



**NORTH EASTERN JUNIOR TENNIS
ASSOCIATION**

**SINGLES
MATCH RULES &
REGULATIONS**

All correspondence and communication other than on a Saturday morning must be submitted by the Junior Secretary to:
nejtasec@gmail.com

SATURDAY MORNING COMPETITION

Mobile: 0408 587 380 (Saturday morning only)

March 2024

CONTENTS

1.	RULES.....	1
2.	COURT REQUIREMENTS.....	2
3.	ELIGIBILITY	3
4.	REGISTRATION	3
5.	EMERGENCIES	4
6.	STARTING AND FINISHING TIMES	5
7.	METHOD OF PLAY	5
8.	POINTS ALLOCATION	7
9.	UNPLAYABLE CONDITIONS.....	8
10.	WASHOUTS.....	8
11.	FORFEITS / WITHDRAWALS	9
12.	SUBSTITUTES / INJURIES.....	9
13.	BALLS.....	10
14.	SCORE CARDS	10
15.	HOME COURT SUPERVISOR	11
16.	TEAM MANAGERS & SPECTATORS	11
17.	TEAM CAPTAINS.....	11
18.	PROTESTS.....	11
19.	COMPLAINTS	11
20.	POWERS OF THE NEJTA COMMITTEE	12

1. RULES

- (a) The rules of tennis as adopted by the Governing Body of Tennis in Victoria, shall apply to all matches, except where modified here-in after.
- (b) The Association has the right to request the use of any Affiliated Club courts, for Association competition.
- (c) Application to waive any Rule must be submitted by the Junior Secretary and directed to the NEJTA Match Committee through the Association Secretary.
- (d) Matches shall be played on Saturday mornings. No match can be played on any date or location other than that prescribed on the fixture, unless approved by the NEJTA Match Committee.
- (e) A team shall lose to love all sets in which it was represented by an ineligible player.
- (f) A match played with only 2 players will be deemed a forfeit.
- (g) No Player's name is to be entered on score card until they are physically present.
- (h) No player will be permitted to play in another team within the same section, unless the club has more than one team in that section. Listed or Emergency players can play with both teams through the home and away season, to a maximum number of four (4) matches in their non-graded team. A player is only eligible for Finals in their graded team.

Penalty – Loss of sets and fine

- (i) No player will be permitted to play in any section lower than they were graded in.

Penalty – Loss of sets and fine

- (j) Each player is limited to playing four (4) matches in any section higher than their graded section and then no further games in a higher section will be permitted without prior NEJTA Match Committee approval.

Penalty –

First offence: Loss of sets and fine

Second and subsequent offences: Loss of all points for offending team and fine.

- (k) Matches played in breach of Rule 1(j) will not be counted towards a player's eligibility for finals.
- (l) No player shall be listed to play in more than one match in the same round.
Penalty – Loss of sets for second match played
- (m) The receiver may not call a foot fault against the server. Players may be requested to correct their foot faulting problem by a Home Supervisor.

- (n) Under-arm serves are prohibited.
A player may be granted permission to serve under-arm (as their only means of serving) if ;
- (i) the player is claiming that they suffer from a medical condition or physical impediment that prevents them from serving over the arm; AND,
 - (ii) is able to provide supporting medical documentation of such a condition to the Match Committee; AND
 - (iii) has sought and received permission from the Match Committee to serve under-arm
 - (iv) Match Committee approval to serve under-arm cannot be sought retrospectively.

Penalty –

First Offence : Loss of point.

Second Offence :Loss of game.

Third Offence : Loss of set.

- (o) Coaching of any kind and by any person is prohibited.
Communication of any kind, audible or visible between a player and any other person may be construed as coaching. Coaching is not permitted while a court is being serviced at the end of or during a set and players are still on court, or during a toilet break.

Penalty –

First Offence : Warning

Second Offence : Loss of point.

Third Offence : Loss of game

Fourth and subsequent offences: Loss of set

2. COURT REQUIREMENTS

- (a) The type, condition and surroundings of each competing Club's courts shall be subject to the approval of the NEJTA Match Committee.
- (b) The provision of an alternative venue must be approved by the NEJTA Match Committee.
- (c) Each Club must provide a minimum of two (2) courts per team from 8:00 to 10:00 am. Teams must retain one (1) court originally allocated to them.

Penalty as determined by NEJTA Match Committee

- (d) Each Club must provide a minimum of two (2) courts per team for Matches commencing at 10:00am.

Penalty as determined by NEJTA Match Committee

- (e) Court allocation for all teams must be displayed at the Home Court venue.

