

# UKU Club Outdoor Competition Rules 2014

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 The UKU Competition Structure

- 1.1.1 These rules apply to the Open, Women and Mixed Tour series and to UKU Regionals and Nationals. Where there are specific differences for a given division or tournament they are highlighted within this document.
- 1.1.2 The UK competition season is split into the UKU Tour season (a Mixed division Tour, followed by an Open and Women's division Tour), and the European Ultimate Championship Series ('EUCS').
- 1.1.3 The *UKU* Tour consists of three tournaments in each division. Teams score ranking points according to their final position at a given tournament.
- 1.1.4 The *UKU* Ranking is calculated from each team's total number of Ranking Points. This ranking is used to determine the Tour winners.
- 1.1.5 UKU Nationals 2014 will take place across four divisions – Open, Women, Mixed and Masters. In the Open, Women's and Mixed divisions, UKU Nationals will form part of the EUCS season; Masters UKU Nationals will be a stand-alone tournament with no rostering requirements.
- 1.1.6 The 2014 Tour seedings will be primarily based on the results of the 2013 Tour.
- 1.1.7 The Tour in the Open division will be separated into 3 divisions (A,B,C) which will not necessarily take place at the same venue. The A & B divisions will generally consist of 16 teams each, with the remaining teams forming the C division. There is scope for the A division to expand if large numbers of international teams attend.
- 1.1.8 The UKU Competitions Committee oversees the *UKU* Tour and consists of the Director of Competitions, a Board representative on behalf of the UKU Board and several volunteers representing a diverse cross-section of the *UKU* players. The Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Tour; complaints or queries and rules clarifications will be relayed to them by the DoC and as such should be addressed to him/her at [ukudoc(at)ukultimate(dot)com]
- 1.1.9 Any protests over the organisation, application of the rules, rostering, teams or individual players need to be addressed as indicated in the UKU Conduct and Complaints Policy, which can be found here: [http://www.ukultimate.com/about\\_uku/board\\_documents](http://www.ukultimate.com/about_uku/board_documents)

### 1.2 European Ultimate Championship Series (EUCS)

- 1.2.1 The European Ultimate Championship Series is formally separate from the UKU Tour and takes place after the completion of the Tour season.
- 1.2.2 In the Open division, the European Ultimate Championship Series consists of:
  - Local qualifying tournaments in the UK (UK-Regionals), leading to
  - *UKU* Nationals, leading to
  - European finals (EUCF)
- 1.2.3 In the women's and Mixed divisions, there will be no UK-Regionals. The UKU Competitions Committee will determine which teams will be invited to enter *UKU* Nationals. Places at EUCF will be determined at *UKU* Nationals.

1.2.3.1 Places at Nationals will not formally be awarded based on UKU Tour Ranking, since this would have rostering implications for teams going forward to EUCF. The two competitions are formally separate. Where there are significant roster changes, for example, the UKU will take that into account when awarding spots at Nationals. In most cases, however, the best information available will be the UKU Tour Ranking, and teams may expect that the teams invited to Nationals will generally reflect the current rankings.

## 2. Rosters and Eligibility

### 2.1 Rosters (General)

2.1.1 Any player playing in a *UKU* sanctioned competition (such as the Tour, UK Regionals or UKU Nationals) or representing a UK club at an international tournament must be a *UKU* member. All players entering must be on a roster with their *UKU* membership number. (Guest players at Tour see rules on Guests, 2.4.1)

2.1.1.1 Clubs are expected (via the team manager) to ensure all roster information on the *UKU* website is up to date prior to the first tour event of the season. This includes adding new players, removing ex-players and ensuring their membership status' are at the required level.

2.1.2 A player may only play for one team at each event. Players playing for two teams may incur penalties for both teams represented (See Penalties, Section 8). This extends across divisions, so that a player may not play for both a Women's and an Open team at one event.

2.1.3 A distinction is made between "club" and "team" because some clubs may be able to field more than one team.

### 2.2 Tour Rosters

2.2.1 Club rosters must be in place before the first Tour event that your team enters. The rosters are handled through the *UKU* website – each player should register with their club on the club's page on the *UKU* website. The *UKU*'s primary interest with rosters is to ensure that all players at *UKU* events are indeed members of the *UKU* for reasons relating to liability insurance. Clubs that fail to support this requirement may face stiff penalties.

