



medibank

*2015 Medibank Junior
Development Series
Rules and Regulations*

*Requirements and Guidelines for MJDS events in NSW
Commencing 1st January 2015*



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1. Introduction

Medibank JDS (MJDS) events are an opportunity for players, typically between the ages of 10 – 17 to not only develop their games but also for these players to develop a healthy attitude towards fitness and competition. The MJDS events are held for 11/U, 13/U, 15/U and 17/U age divisions and run alongside the Junior Tour (JT) events that offer Australian Ranking (AR) points. The MJDS are a series of events that fit within the encourage stage of the “play tennis” pathway. The MJDS operate in the principles of healthy attitude, fair play and on opportunity to compete to the best of your ability.

2. Categories of Age Groups

1. 11/U – Green 75% Compression Ball
2. 13/U
3. 15/U
4. 17/U

The MJDS events are for players in the following categories: 11/U, 13/U, 15/U and 17/U age groups. These events form part of the encourage stage in the national tournaments and competitions pathway.

State Final is to be held from the 31st October-2nd November 2015 and will be a Silver JT. Players must play in MJDS events to be eligible to qualify for the State Final.

3. Balls

11/U events must use the green modified ball. HEAD and Tennis NSW will be providing MJDS tournaments with FREE green HEAD modified balls. To collect your HEAD balls, please contact your regional Community Tennis Officer who will send the balls to you. Please advise how many dozen you require as well as allowing time for delivery of balls (approximately a week). Please see the order form at the back of this document for more details.

13/U – 17/U events will use a full compression yellow ball.

4. Playing Fee

An entry fee will be charged to each player, per MJDS event that they play. This entry fee will range from \$15-\$25. Tournament directors may assign their own entry fees but this amount must not exceed \$25.

5. Entering MJDS

MJDS tournaments in the Metropolitan Region are required to take online entries. Entries can be made via <http://tournaments.tennis.com.au/>.

a. Tournament Planner

The Tennis Australia approved software is Tournament Planner (TP). As part of its investment in tournaments, licenses are provided free of charge by Tennis Australia to the host clubs of the Medibank Junior Development Series.

b. Player Registration

All players who play in MJDS events MUST be registered with Tennis NSW. All players must provide their Tennis NSW registration number upon entry into all MJDS events. A player's registration number is an eleven (11) digit number starting with 61. If a player cannot provide their registration number they will need to become a member of their club at a cost of \$15.00 (this is the preferred option), if a player does not wish to become a member of a club they are able to take out a direct membership with Tennis NSW should be charged a registration fee of \$30.00 for a direct Membership with Tennis NSW this will be at a cost of \$30.00 on top of their entry fee into the tournament. If a player cannot provide their registration number and will not pay the registration fee of \$30.00 then they should not be allowed to play. If a tournament allows a player to play without being registered and an incident occurs, the club may compromise their position with regards to insurance.

All registration numbers will be checked by the Tennis NSW Membership Department throughout the 2013 Medibank Junior Development Series. Players who do not have current registration numbers will have their points suspended until they have paid their registration to Tennis NSW.

c. Player Information

Upon entry into all MJDS events, players must provide the following information

1. Name
2. Date of Birth
3. Membership number
4. Address
5. Contact Phone Number
6. Email
7. Age Group

It is important that this information is collected and sent to the Regional Administrator/MJDS Coordinator at the completion of all MJDS events. This information is required to establish a regional database for the benefit of all Affiliates/Clubs as well as players. The database will be used to contact players regarding important issues (e.g. MJDS Champion of Champions, MJDS State Final, and State Teams Carnivals).

d. Late Entries

The acceptance of late entries is at the discretion of the Region's Administrator. Please contact your Regional Administrator to clarify if late entries will be accepted.

