



Policy Number: 24

**Policy Name: Junior Tournament
Guidelines**

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1. Organisation of Tournaments

1.1. Sanctioning of Tournaments

- a) All tournaments taking place on the island of Ireland are required to request sanctioning from the National Governing Body. The tournament must be approved by Squash Ireland prior to promotion taking place. All open tournaments are required to use the Squash Ireland online entry system, unless approval from Squash Ireland is granted to use an alternative system.

1.2. Appointment of Tournament Director

- a) All tournaments must be run by a Tournament Director (TD).
- b) Irish Junior Open, Irish Junior Nationals and All Ireland School Championships TD is appointed by the Squash Ireland Junior Committee.
- c) Provincial Junior Open Championships TD is appointed by the Provincial Association and approved by the Squash Ireland Junior Committee.
- d) Club open competitions are run by TD appointed by the club and notified to Squash Ireland.

1.3. Adherence to Squash Ireland Policies

- a) All Junior Tournaments are run according to Squash Ireland Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Policy. By entering any tournament, a player must agree to the Squash Ireland Tournament Terms & Conditions, under which they agree to the Safeguarding Policy. By working in a tournament, officials also agree to abide by these policies.
- b) All sanctioned tournaments open to players under the age of 18, must appoint a designated safeguarding officer. This individual must hold as minimum, Safeguarding 1/ Safeguarding Children & Young People in Sport (SCYPS) qualifications, as well as completed the Garda Vetting/Access NI checks. The name and contact details for this individual must be made available to all players and parents/guardians.
- c) Players, tournament officials, parents/guardians and supporters are all bound by the relevant Squash Ireland Code of Conduct throughout any event.

2. Tournament Director

2.1. Responsibilities of Tournament Director

- a) The TD is responsible for the invitation, managing the online entries plus the promotion of the event.
- b) The name of the TD must be on the application and will be the responsible contact for Squash Ireland.

- c) To communicate with the Squash Ireland Junior Committee regarding tournament draw and must be run in accordance with Squash Ireland Junior ranking.
- d) To ensure tournament draw is available online by due date (see Section 3).
- e) To organise and display the match schedule and ensure matches are played on time.
- f) To ensure appropriate referees are available for matches.
- g) To document player withdrawals/injuries before and during the tournament.
- h) To ensure all competitors wear protective eye guards over the eyes during the competition and knock-up.
- i) To manage any disciplinary issues arising during a tournament and submit report, as appropriate to the Squash Ireland Disciplinary Committee.
- j) To send within 3 working days after the final, the final placings of each category to Squash Ireland so that the ranking can be updated.
- k) The TD will make sure that matches from the quarterfinals onwards in each category have competent referees.

3. Tournament Format

3.1. Regulations

- a) Clubs used as venues for tournaments must be affiliated to Squash Ireland.
- b) All matches are played under the Rules of the Game as determined by the World Squash Federation. Where queries arise outside the scope of this document, reference will be made to the World Squash Rules.
- c) Balls - in line with ESF tournaments, the Dunlop Double Yellow ball will be used for all age groups except U11s where the Single Dot ball will be used.
- d) Communication channels between players/parents and Squash Ireland should be as followed
 - i. Tournament related queries should be brought to the TD
 - ii. All other matters to the attention of the appropriate provincial junior representative.

3.2. Irish Junior Open

- a) This is run as European Squash Federation (ESF) Grand Prix (GP) event over 3 days in accordance with ESF Regulations.

3.3. Irish Junior National Championships

- a) 3 day event (Friday - Sunday).

- b) Entry online, closing date 9 days earlier (i.e. previous Wednesday at midnight).
- c) Monrad draw for 8, 16 or 32 players/event or round robin format where numbers require.
- d) Draw will be published online Tuesday 1pm pre-tournament.
- e) Entry Fees are payable on-line before the first match. Entry fees are as follows:
 - i. €25/£22.50 per player
 - ii. €30/£25 for 2 siblings
 - iii. €35/£30 for 3 siblings

3.4. Provincial Junior Opens

- a) 2 day event (Saturday - Sunday) or 1 day event (Saturday).
- b) Entry online, closing date 7 days earlier i.e. preceding Friday at midnight.
- c) Matches scheduled for 9:30am each day.
- d) Monrad draw for 8 or 16 players in each age category.
- e) Age groups may be combined if small entries to allow Monrad draw or round robin format may be used at discretion of Squash Ireland Junior Committee and TD.
- f) If draw is 'oversubscribed', preliminary matches may be played as agreed by the TD and the Squash Ireland Junior Committee.
- g) Draw published online Wednesday 1pm pre-tournament.
- h) Entry Fees are payable on-line before the first match. Entry fees are as follows:
 - i. €25/£22.50 per player
 - ii. €30/£25 for 2 siblings
 - iii. €35/£30 for 3 siblings

3.5. Open Club Events

- a) These will be at discretion of local club and TD.

4. Seeding and Draw

4.1. Irish Junior Open

- a) This will be run according to ESF Regulations.

4.2. Irish Junior National Championships and Provincial Junior Opens

- a) Squash Ireland Junior Committee will seed tournament entries according to national rankings.

- b) Wildcard seeding of a non-ranked player may be decided by the Squash Ireland Junior Committee and the TD if appropriate and in the best interest of a balanced draw for all players.
- c) All seeded players will be fitted into the Monrad draw according to their seeding position.
- d) Unseeded players will be randomly drawn in the lowest remaining available slots.
- e) Round Robin Format - players may be placed in round robins based on entry size and in accordance with their seedings as follows:
 - i. Players will use two pools with 3 players in each – each player plays 3 matches:
 - Pool 1: Seeds 1,4,5
 - Pool 2: Seeds 2,3,6
 - ii. 9 players will, subject to the availability of courts, use three pools with 3 players each – each player plays 4 matches:
 - Pool 1: Seeds 1,6,7
 - Pool 2: Seeds 2,5,8
 - Pool 3: Seeds 3,4,9
- f) A re-draw will take place where one of the top 2 seeds of the top 8 seeds withdraw, regardless of the number of players in the draw. A re-draw will only be done where a player drops out before 09:00 on the day before play is due to begin.
- g) Withdrawals after draw has been made are reported by the TD to Squash Ireland Junior Committee after the tournament. Parents/guardians may be asked to provide a valid reason for player withdrawal.
- h) The TD will manage the processing of walkovers and where a player does not play a round and gives a walkover they will be scratched from the tournament.
- i) Penalties apply to players failing to provide proof of valid reason for withdrawal from event:
 - i. '0' points penalty for withdrawal during tournament.
- j) Walk-over will be awarded against any player who fails to present on court within 15 minutes of the scheduled match time. Players and/or their parents/guardians are responsible for informing themselves of match times and possible changes to a schedule