



# TENNIS WEST

## RULES of TENNIS LEAGUE

- Rules & Regulations
- Player Behaviour Code
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Rules for Non-Umpired Matches (Appendix 1)

Amended December 2014

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**7.1      OBJECTIVES**

The objective of Tennis League is to provide team inter-club competitions for members of affiliated tennis clubs/associations, to enable players who have reached the standard of the various divisions an equal opportunity to play against players of similar ability, over a given period of time. Tennis League competitions aim to enhance tennis and foster friendly rivalry, as a means of promoting tennis participation and improving tennis standards. The Men's and Women's State League is conducted to provide a higher standard Tennis League competition for elite players.

Players, teams, coaches, officials and managers (Participants), must at all times act in the best interests of the League and Tennis West and not at any time engage in conduct which brings or has the potential to bring a participant, the League, Tennis West or the sport of tennis into disrepute, or which is or would have the tendency to be contrary to or prejudicial to the best interest, image or values of the League or Tennis West, or not in the "Spirit of Tennis".

**7.2      ADMINISTRATION:**

**7.2.1      DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS**

**"Abandoned (Incomplete)"** is a match interrupted. (e.g. weather conditions)

**"Affiliated Club"** and **"Club"** means a club or association affiliated with the Association.

**"Appeals Tribunal"** means the body convened at the discretion of the Tennis West Board to rule the application of BY-Law 7..

**"Association"** means Tennis West.

**"By Law 7"** means rules adopted by the Council of the Association for administration and playing of Tennis League competitions.

**"Competition"** means Tennis West Tennis League competition.

**"Competitions Committee"** means Tennis West Competitions Committee appointed by the Association's Board of Directors for the purpose of conducting Tennis League competitions under By Law 7.

**"Competitions Committee Chairperson"** means the person appointed by the Board of Directors of the Association to chair and coordinate the functions of the Competitions Committee.

**"Competition Planner"** means Tennis Australia's online competition management platform. <http://comps.tennis.com.au/>

**"Competition Tennis Rating" (C.T.R)** is a player's rating which provides a common language for all Australian tennis players. It defines a standard of play and is used to compare skills and competition levels both locally and nationally. Points are awarded for all qualifying and final rounds of a Tennis League competition.

~~**"Council"** means the body of Club delegates making up the Council of the Association.~~

**"Disciplinary Tribunal"** means the body convened at the discretion of the Competitions Committee to rule on serious breaches of the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour.

**"Division"** means a graded/zoned section within a Tennis League competition comprising teams of similar standard and ability.

**"Drawn"** is a match where rubbers, sets and games are equal; or where a match is cancelled before play commences.

**"Fast 4"** is a first to four game set, with no advantage scoring, no lets and a first to 5 tie-break at 3 games all.

**"Fixtures"** are the list of scheduled matches between teams for a division of a Tennis League competition.

**"Grading"** means the process used by the Competitions Committee to allocate nominated club teams into divisions.

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**“Home Team”** means the club on whose courts the match is to be played. The Home Team is mentioned first on *Competition Planner*. The Home Team is responsible for the provision of courts, balls, scorecard and Match Supervisor.

**“Junior”** means a player of the specified age or under at the scheduled date of the commencement of a Tennis League competition.

**“Match”** includes all points, games, sets and rubbers played between two club teams on a scheduled fixture date of a Tennis League competition.

**“Match Supervisor”** is a Home Club official appointed by the club with overall responsibility for the application of By Law 7 & Rules of Tennis for all Home fixtures during a Tennis League season.

**“Match Tie-Break Game”(MTBG)** means a Tie-Break game where **the winner is the first to ten points provided there is a margin of two points over the opponent.** ~~This MTBG replaces the deciding final set. Any MTBG is scored as 7/6 set to the winner.~~

**“Tie-Break” (TB)** means a Tie-Break game where **the winner is the first to seven points provided there is a margin of two points over the opponent.** ~~Any TB is scored as 7/6 set to the winner.~~

**“MLC Tennis Hot Shots”** are competitions designed for children using modified equipment, including smaller courts, nets and racquets and a variety of colored, low compression balls.

**“Open”** means Tennis League competitions that have no restrictions to a player’s age, except where otherwise specified.

**“Player”** means a person who is a financial club member and who qualifies for various Tennis League competitions.

**“Points”** means a scoring system applied for teams winning matches, rubbers or sets. The total points gained during a season shall determine a team’s relative position on the ladder. **“Bonus Points”** means those points awarded for winning rubbers or sets. **“Win Points”** means the number of points allocated to a winning team of a fixture.

**“Points Ratio”** means method of calculating final positions on the ladder whereby the total number of points is divided by the number of matches played. This is important in any competition where teams do not play an equal number of fixtures because of an unequal number of Bys.

~~**“Pro Set”** means set played first to eight games with an advantage of two games. Tie-Break to be played at eight games all.~~

**“Rating”** means a player’s C.T.R. Players shall have both Singles and Doubles C.T.R’s

**“Rating Playing Order”** means a team’s playing order based on players’ C.T.R ratings.

**“Rubber”** includes all points, games and sets played between players or pairs of players during a match.

**“Senior”** means a player who shall have reached the minimum age limit by 31 December of the year in which the Tennis League competition commences.

**“Seniors Tennis League competitions”** include Sunday Men’s 35+, Sunday Men’s 50+, Sunday Women’s 35+, Wednesday Midweek Grass 45 and Wednesday Midweek Grass 55 competitions.

**“State League”** is the name given to the top division of Saturday Open Tennis League competition.

**“Substitute”** is a club player who may play during the season for one or more teams when insufficient team members are available to play, and who satisfy substitute C.T.R criteria. These players were not listed on the original Team Nomination.

**“Team Member”** is a registered player nominated by the club and identified by an asterix (\*) on the team list.

**“Tennis League Club Coordinator”** is a nominated club official who shall be the club’s primary communication link with Tennis West Tennis League Operations.

**“Tennis League competitions”** may be male, female or mixed gender as determined by the Competitions Committee or directed by the Council. They may have age restrictions and be

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organized on different days or nights and be over different periods. They may have different conditions of play.

**“Tennis League Operations”** means the Association’s staff members who are responsible for the administration of Tennis League competitions under the Competitions Committee’s direction.

### **7.2.2 DATES**

Matches, unless otherwise approved and advised by the Competitions Committee, shall be played on such dates and on such courts as displayed on *Competition Planner*. The Competitions Committee shall determine the dates for each Tennis League season.

### **7.2.3 PLAYER QUALIFICATIONS**

No player shall represent any club in Tennis League matches unless, at the time of playing, they are a Financial Member, Playing Member or Life Member of such club.

- ❖ A player shall be a team member of only one team in a division of a competition. If a club has two teams in the same division of a competition, any Substitute may play for either team, but for only one team on one day. (*Substitute cannot play Singles for one team and Doubles for another team*)
- ❖ If a club has more than one team in the same division of a competition, a team member shall only play for one team.
- ❖ Players may play in more than one Tennis League competition or division in the same season provided they meet any conditions as specified by the Competitions Committee.
- ❖ Players cannot play in two different teams within the same competition on the same day. (*State League is part of Saturday Open competition*)

### **7.2.4 PLAYING AGE RESTRICTIONS**

#### **Seniors Tennis League competitions (35+, 50+, Midweek Grasscourt 45/55)**

Players shall have reached the minimum age limit by 31 December in the year of the commencement of the competition in order to be nominated. Once a player turns the minimum age during a season, they become eligible to play as a Substitute.

#### **Junior competitions**

Players shall be the specified age or under on the day of commencement of the competition. (*Junior State League is part of 16 Years & Under Competition*)

#### **Juniors playing in Open competitions**

Clubs may only nominate players who are 15 years of age on the day of commencement of the competition. A maximum of two 15 year olds are permitted to play in any one fixture. ~~State League and Division One~~ The top two divisions of open competitions are exempt from this Rule in any season.

Once a player turns 15 years of age during a season, they become eligible to play as a Substitute.

#### **Midweek Open**

Players shall be 19 years or over on the day of commencement of the competition.

#### **Mixed, Men’s & Women’s Night**

Players shall be 15 years or over on the day of commencement of the competition.

Breach of Playing Age Restrictions shall result in forfeit of all sets and games in that rubber and any other rubbers deemed out of order.

