

## **MANAGEMENT**

### **THE MANAGEMENT OF ALL COMPETITIONS SHALL BE ENTRUSTED TO THE DIRECTORS OF TENNIS LEICESTERSHIRE LIMITED (TLL)**

#### **GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR ALL COUNTY COMPETITIONS**

**1.1 Entries**

The competitions are open to all Clubs affiliated to TLL.

**1.2 Entrance fees**

The entry fees will be as stipulated by the Directors of TLL.

**1.3 Player Qualification**

A player will be qualified to represent a Club affiliated to TLL if he or she has been a bona fide member of that Club for at least 14 days prior to a match. A player who is a member of more than one Club may play for a different Club in any competition e.g. the Men's or Ladies' Doubles League, the Mixed Doubles League and the Sports Mercury Cup, but not for more than one Club in any one competition.

**1.4 Match Expenses:**

The cost of the balls and other incidental expenses will be borne by the home Club. It is not a requirement for the home Club to provide some refreshments at the end of a match. (See separate Captains Guide circulated to all clubs).

**1.5 Balls**

A minimum of three new balls per court, of a make authorised and/or approved by TLL, will be provided by the home Club.

**1.6 Composition of Teams**

A Club is not bound to play the same team throughout the competitions, but no team changes can be made in a match after the start of play. If a match is postponed, or replayed in its entirety, the composition of the competing teams may be changed.

**1.7 Team Selection Policy**

Clubs must not unnecessarily select players for a team who are not representative of the usual standard of that team. Where a Club feels that they have been disadvantaged by such behaviour then they should seek redress under Regulation 1.9.

**1.8 Rulings**

All questions of eligibility of competitors and interpretations of these Regulations in relation to the Competitions should be referred to the appropriate Competition Organiser, who will where necessary consult the Competitions Committee, whose decision will be final.

### 1.9 **Disputes**

Any allegation of a breach of these Regulations should be referred, in writing, to the appropriate Competition Organiser within 21 days of the matter coming to the attention of the complainant. The Competition Organiser will investigate the complaint and take such action as is deemed necessary, including referring the matter to the Competitions Committee, whose decision will be final. If the matter affects Clubs that have members on the Competitions Committee then they will not be eligible to sit on that Committee when the matter is being considered.

### 1.10 **Penalties**

Any Club, team or player (acting with or without the knowledge and/or authority of their Club or team) who breaks any Regulation will be subject to investigation by the Competitions Committee for consideration and possible referral to the Complaints Committee. The following penalties will be available to the Competitions Committee or the Complaints Committee:

In the case of a Club:

- i) Expulsion from all or any competitions for a season or number of seasons; and/or
- ii) A fine not exceeding £500.

In the case of a team:

- i) Expulsion from all or any competitions for a season or number of seasons; and/or
- ii) Relegation from a Group; and/or
- iii) Deduction of League Points; and/or
- iv) A fine not exceeding £250.

In the case of a player:

- i) A ban from all or any competitions for a season or number of seasons; and/or
- ii) A ban from all or any competitions for a match or number of matches; and/or
- iii) A fine not exceeding £100.

Furthermore, a player may also be barred from representing this County, or serving on any of its Committees, for such period as may be determined by the Complaints Committee.

### 1.11 **Resignations**

A Club may withdraw any team from a competition at any stage, subject to the Competition Committee's approval. However, if at a later stage they wish to be re-instated, they will be treated as a new team in accordance with the Regulations concerning that competition. That Club's remaining teams will be re-numbered accordingly at the start of the next season.

### 1.12 **Use of Social Media**

Players must not use social media to make comments about other players, teams or clubs that may bring Tennis Leicestershire, or the sport of tennis itself, into disrepute.

## **MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SUMMER DOUBLES LEAGUE**

### **2.1 Structure**

These Leagues will be divided into Groups of ten teams, except for the Men's Premier Group, which will consist of six teams. Where the number of teams entered does not allow for this, the lowest Groups may consist of fewer than ten teams. In both the Men's and Women's League there will be a Premier Group, and below that a Group 1, and below that a Group 2, and thereafter two equal Groups ('A' and 'B') for each level below Group 2. Where the number of teams entered does not allow for this, there may only be one Group at the lowest level. The Competitions Committee will at all times have the power to re-group a team or teams if such re-grouping may seem to be desirable, with or without consent from the team or teams. Where a vacancy occurs in a Group due to the resignation of a team, the Competitions Committee may replace it with another team from a lower Group or a new team entering for the first time. Any vacancy then created in a lower Group may be replaced on the same basis. Other than this, a team entering for the first time in a future year will be placed in the lowest Group.