*2.2.1.1 Whilst the rosters enable the UKU to check if teams are complying with the eligibility rules we expect clubs and players to apply spirit of the game to all eligibility and roster rules – thereby making the need to check up on people redundant. This should not be taken to mean that there will be no checks.*

2.2.2 Club rosters are fixed for all three of the Tour events in each division. Players may be added to the roster at any time so long as they comply with Eligibility rules. Removals or transfers will only be allowed under exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances would include, for example, being "dropped" by the club with which a player initially rosters; or moving house and being nearer to a new team. Please contact [ukudoc(at)ukultimate(dot)com], in advance, with any questions.

2.2.3 An eligible player may join a club roster at any time during the season.

2.2.4 Clubs with more than one team:

*2.2.4.1 A club with multiple teams may select those teams on whatever basis they prefer, but they must consistently use the same basis for splitting their teams across all events in the Tour. It is not permissible, for example, to deliberately strengthen a 2<sup>nd</sup> team, or to pick a 1<sup>st</sup> team from what were previously two evenly-matched teams. Clearly if a club is running a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> team then the selection is an internal matter for the*

club; however, the likely implication of concerns or complaints about teams abusing this is that the option will be removed in future years.

2.2.4.2 Where a Tour tournament is geographically or temporally split, that tournament is nevertheless treated as one event for the purposes of rules [2.1.2] and [2.2.4.1].

## 2.3 EUCS Rosters

- 2.3.1 All UKU members are free to play with any team at the start of the EUCS season, regardless of their affiliation during the Tour season.
- 2.3.2 Between UKU Nationals (EUCR) and EUCF, teams are bound only by the EUCS eligibility rules – at time of writing these are at <http://www.ultimatefederation.eu/club-champs/eligibility-rules.php>
- 2.3.3 Any player that competes for a team at UKU-Regionals (EUCQ) is deemed to be on that team's roster. Players that do not compete at UKU-Regionals are considered to be "unrostered" and are free to join any team prior to UKU-Nationals.

2.3.3.1 *If a team advances to UKU Nationals, then all their rostered players are locked into that roster and may not play for another team at UKU Nationals IN ANY DIVISION.*

- 2.3.4 A team that does not advance to UKU Nationals - either by failure to qualify or by declining their spot - loses its roster. Players from such a team may be added to rosters of other teams in any division (subject, for the open division, to the limits in the EUCS Rules).

2.3.4.1 *Players from a **non-advancing** team in a multi-team club are all free to roster with another team **within that club** that is advancing to Nationals. Such players do not count towards the limit on roster additions in the EUCS rules. NOTE: This does NOT apply between UKU Nationals and EUCF – if a club sends 2 teams to UKU Nationals, and only one advances to EUCF, they have no additional right to move players between squads. The rule exists purely to allow the maximum number of teams and players to play at UKU Regionals and does not supersede the EUCS rules.*

2.3.4.2 *Teams at UKU Regionals who do not intend to advance (even if they attain a qualifying position) must inform the DoC as early as possible, in order that the schedule can be adjusted to ensure fair qualification for other teams.*

## 2.4 Eligibility

- 2.4.1 UKU Membership enables any player living in the UK to roster for a UK club. Foreign-based players may roster to a UK club, provided that the UK club is clearly the player's primary ultimate club *in that division*.

2.4.1.1 *"Primary ultimate club" means that such a player does not compete regularly (more than once in a season) at other tournaments with another ultimate team in any other country, and especially, but not only, at national or international level competition.*

2.4.1.2 *Note that the rules clearly prevent a North American based player joining a UK roster during the European season and then playing the UPA series because such a player's "primary ultimate club" is clearly the one in the US. Such a player may play as a guest only.*

- 2.4.2 Where a club or player suspects there may be some cause for doubt about an issue of eligibility it is the club's responsibility to highlight the issue in writing to the DoC as quickly as possible and obtain written clarification.

2.4.2.1 *In the event of investigating a complaint about eligibility, the UKUCC will not take personal expense or inconvenience into account where a club has failed to obtain written clarification on a potential issue in advance.*

2.4.3 Non-UK-resident players must have public liability insurance cover. Typically this would be provided as part of the membership of their home ultimate or flying disc federation, or might be included in their travel insurance. The player and team they are playing for are deemed to be confirming they have checked this if the player plays.

