



## **COMPETITION RULES**

### **Junior Competitions**

***March 2017***

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## **DEFINITIONS**

A **REGISTERED** player is one who is:

- (a) financial with Tennis Wollongong and financial with Tennis NSW; and
- (b) financial with an invitee association and Tennis NSW.

An **UNFINANCIAL** player is a player nominated in a team in any current competition but has not paid the required registration, competition or membership fees to a relevant association or club.

An **UNFINANCIAL** team is one that has not paid the current competition team fees.

A **NOMINATED** player is one who is listed to play in a specific team in a specific competition.

A **NEW** player is one who is a late registration and is nominated to play in a specific team.

A **BORROWED** player is one who is can be borrowed from other teams and other competitions.

A **TEAM CAPTAIN** is the person nominated on the team entry form at the commencement of the competition or any person nominated on the day of competition as being the "team captain" for the match.

A **SUBSTITUTE** player is one who replaces an incapacitated player after the commencement of a match.

The **EXECUTIVE** is the Executive of Tennis Wollongong.

The **COMMITTEE** is the Junior Competition Committee of Tennis Wollongong.

## 1. RULES

All matches shall be played under the Rules of Tennis as laid down by Tennis Australia and the Rules of Tennis Wollongong as specified hereunder.

## 2 REGISTERED PLAYERS

- 2.1 Any team playing an unregistered player shall receive a penalty according to Rule 19.
- 2.2 If a club advises Tennis Wollongong in writing that a player is not financial with the club, that player will be withdrawn as a member of any team and declared an unregistered player.
- 2.3 In competitions run by Tennis Wollongong where teams from other associations are invited to enter, all players must be registered with their respective associations prior to the commencement of play.

## 3 COMPETITION DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 Davis Cup competition format of 5 sets with singles and doubles; 4 hours allowed for completion.
- 3.2 Junior Mixed competition format of 3 sets of 2 singles and 1 doubles. **10's & under division to play short deuce i.e. no-advantage.**
- 3.3 Boys and Girls competition format of 3 sets of 2 singles and 1 doubles
- 3.4 Beginners competition format of 3 sets of doubles. **The games will be played with short deuce i.e. no-advantage.**

## 4 PLAYER DEFINITIONS

### 4.1 Eligible Players

- 4.1.1 Players in this competition must be 21 years or under and must NOT turn 22 during the competition.

- 4.1.2 Players participating in the lowest divisions of boys and girls must be 13 years of age or under at the end of the respective competitions.  
Players participating in beginners must be 12 years of age or under at the end of the respective competitions.  
Borrowed players for beginners can be borrowed from the lowest boys or girls divisions within the age eligible for the division – i.e. must be 12 years of age or under at the end of respective competition.  
Borrowed players for 10 and under division can be borrowed from the lowest boys or girls divisions within the age eligible for the division – i.e. must be 10 years of age or under at the end of respective competition.
- 4.1.3 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.
- 4.1.4 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.

## 4.2 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 4228-6570 at the Control Room or emailed to admin@tenniswollongong.com.au.

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

## 4.3 Borrowed Players

- 4.3.1 A “Borrowed Player” must be a registered player in a team playing in the current Saturday Junior competition.
- 4.3.2 A player may play a second match on the same day as a “Borrowed Player”.
- 4.3.3 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 three (3) times for any one team during a competition, all sets played in the fourth and any subsequent matches will be forfeited.
- 4.3.4 A player may be borrowed from coaching. A player borrowed from coaching can fill in as many times as required but only 4 times for any one team. A player borrowed from coaching must become a registered player (see Rule 2) and if the player wishes to play more than 4 times for one team, the club/coach must register the player in that team. A player cannot be borrowed from coaching if they have played as a registered member of a team in a previous competition.
- 4.3.5 Teams in each competition may only borrow players as specified below:

**Davis Cup Division** Players may be borrowed from any Davis Cup team in the same or a lower Davis Cup division or from any other team in the current junior competition. Players may not be borrowed from coaching.

**Mixed Divisions** Players may be borrowed from teams in the same or any lower mixed division or any team in the boys or girls or beginners competitions. **Players borrowed for 10 and under division may be borrowed from the lowest boys and girls division within the age eligible i.e 10 or under.**

**Boys and Girls Divisions** Players may be borrowed from teams in the same or lower divisions of the boys or girls competitions. Players may be borrowed from any team in the lowest mixed division or from any team in the beginners competition. Players participating in the lowest of boys and girls must be 13 years of age or under.