### **2.2 Teams**

A team will consist of six players. A Club may enter more than one team in these Leagues and they will be numbered in order of ability with one being the most able. A player who has played three times in the same season for a team or teams will be disqualified from playing for a lower ranked (i.e. higher numbered) team. It therefore follows that a player may play for any higher ranked (i.e. lower numbered) team or teams on two occasions and still play for their current team. Furthermore, every Club's first team, as well as every team in Group 2 or above, must name four regular players of that team who will not be allowed to play for a lower ranked (i.e. higher numbered) team. Clubs with only one team in a League need not comply. These names must be submitted to the League Administrator by 20<sup>th</sup> April. The opposition will be awarded all sets by a score of 9-0 against any player in breach of this Regulation.

In addition to the four regular players nominated for each team covered by the above, all teams, irrespective of their league position, must nominate any player with a DOUBLES World Tennis Number (WTN) better (i.e. numerically lower) than 10.0 who may represent them during the season. These nominations must also be made by a submission to the League Administrator prior to 20<sup>th</sup> April. Such players may be included within the four standard nominations described above, but only if they are expected to regularly represent the team. Otherwise they must be nominated in addition. It is recognised that the WTN fluctuates from time to time, so if a player is close to the 10.0 level at 20<sup>th</sup> April, it is recommended that they are nominated at that time to avoid all doubt. Any player with a WTN better than 10.0 will not be allowed to play in the relevant league during the season in question unless they were nominated prior to 20<sup>th</sup> April. The list of nominated players will be made public by 1<sup>st</sup> May.

### **2.3 Team Format**

The team will be organised into three pairs, placed by the captain of the team (who may be playing or non-playing) in order of ability and they will be called the first, second and third pairs, with the first pair being the strongest.

## 2.4 Playing Format

A Round will consist of one Proset (first to 8 games, tie break at 7-7), except, where only two courts are available for play, one regular set (tie break at 6-6) will be played. Additionally, when there is a possibility of bad light stopping play in Round 3, and both team captains agree, one regular set may be played. Where possible, the visiting team will remain on the same court throughout the match.

Round 1			Round 2			Round 3		
Home		Away	Home		Away	Home		Away
3	v	1	2	v	1	1	v	1
1	v	2	3	v	2	2	v	2
2	v	3	1	v	3	3	v	3

## 2.5 League Points Awarded

One point will be awarded for each set won and a further two points for winning the majority of sets. Where a team concedes a match they will be penalised eleven points and the opposition will be awarded eleven points.

## 2.6 Venue

Where a Group contains fewer than seven teams, each team will play each other home and away. In all other Groups, each team will play each other only once, either home or away, as decided by the League Secretary or Administrator, who will organise this so that each team has roughly as many home matches as away matches. It is likely that a fixture played at home one year will be played away the next if both teams stay in the same Group.

## 2.7 Fixtures

Matches must be played on the dates arranged by the Match Secretaries in accordance with the Order of Play stated with the list of teams in each Group. Matches will be played on weekdays (excluding Bank Holidays) starting at 6.15p.m., unless otherwise agreed by both Match Secretaries. The warm up must be concluded before this start time. Failure to fulfil a fixture may result in a claim by the opposition (Regulation 2.9 applies). Any Club having more than one team competing in the same Group will play their match or matches prior to or during the first week of fixtures. Play will commence at the agreed time but, in the event of any player being unable to play within 20 minutes of the agreed starting time of a fixture, unless otherwise agreed by both team captains, their first set will be deferred until all other sets are completed. If there is sufficient time, the outstanding set should be completed, otherwise it will be conceded by the offending player(s).

## 2.8 Postponement or Interruption of Play

If a match is postponed, or is interrupted by adverse weather conditions or bad light prior to six sets being completed, then the match will be replayed in its entirety at a later date with the same, or different, team composition (Regulation 1.6 refers). If six or more sets have been completed when the adverse weather or bad light interruption occurs, then the same players must complete the match at a later date. Reasons for a player being unable to complete a match must be reported to the League Secretary or Administrator, who shall decide whether a substitute may be allowed.