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### 7.2.5 TEAM NOMINATIONS

- ❖ The Committee shall only accept entries from affiliated clubs or associations. Any player shall be a member of the affiliated tennis club before they play.
- ❖ Each club entering a team(s) in Tennis League competitions shall on or before a date to be fixed by the Committee submit the details of the players to represent the club.
- ❖ Nominations shall be submitted online via *Competition Planner*.
- ❖ Clubs may enter a maximum of one team in:
  - Men's and Women's State League;
  - Men's and Women's Open Saturday Division One, and
  - A maximum of two teams from any club in any other division (*including Boy's and Girl's Junior State League*) of other competitions, unless the Competitions Committee approves otherwise.
- ❖ The players in each team shall be ranked by the club in their order of playing ability based on their C.T.R. To avoid breaches of "Ghosting" rule, only players capable of meeting the minimum requirements to satisfy finals eligibility criteria are to be listed.
- ❖ **All communication shall be limited to appointed Tennis League Club Coordinators and Tennis West Tennis League Operations.**
- ❖ A club withdrawing a team from a Tennis League competition after grading into divisions has been completed, shall forfeit the Nomination Fee and be fined as outlined in Schedule of Fines and Penalties.
- ❖ Tennis League teams may have marketable team names, and player names may be printed on the back of team shirts. If there is a corporate sponsor for Tennis League, the Competitions Committee may direct State League clubs to display that sponsor's logo on their team uniform.
- ❖ With the exception of Seniors Tennis League competitions (Men's 35+ & 50+, Women's 35+, Women's **Wednesday Open** and Grasscourt 45 & 55), all Tennis League competitions may use four or five players for any match. Seniors Tennis League **and Women's Wednesday Open** competitions may use four, five or six players in a team for any match. **Singles/Doubles teams of 3 may use 4 players and Tuesday Mixed may use one additional player of each gender.**
- ❖ All clubs that are subject to local Council light restrictions or curfews, must advise Tennis West when nominating teams for night competitions.
- ~~❖ Clubs entering teams shall ensure club representatives attend the pre-season Tennis League information session. Clubs complying shall receive a 10% discount off their total nomination fees for the season which is covered by the relevant workshop.~~

### 7.2.6 TEAM NOMINATION & CLUB AFFILIATION FEES

- ❖ A team nomination fee will be payable to Tennis West for each team. The Competitions Committee shall set the fee, which shall be approved by ~~Council~~ **the Board** as part of the Association's annual Budget.
- ~~❖ Tennis West shall send a GST invoice to clubs for all their nominated teams. Clubs shall pay all team nomination fees within fourteen days of invoice to avoid incurring penalty costs.~~
- ~~❖ The Competitions Committee shall not accept a club's nominations for Tennis League competitions if the club has not lodged its Annual Membership Return by 30 June. A team entry may not be accepted if a team's club has outstanding fines or owes other monies to Tennis West or Tennis Australia.~~
- ~~❖ The Competitions Committee may withdraw teams from all Tennis League competitions if the club has not paid the appropriate club affiliation fee to the Tennis West by 30 November.~~

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### 7.2.7 "GHOSTING"

Is the practice whereby clubs nominate players ("Ghosts") who fail to meet minimum requirements to satisfy finals eligibility criteria.

- Saturday Men's and Women's State League are exempt from "Ghosting" as entry to these competitions is not based on grading.
- All top ~~five~~ ~~four~~ nominated team members must participate in the minimum number of matches to satisfy finals eligibility criteria.
- The President of a club may apply in writing to the Tennis West Competitions Committee for a determination where extenuating circumstances prevent a player satisfying this criterion, prior to the team nomination deadline for the next season. Medical certificates must be sighted by Tennis West Tennis League Operations prior to the team nomination deadline for the next season.
- Clubs are responsible for monitoring and reporting to Tennis League Operations cases of "Ghosting" by other clubs. Tennis League Operations shall monitor teams graded in Saturday Open Division One and Division Two competitions.
- Should Competitions Committee deem a club in breach of "Ghosting", that player shall be excluded from nomination in the next summer Tennis League competition that player chooses to nominate. The club is prevented from using that player as one of their top ~~five~~ ~~four~~ nominated players for grading purposes.
- **Breach does not prevent player from participating as a Substitute.**

### 7.2.8 FINALS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to play in a Semi-Final, Final or Play-Off in the player's nominated division or any other division of that competition, a player must satisfy C.T.R. Substitute criteria and have played in the number of matches as specified.

<b>6 week competition</b>	At least two qualifying matches in their nominated division of that competition.
<b>8 week competition</b>	At least three qualifying matches in their nominated division of that competition.
<b>10 week competition</b>	At least four qualifying matches in their nominated division of that competition.
<b>14 week competition</b>	At least five qualifying matches in their nominated division of that competition.
<b>Divisions with Byes</b>	Eligibility shall be one less qualifying match.

#### **Incomplete or washed out matches**

To be counted towards Finals eligibility, player's names must be registered on *Competition Planner*.

#### **Forfeited matches**

To be counted towards finals eligibility, player's names for the team that received the forfeit only must be registered on *Competition Planner*.

#### **Substitutes**

A Substitute, who satisfies finals eligibility criteria in one division, may play in a Semi-Final, Final or Play-Off in that division or any other division of that competition, provided that they satisfy the C.T.R. substitute criteria in section 7.3.10..

Refer section 7.3.11 for application conditions for an unqualified player in a final.



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### 7.2.9 PLAYER TRANSFER

Person Transfer involves adding an existing person's record to one or more other clubs - which means that only one set of information (*Name, contact details etc*) is maintained for that person. **This is the preferred method for moving person records between clubs**, as it results in no duplication of information. Transferring a person does not alter the roles held by the person within other clubs. It is up to those clubs to remove roles as appropriate. For example if a person is a PLAYER at Club A, and wishes to play at Club B, Club B would initiate the Transfer. This adds a PLAYER role for the person at Club B. If the person is no longer playing at Club A, Club A should remove the PLAYER Role from the person record.

### 7.2.10 PLAYER CLEARANCE

Player Clearance is a mechanism whereby **clubs gain approval to clear a player from one club to another**. Throughout the process, the affected clubs are notified by email as to the actions that are required at any stage.

#### Clearance Process

Club (destination Club) applies for a Player Clearance



The Player's current Club (also referred to as the 'from' or 'ex' Club) must grant or deny the request



Once Clearance is granted the Player is automatically transferred to the destination Club (This means that the Player then appears on the active Player List of the destination Club)

#### **Approval or Rejection of Clearance Application**

A club may object to the approval of a clearance because of:

- The applicant being unfinancial;
- The clearance having the potential to be detrimental to the Tennis League, and
- The player's contract not having been completed.

#### **Right of Appeal**

Players have the Right of Appeal to the Competitions Committee for determination should their club deny them the right of Clearance. The Competitions Committee shall inform the player and clubs involved of its determination within fourteen days of receipt of the appeal.

#### **Consequences for Playing Without Clearance Approval**

A team playing a player in any match who has **not been granted been refused** a clearance may be penalized according to the Schedule of Fines and Penalties as determined by the Competitions Committee.

Clubs are responsible for monitoring and reporting to Tennis League Operations instances of a player playing for another club in any Tennis League competition when a clearance has been denied.

### 7.2.11 TEAM GRADING AND CHANGES

- ❖ The Competitions Committee is responsible for grading all competition divisions and determination of the number of teams in each division.
- ❖ The Competitions Committee reserves the right to accept or deny any team or team member nominated and/or allocate the team or team member to a higher or lower division.
- ❖ Clubs must endeavor to include information relevant to the Grading process as there will be no formal Grading Appeals process.
- ❖ The Competitions Committee may at its discretion update a player's C.T.R. at any time prior to or during the season.

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- ❖ In exceptional circumstances the Competitions Committee may at its discretion alter the grading of any team after the season commences, and shall adjust Fixtures accordingly. Teams forfeit any ladder points earned should a re-grading occur.

#### **7.2.12 TEAM WITHDRAWAL**

Should a team withdraw from a competition once a season has commenced, all ladder points will be removed and the ladder recalculated accordingly. All matches already played shall be recorded as Byes.

### **7.3. PLAYING of COMPETITIONS**

#### **7.3.1 LAWS OF THE GAME**

All matches shall be played under the Rules of Tennis as outlined in Tennis Officiating in Australia Handbook, available from Tennis West. Any interpretation shall devolve to the Competitions Committee.

The Competitions Committee shall have the widest and most absolute power and discretion relating to the League or any matter arising from or in connection with the League, and without limiting the foregoing it shall have the power and discretion at any time to:

- (a) Demand from any team any information of any nature relating to any matter arising from any match;
- (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 or team from the League as a result of a player's or team's conduct or behaviour arising from or in connection with a match; and
- (d) Impose penalties whether by fine, suspension or disqualification or by forfeiture of points for any non-compliance or breach of any of the Rules and Regulations including any Policy.

#### **7.3.2 TENNIS BALLS**

All tennis balls shall be of a type and brand approved by Tennis Australia for specific court surfaces.

##### **State League**

Minimum of three new balls per singles match.

*(Tennis West shall provide new balls for all qualifying rounds and Finals).*

##### **Junior League**

Minimum of two new balls per singles match.

##### **Saturday Open & Sunday Open**

Minimum of two new balls per singles match.

##### **Sunday Junior MLC Tennis Hot Shots Orange Ball 7-10 years Mixed Teams**

Use of Orange Ball is mandatory.

##### **Sunday Junior MLC Tennis Hot Shots Green Ball 8-10 and 9-12 years Mixed Teams**

Use of Green Ball is mandatory.

##### **Sunday Seniors and Midweek Competitions and Monday Night & Sunday Singles/Doubles**

Minimum of four new balls per fixture.

#### **7.3.3 COURTS AND VENUES**

All matches shall be played on courts approved by the Competitions Committee. Clubs when entering a competition shall specify the court surface for each team.

- Clubs may nominate teams to play on courts at alternative venues away from their club site.

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- A team's nominated court surface and venue should remain the same for the entire season, including Finals. Only one surface can be nominated per team at the commencement of the season.

**Exceptions are:**

- A **permanent change** to another venue and/or surface on approval of Tennis League Operations. Tennis League Operations shall give five days' written notice to all other teams in that division.
- A **temporary change** to playing surface does not require the playing surface to be the same as the originally nominated playing surface. The Home Team must notify the Away Team (written notice recommended) no later than two days prior to scheduled match. Any breach shall result in a penalty as outlined in Schedule of Fines and Penalties. Tennis League Operations shall be notified.
- Tennis League Operations shall determine the venue and surface if mutual agreement cannot be reached.
- Home Teams, where possible, should provide four courts for teams in Singles/Doubles competitions, otherwise a minimum of two courts must be provided.
- By mutual agreement between the opposing team captains in consultation with the Referee or Match Supervisor, teams may play doubles matches first if this will allow better utilization of courts by all teams playing at a venue.
- **Additional courts** of another approved surface may be offered by the Home Club, subject to the mutual agreement between the opposing team captains in consultation with the Referee or Match Supervisor.
- **Courts unavailable.** Should rain, bad light or other event make allocated courts unavailable, teams by mutual consent may agree to complete rubbers on alternate courts of any surface. However if mutual consent cannot be agreed the unfinished rubbers shall be abandoned.

