

BI Tournament Regulations – Individual Events

(With effect from January 2026)

1. Description.

- 1.1. These regulations shall apply to any sanctioned individual event ran by BI, Branch, County, League, club or any other body authorised to run such competition.

2. Organisation.

- 2.1. The organising Committee can cancel a tournament in case of force majeure or due to too few entries. Such cancellation must be announced at least 10 days before the start of the tournament unless outside the control of the organising committee.
- 2.2. Ranking Points:
 - 2.2.1. In Masters events ranking points will be awarded in events ran in a round robin-draw comprising the best of 3 games to 21 with a minimum of at least 3 entries or in a knockout draw comprising the best of 3 games to 21 with a minimum of at least 4 entries.
 - 2.2.2. In all other events ranking points will only be awarded in events ran in a knockout draw comprising the best of 3 games to 21 with a minimum of at least 4 entries.
- 2.3. In a round-robin ranking is determined as followed.
 - 2.3.1. Ranking will be established by the number of matches won.
 - 2.3.2. If two players or pairs have won, the same number of matches the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.
 - 2.3.3. If three or more players or pairs have won the same number of matches, ranking will be established by the difference between total games won and total games lost, with greater difference ranked higher.
 - 2.3.4. If this still leaves two players or pairs equal the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.
 - 2.3.5. If three or more players or pairs have won the same number of matches and are equal in the difference between total games won and total games lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total points won and total points lost, with greater difference ranked higher.
 - 2.3.6. If this still leaves two players or pairs equal the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.
 - 2.3.7. If three or more players or pairs are still equal, then ranking will be established by drawing lots.

3. Conditions of Play.

- 3.1. Except in events with less than 4 entries, all events (Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles) must be played and players must be able to enter all eligible events.
- 3.2. Play in any tournament shall not take place on days other than those advertised unless such a change is sanctioned.
- 3.3. Events must take place over two days unless approved by the Referee and Badminton Ireland.
- 3.4. Semi-Finals & Finals will be played on the second day except where overall low entries allow otherwise and is agreed by the referee and Badminton Ireland.

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- 3.5. All matches in a tournament must be played in the same venue unless otherwise sanctioned.
- 3.6. All matches should be played on the same surface unless otherwise sanctioned.
- 3.7. Mats must be used for the National Premier Championships.
- 3.8. The closing time for entries is Monday at 23:59 at least 18 days before the tournament is due to start.
- 3.9. A request for an extensions due to low entries may be made to Badminton Ireland by latest Friday 15:00 before entry deadline closes, which may be approved until Wednesday at 23:59.
- 3.10. The acceptance lists will be published on Thursday at least 15 days before the tournament is due to start.
- 3.11. If no objection is received by Thursday at least 15 days before the start day of the tournament, the entries shall be deemed to be correct. No complaints / objections shall be entertained thereafter.
- 3.12. Number of Seeds:
A maximum of 16 seeds if there are 64 to 128 entries
A maximum of eight seeds if there are 32 to 63 entries
A maximum of four seeds if there are 16 to 31 entries
Two seeds if there are less than 16 entries
- 3.13. Seeding will be done by Badminton Ireland using the BI ranking list on the day of the draw which will be on the Friday at least 14 days before the start day of the tournament.
- 3.14. The timed draw will be published on Sunday at least 5 days before the start day of the tournament.
- 3.15. The maximum number of matches allowed per day is 24 per court.
- 3.16. The maximum number of matches per players per day is 12.
- 3.17. No competitor shall be obliged to start a match before 09:00 and in the case of juvenile tournaments (under 18) matches may not be called after the times outlined below for each age group with no match called after 18:00 on a Sunday in any age group:

Age		Sunday
Under 18	21:00	18:00
Under 15	20:30	
Under 13	19:30	

- 3.18. Each player is entitled to a minimum rest period as outlined below but due regard to the nature and duration of the players previous match must also be taken into consideration which may dictate an increased rest time.

Scoring System	Min Rest Time (min)
Best of 3 games to 21	20
1 games to 30	10

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- 3.19. It is mandatory for tournaments organisers to use the Tournament Planner throughout the whole event.
- 3.20. Internet access must be provided during all of the event and results must, as a minimum, be updated after each round of each event.
- 3.21. The schedule for the first day must be approved by the Referee with all matches being timed and published on Sunday at least 4 days before the start day of the tournament.
- 3.22. Details on availability of food during the competition must be clearly advertised on Tournament Software.
- 3.23. All officials at any event that may include underage players must be fully compliant regarding Vetting and Safeguarding requirements throughout the competition.
- 3.24. Completed TP file must be sent to Badminton Ireland within 24 hours of the completion of the competition.
- 3.25. Players must comply with the Players Code of Conduct.
- 3.26. Coaches and Officials must comply with the Coaches & Officials Code of Conduct.
- 3.27. Umpires must be sought for at least the Semi-Finals & Finals.
- 3.28. Umpires must be provided with meals or a meal allowance and travel expenses.
- 3.29. Shuttles sanctioned by Badminton Ireland must be provided, if possible, with more than 1 speed.
- 3.30. Unless otherwise specified, the alternative service laws will be used.
- 3.31. Players must comply with the Sport Ireland Anti-Doping regulations and if required undertake a drug test involving the provision of a urine sample under qualified supervision for subsequent analysis.

