

SATURDAY  
JUNIOR  
COMPETITION  
RULES

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**SATURDAY JUNIOR COMPETITION RULES**  
*(Extracts from Tennis Wollongong competition rules)*

**ALL MATCHES TO BE PLAYED UNDER TENNIS WOLLONGONG RULES  
SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING RULES:-**

**1. COMPETITION DEFINITIONS**

**(a) Davis Cup Division**

- Format of 5 sets with singles and doubles – 4 hours allowed for completion commencing at 8.30 am or 10.30am.

**(b) Junior Mixed Competition**

- Format of 3 sets of 2 singles and 1 doubles played over two time slots i.e. 8.30 and 10.30.

**(c) Boys and Girls Competition**

- Format of 3 sets of 2 singles and 1 doubles played over two time slots i.e. 8.30 and 10.30.

**(d) Beginners Competition**

- Format of 3 sets of doubles for juniors coming into competition play from coaching. This competition is played over 2 hours with time slots fro, 8.30am, 10.30am & 12.30pm.

**2. Player Definitions**

**2.1 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS**

- (a) Players in this competition must be 18 years or under and must NOT turn 19 during the competition.
- 16 - 18 year old players should be nominated for Davis Cup or Mixed Divisions. This should also apply if nominated in teams with younger players.
  - Players currently playing in the Senior/Adult competitions (Saturday Afternoon mixed, Wednesday men's night or Ladies Mid-week & Night competitions) or who have played Senior/Adult competition may re-apply to play in the Saturday Junior competition. Nominations will be considered by the Junior Committee.
- (b) Players participating in the lowest division of singles and/or doubles must be 13 years of age or under with the exception of players participating in the Beginners' Competition. Exceptions may be granted under special circumstances upon application to the committee.
- (c) Players may be registered in only one (1) team in the Saturday Junior Competition, but may play a second match on the day as a borrowed player if eligible as per rule 3.
- (d) Any player once registered with a team shall not play in a lower division in the same competition. Permission may be granted if a player has not played in a

registered team, and a club requests permission to change a player to a team in a lower division.

- (e) Players eligible and nominated to play in the Singles Format of the Saturday Junior Competition, and under the age of 18 years as at the first day of the relevant competition, shall also be eligible to be nominated to play in a team in the Saturday Afternoon Mixed Competition on the same day.

## **2.2 NEW PLAYERS**

A **NEW PLAYER** is a player not registered in a team at the commencement of the competition. The Competition Secretary must be advised of the player's name, address, telephone number and date of birth before the player's first match. If the Competition Secretary is unavailable, the relevant information should be left on the answering machine on 42286570 at the Control Room or emailed, if possible, to [admin@tenniswollongong.com.au](mailto:admin@tenniswollongong.com.au).

*Also* the player's details must be stated on the results Sheet under ***NEW PLAYER***. Failure to notify Tennis Wollongong of a new player before the match may result in the sets played by the player being forfeited.

## **2.3 BORROWED PLAYERS**

A **"Borrowed Player"** must be a player registered with Tennis Wollongong and currently playing in the Saturday Junior Competition and may be from your Club or from any other Club; except as in (f) below.

A player may play a second match on the same day as a **"Borrowed Player"**; see rule 2.1. (c)

A **"Borrowed Player"** may be borrowed as often as required **BUT** may play only **three (3) times** for any one (1) team **in any one competition**. **If a player plays as a borrowed player more than (3) times for any one team during a competition all sets played in the fourth and any subsequent matches will be forfeited.**

**IF YOU CANNOT FIELD A TEAM BUT HAVE ENOUGH PLAYERS TO PLAY A SET, THEN THAT SET MUST BE PLAYED TO AVOID A FULL FORFEIT.**

### **(a) Davis Cup Division**

Players may be borrowed from teams in the same division or any lower grade/division including mixed division, boys or girls divisions and beginners. Players may be borrowed from any division of the Junior Competition.

### **(b) Mixed Divisions**

Players may be borrowed from teams in the same mixed division or any lower mixed division including mixed division, boys or girls divisions and beginners.

