



## **ULSTER JUNIOR CLOSED MATCHPLAYS SPRING 2022**

Entries are open for the Ulster Spring Closed Matchplays. Please note the following:

1. All entries **MUST** be made on-line using the Tournament Software website for the matchplays. **Entries will be not be accepted by email or phone or any other method.**
2. Entry is open only to players who qualified from, or were exempt from, the appropriate qualifying matchplay in particular age group.
3. All events will be run primarily at indoor venues in Belfast. Other indoor venues may be used as required. Some matches may be played outdoors.
4. There will be an entry fee of £21 per player to cover the cost of facilities and tennis balls. This fee must be paid using a credit/debit card or PayPal when submitting the online entry.
5. Players must complete all matches in the Provincial matchplay to earn UTP ranking points
6. **ALL ENTRIES CLOSE ON SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MARCH (UNDER 18) and SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL (UNDER 14).**

# MATCHPLAY DATES

Age Group	Date
Under 18 Boys and Girls	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March, Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> March, Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
Under 14 Boys and Girls	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April, Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> April, Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> April

## Notes

1. Age groups with smaller numbers of entries may not be required to play on all days
2. There will be no matches on the mornings of Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March and 9<sup>th</sup> April

# MATCHPLAY RULES

- Matchplays are open to all Junior **Members** of affiliated clubs who are eligible to represent Ulster.
- Players must enter the region which the Club they are a member of is in.
- All players must have a Tennis Ireland PIN to play in the matchplays.
- All players may enter either the age group which they are currently in or the next higher age group. Players will not be permitted to enter two age groups higher than their own age group. For example if a player is Under 14 they will be able to enter the Under 14 or Under 16 regional but not the Under 18 one.
- The maximum number of entries for a Provincial matchplay will be 16.
- One or two qualifying places will be available in each age group from each regional matchplay.
- In addition, under normal circumstances the top ranked players in each age group will be exempt from the regional matchplays in that age group. These players will qualify directly for the Provincial matchplays in that age group. Names of these players will be published before the matchplay entries open and will be based on the top players in the UTP rankings who are still in the age group.
- For National matchplays, a number of the top ranked available players in each age group in the National Junior Rankings on a specific date will also qualify directly for the National Matchplays and may not be required to play in Provincial Matchplays.
- If the matchplay is a 16-player event (this is dependent on the number of regional entries), then further places in each age group may be available to players who played in the regional match plays but did not qualify for the provincials.
- Further places in the Provincial event may also be available if a region does not put forward two qualifiers in an age group, or if players who qualify directly through being exempt from regional matchplays either do not enter that age

group in the Provincial event, or gain direct entry into the National Matchplays based on their National ranking (as above).

- **Any** additional places will either be determined by the UBTI Junior Seeding Committee or by running play-offs. This decision will be at the discretion of the UBTI Junior Development Committee.
- In the event that a Regional qualifier pulls out at very short notice the Junior Development Committee may choose a player to fill that position from another region taking the advice of the UBTI Seeding Committee.
- The seeding for the Provincial matchplays will be done by the Ulster Branch Junior Seeding Committee and their decision is final.
- **All** players must register on-line using the Tournament Software online entry facility to play in the Regional and Provincial matchplays by the dates given on the website. Entries will not be accepted by email or phone or any other method. Entries will not be accepted after the published deadline. **Any** player failing to enter by the published deadline will lose their place in the event.
- If a player registers to play in the Provincial or National matchplays and fails to attend the event without prior notice being given to the matchplay organizer, they will lose any points they have accumulated in the regional matchplays and be penalized 100 UTP ranking points.
- Players who withdraw due to injury or illness from Provincial or National matchplays after the draw has been published will be deducted 100 UTP ranking points, unless they provide a valid doctor's certificate to the matchplay organizer within three days of the tournament completing.
- Any ranking point penalty will apply even if the player earned no points from the matchplay for which the penalty was issued.
- All players must complete **all** their matches in regional and provincial matchplays. Failure to do so means that they will automatically be allocated **last** position in the matchplay rankings and cannot qualify from the event.

- UTP Ranking Points will be awarded for all finishing positions in regional and provincial matchplays. In the event of there being only 1 entrant to a regional matchplay the event will automatically be given a UTP count of 2 and the sole entrant will receive the winner's points of 200 plus entry points.
- Players who are exempt from regional matchplays will receive 200 points plus 10 entry points for the regional matchplay if they enter the Provincial matchplay in the corresponding age group.
- Please note competitors should check in 15 minutes before the start of play at regional and provincial matchplays. A competitor arriving late at an event may be scratched from the event.
- **The Code of Conduct for Players** is in use at all UBTI matchplays and will be enforced by the referee at **all times** and **without exception**, including the use of the penalty point system. Any player who is disqualified from a match will take no further part in the matchplays.
- **The Code of Conduct for Spectators** is in use at all UBTI matchplays and will be enforced by the referee **at all times** and **without exception**. In particular all spectators should note that they are *not* to interfere in a match *for any reason* - if such interference occurs, it may result in the child of the parent/spectator who is interfering forfeiting the match.
- The UBTI Junior Development Committee will appoint a referee for each matchplay and their decision on all matters arising at the event will be final.