

Competition Framework



Youth Sport Trust



Who is involved

The competitions review has been undertaken by the LTA in liaison with the British Schools Tennis Association (BSTA). The aim is to ensure there is a holistic approach to schools competition and it sits alongside competition offered within the club and county sectors.

National Contact - LTA

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National Contact – BSTA

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National Contact - Disability Tennis

Lynn Parker, Disabilities Tennis Manager
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Benefits

The tennis competition framework offers a flexible approach to appropriate competition for all ages and abilities from mini tennis, using a variety of balls, rackets and different court sizes, through to the full game of tennis.

Key Messages

- Reduce teacher and league secretary workload by focusing on increasing efficiency of communication
- Provide localised, appropriate competition for schools
- Increase participation by 15% by 2008
- To improve communication between LTA and schools (as per target set by questionnaire findings)
- Whatever the shape of our new competition structure there should be a strong team emphasis all the way through
- Consistency: Everyone working towards a common goal, standardisation of competition and creation of a clear competition framework

Supporting Resources

These include a full guide for Competition Managers which is available online at www.lta.org.uk as well as in a hard copy format. To encourage a flexible range of competition, the LTA has produced a CD-ROM aimed at teachers, county tennis offices and volunteers.



The Framework

Key Stage 2 (7-9)	Key Stage 2 (9-11)	Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4
Multi-skills Festivals Rackets Festivals At school All players Introductory elements: Rallying, throwing introduce tennis equipment 3 times per year	Year 4 Team Competition – Mini Red Primary Clusters Mixed players Tie Break Scoring 4 per team (>1 team per school) Summer	Year 8 Team League Partnership Based Mixed, Boys and Girls Team Short Scoring 8 players per team Summer	Year 10 Team League Partnership Based Mixed, Boys and Girls Team Short Set Scoring 8 players per team Summer
Introductory Team Competition – Mini Red Between Primary Cluster Boy & Girls Together Hosted at local secondary Tie Break Scoring 6-10 per team Spring	Year 5 Team Competition – Mini Red Primary Clusters Boys & Girls Separate Events Tie Break Scoring 4 per team (>1 team per school) Summer	Team Slam Events Schools rotate to organise Mixed Team Tie Break Scoring Up to 24 players Summer	Senior Students Partnership Based Mixed, Boys and Girls Team Short Set Scoring 4 players per team Autumn and Spring
	Year 6 Team Competition – Mini Orange Primary Clusters Boys & Girls Separate Events Tie Break Scoring 4 per team (>1 team per school) Summer		

* for further information on Mini Tennis Red, Orange & Green go to www.arielminitenis.com

Delivery

- County Tennis Development Teams will be available to work with and assist Partnership Development Managers and Competition Managers in implementing the framework and new competition structure
- Further details are available from your local LTA County office at <http://www.lta.org.uk/Community/Counties/>
- Information and entry forms can be downloaded at lta.org.uk/playandcompete/competitiveplay/featuredtournaments/schools



Working with the Competition Managers

Key points of contact for Competition Managers

To ensure clear lines of communication the first point of contact for the Competition Managers will be the LTA Tennis Managers and Club Development Officers. All contact information can be found at <http://www.lta.org.uk/Community/Counties/>

Existing Data Sources

Contact	E-mail / Tel	Link to website
Jane Stewart Head of Schools Competitions	jane.stewart@lta.org.uk 0208 487 7030	Schools Competition http://www.lta.org.uk/PlayAndCompete/FeaturedCompetition/School/default.htm?BSMGuid=0db3ba40-ac76-4133-b842-b6ecaf0ff4d9
Alison Connell BSTA	alison.connell@bsta.org.uk 0208 487 7068	Schools & BSTA http://www.lta.org.uk/Community/Schools/
Lynn Parker Disabilities Tennis Manager	Lynn.parker@btf.org.uk 0208 487 7051	BTF – Learning Disability, Deaf and Wheelchair Tennis http://www.btf.org.uk/

The most effective way for us to support Senior Competition Managers and Competition Managers

- Is through our Tennis Manager and Club Development officer network as shown above
- They are working in SSPs linked to clubs and have support resources to help in the delivery of tennis and competitions at all ages

Key Aims for the future of British Tennis

1. Getting the best coaches working with the best talent in the best facilities
2. Providing the best technical and sports science support and advice in the most accessible way, to the right people when they need it
3. **Establishing a straightforward, high-quality competitive framework that gives juniors the stimulus they need to get on, and stay on, the winning pathway**

Key work for Competition Managers in the next 12 months

The LTA need your help in achieving this aim and your input will be most valuable. By introducing and developing competition within the partnerships at school level, pupils of all ages and abilities will be given the opportunity to step onto the first rung of the winning pathway.



