

# Transitioning to the World Tennis Number (WTN)

This season sees the introduction of the **World Tennis Number (WTN)** as the grading mechanism for Open Tournaments across Ireland.

As a result, the Tennis Munster Grading System will conclude after **Phase 2 of the 2025–2026 Munster Winter League**. Players will no longer receive Munster grading points beyond this point.

Players will now enter open tournaments using their WTN instead of their Munster Grade. Tournament events are graded using WTN Bands, Band 1 being the strongest and Band 7 being the lowest. For doubles/mixed events, the combined WTN average of the 2 players is used to determine the WTN band to enter.

## Munster Grade Restrictions

To support a smooth transition from the Munster Grading System to WTN, Tennis Munster has introduced Grade restrictions to prevent players from competing below their appropriate level during the transition period.

The table below provides a **mapping** between existing Munster Grades and permitted WTN bands for entering tournaments.

Munster Grade	Lowest WTN Band Allowed	WTN Range				
		MS	WS	MD	WD	XD
Premier	1	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
1	2	18 – 40	18 – 40	18 – 40	18 – 40	19 – 40
2	3	22 – 40	25 – 40	22 – 40	25 – 40	23 – 40
3	4	25 – 40	27 – 40	25 – 40	27 – 40	26 – 40
4	5	27 – 40	29 – 40	27 – 40	29 – 40	28 – 40
5	6	29 – 40	31 – 40	29 – 40	31 – 40	30 – 40
6	7	31 – 40	33 – 40	31 – 40	33 – 40	32 – 40

The above table applies to both Singles, Doubles and Mixed. The only exception is for doubles/mixed where the two players have different grades, in this instance the lowest band allowed is the highest graded player +2.

Players are not allowed to enter a Band unless both their WTN(s) and Grade(s) allows them to.

Some examples

### Singles

- A Grade 2 player can only enter either Band 3, Band 2 or Band 1 (if their WTN allows). They are not allowed to enter Band 4 or lower.
- A Grade 4 player must play in Band 5 or better. They are not allowed to enter Band 6 or Band 7.

### Doubles/Mixed

- Two Grade 2 players must play in either Band 3, Band 2 or Band 1 (if combined WTN average allows). They are not allowed to enter Band 4 or lower.
- Two Grade 4 players must play in Band 5 or better. They are not allowed to enter Band 6 or Band 7.
- A Grade 2 player playing with a Grade 4 player, can only enter Band 4 or better.
- A Grade 1 player playing with a Grade 4 player, can only enter Band 3 or better.

**Players can always play up (i.e. play in any band better than their WTN).**

As always, if a player feels their Munster Grade is no longer reflective of their level, they can request to be downgraded by emailing [admin@munstertennis.ie](mailto:admin@munstertennis.ie) and the directory sub-committee will review.