

Blind and Low Vision League Guide

BLIND AND LOW VISION LEAGUE EVENT GUIDE

VENUE

Tennis SA Head Quarters - The Drive @ War Memorial Drive 5006

PARKING AVAILABILITY

Unfortunately there is no free parking available onsite. If you wish to drive in, paid parking is available on the road behind Adelaide Oval (Pennington Terrace) and in front of the venue on War Memorial Drive.

There is also four-hour free parking on War Memorial Drive, perpendicular to the North Adelaide Golf Course.

HEAT POLICY

The Tennis Australia Extreme Weather Policy will be used regarding any decisions regarding Extreme Weather during the BLV League.

Tennis SA will not be rescheduling matches throughout the event. Once a session time has been cancelled it will not be replayed.

All matches are played using allocated match times, cancellations will be communicated 90 minutes prior to the scheduled session start time, using the following communication methods;

- Tennis SA Website - <https://www.tennis.com.au/sa/competitions/inclement-weather>
- Via email or text to each team's team manager.

TEAM REQUIREMENTS

Team managers

Each team will need to assign a team manager to help with resourcing helpers for the league. The team managers responsibility is to ensure:

1. Each match that goes on has a volunteer to call lines and score the match.
2. Aggregate all team match scores and hand to the League Manager at the end of play.
3. Let the league manager know if they are unable to field a full team by 4:00pm the day of their match

Officiating & Volunteers

During the Blind and Low Vision Tennis League, there will not be any officials on site to referee and umpire matches. Instead, each team will supply 2 X Individuals to assist with scoring and calling lines for each match. The League director will also be in attendance to officiate games and educate all volunteers on the rules of the matches and how to score them. Volunteers must officiate in a non-biased manner otherwise matches may be forfeited.

Volunteers may also be asked to collect balls for matches with athletes who may struggle with locating tennis balls on the floor.

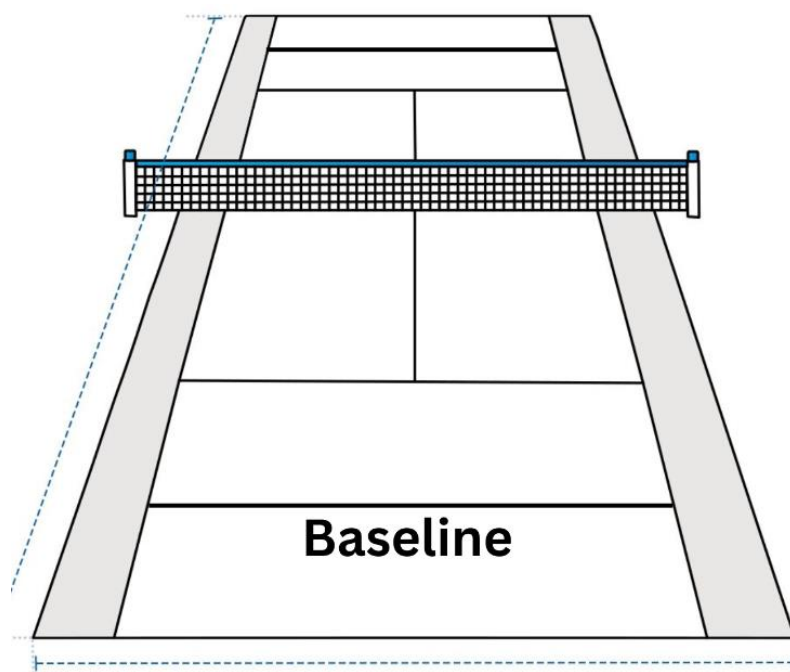
For this league to run it is essential each team brings two volunteers.

Team formats

Each player that registers for the BLV League will be placed into one of four teams. All four teams will play each week.

The league manager will teach and educate all umpires who are inexperienced.

COURT SETUP



The three centre courts at The Drive will be setup with the standard regulation Blind and Low Vision Tennis Court that is utilised at all State and National tournaments. Drop down lines will be placed 6.4 metres in from the regular sized court baseline. No other lines will be manipulated for BLV gameplay. Singles sidelines will be used for singles and doubles sidelines for doubles.

BLV BALLS



All matches completed in the BLV tennis league will be the yellow coloured IBTA Shoel tennis balls. Three new balls will be used to begin each night and rotated once they are deemed as not match worthy by the League Manager.

CLASSIFICATIONS

Each athlete who participates in the BLV League will need a classification to compete. If an athlete has an official tennis classification, they will need to compete in the corresponding event.

If an athlete **does not** have an official tennis classification they can use a classification from another sport, or an unofficial classification can be given to them by our key stakeholders. Please see below list of rules for each classification.

All junior athletes who do not have an adult national ranking will be allowed two bounces.

Unfortunately, the SA BLV Tennis League will not be taking B1 athletes in 2024.

RULES

Serving and Receiving

- Before starting the service motion, the server must call “ready?” and wait for the receiver to reply “yes”. The server then has up to 5 seconds to serve the ball but when served must say ‘Play’. The server may not alter their position on the court..
- Both the server and the receiver may ask umpire or ball people about their own position on court, in order to orientate themselves.

Player Loses Point

- A B2 player loses the point if s/he does not return the ball before the fourth bounce (3 bounces allowed).
- A B3 player loses the point if s/he does not return the ball before the third bounce (2 bounces allowed).
- A B4 player loses the point if s/he does not return the ball before the second bounce (1 bounce allowed).

Note: At all times the first bounce must be within the court or, in the case of a serve, within the appropriate service court. Any additional bounces may be inside or outside the court.

- If the ball hits the player inside the court before the first bounce, it is a point for the opponent (all categories).
- If the ball hits the player when they are outside the court before the first bounce, it is a point for the player (all categories).
- If the serve hits the player inside the service box before the first bounce, it is a point for the opponent (all categories).
- If the serve hits the player when they are outside the service box before the first bounce, the serve is a fault (all categories)

Categories

- B2: men & women • B3: men & women • B4: men & women

SCORING

All matches will abide by the National Rules and Regulations of mainstream tennis matches. All Information can be found here:

All matches will be played as a best of 6 games match with a tie breaker at 6 games each. Sudden death Deuce rules will apply to all matches to ensure matches finish on time.

MATCH CENTRE

All matches will be uploaded the Thursday following the BLV Matches to the dedicated Match Centre website. Teams will acquire: 4 points for a win, 2 for a draw and 1 point per set won.

Please note, these matches will not affect BLV National Rankings.

MATCH SHIRTS

TBC

FILL INS

If an unregistered fill In competes for a team. All matches will be forfeited to the team they are playing.

MATCH SCHEDULE AND DATES

All 4 teams will compete weekly at The Drive. All teams will be required to be at The Drive for a 6:00 start. The night will conclude once all matches are completed. If a player finishes their matches before other players, they are free to leave at their discretion.

Date	Match 1	Match 2
May 1st	Introduction, Team Announcement & Social Hit Training for volunteers	
May 8th	Blue V White	Black V Red
May 15th	Blue V Red	Black V White
May 22nd	Blue V Black	Red V White
May 29th	Blue V White	Black V Red
June 5th	Blue V Red	Black V White
June 12th	Blue V Black	Red V White
June 19th	Semi Final	
June 26th	Grand Final	
July 3rd	Backup week	