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## Introducing the T<sup>2</sup> Partners Tournament

This tournament shall be the primary Tournament within the club. It will be a double elimination knockout styled tournament, which means that competing teams will be knocked out if they lose at least 2 fixtures.

Depending on the number of teams entered, byes are expected to take place.

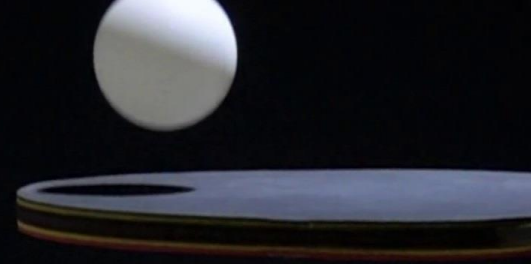
The teams will be randomly placed into the tournament brackets.

Example of a randomized tournament bracket if 9 teams enter:



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## Who can enter?

Any T<sup>2</sup> member who has a valid membership card.

Membership cards must be present and on hand.

Any member who has not yet received their membership card should reach out to the club secretary.

## How are teams formed?

In light of there being such a diverse membership in terms of age and skill levels, the partners will be drawn at the discretion of the tournament director. The tournament director's decision is final.

## How will fixtures be played?

Fixtures will be played in a 5 match-card format. For each fixture, there shall be 2 singles matches, and 1 doubles match. All matches will be played Best-of-5 and in the specified sequence.

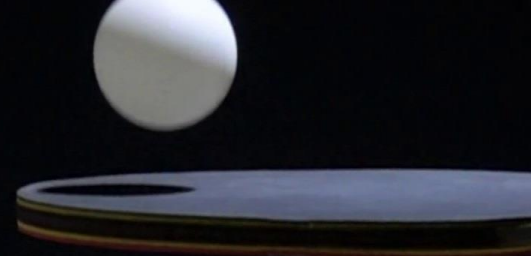
Fixture Match Sequence:

#1	SINGLES-Home Team's Player 1	<b>VS</b>	SINGLES-Away Team's Player 2
#2	SINGLES- Home Team's Player 2	<b>VS</b>	SINGLES-Away Team's Player 1
#3	SINGLES- Home Team's Player 2	<b>VS</b>	SINGLES-Away Team's Player 2
#4	SINGLES- Home Team's Player 1	<b>VS</b>	SINGLES-Away Team's Player 1
#5	DOUBLES-Home Team's Player 1 & 2	<b>VS</b>	DOUBLES-Away Team's Player 1 & 2



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## Will there be prizes?

While all T<sup>2</sup> Internal Tournaments that do not have an entree fee are friendly tournaments and therefore do not have prizes, the officers of T<sup>2</sup> have decided to utilize club finances to procure medals as prizes. These medals will be given to the winners at a determined prize giving event, which may or may not coincide with the Club's AGM.

## Team requirements

### Team Colours

Every team shall be dressed in T<sup>2</sup> club colours. That is Black/Grey Trackpants/Shorts/Skirts and Black/Grey T-Shirts (collared or uncollared), with minimal optional white accents or logo branding. Failure to be club colours will result in a point penalty being imposed.

Any person not in appropriate club attire shall start with a (further) 2 point disadvantage at the commencement of every game played.

### Match Balls

No borrowing or loaning of match balls permitted!

Every team shall acquire a set of approved match balls which shall be used in fixtures. Please see options from approved list provided:

- Yinhe Y40+
- Yinhe S40+
- Butterfly S40+
- Butterfly 40+
- Butterfly R40+
- Stiga Perform 40+
- Lion L40+
- Decathlon Pongori C40+
- Any other ITTF approved match ball as per ITTF on <https://equipment.ittf.com/#/equipment/balls>

Links are provided below on where to purchase these match balls.

The designated umpire is to ensure that an appropriate match ball is utilized. Both players must present their respective match-ball to the designated umpire for inspection – the umpire shall decide/choose which is the match ball to be utilized in that match. The match scorecard will include a section where the details of the match ball will be captured/selected.

