



# **INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

## **ADULT (SENIORS AND MASTERS) REGULATIONS**

**(Updated September 2024)**

**Please read the regulations carefully before entering  
teams into the championships**

**The regulations must be always adhered to.**

## 1. TITLE:

The competition is known as "The England Squash (ES) Inter County Squash Championships".

## 2. ORGANISATION OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The Squash Championships are organised by ES. (See Appendix A for the list of categories for this season.)

## 3. ENTRIES:

Entry to the competition is online, a link and login will be issued to county contacts/manager, team captains and all ICC contacts, and will also be available on the [website](#): Entries must be made no later than the closing date specified on the [England Squash website](#).

No entries will be accepted after the closing date, unless agreed by England Squash.

**Counties and guest nations will pay a £65 entry fee per team of 5 players and £39 entry fee per team of 3 players. £13 per player.**

One team from a county may enter each category, with the following provisions:

- Where space is available, counties are permitted to enter additional teams into a category. 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 permitted. England Squash holds the right to query the order of merit where required.
- The same order of merit must be applied to both Stage 1, 2 and Finals of all ICC events. Strengthening teams at later events is not allowed. England Squash holds the right to query the order of merit where required.

Upon closure of entries there will be no refunds for any team withdrawing. In the event of cancellation or withdrawal, England Squash accepts no liability for further costs associated with the event such as hotels and travel. By entering a team, counties, guest nations and their players are agreeing to be bound by the rules and regulations of the competition and the [England Squash Code of Conduct](#).

## 4. TEAMS:

All teams consist of five players, except for Men's Over 65, Women's Over 40, and Women's Over 50 which consist of three.

## 5. QUALIFICATION:

### a. ES Membership

All players representing teams in the Championships must be current members of ES at the time of participation. England Squash membership numbers must be entered into the tournament software.

Team captains have the responsibility to ensure that all players are members of ES prior to participation. If an ineligible player takes part the team that they represent will be scratched from the Championships. There will be no exception to this rule. Fines may be applicable at ES' discretion.

### b. Player Eligibility

- i) Players can only compete in the Championships if they are qualified to play for England, Ireland, Scotland or Wales for the relevant season.

**NOTE:** If not a British Citizen – Rights of Residency apply subject to England Squash approval. It is the responsibility of the county to provide eligible proof to the satisfaction of England Squash of residential status.

- ii) U19s players may represent their county in the Senior competition. Eyewear must be worn by all U19s players in accordance with the England Squash rules and regulations for junior sanctioned competitions.

- iii) Women are permitted to play in a Senior Mens team at Stage 1 only in agreement with England Squash in advance of playing Stage one.
- iv) A player may not represent more than one county in the Championships in one season. Representation includes playing in a county closed competition in the same season.
- v) Players are always (subject to [i] and [ii] above) qualified to play for their county of birth.

**NB:** In the case of the formation of a new county, players can elect to play for the new county at the time of its formation, or the old county – either through birth or residency qualifications. Once this choice has been made it cannot be altered. The same applies if a change of county boundaries results in their birthplace or residence becoming situated in a different county.

- vi) A player is (subject to [i]) qualified to play for any county where they have resided continuously for three months preceding the start of the season and are still residing. (The season starts on the date of the first county fixture). **A fallow year is required when changing counties.**
- vii) A player can continue to represent a county that they have played for in the Championships through a residential qualification after they have stopped living in that county and if they have not played for any other county.
- viii) A player may request to represent a county (if it has a common border with the county of residence), to which they can demonstrate a strong link, if neither their county of residence, nor their county of birth, has entered the Championships. If a player wishes to play in the Championships, but has no county of residence, but was born in England, they must represent their birth county. If they were born overseas, and live overseas, they can apply to represent a county to which they can demonstrate a strong link.
- ix) In all cases where a player's qualification is in doubt, it is obligatory on the county they wish to represent to prove the qualification to the satisfaction of ES.
- x) Players must be eligible to play in the age group in which they are competing on the date of the first stage of the competition.