Players may be borrowed from coaching but such a player must not have participated in any previous junior (or senior/adult) competition. If a player has played in a previous competition such a player must be registered as a team member, after permission has been granted by the Junior Committee.

**(c) Boys and Girls Division**

**Players may be borrowed from teams in the same or lower division of the boys or girls division of the junior competition.**

**Players may be borrowed from any team in the Beginners competition or lowest mixed division.**

**Players may be borrowed from coaching under the same rules as stated for Mixed Division.**

**(d) Beginners Competition**

**Players may be borrowed from any team in the Beginners competition.**

**Players may be borrowed from coaching but such players must not have previously played in the Junior Competition and must be registered with Tennis NSW.**

**A player who has played as a registered team member in a previous competition is not eligible to play as a borrowed player from coaching.**

**(e) Borrowed Player from Coaching**

The player is subject to Tennis NSW registration fees upon playing the first match and such player may be borrowed (4) times to help all teams in the lower divisions to field a full team. **A player who has played as a registered team member in a previous competition is not eligible to be borrowed from coaching.**

**BUT**, should a player from Coaching be required for a fifth time, then the Club/Coach must register the said player in a team and the player will be subject to Tennis Wollongong registration fees. Such fees are to be paid to the Association within seven (7) days of the registration.

**(f) Borrowed Player from Invitee Association**

- Any Invitee Team from another Association may borrow a player from Tennis Wollongong subject to the conditions set down in **2.3. (a) to (d)**.
- Any Invitee Team from another Association may borrow a player from their own Association's junior competition providing that the Competition Secretary has been advised of the player's details before the relevant match.

**3. COMMENCEMENT OF PLAY**

- (a) Matches must commence on time. Where insufficient members of a team are present to enable the first set to be played, 10 minutes grace will be allowed from the starting time. At the end of that period, the opposing captain may claim the set. If, after a further 10 minutes, play still cannot commence, then the second set may be claimed. After a further 10 minutes with play unable to commence, the match may be claimed.

**Note:** *After the first 10 minutes grace period, any set that can be played must be played.*

- (b) If the captains agree, sets may be played out of order. This agreement should be reached before play commences.
- (c) 8:30 am matches must vacate the court by 10:30 am (except Davis Cup format matches) to allow the next match to begin. 10:30 am matches (except Davis

Cup format matches) must be off the court by 12:30 pm to allow the 12.30 pm matches to commence.

- (d) During normal rounds the home team writes their names on the score sheet first and then the visitors write theirs.

#### 4. **BALLS**

- (a) All teams **must** be provided with a minimum of two (2) **new balls** at the commencement of **each round** of the competition.

Home teams must provide balls and a result sheet for their home matches. Any delay in providing these may cost the home team the first set of the match.

#### 5. **FORFEITURE OF MATCHES**

A team forfeiting a match (when no sets at all can be played) shall score no points and the opposing team shall be deemed to have won the match and score maximum points.

Any team forfeiting a match twice in succession may be disqualified. Clubs will be advised if a team has forfeited twice in succession and they will be responsible to advise the team and forward an explanation to Tennis Wollongong.

If a team forfeits twice in non-consecutive matches the club will be advised that further forfeits will result in automatic disqualification.

If a team is disqualified, all points scored for and against will be deleted.

#### 6. **WEATHER**

The following rules apply to the rounds of the competition only.

- (a) Captains of teams, or their representatives, must be in attendance at the nominated starting time of a match to fill out the result sheet. Unless mutually agreed, play will not start later than 30 minutes from respective starting times i.e. 8.30am, 10.30am and 12.30pm matches.
- (b) In extreme weather conditions cancellation of a match can be made by the captains over the phone after 7:45 am in respect to 8:30 am matches, and 9:45 am in respect to 10:30 am matches, 11.45am for 12.30pm matches. If that action is taken, **home team** captains are to send in a result sheet listing their intended team and also the name of the person contacted from the opposite team. **If no contact has been made between teams and no agreement can be reached, then you must go to the court.**
- (c) A second court cannot be used to complete a match during the rounds of the competition.
- (d) In the event of bad light, extreme weather or unplayable court conditions, then the captains may make a mutual decision for play to cease.
- (e) In the event of a rain-interrupted match, a decision on the possibility of play resuming shall be left to the captains. Should the captains disagree the match will be called off. The exception to this will be in the final series when the decision will be made by the relevant competition committee.