**Courts Fit for Play**

Clubs shall be responsible for providing courts and facilities that are suitable for Tennis League play.

- Tennis West Referee is the overarching onsite authority for any competition to which the Referee is appointed.
- The club's appointed Grounds Official or Match Supervisor shall adjudicate on the fitness of courts for play.
- If, in the absence of a Match Supervisor, the opposing captains cannot agree on fitness of courts for play, the captain of the Home Team, in conjunction with a club official, if available, shall adjudicate. At a neutral club, an official from the venue/club shall solely adjudicate. If no club official is available the captain of the designated Home Team shall adjudicate. Any such decision is final and not open to dispute by the Away Team.

**Finals**

Semi-Finals and Finals Matches shall be played at the courts of the club finishing higher on the ladder, and they shall be the Home Team.

- The club finishing highest shall provide courts of their nominated surface at the nominated venue or an alternative venue. If not, the match shall be played at the opposition club's courts, and they shall become the Home Team.
- Tennis League Operations must be advised of any changes at least two days prior to the match. In the absence of either of the above, and should a more

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suitable venue be mutually agreed upon between the opposing clubs, the highest finishing club on the ladder shall be the Home Team.

#### 7.3.4 COMPETITION FORMATS AND TIMES OF PLAY

- A match shall not be played on a date other than the fixture date without the prior consent of Tennis League Operations.
    - Matches may commence earlier or later when mutually agreed between the opposing team captains. If applicable, the Referee or Match Supervisor must be notified.
    - The designated time for completion of play shall be strictly observed, except for finals. Midweek semi-finals and finals shall continue ~~until 3:30pm~~ if a result has not been determined by 2:30. Junior semi-finals and finals shall continue ~~until 1:30pm~~ if a result has not been determined by 12:30pm.
    - All games or Tie-Break games that have commenced shall be completed before ceasing play.
  - Where an official Referee is appointed for a match, the Referee shall have the discretion to continue play after advertised Sunset time if, in his/her opinion, a result is possible.
  - All clubs that are subject to local Council light restrictions or curfews, must advise Tennis West when nominating teams for night competition. With prior approval from Tennis West and in mutual agreement with Away Team, such fixtures may commence earlier than advertised start time. Any unfinished rubbers shall be recorded as Incomplete.
  - In all competitions (*except those where the result is determined by total sets won*), the winner of each completed match shall be the team who wins the greater number of:
    - Rubbers. If the number of rubbers won is equal, or the competition is scored on sets then;
    - Sets. If the number of sets won is equal then,
    - Games. If the number of games won is equal, then the match shall be declared a Draw.
- Finals: In a Semi-Final or Finals fixture, when a winning result has been achieved, the remainder of the match may be abandoned and recorded as incomplete – not a forfeit.**
- **In the event of a tie in a Semi-Final or Final, one MTBG game shall immediately be played between the Doubles pair whose score tied the match, to determine the winner**
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##### Saturday State League

- 1.00pm - Sunset.
- All Blockbusters, Semi Finals & Finals commence 12.30pm.
- During a Blockbuster, times and formats may be altered at the discretion of the referee.

##### Sunday Junior State League

- 8.30am – 12.30pm. Pending court availability, if a winner has not been determined by 12.30pm, play shall continue until 1.30pm.
- During a Blockbuster, play may conclude earlier and the format altered at the discretion of the referee.
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Twenty points total. (*Eight Win points to winning team, two Bonus points for each rubber won*)

Four singles rubbers and two doubles rubbers.

Singles rubbers between opposing Players **2 & 4**, followed by opposing Players **1 & 3**. Each rubber the best of three Tie-Break sets.

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Doubles rubbers with the team's No.1 doubles players being opposed, whatever the combination of pairs. Each rubber shall be two Tie-Break sets. If one set all, a Match Tie Break Game shall determine the winner of the rubber.

Singles sticks shall be provided for all Senior State League singles rubbers.

Referees shall be provided for all State League Fixtures and Junior State League Final.

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### **Saturday Open**

1.00pm - Sunset.

All Semi Finals & Finals commence 12.30pm.

Twenty point's total. *(Eight Win points to winning team, two Bonus points for each rubber won)*

- Four singles rubbers and two doubles rubbers.
  - Singles rubbers between opposing Players **1 & 3**, followed by opposing Players **2 & 4**, each the best of best of three Tie-Break sets.
  - Doubles rubbers with the team's No. 1 doubles players being opposed, whatever the combination of the pairs. Each rubber shall be two Tie-Break sets. If one set all, a MTBG shall determine the winner of the rubber.
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### **Sunday Junior Boys and Girls 18 Years & Under**

8.30am - 12.30pm.

### **Sunday Junior Boys and Girls 16 Years & Under**

8.30am - 12.30pm.

### **Sunday Junior Boys and Girls 14 Years & Under**

8.30am - 12.30pm.

### **Sunday Junior Boys and Girls 12 Years & Under (Division One Only)**

8.30am - 12.30pm.

Twenty point's total. *(Eight Win points to winning team, two Bonus points for each rubber won)*

- Four singles rubbers and two doubles rubbers.
  - Singles rubbers shall be two Tie-Break sets. If one set all, a MTBG shall determine the winner of the rubber.
  - Doubles rubbers with the team's No.1 doubles players being opposed, whatever the combination of pairs. Each rubber shall be the best of three **fast four** sets
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### **Sunday Junior Boys & Girls 12 Years & Under (Division Two+)**

8.30am - 12.30pm.

### **ANZ Tennis Hot Shots ~~9-12 and 8-10 Years~~ Green Ball Mixed Teams**

8.30am - 12.30pm.

Junior semi-finals and finals shall continue if a result has not been determined by 12:30pm.

Twenty points total. *(Eight Win points to winning team, two Bonus points for each rubber won)*

Four player mixed teams can be any combination of boys and girls.

Four singles rubbers and two doubles rubbers.

Singles and doubles rubbers shall ~~be one Pro Set (means set played first to eight games with an advantage of two games. Tie-Break to be played at eight games all).~~ be best of three fast four sets.

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Doubles rubbers with the team's No.1 doubles players being opposed, whatever the combination of pairs.

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### **Sunday Junior Boys & Girls ANZ Hot Shots 7-10 years Orange Ball Mixed Teams**

8.30am – 12.30pm.

Twenty points total. *(Two Win points to winning team, one Bonus point for each rubber won)*

- Four player mixed teams can be any combination of boys and/or girls.
- Sixteen singles rubbers and two doubles rubbers.
- Singles rubbers shall be one Match Tie Break Game (MTBG).
  - Round 1: 1 v 1; 2 v 2 & 3 v 3; 4 v 4
  - Round 2: 1 v 2; 2 v 1 & 3 v 4; 4 v 3
  - Round 3: 1 v 3; 3 v 1 & 2 v 4; 4 v 2
  - Round 4: 1 v 4; 4 v 1 & 2 v 3; 3 v 2
- Doubles rubbers shall be one MTBG.
  - 1 & 2 v 1 & 2; 3 & 4 v 3 & 4
  - Fifth player may be introduced for doubles rubber.

### **Sunday Seniors**

1.00pm - Sunset.

All Semi Finals & Finals commence 12.30pm.

### **Wednesday Midweek Women's Open**

9.30am – 2.30pm.

For all Semi Finals & Finals, if a winner has not been determined by 2.30pm, play shall continue **until 3.30pm.**

### **Wednesday Midweek Women's Grasscourt 45**

9.30am – 2.30pm.

For all Semi Finals & Finals, if a winner has not been determined by 2.30pm, play shall continue **until 3.30pm.**

Twenty point's total. *(Eight Win points to winning team, one Bonus point for each set won)*

- SIX doubles rubbers.
  - Rubbers shall be two Tie-Break sets;
  - Round 1: Two sets.
  - Round 2: Two sets.
  - Round 3: Two sets.

Any combination of doubles pairings is permitted provided that:

- Each team's highest ranked player in each round being opposed, whatever the combination of pairs.
- Any combination of players may not play together more than once.

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### **Tuesday Mixed Night**

7.30pm – 11.00pm.

Due to local Council light restrictions or curfews, and with prior approval from Tennis West and in mutual agreement with Away Team, such fixtures may commence earlier than advertised start time. Any unfinished rubbers shall be recorded as Incomplete.

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Twenty point's total. *(Four Win points to winning team, two Bonus points for each set won)*

- Two men and two women per team.
- Eight doubles sets.
- Sets shall be one Tie-Break set.

Rd 1: M1 & W1 v M1 & W1 (2 sets) & M2 & W2 v M2 & W2. (2 sets)

Rd 2: M1 & W2 v M1 & W2 (2 sets) & M2 & W1 v M2 & W1. (2 sets)

### **Wednesday Midweek Women's Grasscourt 55**

9.30am – 2.30pm.

For all Semi Finals & Finals, if a winner has not been determined by 2.30pm, play shall continue ~~until 3.30pm.~~

### **Wednesday Men's Night**

7.30pm – 11.00pm.