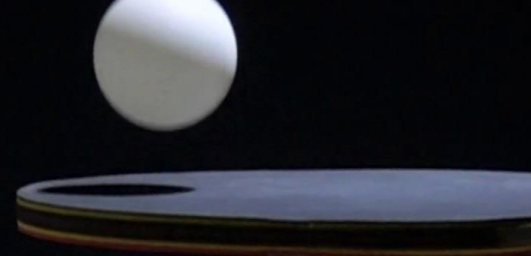
[https://www.decathlon.co.za/table-tennis-accessories/304641-6009-table-tennis-balls-ttb-900c-40-3-x-4-white.html#/demodelsize-254no\\_size/demodelundefined-8524899?queryID=acc232b448221956a971221fcf8677a0&objectID=2640040](https://www.decathlon.co.za/table-tennis-accessories/304641-6009-table-tennis-balls-ttb-900c-40-3-x-4-white.html#/demodelsize-254no_size/demodelundefined-8524899?queryID=acc232b448221956a971221fcf8677a0&objectID=2640040)

<https://racketlon.co.za/table-tennis-balls/3681-lion-40-3-star-balls-9315392191078.html>



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<https://www.sportsclearance.co.za/collections/stiga-balls/products/sitga-perform-40-ball-3-star-white-3-pack>

<https://tonystt.co.za/product/stiga-3-star-abs-40-balls/>

<https://tonystt.co.za/product/2023-season-ball-sale/>

<https://racketlon.co.za/table-tennis-balls/4181-butterfly-r40-3-star-poly-balls-4906901203181.html>

<https://racketlon.co.za/table-tennis-balls/4180-butterfly-r40-3-star-poly-balls-dozen-box-4906901203198.html>

<https://tonystt.co.za/product/yinhe-3-star-ittf-approved-balls-6/>

<https://sedgarssport.co.za/product/table-tennis-balls-butterfly-40-3-star-poly-balls-dozen-balls/>

<https://sedgarssport.co.za/product/table-tennis-balls-butterfly-s40-3-star-poly-balls-dozen-box/>

<https://tonystt.co.za/product/yinhe-3-star-y40-balls-6/>

## ITTF approved Rubbers (Racket Coverings)

No borrowing or loaning of rackets permitted!

Every player shall acquire a set of ITTF approved rubbers which shall be used in fixtures. The designated umpire shall ensure that the rubbers are ITTF approved by simply looking for the ITTF logo on the rubber. Alternately, the umpire may also utilize the ITTF equipment database to verify whether both rubbers on the player's racket is ITTF approved: [https://equipment.ittf.com/#/equipment/racket\\_coverings](https://equipment.ittf.com/#/equipment/racket_coverings)

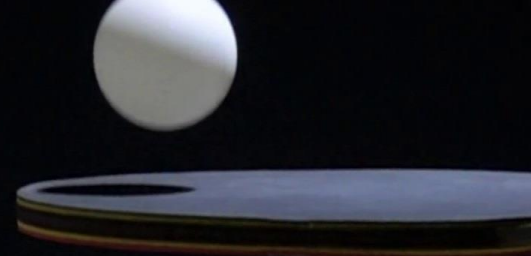
Any person or team scheduled to play the match that does not utilize an appropriate rubbers (racket coverings) shall start with a (further) 3 point disadvantage at the commencement of every game played for each transgression (I.e. If it is a doubles match and both players do not have ITTF approved rubbers – it is 3 points disadvantage for each person in the team, so 6 points disadvantage).

The designated umpire is to ensure that an appropriate racket with rubbers/racket coverings is utilized. Both players must present their respective rackets to the designated umpire for inspection before the match commences.

Players who are new to the sport and/or do not own an ITTF approved racket/rubbers are recommended to purchase a STAG Power Drive racket. The details of where to find this racket may be sought from the tournament director.

## Graded players incentivized.

Graded players will be incentivized and given an advantage over ungraded players. All grading must have been completed within 7 days prior to the scheduled fixture. Graded players will get a 2 point advantage at the start of every game over ungraded players. Umpires may confirm grading by utilizing the club website link: <https://www.t2tabletennis.co.za/t2ers/>



## Umpiring

Every team shall rotate the responsibility of umpiring during fixtures (Singles matches). For the Doubles match - each team shall elect someone from outside their team to be their designated umpire. Each of those umpires elected will face a coin-toss which would determine which one plays the role of umpire vs assistant umpires. The designated umpire is also expected to take a group photo of the 2 teams when the fixture has been concluded. These photos must be captured on the match scorecard.

Umpires shall ensure that Membership Cards are presented by both players/teams BEFORE the match commences. Any player failing to present their membership card shall start with a (further) 1 point disadvantage at the commencement of every game played for each transgression.

Any person who had a damaged or lost Membership Card shall enquire with the club Secretary for a replacement card as soon as possible.

## Match Scorecards

Umpires are expected to submit a completed scorecard via the online form link : [tinyurl.com/T2BO5](https://tinyurl.com/T2BO5)

Any umpire who fails to submit an accurate and truthful match scorecard shall be liable to a R50 fine (per transgression) that should be paid into the club's bank account.