**Beginners Competition** Players may be borrowed from any team in the Beginners competition. They may also be borrowed from the lowest boys and girls division as long as that player is 12 or under.

## **5 COMMENCEMENT OF PLAY**

- 5.1 Matches must commence on time
- 5.2 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 a second set may be claimed. After a further 10 minutes with play unable to commence, the match may be claimed. After the first 10 minutes grace period, any set (not already claimed) that can be played must be played.
- 5.3 If the captains agree, sets may be played out of order. This agreement should be reached before play commences.
- 5.4 8:30am matches must vacate the court by 10:30am (except Davis Cup format matches) to allow the next match to begin. 10:30am matches must be off the court by 12:30pm (except Davis Cup format matches) to allow the 12.30pm matches to commence.
- 5.5 During normal rounds the home team writes their names on the score sheet first and then the visitors write their names.

## **6 BALLS**

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 Teams in the Lowest Boys & Girls Divisions, Under 10' & Beginners divisions must play with low compression green balls.

## **7 FORFEITURE OF MATCHES**

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 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, see Rule 8.5.

## **8 ALLOCATION OF POINTS FOR A MATCH**

- 8.1 The number of points for results will be set by the competition committee.
- 8.2 If a match is cancelled due to extenuating circumstances, all points will be shared.
- 8.3 If a match is not completed (e.g. out of time), sets and games completed to the point of cessation of play shall be counted for points and all remaining points will be shared.
- 8.4 If the reason given for a match being incomplete is unsatisfactory, the competition committee will determine what points, if any, are awarded to both teams.

- 8.5 Should a team withdraw during the competition before the first round has been completed, all points for and against shall be deleted, but, in the event of a withdrawal after a round has been completed, points for the completed round shall remain unaltered subject to the discretion of the competition committee

## **9 MATCH RESULTS**

- 9.1 The winning captain is responsible for submitting the results to Tennis Wollongong.
- 9.2 Teams should use a Tennis Wollongong scoresheet to record results during the match.
- 9.3 Competition results must be submitted by 5 pm on the Wednesday following the match.
- 9.4 Results of the last round, semi-finals and finals of all competitions must be submitted by 5 pm on the day of the match.
- 9.5 Should a match be forfeited, the captain of the team receiving a forfeit shall submit the scoresheet.
- 9.6 Result sheets must be submitted by the home captain in the event of:-
- 9.6.1 no play taking place; or
  - 9.6.2 a match ceasing before a decision is reached; or
  - 9.6.3 the match ending in a draw.
- 9.7 If the result sheet is not received on time as specified in Rules 9.3 and 9.4, the offending team may lose points.
- 9.8 It is the responsibility of both team captains to see that sets are played with correct pairings.
- 9.9 The competition committee has the power to correct any errors even if it effects the result of the match

## **10 WEATHER**

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

- 10.1 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 9:00 am in respect to 8:30 am matches, 11:00 am in respect to 10:30 am matches and 1 pm for 12.30 pm matches.
- 10.2 In extreme weather conditions cancellation of a match can be made by the captains over the phone. If that action is taken, home team captains are to submit the scoresheet. If no contact has been made between teams and no agreement can be reached, then you must go to the court.
- 10.3 In the event of bad light, extreme weather or unplayable court conditions, the captains may make a mutual decision for play to cease.
- 10.4 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 competition committee.



## 11 REPLACING AN INJURED PLAYER

- 11.1 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 within 5 minutes of the injury. The captain of the team may request a substitute player for the remaining sets of the match within the normal time limits
- 11.2 A player who is substituted in a match after sustaining an injury or illness can take no further part in the match.
- 11.3 A replacement player is eligible if :-
- 11.3.1 The replacement player is a registered player of the same team, or
  - 11.3.2 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.

## 12 UMPIRING

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

- 12.1 **DAVIS CUP**                      Visitors to umpire 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> sets – singles  
Home Team to umpire 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> sets – singles
- 12.2 **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)
- 12.3 **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
- 12.4 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 chair, if required.
- 12.5 Semi-finals will be umpired by neutral umpires (where possible) appointed by the competition committee.

## 13 GENERAL RULES

- 13.1 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.
- 13.2 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 the club of the team with the complaint, 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.