Due to local Council light restrictions or curfews, and with prior approval from Tennis West and in mutual agreement with Away Team, such fixtures may commence earlier than advertised start time. Any unfinished rubbers shall be recorded as Incomplete.

### **Tuesday Doubles**

**9:30am – 1pm**

### **Thursday Women's Night**

7.30pm – 11.00pm.

Due to local Council light restrictions or curfews, and with prior approval from Tennis West and in mutual agreement with Away Team, such fixtures may commence earlier than advertised start time. Any unfinished rubbers shall be recorded as Incomplete.

Twenty point's total. *(Four Win points to the winning team, two Bonus points for each set won)*

- Eight doubles sets.
- Sets shall be one Tie-Break set.

Round 1: Two sets.

Round 2: One set.

Round 3: One set.

Any combination of doubles pairings is permitted provided that:

- Each team's highest ranked player in each round being opposed, whatever the combination of pairs.
  - Any combination of players may not play together more than once.
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### **Monday Night Singles/Doubles**

**7:30pm -10:30pm**

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- 3 singles and 3 doubles sets
- Rubbers 1, 2, 3 - One singles and one doubles match of best of 3 Fast Four sets.

Rubber1

Singles player number 1 will play against Singles player number 1  
Players 2 and 3 play doubles against their opponents

Rubber2

Singles player number 2 will play against singles player number 2  
Players 1 and 3 play doubles against their opponents

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### Rubber3

Singles player number 3 will play against Singles player number 3  
1 and 2 play doubles against their opponents

A fourth player can be listed and play in CTR order if required, but may play  
a maximum of one doubles set with any other team member. Every player  
may compete in only one set of singles.

All doubles only night leagues will play "short deuce" format to reduce  
playing times and ensure earlier finishes.

Short Deuce is Deuce, add, win or Deuce, add, deuce, win (receivers choice  
of forehand or backhand side) e.g. sudden death on the second deuce

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## Variation for WINTER COMPETITIONS

### Weekend Open

Singles and doubles rubbers shall be two Tie-Break sets. If one set all a MTBG shall determine the  
winner of the rubber.

### Sunday Juniors

9.00am - 12.30pm. For clubs with grass courts as nominated surface, the match shall commence  
within one hour of the match commencement time, otherwise it shall be abandoned and the  
match declared a Draw. All Win and Bonus points shall be equally divided between the two  
teams.

Singles and doubles rubbers shall be the best of 3 fast four sets. ~~one Pro-Set~~, except Orange Ball  
divisions who play the tie-break format described above.

### 7.3.5 WARM-UP PERIOD

A maximum of five minutes before commencement of play and each rubber. New balls (or balls  
for that rubber) shall be made available by the Home Team at the commencement of the warm-  
up period.

### 7.3.6 PLAYING ORDER

Once listed on the scorecard, no change shall be made to singles playing order or doubles  
pairs unless by agreement between the Referee or Match Supervisor and the Team Captains.  
Provided both Team Captains and the Match Supervisor agree, doubles rubbers may be played  
before singles rubbers (*this can allow for better utilization of available courts*). The order of play  
in singles may be varied by agreement between the Referee or Match Supervisor and the  
opposing captains.

Play is to be continuous until each rubber is concluded. A maximum of fifteen minutes rest  
between singles and doubles rubbers may be taken.

### Team Listing and Scorecards

- All teams in all competitions shall play in C.T.R order.
- Playing positions are interchangeable should players possess the same C.T.R  
within the same team.



- Team Squad Lists in C.T.R rank order will be published each Tuesday morning for viewing and download on *Competition Planner*. Weekly scorecards including Home and Away Team Squad Lists may be downloaded for printing as this time.
- Singles and Doubles C.T.R.s are updated in real time as soon as results are entered on *Competition Planner*. However, the locked rankings apply for that week of fixtures. Updated rankings will be released on the following Tuesday and apply to the next round of fixtures.

### **Singles/Doubles Competitions**

- Singles/Doubles teams must have a minimum of three members eligible to play the round.
- Team captains shall list on the scorecard the players for singles rubbers in Singles C.T.R order prior to the commencement of play. Doubles pairs with the highest ranked doubles player (*based on Doubles C.T.R*) being opposed, may also be listed at this time; otherwise the doubles pairs shall be exchanged and then listed prior to the commencement of the last singles round.

### **Doubles Only Competitions**

- Doubles only teams must have a minimum of four players to play the round.
- The highest ranked players must always be opposed
- Any combination of players may not combine more than once.

### **Playing Out of Order**

Any player playing in incorrect playing order will forfeit all sets and games in that rubber.

e.g. If the fourth ranked singles player played incorrectly at Number 2, Numbers 2, 3 and 4 would forfeit all sets and games in those rubbers.

### **7.3.7 PLAYER LATE or ABSENT**

Teams shall have the number of players ready to commence in relation to the number of courts being provided. Teams shall assume the maximum number of courts will be available.

#### **Player Late**

**The player must 'present at the venue' and play some part of the fixture.**

If a player is not present prior to the commencement of play but is fully intending to participate (*LATE*), the player's name may be entered on the scorecard, in C.T.R Rating order, prior to the commencement of the match.

- Teams with player(s) LATE at the time of commencement of play shall forfeit the first set of the relevant rubber ~~6-0. Players in teams playing one Pro Set shall forfeit the first four games.~~
- If at the expiration of twenty minutes, the player is still LATE, the second set shall be forfeited ~~6-0. Players in teams playing one Pro Set shall forfeit the remaining four games, and therefore the rubber 8/0.~~
- No warm up is permitted for player arriving LATE.
- If only two courts are available, and one or both of the "first" players have been required to forfeit both sets at the expiration of twenty minutes, the next players must be ready to play at that time, or they shall be forfeited as per guidelines above.
- Player's forfeited from sets or rubbers may still take part in later sets or rubbers.
- Should a team indicate that a player will be LATE, but that player fails to present on site and play, that player will be deemed **ABSENT**. Any breach will result in forfeit of those sets or rubbers where players have subsequently played out of order.

#### **Player Absent**

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### **The Player does not 'present at the venue' and therefore takes no part in the fixture.**

- When a team needs to play with player(s) ABSENT, the team playing order shall commence at Number 1 and follow in C.T.R Rating order for those players present.
- No name shall be entered for the ABSENT player. Rubber and sets shall be forfeited in favour of the player present.

#### **7.3.8 PLAYER INJURY**

If a player is injured during the course of a match, five minutes injury time is allowed once only. Where a player is injured or otherwise indisposed in the course of a rubber, the completed games in that rubber shall stand and the rubber awarded. ~~Should a player recover, that player may contest later rubbers.~~

#### **7.3.9 TEAM FORFEITS**

- ❖ Any team forfeiting a match shall where possible contact the opposing team captain before the scheduled day of play (written notice recommended).
- ❖ The team receiving the Forfeit shall be awarded the Win Points and all of the Bonus Points, and all rubbers, sets and games. The forfeited team shall receive zero points and be fined as outlined in Schedule of Fines and Penalties.
- ❖ A Scorecard shall be completed, and the reason for the forfeit noted by the team captain on Competition Planner.

#### **7.3.10 USE OF SUBSTITUTES**

- A Substitute is any eligible player who was not listed on the team nomination form at the time of grading **and does not have an asterix on the scorecard.**
- Any team may include a Substitute with a current C.T.R. equivalent to or weaker than the player they are replacing. This applies to singles and/or doubles in Singles/Doubles competitions and Doubles Only competitions. Any breach of this rule will result in forfeit of all rubbers within that fixture. Division One in any competition is exempt from this Rule
- The name of the player to be replaced (and their C.T.R.) must be identified on the scorecard.
- A Substitute must satisfy finals eligibility criteria to be considered for finals.

#### **7.3.11 USE OF UNQUALIFIED PLAYERS/SUBSTITUTES IN A FINAL**

Tennis League Operations has the discretion to allow one unqualified player to play in a Final providing:

- ❖ The team has qualified five players. *(Tuesday Mixed Night teams must have qualified three men and three women and Monday/Sunday Singles/Doubles must have qualified 4 players),*
- ❖ The Club provides a written statement, endorsed by the club President and League Co-ordinator, outlining legitimate reasons why two qualified players are unable to play in the Finals. Reasons other than injury or illness will only be considered in exceptional circumstances or on compassionate grounds.
- ❖ A team may only apply to include a Substitute with a current C.T.R equivalent to or weaker than the player they are replacing.
- ❖ Seniors Tennis League **and Wednesday Ladies** competition teams may apply to use up to two unqualified Substitutes.

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### 7.3.12 FIFTH PLAYER RULE

- ❖ Use of the Fifth Player rule is optional for all teams in all competitions to use either four or five players.
- ❖ Seniors, **Wednesday Ladies** and Mixed Tennis League competitions are permitted up to six players for any fixture.
- ❖ When a player sits out, the next ranked player moves up or down so the C.T.R order is maintained.
- ❖ There is no obligation on the part of the team to play the Fifth Player.
- ❖ A player must play in at least one rubber in a match to count as a qualifying match for Finals.

#### **Singles/Doubles Competitions**

- The four singles players are to be identified prior to the commencement of the match.
- Players from both teams with the highest team playing number shall be opposed.
- Any listed player may play doubles.
- The player who did not play singles does not have to play doubles.
- Notification of the four players to play doubles must be notified immediately prior to the commencement of the last singles rubber.

