



Tournament Rules and Regulations

The following rules MUST be abided by for entry into the tournament. Breaches will result in immediate disqualification of the doubles team (both players). Entry fees are non-refundable, and games played will be forfeited.

ITEM	CATEGORY	RULES & REGULATIONS	REQUIREMENTS & CONDITIONS
1a.(i)	Age Group	To qualify for the age group category, you MUST meet the age requirement at least 7 days before the tournament date.	To enter the 9-11 years age group, you must have turned 9 or 11 by the specified cutoff date.
1a.(ii)			To enter the 12-14 years age group, you must have turned 12 or 14 by the specified cutoff date.
1b.(i)		You are NOT allowed to enter an age category below your age group.	If you have turned 12 by the specified cutoff date, you cannot enter the 9-11 years age category. You qualify for the 12-14 years age group.
1b.(ii)			If you have turned 15 by the specified cutoff date, you cannot enter the 12-14 years age category. You qualify for the 15-18 years age group.
1c.(i)		You can enter an age category above your age group only ONCE.	A player in the 9-11 years age group can enter the 12-14 years group or the 15-18 years group, but NOT both.
1c.(ii)			A player in the 12-14 years age group can also enter the 15-18 years group.
2a.(i)	Entry Fee	The entry fee is per person per age group and format entered. For example, only , if the entry fee is stated as £100	For a single age group category, the cost is £100/person (£200/pair).
2a.(ii)			For two age group categories, the cost is £200/person (£400/pair).
2a.(iii)			All bookings are non-refundable. If you change your mind or are unable to attend, any entry fees paid will not be refunded.
3a.	Registration	Registration times guidelines: 9-11 years: 08:30 AM, finishing by 11AM 12-14 years: 10:45 AM, finishing by 2.30 PM 15-18 years: 2.30 PM, finishing by 5 PM	
3b.(i)		Registration times are approximate; confirmed times will be provided after the entry closing date.	Note that 9-11 years group registration is confirmed at 08:30 AM and will not change.
3b.(i)			Registration times for other age groups may vary by \pm 30 minutes depending the number of entrants.
3c.(i)		All entrants must arrive on time for registration.	Games will be forfeited if entrants arrive late and have not registered by their scheduled time.



ITEM	CATEGORY	RULES & REGULATIONS	REQUIREMENTS & CONDITIONS
4a.(i)	Games	Warm-up	Players may warm up for up to 3 minutes before starting the match. No warm-up time is allowed between games.
4a.(ii)			For matches played to three games, a short water break is allowed after each game. No breaks are permitted during play.
4b.(i)		Score point disputes	Disputes should be resolved between the teams. If no agreement is reached, the umpire will decide to award the point or replay it. The umpire's decision is final.
4c.(i)		Qualifying games and Quarterfinals	Games up to and including the quarterfinals will be best of one game with no settings. The winner is the first to reach 21 points.
4d.(i)		Semifinals	Semifinals will be best of one game with setting. The winner must win by two clear points. If scores reach 29-29, the first to 30 points wins.
4e.(i)		Finals	Finals will be best of three games with setting. The winner must win by two clear points. If scores reach 29-29, the first to 30 points wins. The first side to win two games wins the match.
5a.	Games Format	All games will be played as doubles matches with gender neutral pairings.	Players can play in doubles pair as two boys, two girls or one boy and one girl.
5b.(i)		The tournament will proceed as follows:	First round group stage where each doubles pair plays against each other in their group.
5b.(ii)			Quarterfinals: Top scoring pairs advance and play as best of one game.
5b.(iii)			Semifinals: Winners of quarterfinals play as best of one game.
5b.(iv)			Finals: Winners of semifinals play as best of three games.



ITEM	CATEGORY	RULES & REGULATIONS	REQUIREMENTS & CONDITIONS
6a.	Entrants	All entrants must arrive on time for registration. Late arrivals who have not registered by their scheduled time will forfeit their games.	
6b.		Entrants and spectators must behave respectfully. Profane or indecent language will result in a warning, followed by disqualification for repeated offenses.	
6c.		Entrants who have played for 3 more times in the Shires League in this season will be excluded from the Tournament.	
7a.	Spectators	Spectators must remain silent during gameplay and use the viewing gallery where possible. Coaching or advising from the sideline is strictly forbidden.	
7b.		Parents or guardians of players on court have priority viewing access.	
8a.	Prizes and Trophies	Prizes and trophies will be awarded at the discretion of the Gala Academy.	
8b.		The award ceremony will commence after the finals. All entrants are encouraged to stay and support their group until the finals are completed.	
9a.	Facility	Access inside the sports hall is restricted to areas designated by Gala staff for the duration of the tournament. Entry into any other areas will be considered trespassing by the school.	
		The school grounds are strictly off-limits and must not be accessed.	

END DOCUMENT