

Tennis NSW

2023 Sydney Badge League Rules



By submitting an entry, you agree to abide by the terms and conditions as set out in the 2023 Sydney Badge League Rules and 2023 Sydney Badge Fact Sheets.

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1. Objectives

- 1.1 Tennis NSW is committed to providing appropriate competitive play opportunities for tennis players of all levels in NSW. As part of this landscape, Tennis NSW will organise, administer, and promote various inter-club team tennis leagues for members of affiliated tennis clubs/associations, to enable the opportunity to play against players of similar ability, over a given period. These events will be referred to as the Sydney Badge Leagues (together **Badge**).
- 1.2 Badge delegates, captains, players, teams, coaches, officials (together **Participants**) must at all times act in the best interests of the Sydney Badge League and Tennis NSW. In line with the Tennis Australia - Code of Behaviour, Participants are not to engage in conduct which brings or has the potential to bring a Participant, Badge or Tennis NSW 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 Sydney Badge League or Tennis NSW or not in the “spirit of tennis”.

2. General

- 2.1 Tennis NSW, in its sole discretion, administers, delivers, and promotes Badge in line with the Competitive Play Framework. These Rules provide the framework under which Badge will be delivered and are made by Tennis NSW pursuant to its functions under the Tennis NSW Constitution. In these rules, references to “Tennis NSW” include references to the Tennis NSW Tennis Operations and Pathways Team.
- 2.2 All Badge Participants in the Badge League, are bound by these rules and regulations and the Tennis Australia National Policies including, but not limited to, the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program, the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour (including its reference to spectator behaviour and interference), the Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy, the Tennis Australia Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct, and the Tennis Australia Anti-Doping Policy (each a **Policy**).
- 2.3 If any player or team is alleged to be in breach of these Rules, the alleged breach should be drawn to the attention of the alleged offending player or team as soon as it is detected, and the parties should try and resolve the matter on the spot. If the parties are unable to resolve the matter, notice should be provided to Tennis NSW of the dispute in accordance with Rule 24 (Dispute Resolution).
- 2.4 If any player is alleged to be breach of a Policy, that breach will be handled in accordance with the processes and procedures set out in the relevant Policy.

3. Badge League

- 3.1 The Sydney Badge League will consist of the following leagues.
 - Thursday Ladies
 - Saturday Ladies; and
 - Saturday Men’s
- 3.2 Each division within each league will generally have a minimum of six (6) teams and a maximum of eight (8) teams. However, depending upon number of entries and grading, Tennis NSW reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to alter the number of teams in a division as deemed appropriate to provide level-based competition.

4. Team Entry

- 4.1 A team may only be entered into a Badge League by a club, association or individual that is registered with, and affiliated to Tennis NSW, and which has paid its annual affiliation fee (and any other such fees as required by Tennis NSW for affiliation) on or before the date requested for those fees to be paid by Tennis NSW. Team nominations must be submitted through Match Centre by the club delegate. Appendix A provides guidance on how to nominate your team on Match Centre. Please note that in 2023, Tennis NSW will not have the ability to add players to a team. Team entry is the sole responsibility of the clubs and their nominated delegate.

- 4.2 Team entry applications must be submitted through Match Centre by the entry closing date, to be advised by Tennis NSW for each league. The team entry application must include all the names of the four (4) to six (6) Base Players (per Rule 5.1 below) in the team. Reserve Players (per Rule 5.2 below) are not required to be listed on a team entry application. Team entry applications submitted after the publicised team entry closing date will not be considered by Tennis NSW.
- 4.3 At the time of team entry clubs or associations who are submitting multiple teams into a Sydney Badge League must allocate each team a ranking which reflects that team's position within that club or association (i.e. where Club X submits three teams into Thursday Ladies, Club X must nominate a team as their first (strongest) team, second team and so on e.g. Club X Team 1, Club X Team 2 etc.). Clubs/Associations may also make comments about the strength of each team relative to other teams from that club or association, but this does not create any guarantee in respect of grading.
- 4.4 Tennis NSW will determine the entry fee for entry into the Badge League. This fee will be revised and published annually. Each team must pay the entry fee to Tennis NSW by advertised date and in the form required by Tennis NSW. Failure to pay the entry fee by the publicised date may result in any team entry applications being rejected at the discretion of Tennis NSW.
- 4.5 Tennis NSW has the sole discretion over whether to accept a team's application for entry into Badge League. Without limiting that discretion, Tennis NSW may refuse a team's entry for reasons including, but not limited to:
- (a) if a player in the team is currently suspended by Tennis NSW or another tennis authority.
 - (b) if a team has an outstanding financial liability to Tennis NSW or another tennis authority.
 - (c) if a player is ineligible to play under these rules and regulations or a Policy; or
 - (d) if in the opinion of Tennis NSW, a team or player is not of good character or standing, has breached one or more of Tennis Australia's national policies, or is likely to bring the Badge League into disrepute.
- 4.6 Prior to the commencement of each Badge League, each team captain/ badge delegate is strongly encouraged to attend a badge induction session at a date and time communicated by Tennis NSW. This session will provide important information about the running of the Sydney Badge League.

5. Team Composition

- 5.1 **Base Players** (as per Match Centre) – are the registered players in the team who will play during the competition and will be used for the team's grading. A player shall be a base player for **only one team** per league. Each team shall have a minimum of four (4), and a maximum of six (6), Base Players.
- 5.2 **Reserve Players** (as per Match Centre) – are registered players in the Team who are not listed as Base Players on the team entry application at the time of grading. Their names are to be added when required to play. Reserve players must be listed in Match Centre prior to the relevant match commencing. Each team may use a maximum of six (6) unique Reserve Players only throughout the season.
- 5.3 A player cannot be listed as a Base Player for more than one (1) team in the same League but may play as a Reserve Player for another team within the same club and League in accordance with Rule 6 (Reserve Players). A player may not be a Base and/or Reserve Player for multiple clubs within the same League. For example, a player cannot be listed as a Base Player for Club X Team 1 in Thursday Ladies and also be listed as a Base Player or Reserve Player for Club Y Team 3 in Thursday Ladies.
- 5.4 Players may be listed as a Base Player in more than one (1) Badge League provided they meet any conditions as specified by Tennis NSW. This does not necessarily need to be for the same club subject to Rule 5.3. For example, a player can be listed as a Base Player for Club X Team 1 in Thursday Ladies and also be listed as a Base Player for Club Y Team 3 in Saturday Ladies.
- 5.6 **Juniors playing in adult leagues** – clubs or associations may nominate a maximum of two Base Players per team who are aged 12 years or under. Teams who wish to field a Reserve Player aged 12 years or under must

seek an exemption from Tennis NSW. Exemptions may be considered and approved in writing at the sole discretion of Tennis NSW.