6. Eligibility

6.1 Age Eligibility

To be eligible for a certain age group, no matter what age a player currently is, the cut off date is the age a player is as at the 31st December 2015. DOB cut off is as follows:

1. 11 & Under (11/U) – Born 31/12/2004 and later
2. 13 & Under (13/U) – Born 31/12/2002 and later
3. 15 & Under (15/U) - Born 31/12/2000 and later
4. 17 & Under (17/U) – Born 31/12/1998 and later
5. Post Junior: 21 & Under (21/U) – Born 31/12/1994*

*please check with your region as to whether you offer the 21/U age group.

6.2 Player Eligibility

All players must be registered members of Tennis NSW as per 5.2. Players are to be aware that Tennis NSW registrations are due in July of each year and they will be required to renew their membership during the course of the MJDS events. Anyone who is not a member will have to pay a 'once off' Registration Fee of \$30.00 to Tennis NSW. Please keep this money separate and send it to the Regional Administrator / MJDS Co-ordinator with all other information as part of the Tournament Director Report.

6.3 Regional Eligibility

Players who come from outside the Regional boundaries are allowed to take part in the MJDS round robins. However, they are NOT entitled to gain points towards the Metropolitan point score. Players who play against an 'Out of Region' player will not receive the games won against that player, their games will be scaled to 40games. All 'out of region' players MUST BE INFORMED of this when they enter. All 'out of region' players must have 'OUT OF REGION' marked on the actual round robin draw sheet and on your player list that will be sent to the MJDS Administrator. These players should be spread throughout the cards. For this reason, we recommend that these players be offered to play 'up' an age group, particularly if they a reasonable standard of player. The Tournament Director should also inform them of this when they enter.

7. Seeding the MJDS

Susan Harris (Tournaments Coordinator Tennis NSW) will do all of the seeding for all of the age groups. It is not the responsibility of the Tournament Director to seed players in the MJDS.

a. Where to Send the List for Seeding

Your TP File with all players must be emailed to Susan Harris before 12.00pm on the Thursday prior to your tournament. Once the seeding has been completed, Susan Harris will email your TP File back to you with all draws completed. Once you receive your TP File back from Susan Harris you can start to write out your round robin cards. Seeding will be done depending on the number of entries at each individual MJDS event. There will no seeded cards used in the Metropolitan Region.

8. Writing out the Round Robin Cards

It is suggested that Saturday is usually the best day to write up the round robin cards because there is less chance of major changes to the draw. There are usually too many changes/withdrawals earlier in the week, so by doing the draw on Saturday it is much safer and hassle free. If you have not received the seeded list by this date please contact your regional administrator. Do not write out the round robin cards if you have not received the seeded list.

a. Information

The Age Group, Card Number, Venue and Court Number should be clearly marked on each card. Players from outside of the region should be clearly marked 'OUT OF REGION' on the round robin card.

b. Separation

The top two (2) seeds must be separated on the round robin card (i.e. the card order should be random). Where possible, you should also separate players from the same Club / Association.

c. Number of Players Per Card

All cards should be based on an optimum number of six (6) players per card. Five (5) players on a card is also acceptable. Seven (7) or eight (8) player cards should ONLY be used if there are only 7, 8, 13, or 14 entries in a particular event. When multiple cards with one or more cards of 7 must be used, multiple courts should be used. (E.g. 14 entries = 2 cards of 7 players, so 3 or 4 courts should be used)

9. Event Day

a. Start Time

Play is scheduled to start no later than 8.30am. Players should be advised to be at the venue at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time. This will aid in a prompt start time and therefore, a reasonable finish time. Do not wait for all six (6) players on a card to arrive before you begin play. If you have four (4) players arrive on a card it is usually safe to begin. However, make sure the seeded players all arrive in case you have to make alterations to the draw.

b. Setting up on the Morning

It is advisable to have three (3) copies of each card - i.e. one (1) copy to tick names off at the beginning of the day, one (1) copy to go the court and one (1) spare copy. Each court will need a clipboard, pen/pencil and a minimum of two (2) tennis balls. Some centres open new balls when the play-offs begin - this is at the Tournament Director's discretion. You will also need play-off sheets copied for each age division. Play-off sheets can be provided by your regional administrator.