## 2.5 Exceptions

### 2.5.1 Guest players

*2.5.1.1 In the Open and Women's divisions, any team is allowed to pick up one guest player, outside of the normal rostering requirements, at each Tour tournament.*

*2.5.1.1.1 In the Mixed division each team may pick up one male and one female guest.*

*2.5.1.2 The guest player would normally be a visiting/travelling foreign player and it is for these players that the rule is introduced. UK-resident players may also play for anyone under this rule.*

*2.5.1.3 NO EXCEPTIONS will be made to this rule. Do not ask for any additional guests.*

*2.5.1.4 All guest players must be registered with UKU via the website (this may be done by the team contact if the guest has no access) but does not need to roster with the team. There is a temporary option membership available for players that do not wish to take out full annual memberships (See rules on eligibility, 2.4).*

### 2.5.2 Foreign teams intending to play the entire Tour season

*2.5.2.1 Any foreign team whose players register as UKU members will be given the same rights as other teams for the Tour season, but may not play as a UK club in the EUCS and may not qualify for representation at World or European Club Events.*

*2.5.2.2 At the discretion of the UKU Board the visiting team's players may not be required to join the UKU, but in this case they will all be members of their home ultimate or flying disc federation. Please contact [admin@ukultimate.com](mailto:admin@ukultimate.com) for more details.*

### 2.5.3 GB teams

*2.5.3.1 In order to provide an opportunity for GB teams to have competitive training the roster rules will allow GB players to play for GB in the Tour even if they are rostered to another club. GB teams' participation will be at the discretion of the Competition Committee.*

*2.5.3.2 GB players that intend to play with their club team at some events and GB at other events should roster with their club. They will be free to play with GB at no penalty to either themselves or their club. Players that only intend to play for GB should roster with GB.*

*2.5.3.3 This exception does not extend to players playing for BOTH GB and their club at the same event.*

2.5.4 GB teams and visiting foreign teams not intending to play the whole Tour season will be stripped out of the results of a tournament before Tour points are awarded – e.g. a team finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> behind GB and one other team will score points for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. ,

## 2.6 Squad sizes

2.6.1 UKU recommends that teams bring a minimum of 10 players to a tournament. Teams with fewer than 10 players will not be excluded from competing, but should be aware that UKU does not endorse the extra physical burden placed on players on small teams. In the Mixed division, it is strongly recommended that teams bring at least 5 players of each gender.

2.6.1.1 Teams who are unable, in a given point, to field the required number of female or male players (as chosen by the offence) may not play additional players of the other gender, and may not put pressure on the offence to choose differently. If they cannot field e.g. a 4<sup>th</sup> girl, then they must either play with 6 players for that point or offer to forfeit the game. It is not considered unsporting, at Tour-level tournaments, for the offence to choose a ratio that the defence cannot match.

### 3. Kit

Clubs are expected to consider the presentation of the sport and teams when selecting kit and conducting themselves at UKU tournaments. The regulations are not to prevent clubs or players expressing themselves but to ensure the public view of the sport adheres to the ethos of spirit and accountability. Clubs may develop their kit over a period of time and are advised to maintain spare kit for guest players, and those players who fail to bring their own kit to tournaments.

#### 3.1 *Offensive or dangerous kit*

- 3.1.1 At all UKU sanctioned events, players must ensure that their kit is not offensive. We do not attempt to define what would be offensive, but would ask all teams to consider the design not just from their own point of view but from the perspective of opponents, passers-by (including children or parents), spectators, or media representatives and act accordingly. Teams may be barred from playing in offensive kit.
- 3.1.2 Protective clothing or equipment is permitted as long as it does not present a hazard to other players; such as hard padding (i.e. plastic skating/roller-blading knee pads).

#### 3.2 *Nationals*

- 3.2.1 All teams entering Nationals will be required to provide all team members with matching, individually numbered shirts in both a light and dark strip. These shirts can be of any reasonable (e.g. non-offensive) design.
- 3.2.2 Teams are required to wear matching shorts.
- 3.2.3 There is no restriction on the number of layers and clothing worn under the team strip.
- 3.2.4 Failure to comply with the above regulations may result in a fine, payable by the club, for each player breaching the regulations. The fine will be £20 per player at Nationals. The UKU does not undertake to examine every player's kit, and will not accept in mitigation that players on other teams went unpunished. Please be aware that incorrect kit runs the risk of a fine.

