INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNIOR

REGULATIONS

Date accepted: 04/10/2018

Please read the regulations carefully before entering teams into the championships

The regulations must be adhered to at all times

Please not the following changes.

- Article 7b - iii
- Article 7b - vii
- Article 7b - ix

1. **TITLE:**
The competition is called "The England Squash (ES) Junior Inter County Squash Championships."

2. **ORGANISATION OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS:**
The Championships are organised by England Squash. (See Appendix A for the schedule of junior categories for this season).

3. **FORMAT:**
The competition is split into two stages, Stage 1 and then the Main Finals & Plate Finals weekend.

Stage 1: County teams will be split into North and South divisions. The southern division will play all games in a southern venue/s organised by England Squash. The northern division will play all games in a northern venue/s organised by England Squash. In their respective divisions counties will then play in round robin groups of up to 4 teams. The top teams in each division will advance through to the main finals weekend. Best placed 2nd teams may also advance through to the Main Finals dependent upon draw sizes. Teams finishing in second will also have the chance to advance through to the Plate Finals.

Main Finals / Plate Finals: Teams advancing from stage one into the main finals will play in a team monrad tournament to determine final finishing positions. Teams advancing from stage one into the plate finals will play in a team monrad tournament to determine final finishing positions.

4. **DATES:**
Stage 1: 17th & 18th November 2018 (age groups will play across one day, this will be confirmed upon closure of entries).

Stage 2: 23rd & 24th February 2019 (age groups will play across one day, this will be confirmed upon closure of entries).

5. **ENTRIES:**
Entry to the competition is online, a link and login will be sent to county secretaries, entries must be made no later than **1st October 2018.**

It will be at the discretion of England Squash as to whether late entries will be accepted.

English counties will pay a £50 entry fee per team. (The fee will go towards the combined hosting of the event by England Squash).

Guest counties must pay the appropriate guest fee per team entered (tbc).

One team from a county may be entered into each category, with the following provisions:

- Where space is available, counties will be allowed to enter additional teams into a category. England Squash will advise. This will be on a first come, first serve basis in a window after entries have closed.

- On submission of teams, a strict order of merit must be adhered to. Where counties have B teams, they must remain in order of merit . Split strengthening of teams is not allowed. England Squash holds the right to query the order of merit where required.

Upon closure of entries on 1st October 2018, there will be no refunds for any team withdrawing.

In the event of cancellation or withdrawal, England Squash accepts <u>no liability</u> for further costs associated with the event such as hotels and travel.

By entering a team, counties and their players are agreeing to be bound by the rules and regulations of the competition and the England Squash Code of Conduct.

6. TEAMS:

All teams consist of five players, with the exception of Boys and Girls Under 11 & 19 and Girls 13 categories.
Boys and Girls Under 11 & 19 and Girls 13 will consist of 3 players.

A player may play a maximum of 3 matches in a day. It will be at the counties discretion how they select their teams within the age categories.

7. QUALIFICATION:

a. **England Squash Membership**
All players representing teams in the Championships must be current members of England Squash at the time of participation. Membership numbers must be entered into League Master which will run a membership check.

Team managers have the responsibility to ensure that all players are members of England Squash prior to participation. If an ineligible player takes part the team that they represent will be scratched from the Championships.

b. **Player Eligibility**
   i. Players are able to compete in the Championships if they are a current British or Irish Citizen.
   ii. Players can only represent one county during the season.
   iii. Players must be eligible to play for their team on the date of the finals day (23rd & 24th February). Players are qualified to play for their county/region of birth or residency.
   iv. Whereby the county in which a player qualifies for, does not have a team, the player may make a request to England Squash to represent a different county. It will be at the discretion of England Squash as to whether this request will be accepted.
   v. A player may continue to represent a county that they have played for in the Championships after they have stopped living in that county and provided that they have not played for any other county.
   vi. In all cases where a player's qualification is in doubt, it is obligatory on the county they want to play for to prove the qualification to the satisfaction of England Squash.
   vii. Girls are permitted to play within boys categories without need for consultation with England Squash.
   viii. Juniors are recommended not to play more than 3 matches a day. That doesn't prevent them playing in different age groups in the various weekends or days. It is for the team manager to manage the squad accordingly. Please see recommendations within the Junior Sanctioned Events Regulations Appendix for the various guidelines.

c. **County Eligibility**
A county is eligible to apply to enter any of the categories in the Championships provided it is recognised as being a county (in England) a region (in Wales) a District (in Scotland) or a Province (in Ireland) by England Squash and is authorised to compete by the relevant Association/Federation.

