

TDTA RULES FOR JUNIOR COMPETITION AS OF 2018

1.0 Method of Play:

1.1 Match play Order- Saturday Juniors

The match play order is to be as determined by the Junior Branch of the TDTA.

Players are to be allocated a position within a team prior to each match played.

1.2 Court and Ball Allocation:

Saturday Juniors

The home club will provide a minimum (2) two courts per home team playing on the day and provide (2) sound balls approved by TNSW per court.

1.3 Match Fees:

Saturday Juniors:

The match fees are set by the TDTA & must be paid on the day, prior to the player being able to commence any matches. The home team will collect the match fees.

1.4 Umpires:

Saturday Juniors:

All matches are to be self- umpired by the players, however under circumstances of dispute a team supervisor may take control over the game & umpire to ensure equity is maintained within the match.

To assist the green ball divisions the use of adult umpires is required to facilitate fair play & assist those players with developing their knowledge & understanding of the game.

NOTE: *Adults umpiring matches are encouraged not umpire any match to which their child is playing, where possible.*

1.5 Starting Time:

Saturday Juniors:

Saturday Junior Competition will commence at **8am or 10:30am** & run for a period of **(2) two hours**. It is requested that players be available at the courts 15mins prior to commencement, to assist in matches getting under way in a timely manner.

NOTE: *Matches may run overtime **only** in circumstances whereby the courts are available & not booked for other competitions.*

1.6 Match Play Order:

- (a) Order of play is to be conducted as per match play sheets. Both supervisors are to complete their respective forms on the day with the home team supervisor to leave the results sheet at the home club, (*as per section 6.8 Match Results*)
- (b) Team supervisors will nominate their order of play confidentially to be entered on the score sheet before the match begins

1.7 Scoring and match format

- (a) Warm-up: Players are allowed a 5 min warm up at the start of their first set, or if there has been a long delay before their next match.
- (b) Green ball divisions play first to 6 games- no tiebreaker for all matches.
- (c) Yellow ball divisions play first to 6 games- tiebreakers at 5 all in doubles, first to 8 games – tiebreaker at 7 all for singles.
- (d) All division will play short deuce.

1.8 Rain Effectuated Play (wash-outs) and Heat Rule

- (a) Where conditions are unsuitable for play to commence, the home team supervisor shall contact the home club to confirm whether the courts will be playable. If there is no chance of play due to weather, the home supervisor will contact the opposing team supervisor, where practicable, prior to them arriving at the courts. The competition is deemed to be incomplete & will see both teams receive **(4) four points** respectively. Confirmation of washout to be sent to the Recorder by the **home club** together with the clubs & teams names and date
- (b) Where conditions are unsuitable for play & both teams are present at the courts prior to commencement of play, matches can only be terminated by the home club representative

taking into consideration safety of the players & potential damage to the courts. If matches cannot commence 1 hour after scheduled start time, the competition for that day is deemed to be incomplete & will see both teams receive **(4) four points** respectively.

(c) In the event that match play commences and is subsequently terminated due to wet weather, taking into consideration the safety of the players & potential damage to the courts, the competition for that day is deemed to be incomplete. The completed sets will be scored and the remaining sets will be deemed a draw.

(d) Heat rule is applied when the temperature reaches 34 degrees - being the Ambient Temperature, measured in the shade off court. Play is cancelled approximately half an hour prior to the scheduled start of play. If play has commenced and the Heat Rule is applied during a match, play must be suspended (on completion of the current game). If conditions continue for 30 minutes play may be cancelled.

(e) Wet Weather/Heat rule fees: In the event that no matches have commenced due to cancellation, no match fees will be required to be paid.