#### 3.3 *UK Regionals*

- 3.3.1 In order not to discourage new teams, teams at UK Regionals are required only to have shirts of substantially the same colour, in both light and dark, which enable them to be distinguished from their opponents.

#### 3.4 *All other sanctioned events*

- 3.4.1 All teams are required to have shirts of substantially the same colour, in both light and dark.
  - 3.4.1.1 Teams are strongly encouraged to provide genuinely matching numbered shirts, and matching shorts, in order to improve the image of the sport to any spectators. However, UKU recognises that these events exist for the benefit of the players, not the public, and teams will not be penalised for minor kit mismatches. UKU will attempt to direct external interest in Ultimate towards UKU Nationals, where the kit rules will be in force.

### 3.5 What does 'Matching shirts' mean?

- 3.5.1 All articles are of the same design (not including sleeve length).
- 3.5.2 In deciding whether a team does not have matching shirts we will apply the following test: "Would a reasonable, neutral spectator notice from the sideline that members of the same team are wearing shirts of a different design?"
- 3.5.3 Teams should note that it is extremely difficult to obtain matching designs over multiple seasons and are encouraged to plan ahead - i.e. if you want to retain the same shirts for more than one year, buy extras at the beginning so that you have enough for new players or replacements of lost/traded shirts.

## 4. Entering Tour Tournaments

Tour tournaments will have a closing date and payment date of midnight on the Friday 28 days before the event (unless specific circumstances prevent it) and a default date [see 4.4] of midnight on the Friday 7 days before the tournament. If a tournament is over-subscribed at the closing date there is a system for distributing places, [4.2]. If a tournament is under-subscribed it may remain possible for teams to enter (strictly on a first-pay, first-in basis). Teams are advised to enter a tournament as soon as they know they wish to compete, however it is recognised that the closing date for some events will be before the previous event has occurred, and so teams cannot always be certain that they have qualified. Therefore, any team that has entered an event but does not qualify will receive a full refund. A list of the qualifying teams will be published as soon after the previous event as possible. See the rules on Blacklist [4.3] and Default Penalties [4.4].

Please note that for events not directly run by UKU – in 2014, that means Mixed Tours 1 and 3, and Open/Women's Tour 3 – these rules may be overridden by the TDs when entries are opened, but should be assumed to be in effect unless stated otherwise.

### 4.1 Entry Procedure

- 4.1.1 A team must pay the tournament entry fee in full to the TD, by the closing date (unless otherwise arranged directly with the TD).
- 4.1.2 Any teams entering less than two weeks before the tournament *may* be fined an additional £50 in entry fee by the tournament director. This will go to the UKU to help further UK Ultimate.
- 4.1.3 The closing date for each event will be announced when entries are opened.
- 4.1.4 A team may withdraw from a tournament up to the closing date and then receive a full refund of any payments that have been made. A representative from the team must tell both the TD and the UKU Event Coordinator on [benjiheywood@ukultimate.com](mailto:benjiheywood@ukultimate.com).

### 4.2 Distribution of places at Tour tournaments

#### 4.2.1 OPEN AND MIXED DIVISIONS

*4.2.1.1 In the event that Tour 1 is oversubscribed at the closing date, the UKU Competitions Committee will determine entry. Priority will be given as follows:*

- *Teams ranked in the top 32 of the previous year's tour overall*

- *New, foreign, or much-changed teams believed likely by the competitions committee (based on e.g. known personnel or early season results) to finish in the top 24*
- *Teams whose participation the UKU Competitions Committee believe will benefit the growth of Ultimate – for example, but not limited to, local teams who may not yet be ready to travel to other tournaments, or teams based in underrepresented geographical areas*
- *Remaining teams, in order of their total tour points from the previous year.*
  - *Teams with no record from the previous year will be below those with a ranking, and will be separated by drawing lots should the need arise*

