on the draw (as per [LTA Competition Regulations](#)), whilst the unseeded players are randomly assigned to the remaining places in the draw. Where possible, players from the same county will be separated in the initial stage of the draw.
- Before the draw is made the ranking/ rating & recent form for each player is updated to ensure the draw is made using current information - i.e. ranking/rating & recent form is updated from that of the closing deadline.
- Seeding for the 12U – 18U WRT events will follow the acceptance criteria and will use current rankings as of the day the draw is made.
- Seeding for 9U & 10U mini events is determined by current rating & recent form. Where this is equal the players will be drawn by lot, i.e. randomly.
- Although the ranking/rating /recent form information is updated for all players the reserve list order will not change as a result of this update.
- First match start times will also be emailed to all players who are in the draw, but it is the responsibility of the player to check the website for match times.

## How are finalists rewarded?

- Each finalist will receive a medal.
- If the WRT is linked to the Winter National Tour (WNT) the winner is able to claim a space in the corresponding WNT tournament, but must enter the tournament online prior to its closing deadline.

[PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR INFORMATION ON LINKING TOURNAMENTS](#)

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO SEE THE 2018-2019 WINTER REGIONAL TOUR CALENDARS](#)

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO ENTER ONLINE](#)

## Linking Tournaments Winter 2018 – 2019

### LTA Staged Grade 4 WCT to LTA Staged Grade 3 WRT

The LTA Staged Winter County Tour (grade 4) and the LTA Staged Winter Regional Tour (grade 3) are linked. This means players have the opportunity to 'feed up' from one grade to the next. It allows **winners** of specific LTA Staged Winter County Tour (WCT grade 4) tournaments to gain a place in the linked LTA Staged Winter Regional Tour (WRT) tournament. (Grade 4 to grade 3 links are not available at 8U age group).

The linked space is **not offered** to the runner-up of the grade 4 WCT event if the winner does not use the linked space in the grade 3 WRT event.

- The 9U WCT events link into the round-robin draw of the 9U WRT tournament.
- The 10U – 18U WCT events link into the main draw of the WRT tournaments.
- The WCT link winner is able to claim a space in the WRT tournaments regardless of their rating / ranking.
- To claim the linked space in the WRT event the winner of the linked WCT tournament **must enter the WRT tournament before the closing deadline.**

#### How the linking process works:

- The winner of the linked WCT event will be informed by the Referee of that Grade 4 that he/she can claim a space into a corresponding grade 3 WRT
- The winner of the linked WCT event will receive an email from the Referee of the WCT event with details of the corresponding linked grade 3 WRT
- **THE WCT WINNER MUST ENTER THE LINKED WRT TOURNAMENT ONLINE, BEFORE THE CLOSING DEADLINE, IN ORDER TO CLAIM THE LINKED SPACE.** The winner should write in the comments box when making the application: 'Link winner of WCT xxx18Wxxxx' and give code of the grade 4 competition
- If the linked winner **does not enter the corresponding WRT event before its closing deadline, he/she will not be given the linked space.** If the linked winner wishes to enter after the closing deadline he/she will be **treated as a late entrant**
- If the winner had previously entered the linked WRT tournament a note will be added, by the Tournament Organiser, to their entry to identify them as the linked winner.

#### Conditions:

- If there are fewer than 5 players in a linking WCT event, when the draw is made, no one will link into the WRT tournament. The reserved space in the WRT event will go to the next player on the reserve list.
- If two linking tournaments at the same grade have to merge (possibly due to lack of entries) then only the winner is guaranteed the link space
- **If either the linking Grade 4 or the linking Grade 3 tournament is cancelled, for whatever reason, there will be no link space available. Linked spaces from cancelled events cannot be transferred to future tournaments.**
- If the link winner accepts the space in the WRT, but subsequently withdraws, the space will be filled by the next highest reserve.



## Linking Tournaments 2018 – 2019

### LTA Staged Grade 3 WRT to LTA Staged Grade 2 WNT

#### 10U – 18U age groups

The LTA Staged WRT (grade 3 weekend events) and LTA Staged WNT (grade 2) are linked. This means players have the opportunity to 'feed up' from one grade to the next. It allows winners of specific LTA Staged WRT tournaments to gain a place in the linked LTA Staged WNT tournament.

The linked space is not offered to the runner-up of the WRT event if the WRT winner does not use the linked space in the WNT event.

