



TT Leagues: Local Leagues Ranking – Explained

This document is a Guide to how the TT Leagues ranking system works and answers some common questions asked by players and Leagues Administrators.

Background

1. The development of the Local Leagues ranking system was initiated by TTE in response to feedback from users. The two consultation exercises that TTE undertook showed users thought a Local Leagues ranking system would be a valuable addition to the capabilities of the TT Leagues software. Hence it became a priority to develop such a system as soon as possible.
2. The Ranking System is operated by TTE. To appear in the Ranking System you must be a current member of a league that uses TT Leagues.
3. The new Local Leagues Ranking System is based on the same principles that underpin TTE's National Ranking System. Points are awarded for wins and deducted for losses. The number of points awarded or deducted is determined by the difference in points between the players at the start of the match. This process is explained in more detail in the next section.
4. Each player's points total will be updated at the end of each match – just as they are for determining Player Averages. A full audit trail is provided as part of this new ranking system. This means a player can see the impact of their various wins and losses, and how their ranking points are evolving over time.
5. The Local Leagues Ranking System does not pretend to be an “order of merit” that lists players in order of ability. No ranking system can do that with complete accuracy. It is simply a way of accounting for a player's wins and losses in a particular Local League. It is not dissimilar to the Player Averages lists that are already produced in TT Leagues.
6. However, unlike the Player Averages, it takes account of whether wins and losses were expected or unexpected (based on the points difference between the players). More points are awarded for an unexpected win than for an expected win. Likewise, more points are deducted for an unexpected loss than for an expected loss. A further important difference is that Player Averages are Division-specific, whereas the Ranking System will apply to all players in the Local League.



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Ranking Points Look-up Table

7. The Table that is used to determine the number of points won or lost from an individual match (set) is shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Ranking Points Won or Lost

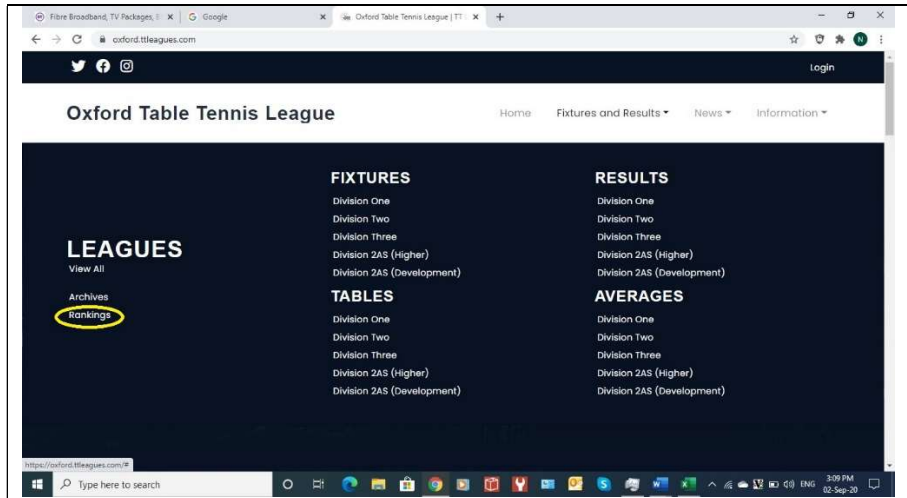
Points Difference Between Players	Wins			Losses	
	Expected Wins	Unexpected Wins		Expected Losses	Unexpected Losses
0 – 49	4	4		-2	-2
50 – 99	3	6		-1	-3
100 – 149	2	7		-1	-4
150 – 199	2	8		-1	-5
200 – 299	1	11		-1	-6
300 – 399	1	15		0	-8
400 – 499	0	20		0	-10
>500	0	25		0	-13

8. The explanation of an “expected” or “unexpected” win or loss is as follows:

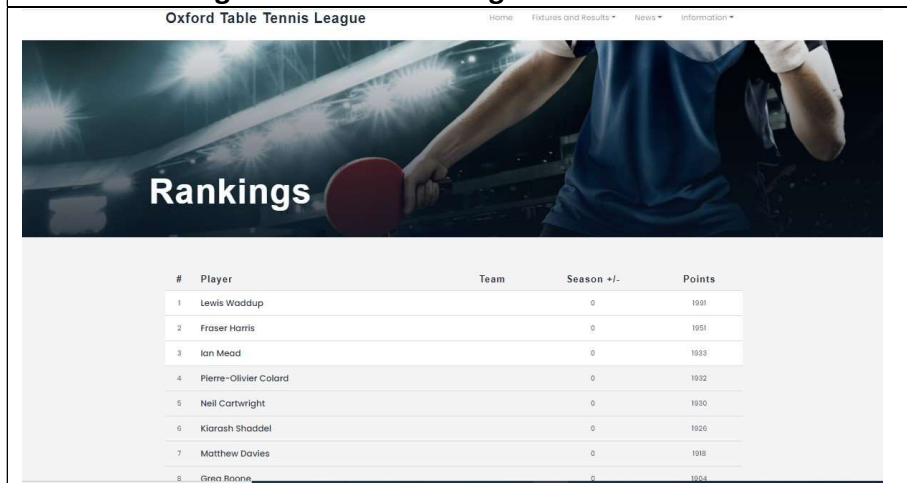
- An “Expected Win” means the winning player had more ranking points at the start of the match than the losing player
- An “Unexpected Win” means the winning player had fewer ranking points at the start of the match than the losing player
- An “Expected Loss” means the losing player had fewer ranking points at the start of the match than the winning player
- An “Unexpected Loss” means the losing player had more ranking points at the start of the match than the winning player

