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# TT Networker

## Table Tennis Leadership Award



Developing leadership skills and providing  
 volunteering opportunities for young people



## Introduction

The ETTA "TT Networker — Table Tennis Leadership Award" is open to all young people between the age range of 15 to 18 years.

The main aims of the award are to:

1. Enable TT Networkers (leaders) to organise safe, enjoyable and purposeful Table Tennis activities aimed primarily at young people.
2. Provide a lead into Table Tennis coaching, organising competitions, umpiring, Table Tennis development and an awareness of equity issues in the sport.

This course could be the first step on the coaching, officiating or administration ladder for young people assisting at Table Tennis clubs, after school clubs, youth centres or school holiday schemes.

Some participants will have taken a Sports Leaders Award (formerly CSLA) and should have developed good communication, leadership, organisational and motivational skills across a range of sporting activities. This course will help them to apply those skills in a Table Tennis context.

The TT Networker Award course covers: Leadership Skills (recap), Health and Safety, Equipment, Learning to Play, Table Tennis Laws and Scoring, Organising Table Tennis Activities (fun games, competition formats, school festivals, skills awards), Volunteering (developing your skills), Selling points of Table Tennis, Where next – local playing and volunteering opportunities.

## Course Outcomes

On completion of the course TT Networkers should be able to:

1. plan and deliver a safe Table Tennis festival for primary aged children.
2. teach/coach some basic Table Tennis skills.
3. demonstrate an understanding of the laws of Table Tennis.
4. identify local playing opportunities in Table Tennis.
5. promote Table Tennis through an understanding of the benefits of the sport.

Please note: TT Networkers will be expected to work alongside a qualified coach, club development officer, teacher or parent in a supporting role.

## Venue

A school sports hall or gym of at least 20m x 10m is required, with chairs and two small tables set up in the corner of the hall that can be used for the theory sections of the course.

## Course Equipment and Number of Candidates

There should be a minimum of three Table Tennis tables with good quality net and posts sets, and a flip chart stand, paper and pens.

The minimum number for the course is 8, the maximum is 14. The minimum number of tables required is: 8 candidates - 3 tables, 12 - 4 tables, 14 - 5 tables, but ideally 1 table per 2 candidates.

## Eligibility

Basic playing experience and knowledge of Table Tennis is recommended, as qualified TT Networkers will be expected to "feed" and join in a game.

An interest in sports leadership or Table Tennis is desirable.

The recommended age range for candidates is 15 to 18, at the discretion of the tutor.

Ideally candidates should have achieved the Sports Leaders Award (formerly CSLA).

## Certification

On successful completion of the course candidates will receive a signed certificate confirming their TT Networker Award.

## Duration and Cost

This 6 hour course can be delivered flexibility is to suit i.e. one 6 hour session or two 3 hour sessions, depending on the location of the tutor.

The cost of the course, including resources, is £15 per candidate and £90 tutor fees, plus travel at 26p per mile.

## Tutors

The ETTA Regional Development Officers (RDO's) will appoint a tutor for each course.

As well as recommended ETTA tutors, the following people may also be suitable, subject to training and ETTA approval:

- Teachers, School Sport Co-ordinators.
- ETTA qualified coaches.
- ETTA qualified Table Tennis Development Officers (TTDO) (club based volunteers).

## TT Networker Resources

There are several useful resources designed to help TT Networkers deliver Table Tennis to children (including young disabled players). The course pack includes the following resources, providing practical ideas for skills practices, session planning, organisation of space and teaching points.

- TT Networker Handbook
- Competition Formats (top table, Table Tennis ladder, knockout, group and draw sheets).
- ETTA Skills Awards.
- ITTF Laws of Table Tennis.
- ETTA Junior Umpire Award.
- ETTA Volunteer Award Courses leaflet (TTDO, National Coaching Scheme Courses, Umpires Awards, Tournament Organisers Course).

Young Table Tennis Networkers are encouraged to use the resources extensively throughout the course, and use the handbook as a future reference. This will help them to become familiar with the resources, to put the 'theory into practice', and to generate ideas for some of the tasks set during the course.

Tutors should gather information about local Table Tennis clubs and contacts so that they can provide up to date information for section ten of the course - "Where next — local playing and volunteering opportunities". This information is available from the ETTA website [www.etta.co.uk](http://www.etta.co.uk), your Regional Table Tennis Development Officer or by contacting the ETTA HQ on tel: 01424 722525.

## Organising a Course

If you are interested in organising a course for your school or club, please contact your Regional Development Officer listed overleaf, or where a post is vacant contact the ETTA Teaching and Training Administrator on tel: 01424 456205, E-mail: [gina.rogers@etta.co.uk](mailto:gina.rogers@etta.co.uk).