- 5.7 A team may request to add/change Base Players in their team by submitting the request in writing to Tennis NSW. Teams may be allowed to add/change Base Players in exceptional circumstances, such as a player be affected by illness, injury, work, or personal reasons. This decision will be at the sole discretion of Tennis NSW and there shall be no requirement on Tennis NSW to provide reasons for this decision.

6. Reserve Players

- 6.1 Reserve Players do not need to be nominated in the team's entry application but can be added throughout the season as required. However, Reserve Players must be listed in Match Centre prior to a relevant Match commencing otherwise that team will be considered to have fielded an unregistered or unspecified player in accordance with Rule 7.
- 6.2 All Reserve Players must be registered with Tennis NSW as per Rule 7 (Unregistered Players.)
- 6.3 A Reserve Player may reserve for any other player within the one club providing the Reserve player's Universal Tennis Rating (**UTR**) is no more than 0.5 rating points higher than the UTR of the Base Player they are replacing according to the UTR listed in Match Centre as at the Tuesday of the week preceding the relevant fixture. For example, (Reserve Player) Bill has a UTR of 4.1 and is replacing (Base Player) Dave who has a UTR of 3.8. OR (Reserve Player) Jill has a UTR of 6.6 and is replacing (Base Player) Anne who has a UTR of 7.1. Note that this Rule 6.3 does not apply in the case of Division 1 of a Sydney Badge League where teams may use any Reserve Player subject to the other requirements of Rule 6.
- 6.4 A Reserve Player may be listed for one (1) club as a Reserve Player. This Reserve Player can play in multiple teams for the nominated club (provided Rule 6.3 is followed) within the same League. However, a Reserve player **cannot** be a reserve player for multiple clubs within the same League. For example, Week 5, Seaside Tennis Club has nominated Billy to play number 4 as a Reserve Player in Division 4. Week 6, Seaside Tennis Club can nominate Billy to play number 1 in Division 5 as a Reserve Player as this is for the same club but a different team. Billy cannot be a reserve for a second club within the same League.
- 6.5 For the avoidance of doubt where a player is listed as a Base Player and/or Reserve Player for a particular team, that player may only play as a Reserve Player for other teams within that club within the same League.
- 6.6 Should a player not have a UTR listed on Match Centre; the potential Reserve Player must be approved by Tennis NSW before participating. Teams must request approval in writing to sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au & chloe.hule@tennis.com.au and supply the following information:
- First name and last name with correct spelling.
 - UTR Profile
 - TA Player Profile
 - Date of Birth
 - Contact Details email address, phone number
 - Brief playing history/background.
- 6.7 Should a Team Captain or Badge Delegate be unsure about whether a Reserve Player is suitable, the relevant Badge Delegate should seek written approval from Tennis NSW prior to the round in which the Reserve Player is intending to play.
- 6.8 Should Tennis NSW deem a Reserve Player who has participated in a match as inappropriate for the level of competition, this may result in penalties against the player/ team at the discretion of Tennis NSW including but not limited to the forfeiture of any Rubber where the relevant player participated.
- 6.9 **Each team can utilise a maximum of six (6) unique Reserve Players within a season.** Any team who fields seven (7) or more unique Reserve Players in a single season will be deemed to have fielded an unregistered or unspecified player in accordance with Rule 7. For the avoidance of doubt, the first time a Reserve Player fills in

for a team they will be counted towards that team's six (6) allocated Reserve Players. They can then fill in as an allocated Reserve Player for that team (as long as the other eligibility requirements are adhered to) any number of times throughout the season.

- 6.10 In exceptional circumstances Tennis NSW may, in their absolute discretion, grant an exemption for a Reserve Player who would otherwise be ineligible under this rule 6. However, an exemption will only be valid where it is provided in writing by Tennis NSW **prior** to the commencement of the relevant Match.

7. Unregistered/Unspecified Players

- 7.1 All players must be registered with Tennis NSW (via the club/s they are representing) to participate in the Sydney Badge League. All players must be listed in Match Centre prior to commencement of a match in order to be able to participate in that match.
- 7.2 In the event that a team competes in a match with an unregistered or unspecified player, or with a Reserve Player who was not listed in Match Centre prior to the match commencing, that team will be deemed to have forfeited any Rubber where the relevant player participated.

8. Preliminary Grading

- 8.1 Tennis NSW in conjunction with the Male and Female Initial Grading Committees (formed under Rule 8.2) are responsible for preliminary grading of all Badge Leagues and for determining the number of teams in each division.
- 8.2 The following procedure shall be utilised in forming each of the Male and Female Initial Grading Committees which shall be two separate committees each with a maximum of five (5) members:
- (a) Tennis NSW shall create and distribute an expression of interest (EOI) form and will publicly call for expressions of interest to join one or both of the Male and Female Initial Grading Committees;
 - (b) The EOI shall remain open for the time period and on the terms determined by Tennis NSW from time to time;
 - (c) Upon closure of the EOI period, Tennis NSW, with oversight and ultimate approval of the Chair of the Metro Sydney Committee shall assess each candidate for appointment to each of the Male and Female Initial Grading Committees and shall determine the length of appointment of each committee member.
- 8.3 For the purpose of Rule 8.2, no person who is a member of the Sydney Badge Panel (per rule 29) shall be eligible for appointment to either of the Male or Female Initial Grading Committees. Similarly, no person who is appointed as a member of one or both of the Male and/or Female Initial Grading Committees shall be eligible for appointment as an Appointed Member of the Sydney Badge Panel.
- 8.4 Members of each of the Initial Grading Committees must remove themselves from and may not take any part in any grading conversations involving their own club or any other actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest.
- 8.5 Teams will be graded with reference to the Base Players as listed in team entry applications at the time of grading and the team ranking provided by the club or association. The grading criteria will be a combination of the Base Player's UTR, prior performance in Badge, and any other factors considered relevant by Tennis NSW and the Initial Grading Committees. A player's UTR is calculated by Universal Tennis through League Manager. (See Appendix B for information on 'What match results in Australia count towards players UTR Rating').
- 8.6 Tennis NSW, in conjunction with the Initial Grading Committees, reserve the right, at its sole discretion to accept or deny any team or team member nominated and/or allocate the team or team member to a higher or lower division.
- 8.7 Should a Base Player not have a UTR, the Badge Delegate may be requested by Tennis NSW to provide additional information to assist with the correct grading of the player/team.