8. REFEREES:

Referees will be appointed by England Squash. Players will be required to act as markers/referee for games. A player from each team must work together to mark/referee games.

9. SCORING:

ALL MATCHES WILL BE PLAYED USING PAR TO 11 SCORING:

a. A match is played between individuals.
b. Matches may be played in either a best of 3 or best of 5 format.
c. A tie is a series of five matches played between two counties. With the exception of Girls &

Boys U11 & U19 **as well as Girls U13** categories which involve three matches.

d. One point is awarded for each county game won in a match.
e. Five bonus points are awarded to counties winning a best of 5 tie. Three bonus points when teams consist of 3 players.
f. At the end of the stage counties are placed:
    i. Firstly on the number of ties won
    ii. Secondly on the number of points
    iii. If the above are equal for two counties, on the result between the two counties
    iv. If the number of points are equal for three counties, on the number of matches won
    v. If the above are equal, the greatest positive difference between total games won and total games lost
    vi. If all above are equal the total positive difference between total points won and total points lost

10. RULES OF PLAY:

WSF Rules of Squash apply. The Championships must be played on courts that comply with WSF specifications. All competitors must wear goggles also within the specifications.

11. DISCIPLINARY ISSUES:

England Squash may disqualify a player or county from the Championships, fine a player or county, or deduct points from a county during the Championships. Players or counties shall have the right of appeal which should be in writing within ten days of receipt of a disciplinary ruling. Any appeal will be heard at a place and time at the discretion of England Squash. All out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with such an appeal shall be paid by the party or parties to the appeal and in such a manner as England Squash determine.

12. CODE OF CONDUCT:

It is the responsibility of competing counties to ensure that the team manager complies with England Squash Child Protection criteria (found on the website) and that all players in their teams abide by the England Squash Code of Conduct (Found on the website). Also the player and parent behaviour guidelines must be complied with (See Appendix B).

Instances of unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated and will be dealt with severely.

13. MATTERS NOT COVERED BY THE REGULATIONS:

Any matters arising regarding qualification which are not covered by these Regulations should be submitted to England Squash not less than fourteen days before the date on which a decision is required so that a ruling can be given. The decision of England Squash in all matters in relation to the Championships is final.

APPENDICES

A: SCHEDULE OF JUNIOR EVENT CATEGORIES

B: JUNIOR PLAYER'S WELFARE AND BEHAVIOUR

C: CODES OF CONDUCT

APPENDIX A

JUNIOR PLAYER'S WELFARE AND BEHAVIOUR

Squads competing in the Junior Inter County Championships will be deemed to fall within the control of the appointed Team Manager, both on and off court, for the duration of each competitive fixture.

England Squash advises Team Managers to obtain the following information concerning juniors in their team:

1. Contact details of Parents / Guardian.

2. Contact details of Family Doctor.

3. Emergency contact.

4. Medical history, condition and requirements, e.g., asthma, heart condition, diabetes, fits, fainting or blackouts, allergies.

5. Special dietary requirements.

6. Any addition information which may be relevant.

THIS LIST IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE

Each Team Manager (and not the Host Organiser) is responsible for ensuring that players adhere to the ES Code of Conduct on court.

OFF COURT

In public places, especially hotels, consideration should be given to other guests in all respects.

The purchase and consumption of alcoholic drinks is strictly forbidden by any player under the age of 18. Any player 18 years or over wishing to purchase and consume alcohol may only do so with prior permission by the Team Manager.

Dissent to a match official or organiser is not acceptable, and players who show dissent or abuse will be severely sanctioned.

It is recommended that each team member is given a copy of this Appendix so that the importance of responsible behaviour is made clear to them. Players should sign a sheet before each weekend, acknowledging their understanding and willingness to abide by these regulations and guidelines.

PARENTS / MANAGERS

Parents / Managers must refrain from interference in matches. All complaints should be directed to the Host Organiser. ES reserves the right to ban any manager or parent from courtside at any event should it be felt necessary to do so.