- i) If up to 2 and including 2 sets have been completed: \$2 per player
- ii) Up to and including half the sets completed: half match fees
- iii) Any sets started over half way: full match fees

1.9 Forfeits and playing times

(a) Players are to arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled fixture match time

(b) Without exception a SET shall be deemed forfeited in the following circumstances:

- i)** If a team cannot start two sets within fifteen (15) minutes of the official start time.
- ii)** In respect of any set other than the first two sets, if any player/players is/are not immediately available to play the next set after the previous set has been completed.
- iii)** In respect of any set other than the first two sets, if any player/players is/are not

immediately available to play the next set after the previous set has been completed.

(c) If a team is aware that they cannot fill their full team or will need to forfeit, they must notify the opposing supervisor as soon as early as possible.

1.10 Points Allocation:

(a) Points will be awarded as follows: **(1) one** point for each set won; **(2) two** points to the match winner, drawn & wet matches **equal** points; **Bye no** points

2.0 Result Procedures:

Match Results

(a) Results Procedure

Match results forms are to be completed in full on game day & signed by the relevant team supervisors. Results are to be left at the home club. Results are then forwarded to the recorder by e-mail **only**, by close of business the following Wednesday, after the game has been played. All results received by the recorder after this time will see the home team obtain **zero** points unless prior arrangement has been made with the recorder. This is to ensure accurate & timely recording of results.

(b) Incorrect Result Sheets

In cases where result forms are received by the recorder that are not correctly completed the offending team shall be notified of the errors in an attempt to rectify these issues. If the problem continues the recorder is to report the matter to the Junior Branch Committee which may result in points being deducted from the offending team.

2.1 Nominations Grading & Eligibility:

(a) On or before the closing date, clubs/coaches will submit to the sub-committee Secretary a completed team entry form together with a list of all reserves.

Teams of **(4) four** players are limited to **(6) six nominated** players.

Changes to team nominations & team members may be accepted at the discretion of the relevant grading committee on or before the grading committee meeting sits.

All team members must be a member of a TDTA club. Reserves can play 2 matches with a club

membership, upon the 3rd match the player must become a TDTA club member. Violation of this clause will result in the team receiving no further points until membership is paid.

(b) Team Grading: Saturday Juniors

Grading will be carried out at the relevant grading meeting.

Minor Premiers from the previous played season competition shall be considered based upon their final position in the competition, ability of each individual player, scores achieved during the competition for a higher division (*as per section 2.1b*) If the player is nominated to play again in the following competition & shall comply with all relevant sections of the TDTA By Laws & Rules for the conduct of competition.

Grand Final Winners from the previously played season in division **2 through to 6** shall be placed in a higher division. Grading of these players is to be dealt with on an individual basis taking into consideration the ability of each player & scores achieved by the individual during the competition.

Grand Final Winners from the previously played season in **division 1** must **not** be placed in a lower division team for the following season unless agreed by the grading committee

2.2 Team Members

(a) The Team grade designates the player's grade for the relevant competition.

(b) Once graded a player cannot play in a lower division.

(c) Once graded, a team member may play **(3) three** times in total for other club teams in their division & **three (3)** times in total in a higher division.

Upon playing **(3) three** matches in total in other club teams or a higher a player cannot play in their original team or division during the competition.

2.3 Non Graded Players

(a) if a player not graded plays in a team, competition points will not be awarded for sets played until the competition sub-committee or the TDTA monthly meeting has given approval. If approval is refused, points for sets played by the defaulting player will be awarded to the opposing team.

2.4 Injury:

Once play has commenced, no substitute will be allowed due to injury in the match.

3.0 FINALS:

(a) The **(4)** leading teams will play off at the conclusion of the scheduled round as follows- semi-final: **(a) 1v4**, semi-final:**(b) 2v3**

(b) Grand Finals: winner of **(a) v** winner of **(b)**
Please note Maximum of (6) Trophies will be provided to Grand Finals Winners

(c) The recorder shall supply a list of eligible players to all coaches/supervisors on or before the Wednesday prior to the Finals Series start.

