

TENNIS 2017

- 1 Tennis should be played on a minimum of 1.5 courts per grade.
- 2 **ELIGIBILITY**
 - 2.1 Competition will be conducted in Open, Senior and Junior grades. These grades will be divided into further divisions to suit the nominations from member schools.
 - 2.2 Junior teams will consist of students in Years 7-9, Seniors teams will consist of students in Years 10-12. Open teams may be multi-age.
 - 2.3 Each team shall consist of four seeded singles players and two seeded doubles pairs. For all seedings on any fixture day, the school must enter the best player / pair from its team as number one seed, then subsequent ranking in descending order for the following seedings must apply.
 - 2.4 The maximum number of players for each tennis team will be eight players on any given day.
- 3 Before the commencement of the singles game and before the commencement of the first doubles game, books are to be completed and then exchanged. The rankings are to be in accordance with the skill ability within each team and not dependant on players preferred opponent/s.
- 4 In the event of a player not turning up at a competition after the books have been exchanged, school s may agree to reschedule the order of games. If the player has not arrived when she is now scheduled to play, the school will forfeit her seeded singles match.
- 5 **FIXTURES**
 - 5.1 Each fixture shall consist of four seeded singles sets and two seeded doubles sets.
 - 5.2 **SEEDINGS**
 - 5.2.1 Schools are to submit seedings to the Executive Officer for all tennis players pre-season (by Monday prior to Round 1) based on the best player being seeded 1. The seedings for each school will be provided by the Executive Officer to all member schools.

Changes to seeding:

Where it is necessary to change seedings as the result of injury, sickness or change of enrolment status, a formal notification is to be sent to the Executive Officer no later than the day prior to the competition. If later changes are necessary, the opposition co-ordinator must be notified prior to the commencement of the match.
 - 5.2.1 The order of games shall be according to the seedings - 4, 3, 2, 1 for singles; and 2, 1 for doubles. Any variation to this ruling must be made by mutual agreement by Wednesday, 3.00pm, preceding the fixture day. If mutual agreement cannot be reached, the order listed above will stand.
 - 5.3 For the first set, the choice of end and / or right to serve first, shall be decided by the toss of a coin. All subsequent sets will be alternated between the two teams.

5.4 By mutual agreement, players may change ends after each game if the sun creates difficulty.

5.5 Each set will be the first to 6 or 7 games with one team being 2 games ahead. If the score is tied at 6 games all, the 12 point tie breaker comes into effect.

5.6 12 Point Tie-Breaker

The first player / pair to reach 7 points and be ahead by at least 2 points shall win. If the score is 6 points all the game shall be extended until one player/ pair is ahead by 2 points.

The player whose turn it is to serve shall serve first from the right court. After the first point the serve is rotated to the opponent and thereafter every two points until the set is decided. After 6 points have been played, players / pairs change ends.

For Doubles play, the serve is rotated in the same order that was played for the rest of the set.

NOTE: Except for the first serve, the serve is rotated after 2 points, the same as for Singles.

If players serve in the wrong order or from the wrong side and it goes undetected, the score shall stand and adjustments be made to rectify the play from there on.

5.7 Long deuce will be played for all games.

5.8 The winning team in any match will be decided firstly on games, (eg. 33 – 29). If tied on games, then the team that wins the most sets, (eg. 4 - 2) will be the winning team. If games and sets are tied (eg. 29 - 29, 3 - 3) then the match is a draw.

5.9 If exceptional circumstances interrupt play and a team is in a position where they cannot lose, that result will stand.

5.10 The home team must provide at least two new approved balls for each grade and court. Home teams are to provide a minimum of 4 practice balls per court.

5.11 Home teams are obliged to permit 15 minutes warm-up prior to 7.30am commencement. Further warm-up time shall be limited to three minutes prior to each set. Practice times should be evenly shared between both teams. The visiting team shall be allocated warm-up time, commencing at 8.10am.

6 OFFICIALS

6.1 Scorers and umpires may be school students who are conversant with the current rules.

6.1.1 **Singles Matches:** Each match shall have one umpire and one linesperson. The linesperson shall stand opposite the umpire at the net and have input into calls on that line only. However, the umpire has the final decision over all calls made.

6.1.2 **Doubles Matches:** Each match shall have one umpire where possible. Students and team members from other grades may umpire games other than their own grade as long as their commitment to their own grade is completed.

- 7 **Foot Faults:** Foot faults must be called by the central umpire. If the umpire does not call them, then the linesperson can issue a warning to the player via the umpire. Each player may only receive one warning per set before being called for a foot fault.
- 8 All spectators must remain outside enclosures and must not interfere in a detrimental way with the progress of the match.
- 9 **Injury:** In the event of an injury / illness to a player, a maximum of 5 minutes injury time will be awarded. If the player cannot resume play immediately after this time has expired, she will forfeit the remainder of her singles / doubles match. Games that have been won by this player will still count and her opponent will be credited with winning 6/7 games.
- 10 If a player chooses to leave the competition prior to the completion of her match for reasons other than injury, she forfeits the right to games already won and the opposition is accorded a 6- 0 win.