#### **Doubles Only Competitions**

- Players shall only play a maximum of one rubber with any other team member.
- Players with the same C.T.R may rotate within their C.T.R Rating order for different rubbers or rounds.
- The highest ranked doubles players must oppose each other.

### 7.3.13 OFFICIATING

Tennis Australia rules for Matches Played Without a Chair Umpire

(See Appendix 1) shall be applied in the absence of an Umpire and Linespersons.

#### **State League**

- ❖ Referees shall be provided by the Association for all Men's & Women's State League fixtures. The Referee shall have overall responsibility for the behaviour and conduct of players, umpires, coaches, officials and spectators during each allocated match.
- ❖ The Referee may permit a person or persons to enter the total court area required for the completion of a match to carry out a specific function necessary to allow play to either commence or continue.
- ❖ Referees, Umpires and Linespersons (*where possible*), shall be provided by the Association for the Finals of the Men's and Women's State League.

#### **Junior State League**

Referees shall be provided by the Association for the Finals of the Boy's and Girl's Junior State League.

#### **Match Supervisors (Junior Tennis Leagues)**

- ❖ It is **mandatory** for the Home Club shall appoint a Match Supervisor for all junior Tennis League competition fixtures.
- ❖ Match Supervisors shall have the overall responsibility for the application of the Tennis League rules, Rules of Tennis, and for the direction of players during each match. The Match Supervisor appointed to officiate at alternative venue courts shall additionally administer the provision of courts and facilities.
- ❖ Referees and Match Supervisors shall not umpire any Tennis League match unless a replacement Match Supervisor is appointed.
- ❖ Referees and Match Supervisors may, if necessary, appoint Umpires and/or Linespersons for the conduct of a match.

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### Match Supervisors (For competitions other than Junior Tennis Leagues)

- ❖ It is **not mandatory** in other competitions, for the Home Club to appoint a Match Supervisor, except for Semi-Final and Finals matches.
- ❖ Whilst not mandatory, the appointment of a Home Club Match Supervisor is encouraged.
- ❖ For Home and Away fixtures,–the two team captains shall jointly assume Match Supervisor duties. If they cannot agree, the Home Team Captain shall make any required ruling. Any unresolved issues shall be reported in writing to Tennis League Operations.

### On-Court Advisors

One designated on-court advisor is permitted per team at Men’s and Women’s State League fixtures where a Referee is present and authorizes their attendance.

- ❖ On-court advisers can be team members/reserves/team managers.
- ❖ On-court advisers shall be provided with a chair on sidelines and only speak to their own players during change of ends.
- ❖ On -court advisers shall not:
  - Speak to players when changing ends in a Tie-Break as this is not between games;
  - Communicate with players during play, either verbally or by body language;
  - Communicate while on court with opposition team players or opposition on-court adviser, either verbally or by body language;
  - Breach Rules of Tennis League or Member Behaviour Code;
  - A Breach shall result in the Referee removing the on-court adviser from the court, with no replacement permitted. A Code Violation shall be issued if appropriate, and a Code of Behaviour Report Form completed and forwarded to Tennis League Operations.

### 7.3.14 SCORECARDS and ENTERING RESULTS

- ❖ At the conclusion of play, team captains shall finalize the match details on the scorecard. Captains, and Referee or Match Supervisor, shall sign the scorecard certifying that the match details are correct.
- ❖ When the match has not commenced, and is cancelled, the Home Captain shall consult with the Away Captain and complete the scorecard (including Player names).

#### Entering Results on *Competition Planner*

- The **Home Team** shall be responsible for the timely online lodgment of results for all matches whether Won or Lost, Drawn, Abandoned (Incomplete), Match Postponed, Won or Lost on Forfeit. Player names and scores are entered.
- If player names do not appear in the dropdown list, select **Add Sub** link and select the player from the club Player List.
- The **Away Team** shall be responsible for the timely online confirmation of results.
- Results must be entered on-line by the **Home Team** no later than forty-eight hours (two days) following completion of the fixture. Failure by the **Home Team** to lodge results in a timely manner will result in a fine as outlined in Schedule of Fines and Penalties.
- The **Away Team** must **Confirm** or **Dispute results** no later than ninety-six hours (four days) following completion of the fixture.

Weekend league results will be deemed **Official** by 9:00am Friday

Weekday league results will be deemed official by 9am on the Tuesday of the following week

Tennis West League Operations reserves the right to amend errors that impact the overall result of any fixture outside of these deadlines.

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Any directive from Tennis League Operations due to scheduling constraints (e.g. Semi-Finals draws) shall override these timelines.

### Disputes

- All Disputes must be registered via *Competition Planner* or email to Tennis League Operations and the opposing team contact, within 2 days of the match. Tennis West Tennis League Operations may request sighting of the original Scorecard for up to one week following the fixture. Failure to comply with the provision of this clause shall render the team in default and liable to penalty.
- Disputes may be registered by either the Home Team or the Away Team.
- Disputes will not be recognized by any third party to a fixture.
- A Dispute may be withdrawn prior to results being deemed Official.

### Protests

All Protests must be in writing to Tennis West Tennis League Operations, within three working days from the day upon which the Dispute was actioned. The protesting club shall concurrently advise, in writing, the opposing club of the protest. Non-compliance will result in the protest not being considered.

## 7.4 WEATHER AFFECTED AND INCOMPLETE MATCHES :

The Competitions Committee has the power to order any match to be replayed, either wholly or in part, if deemed necessary.

Any match that has commenced, but has not been completed, on resumption must be played by the same listed players on the scorecard, until a result has been achieved.

### 7.4.1 MATCH NOT STARTED

- ❖ The Referee, Match Supervisor or Home Captain shall order a match not to commence when there is continuous rain, or temperature of **38 °C (36 for juniors and seniors)** or above in the shade, or other good and sufficient cause.
- ❖ If within one hour of the match commencement time the rain ceases, or the temperature is lower than **38 °C (36 for juniors and seniors)**, the match shall commence, otherwise it shall be abandoned and the match declared a Draw. All Win and Bonus points shall be equally divided between the two teams. When a match does not commence a scorecard must be submitted by the Home Captain listing the players in both teams who would have played. The Away Captain must advise the home team of these names. These non-played matches count towards qualifying eligibility at the conclusion of the season. The reason the match was cancelled must be stated.
- ❖ The match is registered on *Competition Planner* as DRAWN.

### 7.4.2 MATCH SUSPENDED

The Match Supervisor has the power to, and shall, suspend play if other weather conditions prevail that put players' health or safety at risk, e.g. extreme humidity ~~even though temperature is below 37°C~~, lightning, high winds, dust, smog, smoke and light failure.

- ❖ The Referee, Match Supervisor or Home Captain shall interrupt and suspend a match when significant rain occurs, lights fail or when the temperature reaches **38°C (36 for juniors and seniors)**. If after a suspension, but within one hour of rain ceasing, the courts are playable and a result can be reached, play shall be continued.
- ❖ If more than one continuous hour is lost during any 'one' play suspension, the match shall be abandoned unless both team captains agree to continue.
- ❖ **If lights fail** during a night league match, every attempt should be made to fix the problem. If lights fail for more than one hour the match shall be abandoned, unless both team captains agree to continue.

### 7.4.3 MATCH ABANDONED

- ❖ In the event of a match not having been completed due to weather, light failure or unacceptable light conditions, or council imposed lighting curfew, the opposing captains shall endorse the scorecard with the reason.
- ❖ When a fixture cannot be completed, either captains or Match Supervisor may agree to abandon the match. If one team had such a lead, as would have entitled it to claim the match win even if all subsequent rubbers, sets or games requiring to be played had in fact been won by the opposing team, that team will be awarded the Win.
- ❖ If either team cannot be awarded the 'Win', the match shall be abandoned. Each team shall be awarded 50% of the Win Points. In either case, Bonus Points for completed rubbers shall be counted. All Bonus Points for uncompleted rubbers shall be equally divided between the teams. This result is registered on *Competition Planner* as ABANDONED (INCOMPLETE).

#### 7.4.4 WET WEATHER

All teams in all competitions must turn up to play at the venue as normal, regardless of the weather forecast, unless,

- ❖ In the case of extremely wet conditions, the Home Captain may phone the Away Captain, and agree to cancel the match. The Referee or Match Supervisor must be notified.
- ❖ If no contact is made, or no consensus reached, all team members must attend.
- ❖ The Home Club's appointed Grounds Official or Match Supervisor shall adjudicate on the fitness of courts for play.

#### 7.4.5 HEAT RULE

All teams in all competitions must turn up to play at the venue as normal, regardless of the forecast temperature, unless,

- ❖ In the case of extremely hot conditions, the Home Captain may phone the Away Captain, and agree to cancel the match. The Referee or Match Supervisor must be notified.
- ❖ If no contact is made, or no consensus reached, all team members must attend.
- ❖ Home Clubs must have a thermometer at the club **and/or access to the BOM website.**
- ❖ **Thermometer** is to be positioned in a shaded ventilated area approximately 1.2m above ground level, open to any breeze, and away from any reflective or radioactive heat source.
- ❖ If the temperature is below **38°C ( 36 for juniors and seniors)** at the scheduled start time, matches must commence. If after play commences, the temperature reaches **38°C ( 36 for juniors and seniors)**, all play must stop. **Under no circumstances shall teams continue to play if the temperature is 38°C ( 36 for juniors and seniors) or above.** Once the temperature drops below **38°C ( 36 for juniors and seniors)**, play can resume.
- ❖ Once the temperature is **38°C ( 36 for juniors and seniors)** or above, teams must wait one continuous hour for the temperature to drop below **38°C ( 36 for juniors and seniors)** before cancelling play.
- ❖ If more than one continuous hour is lost during any 'one' play suspension, the match shall be abandoned.
- ❖ For Semi-finals and Finals Matches, **if the temperature is 38°C ( 36 for juniors and seniors) or above at the start of play, teams must wait two hours for the temperature to drop below 38°C ( 36 for juniors and seniors) before cancelling play.**

#### 7.4.6 INCOMPLETE FINALS MATCHES

If no decision is reached in a Semi-Final or Finals match (or Replay), on resumption, the remainder of the match must be played by the same listed players on the scorecard, until a

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result has been achieved. Tennis League Operations shall be advised of all incomplete matches, and of arrangements to complete those matches.