It is advisable that you have three (3) or four (4) volunteer helpers on the morning of your event. This will aid in getting your event started on time. Make sure that you have the filled out round robin sheets ready to go with pencils and ball tins open.



When players arrive, tick their names of on the round robin sheets. Once all players have checked in and you are ready to start play, make sure that you communicate all of the relevant information. This can be done by having the tournament referee hold a meeting prior to the start of play for all players and parents. Once this has concluded you will need to give one person the round robin card, balls, pencil etc and send the players to their relevant courts.

c. When Players Do Not Turn Up

If players do not turn up on the day, you may need to re-arrange the cards. It is best if you do this as early as possible. It is best if you have all cards with the same amount of players, even if you have to move players away from cards that have already started play. You cannot move someone if they have started their matches already. The easiest way to move players in a fair way is to move un-seeded players to fill the vacant spaces. Try to keep the cards with an even amount of players on each one once you have realised who has not turned up, otherwise all of the cards will be finishing at drastically different times. (i.e. aim to have the same amount of players on all cards). Remember to adjust the number of games that are to be player per match if you are moving players (see format section for more information). This applies even if the first match on a card is already underway (you will need to advise players on court of the changes in format immediately). If this is not done you will have courts finishing hours apart.

d. Wet Weather

Don't be too quick to call off your MJDS event. If there is a long delay before play can begin, your Tournament Referee can agree to shorten each match on the card by two (2) games. Make sure that it is very clear when the final decision will be made. You should plan ahead and make it very clear (in case of phone calls), when the earliest time to call will be (e.g. no decision will be made before 7.00am).

In cases where a tournament director cannot answer phone calls, they must have a telephone message at 7am on the day of play to notify players who have to travel about the decision.

10. Format

All MJDS events are to be Singles Round Robin events (There are no doubles events in MJDS). Each region will adjust their format if they wish to include play-offs.

10.1 When there are 4 Players in an Event

If there are only four (4) players entered, we encourage that you still run the event. It is suggested that each player would play each other twice. The order of play would be as follows: 1v2, 3v4, 1v3, 2v4, 1v4, 2v3, 2v1, 4v3, 3v1, 4v2, 4v1, 3v2. This order of play should be written out on any four (4) player cards.

10.2 Number of Games

When there are four (4) or more players in an event, each player in the 13/U, 15/U and 17/U age groups will play approximately 40 games per day using the following format:

No. Players per Pool	No. Matches Played	No. Games Played each Match	No. Games Played each Match
8	7	6	42
7	6	6	36
6	5	8	40
5	4	10	40
4	3	12	36

When there are four (4) or more players in an event, each player in the 11/U age group will play approximately 30 games per day using the following format:

No. Players per Pool	No. Matches Played	No. Games Played each Match	No. Games Played each Match
8	7	4	28
7	6	5	30
6	5	6	30
5	4	7	28
4	3	10	30

*Please note that all 10/U events will use "Short Deuce" in the Metropolitan Region.

10.3 Variations to the Number of Games

The Metropolitan Region has the option of using different scoring formats for 11/U events. Older age groups may also be adjusted depending on the number of players that have entered the tournament. This decision can only be made by the referee onsite in consultation with the Tournament Director on the day of the tournament.

Tournaments in the Metropolitan Region may choose to shorten the 13/U, 15/U and 17/U age groups to play short deuce if they have large numbers. Short deuce should only be used in the case of wet weather and large numbers in the older age groups. The 11/U age group will automatically use short deuce (short deuce – when the score reaches 40-40 the receiving player chooses which side they wish to receive (deuce or ad court). The player that wins this point is the winner of the current game).