- 8.8 Upon completion of the preliminary grading process outlined above, Tennis NSW will publicise the preliminary grading via appropriate channels.
- 8.9 Any team that withdraws from the Sydney Badge League following the release of preliminary grading will forfeit any Badge team entry fees paid. Teams may also be denied entry into future competitions at the discretion of Tennis NSW.
- 8.10 In exceptional circumstances, Tennis NSW may at its sole discretion alter the grading of teams after the season commences and shall adjust fixtures accordingly.

9. Grading Appeal

- 9.1 Teams wishing to appeal their preliminary grading may do so in writing to Tennis NSW within seven (7) days of the preliminary grading being published. Appeals should be made in writing to sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au & chloe.hule@tennis.com.au and must include the following details:
- Request for team to be moved to a higher/lower division.
 - Evidence/Facts supporting the request. (E.g.: Team Results, player UTRs & recent performances etc.)
- 9.2 Any Grading Appeals received by Tennis NSW later than seven (7) days after the publication of the preliminary grading will not be considered.
- 9.3 When one or more Grading Appeals are received by Tennis NSW, Tennis NSW shall form a Grading Appeals Committee which shall be made up of the members of the Sydney Badge Panel (per rule 29) excluding any member of the Sydney Badge Panel who has an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest in any matter to be determined by the Grading Committee (see rule 9.4).
- 9.4 In the event that an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest exists between a member of the Grading Appeal Committee and a matter to be determined by the Grading Appeal Committee, that person must remove themselves from the discussion in relation to that matter.
- 9.5 The Grading Appeals Committee shall convene to hear and determine any grading appeals within seven (7) business days of the closure time for grading appeals to be submitted as set out in rule 9.2.
- 9.6 Appeals cannot be guaranteed and will be decided at the sole discretion of the Grading Appeal Committee.
- 9.7 Tennis NSW in conjunction with the Grading Appeal Committee will release the Final Grading to all Badge Delegates within twenty (20) business days following the preliminary grading release. No Teams will be allowed to appeal the final grading.
- 9.8 Any team withdrawals from the Sydney Badge League following the release final grading will forfeit any Badge team entry fees paid. Teams may also be denied entry into future competitions at the discretion of Tennis NSW.

10. Match Format

10.1 Match Formats for each League are set out in the table below.

Day	League	Format
Thursday 10:00 / 10:30 (Grass)	Thursday Ladies (4 player teams)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 doubles rubbers - Rubbers played in the following format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Home Team 1 v Away Team 1 * Home Team 2 v Away Team 2 * Home Team 1 v Away Team 2 * Home Team 2 v Away Team 1 - Each Rubber is a 2-set match - <u>5 games all</u> + standard tie breaker. (First to 7, win by 2) - Standard Deuce to be played.
Saturday Session A – 11:30 (grass) / 12:00 (other) Session B – 14:20 (grass) / 14:50 (other)	Saturday Ladies (4 player teams)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 doubles rubbers - Rubbers played in the following format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Home Team 1 v Away Team 1 * Home Team 2 v Away Team 2 * Home Team 1 v Away Team 2 * Home Team 2 v Away Team 1 - Each Rubber is a 2-set match - <u>5 games all</u> + standard tie breaker. (First to 7, win by 2) - Standard Deuce to be played.
Saturday Session A – 11:30 (grass) / 12:00 (other) Session B – 14:20 (grass) / 14:50 (other)	Saturday Men's (4 player teams)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 doubles rubbers - Rubbers played in the following format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Home Team 1 v Away Team 1 * Home Team 2 v Away Team 2 * Home Team 1 v Away Team 2 * Home Team 2 v Away Team 1 - Each Rubber is a 2-set match - <u>5 games all</u> + standard tie breaker. (First to 7, win by 2) - Standard Deuce to be played.

11. Match Schedule

11.1 Matches are to be played in two sessions during the day as follows:

a) For Thursday Ladies: 10:00am – 2:00pm.

- Natural Grass courts may choose to start at 10:30am but must state this in their team nomination.

- Should teams require finishing at a set time, the team captains must agree to this prior to the start of the match.

- Or in accordance with rule 11.3.

b) For Saturday Afternoon Ladies & Men's: a fixed period of time, being 2 hours and 45 minutes (or another period of time as notified to teams by Tennis NSW in advance of the match) as follows.

- Session A times: 11:30 – 14:15 (Grass Courts) or 12:00 – 14:45 (all other surfaces)

- Session B times: 14:20 – 17:05 (Grass Courts) or 14:50 – 17:35 (all other surfaces)

- Or in accordance with rule 11.3.

11.2 A match is completed at the end of the session time above, regardless of whether all rubbers have been played or finished unless rule 11.3 applies.

- 11.3 Matches that are incomplete after the allocated time period may be played out to completion providing both Captains have agreed to complete the matches prior to the commencement of the round and court access/lights are available.
- 11.4 Clubs who do not have lights will be allocated Session A times (as far as is reasonably practical) in order for matches to be completed.
- 11.5 All clubs should endeavour to provide, if possible, an alternate venue which may be used to minimise 'wash-outs.' In the event courts are likely to be washed out, Captains are expected to communicate prior to the round to discuss possibilities of completing the match according to the scheduled date and time at an alternative venue.
- 11.6 Clubs which have multiple surfaces must advise the opposing team 24 hours prior which surface the match will be played on. This will ensure fairness to the opposing team being appropriately prepared and equipped. Failure to do so may result in penalties at the discretion of Tennis NSW.
- 11.7 Matches are to commence as advised on the draw which is published on Match Centre <http://leagues.tennis.com.au/>. Please note it is the captain's responsibility to check Match Centre prior to each round to ensure correct information is received.
- 11.8 A maximum of five (5) minutes is allowed for warm up prior to commencement of each rubber including practice serves. Players must ensure they warm up, change ends, and begin next points in a timely manner as to ensure all matches have the opportunity to be completed within the allocated time.
- 11.9 Clubs to provide a warmup court (where practical) 30 minutes prior to start of scheduled match time. Visiting team captains must be advised of the availability of such warmup courts.
- 11.10 Session A players must leave the courts immediately at the conclusion of their match to allow Session B to commence.
- 11.11 A match must not be played on a date other than the scheduled date without prior consent from Tennis NSW. Tennis NSW reserves the right to refuse consent to a match being played on a different date at its sole discretion.
- 11.12 Matches may be re-arranged or commence earlier or later when mutually agreed between the opposing team captains and approved by Tennis NSW in writing.
- 11.13 The Order of Play is as follows:
(a) The home team nominates which of their pairs plays on each of the courts.
(b) The visiting team matches those pairs.
(c) The visiting team nominates which pairs are to switch courts in the reverse rubbers.
- 11.14 Where there are lights on-site, they must be used so Session B matches can be played until 17:35.