Penalty as determined by NEJTA Match Committee

3. ELIGIBILITY

- (a) Players must be under 19 years of age for the entire Season in which the competition takes place.

Penalty – Loss of sets

- (b) EXCEPT for UTR Section, to be eligible to play in finals a player must have played in a minimum of 5 matches during the season. Players must be recorded in TROLS online scoring system for washouts and forfeits to be considered as match/s played. If a player is unregistered they are deemed as ineligible and therefore the match does not count as a match played.

- (c) For UTR Section, washouts WILL NOT count towards a match played for eligibility for finals. Players must physically play 5 matches to be eligible for finals.

- (d) For UTR Section, players must be recorded in TROLS online scoring system for match forfeits and set forfeits to be considered as match/s played.

- (e) A player is required to complete a Player Transfer when registering to a different club in a new competition season, having played in a previous season. A Player transfer is not required when a player has not played in 2 or more previous competition seasons. All Player Transfers must be approved by the NEJTA before the player is permitted to play.

- (f) Any player who plays prior to a transfer being approved shall be deemed as ineligible.

Penalty – Loss of sets

- (g) If any team is withdrawn before or after the season commences, the individual players registered for that team will not be permitted to play in another team or to transfer to another club without prior approval of Match Committee.

Penalty – Loss of sets and fine

A \$50.00 penalty will be issued to any club that withdraws a team after grading

4. REGISTRATION

- (a) All players must be recorded in TROLS online scoring system. To register a player, a player's full name and date of birth must be provided on the scorecard, or sent to the Association Secretary by 6.30pm Monday following their first match.

Penalty – Loss of sets and fine.

- (b) An unregistered player will be deemed ineligible.

Penalty – Loss of sets

5. EMERGENCIES

- (a) EXCEPT for UTR Section , if a player has not played before they must provide their full name and date of birth which must reach the Association Secretary by 6:30 pm Monday following their first match

Penalty – Loss of sets and fine.

- (b) EXCEPT for UTR Section , any player/s filling in for a higher section must be played in the correct order according to their ranking.

Penalty - Loss of sets and fine

- (c) EXCEPT for UTR Section, any player who was not named in a team at the beginning of the season is to be played in the order he/she would have been ranked if named in the team at the commencement of the season.

Penalty – Loss of sets and fine

- (d) For UTR Section, Emergencies not named in a team at the beginning of the season will need prior NEJTA Match Committee approval before playing in any match. Players are limited to playing a maximum of four (4) matches. Teams must submit an application for any new emergency to the NEJTA for review and approval. The application must reach the NEJTA by Friday, 6pm, preceding the match.

- (e) For UTR Section, Emergencies not named in a team at the beginning of the season who play without NEJTA Match Committee approval will not be eligible to play

Penalty – Loss of sets

- (f) For UTR Section, no prior NEJTA Match Committee approval is needed when drawing a player from a lower section. In this instance, the Emergency player must play in the lowest singles position.

Penalty – Loss of sets

- (g) For UTR Section, all emergency players will be require NEJTA Match Committee approval on each occasion, except when the emergency is drawn from a lower section. An emergency approved for a particular match does not automatically qualify for subsequent and future matches.

Penalty – Loss of sets

- (h) For UTR Section, players named in a team at the beginning of the season having played less than 5 matches during the season may be subject to further penalty.

Penalty - Loss of 3 points per match on the balance of 5 matches not played, per player

- (i) No Emergency player is eligible to play finals, without NEJTA Match Committee approval.

6. STARTING AND FINISHING TIMES

- (a) The starting time of **all REGULAR matches is 8:00 am promptly**. Players may hit-up (prior to 8:00am) for their first set only. Hit up time is to be limited to 3 minutes.
- (b) The starting time of **all LATE START [LS] matches is 10:00 am promptly**. Players may hit-up (prior to 10:00am) for their first set only. Hit up time is to be limited to 3 minutes.
- (c) No team will be permitted to start a set after 12:15 pm.
- (d) For matches commencing at 8:00am, the team responsible for play not commencing by :
 - (i) 8:10 am will forfeit the first 2 Doubles sets to 'Love'.
 - (ii) 8:20 am will forfeit the first 2 Singles sets to 'Love'.
 - (iii) 8:30 am will forfeit the match.
- (e) For matches commencing at 10:00am, the team responsible for play not commencing by :
 - (i) 10:10 am will forfeit the first 2 Doubles sets to 'Love'.
 - (ii) 10:20 am will forfeit the first 2 Singles sets to 'Love'.
 - (iii) 10:30 am will forfeit the match.