**State League**

- ❖ At the discretion of the Match Referee.

**Saturday Open**

- ❖ Following Sunday morning commencing 8.30am.

**Sunday Open, Juniors and Seniors**

- ❖ Following week at the same time on the same competition day.

**Midweek & Night**

- ❖ Following week at the same time on the same competition day.

**Change of Court Surface or Venue for Incomplete Finals Matches**

When an alternate court surface or venue is required to be approved by the Competitions Committee for an incomplete match, there shall be a complete replay of the match.

**Player Availability for Incomplete Finals Matches**

The Competitions Committee may also determine that a complete replay of an incomplete match is necessary when player availability makes it impossible to schedule the completion of the match within a reasonable time.

**Replay of Incomplete Finals Matches**

When the Competitions Committee determines that a complete replay of an incomplete match is required, teams may make substitutions of eligible players should players be unavailable.

**Finals Matches Not Commenced**

When Semi-Finals or Finals are not commenced due to weather or other causes, the match shall be re-scheduled to the next usual day for that competition. Different player lists may be used.

**7.5 DIVISION WINNERS AND FINALS:**

**7.5.1 LADDER POSITIONS**

- ❖ All Summer and Winter Tennis League division winning teams shall receive a commemorative shield.
- ❖ All Summer and Winter Tennis League Junior division winning team members shall receive a commemorative medallion.
- ❖ The Competitions Committee shall determine prior to the commencement of each season which Competitions shall play with or without a Final Four.

**Competitions with Final Four**

- ❖ Semi-Finals shall be played between the teams finishing 1 & 4 and 2 & 3.
- ❖ The Final shall be played between the winning Semi-Finalists.

**Competitions without Final Four**

- If there is a margin of five or more points between the first and second team, the top team shall be declared the Winner, and no Final will be required.
- If at the conclusion of the series there is a margin of less than five points between the top two teams, there shall be a Play-Off between these two teams to decide the Winner.

**Points Ratio**

All final positions on the ladder shall be calculated by “**Points Ratio**”, where the total number of points is divided by the number of matches played.

**Tied Positions on Ladder**

In the event of a tie on the ladder, final positions shall be determined by:

- On the number of match wins. If these are equal, then;
- On the number of rubbers won. If these are equal, then;

- On the number of sets won. If these are equal, then;
- On the number of games won. If these are equal, then;
- Total rubbers won, then total sets won, then total games won on head to head results over the qualifying rounds.
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### 7.5.2 TENNIS LEAGUE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER (M.V.P) AWARDS

- ❖ Most Valuable Player Awards apply to all weekend, junior and midweek competitions that constitute part of the summer season only.
- ❖ The M.V.P is awarded to each division's top performing player over the qualifying rounds of a competition, playing at any position in a team, based on:
  - Total number of **Singles and Doubles Wins** (*Singles/Doubles competitions*) or
  - Total number of **Doubles Wins** (*Doubles only competitions*).
- ❖ If two or more players are equal on rubbers won, then;
  - On the least number of total rubbers lost. If these are equal, then;
  - On the greatest number of total sets won. If these are equal, then;
  - On the least number of total sets lost. If these are equal, then;
  - On the greatest number of games won. If these are equal, then;
  - On the least number of games lost.

### 7.5.3 STATE LEAGUE PROMOTION and RELEGATION

- ❖ Promotion and Relegation will apply to summer Tennis League seasons offering State League competition.
- ❖ Club's that are either promoted or relegated as a result of this policy will be advised by Tennis West to assist in planning and submission of future team nominations.
- ❖ Should a State League team elect to withdraw from State League after the promoted club has exercised its right of promotion, an open invitation will be extended to all non State League clubs. Tennis West Competitions Committee will assess the merit of any club nomination on the basis of team strength and other information deemed relevant.

#### Promotion

- The club winning Saturday Open Division One earns the right of promotion to contest the next State League competition season.
- The club promoted to State League earns that right regardless of the potential playing strength of that Team.
- The club may choose to exercise its right to refuse the offer of promotion. Such club must advise Tennis West Tennis League Operations by no later than 30 June of the season of competition.

#### Order of Promotion

- The winning team in the Final of Saturday Open Division One. If not, then;
- The losing team in the Final of Saturday Open Division One. If not, then;
- The team that finished top on the ladder after Home and Away qualifying matches should that team not make the Final. If not, then;
- The relegated State League Team. If not then;
- Open invitation to all non State League clubs. Tennis West Competitions Committee will assess the merit of any club nomination on the basis of team strength and other information deemed relevant.



## Relegation

- ❖ The club finishing at the bottom of the State League Ladder at the conclusion of Home and Away qualifying matches will be relegated ~~to Saturday Open Division One~~ for the next summer Tennis League season that offers State League competition.

## 7.6 FINES and PENALTIES:

### 7.6.1 SCHEDULE OF FINES AND PENALTIES

The Competitions Committee shall determine and amend Schedule of Fines and Penalties.

Tennis League Operations shall impose fines and/or penalties as per the Schedule of Fines and Penalties.

#### Penalties

The Competitions Committee shall have the power to impose penalties for failure to comply with administrative procedures, or any breach of the rules contained in By-Law 7, other than breaches dealt with under the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour.

#### Payment of Fines

- ❖ Clubs shall pay the amount of any fine imposed under this rule to the Association within thirty days from the date of fine invoice, unless the team is eligible to play in a Finals match.
- ❖ **Fines not subject to appeal must be paid no later than three days prior to the date of Semi-Final or Final matches. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from participating in any Finals match.**
- ❖ **Clubs with any outstanding fines, not subject to appeal, will not be permitted to enter any teams in the next Tennis League season.**

BREACH	FINE \$ (Fines do not attract GST)	PENALTY
Team withdrawing after Grading	100.00	Forfeit Nomination Fee
Team Forfeit	40.00	Forfeit all points
Failure to submit timely results on Competition Planner	20.00	
Ineligible Player (Age, Clearance, Suspension, no prior approval)	NIL	Forfeit player rubber(s) & rubbers of those playing out of order
Not playing in correct C.T.R Rating Order		
Failure to reasonably notify opposing club of temporary surface change	NIL	Forfeit all points
Late payment of Nomination Fees	NIL	Forfeit all matches played prior to payment of fees
Failure to pay fines before Finals	NIL	Team disqualified from playing in Finals
Failure to pay fines before new season	NIL	All club nominations declined

### 7.6.2 FINES, PENALTIES AND APPEALS Appeals

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- ❖ Clubs may appeal any penalty (other than breaches dealt with under the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour) in writing to the Competitions Committee. This appeal shall be lodged with Tennis League Operations within ten days of the date of the fine invoice, or it shall not be heard by the Competitions Committee.
  - ❖ Clubs shall not remit payment for fine until outcome of appeal is determined by Competitions Committee.
  - ❖ Determination of appeal by Competitions Committee is final.

#### **Appeals Process**

- ❖ Appeals must be directed through the Tennis League Club Coordinator.
- ❖ Appeals must be lodged in writing to Tennis League Operations within three days from the day upon which the alleged breach of rule/s was committed.
- ❖ Immediately a decision has been made, the Competitions Committee shall advise the Club(s) concerned.

#### **Disciplinary Tribunal**

- ❖ The Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour shall apply to all Tennis League Competitions. All matches shall be played under the Rules of Tennis, as approved by the International Tennis Federation (ITF).
- ❖ Any interpretation shall devolve to the Competitions Committee.
- ❖ The Disciplinary Tribunal may be convened at the discretion of the Competitions Committee to rule on serious breaches of the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour.

## **7.7 PLAYER CODE OF BEHAVIOUR:**

### **7.7.1 STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour provides the framework for dealing with breaches of discipline by players, coaches, parents/guardians, and spectators who participate in, or attend tournaments and weekly tennis competitions in Australia. The intent is to provide broad guidelines to deal with inappropriate behaviour.

### **7.7.2 PURPOSE**

To preserve the image and integrity of tennis in Australia and to promote sportsmanlike conduct in tournaments and weekly competitions to which this policy applies by dealing with event related breaches of discipline in a consistent manner.

### **7.7.3 ADMINISTRATION**

Member Associations in addition to the controlling body of the competition will be responsible for the administration of this policy.

### **7.7.4 APPLICATION**

The Code of Behaviour applies to violations occurring during tournaments and weekly competitions or at officially sanctioned related activities.

Incidents involving harassment, discrimination, abuse (but not verbal abuse within the Code of Behaviour) and vilification (defined within the Member Protection Policy) may be dealt with pursuant to the Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy and not this policy.

### **7.7.5 DEFINITIONS**

**“Australian Tennis Organization” (ATO)** refers to Tennis Australia, Member Associations, Affiliated Organizations, Member Affiliated Organizations, Regional Associations and Affiliated Clubs as defined in the Tennis Australia Member Protection By-Law.