#### 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 ES and is authorised to compete by the relevant Association / Federation.

### **6. ORGANISATION OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

- a. The Championships will be hosted at selected venues organised by England Squash.
- b. The software used will be Sport Mgr. <https://sportmgr.co.uk/>
- c. The Championships are held in two stages, each of which are played over a weekend at a venue organised by ES. Successful teams progress from Stage One to a Finals weekend.

**Stage 1:** Group matches organised as regionally as possible to determine the make-up of Finals. Host counties for each group will be determined by England Squash. Host teams are responsible for organising the venues for the group matches and updating the tournament software with all results.

**Finals:** Monrad draw to determine final finishing positions (determine promotion/relegation in Senior Premier Division). Some draws in the Masters finals may be round robin depending on the number of entries.

**All 8 teams in the Premier Division of the Men's and Women's Open categories contest a finals weekend playing for positions 1-8. The bottom 2 teams are relegated.**

## 7. REFEREES:

Referees will be appointed by England Squash at the finals only. Players will be required to act as markers/referee for games for all Stage 1 matches and some finals matches. A player from each team must work together to mark/referee games.

## 8. SCHEDULE OF MATCHES:

### ORDER OF PLAY

Teams of 5 should use 2 courts:

Court A:	Court B:
String 3	String 5
String 1	String 4
String 2	(First available)

Teams of 3 should use 1 court where possible:

Court A:
String 3
String 1
String 2

**Stage 1:** Groups with 3 teams shall played over 1 day. Groups with 4 teams must be played over 2 days. All Stage 1 matches must be played over the designated weekend determined by England Squash. The teams in each group must mutually agree the days (if one day) and start times of each match.

## 9. SCORING:

Point a Rally to 11 is used for all categories in line with other Senior/Master events.

- (a) Each stage of the Championship is scored separately.

Definitions

A match is played between individuals.

A tie is a series of five matches (3 in categories involving 3 player teams) played between two counties.

- (i) One point is awarded for each county game won in a match.
- (ii) Five bonus points are awarded to counties winning a tie (3 points in categories involving 3 player teams).
- (b) At the end of the stage the 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 is 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. Courts must comply with WSF specifications.

## 11. DISCIPLINARY ISSUES:

ES has the authority to disqualify a player or county from the Championships, fine a player or county, or deduct points from a county during participation in 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 ES. All out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with any appeal is to be paid by the party or parties to the appeal and in such a manner as ES determine.

## **12. CODE OF CONDUCT:**

It is the responsibility of competing counties to ensure that all players in their teams abide by the ES Code of Conduct. [www.englandsquash.com/competitions/competition-rules-and-regulations](http://www.englandsquash.com/competitions/competition-rules-and-regulations)

## **13. MATTERS NOT COVERED BY THE REGULATIONS:**

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

## **APPENDIX A:**

### **EVENT CATEGORIES – including eligibility criteria**

#### **MEN'S**

1. Men's Championship
2. Over 35 Championship
3. Over 45 Championship
  
5. Over 55 Championship
7. Over 65 Championship

#### **WOMEN'S**

1. Women's Championship
2. Over 40 Championships
3. Over 50 Championships

#### **MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP:**

This is an open age event – players of any age may participate.

#### **MEN'S OVER 35:**

Players are eligible to participate on, and after, the day of their thirty fifth birthday.

#### **MEN'S OVER 45:**

Players are eligible to participate on, and after, the day of their forty fifth birthday.

#### **MEN'S OVER 55:**

Players are eligible to participate on, and after, the day of their fifty fifth birthday.

#### **MEN'S OVER 65:**

Players are eligible to participate on, and after, the day of their sixty fifth birthday.

#### **WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP:**

This is an open age event – players of any age may participate.

#### **WOMEN'S OVER 40:**

Players are eligible to participate on, and after, the day of their fortieth birthday.

#### **WOMEN'S OVER 50:**

Players are eligible to participate on, and after, the day of their fiftieth birthday.

**Proof of date of birth in all age categories must be provided on request.**