Primary Framework

Competition framework descriptor	Recommended competition	Level and location	Scheduling	Next steps in competition
<p>Key Stage 2: 7-9 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-skill festivals (termly) Off-school site 'Theme' based Possible early specialisation in some sports through NGB and club structure 	<p>Termly multi skill festivals (Years 3 and 4) with a focus on working with tennis rackets and balls within the activities. Festivals to build on introducing such elements as rallying, throw actions, space awareness using tennis equipment, etc.</p> <p>Introductory Mini Tennis Red team competition for Year 4 and able Year 3s. Singles and doubles, six - ten per team. Schools allowed to enter more than one team.</p>	<p>Between primary cluster held at local secondary school, local ITI centre or leisure centre.</p> <p>Between primary cluster held at local secondary school, local ITI centre or leisure centre.</p>	<p>Three times a year.</p> <p>January – April.</p>	<p>Partnership finals – winners of each cluster come together to a play-off.</p>
<p>Key Stage 2: 9-11 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-sport competition (six-week block rotation) Central venue leagues Coaching and competition based on primary, secondary or club sites 	<p>Year 4 Mini Tennis Red Competition Four in a team – mixed boys and girls. Ideally each teacher in the primary schools will have been on a Key Stage 2 training course and had additional support from the NGB so that they are able to put the framework into operation.</p> <p>Year 5 Mini Tennis Red Competition As above but if able Year 5 could use orange balls</p> <p>Year 6 and below Mini Tennis Orange Competition Four in a team – separate boys and girls teams. Schools will be encouraged to enter more than one team per event,</p>	<p>Matches played indoors on badminton courts or Mini Tennis Red marked out courts. If weather allows, the event could be run on the same sized courts outside with the Mini Tennis Red outdoor ball.</p> <p>The competition will be run at any of the secondary schools within the partnership that have the facilities (i.e. tennis courts) or a local tennis club identified as</p>	<p>Cluster competitions must take place in the early part of the summer term (April – May).</p> <p>Cluster competitions must take place end of May.</p>	<p>The partnership final can take place at the end of the summer term (June).</p> <p>A partnership final to be run at the Sports College or chosen venue within the partnership for the winners of the</p>



	<p>providing more opportunity for children to compete.</p> <p>Prior to the competition the children will take part in some coaching sessions at a central venue. The chosen teams will be selected from the children that have shown promise and interest from the activity that would have taken place in the earlier years. This coaching should take place in April – May (five sessions per team). These sessions could be delivered by Key Stage 2 trained teachers, specialist coaching staff or the children could contribute to paying for tennis coaches to come in to run sessions. <u>However</u>, coaches' availability may be difficult if this is out of curriculum time as they may be committed to delivering tennis in clubs. (It is likely that this will be linked to PESSCL delivery within the partnership.)</p>	the pathway for tennis development.	<p>preliminary events. Played by end of June.</p> <p>The county will operate a Mini Tennis Green competition for Year 6 and below.</p> <p>Four in a team, boys and girls events. Schools enter directly to the county (this will cater for independent schools as well) and the county will organise district events and a county final.</p> <p>May – June partnerships/area competitions. Finals late June/early July.</p>
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Primary Organisers Sheet

Competition age group	Format	Facilities	Organiser/helpers	Equipment	Resources available from NGB to support
Key Stage 2: 7-9 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racket skills fun day/festival at large central venue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports hall or similar, maximum two hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One teacher per class or team Young leaders and AOTTS to assist in scoring and supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rackets Different sorts/sizes of balls, hoops, bean bags, cones, etc Barrier tape for court and space division Factory 11 Mini Tennis Kit (if available) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tips for running a fun day/festival
Key Stage 2: 7-9 years	Introductory Mini Tennis Red Competition for Year 4 and able Year 3s <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can combine Years 4 and 3 or just Year 4, depending on numbers and ability Teams of six – ten Format dependent on number of teams, facility and time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum four marked Mini Tennis courts or four badminton courts (dependent on number of schools/teams taking part) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher or coach per team Young leaders and AOTTS to assist with scoring and supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rackets Balls Nets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible formats for team competition
Key Stage 2: 9-11 years	Year 4 Mini Tennis Red Competition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four in a team, mixed boys and girls Schools are encouraged to enter more than one team Round robin format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum four Mini Tennis courts marked out (four courts can be marked out on one tennis court) or four badminton courts indoors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher or coach per team Young leaders and AOTTS to assist with scoring and supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rackets and mini red foam balls for indoor use Or Red outdoor balls for outdoor use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisers' pack