**“Tennis Australia”** refers to governing body for tennis in Australia.

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**“Member Association”** refers to the governing body for tennis in each state/territory in Australia.

**“Disciplinary Officer”** refers to the person appointed by the Australian Tennis Organization to administer disciplinary matters.

**“Official”** refers to Referee, Assistant Referee, Court Supervisor or Chair Umpire.

**“Weekly Competition”** refers to organized tennis competition which occurs over a series of weeks on a regular basis the Tournament.

**“Competition Manager/Match Supervisor”** refers to the controlling person at a venue where matches pertaining to the competition are being played.

#### **7.7.6 INTERPRETATION AND ON-SITE ADMINISTRATION**

##### **Competitions without Accredited Officials**

The Competition Manager/Match Supervisor is empowered with the authority of administering these regulations.

##### **Competitions with Accredited Officials**

- ❖ The Competition Manager/Match Supervisor and all Officials appointed by the Competition are empowered with the authority of administering these regulations.
- ❖ All Officials appointed by the Competition are empowered with the authority to interpret and determine match offences documented within these regulations, and take appropriate action.
- ❖ The Referee is the final on-site authority regarding the interpretation of these regulations.

#### **7.7.7 STANDARD CODE OF BEHAVIOUR VIOLATIONS**

The following Violations amount to breaches of the Code of Behaviour.

##### **Commencement of Play (“No Show”)**

A player is not ready to commence play within fifteen minutes of his/her match being called. The Referee shall designate the official timepiece. This can also be deemed a “no show.”

##### **Physical Abuse**

A player physically abuses any official, opponent, spectator, or other person within the Precinct. For the purposes of this Rule, physical abuse is the unauthorized touching of an official, opponent, spectator or other person. In certain circumstances the matter may also be referred to the police for further investigation and subsequent possible action.

##### **Verbal Abuse**

Players shall not at any time directly or indirectly verbally abuse any official, opponent, sponsor, spectator, or other person within the precincts of the tournament/competition site. For the purpose of this Rule, verbal abuse is defined as a statement about an official, opponent, sponsor, spectator or other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting, racially or otherwise abusive.

##### **Audible Obscenity**

Players shall not use an audible obscenity within the precincts of the tournament/competition site. For the purposes of this Rule, audible obscenity is defined as the use of words commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by the court officials or spectators.

##### **Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

A player shall not during any tournament/competition engage in conduct that damages the image and integrity of tennis. Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. For the purposes of this policy, unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct by a player, prior to, during or subsequent to a match that is clearly abusive

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or detrimental to the sport, including, but not limited to blatant cheating, but does not specifically fall within other Violation categories.

**Unreasonable Delays**

A player unreasonably delays a match. A player shall commence the match after the expiration of the established warm-up period. Thereafter, play shall be continuous as provided in the Rules of Tennis and a player shall not unreasonably delay a match for any cause. When a Violation is a result of a medical condition, refusal to play or not returning to the court within the allocated time, a Code Violation (Delay of Game) penalty shall be assessed in accordance with the Code Schedule. Other delays may be dealt with as a Time Violation.

**Visible Obscenity**

A player makes offensive or obscene gestures during any match or within the precinct. For the purposes of this Rule, visible obscenity is defined as the making of signs by a player with his hands, body and/or racket/balls that commonly have an obscene meaning.

**Abuse of Racquets or Equipment**

A player violently or with anger, hits, kicks or throws a racquet or other equipment, or in any way unreasonably interferes with any court fixtures and equipment within the precinct. For the purposes of this Rule, abuse of racquets or equipment is defined as intentionally and violently throwing, destroying or damaging racquets or equipment or intentionally and violently hitting the net, court, umpires chair or other fixture during or after a match out of anger or frustration.

**Abuse of Balls**

Players shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a tennis ball within the precinct except in the reasonable pursuit of a point during a match (including warm up). For the purposes of this Rule, abuse of balls is defined as intentionally hitting a ball out of the enclosure of the court, hitting a ball dangerously or recklessly within the court or hitting a ball with negligent disregard of the consequences.

**Leaving the Court**

A player leaves the court area during a match (including the warm up) without the permission of an Official.

**Best Efforts**

A player shall use his/her best efforts to win a match when competing in a tournament/competition. For the purposes of this Rule, the Referee shall have the authority to penalize a player in accordance with the Code of Behaviour.

**Coaching**

A player receives any type of coaching from any person while a match is in progress, except where special provision is made for a tournament/competition. Communication of any kind, audible or visible between a player and any other person may be construed as coaching.

- ❖ Coaching shall be permitted where there is an off-court break between sets or during interruptions to play caused by bad weather or light where players leave the court.
- ❖ Coaching is not permitted whilst a court is being serviced at the end of or during a set and players are still on court.

**Failure to Complete a Match**

A player must complete a match in progress unless he is reasonably unable to do so. A Violation of this section may subject a player to immediate default.

**7.7.8 DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

Breaches of the Code of Behaviour will be dealt as outlined.

**MATCH OFFENCES (without accredited Officials)** A Player Code of Behaviour Report Form is forwarded to Tennis West by the Match Supervisor. Tennis West may investigate the incident, and

determine an appropriate penalty as outlined below:		
<b>Match Offence</b>	<b>Immediate Penalty (during that match)</b>	<b>Additional Penalty (imposed post match by Tennis West)</b>
<i>First Offence</i>	Code Violation	ONE Penalty Point
<i>Second Offence</i>	Code Violation	TWO Penalty Points <i>inclusive of First Offence</i>
<i>Third Offence</i>	Code Violation	FOUR Penalty Points <i>inclusive of First &amp; Second Offences</i>

<b>MATCH OFFENCES (with accredited Officials)</b> Breaches of the Code of Behaviour will be dealt with as outlined below: (Post match 'Penalty Points' are not accumulative).		
<b>Match Offence</b>	<b>Immediate Penalty (during that match)</b>	<b>Additional Penalty (imposed post match by Tennis West)</b>
<i>First Offence</i>	Code Violation	ONE Penalty Point
<i>Second Offence</i>	Point Penalty	TWO Penalty Points <i>inclusive of First Offence</i>
<i>Third Offence</i>	Default	FOUR Penalty Points <i>inclusive of First &amp; Second Offences</i>

- ❖ The Match Referee after consultation with any relevant Official and taking into account all the relevant facts may determine that a significant Violation warrants an immediate Match Default without progressing through the above stages. In addition, after consultation with any appropriate person, it may be determined that the Violation also warrants suspension from other matches on that day.
- ❖ Any decisions regarding future tournaments and weekly competitions will be made in accordance with penalties outlined.
- ❖ The Match Referee must determine any Default situation.
- ❖ Any Penalty awarded during a doubles match pursuant to a Violation of this policy shall be a penalty imposed against the team. Any post competition action in accordance with this policy will be taken against the individual player.
- ❖ Standard Match Code Violations are not appealable.

#### **7.7.9 SUSPENSION PENALTIES**

##### **Without Accredited Officials**

Tennis West, after investigation (if required), may impose disciplinary action and/or suspension as a result of the Report. Other penalties can also be considered (e.g. non-participation in squads or trials).

##### **With Accredited Officials**

Penalty Points are accumulated when Code Violations are enforced. When the number of Penalty Points in a twelve month period reaches certain levels (on or above), disciplinary measures are activated. The table outlines Penalty Point levels and the related disciplinary action, which includes a mixture of suspension and loss of Australian Ranking points.

<b>PENALTY POINTS TABLE</b>	
<b>Penalty Point Levels (12 month rolling period)</b>	<b>Disciplinary Action (Automatic)</b>
<i>3 Penalty Points</i>	15% reduction of total Australian Ranking points. ONE month suspension (penalty suspended for TWELVE months) from tournaments and weekly competitions

	within Australia. <i>Penalty is activated when SIX penalty points are reached (per below)</i>
6 Penalty Points	Further 15% reduction of total Australian Ranking points. ONE month suspension from tournaments and weekly competitions within in Australia. Suspension start date is at the determination of the ATO.

- ❖ Any further violations, whether in the current or any subsequent twelve month period, totaling three or more Penalty Points will be referred each time to relevant Member Association Tribunal for suspension determination.
- ❖ A player who is subject to an immediate Default will automatically lose 30% of AR points and will be referred directly to the ATO’s Tribunal to determine the suspension period. This will also apply for off court violations under “Conduct Unbecoming”.
- ❖ A player on the payment of \$500 may have their automatic suspension (six penalty points) considered by a Tribunal. However if the Tribunal upholds the suspension the period of the penalty will be determined by the Tribunal. If the player is successful, \$500 payment will be refunded.
- ❖ A player who is penalized after reaching six Penalty Points will return to zero points. If this player reaches six Penalty Points for the second time in a twelve month rolling period, the automatic deduction of AR points will apply. However the player will be referred directly to the ATO Tribunal for suspension determination.

#### 7.7.10 MUTUAL RECOGNITION

- ❖ Any penalty imposed upon a player under these regulations by an ATO will be recognized and respected by other ATOs.
- ❖ A player is not permitted to play any tournaments or weekly competitions during the time of any suspension imposed under these regulations.

### 7.8 FILMING OR PHOTOGRAPHY

The following restrictions apply to filming or photography by any means, including camera, video camera, mobile phone or other wireless device.

