

Inclusion: **SECONDARY INTRA-CARD**

**INCLUSIVE**

# MINI TENNIS RED

**SCHOOL  
GAMES**

## Quick introduction

Inclusive Mini Tennis Red is a fun, modified version of the game, ideal for SEN/disabled pupils and non-SEND pupils to compete together.

## Getting started

### Who the competition is aimed at

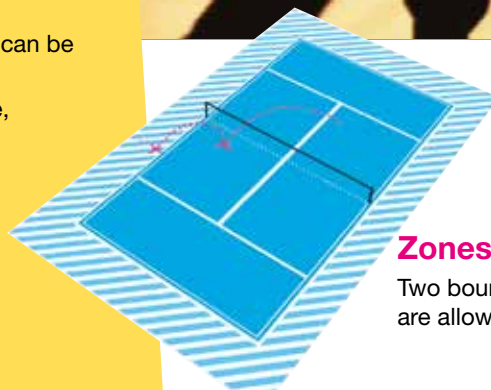
- Each team is made up of four players — two boys and two girls.
- Each team should include a minimum of two SEND players.
- Each team should be made up of players of a similar tennis ability.

### Setting up the competition

- The game is played on a badminton-sized court using mini tennis rackets (17" to 23") and sponge balls (use mini tennis red felt balls if playing outdoors).
- As teams are made up of four players, each 'match' consists of four separate singles: Boy 1 v Boy 1 Singles, Boy 2 v Boy 2 Singles, Girl 1 v Girl 1 Singles, Girl 2 v Girl 2 Singles.
- Players serve, over or underarm from behind the base line, diagonally into the opponents' service box.
- The service ball must bounce before it can be returned.
- **ALL PLAYERS can have up to two bounces of the ball.**
- Use a **SIMPLE NUMBERED SCORING SYSTEM** i.e 1, 2, 3, 4 etc, instead of the traditional 15, 30, 40
- Players score a point each time an opponent cannot successfully return the ball.
- The player with the most points when the whistle goes, wins! If it's a draw, play one point sudden death.

### Rules of the competition

- Players must return the ball before it bounces a third time. The second bounce can be either in or out of the court boundaries.
- Some players may already — or develop to be able to — play with one bounce, and this should be encouraged.



### Zones

Two bounces of the ball are allowed

Check out our films



## Organising the competition

- The serve is decided by a ‘toss’ or ‘racket spin’. The nominated player serves the first point from the right; it then alternates every two points.
- Use ‘timed tennis’ for this format — players play for a set period of time, until the whistle blows. Length of matches depends on time available/amount of entries, but normally last ten minutes.
- Ensure your better player plays as Boy 1/Girl 1 to ensure the competition is an enjoyable experience for all involved.
- Each ‘match’ is set off to play and the final score entered onto the ‘Mini Tennis Match Card’\* and then the ‘Round Robin Box Sheet’\* would either be; 4–0, 3–1, or 2–2 — taking into account the individual results from each of the four rubbers.
- These scores then add up to give a total points score for each team.
- Individual match points can also be tallied in case of a tie and to make every point count.
- Resources available as part of the ‘School Games Tennis Toolkit’, designed for teachers and colleagues in school sport, to make running schools tennis competition as easy as possible. [www.schoolstennis.org](http://www.schoolstennis.org)

## Officiating

- Train young people aged 13 years and over as Tennis Leaders to support with the organisation and running of the competition.
- Each court should have a helper/scorer, who calls out scores and helps with decisions. Use score boards to support SEND pupils.
- Tennis Leaders and the Competition Organiser Workshop provide the training required to conduct these roles. For more information please visit: <https://www.lta.org.uk/workforce-venues/coach-teach/programme-development/becoming-a-tennis-leader/>

## Safety

- Ensure there is enough space between and behind courts.
- Players should warm up for five minutes before their first game and two minutes thereafter.
- Try not to have people behind a hearing impaired player as they may not hear warnings of people or balls as they move.

## Think inclusively STEP

- Space:**
- Adjust the size of the court, making it narrower or wider.
- Task:**
- Adjust the length of each game.
  - Allow players to bounce the ball before it is served.
  - Allow players to serve anywhere into their opponents court, rather than diagonally.
  - Allow players to ‘throw serve’ on their second serve— an underarm throw to anywhere on the other side of the net to get the rally started.
- Equipment:**
- Use smaller rackets, softer balls or lower the net.
  - Players with lower limb impairments can play in wheelchairs or standing.
  - Provide players with hand grips or strapping to help grip the racket.
- People:**
- For visually impaired players use a ‘soundball’ tennis ball which has a table tennis ball at its centre containing ball bearings which enable the ball to rattle.
  - When playing ‘mixed teams’, fully sighted players may not volley the ball to visually impaired opponents.
  - For visually impaired players, the server should ask their opponent if they are “Ready?” and call out “Play” when the ball is served.
  - Use on-court helpers to support players when deciding who should serve first, as well as to keep score throughout the game and help make decisions.

## Think tactics

- Inclusive Mini Tennis Red is just like the real game and gives pupils opportunities to have long rallies and play different types of shots. How many different types of shots can you play?

## Sporting ME Spirit of the Games

*Excellence through competition*



**Respect:** Have fun and enjoy the game! The LTA use *Enjoy. Respect* as the two overarching values to represent fair play. To find out more please visit: [www.lta.org.uk/FairPlay](http://www.lta.org.uk/FairPlay)

[WWW.YOURSCHOOLGAMES.COM](http://WWW.YOURSCHOOLGAMES.COM)