## 14 FINAL SERIES

### 14.1 General Rules

- 14.1.1 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.
- 14.1.2 In the event of two or more teams being equal on points score at the end of the rounds, a count back will be carried out and their positions determined by the percentage of sets won over sets played. If the result is still even, the percentage of games won over games played will be used. In arriving at such a percentage, should a contending team have received a forfeit, the other contending teams' matches against the forfeiting team in that round shall be calculated on the same basis, i.e. as if they also received a forfeit from the same team in the same round. The committee reserves the right to determine rankings if the above calculations do not result in a clear ranking.
- 14.1.3 All matches during the Final Series will commence at 8:30 am.
- 14.1.4 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.
- 14.1.5 Matches will not be cancelled by Tennis Wollongong during the Final Series due to extreme weather conditions. Players must report to the allocated court venue at 8:30 am and the match must be completed by 12:30 pm.
- (a) 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.
  - (b) If play has not commenced by 10:40am, then the match becomes subject to Rule 14.3 of the Saturday Junior Competition (see below).
  - (c) If a match has commenced, but cannot be completed within the four (4) hours, then the match becomes subject to Rule 14.4.
- 14.1.6 All clubs and coaches are responsible for their players reporting to the allocated court at 8:15am on the day set down for the relevant match, including players required for umpiring duties.
- 14.1.7 All teams playing in the Final Series must supply **two new tennis balls**.
- 14.1.8 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.

#### 14.1.9 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 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, neither playing nor umpiring.

14.1.10 All sets are to be played in the order set down on the result sheet, with the players playing in the order specified on the "players' list".

### 14.2 Players

14.2.1 .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:-

#### **Davis Cup Divisions**

If two players are listed on the final series result sheet, they play both singles and doubles

If three players are listed on the team sheet then:

The players listed as A and B must play the respective singles.

Player C and either of player A or B plays the doubles.

The 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 along with the doubles partner of player C if applicable.

#### **Beginners Divisions – 3 Doubles**

If three players are listed on the final series result sheet (A, B and C), A-B play the first set, B-C play the second set and A-C play the last set

If more than three players are listed on the team sheet then A-B play the first set, C-D play the second set and any other combination not already used can play the last 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.

#### **Mixed, Boys and Girls Divisions – 2 Singles and 1 Doubles**

If two players are listed on the final series result sheet (A and B), A plays the first set, B plays the second set and A-B play the last set

If three players are listed on the team sheet then A plays the first set, B plays the second set and C with A or B play the last set.

The 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 along with the doubles partner of player C if applicable.

### **14.3 No Play Due To Extreme Weather Conditions**

- 14.3.1 For semifinal or final matches the teams with the highest points at the end of the competition rounds are declared the winners of each match and progress to the next round.
- 14.3.2 For a Grand Final match the team with the highest points at the end of the competition rounds is declared the winner. However if the team finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> has beaten the minor premiers in the final series, they displace for the purpose of this rule.

### **14.4 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:-

- 14.4.1 If less than two sets have been completed (less than 3 sets in Davis Cup format), then the match becomes subject to Rule 14.3.
- 14.4.2 Where a match is incomplete, but two sets have been played (three sets in Davis Cup format), then the points for the remaining sets are to be shared and the points calculated as per the Scoresheet instructions.
- 14.4.3 If the teams are equal after Rule 14.4(b), the team with the highest points at the end of the competition rounds is declared the winner. However if the team finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> has beaten the minor premiers in the final series, they displace for the purpose of this rule.

## **15 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

The rules of the Judiciary Committee are listed in the Constitution of Tennis Wollongong.

## **16 INTERPRETATION OF RULES**

- 16.1 Any question arising out of the interpretation of these rules shall be submitted to the relevant committee for decision. The interpretation of these rules shall devolve on the committee. The committee shall have the power to deal with and decide upon any matter not covered by these rules.
- 16.2 For the interpretation of these rules, the words 'his, him, he etc.' may be construed as 'hers, her, she etc.', and vice-versa.

## **17 TROPHIES**

Trophies, vouchers or equivalent will be presented to members of winning and runners-up teams in all divisions. If required, additional trophies may be purchased at the team's cost. Numbers of trophies to be purchased will be determined from time to time by the relevant competition committee.

## **18 AMENDMENTS TO RULES**

These rules may be amended or added to by the Competition Committee and/or Executive as the need arises from time to time.

## 19 PENALTIES FOR INFRINGEMENTS OF THE RULES

Application of penalties for infringement of the rules is at the discretion of the competition committee.

19.1 Playing an unregistered, unfinancial or ineligible player (see definitions).

**Penalty:** Forfeit of all sets played by unregistered, unfinancial or ineligible players (opposition gets 6-0 score in their favour for those sets).

19.2 Late receipt of result sheet.

**Penalty:** Loss of 0.5 points.