<p>Key Stage 2: 9-11 years</p>	<p>Year 5 Mini Tennis Red Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four in a team, mixed boys and girls • Schools are encouraged to enter more than one team • Round robin format • Can be combined with above or run as a separate event, dependent on numbers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum four Mini Tennis courts marked out (four courts can be marked out on one tennis court) or four badminton courts indoors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher or coach per team • Young leaders and AOTTs to assist with scoring and supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rackets and mini red foam balls for indoor use Or • Red outdoor balls for outdoor use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisers' pack
<p>Key Stage 2: 9-11 years</p>	<p>Year 6 and below Mini Tennis Orange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four in a team, separate boys' and girls' teams • Schools are encouraged to enter more than one team per event, providing more opportunity for children to compete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum three tennis courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher/associated school/club coach if available • Young leaders/ AOTTs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tape for marking out courts • Rackets • Mini Tennis Orange balls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisers' pack



Secondary Framework

Competition framework descriptor	Recommended competition	Level and location	Scheduling	Next steps in competition
<p>Key Stage 3: 11-12 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-sport competition (monthly, three sports) E.g. central venue, leagues in a range of sports, coaching and competition at secondary, hub or club sites 	<p>Team Slam events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For up to 24 players Singles, league format team event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competition to be hosted and organised by each secondary school (with courts) in the partnership, in turn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-partnership competition optional
<p>Key Stage 3 and 4: 12-16 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-school leagues and cup competitions within SSPs (year group teams) (NGBs would have to have an integrated competitive structure including School Sport Associations accepted as core) 	<p>Year 7 and 8 (U13) boys, girls and mixed league competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to eight players per team event Short format selected from organisers' guide (singles and doubles) Restricted to Division 7 and below rated players and non rated players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be played at selected venues with courts or central venue within partnership (rotation of organisers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer term (played in half-term blocks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-partnership finals at end of summer term
	<p>Year 9 and 10 (U15) boys, girls and mixed league competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to eight players per team event Short format selected from organisers' guide (singles and doubles) Restricted to Division 7 and below rated players and non-rated players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be played at selected venues with courts or central venue within partnership (rotation of organisers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer term (played in half-term blocks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-partnership finals at end of summer term



<p>16-19 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Not</u> for talent already identified as part of NGB talent programmes • ‘Junior Varsity’ to give this group an identity • Intra-mural competition within the learning community, e.g. schools, PE, sixth forms • Organised sport in core sports that match the secondary programmes • E.g. single venue festivals for a number of institutions during ring-fenced time (Wednesday pm) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior student boys, girls and mixed doubles competitions. Partnership based. Four in a team, one-day events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary school with courts or ITI centre or suitable club venue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autumn term and spring term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link to regional and national finals
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Competition age group	Format	Facilities	Organiser/helpers	Equipment	Resources available from NGB to support
Key Stage 3: 11-12 years	Team Slam events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For up to 24 players (timed team event) Singles – league format team event Can be used both as internal format and externally within the partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be run on any number of courts but it is not advisable to have more than eight on a court 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers and players taking part 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rackets Balls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisers' tips
Key Stage 3 and 4: 12-16 years	Year 7 and 8 (U13) boys, girls and mixed league competition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to eight players per team event Short format selected from organisers' guide (singles and doubles) Restricted to Division 7 and below rated players and non-rated players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large or small venue dependent on whether event is played over one day or several days or at different locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher/coach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rackets Balls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisers' pack

<p>Key Stage 3 and 4: 12-16 years</p>	<p>Year 9 and 10 (U15) boys, girls and mixed league competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to eight players per team event • Short format selected from organisers' guide (singles and doubles) • Restricted to Division 7 and below rated players and non-rated players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large or small venue dependent on whether event is played over one day or several days or at different locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher/coach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rackets • Balls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisers' pack
<p>16-19 years</p>	<p>Senior student boys, girls and mixed doubles competitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership-based, four in a team, one-day doubles events • League format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six courts required if to be played with more than two teams per venue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher/coach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rackets • Balls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry form • Score sheet • Event details