12. Match Scoring:

- 12.1 There is a maximum of ten (10) points available for each match. A team scores one point for each of the eight (8) sets won. The winning team also receives two (2) bonus points for winning the match.
- 12.2 The winner of the match is the team with the greater number of sets won in a completed match. If at the conclusion of the match, the number of sets won by each team is equal, the team that has won the greater number of completed games will be declared the winner. If the number of games won is equal, then the match shall be declared a draw. Where this occurs the two (2) bonus points awarded under rule 12.1 above will be split between both teams.

- 12.3 If at the completion of the match not all rubbers have been finished or played, but subject to the applicability of rule 13.2 or 15.5 below, each team will be awarded 0.5 points for each unfinished or un-played set. For example: if score is 4-3 in the last set of the last rubber and time has run out, each team will be awarded 0.5 points.
- 12.4 For semi-finals and finals matches, a minimum of two rubbers (totalling four sets) must be completed for a match to be deemed "complete". If two rubbers of a match are not complete for any reason (i.e., Washout), the match will be deemed incomplete. In these circumstances any previously completed sets or rubbers will be disregarded, and the two teams will be required to play the following week starting from 0-0.
- 12.5 If either team leaves the court without agreement from the opposing team (other than in extenuating circumstances, or as otherwise permitted by these rules), then the team that has left the court shall be deemed to have forfeited that Rubber in accordance with Rule 15.
- 12.6 Teams are awarded five (5) points each for a bye.
- 12.7 The ladder for each section will be ordered based on the highest total points won. If two or more teams are equal in points on the ladder, their ranking will be decided by the following:
- a) The team with a higher percentage of sets won (that is, sets won/sets played x 100%) (Percentage of Sets Won) will be ranked higher on the ladder.
 - b) If the Percentage of Sets Won is equal, the team with a higher percentage of games won (that is, games won/games played x 100%) (Percentage of Games Won), will be ranked higher on the ladder.

13. Player Injury

- 13.1 If a player is injured during a match and forced to retire from a rubber, the injured retiring player cannot return to the court and play any other rubber in the match, unless both Captains agree, acting reasonably, that the player can return for a different rubber.
- 13.2 All incomplete or un-played sets at the time a player is injured will be forfeited and all points for the incomplete or un-played sets will be awarded to the non-retiring players.
- 13.3 An injured player cannot be replaced by another player during a regular season match. Where a team has replaced an injured player in the middle of a regular season match, any Rubber where the replacement player participated will be considered forfeited by that team and all points will be awarded to the opposing team.
- 13.4 An injured player may be replaced for their second rubber of the match only during a semi-final or finals match. The replacement player must be a Base Player or Reserve Player (subject to the usual Reserve Player eligibility rules) who has previously been listed in that team and eligible to play finals in accordance with rule 21.1. An injured player can only be replaced for the second rubber where the first Rubber is forfeited due to injury. A player cannot be replaced after completing their first rubber.

14. Extreme Weather and Cancellations (Inclement Weather)

- 14.1 The Tennis Australia Extreme Weather Policy applies to all matches and can be accessed [here](#).
- 14.2 The 'Thermal Comfort Level', where applicable must be taken from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website.
- 14.3 The reading shall come from the Weather station closest to the location of the match (measured using the shortest path between the two (2) points and always taken from the WBGT Shade Column, where applicable.
- 14.4 On all court surfaces Team Captains should communicate with each other a minimum two (2) hours prior to scheduled match time to determine whether match will proceed.

- 14.5 During inclement weather on all court surfaces, efforts should be made to use an alternate venue to ensure matches are played on scheduled date and time. Options may include:
- Playing the round at the home team's alternate venue.
 - Playing the round at the away team's venue.
- 14.6 Unless both Team Captains agree, acting reasonably, to cancel the match all players must meet at the venue for the start of the match. Failure to do so will result in that team forfeiting the match.
- 14.7 Following a rain delay, all teams must make reasonable attempts to dry courts and resume play, allowing forty-five (45) minutes for courts to be playable.
- 14.8 Both Team Captains must agree, acting reasonably, to cancel the match due to inclement weather (Wash Out), each team shall receive five points.
- 14.9 If Team Captains cannot agree on cancellation of a match under rules 14.6, 14.7 or 14.8, then the Home Captain will make the final call following their club's internal safety requirements.
- 14.10 No match can commence later than 45 minutes after the match's scheduled start time. If the match has not commenced within this time, the match will be declared a Wash Out.
- 14.11 Team Captains must assign players who were scheduled to play the rain affected match in Match Centre for the match to be counted towards a players Finals eligibility. The match can still be listed as a "Wash Out" with the designated players to be listed.

15. Defaults/Forfeits/Withdrawals by teams and players.

- 15.1 Team Captains, Players and Club Delegates are required to check each round's match location and times 24 hours prior to the scheduled match to ensure there has been no changes. Should there be any issues accessing Match Centre or confirming match times please email sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au & chloe.hule@tennis.com.au. Penalties may apply for any team who fails to attend a match, at the discretion of Tennis NSW, including but not limited to the match being considered forfeited in full by the relevant team. The onus is on Participants to confirm round locations and times and failure to do so will not be taken into account in determining whether a team is considered to have forfeited a rubber or match.
- 15.2 Where a team or a doubles pair is not ready to play 15 minutes after the scheduled start time of the match, the first set of the rubber (or rubbers) will be forfeited by that team.
- 15.3 If a team or doubles pair is not ready to play 30 minutes after the scheduled start time of the match, both the first and second set of the rubber (or rubbers) will be forfeited.
- 15.4 Any team that does not have at least one pair ready to play 45 minutes after the scheduled starting time, will forfeit the entire match (Default).
- 15.5 In the event of a team fielding only one pair, that pair may play their two rubbers. The remaining rubbers will be forfeited. The score of such sets played shall stand and points awarded in accordance with the completed results. The remaining sets shall be forfeited and scored six (6) games to nil (0) against the defaulting team. In the unlikely event that a draw was to occur, the team fielding all 4 players would be awarded the additional two (2) match points.
- 15.6 If any team Defaults or fails to otherwise meet its commitments under these rules, without, in the opinion of Tennis NSW, sufficient cause being shown, that team will not score any points for the relevant round. The opponents of such team shall score ten points and be awarded eight sets and forty-eight games. The defaulting team will be awarded zero points, zero sets and zero games. Further penalties may be applied at the discretion of Tennis NSW.

- 15.7 Teams who forfeit two or more matches during the season without sufficient cause being shown (in the opinion of Tennis NSW) may be penalised at the discretion of Tennis NSW, including but not limited to being denied entry into future Leagues.

