

Tennis Foundation Briefing to Senior Competition Managers

Introduction:

The Tennis Foundation works together with the LTA to jointly lead on the co-ordination of Schools Tennis competitions in Great Britain.

To simplify the Schools Tennis Competition structure, we have created 3 categories (National, Local & Other), in which all schools competition can fit into. We have worked hard to develop a framework to enable a level of standardisation and consistency, with the National and Local Competitions. However, we are understanding of differing local needs and will provide support and flexibility for other types of competitions, formats and options, where appropriate.

For the SCM Induction Event on 30th April, we have been asked to provide this simple one-page summary, in advance, covering basic information under the key headings below. At the event itself, more detailed information will be provided, along with the opportunity for discussion, questions and answers.

Priority Competition – Age Groups & Gender:

As stated above, tennis has 3 categories of Schools Tennis Competition, however, Competition Manager Teams will mainly be involved with the Local Category, in which a structure has been designed to fit in and work with School Sport Partnerships.

These new formats, for Year 3&4 and Year 7&8 age groups, are being officially piloted this Summer, however the structure is based upon existing examples of good practice, currently operating in various Counties across the Country. The competitions are mixed and target both boys and girls.

Number of SSP's / Schools / Young People:

Teams should consist of 4* players (2 boys/2 girls) from either one of the 2, or across both age groups.

We have set the following working targets for the roll out of the new Yr 3&4 and Yr 7&8 competitions:

Yr 1 (2007/2008) – pilot in 6 areas, reaching 2,160 young people

Yr 2 (2008/2009) – national roll out, minimum of 3 SSPs involved per County, reaching 15,120 young people

Yr 3 (2009/2010) – national roll out, minimum of 5 SSPs involved per County, reaching 61,600 young people

*Where there are concerns about the numbers of players involved from each school being relatively low, schools can be encouraged to enter 2 teams, or if agreed locally at County level, a format for teams of 8 players can be adopted.

Time of Year for Delivery:

All events will take place in the Summer Term between April – July. However, resources will be launched from September onwards and key timescales will be provided to allow for planning and a suitable lead in time.

Entry/Exit Competitions/Pathways:

Rather than being dealt with on a stand-alone basis, ideally, competition should always be seen as part of the wider Schools Tennis package (teacher training, coaching, link with a local club etc). Working closely with your local Tennis Development Manager / Officer will be key to ensure the appropriate entry and exit routes are available. More detailed information and potential options about this area will be covered at the event.

More Information:

If you have any queries in advance of 30th April, please contact:

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