7. METHOD OF PLAY

- (a) A minimum of **three (3)** players of each team must be present before a match can commence.
- (b) Matches may be applied across more than two courts, if courts are available. The Home Court Supervisor shall make such determinations.
- (c) Matches cannot change surfaces once commenced unless mutual agreement is reached by both teams.
- (d) The Home Team is responsible for entering the section, gender, date, club, and their player's full names, as registered in TROLS online scoring system, and start and finish time on the scorecard. The visiting team is responsible for entering their club and their player's full names, as registered in TROLS online scoring system.
Penalty – Fine issued to offending team
- (e) EXCEPT for UTR Section, a tie-break will be played at 5 games all.
- (f) Players must play in their graded order (i.e. No player may play below a player who is graded lower than them)
Penalty – Loss of set and fine
- (g) If play does not commence due to washout or forfeit, the penalty - loss of sets does not apply for incorrect entry of team order into TROLS online scoring system.
- (h) Order of play can be corrected during the match where a team realises players are out of order. Sets completed or commenced cannot be altered or replayed. A note is to be made in the notes section of the scorecard. No player can play more than 3 sets.
- (i) Doubles must be played first
Penalty – As determined by NEJTA Match Committee

- (j) EXCEPT for UTR Section, each match will consist of four (4) singles and four (4) doubles sets. At five (5) games all (in any set) a seven point tie-break will be played.

	SET	HOME TEAM		VISITING TEAM
DOUBLES	#1	1 & 4	V	1 & 4
	#2	2 & 3	V	2 & 3
SINGLES	#3	No 1 Player	V	No 1 Player
	#4	No 2 Player	V	No 2 Player
	#5	No 3 Player	V	No 3 Player
	#6	No 4 Player	V	No 4 Player
DOUBLES	#7	1 & 2	V	1 & 2
	#8	3 & 4	V	3 & 4

- (k) For UTR Section, each match will consist of four (4) singles and two (2) doubles rubbers. Singles rubbers are to be the best of two tie-break sets. At six games all (in any set) a seven point tie-break will be played. At one set all, a match tie-break (10 point tie-break) will be played.
Doubles rubbers are to be an eight game pro-set (at seven (7) games all a seven point tie-break will be played).

	RUBBER	HOME TEAM		VISITING TEAM
DOUBLES	#1	1 & 2 or 3 or 4	V	1 & 2 or 3 or 4
	#2	Pairs not played in above set	V	Pairs not played in above set
SINGLES	#3	No 1 Player	V	No 1 Player
	#4	No 2 Player	V	No 2 Player
	#5	No 3 Player	V	No 3 Player
	#6	No 4 Player	V	No 4 Player

- (l) For UTR Section, the highest ranked players for the Home and Visitor teams MUST play opposite in the First Doubles Rubber. Any combination of players can play in the Second Doubles Rubber. There is no Doubles order of merit.

- (m) For matches commencing at 8:00am, if a player has not arrived and ready for play at 8:10 am their first doubles set will be forfeited.
If still not present at 8:20 am their singles set will be forfeited, and if still not present at 8:30 their second doubles will be forfeited.

For matches commencing at 10:00am, if a player has not arrived and ready for play at 10:10 am their first doubles set will be forfeited.

If still not present at 10:20 am their singles set will be forfeited, and if still not present at 10:30 their second doubles will be forfeited.

- (n) If a match is played with a team of three (3) players, the player not present must forfeit their three(3) sets to the opposition.
- (o) When a match is played with three (3) players they may play in their graded order. (i.e. if No 2 not playing No 2 position may be forfeited).

8. POINTS ALLOCATION

- (a) EXCEPT for UTR Section, the Match is determined by Sets First, then games.

Win = 4 points

Sets Completed = 1 point

Incomplete/Unplayed Sets = 0.5 Points

Total Match Points =12

- (b) For UTR Section, the Match is determined by Rubbers First, then sets, then games.

Win = 4 points

Rubbers Completed = 1 point

Incomplete/Unplayed Rubbers = 0.5 Points

Total Match Points =10

- (c) If a result has been achieved prior to wash out/heat out and after commencement of play, 4 match points will be allocated to the winning team.

- (d) No points will be allocated to either team for sets / rubbers not played where players were absent from both teams, or where both teams are responsible for forfeit of set.

