



# BUCS TABLE TENNIS REGULATIONS

PUBLISHED | 1 SEPTEMBER 2019 (UPDATED 7 NOVEMBER 2019)

**TAB i** The BUCS Table Tennis Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the following BUCS sport specific regulations, the BUCS general regulations, and the ITTF (International Table Tennis Federation) Regulations for International Competitions. Further event specific requirements, rules, and regulations will be contained within the entry and pre-event information for each Championship.

**TAB ii** In the event that these regulations contradict the BUCS general regulations, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.

**TAB iii** In the event that these regulations contradict those of the ITTF (International Table Tennis Federation) Regulations for International Competitions, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.

**TAB 1 Championships** BUCS will host annually the following Championships:

**TAB 1.1 Individual Championships** The programme shall include the events listed in Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points'), subject to entry numbers.

**TAB 1.2 Team Championships** The programme shall include leagues and knockout competitions as per BUCS general regulations, Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points') and Appendix 10 ('BUCS Promotion, Relegation and Knockout Information').

**TAB 2** Plastic balls shall be used for all matches taking place as part of the Individual Championships and the Team Championships.

## Individual Championships

**TAB 3 Tournament structure and entries** See Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points') and the entry information for all competitions offered as part of the BUCS Table Tennis Individual Championships. All competition specific event information will be available in the event entry information and pre-event information.

**TAB 3.1** Institutions/Playing Entities must include details of past performance(s) of their member(s) when entries are made, to assist with this process of accepting entries into the Championships and for the use and guidance of the person(s) making the draw.

**TAB 3.2** The draw shall be made under the supervision of a neutral referee as appointed by BUCS.

**TAB 3.3** Wherever possible players from the same institution shall be placed in different quarters of the draw.

**TAB 3.4** The Tournament shall be played on a straight knockout basis, except for the first stage of the Men's and Women's singles which shall be played as a group stage.

**TAB 3.5** Each match shall consist of the best of five games. A game shall be won by the player/pair first scoring 11 points, unless both players/pairs, score 10 points, in which case the game shall be won by the player/pair first subsequently scoring two points more than the opposing player/pair.

**TAB 4 Disputes at events** In line with REG 7.7, should a dispute occur at an event, the event appeal panel for Table Tennis shall comprise of the Tournament Director and a BUCS Staff Member.

## Team Championships

**TAB 5** There shall be separate Team Championships for Men and Women.

## TAB 6 Match format

**TAB 6.1 Men's** Each fixture shall consist of 17 matches, each individual playing four singles matches and one pair playing a doubles match. Each match shall consist of the best of five games. A game shall be won by the player/pair first scoring 11 points, unless both players/pairs, score 10 points, in which case the game shall be won by the player/pair first subsequently scoring two points more than the opposing player/pair. Matches, and subsequently a fixture, cannot be drawn.

**TAB 6.2 Women's** Each fixture shall consist of five matches, each individual playing two singles matches and one pair playing a doubles match. Each match shall consist of the best of five games. A game shall be won by the player/pair first scoring 11 points, unless both players/pairs, score 10 points, in which case the game shall be won by the player/pair first subsequently scoring two points more than the opposing player/pair. Matches, and subsequently a fixture, cannot be drawn.

## **TAB 7 Fixture administration and arrangements**

**TAB 7.1 Order of play** The order of play for all matches shall be as follows (home team placings first):

### **TAB 7.1.1 Men's**

<b>First Round</b>	1 v 4	2 v 3	3 v 2	4 v 1
<b>Second Round</b>	1 v 3	2 v 4	3 v 1	4 v 2
<b>Third Round</b>	1 v 2	2 v 1	3 v 4	4 v 3
<b>Fourth Round</b>	1 v 1	2 v 2	3 v 3	4 v 4

Followed by a doubles match between a pair of players from each team. The pair need not be nominated until the completion of the fourth round of singles.

### **TAB 7.1.2 Women's**

<b>First Round</b>	Singles 1 v 2	Singles 2 v 1
<b>Second Round</b>	Doubles 1 v 1	
<b>Third Round</b>	Singles 1 v 1	Singles 2 v 2

The doubles pairing can be made-up of singles players 1 and 2 and/or any other 2 players and need not be declared until the doubles match begins.

## **TAB 8 Team selection and ranking lists**

### **TAB 8.1 Team size**

**TAB 8.1.1 Men's** Teams shall consist of four players. A minimum of three players must play.

**TAB 8.1.1.1** Where an institution/Playing Entity has multiple teams playing on the same day, the fixtures of the higher team(s) must be prioritised from the top down when fulfilling teams. E.g. An institution/Playing Entity cannot send only three players for their 1<sup>st</sup> Team which should comprise of four players, whilst also putting out a full 2<sup>nd</sup> Team.