If a match is postponed or interrupted for any reason other than adverse weather conditions or bad light, then the circumstances must be reported immediately to the League Secretary or Administrator, who will decide whether or not the match can be replayed or completed. If it is decided that the circumstances are unacceptable then either or both teams may be required to concede. It is therefore recommended, before postponing a match, to contact the League Secretary for a ruling.

## **2.9 Conceding**

Any team conceding or giving cause for a claim of more than one match will have all their results declared void. It is therefore recommended that a team sends at least one pair to compete in a match rather than concede all sets. The opposition should be informed at the earliest opportunity if a full team is not being sent.

## **2.10 Re-arranged Matches**

Where a match is re-arranged due to postponement or interruption, then the date chosen will be by the mutual agreement of the teams' Match Captains or Match Secretaries. Where such agreement cannot be reached, the matter should be referred to the League Secretary or Administrator, who will have the power to either:

- i) Decide the date of the match;
- ii) Treat the match as cancelled, or
- iii) Treat the match, or remainder of the match, as conceded by either or both teams (Regulation 2.9 applies).

## **2.11 Final Date**

All matches are to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> August. Any matches not completed by that date will be treated as cancelled or conceded depending upon the reasonableness of the explanations given for non-completion (Regulation 2.9 applies).

## **2.12 Information to be Entered Online**

At the start of the match season, the clubs/ team captains must ensure that full details of all known players have been entered. Each player's first and last name and BTM number must be fully and correctly shown. Failure to give correct details of a team as above may incur penalties (Regulation 1.10 applies).

## **2.13 Notification of Results (including Conceded Matches)**

The captain of the winning team must enter the full match result (including each individual set) within seven days of the match being completed. If a match is interrupted after the completion of six or more sets then the captain of the home team must enter the completed set scores within seven days of those sets being played. The aforementioned teams will forfeit one league point for exceeding this time limit and a further league point for each additional seven days delay, subject to a maximum of the total number of points awarded to the team for that match. The captain of the losing team should verify the match result within fourteen days of the match being played. Any disputes or errors must be immediately referred to the League Administrator. Failure to do so may incur penalties (Regulation 1.10 applies).

If a match is conceded, the winning team must enter the result using the appropriate match result box. Team members should not be shown.

Each captain should retain a completed match card, signed by both captains, for their records.

#### 2.14 **Group Positions**

Teams will be positioned in their Groups by the number of League Points obtained. If any teams are equal on points, then the number of wins will decide. If still equal, then the result of the match between the teams will decide. If still equal, then the ratio of games won against total games played will decide.

#### 2.15 **Promotion and Relegation**

##### i) **Promotion**

- Group 1. The Group winner and runner up will be promoted to the Premier Group.
- Group 2. The Group winner and runner-up will be promoted to Group 1.
- Groups 3A and 3B. The Group winner in each group will be promoted to Group 2.
- Groups below 3A and 3B. The Group winner in the 'A' Group will be promoted to the next higher 'B' Group and the runner-up in the 'A' Group will be promoted to the next higher 'A' Group. The Group winner in the 'B' Group will be promoted to the next higher 'A' Group and the runner-up in the 'B' Group will be promoted to the next higher 'B' Group.
- Where the bottom level consists of only one Group then the Group winner will be promoted to the next higher 'A' Group and the runner-up will be promoted to the next higher 'B' Group. These movements will alternate in successive years.

##### ii) **Relegation**

- Premier Group. The bottom two teams will be relegated to Group 1.
- Group 1. The bottom two teams will be relegated to Group 2.
- Group 2. The next to bottom team will be relegated to Group 3A and the bottom team will be relegated to Group 3B. These movements will alternate in successive years.
- Groups below 2. The next to bottom team in the 'A' Group will be relegated to the next lower 'B' Group and the bottom team in the 'A' Group will be relegated to the next lower 'A' Group. The next to bottom team in the 'B' Group will be relegated to the next lower 'A' Group and the bottom team in the 'B' Group will be relegated to the next lower 'B' Group. These movements will alternate in successive years.
- Where the bottom level consists of only one Group, then only the two bottom teams in the level above will be relegated, and both such teams will be relegated to this Group.

