



Policy number: 24

Policy Name: Junior Tournament Guidelines 2023- 2024

Version Control

Version: 1.2

Date: 9th October 2023

Version Control History

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Changes</i>
1.2	09/10/2023	Christine Lowry	Change from random draw to seeded draw for junior tournaments and re-numbering of sections.
1.1	08/09/2023	Christine Lowry	Initial Policy – recommended by Junior Committee to Board and approved 8 th September 2023

Executive Board Approved: 9th October 2023 Version 1.2

Signed:

Name: Christine Lowry

Next Review Date: 30th September 2024

Contents

1. Organisation of tournaments	3
2. Responsibilities of Tournament Director (TD) include:	3
3. Tournament Format :	4
3.1 Irish Junior Open	4
3.2 Irish Junior Nationals	4
3.3 Provincial Junior Opens	4
3.4 Open Club Events	4
4. Seeding and Draw	5
4.1 Irish Junior Open	5
4.2 Irish Junior Nationals and Provincial Opens	5
4.3 Schools Competition:	6
4.4 Communication between players/parents and Irish Squash:	6

1. Organisation of tournaments

Each tournament is run by a Tournament Director (TD):

- Irish Junior Open, Irish Junior Nationals and All Ireland School Championships TD is appointed by the Irish Squash junior committee.
- Provincial junior open championships TD is appointed by the local association and approved by the Irish Squash junior committee.
- Club open competitions are run by TD appointed by the club and notified to Irish Squash.
- All Junior tournaments are run according to Irish Squash Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Children Policy. By entering any tournament, it is assumed that players and their parents/guardians agree to abide by these policies. By helping in a tournament, officials also agree to abide by these policies.

2. Responsibilities of Tournament Director (TD) include:

- The TD is responsible for the invitation, managing the online entries plus the promotion of the event.
- The name of the TD must be on the application and will be the responsible contact for Irish Squash.
- To communicate with the Irish junior committee re tournament seeding and draw and must be run in accordance with Irish Squash Junior ranking.
- To ensure tournament draw is available online by due date
- To organise and display the match schedule and ensure matches are played on time.
- To ensure appropriate referees are available for matches.
- To document player withdrawals/injuries before and during the tournament.
- To ensure all competitors wear protective eye guards over the eyes during the competition and knock-up.
- To manage any disciplinary issues arising during a tournament and submit report, as appropriate to the Irish Squash Disciplinary Committee.
- To send within 3 working days after the final, the final placings of each category to Irish Squash so that the ranking can be updated.
- The TD will make sure that matches from the quarterfinals onwards in each category have competent referees.

3. Tournament Format :

- Clubs used as venues for tournaments must be affiliated to Irish Squash.
- 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.
- Players, tournament officials, parents/guardians and supporters are all bound by the relevant Irish Squash Code of Conduct throughout any event.

3.1 Irish Junior Open

- This is run as European Squash Federation (ESF) Grand Prix (GP) event over 3 days according to ESF Guidelines (see link below)

<https://www.europeansquash.com/file/816339/?dl=1>

3.2 Irish Junior Nationals

- 3 day event (Friday - Sunday).
- Entry online, closing date 9 days earlier, ie. previous Wednesday at midnight.
- Monrad draw for 8, 16 or 32 players/event; round robin format if small numbers in particular age categories.
- Draw will be published online Tuesday 1pm pre-tournament.

3.3 Provincial Junior Opens

- 2 day event (Saturday, Sunday)**or 1 day event (Saturday)**
- Entry online, closing date 9 days earlier i.e. preceding Wednesday at midnight.
- Matches scheduled for 9:30am each day.
- Monrad draw for 8 or 16 players in each age category.
- Age groups may be combined if small entries to allow Monrad draw or round robin format may be used at discretion of Irish Squash Junior Committee and TD.
- If draw is 'oversubscribed', preliminary matches to be played on Friday to fill the draw.
- Draw published online Wednesday 1pm pre-tournament.

3.4 Open Club Events

- This will be at discretion of local club and TD.

4. Seeding and Draw

4.1 Irish Junior Open

- This will be run according to ESF criteria.

4.2 Irish Junior Nationals and Provincial Opens

- Irish Squash junior committee will seed tournament entries according to national rankings (see below for details on ranking point calculations).
- Wildcard seeding of a non-ranked player may be decided by the Irish Squash junior committee and the TD if appropriate and in the best interest of a balanced draw for all players.
- All seeded players will be fitted into the Monrad draw according to their seeding position.
- Unseeded players will be randomly drawn in the lowest remaining available slots.
- Round Robin Format
 - players may be placed in round robins based on entry size. Round Robin format will be based on ranking e.g. 6 person entry as below and Robin Format - players may be placed in round robins based on entry size. Round Robin format will be based on ranking

e.g. 6 person entry as below

- Pool 1: Seeds 1,4,5
- Pool 2: Seeds 2,3,6

The winners of each group will then play each other for 1 and 2 positions, the runners-up playing each other to decide 3 and 4 place and the players who were 3rd playing each other to decide 5 and 6. Each player will get 3 matches.

- 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.
- Withdrawals after draw has been made are reported by the TD to Irish Squash junior committee after the tournament. Parents/guardians must provide a valid reason for player withdrawal (in case of injury or illness, doctor or physiotherapist cert within 1 week of withdrawal is required) to the TD and Irish Squash.
- Process of handling walkovers will be managed by the Tournament Director. The following guidance is provided: if a player selects not to play a round and gives a walk over –they will be scratched from the tournament..
- Penalties apply to players failing to provide proof of valid reason for withdrawal from event:
 - 2 tournament ban (in own age group) if withdrawal after draw made.
 - 1 tournament ban and '0' points penalty for withdrawal during tournament.

- **Important: 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**
- Entry Fees are payable on-line before the first match. Entry fees this season will NOT include Junior Development Fund levy. Fees are as follows €20 (£17.50stg) per player (€35/£30 for 2 siblings & €45/£40 for 3 siblings).
- If a Junior enters a Senior Tour event – Junior rates will apply for entry.
- Balls - in line with ESF tournaments the Dunlop Double Yellow ball will be used for all age groups except U11s.

4.3 Schools Competition:

The age rule for these competitions is the same as all other junior competitions and a player must be under the relevant age on the final day of the competition.

4.4 Communication between players/parents and Irish Squash:

Any queries must always be directed to a player's provincial junior representative

Under no circumstances should any issue be brought to the Irish Squash office or the Junior Secretary in the first instance.