4.2.1.2 *At Tours 2 and 3, priority will be given as follows:*

- *Teams ranked in the top 32 of the previous tournament*
- *Foreign teams believed likely by the competitions committee to finish in the top 24*
- *Teams whose participation the UKU Competitions Committee believe will benefit the growth of Ultimate – for example, but not limited to, local teams who may not yet be ready to travel to other tournaments, or teams based in underrepresented geographical areas*
- *Teams unable to enter the previous event due to over-subscription or non-entry*
- *Remaining teams, in order of their finish at the previous tournament*

4.2.1.3 *Once the closing date has passed, any unfilled places at the tournament will be offered on a first-pay, first-play basis.*

#### 4.2.2 WOMEN'S DIVISION

4.2.2.1 *In 2014 we intend to allow all teams to enter provided they do so before the deadline. If that number exceeds 24 teams, we may move to a system where places are allocated as follows:*

- *Teams ranked in the top 12 of the previous tournament (or the previous year overall, for T1)*
- *Foreign teams believed likely by the competitions committee to finish in the top 8*
- *Teams unable to enter the previous event due to over-subscription or non-entry (Tours 2 & 3 only)*
- *Teams whose participation the UKU Competitions Committee believe will benefit the growth of Ultimate – for example, but not limited to, local teams who may not yet be ready to travel to other tournaments, or teams based in underrepresented geographical areas*
- *Remaining teams, in order of their finish at the previous tournament*

### 4.3 Blacklist

4.3.1 Teams that default on the entry procedures may be moved to the Blacklist by the Competitions Committee. Teams on the Blacklist will be given low priority at oversubscribed tournaments, as described above. Note that this same blacklist will soon apply to both Tour and non-Tour events – a coherent set of rules covering dropouts at all UKU tournaments is in preparation. It is quite possible that defaulting late from a smaller event will affect your participation at Tour.

4.3.2 Sometimes there may be a genuine reason for defaulting, and penalties will not necessarily be incurred in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the UKUCC. If you foresee any chance of your team defaulting, you are advised to communicate with the UKU Event Coordinator on [benjiheywood\[at\]ukultimate\[dot\]com](mailto:benjiheywood@ukultimate.com).

### 4.4 Default Penalties

Sometimes things will go wrong. Hopefully the following will cover most situations. Where a club defaults on entry, the penalties below may be applied. For multi-team clubs, if one team is placed on the blacklist, all teams from that club entering or defaulting the event would be moved to the blacklist; *i.e.* a club entering two teams into a tournament, but withdrawing one, may have penalties applied to both the team that withdraws and the team that enters. Clubs are

expected to do all that they can to avoid dropouts in the last few days before a tournament, including if necessary dropping players down from higher teams (but note that 4.3.2 still applies).

4.4.1 Enter, but withdraw before the closing date.

4.4.1.1 All payments refunded.

4.4.1.2 No penalty.

4.4.2 Enter, but then withdraw between closing date and the default date.

4.4.2.1 Liable for 50% of fees.

4.4.3 Enter, but then withdraw after the default date.

4.4.3.1 Liable for 100% of fees.

4.4.3.2 Drop to Blacklist.

4.4.3.3 Lose 5% of final ranking score PER DAY after the default date, to be deducted at the end of the Tour.

## 5. Ranking Points

### 5.1 The Scoring System

5.1.1 The scoring system is fixed for positions 1 - 16 (the A Tour, in the open division). The points scored by teams finishing below 16<sup>th</sup> (the Open B and C Tour, or the lower portion of the mixed tour) vary depending on the number of teams at the tournament.

5.1.2 Within the fixed points (1 – 16) there are bonus points for certain finishing positions; in particular 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>.

5.1.3 At Open Tour 1 and Open Tour 2, the top two teams in the B-tour/C-tour will score the same points as the bottom two in the A-tour/B-tour, i.e. 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> both score the points for 15<sup>th</sup> position; and similarly for 16<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>/33<sup>rd</sup>, and 32<sup>st</sup>/34<sup>th</sup>. For the purposes of calculating points for other teams, those teams from 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup>-34<sup>th</sup> are ignored, meaning that 19<sup>th</sup> overall scores the points normally awarded to 17<sup>th</sup>, and so on down the rankings. At Open Tour 3, the points for all Open teams will be awarded normally as per the algorithm.