4. Coaching.

Coaching is NOT allowed at any time at U13 level. At events other than U13, coaching is allowed only when the shuttle is not in play, and until the players have taken up position to serve and receive, or during the intervals for a period of 60 seconds when the leading score reaches 11 points, or 120 seconds between games.

5. Clothing.

- 5.1. Only clothing permitted under the BI Clothing Regulations is allowed.

6. Eligibility of Entries.

- 6.1. Only fully paid up registered members affiliated with Badminton Ireland as Adult, Adult first time or Juvenile member are eligible.
- 6.2. Entries from players affiliated to a BWF recognised NGB other than Ireland can be accepted in senior and masters sanctioned events subject to:
 - 6.2.1. Player must be directed by the tournament organisers to contact Badminton Ireland in order to receive a BI number, pay an additional international competition fee to Badminton Ireland to cover player insurance and provide proof of address.

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- 6.2.2. Acceptance will be subject to proof of active membership from their association.
- 6.3. A player shall be qualified to enter Irish National Championships providing the player satisfies all of the following regulations:
- 6.3.1. Was born in Ireland or one or both parents were born in Ireland or has had their main residence in Ireland for 3 (three) years immediately preceding the date of the tournament.
- 6.3.2. Has not represented any other member association for a period of 3 years immediately preceding the date of the tournament.
- 6.3.3. Has not competed in the National championships of another member association for 3 years preceding the tournament.
- 6.4. Except in Masters and Juvenile events, players must have an appropriate BI grade to play in sanctioned competitions.
In Premier grade events, all players must be Grade E or higher.
In Premier, Grades A, B, C, D all players under 16 who qualify must be a minimum of Grade D.
- 6.5. Age
- 6.5.1. In age related events all competitors must be of the required age for the full calendar year of the starting day in which the competition is held.
- 6.5.2. In Juvenile events:
- 6.5.2.1. The minimum age for all players will be 8 years of age over the full calendar year in which the event is held.
- 6.5.2.2. **Players may not play in a competition higher than 1 age group above their current age group, i.e. for each age group they must be within the following ages over the full calendar year in which the event is held (except where a player is on an Irish team in the current or previous season):**
- | Event | Age in year of event. | |
|----------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Minimum on 1 st January | Maximum on 31 st December |
| Under 13 | 8 | 12 |
| Under 15 | 11 | 14 |
| Under 17 | 13 | 16 |
| Under 19 | 15 | 18 |
- 6.5.3. In non-age related events, players must be of a the minimum age over the full calendar year in which the playing season ends for grades as follows:
Premier - D 14 years of age.
E, F 16 years of age.
G, H 18 years of age.
- 6.6. Players may not enter in more than 1 sanctioned competition scheduled on the same day.
- 6.7. Players may enter only once in each category (singles, doubles, mixed) in Masters, this may be over different age groups.

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- 6.8. Where there are excess entries in any graded event, the entries shall be selected in the following order, each filled based on the time of entry:

6.8.1. Singles:

6.8.1.1. Competition grade players.

6.8.1.2. Other players by order of grade.

6.8.2. Doubles:

6.8.2.1. Both players are of the competition grade.

6.8.2.2. One of the players is of the competition grade, and by order of Grade of the second player.

6.8.2.3. Players by order of Grade.

- 6.9. Where there are excess entries in any underage event, the entries shall be selected in the following order, each filled based on the time of entry:

6.9.1. Singles:

6.9.1.1. Competition age players.

6.9.1.2. Other players by order of age.

6.9.2. Doubles:

6.9.2.1. Both players are of the competition age.

6.9.2.2. One of the players is of the competition age, and by order of age of the second player.

6.9.2.3. Players by order of age.

7. Substitution & Partner Wanted Pairings.

- 7.1. Substitution is only permitted in Doubles provided:

7.1.1. All players are already entered in an event in the tournament.

7.1.2. Play has not started in the event.

7.1.3. Seeding is not effected - such that the ranking points of the pair must not be higher than the lowest pair in the next highest seeding group.

7.1.3.1. Seeding groups are 1-2, 3-4, 5-8, 9-16.

7.1.4. Only one person in a pair can be substituted.

- 6.2 Partner wanted requests will allocated by tournament director based on date of entry.

