Sytner MINI Tennis Competitions

Organisers Guide 2018-19 - South Wales

Thank you for signing up to run a Sytner MINI Competition, over the next few pages you should find all the information you need to run a successful event. If you have any follow up question please get in touch with - Tennis Wales 12U Pathway Manager: Becca Strelzyn - becca.strelzyn@tenniswales.org.uk

What are Sytner MINI Competitions?

Entry level competition - a fun, local introduction to playing tennis matches. Sytner events are very often a child's first experience of a tennis tournament.

Fun	Local	Learning
- team element - well organised - group warm-up - team games	It's likely a child's first experience of a Sytner event will be in their **own club / venue** The circuit format encourages parents to enter events in other venues too	An early experience of a tennis tournament the focus is on learning HOW TO PLAY A MATCH You'll need some helpers on hand for the younger age groups to help with scoring

What are the benefits of running a Sytner MINI Competition at your venue?

Player retention and improvement

- having enjoyable competition experiences is a very important part of keeping players in the game and helping them improve their tennis (and see their improvements!)
- the circuit format is a useful way of encouraging parents to enter their child into more competitions and start to venture outside of their own venue.

Support from Tennis Wales

- Tennis Wales provide admin support (more details over the page) and prizes / certificates for your competitions

£

- All entry fees are collected on the day and are a between £5-£8 per player. The organiser will agree with the venue how the income will be processed and how much they will be paid.

Before your Sytner MINI event.....

TENNIS WALES TENIS CYMRU LTA

STEP 1

Entry Form Ready

- printed & email PDF copies to be sent to organisers
- Entry form to be promoted via Tennis Wales social media and website

The Sytner competitions run in 2 season: Summer (April - August) and Winter (Sept - March)

Once you've communicated the details of the events you'd like to run to Tennis Wales we'll make an entry form for your area or county.

STEP 2

Get Promoting!

Now the events are in the diary it's time to start letting people know about them

Entry forms will be on the Tennis Wales website and social media

You be provided with PDF entry form and hardcopies if you need them

TOP TIP 1: 6 HOME PLAYERS OR MORE Sytner MINI competitions work best when the host venue has a minimum of 6 children from their coaching programme entered and involved

TOP TIP 2: PERSONAL INVITE giving parents of children you think the events would be ideal for (either in person or email) really helps take-up

STEP 3

Collecting Entries

- some parents might give you the entry form directly
- others might enter via email to SWsytnerMINI@gmail.com

You the Organiser - If entries are given directly to you for your events please keep a note of all the information *(be sure to record photo consent and any medical info).*

Tennis Wales CSO - The South Wales County Support Officer will collate the entries that come in via email and forward you a spreadsheet of entries in advance of your event (probably the week before)

IMPORTANT - any personal information (contact details, medical info etc) you receive as the organiser MUST ONLY be used to contact the participants in the relevant Sytner MINI event. **After your event(s) this information must be deleted**.

On the day of your Sytner MINI event…..

TENNIS WALES | TENIS CYMRU | LTA

STEP 1

Set-up - What you need

Equipment: relevant to the event type (red, orange, green, yellow) you're running

Paperwork:

- a register so you can tick off players as they arrive and collect payments
- blank round robin sheets (we can provide these if you need them)

Prizes:

- Tennis Wales will provide you with prizes, contact us if you're event is getting close and you haven't received them yet
- Certificates - you'll also get certificates for everyone that takes part

STEP 2

Up and running

Warm-up: you'll need to take the players through a short (5-10mins) FUN warm-up to get the event started

Do the draw: as some players will turn-up on the day (or you might get a no-show) you can populate your round robin boxes as players arrive

Team Games: include some team games in the warm-up and split the players into teams

TOP TIP: TEAM WINNERS have an overall team winner of the event by counting up all the points the players in that team win

Match Formats: tiebreak scoring, first to 10 points works well but you can choose to do timed matches if you prefer.

Tournament Formats: Round robin boxes works well, with play-off matches to follow

TOP TIP: keep any 'finals' low-key and try to make sure each players has 5-6 matches each by playing bonus matches or play-back where you can

STEP 3

Wrapping Up & Results

TOP TIP: FUN GAME If you have time it's always great to finish on a high by playing a fun game with everyone involved

Presentation: A short prize-giving making sure you give Team Winners prizes (and any individual winners) along with certificates for everyone

It's **VERY IMPORTANT you send the results** from your event to the County Support Officer (so results can be processed with the LTA and leaderboards calculated

TOP TIP: TAKE A PHOTO of your completed draw sheets and send them to the County Support Officer to save time

Sytner MINI Organisers FAQ's……

Are the age group rules flexible?

FOR TIER 1 8&U COMPETITIONS - No, age groups must be adhered to for these events.

These competitions provide a good level competition experience for our stronger 8&U players and ONLY CHILDREN IN THE CORRECT AGE GROUP are eligible to play.

For TIER 2 8&U and older age groups -

Yes, these are entry level beginner competitions. We want as many players a possible to have access to competition relevant to their level…..if you feel an older player would benefit from 'playing-down' a ball colour and it would add to the competition experience for everyone please include them.

NOTE: You'll need to make sure that parents know that to take part in official LTA events (not Sytner MINI) their child will need to compete in the correct age group.

Do the children need to know how to play a match?

We want to encourage the players to learn as they go with some help from you and any assistants you have. Using tiebreak scoring keeps it simple……there will be some mistakes but that's all part of learning!

What happens if the weather is too bad to play?

We'll leave the decision to you, the local organiser on whether or not to go ahead. Please make sure you do your best to contact everyone in good time if the event isn't going to go ahead.

Can children just turn up on the day and be included?

Yes, we get lots of last minute and on the day entries for these beginner events. Please can you just slot them into your plans.

What equipment should I use?

Use equipment relevant to the event you're running, in line with the LTA mini tennis rules.

How does the organiser get paid?

This is for you to agree with the venue and varies from venue-to-venue.

How long should the event last?

Age dependant but we recommend 2 hours for mini red and 2-3 hours for all other age groups.

How long should I spend on the warm-up games?

10 minutes is a good amount of time to spend getting the children relaxed and into it. You could include relay races and skills games to add to the team element.

Should I do mixed event or separate boys and girls?

This will depend on how many girls you have in your competition. If you have enough girls / boys to do a separate draw for each that would be great, but mixed events are fine.