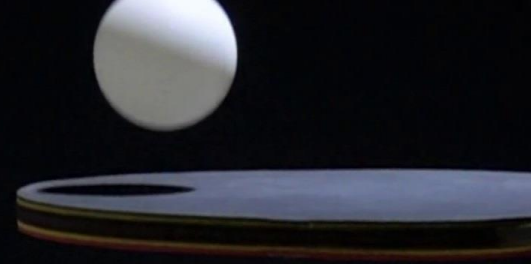
## By Laws of the tournament

1. All entrants must be in good standing with the club.
2. Tournament Team draw shall be finalized on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023. No later entries would be permitted.
3. Each fixture will be assigned a date. It is the responsibility of Team captains to schedule their match with their opponent if the stipulated date is inconvenient.
4. Matches not played on the stipulated date shall be forfeited by the team whose captain was unreachable, or the team who failed to make any effort to play the fixture on said date.
5. In the event of there being circumstances which prevents the fixture to be played on the stipulated date, a formal email shall be sent to both - the opposing team captain and the club email: [info@t2tabletennis.co.za](mailto:info@t2tabletennis.co.za) explaining the circumstances and the proposed re-schedule date. This email should be received no later than 12 hours of the scheduled fixture date&time.
6. In the event both teams make no effort to play the fixture or neither ensured keeping the tournament director informed of the rescheduling, the progressing team will be decided by a coin toss.
7. Fixtures commences promptly at 9:15AM on Sunday mornings. Both team captains are to ensure early arrival of their team and that they assist with setting up the boards and nets for the session.
8. Any match where the teams or players have not commenced their fixture within 5 minutes of the scheduled times, the player that is late shall forfeit the matches. Matches shall commence no later than the stipulated times. Any player or team late for their respective match shall forfeit their match. Umpire is to report the match score as 11-0, 11-0, 11-0 against such player/team. Matches may be played before the scheduled times.
9. Match scheduled times are as follows:



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SCHEDULED START TIME	Match Number	Team A	VS	Team B
09:15	#1	SINGLES-Home Team's Player 1	VS	SINGLES-Away Team's Player 2
09:45	#2	SINGLES- Home Team's Player 2	VS	SINGLES-Away Team's Player 1
10:15	#3	SINGLES- Home Team's Player 2	VS	SINGLES-Away Team's Player 2
10:45	#4	SINGLES- Home Team's Player 1	VS	SINGLES-Away Team's Player 1
11:15	#5	DOUBLES-Home Team's Player 1&2	VS	DOUBLES-Away Team's Player 1&2

10. The order of which team is Home Team and Away Team, as per the match card, will be determined by which team arrived earliest to the fixture.
11. Any umpire who is heedless or negligent with regards to match balls, racket coverings/rubbers, and/or proper time-keeping of matches, shall be liable to a R50 fine (per transgression) that should be paid into the club's bank account.
12. Umpire and assistant umpire's decision is final in matches, and tournament director's decisions are final overall.

## Considerations

Umpires should adhere to the maximum timings set below. These apply to both SINGLES and DOUBLES matches.

Maximum pre-match warm up	2 minutes
Maximum between game break and time-out	1 minute

Only 1 time-out shall be permitted per match.

Time wasting shall be strictly monitored by umpires with precedence given to the serving player/pair. If the receiving player/pair is delaying the order of play then a warning should be given. Thereafter, each consequent infringement shall result in a point penalty, every further infringement shall result in 2 point penalty.

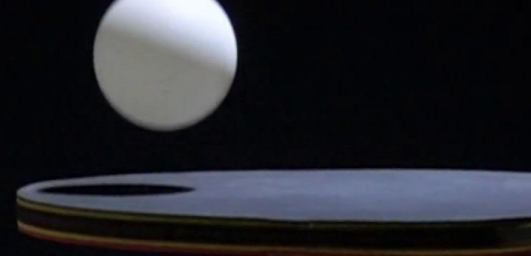
Either the umpire or the assistant umpire may:

1. decide that a player's service action is illegal;
2. decide that, in an otherwise correct service, the ball touches the net assembly;
3. decide that a player obstructs the ball;
4. decide that the conditions of play are disturbed in a way that may affect the outcome of the rally;
5. time the duration of the practice period, of play and of intervals;



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Players who are repeatedly exceeding their limitations and being condescending to the umpire or tournament director, or other members/visitors at the venue - regardless of the player appealing:

- whether the rally was a let
- whether there was an obstruction from another player internal or external to the fixture
- whether there is too much noise
- whether the ball touched the horizontal edge of the table
- whether the ball bounced more than once

Shall be given only 1 warning by either the umpire or the tournament director. Thereafter, each consequent infringement shall result in a point penalty, every further infringement shall result in 2 point penalty.

## **Match results and progression**

All match results will be available online. Links shall be provided where the brackets and schedules will be updated from time to time.