**TAB 8.1.1.2** Any match conceded through not having a full team will be scored as a 3-0 win to the opposition (11-0, 11-0, 11-0).

**TAB 8.1.2 Women's** Teams shall consist of between two and four players. A minimum of two players must play.

**TAB 8.2 Ranking lists** This regulation supersedes REG 11.1.3 and REG 11.1.6.

**TAB 8.2.1** Ranking lists must be completed on BUCS Play prior to the start of each season. These lists must be completed no later than the deadline in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document. Failure to submit this information will result in sanctions being

imposed as outlined in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document and the possibility of further disciplinary action. **This ranking information will be available [here](#) for ease of reference.**

**TAB 8.2.1.1** Ranking lists will be locked until the opening of the re-ranking windows, and cannot be changed outside the set re-ranking windows under any circumstances. Re-rankings only come into effect at the end of the re-ranking windows. The dates for the re-ranking windows will be displayed in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document.

**TAB 8.2.1.2** Institutions/Playing Entities may request to add a player to the bottom of their ranking list when the re-ranking windows are not open. Requests must be submitted and approved by the BUCS Executive in advance of the player competing in any fixtures. This is to encourage the fulfilment of fixtures and must not be manipulated. Teams found to be attempting to manipulate the rankings using this regulation will face disciplinary action under REG 5.

**TAB 8.2.2** Players must play in rank order in all matches.

**TAB 8.2.3** Teams for a fixture day must be selected in rank order. This applies across all teams, e.g. A player ranked number 8 cannot play in the 1<sup>st</sup> team if the player ranked number 7 is playing for a lower team's match that day.

**TAB 8.2.4** The order on the ranking list shall be determined by each institution/Playing Entity with the best player ranked as 1 and the second best as 2 and so on. The order is at the discretion of each institution/Playing Entity. It does not need to be in accordance with any external ratings/ranking systems but institutions/Playing Entities ranking players out of ratings order may be requested to justify their ranking lists to the BUCS Executive. Failure to justify the rank order or institutions/Playing Entities deliberately ranking out of order will be referred to the BUCS Executive for disciplinary action.

**TAB 8.2.5** If a player is listed in the top four rankings and has not played any matches prior to the January re-ranking window, then that team is required to resubmit their rankings during this window, removing any such 'top four' players from the ranking list. An exception will be made at the discretion of the BUCS Executive on a case-by-case basis if sufficient proof can be provided to explain the above scenario (e.g. medical note).

#### **TAB 8.2.6**

**TAB 8.2.6.1 Men's** No player ranked (as per the published squad ranking list at the time) at number 4 or above shall be eligible to play below the 1<sup>st</sup> team (including league, playoff and knockout competition matches). No player ranked (as per the published squad ranking list at the time) at number 8 or above shall be eligible to play below the 2<sup>nd</sup> team, and so on throughout an institution/Playing Entity's teams.

**TAB 8.2.6.2 Women's** No player ranked (as per the published squad ranking list at the time) at number 2 or above shall be eligible to play below the 1<sup>st</sup> team (including league, playoff and knockout competition matches). No player ranked (as per the published squad ranking list at the time) at number 4 or above shall be eligible to play below the 2<sup>nd</sup> team, and so on throughout an institution/Playing Entity's teams.

**TAB 8.2.7** Teams found to be attempting to manipulate the ranking lists will face disciplinary action under REG 5.

**TAB 9 Scorecards** Institutions/Playing Entities are required to maintain accurate records\* of the matches played by their teams in case of a tie on points within a league which requires additional score information to that on BUCS Play. In such circumstances, the BUCS Executive will contact the relevant institutions/Playing Entities for details of all their league matches in order to separate the teams.

\* 'Accurate records' are taken to mean precise details of all aspects of the fixture including matches, games and points; won and lost.

## **TAB 10 Incomplete fixtures**

**TAB 10.1** In the event of a fixture being incomplete due to a late start, with a team at fault, their opposition may claim any matches not completed or unplayed.

## **TAB 11 Premier Tier/Championship specific regulations**

**TAB 11.1** Playing facilities must be booked for an appropriate length of time to allow for the full conclusion of the match. BUCS recommends that at least three hours are required on two available tables. Institutions/Playing Entities failing to book sufficient time will forfeit any rubbers that have not been completed within the allocated time.

**TAB 11.2** Facilities and equipment should be of an appropriate quality for Premier League/Championship matches and should comply with National Governing Body regulations for matches of this standard. Specific notice should be paid to the quality and condition of the tables as well as the space around each table, the quality of lighting and the quality of nets. Notice should be given to National Governing Body lists for approved balls for each season.

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