1 <sup>st</sup>	250	2 <sup>nd</sup>	230	3 <sup>rd</sup>	222	4 <sup>th</sup>	210	5 <sup>th</sup>	205	6 <sup>th</sup>	190	7 <sup>th</sup>	182	8 <sup>th</sup>	170
9 <sup>th</sup>	162	10 <sup>th</sup>	150	11 <sup>th</sup>	141	12 <sup>th</sup>	130	13 <sup>th</sup>	125	14 <sup>th</sup>	110	15 <sup>th</sup>	101	16 <sup>th</sup>	90
<p>Positions are based on the combined A and B Tour placings. So – if there are 16 teams in the A Tour, the winner of the B Tour is deemed to be in 17<sup>th</sup> position. Teams below 16<sup>th</sup> finishing in m<sup>th</sup> position (with N teams in the tournament) score <math>80 \cdot (N+1-m) / (N-16)</math> points, (rounding to the nearest integer). Below is an example of this calculation for a 32 team event with 16 teams in the A Tour.</p>															
17 <sup>th</sup>	80	18 <sup>th</sup>	75	19 <sup>th</sup>	70	20 <sup>th</sup>	65	21 <sup>st</sup>	60	22 <sup>nd</sup>	55	23 <sup>rd</sup>	50	24 <sup>th</sup>	45
25 <sup>th</sup>	40	26 <sup>th</sup>	35	27 <sup>th</sup>	30	28 <sup>th</sup>	25	29 <sup>th</sup>	20	30 <sup>th</sup>	15	31 <sup>st</sup>	10	32 <sup>nd</sup>	5

### 5.2 Equal Teams

When teams have an equal number of points they are separated according to the following procedure:



- 5.2.1 Teams are separated on the most recent head-to-head tournament finishing position that provides a result.
- 5.2.2 Using earlier Tour results (current season) teams are separated according to their best absolute finishing position at any of the events.
- 5.2.3 If teams cannot be separated by the above criteria, positions will be decided on the toss of a coin.

## 6. Tournament Rules

### 6.1 Tournament Formats

- 6.1.1 UKU Tour events will tend towards a peer pool format.
- 6.1.2 The UKU Competition Committee reserves the right to implement variations of this basic approach if it is deemed appropriate.
- 6.1.3 The UKU and TDs reserve the right to run events with a multiple of four teams to aid consistency in the schedules, and avoid the problems associated with scheduling for a difficult number of teams.
- 6.1.4 Games will be played to WFDF rules, other than the specific variations detailed in the captain's pack or schedule for each event.

### 6.2 Tie breakers for pools/round-robins

- 6.2.1. After round robin pool play, rank all teams in each pool by the number of games won.
- 6.2.2. If teams are tied, break that tie using the ranking criteria.
- 6.2.3. Each ranking criterion is used to rank all of the tied teams, not just to determine the highest ranked team.
- 6.3.3.1. *If, after the application of a ranking criterion, all of the teams remain tied, go to the next criterion.*
- 6.3.3.2. *If not all teams remain tied, but one or more subgroups of the teams remain tied, separate these subgroups from the ranking. Each subgroup is then to be ranked separately, starting with the first ranking criterion.*
- 6.2.4. Ranking criteria, in order:
- 6.2.4.1. *Number of games won, counting only games between the teams that are tied.*
- 6.2.4.2. *Fewest games forfeited.*
- 6.2.4.3. *Goal difference, counting only games between the teams that are tied.*
- 6.2.4.4. *Goal difference, counting games against all common opponents.*
- 6.2.4.5. *Goals scored per game, counting only games between the teams that are tied.*
- 6.2.4.6. *Goals scored per game, counting games against all common opponents.*
- 6.2.4.7. *Each team nominates one player to throw one disc from behind the goal line to the far brick point on a regulation playing field. Throwing order is determined randomly, by disc toss or otherwise. Teams are ranked in order by the distance from the resting place of each disc to the brick point, from closest to furthest.*

## 7 Seeding

7.1 All seeding at any tournament is at the discretion of the UKU (specifically the Competitions Committee).

7.2 The seeding for Tours will be based on the finishing positions of the teams in the prior event, with the following exceptions:

7.2.1 For Tour 1 seeding will be primarily based on the results from the 2013 Tour. All available information will be used to help to correctly seed new or foreign teams, or teams where there is clear evidence that their 2013 results are not representative.