16. Entering Results

- 16.1 The Team Captain of the home team must print and have available at the match a scorecard for completion and signing. In the instance the Team Captain is absent, they must delegate this duty to another team member. Appendix D Results Entry sets out instructions for printing scorecards and using the Match Centre system.
- 16.2 Immediately after the completion of each rubber (whether a match result is determined) the official scorecard must be completed and signed by a member of each team. The Team Captain for each team is responsible for ensuring that a member of his or her team signs the scorecard.
- 16.3 In the event of a match not being commenced or being incomplete, the score sheet shall be completed as far as practicable and must include each nominated player's name and the score (if any) of each completed or incomplete rubber as well as the reasons for the match not being commenced or completed.
- 16.4 The winning team's Team Captain shall be responsible for online lodgement of results in Tennis Australia's online competition system (**Match Centre**) within 24 hours of scheduled commencement time of Match. For all matches whether they are Won, Lost, Drawn, Incomplete or Forfeited. (Team Captains must include reason for incomplete matches). If a match is washed out, the home team must enter that result.
- 16.5 Once the winning Team Captain has entered match results in Match Centre, the losing Team Captain must confirm or dispute the results within 48 hours of the results being lodged by the winning team. Failure by the winning Team Captain to lodge results within 24 hours may result in that team being penalised at the discretion of Tennis NSW, including but not limited to being considered to have forfeited the relevant match.
- 16.6 The losing Team Captain is responsible for confirming the online results in Match Centre, within 48 hours after they have been entered. Failure to confirm results within the 48 hours may result in the team being penalised at the discretion of Tennis NSW, including but not limited to being considered to have forfeited the relevant match.
- 16.7 All results will be deemed official 72 hours after the scheduled commencement time of the match.
- 16.8 Tennis NSW reserves the right to amend any scorecards/errors that may impact the overall result of any fixture outside of these deadlines, provided supporting documentation is provide (i.e. weekly scorecard)
- 16.9 Any issues arising from the weekend's matches must be lodged in writing to sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au & chloe.hule@tennis.com.au within 48 hours, so they may be dealt with before the commencement of the next round. This may include incorrect results, player names, and behavioural concerns. (Refer to Rule 24 – Dispute Resolution.)

17. Courts & Facilities

- 17.1 The Home Team are responsible for providing the following facilities:
- Minimum 2 courts of any surface in Good Condition (Courts must be well maintained, clear of any equipment/obstacles/safety hazards with proper fencing, level surface and decent bounce.)
 - Clean Bathroom/Toilet Facilities.
 - Parking & Accessibility Options.
- 17.2 Each team must register with Tennis NSW: (i) venue and (ii) the court surface at the venue for its home matches (Home Venue) at the time of team entry applications.
- 17.3 Tennis NSW may request, and a team must provide, any information deemed necessary by Tennis NSW to determine whether to approve the venue and court surface, including but not limited to, the location of the

courts, the number of courts, court surface information, parking and accessibility and facilities at the venue. Failure to provide this information to the satisfaction of Tennis NSW may result in a team entry application being refused.

- 17.4 If a team wishes to use outside or indoor courts as an alternative location for wet weather or overflow, these courts must also be registered and approved by Tennis NSW prior to the commencement of each season of Badge League (Alternate Venue Courts).
- 17.5 Unless another time frame has been agreed by the Team Delegates in writing to Tennis NSW, a team wishing to use an alternative Venue for a match, must give the opposing team minimum 48 hours' notice (refer to rule 14 – Extreme Weather and Cancellations (Inclement Weather))
- 17.6 Both courts used in a match must be at the same venue/location and should use courts with the same court surface where possible.
- 17.7 The use of an Alternate Venue Courts for semi-finals, and finals is not permitted unless the number of home teams exceeds the number of courts at the Home Venue, or when the courts are unplayable at the Home Venue and the Alternate Venue has been approved by Tennis NSW prior to the commencement of the relevant Match.
- 17.8 If the Home team's venue is unavailable, it is permissible for the match to be played at the Away team's venue if two courts are available and both team captains agree to this change.

18 Playing Attire

- 18.1 All players must wear correct tennis attire and comply with the reasonable dress regulations of the home team's club. Failure to do so may result in players being unable to play their match and those players forfeiting their rubbers.

19. Match Balls

- 19.1 All clubs must provide a minimum of 3 brand new balls per court per match.
- 19.2 ITF approved tennis balls must be use for all Tennis NSW Matches. <https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/tennis-tech/approved-balls/>

20. Finals

- 20.1 At the end of the regular season of Badge League, the following teams (after any deductions for a breach of rules) will qualify for the finals.
 - A) 8 Team Leagues = Top 4 placed teams to play in Semi-Finals Round
 - B) 6 Team Leagues = Top 4 placed teams to play in Semi-Finals Round
- 20.2 Positions on the ladder are decided by points won, minus any deductions for a breach of rules.
- 20.3 In the event of two or more teams being equal in points at the end of the regular season, their positions on the ladder shall be decided by the Percentage of Sets Won, or in the event of them being equal, by the Percentage of Games Won as per rule 12.7.

- 20.4 The finals schedule for each section of Badge League is as follows:
 - 8 Team League: 2 weeks finals.
 - 6 Team League: 2 weeks finals.

<i>Finals Week 1</i>	<i>Finals Week 2</i>
<p>Semi Final 1 1st v 4th Home Team: 1st</p>	<p>Grand Final SF1 Winner v SF2 Winner Home Team: Highest Placed Team</p>
<p>Semi Final 2 2nd v 3rd Home Team: 2nd</p>	

- 20.5 One (1) wet weather week has been reserved which can be used for either semi-finals or finals if a wash-out has been agreed by both teams.
 Week 1: Semi Finals
 Week 2: Grand Final / Rain affected Semi Finals/ Washout
 Week 3: Grand Final
- 20.6 In the event only one (1) week is available for finals, the Grand Final will be played out between the 1st and 2nd placed teams.
- 20.7 In the event all finals weeks are rained out, the winner will be the 1st placed team, or in the scenario where the Semi Finals have been completed, the highest place team remaining in the competition will be the winner.
- 20.8 Subject to rules 20.6 and 20.7, Semi-Finals and Finals must be played out to ensure there is a winner. Should the Semi Final or Final end in a draw on both sets won and games won, both teams will select any two (2) players to play one (1) doubles tie-break (First to ten, win by two points) to decide the winner.