- (e) Match Forfeits :

EXCEPT for UTR Section, a team receiving a match forfeit shall be awarded = 12 Points

For UTR Section , a team receiving a match forfeit shall be awarded = 10 Points

- (f) In the event of a Washout / Heat Out without commencement of play ;-

EXCEPT for UTR Section, 6 points awarded to each team

For UTR Section, 5 points awarded to each team

No match points or set points (incomplete/unplayed sets/ rubbers) will be allocated if HEAT OUT is called prior to temperature reaching 32 degrees Celsius.

9. UNPLAYABLE CONDITIONS

- (a) A match may be abandoned or play stopped by Home Court Supervisor under the following circumstances:
 - (i) Rain – If the courts are unfit / unsafe for play, before or during play.
 - (ii) Extreme Heat – if the temperature reaches 32 degrees Celsius or higher.
 - (iii) Frost – When court surface is frozen and courts are deemed unplayable.
 - (iv) Lightning – When visible, take shelter until 30 minutes from the last sighting
 - (v) Other factors – When courts are deemed unplayable for any other reason.
- (b) The decision to abandon play due to any of the above factors must be made by the Home Court Supervisor.
For matches scheduled for an 8:00am start, if play has not commenced by 8:30 am play will be abandoned. Time is a guide only. OR;
For matches scheduled for an 10:00am start, if play has not commenced by 10:30 am play will be abandoned. Time is a guide only,
- (c) A heat out must be called by the Home Supervisor when the temperature reaches 32 degrees Celsius at any time during play.
Games and sets / rubbers played to be written and totalled on the scorecard.
- (d) At all times, every attempt should be made to achieve a match result.

10. WASHOUTS

- (a) The Washout Coordinator must check the condition of the courts 45 minutes before scheduled commencement of play.
Penalty – As determined by NEJTA Match Committee
- (b) The Washout Coordinator is responsible for entering notification of any washed out matches into the TROLS online scoring system 45 minutes prior to scheduled commencement of play. **Penalty – As determined by NEJTA Match Committee**
- (c) Away team must attend any match where washout has not been recorded on TROLS online scoring system.
Penalty – As determined by NEJTA Match Committee
- (d) When a washout is declared each team is responsible for entering their player' names into TROLS online scoring system in ranked order.
- (e) If players' names are not entered into the TROLS online scoring system in the event of a washout, the match will not count for finals eligibility.

11. FORFEITS / WITHDRAWALS

- (a) Any club that cannot field a team for any match shall inform the opposing team Junior Secretary as early as possible prior to the proposed commencement of play. It is the responsibility of the Junior Secretary of the forfeiting club to advise the Junior Secretary of the opposing team of a forfeit. If a Junior Secretary is absent due to leave etc., then a pre-nominated replacement can be the only other person to advise forfeits.
- (b) Once a forfeit has been given it cannot be retracted.
- (c) The team receiving a forfeit must complete their section, gender, date, club, players full Christian and Surnames and doubles pairing on score card and enter the details into the online scoring system by 6:30 pm Monday following the match
- (d) Any team forfeiting three (3) matches in the one season shall be withdrawn from the competition. Any games and points gained or lost in matches against a withdrawn team in the formation of the ladder, will be disregarded and those matches treated as Byes.
Penalty – First Forfeit \$10 Fine – Second Forfeit \$20 Fine – Third Forfeit \$30 Fine.
- (e) If a team is withdrawn during a season matches played will still count for an individual players' records for all purposes for that season. This includes qualifications for finals for emergencies and player gradings.

12. SUBSTITUTES / INJURIES

- (a) In the event of a player becoming incapacitated whilst playing, their current set shall be forfeited to the opposing team. Games already played shall count. An eligible substitute may then play in the remaining set. Once a player has forfeited a set they may not play in any other set.
Penalty – Loss of set
- (b) In the event of a player becoming incapacitated in their first doubles set, and a substitute playing their singles and second doubles set the score card may be altered to include the name of the substitute player and to reflect and maintain the correct ranking order of singles and doubles. A note must be recorded on the scorecard detailing the change, and entered into the online scoring system.
- (c) Any substitute must be ready to commence play at the beginning of the next set in which the incapacitated player is scheduled to play as per listed order of play (unless by mutual agreement). If not ready to play, the unplayed set relative to the substitute player shall be forfeited.
- (d) A one-time 3 minute suspension of play will be permitted for an injury sustained during play, and the match must resume at the expiration of that 3 minutes.

13. BALLS

- (a) Home Teams shall supply two (2) NEW balls per court, which must be approved by Tennis Victoria. If a club is using additional courts (more than two) balls may be new or good quality/standard used balls.

