



## OPEN (ADULT) PROMOTION & RELEGATION RULES

### Men's and Women's Events

- All groups/divisions are based on set areas (determined by venue registration codes) which will remain fixed year on year (see structure)

### National Divisions Relegation

- The bottom two teams in each of the 4 groups shall be relegated to their respective Regional Tier group (based on venue registration code and structure). Exceptions for 2023: Men's North and Men's South West, Women's North, Women's South East and Women's South West - where one team shall be relegated (subject to rule 16.5).
- If any team in any National division gives a walkover, it shall be placed at the bottom of the group and be one of the relegated teams (subject to rule 16.5).

### Regional Divisions Promotion & Relegation

- The top team in each of the Regional divisions (excluding Scotland) shall be promoted to its respective National division.
- Relegation from the Regional Divisions shall be as follows:
  - If two teams are relegated from a National division to the **same** Regional division, 3 teams shall be relegated from that Regional division to their respective County Division. For 2023, this scenario could potentially only occur in Men's Midlands (West), Men's South East (South) and Men's South West (East).
  - If one team is relegated from a National division into the Regional division then two teams shall be relegated from that Regional division group into their respective County Division. Exception for 2023 if this occurs, where only 1 team shall be relegated in the following Men's Midlands (East), Men's South East (North), Women's South East (North & South).
  - If no teams are relegated from a National division into the Regional division then only one team shall be relegated from that Regional division into its respective County Division. Exception for 2023 if this occurs, where no teams shall be relegated (unless walkovers given) in the following: Men's Midlands (East), Men's South East (North), Women's South East (North & South).
  - There shall be no relegations (unless walkovers given) from Men's North (East & West), Men's South West (West), Women's Midlands (East & West), Women's South West (East & West)
  - If any team in any Regional division gives a walkover, it shall be placed at the bottom of the group and be one of the relegated teams (subject to rule 16.5).

### County Divisions Promotion

- The top team in each County Division 1 shall play off against other county winners in their region. Two teams in each region will be promoted to their respective Regional division.



The number of play-off matches will depend on the number of teams/counties in the Region (see structure).

- For those counties with multiple divisions, promotion and relegation should be two up two down for divisions with 6 or more teams and one up one down for divisions with 5 or less teams. For those counties where there is a split of divisions only 1 team shall be promoted. For example, only teams finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> place in Division 3 East and Division 3 West shall be promoted to Division 2. The County League Organiser in conjunction with the LTA Competitions Team have the final decision on all promotion/relegation matters at the County Tier

### County Divisions Relegation

- For those counties with more than one division, relegation from Division 1 shall depend upon whether the top team has gained promotion to the Regional division through the County Open play-offs in which case one less team than normal will be relegated. It will also depend upon the number of teams relegated from the Regional division into the County Division 1 which shall be on the same basis as relegation from the Regional division (see above). If more or fewer than normal are relegated from Division 1 (see below), that number shall cascade down through all divisions
- In county leagues where 4 or more divisions exist, teams can apply for a 'fast track' promotion. However, only teams that complete one full season, concede no walkovers, win every match and have players of suitably high enough LTA ratings will be considered. Teams wishing to make an appeal for a 'fast track' promotion must email [nationalleague@LTA.org.uk](mailto:nationalleague@LTA.org.uk) by 31 July 2023. The competition team's decision is final.

The Open (adult) structure can be viewed online at <https://www.lta.org.uk/compete/adult/national-league> within the Team Captains Resources section.

The Competition Team reserve the right to change the structure and promotion/relegation regulations.