

## The Neptune Rackets Ranking System for Singles play

The idea of having world rankings in Singles rackets is to introduce a disciplined approach to measuring the relative playing abilities of all rackets players in the world.

1. The ranking system is primarily designed to determine seedings for certain T&RA/NARA sanctioned singles tournaments. It is not designed to be used for determining a player's handicap, nor for determining whether a player should be eligible for a World Singles Championship challenge.
2. Any T&RA/NARA sanctioned tournament where the matches are played off "level" (i.e. not off handicap) is deemed to be a Ranking event, please see list at the bottom of this note. All ranking matches must be officiated by a marker.
3. The Neptune rankings system was launched in September 2010 with the generous financial support of Neptune Investment Management. It evolved from the ranking system started by Richard Spender and James Beaumont in 2007. We are grateful to Richard and James for their pioneering work. The rules governing both systems were written by a Sub Committee of the T&RA Rackets Committee, and can be found on the 'Ranking rules' button on the Rankings Home page. The system is based on actual results collected since 2005.
4. Each Rackets season is deemed to end on 31 July and the next one starts on 1 August.
5. The system has been set up to be as transparent as possible. Any player can look at every match they have played in (since 2005) and see the effect on their ranking points, and players can look at any match played by anyone.
6. Tournament organisers should email the results of a ranked tournament to the administrator immediately after the final is played, noting in particular those matches which didn't have a 'normal' outcome. This includes matches which didn't take place, matches which were halted by injury, etc. In those cases, please include a brief explanatory note, like 'Smith injured whilst 2-1 ahead'.
7. Players cannot change results other than by appeal to the administrator, who is appointed by the T&RA Rackets Committee. Please use the link on the rankings page for any correspondence with the administrator.
8. The system works by an administrator inputting match results into an algorithm, which is a set of mathematical rules based on ELO logic, see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elo\\_rating\\_system](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elo_rating_system). ELO was written in the 1960's to rank chess players, and is also used in ranking other head-to-head sports. It uses full game scores only i.e. 1-2, 4-0, and as a consequence a game result of 15-13 has the same value as a result of 15-0. As well as normal matches, the algorithm can deal with no shows, injuries, new players, etc. These rules, as adapted for rackets, can be found under the 'Ranking rules' button.
9. In general terms every player must play in a minimum of 3 ranking events in a season to avoid a loss of points through 'erosion'. Any player who has not entered a ranking event in four consecutive seasons from 1 August 2005 onwards will be removed from the ranking system (please see the Erosion section in 'Ranking Rules' for more details).

10. All players should expect a re-calibration adjustment at the end of each season. This adjustment is needed to permit new players to join in during the season, and is explained more fully in 'Ranking Rules'.
11. After each ranked event the rankings will be updated, after which they will automatically be displayed online on <http://www.tennisandrackets.com/rackets-rankings.html>. For the next tournament, the date from which the rankings were taken, which will be the closing date for entries, will be published on the draw. The date on which the latest updates were made will also be displayed. It is essential that Tournament organisers use the most current rankings for seeding their tournament; in the event of doubt, please email the administrator.
12. It is recommended that tournament organisers seed a maximum of 1 in 2 entrants in an event, with the top 50% of seeds being placed and the remaining 50% of seeds occupying the seeded positions, but that the positions occupied by the second 50% of seeds are determined by a random draw. Further information in Ranking Rules.
13. The ranking system, and the explanation of its principles, is subject to review by the T&RA Rackets Committee.

### **T&RA Rackets Committee, December 2010**

#### **List of ranked tournaments as at September 2010**

<b>Name of tournament</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Approx time in season</b>
Masters	UK	October
Manchester Gold Racquet	UK	October
Pro-Am	UK	November
Invitation Singles	UK	November
Amateur Singles	UK	December
Under 21/24's	UK	December
US Amateur Singles	USA	January
British Pro Singles	UK	January
British Open Qualifying Singles	UK	January
British Open Singles	UK	January
Canadian Amateur Singles	Canada	February
Tuxedo Gold Racquet Singles	USA	February
US Open Singles	USA	March
Western Open Singles	USA	March