Accessing the Local Leagues Ranking System

9. To access the Ranking System on your TT Leagues site, click on “Fixtures and Results” on the main menu of the Home page. Then click on “Rankings” on the left-hand side of the screen (This takes you to the Ranking List for that League (see Screenshot 1).
10. This displays the ranking list for the local League (see Screenshot 2). Clicking on a player’s name produces the full audit trail for that player showing how points were awarded for each individual match (see Screenshot 3).



Screenshot 1 - Accessing the Ranking System from the Fixtures and Results Page – click on “Rankings” in the left-hand menu



Screenshot 2 – An example of a Local League Ranking List



Screenshot 3 – Audit Trail for a Player



Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Who devised this Local Leagues Ranking System?

A1: The structure of the new Ranking System was defined by three experienced League Administrators along with Simon Griew, a TTE Board Member who is also a member of the National Ranking Policy Group. It is based on the same principles that underlie the National Ranking System.

Q2: What checks have been carried out to determine if the system is accurate?

A2: The three League Administrators who were involved in defining the system have scrutinized the ranking lists for their own leagues. In addition, further checks have been undertaken specifically for those Leagues whose divisional structure are more complex than normal, e.g. a mix of 2-aside and 3-aside competitions, or a change of competition at Christmas. Other checks comparing the data with Player Averages have also been carried out to check that the lists are intuitively correct.

However, as the initial rankings are based solely on the results of the 2019-20 season, there will inevitably be some anomalies to start with. The immediate priority is therefore to allow the system to settle down as new results are added, and points are adjusted on the basis of wins and losses. Nonetheless, it may take at least another full season's worth of data for the system to fully settle down.

Q3: I played in my local League last season. Why do I not appear in the ranking list?

A3: In order to appear in the ranking list, you must be a current member of your local League. If you are not listed, please check your membership profile in TT Memberships. If your current membership profile does not include your local League, you can simply add it to your profile. You should then appear in the ranking list when League membership date is synchronized with TT Memberships data overnight.

Q4: I beat all the top players in my local League last season. Why am I not top of the Ranking List in my League?

A4: The ranking points you accumulate are not just dependent on the players you beat, but also on the number of times you play. A player who plays infrequently may secure fewer points than another player who plays more matches. If you don't play many matches, the opportunities for increasing your ranking points are limited. That's a common feature of ranking systems.

Q5: In our League, many of the top players in Division 2 are stronger than those in Division 1. Why are they ranked below the players in Division 1?

A5: In order to start the ranking process, we've had to make some assumptions about the number of ranking points to award to players in each Division of the League. As players play more matches, increasing or decreasing their number of ranking points, players will reach their natural level and there will be greater overlap between players in adjacent Divisions.



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Q6: My initial ranking points at the start of last season were a lot lower than the players I played against. Why has this occurred?

A6: Starting points have been allocated on the basis of the team to which players were assigned. This was not entirely satisfactory but was a simple way of starting the process. You may have been initially assigned to a team in a lower Division, but ended up playing most of your matches in a higher Division. As players play more matches, increasing or decreasing their number of ranking points, players will reach their natural level. This anomaly should resolve itself once further matches over the next 1- 2 seasons have been played.

Q7: I play in two local Leagues. In one League, I have 512 points. In the other, I have 979 points. Why the big difference?

A7: The ranking lists for each League are entirely independent of each other. Points are awarded on the basis of matches played in that League. Furthermore, to ensure a good spread of points across each League, points will tend to be higher in Leagues with more Divisions. The ranking lists purely indicate the relative performance of players who have played League matches in that league. The ranking points in different Leagues are not intended to be compared with each other. A potential future enhancement could be to introduce county ranking lists, which would involve comparing results and ranking points across the Leagues in that county.

Q8. We already have our own local League ranking system. We don't want to use this new TT Leagues system. How do we switch it off?

A8: If the League Secretary contacts the TTE Help Desk they can ask for the Ranking System to be disabled for that League.

Q9: Why aren't results from national competitions included in the system?

A9: The feedback from the consultation was that what players wanted was a local League ranking system. For this reason, the ranking lists only include results from matches played in that League.

Q10: What are the plans to enhance and develop the system?

A10: We plan to introduce a Search feature, so players can quickly identify where they are located in the ranking system. We also intend to introduce a filtering system so that segment-specific ranking lists can be produced, e.g. by age-group and/or gender. For the longer term, we will investigate how we can standardize ranking lists between Leagues with a view to producing county and regional ranking lists based on results in Local Leagues.



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