## MIXED DOUBLES LEAGUE

### 3.1 Structure

These Leagues will be divided into Groups of six teams. Where the number of teams entered does not exactly allow for this, the lowest Groups may consist of between four and seven teams. There will be a Premier Group, and thereafter two equal Groups ('A' and 'B') for each level below the Premier Group. Where the number of teams entered does not allow for this, there may only be one Group at the lowest level. The Competitions Committee will at all times have the power to re-group a team or teams if such re-grouping may seem to be desirable, with or without consent from the team or teams. Where a vacancy occurs in a Group due to the resignation of a team, the Competitions Committee may replace it with another team from a lower Group or a new team entering for the first time. Any vacancy then created in a lower Group may be replaced on the same basis. Other than this, a team entering for the first time in a future year will be placed in the lowest Group.

### 3.2 Teams

A team will consist of three men and three women. A Club may enter more than one team in these Leagues and they will be numbered in order of ability with one being the most able. A player who has played twice in the same season for a team or teams will be disqualified from playing for a lower ranked (i.e. higher numbered) team. It therefore follows that a player may play for any higher ranked (i.e. lower numbered) team or teams on one occasion and still play for their current team. The opposition will be awarded all sets by a score of 8-0 against any player in breach of this Regulation.

### 3.3 Team Format

The team will be organised into three mixed pairs, placed by the captain of the team (who may be playing or non-playing) in order of ability and they will be called the first, second and third pairs with the first pair being the strongest.

### 3.4 Playing Format

As per regulation 2.4

### 3.5 League Points Awarded

As per regulation 2.5

### 3.6 Venue

Each team will play each other only once, either at home or away, as decided by the League Secretary or Administrator, who will organise this so that each team has roughly as many home matches as away matches. It is likely that a fixture played at home one year will be played away the next if both teams stay in the same Group.

### 3.7 Fixtures

As per Regulation 2.7 except that matches can be played at weekends if preferred.

### 3.8 Postponement or Interruption of Play

As per Regulation 2.8

**3.9 Conceding**

As per Regulation 2.9

**3.10 Re-arranged Matches**

As per Regulation 2.10

**3.11 Final Date**

All matches are to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> September. Any matches not completed by that date will be treated as cancelled or conceded depending upon the reasonableness of the explanations given for non-completion (Regulation 2.9 applies).

**3.12 Information to be Entered Online**

As per Regulation 2.12

**3.13 Notification of Results (including Conceded Matches)**

As per Regulation 2.13

**3.14 Group Positions**

As per Regulation 2.14

**3.15 Promotion and Relegation**

**i) Promotion**

- The winners of Group 1A and 1B will be promoted to the Premier Group
- Groups below Group 1A and 1B. The Group winner in the 'A' Group will be promoted to the next higher 'B' Group. The Group winner in the 'B' Group will be promoted to the next higher 'A' Group.
- Where the bottom level consists of only one Group then the Group winner will be promoted to the next higher 'A' Group and the runner-up will be promoted to the next higher 'B' Group.  
These movements will alternate in successive years.

**ii) Relegation**

Premier Group. The bottom two teams will be relegated to Groups 1A and 1B.

Groups below 1A and 1B. The bottom team in the 'A' Group will be relegated to the next lower 'A' Group. The bottom team in the 'B' Group will be relegated to the next lower 'B' Group. Where the bottom level consists of only one Group, then the two bottom teams in the level above will be relegated to this Group. These movements will alternate in successive years.

## THE SPORTS MERCURY CUP

### 4.1 Structure

This competition will be on a knock-out basis using a single draw.

### 4.2 Teams

A team will consist of three men and three women. A Club may only enter one team in this competition.

### 4.3 Team Format

The team will be organised into three mixed pairs, placed by the captain of the team (who may be playing or non-playing) in order of ability and they will be called the first, second and third pairs with the first pair being the strongest.

### 4.4 Playing Format

A Round will consist of one rubber. A rubber is a best of three sets match consisting of two regular sets (tie-break at 6-6) and a third set match tie-break (first to ten points by two clear points) if necessary. Where possible, the visiting team will remain on the same court throughout the match.

Round 1			Round 2			Round 3		
Home		Away	Home		Away	Home		Away
3	v	1	2	v	1	1	v	1
1	v	2	3	v	2	2	v	2
2	v	3	1	v	3	3	v	3

### 4.5 Winning Team

The first team to win five rubbers will be declared the winner and progress to the next round. Where neither team has achieved this then Regulation 4.10 applies.

