

You may or maybe not recall that in the past I was concerned that Leicester Table Tennis League was not being competitive. Division 1 was particularly least competitive compared to the other divisions. I have done numerous spreadsheets covering all divisions up to week 24 for 2025/26 season and have come to the same conclusion that the league is still not competitive. A high percentage of matches, sets and games are being won quite easily (especially in division 1). I personally believe this is down to the number of teams in each division (quantity over equal quality). Rule 14 states that the committee can place teams of up to a max of 12 in division's. Season 25/26 had 52 teams entered (div1 12, div2 8, div3 10, div4 10, div5 12). If it had been 5 divisions of 8 and 1 of 12 I am sure that the league overall would have been more competitive. I have produced the data below of graded player's who have played at least 4 matches for both formats of the 52 teams.

DIV	TEAMS	PLAYERS	TOTAL GRADING	AVERAGE GRADING	HIGH GRADING	LOW GRADING	DIFF IN H/L GRADING	DIFF H/AV GRADING
1	12	45	10062	224	368	135	233	144
2	8	29	4742	164	211	107	104	47
3	10	35	4693	134	184	95	89	50
4	10	40	4677	117	179	60	119	62
5	12	45	3899	87	129	50	79	42
1	8	30	7249	242	368	179	189	126
2	8	30	5302	177	226	107	119	49
3	8	28	4155	148	204	95	109	56
4	8	30	3883	129	169	94	75	40
5	8	32	3681	115	179	60	119	64
6	12	44	3803	86	129	50	79	43

Sorry about the misalignment of the data, i'm having a senior moment !!

In summary, MY vision for the Leicester Table Tennis League would be -

- 1 First 5 divisions to have 8 teams, plus the remaining teams, forming a division 6
- 2 Only 1 team relegated from division 1 and only 1 team promoted from division 2. All other divisions 2 up 2 down
- 3 Doubles to be the best of 3 to enable earlier finish

Any feedback positive or negative on the above to daveseeds49@gmail.com