- 6.3 If there are leftover partner wanted requests, a player already within the tournament may complete the pairing provided this is done before the draw.

8. Withdrawals & Promotions.

- 8.1. Up to 48 hours before play starts to fill a vacancy following the withdrawal of a seeded entry or where a seeded entry has been moved, the highest placed seed in the next seeding group or where there is no lower seeding group, the highest ranked player(s) not seeded shall be moved to fill the vacancy.
- 8.2. In Doubles where pairs are withdrawn, the Referee may fill the vacancies from the entries in the reserve list.
- 8.3. A withdrawal shall result in a walkover.

9. Redraws.

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- 9.1. No Player (singles) and no pair (doubles) may be moved from one draw position to another except where players are moved to fill withdrawn seeds.
- 9.2. A Player (singles), a Player as part of a pair (doubles), or a pair losing a match shall not play again in the same Event in the same Tournament.
- 9.3. Up to 72 hours before play starts the Referee shall do a redraw only if one of the following conditions apply:
 - 9.3.1. An error has been made in the control of entries or in the making of the draw or
 - 9.3.2. A particular draw has been rendered severely imbalanced.

10. Management of Tournaments.

- 10.1. All Ranking tournaments must have a Tournament Director with contact details listed on Tournament Software event page.
- 10.2. All Ranking tournaments must have a Match Control that that is trained to use Tournament software.
- 10.3. All Ranking tournaments must have a Badminton Ireland Referee.
 - 10.3.1. The Referee shall be in overall charge of the Tournament.
 - 10.3.2. The Referee or a deputy shall always be present in the hall during the playing of matches.
 - 10.3.3. The duties of the Referee shall include:
 - 10.3.3.1. Ensuring that the conduct of the Tournament is in accordance with the Laws of Badminton, and the regulations pertinent to the particular Tournament.
 - 10.3.3.2. Ensuring that the Players are given facilities and playing conditions of adequate standard and safety.
 - 10.3.3.3. Approval of the schedule of play.
 - 10.3.3.4. There shall be no appeal against the decision of a Referee.
 - 10.3.3.5. The Referee must submit a Report to the Badminton Ireland at the conclusion of the event.
- 10.4. Sanctioned events must live stream the finals on Facebook Live or YouTube. The stream URL must be shared with Badminton Ireland to help promote the event. If an event is not able to live stream, the tournament organiser must notify Badminton Ireland one week in advance.
- 10.5. First aider must be available at the event throughout the tournament.
- 10.6. Except in Master events a Children's Officer must be available at the event throughout the tournament.

11. Results.

- 11.1. Final results for all Tournaments must within 24 hours of the conclusion of the Tournament, be e-mailed to the Badminton Ireland using the stipulated software file

12. Governance, Data Protection, Anti-Doping and Safeguarding.

- 12.1. All Governance Policies [Governance Policies \(badmintonireland.com\)](https://badmintonireland.com/governance-policies) must be fully complied with, at all times.

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- 12.2. All Data Protection Policies [Data Protection Policies \(badmintonireland.com\)](https://badmintonireland.com) must be fully complied with, at all times.
- 12.3. Anti-Doping Policies [Anti-Doping \(badmintonireland.com\)](https://badmintonireland.com)
- 12.4. For any event that includes Juvenile players (under 18) or vulnerable adults.
 - 12.4.1. All officials and volunteers i.e. Match Control, Manager, Coach's, Referee, Umpires, line judges, photographers etc. must be fully compliant regarding Vetting and Safeguarding requirements.
- 12.5. All Safeguarding Policies [Safeguarding Policies \(badmintonireland.com\)](https://badmintonireland.com) must be fully complied with, at all times.
- 12.6. All photographers, must have been approved by Badminton Ireland and completed their garda vetting/access NI, if any player is under the age of 18 or if there are vulnerable adults.
- 12.7. Players may opt out of having their image used for the promotion of the event, not to be live streamed or have their photograph by notifying the tournament director before the tournament. Players can ask to be removed from the live stream or images that appear online.

13. Penalties and Sanctions

- 13.1. Failure to meet regulations may result in the event losing ranking points or being fined €50.
- 13.2. Branches will be able to sanction the following seven events free of charge, additional events must be sanctioned with Badminton Ireland. (U13, U15, U17, U19, Senior Open, Masters Open, Grade A).
- 13.3. Sanction fee of €100 must be paid for any additional sanctioned event. Payment must be made to and received by Badminton Ireland before the event is sanctioned.
- 13.4. Sanction requests require approval of the Badminton Ireland Events Working Group.

14. Regulations:

The Badminton Ireland Events Working Group shall have the authority to enforce all regulations concerning these rules, to interpret the rules and to decide for any matters not provided for in the rules which may come to its notice whether or not a formal protest/appeal has been lodged.