- The 10U WRT events link into the **main draw** of the 10U WNT tournament.
- The 12U – 18U WRT events link into the **qualifying** event of the WNT tournaments.
- The WRT link winner is able to claim a space in the WNT events regardless of their ranking.
- There are no 9U WNT tournaments

#### How the linking process works:

- The winner of the linked WRT event will be informed by the Referee of that Grade 3 that he/she can claim a space into a corresponding grade 2 WNT
- The winner of the WRT event will receive an email, at the end of the tournament, from the Referee of the WRT event with details of the corresponding linked grade 2 WNT
- THE WINNER MUST ENTER THE LINKED WRT TOURNAMENT ONLINE, BEFORE THE CLOSING DEADLINE, IN ORDER TO CLAIM THE LINKED SPACE. The winner should write in the comments box when making the application: 'Link winner of WRT xxx18Wxxxx' and give code of the grade 3 competition
- If the linked winner **does not enter the corresponding WNT event before its closing deadline he/she will not be given the linked space.** If the linked winner wishes to enter after the closing deadline he/she will be treated as a late entrant
- If the winner had previously entered the linked WNT tournament a note will be added, by the WNT Organiser, to their entry to identify them as the linked winner

#### Conditions:

- If there are fewer than 5 players in a linking WRT tournament, when the draw is made, then no one will link into the WNT tournament. The reserved space in the WNT will go to the next player on the reserve list.
- If the linking WRT tournament is cancelled then there will be no link into the WNT tournament.
- If either the linking Grade 3 or the linking Grade 2 tournament is cancelled, for whatever reason, there will be no link space available. Linked spaces from cancelled events cannot be transferred to future tournaments.

# LTA Staged Winter Regional Tour 2018- 2019

## Step by step guide

### TOURNAMENT ENTRY

1. Before entering an LTA Staged Winter Competition, e.g. Winter Regional Tour grade 3 tournament, ensure you have read the following regulation 3.10b:  
*'In relation to LTA Staged Winter Competitions (ie. National Tour, weekend Winter Regional Tour, and weekend Winter County Tour tournaments) a Player can enter only one competition at each grade in the same age group taking place on the same weekend.'*  
For further information please read the [LTA Competition Regulations](#) .
2. Enter the tournament online, via [Competition Search](#) before the closing deadline (see relevant [age group calendar](#) for closing deadlines).
3. Entry fees must be paid by PayPal at the time of entry.
4. Check that you have received an email confirming your entry into this tournament and also that your name appears on the entrant list for that tournament on the website. This shows that you have entered, not that you have been accepted.
5. Check that your contact information in your British Tennis Membership account is up to date and correct as the tournament organisers will use the email address and telephone numbers that are held here to contact you.
6. If you are the winner of the linked WCT tournament, ensure you enter the WRT tournament on time before the closing deadline, otherwise you will be treated as a late entrant and may not be accepted.

### AFTER CLOSING DEADLINE

1. After the closing deadline the acceptances will be published within 72 hours. It is the player's responsibility to check their status - main draw acceptance or reserve.
2. Within the tournament details on the website you will be able to find venue details, details on the court bookings, and the Referee name and contact details.
3. If you are a 'reserve' it is your responsibility to check your status regularly to monitor your position. If you move to the top and a space becomes available before the draw is made you will be moved into event and your status will change accordingly. Please see general WRT information above to see what happens with reserves after the draw has been made.
4. If a reserve is no longer available for the tournament you must withdraw online before the withdrawal deadline.
5. If any player withdraws **before** the withdrawal deadline, the entry fee will be refunded automatically. If the reserve does not participate in the tournament the entry fee will be refunded after the tournament.

### AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE

1. After the withdrawal deadline players will no longer be able to withdraw online and will incur withdrawal points if withdrawing after this time.
2. The draw will be published no later than 2 days before the event. It is the responsibility of the player to check the website for match times. First match start times will also be emailed to players who are in the draw.

3. If you are on the reserve list you may be called up until the morning of the event. However, please note reserves may decline an invitation to play in the 24 hours immediately prior to the published starting time of an event without incurring withdrawal penalties.

Players, who are on the reserve list, must check the website up to 24 hours before the published starting time of the event to see if they have been accepted.

4. The Tournament Organiser will hand over control of the tournament to the Referee between 10:00am - 11:00am after the withdrawal deadline. After this time all queries should be directed to the Referee. The Referee contact details can be found on the website on the relevant tournament page.

#### **AFTER THE TOURNAMENT**

1. If the WRT event is linked to a WNT event, the winner of the WRT event must enter the WNT before its closing deadline.
2. Tournament results will be loaded to a player's profile on the Friday after the completion of the tournament.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO SEE THE 2018 - 2019 WINTER REGIONAL TOUR CALENDARS](#)

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO ENTER ONLINE](#)