10.4 Combined Age Groups

If there is a lack of numbers in an event it is possible to combine 2 or more events. If events are combined, only the matches played against players in the same original age group will count towards the players overall position. (e.g. If there are three (3) 15/U girls, and three (3) 17/U girls, the matches will only count when it is 15/U vs 15/U, and 17/U vs 17/U. Matches between 15/U and 17/U, will not count to the overall positions). Points for these matches will be scaled to 40 games.

11. Points Allocation

Points will be allocated according to the number of games won by a player at each event, e.g. if a player has 6 players in their pool they would play 5 matches of 8 games. If this player wins all their matches 8/0 it would give them a total of 40 games for the day. The player would then receive 40 points towards their point score. A player's best five (5) results will be taken into consideration when qualifying for the Champion of Champions.

12. Once the Round Robin has Finished

There is plenty for the Tournament Director to do at the completion of a MJDS event. You will need to complete and submit the FULL Tournament Report ASAP to the Regional administrator/MJDS Co-ordinator. You will also need to FAX/EMAIL full results of the event to the Regional Administrator/MJDS Co-ordinator the next day so an accurate point score is available as soon as possible for the Regional Selectors and for players. Please ensure that:

- The results are ALL complete.
- The players who failed to notify of their withdrawal are noted.
- You have forwarded all entry forms, result sheets and play-off sheets ASAP to the Regional Administrator/MJDS Co-ordinator (you may wish to keep a copy for yourself).
- You forward the 'Player Levy' cheque (made payable to your region) for the \$4.00 (incl GST) per player to the Regional Administrator/MJDS Co-ordinator
- You have forwarded any 'Player Registration' money and the appropriate forms to the Regional Administrator/MJDS Co-ordinator so that they can be forwarded on to Tennis NSW.
- You have sent the COMPLETED Tournament Director and Tournament Referee reports to the Regional Administrator/MJDS Co-ordinator
- You may like to send the results of the MJDS to your local newspaper, particularly if a local player does well. Do not forget it is your responsibility to make sure that your Region's name is used in any media releases or articles.
- Ensure the completed Tournament Planner file is published on the web (if applicable) and a copy is sent to Tennis NSW.

13. Non-Attendance at Tournaments

Once a player has entered a round robin, they are expected to play UNLESS prevented by illness or injury. Any player that withdraws from an event should provide a Medical Certificate. Players withdrawing after 8.00pm on the Friday prior to the tournament, without a Medical Certificate, or players who simply do not turn up will be given a written warning letter advising them of the non-compliance with MJDS regulations. All subsequent withdrawals that do not have a medical certificate provided if required will result in players being penalised four (4) points for all regional players and 10 games for Metropolitan players. All Medical Certificates must be received by the Tournament Director by the Wednesday after the Tournaments completion. These players MUST also pay the applicable entry fee for that MJDS to the host affiliate before participating in any future MJDS event - this rule is to be strictly enforced.

14 . Sponsorship / Advertising / Branding

Each MJDS tournament shall identify itself clearly to the public as being part of the Medibank Junior Development Series and shall cooperate fully with Tennis Australia and Tennis NSW in furthering public awareness of the Medibank Junior Development Series.

Tennis Australia and Tennis NSW has the right to brand nets, courts and venue surrounds if it so chooses. Signage kits will be provided, without cost, to all MJDS tournaments by Tennis NSW.

From time to time there may be new initiatives presented by Medibank that we will request your support in communicating e.g. Medibank Healthy Attitude Awards.

Tournaments are able to source local sponsors if they wish. However, any sponsors that are supporting your MJDS event must not be in direct competition with Medibank and should be approved by Tennis NSW before any agreements are made.

14.1 Signage

Tennis Australia and Medibank have supplied signage kits for the NSW Medibank JDS. There are 2 signage kits per region which contain the following:

1. 1 x Medibank Umbrella
2. 2 x Net Signs
3. 2 x Vinyl Fence Banners
4. 2 x Teardrop Banners

These kits can be found with your Regional Community Tennis Officer. Please note that your regional CTO is not responsible for getting the signs from one event to the next. The MJDS administrator in each region should contact the relevant CTO to organise pickup of these kits at the start of the series and the distribution of them throughout the series.