- ❖ Tennis Australia, the host venue and any third party at the reasonable discretion of Tennis Australia (for example, Tennis West) have the perpetual right to make, show and reproduce still and motion pictures of entrants at Tennis West sanctioned events.
- ❖ Otherwise, filming or photography of players on court is only permitted where:
  - Both players provide their express consent both to the filming/photography and to the purpose for which it is being taken (*or, where a player is under 18, their parent or guardian provides express consent*). The fact that a player or their parent/guardian does not object to filming or photography is not enough;
  - The tournament host venue provides its express consent to the proposed filming/photography on its premises;
  - The Referee, Match Supervisor or designated club official is aware of the proposed filming or photography and retains discretion to require that filming or photography cease; and
  - a flash is not used.

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- ❖ Filming or photography is permitted off court for private and domestic use only. Photographs must not be sold, licensed, published (*including electronically*) or otherwise commercially exploited.
  - ❖ Filming and photography are strictly prohibited in restricted areas including change rooms.
  - ❖ At all times, the Referee, Match Supervisor or designated club official has discretion in relation to all filming and photography. Any person deemed to be acting inappropriately will be asked to cease taking photographs/film, may have their camera/video camera/mobile phone/other device confiscated whilst they are onsite at the tournament or may be asked to leave the tournament venue.

## 7.9 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

### 7.9.1 MATCH SUPERVISOR shall

- ❖ Have overall responsibility for the application of By Law 7 and Rules of Tennis.
- ❖ Arrive at venue thirty minutes before a Tennis League match is due to commence.
- ❖ Introduce themselves to the team captains and team members.
- ❖ Ensure captains fulfill their pre-match responsibilities.
- ❖ Ensure captain's enter player's names on scorecard ten minutes prior to the start time of the first rubbers.
- ❖ Check that players are in correct C.T.R Rating Order.
- ❖ Seek agreement with captains regarding court usage to enable continuous play to take place.
- ❖ Inspect courts for correct marking and ensure net posts and nets are in good condition.
- ❖ Administer the provision of courts and facilities at any alternative venue.
- ❖ Check net heights before commencement and between individual matches.
- ❖ Check tennis balls are of approved standard.
- ❖ Ensure the first round of singles commences promptly at scheduled start times. The five minute maximum warm-up should be completed before the start time.
- ❖ Umpire (if necessary) only if a replacement Match Supervisor is available.
- ❖ Ensure second round of singles commences immediately an agreed court becomes available.
- ❖ Not permit alterations to doubles pairs unless agreement with captains.
- ❖ Ensure a doubles match commences immediately after the second singles when a court and players become available. However, a player who has just finished a singles match should be allowed a maximum fifteen minute rest period if required.
- ❖ Suspend or conclude play if, in his/her opinion, conditions do not permit play. The objective should be to resume play as soon as possible to achieve a result. In the case of rain affecting grass courts, the Home Team's Ground Official should be consulted.
- ❖ Ensure junior matches (excluding Junior State League) cease at 12.30pm.
- ❖ Ensure players do not leave the court location without Match Supervisor's and captain's agreement.
- ❖ Check accuracy, legibility and completion of all details on scorecard;
- ❖ Sign scorecard certifying scores are correct.
- ❖ Apply the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour as necessary. Misconduct may be reported by any member to an authorized club person, although preferably the Match Supervisor. Process as follows:

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- Record exact nature of offence on Code of Behaviour Report Form;
  - Attempt to corroborate the complaint if not witnessed and apply Code;
  - Complete Report with as many details as possible and have same countersigned by complainant if possible, and
  - Lodge Report at Tennis West ~~by 5.00 pm on the first business day after the match.~~

#### **7.9.2 TEAM CAPTAIN shall**

- ❖ Introduce themselves and their team to the opposing team and the Match Supervisor or Referee.
- ❖ Exchange their team playing order with the opposing captain prior to play commencing.
- ❖ Provide new balls for the five minute maximum warm-up period.
- ❖ Avoid unnecessary delays and ensure players are ready to go on court when same are ready for play.
- ❖ Record and confirm all scores immediately after the end of each rubber.
- ❖ Complete, check and sign the scorecard in conjunction with opposing captain at conclusion of play.
- ❖ Enter results on Competition Planner in timely manner if Home Team.
- ❖ Be familiar with By Law 7 and Rules of Tennis.

#### **7.9.3 CLUB COORDINATOR shall**

- ❖ Be primary communication link with Tennis West's Tennis League Operations.
- ❖ Attend the pre-season Coordinator's meeting, or appoint a proxy to attend.
- ❖ Lodge teams on Competition Planner using the nomination process.
- ❖ Liaise with clubs on match days regarding inclement weather conditions.
- ❖ Liaise with other club coordinators and Tennis League Operations regarding venue/court surface changes.
- ❖ Be responsible for timely submission of match scorecards.
- ❖ Be responsible for keeping team captains informed of relevant Tennis League information.
- ❖ Encourage captain and player familiarity with the Rules of Tennis League..
- ❖ Ensure Match Supervisors are in attendance at all home venues (where applicable).
- ❖ Lodge any Protests/Appeals with Tennis League Operations.
- ❖ Actively promote new competitions, forums, and new initiatives on behalf of Tennis West.

#### **7.9.4 JUNIOR TEAM MANAGER shall**

- ❖ Manage junior teams as per club's policies and procedures.
- ❖ Liaise with club's junior Tennis League coordinator.
- ❖ Be familiar with Tennis Australia's Code of Behaviour.
- ❖ Supervise the team at away venues.
- ❖ Educate players and parents in tennis etiquette, both on and off the court.



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## APPENDIX 1      MATCHES PLAYED WITHOUT A CHAIR UMPIRE

All players should be aware of the following basic principles when playing a match without a Chair Umpire:-

- Each player is responsible for all calls on his/her side of the net, however it should be noted that a Courts Supervisor or Referee is permitted to reverse an incorrect line call.
- If in doubt, the player must give the benefit of the doubt to his/her opponent.
- A service “Let” may be called by either player/team.
- Foot faults may only be called by an Official either allocated for that purpose or a person performing a Chair Umpire function. Players may be requested to correct their foot faulting problem by a Referee or Court Supervisor. The receiver may not call a foot fault against the server.
- The receiver must play to the reasonable pace of the server.
- All “out” or “fault” calls should be made promptly after the ball has bounced and loudly enough for the opponent to hear.
- If a player incorrectly calls a ball “out” and then realises that the ball was good, the point should be replayed, unless it was a point winning shot or unless that player made an incorrect “out” call earlier in the match. In these circumstances, the player who called “out” loses the point.
- The server should call the score before each 1<sup>st</sup> serve, loudly enough for his/her opponent to hear.
- If players cannot agree on the score, they should calmly discuss the points/games that are disputed. If they then cannot reach agreement they should only replay the number of points/games that are in dispute i.e. two players cannot agree on whether the score is 40-30 or 30-40, but they do agree that they have won two points each. The game shall continue from 30-30. When the game score is in dispute the same principles apply with all agreed games standing and only disputed games being replayed.
- When a player has created an involuntary hindrance (ball falling out of pocket, hat falling off, etc), the first time a “let” should be called and any similar hindrance thereafter will be ruled deliberate.
- Any hindrance caused by a player that is ruled deliberate by the relevant official will result in the loss of a point.
- Where a ball interrupts play, either by rolling/bouncing onto the court, and/or creating a visible interruption behind the court a let should be played. Either player can call a let in these circumstances provided they do so in a timely manner. Where this is between a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> serve, a second serve only should be played.
- If at the completion of a match, the players involved realise that the scoring format used is incorrect, the match result shall stand provided all players have left the court enclosure.  
If the mistake is realised *before* the players have left the enclosure, the correct scoring format should be used to finalise the match. If this is not possible (i.e. the match has progressed beyond the point where the correct scoring format can be implemented), then the score based on the incorrect format stands.
- If a player is unhappy with his/her opponent’s actions or decisions, he/she should call the Referee (or assistant) immediately. This may include any disputes regarding Lets, Foul Shots or Not Up situations where players cannot reach agreement.

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### Matches played on Clay Courts

For matches played on clay courts, there are some additional procedures that all players should follow:

- A ball mark can only be checked on a point ending shot, or when play is stopped (a return is permitted, but then the player must immediately stop).
- Players are prohibited from checking the mark of the ball on their opponent's side of the court, unless invited by their opponent to do so.
- If a player erases the mark, he/she is conceding the call.
- If there is a disagreement over a ball mark, the Referee (or assistant) can be called to make a final decision.
- If a player calls a ball "out", he/she should, in normal circumstances, be able to show the mark.
- If a player incorrectly calls a ball "out" and then realises that the ball was good, the player who called "out" loses the point.

Players who do not fairly follow these procedures could be subject to the Hindrance Rule and the Unsportsmanlike Conduct provision of the Code of Conduct.

Any questions on these procedures should be referred to the Referee.

### Etiquette

- When ball persons are not available, all balls on your side of the net are your responsibility, to pick up and, where appropriate, return directly to the server.
- The receiver should not return the first service if it is an obvious fault – let it go by or ground it.
- Do not enlist the aid of spectators, including parents, coaches, etc, in making line calls, or attempting to determine the score or other on-court matters.
- To avoid controversy over the score, the server should announce the game score before starting a game and the point score prior to serving for each point.
- Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
- To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have completed a point.
- Do not stall, sulk, complain nor practice gamesmanship.
- Screaming regularly and loudly, whether in relation to winning and/or losing a point is likely to cause interference to play on nearby courts and may be considered unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Overt celebration directed at an opponent may be considered intimidation, and therefore unsportsmanlike conduct.
- In doubles, when returning service, the partner of the receiver should generally call the service line for him/her. The receiver should generally call the centre and side service lines. The call needs to be loud enough to stop their opponents/partner playing.