

Tennis Competitions Rules and Regulations Singles/Doubles Competitions (Thursday/Friday and Saturday Singles) and, where applicable, Doubles Competition Format and Rules

Competition Format

- Each competition will be played, as far as possible, within one school term.

- Divisions will, as far as possible, consist of eight (8) players (if there are less than or more than eight players, a different playoff structure may apply). Each player will be scheduled to play each other player once (i.e. 7 rounds). All players will then qualify for playoffs, which will be played as follows:
 - semi-finals: 1st v 4th; 2nd v 3rd
 - positional playoffs: 5th v 8th; 6th v 7th
 - final: winners of semi-finals
 - positional playoffs: losers of semi-finals; winner (5th v 8th) v winner (6th v 7th); loser (5th v 8th) v loser (6th v 7th)

Players are expected to participate in all 9 weeks of the competition, except where a bye is scheduled for a player.

Match Format and Rules

- Points/Games - normal tennis game scoring will apply except when the game score reaches deuce the Xpoint (sudden death) will apply
- Xpoint (Sudden Death) - the deciding point played at deuce or 6/9 points all in a tie-break or super tie-break. The receiver/s choose the side of the court they wish to receive the serve on the Xpoint
- Tie-Break - first to 7pts and at 6pts all the Xpoint decides the set
- Super Tie-break - first to 10pts and at 9pts all the Xpoint decides the set
- Set - consists of first team to 4 games and if required a tie-break at 3 games all
- Set (Partial) - are either a certain number of games or points
- Match - is either a full/partial/tie-break/super tie-break set or certain number of games/points or a completed format of sets
- Matches will be played at one of the following time slots, Friday 7pm, Saturday 12.30pm 1.30pm and 2.30pm. A division may be split over two time slots if necessary.

- Match hitups commence at 7pm. A match ceases at the conclusion of the point in progress one hour later.

- Where a player in a singles competition (or a pair in a doubles competition) arrives late:
 - (1) if the late arrival is less than 10 minutes late, the match will commence as normal;
 - (2) if the late arrival is between 10 and 20 minutes late, the match will commence, but at the conclusion of the allocated one hour, any unplayed or uncompleted games will be awarded as forfeited games against the late player;
 - (3) if the late arrival is more than 20 minutes late, the entire match is a forfeit, unless the player/pair who was on time offers to commence play, under the conditions outlined in (2) above.
- All players are entitled to a maximum of five (5) minutes hitup (i.e. the match should be 55 minutes). Should both players choose to waive all or part of the hitup, then they may commence play when ready.

- If, at the end of the preliminary rounds, two or more players are tied on points, positions will be determined by:
 - the result of the match (or matches, if the players played each other more than once) between those players (i.e. the head-to-head result/s). Games won/lost between those players will be used if necessary
 - if that is equal, the margin between total matches won and lost by each player will be considered
 - if that is equal, the margin between total games won and lost by each player will be considered.

- If, in a semi-final or final, if it is 1 set all then an additional tie-break game will be played to determine the winner.

- Matches may be rescheduled due to special circumstances, under the following conditions:
 - The rescheduling must be agreed to by both players, and must be advised to Elton, along with the reason, by an appropriate time.
 - The rescheduled match must be played after the originally scheduled date and before the next scheduled round, and must be played at the Blacktown Leisure Tennis Centre.
 - Any rescheduled “last round” or “quarter-final” or “semi-final” matches must be played within four (4) days of the originally scheduled date, to allow the following week’s draw to be prepared in reasonable time.
 - If a rescheduled match cannot be played on the new/rescheduled date for any reason, the player unable to play on the originally scheduled date must forfeit.
 - If the original night/day is a washout for all other matches in a division, then no matches in that division can be rescheduled.
 - If a rescheduled match is played at night, then any additional court hire cost applicable to night hire must be paid.
 - The normal match time limits must be adhered to for all rescheduled matches

- In singles competitions, no replacement/substitute player will be allowed for a player unable to play a match or reschedule. The player will simply need to forfeit.

- Any player forfeiting three (3) matches in all during the preliminary rounds will be disqualified from further participation in the competition, unless a reasonable explanation is advanced to the satisfaction of the Competition Secretary.

Grading of Players Into Divisions

- At the end of each competition, the top two (2) players in each division (ie. the two finalists) will, where possible, be promoted to a higher division. Alternatively they may be invited to participate in playoffs for promotion to a higher division.

- New players to a competition may be required to participate in playoffs for placement in the division they have requested.

- The bottom two players in each division should expect relegation to the next division below. Alternatively they may be invited to participate in playoffs if they wish to remain in that division.

- Depending on overall entries received, other players may be required to participate in playoffs.

- The format of playoff matches will be determined by the number of players involved.

- Any playoffs necessary will be held, if possible, one week before the start of any competition. This will be included in the advertising for that competition. Players must be available if they wish to participate, otherwise their division placement is entirely at the discretion of the Management.