Penalty – As determined by NEJTA Match Committee

14. SCORE CARDS

- (a) No pencils or white out to be used.
- (b) Home team is responsible for Section, Start and finish times, date and games/sets totals and Home Supervisor signature.
- (c) Each team is responsible for completing Club Name, Fixture number, players full Christian and Surnames, Doubles pairs and Captains signatures.

Penalty – Fine issued to offending team

- (d) Once entered, Score Cards should not to be altered. Results must be recorded by the Home Team at the completion of each set. If an error requires correction, it should be crossed out with a single stroke and the correct entry made. The change must be initialled by both captains.

Penalty – Fine issued to offending team

- (e) Where a match is not completed for any reason, the exact score at cessation of play must be shown on the Score Card and totalled.

Penalty – Fine issued to offending team

- (f) Score cards must be entered into the online scoring system by 6:30 pm Monday following the match

Penalty - First Offence per team \$ 15.00 fine for one score card - \$ 30.00 fine for multiple score cards

Penalty – Second and subsequent Offences per team - Loss of 2 points per team

- (g) The away team has until 6.30pm Wednesday following the match to notify the Association Secretary of any error they believe has occurred in the input of the scorecard. After 6.30pm Wednesday following the match the score as recorded on the online system stands.
- (h) Scorecards must be keyed correctly into TROLS online scoring system.
Penalty - First offence per club -\$10.00 fine,
Penalty - Second offence \$20.00 fine, third and subsequent offences \$40.00 fine.
- (i) Scorecards must be kept by the home club for the entire season.

15. HOME COURT SUPERVISOR

- (a) All clubs must provide a Home Court Supervisor who must be in attendance for the full duration of all matches played at the venue. Penalty as determined by the Match Committee
- (a) Enforce the NEJTA Match Rules, Code of Conduct and Dress Code.
- (b) All disputes or problems must be referred to the Home Court Supervisor.
- (c) Check the start/finish time, games and sets totals and sign all score cards.

16. TEAM MANAGERS & SPECTATORS

- (a) All teams must be accompanied to all matches by a Team Manager, who is to remain for the duration of the match.

17. TEAM CAPTAINS

- (a) Team Captains are responsible for entering results and signing score cards.

18. PROTESTS

- (a) When a team wishes to lodge a protest against the opposing team, they shall notify their Junior Secretary, who will inform the Association Secretary via email and attach a statement. This must reach the Association Secretary no later than 6:30 pm Tuesday (Round 14 – 6:30 pm Monday) following the match. A copy of Protest and accompanying correspondence must be forwarded immediately to the opposing team.
- (b) The protest fee of \$10.00 must accompany the Protest form.
- (c) Any protest shall be ruled upon within 14 days of receipt.
- (d) The NEJTA Match Committee's decision is final.

19. COMPLAINTS

- (a) All Complaints must be made in writing, endorsed and submitted by the Junior Secretary.
- (b) The Complaint must reach the Association Secretary no later than 6:30 pm Tuesday (Round 14 – 6:30 pm Monday) following the match. The Association Secretary will notify the Club that a Complaint has been received.
- (c) Sub-committee :
The NEJTA Committee shall appoint a complaints sub-committee to deal with complaints received.
- (d) Sub-Committee Scope :
The complaints sub-committee shall consider and deal with all complaints reporting to the NEJTA Committee. Such reporting to include:
 - (i) Results of investigations into complaints received.
 - (ii) Advising of actions taken (including penalties imposed).
 - (iii) Consideration of issues referred to it by the Committee of Management.

20. POWERS OF THE NEJTA COMMITTEE

The NEJTA Committee shall have the widest and most absolute power and discretion relating to the NEJTA or any matter arising from or in connection with NEJTA and without limiting the foregoing it shall have the power and discretion at any time without giving or assigning any reasons therefore to:

- (a) Demand from any club any information of any nature relating to any matter arising from any match, and in the event of any club refusing or neglecting to supply such information to the NEJTA Committee within the time as prescribed by the NEJTA Committee to suspend or disqualify such club from competition for such time as the NEJTA Committee determines and to cancel points previously awarded to such club.
- (b) Demand the replay of any match wholly or in part, and to alter or extend the place, day or time for the playing of any match.
- (c) Suspend or disqualify a player from NEJTA competition as a result of a player's conduct or behaviour, or a player's support persons conduct or behaviour, (Parent, Spectator or Team Official) arising from or in connection with a match.
- (d) Impose penalties whether by fine, suspension or disqualification or by forfeiture of points for any non-compliance or breach of any of these By Laws.