21. Finals Eligibility

- 21.1 To be able to play in the Semi Finals or Grand Final matches, a Base Player or Reserve Player must have played in a minimum of three (3) matches within the relevant League. For the purposes of this rule, a played match is when a player participates in a Match, but does not include any Byes. Where a player is listed in Match Centre as a designated player for a wash out/defaulted match this will be counted as one (1) of the minimum three (3) required matches.
- 21.2 Upon application in writing by a team, Tennis NSW has the power to grant an exemption to rule 21.1. Tennis NSW may, at its absolute discretion:
- grant the exemption requested; or
 - compel the team to forfeit one or more rubbers of the final; or
 - compel the team to forfeit the final.
- 21.3 For incomplete matches to be counted towards Final's eligibility, the player's names must be registered on the score card and uploaded to Match Centre.
- 21.4 Reserve Players may play in a Semi-Finals and Final in that division or any other division of that competition, provided they meet the eligibility requirements in Rule 21.1 and that they otherwise comply with rules relating to the use of Reserve Players (Rule 6 – Reserve Players).

- 21.5 Any team which plays an ineligible player in a semi-finals or finals Match will be deemed to have forfeited any Rubber in which the ineligible player participated.

22. Prizes

- 22.1 Prizes for Badge League (if any) will be determined and publicised by Tennis NSW in its absolute discretion.

23. Powers of Tennis NSW

- 23.1 To the extent permitted by law and the Tennis Australia National Policies, Tennis NSW shall have absolute power and discretion relating to the Badge Leagues or any matter or issue arising from or in connection with the Sydney Badge League and without limiting the foregoing it shall have the power and discretion to:
- demand from any team any information of any nature relating to any matter or thing arising from any match.
 - prohibit a player or team from registering for the Badge League.
 - suspend or disqualify a player or team from the Badge League because of a player's conduct or behaviour arising from or in connection with a match.
 - impose penalties on any player or team, whether by fine, suspension, disqualification or by forfeiture of points for any non-compliance or breach of any of these rules and regulations, including any Policy; and
 - apply penalties where necessary with reference to the Sydney Badge Penalty Register (Appendix C) and the Tennis Australia National Policies.

24. Dispute Resolution

- 24.1 If a player or team is alleged to have breached these rules or a Policy, the allegation against the player or team must be made in writing and emailed to sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au & chloe.hule@tennis.com.au within 48 hours of the alleged breach. Any complaints received after this time may not be considered by Tennis NSW at its absolute discretion.
- 24.2 Disputes must:
- Be submitted by the Team Delegate of a team involved in the relevant match.
 - Be submitted in writing to Tennis NSW (emailed to sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au & chloe.hule@tennis.com.au)
 - Contain a precise statement of the issue(s) in the dispute and include all relevant facts such as correct name of person/s involved, date, time, location.
- 24.3 Tennis NSW will acknowledge receipt of complaint and will aim to provide a response within three (3) business days if practical. The exception to this is where a matter may fall under a Tennis Australia National Policy. In these circumstances the matter will be dealt with in accordance with that policy.
- 24.4 Tennis NSW may call on an independent committee to review the complaint/dispute who may provide a recommendation to Tennis NSW.
- 24.5 Tennis NSW has the power to adjudicate any dispute referred to it for determination in any way in its absolute discretion but subject to the principles of natural justice, these rules and regulations and any Policy (if relevant).

25. Interpretation of Badge Rules and Regulations

- 25.1 Any question arising from or in connection with the interpretation or construction of these rules and regulations shall be determined by Tennis NSW in its absolute discretion.
- 25.2 Tennis NSW may alter or amend these rules and regulations from time to time without prior notice. If updated, Tennis NSW will endeavour to provide sufficient notice and distribute the updated version of the rules to all teams.

26. Appeals from Disputes

- 26.1 Unless stated otherwise, all decisions made from Tennis NSW in regard to disputes are final, and no further appeals will be considered.
- 26.2 Should a decision be appealable; Tennis NSW will provide a reasonable window of opportunity for appeals to be lodged and a response supplied. Appeals received outside this window may not be considered by Tennis NSW.
- 26.3 Should a team fail to accept the decision, issue complaints or unsportsmanlike conduct following a ruling, the team may be further penalised at the discretion of Tennis NSW.

27. Policies and Regulations

- 27.1 All competitions and matches must be conducted in accordance with their relevant policies, procedures and regulations and all Tennis Australia National Policies (available at <https://www.tennis.com.au/about-tennis-australia/reports-and-policies/policies>) including but not limited to:
- a) Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour, which includes disciplinary action for inappropriate spectator behaviour.
 - b) Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy
 - c) Tennis Australia Anti-Doping Policy
 - d) Tennis Australia Disciplinary Policy
 - e) Tennis Australia Anti-Corruption program
 - f) Tennis Australia Social Media Policy
 - g) And any other policy, rule, procedure, or regulation of which Tennis Australia may publish from time to time.
 - h) Tennis Australia Etiquette for non-umpired matches (Appendix E) (<https://www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Procedures-for-Matches-played-without-a-Chair-Umpire-V19.3.pdf>)
 - i) Tennis Australia Dress & Equipment Regulations
 - j) AR Tournaments Rules & Regulations – Publicity, promotion and use of Image.
In the event, that these regulations do not cover a rule/procedure – Players, Referees and Match Supervisors should refer to - The ITF Rules of Tennis (available via <https://www.itftennis.com/media/7221/2022-rules-of-tennis-english.pdf>)
 - k) Tennis Australia Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct.

28. Miscellaneous

- 28.1 Each Club/Association will nominate a 'Badge Delegate' to act as the main point of contact for all teams representing the Club/Association.
- 28.2 All communications to Tennis NSW must come from a team's nominated Badge Delegate. Similarly, Tennis NSW will communicate directly with the relevant Badge Delegate only. Any Team Captains who contact Tennis NSW directly will be asked to make contact through their relevant Badge Delegate.
- 28.3 Each Badge Delegate/Team Captain is strongly encouraged to attend a Tennis NSW Badge League Induction Session in accordance with information publicised by Tennis NSW from time to time. This session will educate the Delegates and Captains on the processes and policies for the coming season.
- 28.4 Each Badge Delegate and Team Captain agrees to provide an email address and telephone number to Tennis NSW for publication as a point of contact for other Team Captains. Badge Delegates and Team Captains acknowledge that their contact details will be provided to other Team Captains. However, Badge Delegates and Team Captains are not permitted to distribute any contact details provided under this rule 28.4 to any other players on their teams or any other person, except as expressly permitted by Tennis NSW or as permitted by the Tennis Privacy Policy (<https://www.tennis.com.au/privacy>).
- 28.5 Appendix E sets out all players must comply with the etiquette of play for non-umpired matches.

28.6 In the event a Badge Delegate is unable to be contacted for any period during the season (for example, if the Badge Delegate is overseas), the Badge Delegate must advise Tennis NSW in writing of an alternative person ("Alternate Delegate") to be nominated by the Club/Association to act as Badge Delegate for that period. The Alternate Delegate will be the contact person for that period for both TNSW and the other clubs/associations.