- Performances at UKU Regionals and UKU Nationals 2013 will be taken into account, but will not in general carry the same weight as Tour performance. It is recognised that due to the regional qualifying structure, and the existence of a mixed division, Nationals is unlikely to feature all the very best teams at full strength and so e.g. a top-12 performance in the Open division does not in any way guarantee an A tour spot.
- Performances in early season tournaments will also be taken into account – though not of course followed rigidly – and teams are encouraged to participate in such events if they wish to make a case for adjusted seeding.

7.2.2 Wild Cards, New or Foreign Teams, and Promotion/Relegation in the Open Tour

7.2.2.1 *Two places in A Tour 1, and two places in B Tour 1, may be awarded on a wild-card basis to newly-formed or much-changed teams at the discretion of the UKUCC. Any 2013 team that disbands, and fails to attend Tour in 2014, will create an extra wild card space (at the approximate level at which that team competed) at Tour 1 in 2014.*

7.2.2.2 *Foreign teams will be encouraged to attend Tour tournaments. Should they choose to enter the whole Tour, they will be seeded at the discretion of the UKUCC for Tour 1 and will subsequently be subject to the same rules as UK teams, including promotion and relegation. They will not be classed as foreign teams but as full members of the Tour.*

7.2.2.3 *The number of foreign teams (those not playing the whole Tour) allowed to play at Tour will be at the discretion of the UKUCC. Division sizes, and the number of foreign teams allowed to play, will be adjusted as necessary to ensure that always at least one team is promoted from each division at each event.*

7.2.2.4 *In general, the bottom 3 teams in each of the A and B Tour tournaments will be relegated, and the top 3 teams in each of the B and C Tour tournaments promoted, for the next tournament in the Tour season.*

7.2.2.4.1 The insertion of foreign/GB teams at the subsequent event will cause fewer teams to be promoted; however, at least one team will always win promotion at each event.

7.2.2.4.2 The removal of teams from the previous tournament will cause fewer teams to be relegated. If more than 3 teams are removed then it is possible that more than 3 teams will be promoted.

7.2.2.4.3 Teams finishing in the bottom 3 positions of a Tour (A or B) will be seeded below the top 3 promoted teams, regardless of whether they are actually relegated or not. If a 4<sup>th</sup> (or more) team is promoted they will be seeded below the 'relegated' teams.

7.2.2.4.4 Foreign/GB teams will be required to enter *before the previous tournament is played* so that teams at a tournament are aware of which position they need to achieve in order to be seeded in the A or B Tour at the next event.

## 8. Penalties

These rules are not exclusive, and it is expected that players, teams and clubs will approach these rules with the same spirit that is expected in all aspects of Ultimate. However where it is felt that teams or players have deliberately infringed the rules then penalties may be incurred. Please ensure that players, teams and clubs are fully aware of the rules, as ignorance is not an adequate defence. If in doubt please consult the DoC [ukudoc(at)ukultimate(dot)com] prior to making a decision.

8.1.1 All penalties are applied at the discretion of the DoC, UKUCC and *UKU*.

8.1.2 Where specific penalties are identified in the rules then these will be applied.

8.1.3 Where specific penalties are not identified then the DoC, UKUCC, and *UKU* can set these. The sanction will be determined using the following guide lines:

*8.1.3.1 The nature of the infringement;*

*8.1.3.2 The number of players involved;*

*8.1.3.3 Repeated infringement of the rules;*

*8.1.3.4 Any previous relevant warnings or sanctions.*

8.1.4 The penalties available to the DoC, UKUCC and *UKU* are:

*8.1.4.1 No action.*

*8.1.4.2 Public Warning.*

*8.1.4.3 Deduction of points at end of Tour.*

*8.1.4.4 Deduction of points after an event.*

*8.1.4.5 Alteration of seeding for subsequent events.*

*8.1.4.6 Disqualification.*

*8.1.4.7 Disqualification from future Tour events and other UKU events.*

*8.1.4.8 Disqualification from representing the UK at international events.*

*8.1.4.8 Any legal recourse will be conducted via the English legal system.*

8.1.5 Penalties and sanctions may be applied retrospectively.