Banners behind the court must not be white or yellow (off-white and grey banners are permitted). All nominated MJDS events must display the Medibank signage kits.

14.2 Advertising

Tennis NSW can provide each MJDS event with advertising material to be displayed at the venues as well as flyers that can be handed out at the tournaments discretion. Please contact Susan Harris if you wish to utilise this service.

NSW MJDS events are encouraged to promote their own events via local media however; all media releases and advertisement should be sent to Tennis NSW for approval before being sent out.

15. Venue Appearance and Amenities

All MJDS venues must present a venue that is safe, neat and tidy. This includes the following areas-

- Entrance
- Gardens and Grounds
- Courts and Surrounds
- Clubhouse and Equipment
- Change rooms, showers and toilets
- Noticeboards
- Tournament Office (which is to be staffed at all times during the day's play)
- Venues must provide an appropriately stocked first aid kit at each venue

15.1 Choosing Additional Venues

When choosing additional venues, you should choose venues that are close by to the main centre and with a substantial amount of courts that will be able to cater for the needs of you event.

15.2 Using Additional Venues

Once the courts and venues have been allocated, it is ultimately YOUR responsibility to telephone ALL players who are not playing at the original advertised venue. You should also be able to provide directions if necessary.

16. Code of Conduct

All Clubs/Associations must have a copy of the 'Code of Conduct'. If you do not have one, contact your Regional Administrator/MJDS Coordinator or Tennis NSW as soon as possible. Each MJDS event must have a Tournament Referee. Referees are there to deal with player behaviour, player dress code, off-court parent/coach interference, player disputes, playing conditions (i.e. inclement weather). It is also important that there are Court Supervisors at each centre. The 'Code of Conduct' applies to parents, coaches and friends off the court as well as players on the court. Any interference from any parties off the court will not be tolerated. The Tournament Referee must submit a report outlining any problems so the Regions Disciplinary System can be used.

Tournaments that do not have a Tournament Referee run the risk of losing their event next year.



17. Champion of Champions

The Champion of Champions will be conducted in each region and administered by the respective Regional Administrator.

17.1 Metropolitan Champion of Champions

- The Top twelve (12) point scorers who meet the eligibility criteria to participate will contest the Metropolitan Champion of Champions event in each age group. In the event that the 12th place is tied, both players will participate in the Champion of Champions.
- The determination of the top twelve (12) point scorers will be based on the cumulative total of a player's best five (5) tournament results.
- The Champion of Champions event will be conducted under the Rules that govern all MJDS tournaments, as stated in the document.
- The Metropolitan Champion of Champions event will use the format of first to four (4) with a tie-break being played if the score reaches three (3) games all.
- Players qualify for the MJDS State Final (31st October-2nd November 2015) through the Champions of Champions. The MJDS State Final will be Silver OJT Status for 2015.

18. MJDS State Final

- a) 11, 13 and 15 & Under (11/U, 13/U, 15/U) – A draw Round Robin of thirty-two (32) comprises:
- Top three (3) finishers from each of the six (6) Country regions
 - Top six (6) finishers from the Metropolitan region
 - Plus one (1) wild card for each region and two (2) wild cards from the metropolitan region
- b) 17 & Under (17/U) – A Round Robin draw of sixteen (24) comprises:
- Top three (3) finishers from each of the six (6) Country regions
 - Top six (6) finishers from the Metropolitan region

Players shall be selected for the Medibank State Final based on the position in which they finish at the completion of the play-off stage of the regional C of C event. Players finishing 3rd and 4th will be required to play off for the 3rd position at the Medibank State Final where applicable.

**Wild Cards for the Medibank State Final may only be granted to players who have competed in the MJDS series in 2015. Players who have not participated in the MJDS series will not be eligible to compete in the Medibank State Final.*



REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS

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