29. Sydney Badge Panel

29.1 Tennis NSW will constitute a Sydney Badge Panel (Panel) in accordance with the Sydney Badge Panel Terms of Reference which will be determined by the Metro Sydney Committee from time to time.

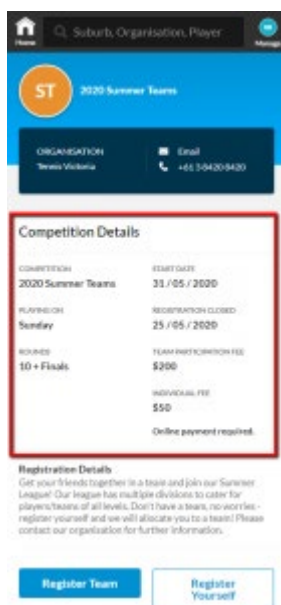
29.2 The Panel will be an advisory body only except in the case of grading appeals where the Panel will act as a grading appeals committee to hear and determine any grading appeals. In all other cases, decisions of the Panel will not be binding on Tennis NSW. The purpose of the Panel is to provide advice and guidance to Tennis NSW in the running of the Sydney Badge League as required by Tennis NSW.

29.3 No Member of the Sydney Metro Committee shall be eligible for appointment to the Panel.

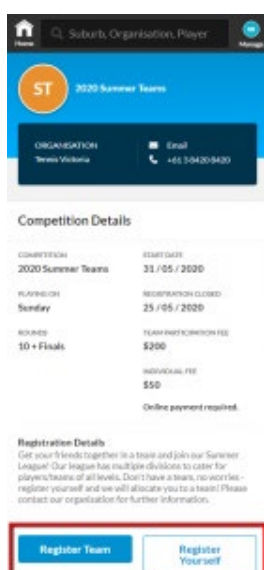
Appendix A: Team Registration Via Match Centre

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/competition-registration-team-registration/>

If a fee is applicable, payment options are determined by your competition administrator and a note below the fee will indicate the payment method. If 'Online Payment required' is displayed, you must pay the fee via Credit Card during the registration process, or your registration will not be accepted via Match Centre. If 'Contact competition organiser for payment' is displayed, please liaise with your club or competition administrator regarding payment.

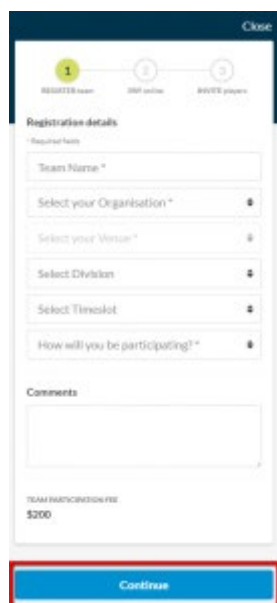


The competition administrator determines the registration requirements, which may include minimum/maximum team members or if you can register as an individual to be allocated to team. Registrations that require a team registration will have a blue Register / Register Team button (note if online payment is required: you will be required to pay the full team fee). If the competition administrator allows individual registration via Match Centre (i.e. you do not have a team to enter with) a Register Yourself button will be visible (the competition administrator will place you in a team). Click the relevant register button.



REGISTER TEAM / REGISTER

Depending on the competition administrator and registration requirements, you may be able to select a preferred division (note division allocation is subject to relevant competition administrator rules and processes), the organisation/club you are representing (if an association competition), the facility, preferred start time, court surface and court allocation. Requirements may vary competition to competition. You will also be required to select your role within the team (e.g. player/captain/manager) as the person that is registering the team. Additionally, you may add a comment to your registration if you wish to provide any particular information to the competition administrator.



The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for team registration. At the top, there is a 'Close' button and a progress indicator with three steps: 1. REGISTER team (highlighted), 2. SET roles, and 3. ADD players. Below the progress indicator, the 'Registration details' section includes a 'Required fields' label and several dropdown menus: 'Team Name *', 'Select your Organisation *', 'Select your Venue *', 'Select Division', 'Select Timeslot', and 'How will you be participating? *'. A 'Comments' section with a text input field is located below the dropdowns. At the bottom, the 'TEAM PARTICIPATION FEE \$200' is displayed. A blue 'Continue' button is highlighted with a red border.

You will now have a visible 'Manage Registration' card visible on the competition profile and your own dashboard. This card will be visible until registrations close. For more information view the Manage Registration guide.

Appendix B: Competitive Player Profile / Ratings

WHAT IS MY COMPETITIVE PLAYER PROFILE?

Your Competitive Player Profile is the unique profile generated by connecting your Tennis ID and UTR rating. With this connection established, your playing history and upcoming match data can be stored securely in one place, giving you full visibility of your tennis stats and performance.

Click the link and follow the steps to activate your player profile today

[Create your CPP | Competitive Play | Tennis Australia](#)

<https://www.tennis.com.au/competitiveplay/create-your-cpp>

RATINGS

For further information on matches that contribute to a player's UTR calculation, please click the following link:

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/what-match-results-in-australia-count-towards-players-utr-rating/>

Appendix C – Sydney Badge League Penalty Register.

Offence	Penalty	Examples (not limited to)
Minor Offences	- Official Warning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of incorrect balls - No/Poor communication to Captain regarding Inclement weather, venue information. - Inability to provide a wet weather venue (Grass Courts) - Forfeit due to not fielding a team (1st instance only) - Minor infringements of the Code of Behaviour or Unsportsmanlike Conduct.
Medium Offences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of Sets/Games played by a player. - Loss of League Points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inappropriate Reserve player used (Player used has a higher UTR than the player being replaced). - Serious infringements of the Code of Behaviour or Unsportsmanlike Conduct. - Multiple warning received for minor offences.
Major Offences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Match Forfeit - Loss of League Points - Removal of Player/Team from League. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Severe infringements of the Code of Behaviour or Unsportsmanlike Conduct. - Multiple forfeits due to not fielding a team. - Multiple warnings/penalties for Minor/Medium Offences.

The purpose of this register is to provide guidelines around the use of penalties within the Sydney Badge League. Penalties imposed are not limited to this register. The powers of Tennis NSW are listed in Rule 23 – Powers of Tennis NSW.