3.2 Court Location

(a) Semi-finals & preliminary finals will be played on the home court of the team finishing higher at the end of the scheduled rounds. Teams may mutually agree to play at another venue with approval from the Junior Branch Committee
(b) Grand Finals in all divisions will be played at the Tweed Heads Tennis Centre,

3.3 End of Season Drawn Result:

(a) If teams are equal on points, the order of play in the semi-finals will be determined by a count-back of won and lost games during the season.

3.4 Player Eligibility:

(a) A nominated team member or reserve must play a minimum of **(3) three** matches for the team in the scheduled rounds to be eligible to play in the finals.

(b) If players eligible under **rule 3.4(a)** are not available, lower grade players from the **same** club may be used as a replacement in the finals, subject to the approval of the competition sub-committee. Team members from **other** clubs are **ineligible**.

(c) In the **lowest** division, unqualified players of the same standard & from the **same** club may be used subject to the approval of the competition sub-committee.

3.5 Order of Play

(a) In finals, team supervisors will nominate their order of play confidentially to be entered on the score sheet before the match begins

(b) If there is a draw, a 7-point tiebreak will be played by the players on the court playing the last set.

3.6 Washouts: FINALS

(a) **Semi Finals:** In the case of a **complete** washout the highest ranking team as defined at the end of the scheduled will be declared the winner.

(b) In the case of a **partial** washout a winner is declared only if **one (1)** team has completed and won **Four (4) sets**

***Example:** If the fourth team is the winner of 1v4 and is playing against the winner of match 2v3 The winner of 2v3 will be declared the winner As they finished on the ladder in the scheduled rounds.*

(c) In the instance that a fixture season has enough weeks to allocate a wet weather/ wash out week, then this will be utilised for the wash out of any semi-final or finals matches. If there are two wash-out's then the rules as per 3.6a will be utilised to determine the winning team.

4.0 Spectator and Player behaviour

The Tennis Australia 'Code Of Conduct' will be enforced.

(a) Player Behaviour

A Player will be first issued a warning from the Club Representative if in breach of any Code Of Conduct. A second recurrence (even including a different Code Of Conduct) will result in a default. If a default occurs, the Club Representative must Inform the TDTA, whereby this player will face the Disciplinary Committee.

(b) Spectators/ Parents

Spectators are required:

- (i) NOT to applaud unforced or forced errors (including double faults). This is unacceptable and unsportsmanlike.
- (ii) Not to comment (or communicate) through the fence to any players (particularly in a disrespectful and inappropriate manner).
- (iii) Not to provide instructions to players – this will be considered "Coaching".
- (iv) Not to intimidate, threaten or abuse a player.

- (v) Not to enter the court when play has commenced. If a spectator has any concerns – please seek the Club Representative.

A player is deemed to be responsible for the behaviour and conduct of their entourage and support team who attend their matches. Where a match is disrupted or interfered with by the action/s of a spectator who is part of a player's entourage the Club Representative may in the first instance attempt to address and eliminate any spectator interference by discussing the relevant offences or behaviour with the offending person and/or applicable player. This discussion may include a warning to the player and the interfering spectator that any further interference by the spectator may result in a match default.

(c) If a complaint is made in writing within one week of the fixture match alleging any misconduct or unsportsmanlike behaviour by any team member, then the TDTA Junior Committee (or any Disciplinary Committee formed for this purpose), may at its discretion either cancel, wholly or partly, the team's points and may either suspend or censure any team or team member for such time and upon such teams as it shall be deemed fit. TDTA Disputes Committee will speak to the player and report back to all parties concerned. If misconduct has been displayed, 1st incident is a warning and education; 2nd incident all points are deducted for that round; 3rd incident Team is removed from the competition and need to show cause if they wish to play in the following season by fronting the TDTA Disputes Committee.

Written protests must be lodged with the Secretary of the Junior Branch of the TDTA and the Competition Recorder must be notified **before** the start of the next scheduled round.