## 7. REPLACING AN INJURED PLAYER

- (a) If a player is injured during a match, the remaining games of the set in progress will be forfeited if the injury or illness is such that the player cannot continue, or alternatively the player may elect to complete the remaining games of the set and notify the captains and/or umpire at the conclusion of the set that he requires a substitute player for the remaining sets of the match.
- (b) A player who is substituted in a match after sustaining an injury or illness can take no further part in the match.
- (c) A replacement player is eligible if :-
- The replacement player is a registered player of the same team, or
  - The replacement player comes from a team in the same division or a lower division, and provided that such a player is not involved in another match in the same time slot.

## 8. UMPIRING

All players entering the competition must be capable of umpiring from the central umpire's chair.

- (a) **SINGLES FORMAT**
- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Visitors  | to umpire 2 <sup>nd</sup> set (1 <sup>st</sup> singles) |
| Home Team | to umpire 3 <sup>rd</sup> set (2 <sup>nd</sup> singles) |
- (b) **DOUBLES FORMAT**
- |           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Home Team | to umpire 1 <sup>st</sup> set |
| Visitors  | to umpire 2 <sup>nd</sup> set |
| Home Team | to umpire 3 <sup>rd</sup> set |
- (c) **SERVE**
- |           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Home Team | to serve first in 1 <sup>st</sup> set |
| Visitors  | to serve first in 2 <sup>nd</sup> set |
| Home Team | to serve first in 3 <sup>rd</sup> set |
- (d) Parents are not permitted on the court during play unless permission is given by the competition secretary and/or competition committee and must not interfere with the umpiring of any matches. The umpire has control of the match. Parental interference may result in the loss of points for the relevant team.
- (e) If a problem should arise during a match and an official is not available, a report should be written out and signed by the team captain lodging the complaint. This must then be given to the secretary of your club who will then forward it to the competition secretary. If the complaint could alter the result of the match, then **do not sign the score sheet.** A signed score sheet indicates your agreement with the result.
- (f) One umpire only is allowed in the umpire's chair during the match except in the Beginners competition where two players are permitted in the umpire's chair if required.

- (g) Semi-finals, elimination finals, and grand finals will be supervised by Court Officials appointed by the relevant Competition Committee.
  - Semi-finals will be umpired by neutral umpires (where possible) appointed by the relevant competition committee.
  - The loser of the minor semi-final will umpire the elimination final, and the loser of the elimination final will umpire the grand final.

9. **FINAL SERIES** (Semi-Final, Elimination Final, and/or Grand Final)

9.1 **FORMAT**

- (a) The format of the Final Series will be determined at the beginning of each competition by the Competition Committee and written on the Draw. It is each team's responsibility to check if they are to participate in or umpire matches.
- (b) **All matches during the Final Series will commence at 8:30am**
- (c) Matches must commence on time. If play is not commenced within 10 minutes of the commencement time. The team which does not have a player (singles) or pair (doubles) on the court will lose the first set. After the forfeit of the first set, if the second set is not commenced within 10 minutes then the second set will be forfeited. If play is not commenced within 30 minutes of the commencement time, then the match will be claimed on forfeit.
- (d) **MATCHES WILL NOT BE OFFICIALLY CANCELLED BY TENNIS WOLLONGONG** during the Final Series due to extreme weather conditions. Players and umpires must report to the allocated court venue at 8:30am and the match must be completed by 12:30pm.
- i) Four (4) hours 8:30am to 12:30pm is equivalent to two Saturday Junior matches.
- ii) If play has not commenced by 9:30am, then the Umpires may be released from their duties. In the case where there are no Umpires or the Umpires have been released, the Home team shall umpire the first set, the Visitors are to umpire the second set, and in the "Doubles Format" the third set shall be umpired by the Home team if a third player is available.
- iii) If play has not commenced by 10:40am, then the match becomes subject to Rule No. 9.2 of the Saturday Junior Competition (see below).
- iv) If the match has commenced, but cannot be completed within the four (4) hours, then the match becomes subject to Rule No. 9.3.
- (e) All clubs and coaches are responsible for their players reporting to the allocated court at 8:30am on the day set down for the relevant match, including players required for umpiring duties.
- (f) All teams playing in the Final Series must supply **two news**.
- (g) All matches in the Final Series will be umpired by independent umpires, where possible, subject to clause 9.1 (d) ii.
- (h) Teams not reporting for umpiring duties will be reported to the Junior Branch Committee for further action.
- (i) **Substitute Players during the Final Series**  
If a player is suffering from some illness, injury or some other unforeseen circumstances preventing them from competing, then their Club may apply to the Junior Competition Secretary **before commencement of play** to include a substitute player. This player may be from the same division or from a lower division. The player/s must be from a team not involved in the Final Series, either playing or umpiring. Players may be eligible to substitute if their team has completed umpiring duties.
- (j) Each team participating in a Final Series has the choice to play all members of the team in the said Final Series matches, but subject to the following conditions: -
- **SINGLES:** a maximum of three (3) players can participate.