Appendix D – Results Entry

1) Enter Score/Not Played Match – Match Results

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/score-entry-enter-score-match-results/>

2) Edit Score – Match Results

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/score-entry-edit-score-match-results/>

3) Review & Confirm Score – Match Results

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/score-entry-review-and-confirm-score-match-results/>

4) Disputing a Result – Match Results

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/score-entry-disputing-a-result-match-results/>

5) Adding a New Player

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/score-entry-adding-a-new-player-match-results/>

6) Creating a New Player – Match Results

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/score-entry-creating-a-new-player-match-results/>

7) Print Scorecard

<https://support.tennis.com.au/articles/the-scorecard-print-scorecard/>

Appendix E – Tennis Australia – Tennis Etiquette for Non-Umpired Matches

Procedures for Matches Played without a Chair Umpire

<https://www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Procedures-for-Matches-played-without-a-Chair-Umpire-V19.3.pdf>

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

Players who do not fairly follow these procedures could be subject to penalties under the Unsportsmanlike Conduct provision of the Code of Behaviour and/or subject to the Hindrance Rule (ITF Rules of Tennis). Any questions on these procedures should be referred to the Tournament Referee (or their assistant where applicable).

- 1) Each player is primarily responsible for line calls on their side of the net. However, a Court Supervisor or Referee is permitted to change an incorrect line call, either whilst located within the court (appointed as adjudicator/chair umpire) or from outside the court. The following procedures apply when a call is changed:
 - a) Official located outside the court:

On the first occasion, the official should enter the court and inform the player that the incorrect line call caused an unintentional hindrance to the opponent, and the point must be replayed. If, however, the opponents shot was a “point-ending shot”, the point will be awarded to the opponent. The official must inform the player that any further incorrect line calls will be considered a “deliberate hindrance” for which they will lose the point. The player should also be cautioned that they may be subject to penalties under the Unsportsmanlike Conduct provision of the Code of Behaviour for having two-line calls overturned in the same match.
 - b) On Court as an Adjudicator:

If an official is required to stand on-court to adjudicate the match, the official should advise the players to continue to perform all duties assigned to players by these procedures. The role of the adjudicator is purely to correct any clearly incorrect line calls made by either player; in which case the offending player will lose the point.
 - c) On Court as a Chair Umpire:

If an official is required to act as a Chair Umpire for the remainder of a match, the official must, where possible, take position in a chair umpires chair. The chair umpire must assume all the normal duties and procedures for chair umpires, i.e., making all line calls, determining lets, nets, not-ups, and fouls shouts, and announcing the score after each point.

In addition, when a player makes a blatantly incorrect call, the player will lose the point, and a Code Violation for Unsportsmanlike Conduct may be given if the official determines that the player made the incorrect call on purpose.

- 2) If in doubt, the player must give the benefit of any doubt to his/her opponent, regarding line calls.
- 3) If in the opinion of the Court Supervisor or Referee an incorrect line call is a deliberately blatant action, the offending player will automatically lose the point and may receive a code violation for Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 4) All “out” or “fault” calls should be made promptly after the ball has bounced and must be loud enough for the opponent to hear.
- 5) If a player incorrectly calls a ball “out” and then realizes 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.

- 6) A service "Let" may be called by either player/team.
- 7) Foot faults may only be called by an official standing on court or by a chair umpire. Players may be requested to correct their foot-faulting problem by a Referee or Court Supervisor, who will require the player to make an effort during the match to rectify the problem. The receiver may not call a foot fault against the server.
- 8) The receiver must play to the reasonable pace of the server. Both players must ensure they restrict their warm-up time and minimize time between points and at change of ends.
- 9) 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 and must be loud enough for his/her opponent to hear.
- 10) If players cannot agree on the score, they should calmly discuss the points/games that are disputed. All points or games which the players agree on stand and only those in dispute should be replayed i.e., two players cannot agree on whether the score is 40-30 or 30-40 and disagree only on who won the first point in the game. The game shall continue from 30-30, since both players agree that they have won two points each.

When the game score is in dispute the same principles apply i.e., two players cannot agree on 4-3 or 3-4, and disagree only on who won the second game. The match shall continue from 3-3, since both players agree that they won three games each. The player who received in the last game that was played will serve in the next game.

Where there is a score dispute, a player must make a reasonable effort to remember the actual score i.e., points/games played.

- 11) 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.
- 12) Any hindrance caused by a player that is ruled deliberate by the relevant official will result in the loss of a point.
- 13) Where a ball interrupt 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 1st and 2nd serve, a second serve only should be played.
- 14) In a situation where a ball is lying on the court at the commencement of the point (1st or 2nd serve) it will be deemed to be part of the court during the rally. Movement of this ball during the rally does not constitute hindrance.
- 15) When ball persons are not available, all balls on your side of the net are your responsibility to pick up and return directly to the server.
- 16) Players are entitled to request their opponent to remove the ball from the court prior to the commencement of the point.
- 17) The receiver should not return the first service if it is an obvious fault – let it go by or ground it.
- 18) Either player may call a "Let", "Net", "Not-Up" or "Foul Shot", providing this occurs in a timely manner. When there is a dispute regarding these, an official should try to determine from the players what

happened and make a decision as they deem appropriate which may include replying to the point.

- 19) Players should only leave the court for a toilet break, or any other reason, with the permission of Referee or Court Supervisor.
- 20) If at the completion of a match, the players involved realize that the scoring format used was incorrect, the match result shall stand provided all players have left the court enclosure. If the mistake is realized before the players have left the enclosure, the correct scoring format should be used to finalize 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. (Refer to correcting errors in the Rules of Tennis).
- 21) Where a Code Violation second offence / Point Penalty is determined by the Referee or Court Supervisor this may be applied at any time during the specific game where the offence occurs. If the point penalty cannot be issued during the specific game a code violation second offence will still be issued. It should be noted that any code violation second offence between games is deemed to be part of the following game.
- 22) 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.
- 23) Constant or overt celebration, or celebration directed at an opponent may be considered intimidation, and therefore unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 24) If a player is unhappy with his/her opponent's actions or decisions, he/she should call the Referee or Court Supervisor immediately.

Additional procedures for matches played on clay courts

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

1. 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).
2. 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.
3. If a player erases the mark, he/she is conceding the call.
4. If there is a disagreement over a ball mark, the Referee or Court Supervisor can be called to make a final decision. However, where a player is consistently making incorrect calls resulting in numerous ball mark inspections, a Code Violation may be applied.
5. If a player calls a ball "out", he/she should, in normal circumstances, be able to show the correct mark.
6. If a player incorrectly calls a ball "out" and then realizes that the ball was good, the player who called "out" loses the point.

Etiquette

1. Players are always expected to shake hands with their opponent(s) at the completion of a match.
2. Do not enlist the aid of spectators, including parents, coaches in making line calls, or attempting to determine the score or other on-court matters.
3. Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
4. To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have



completed a point.

5. Do not stall, sulk, complain or practice gamesmanship.
6. 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.