### 4.6 Venue

Lot will decide the home team for each match, including the final.

### 4.7 Fixtures

Matches must be played on the dates stated in the draw, starting between 10am and 3pm unless another time is agreed by both Match Secretaries.

#### **4.8 Postponement or Interruption of Play**

If a match is postponed, or is interrupted by adverse weather conditions or bad light prior to six rubbers being completed, then the match will be replayed in its entirety at a later date with the same, or different, team composition (Regulation 1.6 refers). If six or more rubbers have been completed when the adverse weather or bad light interruption occurs, then the same players will complete the match at a later date. Reasons for a player being unable to complete a match must be reported to the Competition Secretary, who will decide whether a substitute may be allowed.

If a match is postponed or interrupted for any reason other than adverse weather conditions or bad light, the circumstances must be reported immediately to the Competition Secretary, who will decide whether or not the match can be replayed or completed. If it is decided that the circumstances are unacceptable then either or both teams may be scratched.

#### **4.9 Conceding**

A team may concede a match at any stage. Any team conceding in two consecutive years shall be suspended from entering a team for the following year.

#### **4.10 Re-arranged Matches**

Where a match is re-arranged due to postponement or interruption then the date of that match will be as stated in the draw, starting between 10am and 3pm unless another time is agreed by both Match Secretaries. If the match still cannot be completed, then the team that has won the most rubbers at this stage will be declared the winner. If the number of rubbers won is equal, then the majority of sets won will decide. If the number of sets won is equal, then the number of games won will decide. If still equal, then lots shall be drawn to decide the winner.

#### **4.11 Final Date**

All matches are to be completed before the date of the next round.

#### **4.12 Match Cards**

Each player's first and last name must be clearly stated on the Match Card. All details to be checked by both Captains before signing the Match Card.

#### **4.13 Notification of Results (including Conceded Matches)**

The captain of the winning team must notify the Competition Secretary of the result, by e-mail, within two days of the match being played. The captain of the winning team must also enter the full match result (including each individual set) within two days of the match being completed. If a match is conceded, the winning team must enter the result using the appropriate match result box. Team members should not be shown. Failure to do so may result in the team being scratched from the competition.

## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S WINTER DOUBLES LEAGUE

### 5.1 Structure

These Leagues will be divided into Groups of eight teams. Where the number of teams entered does not exactly allow for this, the lowest Groups may consist of fewer than eight teams. There will be a Premier Group and thereafter two equal groups A and B. The Competitions Committee will at all times have the power to re-group a team or teams if such re-grouping may seem to be desirable, with or without consent from the team or teams. Where a vacancy occurs in a Group due to the resignation of a team, the Competitions Committee may replace it with another team from a lower Group or a new team entering for the first time. Any vacancy then created in a lower Group may be replaced on the same basis. Other than this, a team entering for the first time in a future year shall be placed in the lowest Group.

### 5.2 Teams

A team will consist of four players. A Club may enter more than one team in these Leagues and they will be numbered in order of ability with one being the most able. A player who has played three times in the same season for a team or teams will be disqualified from playing for a lower ranked (i.e. higher numbered) team. It therefore follows that a player may play for any higher ranked (i.e. lower numbered) team or teams on two occasions and still play for their current team. The opposition will be awarded all sets by a score of 6-0 against any player in breach of this Regulation.

### 5.3 Team Format

The team will be organised into two pairs, placed by the captain of the team (who may be playing or non-playing) in order of ability and they will be called the first and second pairs, with the first pair being the strongest.

### 5.4 Playing Format

A Round will consist of two regular sets (tie-break at 6-6). Where possible, the visiting team should remain on the same court throughout the match.

Round 1			Round 2		
Home		Away	Home		Away
2	v	1	1	v	1
1	v	2	2	v	2

### 5.5 League Points Awarded

One point will be awarded for each set won and a further two points for winning the majority of sets. In the event of a draw, one further point will be awarded to each team. Where a team concedes a match they will be penalised ten points and the opposition will be awarded ten points.