Two individual players to play the singles sets and a third team member, if listed plays in the doubles set.

- **DOUBLES:** a maximum of five (5) players may participate. Each player will be limited to a maximum of 2 sets. Each pairing can only play one set.
- A special Final Series Result Sheet is to be used. Names of all players listed on this result sheet **MUST** play on the day.
- Before the match, each Captain will write down a list of their players and hand that list to the independent Umpire or the Court Official if no independent Umpire is available.

#### **IN THE SINGLES FORMAT:**

- If two players are listed on the final series result sheet then they play both singles and doubles.
- If three players are listed on the team sheet then:
  - the players listed as 1 and 2 must play the respective singles
  - player 3 and either of player 1 or 2 plays the doubles
- The Umpire or Court Official will toss to determine the Home team and then the names of the players will be written down on the Result Sheet in the order specified on the Captains' lists.

#### **IN THE DOUBLES FORMAT:**

- If only three players have been nominated, then the normal format will be played: that is, first set players 1 & 2; second set players 2 & 3; and in the third set players 1 & 3.
- If more than three players have been nominated, then players 1 & 2 will play the first set; players 3 & 4 the second set; and any other combination (subject to Rule 9.1 (j)) can play the third set.
- The Umpire or Court Official will toss to determine the Home team and then the names of the players will be written down on the Result Sheet in the order specified on the Captains' lists.

- (k) All sets are to be played in the order set down on the results sheet, with the players playing in the order specified on the "players list".
- (l) Forfeits by teams during the Finals Series will result in disqualification from any further match play. The team will be required to umpire the next match.

#### **9.2 NO PLAY DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS**

- (a) Semi-final, Final and Grand Final format
  - i) **NO PLAY** in Semi-finals (1 v 2); (3 v 4)
    - 1 v 2: 1<sup>st</sup> goes to Grand Final; 2<sup>nd</sup> goes to Final
    - 3 v 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> goes to Final; 4<sup>th</sup> to Umpire the Final
  - ii) **NO PLAY** in Final
    - Of the three teams remaining, the two teams with the highest points at the end of the competition rounds go through to the Grand Final, and the team with the third highest points is to Umpire the Grand Final.
  - iii) **NO PLAY** in Grand Final

Of the two remaining teams, the team with the highest points at the end of the competition rounds is declared the winner.

(b) Semi-final and Final format

i) NO PLAY in Semi-finals (1 v 4); (2 v 3)

The two teams with the highest points go through to the Final.

The team with the third highest points is to Umpire the Final.

ii) NO PLAY in Final

Of the two remaining teams, the team with the highest points at the end of the competition rounds is declared the winner.

**9.3 ONLY PARTIAL PLAY DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Any match in the Final Series abandoned during the match due to extreme weather conditions is subject to the following: -

(a) If less than two sets have been completed, then the match becomes subject to Rule 9.2 (a)

(b) Where a match is incomplete, but two sets have been played, then the point for the remaining set is to be shared and the points calculated as per the Score Sheet instructions.

(c) If the teams are equal after Rule 9.2 (b), then the team with the highest points at the end of the competition rounds is declared the winner.