



Competition Review 2021

An overview



tabletennisengland.co.uk

Competition Review 2021

- Board-sponsored project
- Led and delivered by Head of Competition & Events
- Supported by a Steering Group [Competition review: Steering Group announced](#) inc. MAG, elected director, player reps, club reps etc.
- Previous reviews in 2009 and 2014 led to valuable refinements but no fundamental changes
- Appetite now exists for a more in-depth consideration of opportunities
- Project brief, goals, aims, process and timeframe agreed by Board

Project Brief

The Table Tennis England competition programme is complex and inter-connected, and has grown organically into its current format over many years

TTE will undertake a root-and-branch review of domestic competition in order to address a number of known issues and ensure the programme is fit-for-purpose to meet the needs of our members

Goal

The right format, frequency, location and standard of competition across all demographics, for existing and potential members

Scope

- **IN scope:** national competition programmes that sit within Table Tennis England governance/ delivery (including tournaments, sanctioned events, national leagues, schools)
- **OUT of scope:** social competition, and competition programmes that do not sit within Table Tennis England governance/ delivery (including VETTS, BUCS, local leagues)

Aims

1. Reduce current levels of 'calendar congestion' and unsustainable burden on available officials, whilst identifying appropriate space in the calendar for events and performance squad commitments
2. Engender a more sustainable delivery approach; reduce financial cost to TTE and external organisers, and provide VfM for players
3. Facilitate opportunity for more creative and innovative external/ sanctioned event formats
4. Provide greater quality assurance of external/ sanctioned events
5. Encourage a more equal geographical spread of tournaments
6. Create 'upward pressure' through a pathway of tournament events (must balance with #2)
7. Prepare talented athletes experientially for international competition
8. Deliver greater opportunity to identified gaps in TTE demographic, including Women & Girls, and accessible integrated competition for athletes with disabilities
9. Consider extent of future integration of schools events into core structures
10. Assess the relative benefit of existing programme events
11. Offer an objective basis for removal of existing lower-value competitions from the programme
12. High-quality & inclusive event environment
13. High-quality player experience

Process - phase one (current):

	Process	Detail	Timeframe
Phase 1 – 6 months	✓ Mapping	Identify all event details on common template to provide global map of competitive opportunity	Spring '21
	✓ Insight1	<u>External</u> : research exercise to provide illustrations and possibilities - other benchmark NGBs in England and other TT associations in Europe	Late Spring '21
	Consultation	a) Open membership consultation, inc. specific target questions b) Forums to be held with key stakeholder groups	Summer '21
	Insight2	<u>Internal</u> : establish narrative insight via targeted interactions with c.20 knowledgeable members of TTE community + TASS women and girls research outcomes + actively engage with BUCS sport review	
	Decision1	Update to Board inc.. agreement to proceed and projected costings related to subsequent phases	Late Summer '21

Process: phases two – five:

Phase 2 – 6 months	<i>Enabler</i>	<i>Implementation of changes to Junior/ U19 age-group</i>	Summer '21
	<i>Enabler</i>	<i>Launch of Online Tournament Entry module</i>	
	Modelling	Outline modelling of future events and overall programme	Summer – Xmas '21
	Decision2	Outline proposal to Board for in-principle agreement; principles to filter into scheduling/ arrangements for '22/23 and '23/24 seasons	Xmas '21
	<i>Enabler</i>	<i>Background launch of new rankings system</i>	
Phase 3	Development	Detailed development of events and overall programme	Spring - Summer '22
	<i>Enabler</i>	<i>Full launch of new rankings system (TBC)</i>	Summer '22
	Decision3	Full agreement by Board	
4	Implement1	Phased/ partial implementation & progression of identified dependencies	Season '22/23
5	Implement2	Full implementation	Season '23/24

Membership Consultation

- Will take place over the Summer
- Full details, inc. mapping and insight outcomes, will be shared at this stage
- All members will have full opportunity to feed-in:
 1. Open feedback exercise, including targeted questions
 2. Forums to be held with key stakeholder groups (eg. O18 players, U18 players/parents, talent & performance group + players, MAG, National Council etc.)
 3. Narrative insight interviews with c.20 specific individuals
- **Further information will be available soon – and promoted across all channels – watch this space!**