### 5.6 Venue

As per Regulation 2.6

## 5.7 **Fixtures**

Matches must be played on the dates arranged by the Match Secretaries in accordance with the Order of Play stated with the list of teams in each Group. Matches will be played at weekends unless otherwise agreed by both Match Secretaries. The warm up must be concluded before this start time. Failure to fulfil a fixture may result in a claim by the opposition (Regulation 2.9 applies). Any Club having more than one team competing in the same Group will play their matches prior to or during the first week of fixtures. Play will commence at the agreed time but, in the event of any player being unable to play within 20 minutes of the agreed starting time of a fixture, unless otherwise agreed by both team captains, their first set will be deferred until all other sets are completed. If there is sufficient time, the outstanding set should be completed, otherwise it will be conceded by the offending player(s).

## 5.8 **Postponement or Interruption of Play**

As per Regulation 2.8

## 5.9 **Conceding**

As per Regulation 2.9

## 5.10 **Re-arranged Matches**

As per Regulation 2.10

## 5.11 **Final Date**

All matches are to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> January. Any matches not completed by that date will be treated as cancelled or conceded, depending upon the reasonableness of the explanations given for non-completion (Regulation 2.9 applies).

## 5.12 **Information to be Entered Online**

As per Regulation 2.12

## 5.13 **Notification of Results (including Conceded Matches)**

The captain of the winning team, or the home team in the event of a draw, must enter the full match result (including each individual set) within seven days of the match being completed. If a match is interrupted after the completion of **four** or more sets then the captain of the home team must enter the completed set scores within seven days of those sets being played. The aforementioned teams will forfeit one league point for exceeding this time limit and a further league point for each additional seven days delay, subject to a maximum of the total number of points awarded to the team for that match.

The captain of the losing team, or the away team in the event of a draw, should verify the match result within fourteen days of the match being played. Any disputes or errors must be immediately referred to the League Administrator. Failure to do so may incur penalties (Regulation 1.10 applies).

If a match is conceded, the winning team must enter the result using the appropriate match result box. Team members should not be shown.

Each captain should retain a completed match card, signed by both captains, for their records.

#### 5.14 **Group Positions**

Teams will be positioned in their Groups by the number of League Points obtained. If any teams are equal on points, then the number of wins will decide. If still equal, then the number of draws will decide. If still equal, then the result of the match between the teams will decide. If still equal, then the ratio of games won against total games played will decide.

#### 5.15 **Promotion and Relegation**

As per rule 3.15.

### **MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SENIORS DOUBLES LEAGUES**

As per Regulation 5 except that...

- In Regulation 5.11 the date for completion of matches is 30th September or, in the case of the Super Seniors, 31st May.
  - Promotion and relegation in the Seniors (over 40s) as per Rule 3.15.
  - Promotion and Relegation in the Superseniors (over 60s) will be decided by the Competitions committee dependent on the entry numbers in the following year.
- Super Seniors matches will be played during the daytime unless otherwise agreed by both Match Secretaries.
- In addition, competitors must have attained the age of 40 (or 60 in the case of Super Seniors) by 31st December in the year of competition.

## **ADDITIONAL GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING COMPETITIONS**

- 7.1
- i) Men's and Ladies' Singles Championships  
(Senior County Closed Championships Working Group)
  - ii) Men's, Ladies' and Mixed Doubles Championships  
(Senior County Closed Championships Working Group)
  - iii) Girls' and Boys' Championships at age groups determined by the Junior  
County Closed Championships Working Group
- 7.2. These Competitions will be held annually in accordance with the following Regulations and the Regulations for the Management of Lawn Tennis Tournaments as laid down by the Lawn Tennis Association, insofar as they apply to the Competitions.
- 7.3. The management of the Competitions will be undertaken by the Directors of Tennis Leicestershire Limited (TLL) through the Senior and Junior County Closed Competitions Working Groups. The Directors will be, for all intents and purposes, the owners of the Trophies in trust for TLL. Winners will hold the title of 'Champion' of the competition until such time as the next competition for the event is held.
- 7.4. The Competitions are open only to players who possess a County qualification (reference LTA Rule 36). A player is qualified to play in the County Closed Championships if:
- i) Their place of birth or permanent residence at date of birth is in such area; or
  - ii) Their place of permanent residence has, for at least one year immediately preceding the competition (six months for juniors), been in such area; or
  - iii) At any time their place of residence has for a period of five consecutive years been in such area.

A County boundary is defined as that which applies for the purposes of local government (not necessarily as defined by postcode).