



EASTERN DISTRICTS TENNIS ASSOCIATION

JUNIOR TENNIS MATCH BY-LAWS

(REVISED AND ADOPTED ON THE 24th SEPTEMBER 2018)

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1. GENERAL

All matches shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Tennis as adopted by TENNIS SA INC., and according to current TENNIS AUSTRALIA instructions on Etiquette and Code of Behaviour. Clubs and their Junior Coordinators are expected to apply these rules and to exercise control over their own players in all respects relating to match play, discipline, sportsmanship, etc.

The EDTA is fully committed to providing safe, fun and inclusive competition formats for everyone. We believe no rule should ever prevent anyone from playing our great sport. Rules are important to provide structure which benefits the majority of players, but flexibility and common sense will be applied when individual circumstances do not fit within these structures.

2. POWERS

The Junior Coordinator shall determine all matters relating to match play. The Junior Coordinator may refer disciplinary action to the Management Committee for appropriate action.

Should a matter not be covered within these by-laws, or in the event of any discrepancy, the senior by-laws shall take precedence.

3. ELIGIBILITY

(a) **Affiliation of Clubs**

Clubs affiliated with the Association may nominate teams.

(b) **Age limits**

The junior competition is open to players aged under 18 years. For eligibility, age is taken to be as at the first match of the relevant summer or winter season.

(c) **Not playing for other associations**

Juniors playing for another Junior Association are not permitted to play for this Association at the same time.

(d) **Changing clubs**

After grading is completed by the Management Committee, a player may not change clubs without receiving a clearance from their original nominating club and the Management Committee.

(e) **State League players**

State League players who have played in the current calendar year cannot play in the EDTA Junior Competition.

(f) **Provision of courts**

If a club submits teams to the EDTA Junior competition it is expected that their courts be made available for play. Courts used by the EDNA (netball) competition are considered unavailable for use during the times scheduled for EDNA use.

Should a club be unable to provide supervisors for the use of courts when required, the Association will provide that service at a cost to the Club, but the Club will be required to provide access and closure of the courts and facilities at the relevant times. It is expected that clubs will make every attempt to provide supervisors for our competitions.

5. FORMAT OF TEAMS**(a) Competitions offered**

The EDTA offers the following competitions:

- Friday night (yellow-ball) competition for boys or girls aged under 18 years at the highest competition standard,
- Saturday morning (yellow-ball) mixed gender competition for children aged under 13 years,
- Saturday morning (yellow-ball) competition for boys or girls aged 13 years and over,
- Saturday morning Green- and Orange-ball mixed gender competitions.

The actual competitions conducted depend on the teams nominated.

(b) Composition of teams

The composition of all teams in all Divisions will be decided by the Junior Coordinator in any given season. Teams may consist of 2 or 3 players or 4 or 5 players.

As a guidance, Orange ball and the Saturday morning yellow ball mixed gender competition team shall consist of 2 or 3 players otherwise all other teams consist of 4 or 5 boys or 4 or 5 girls who are permitted to play in a match. Players aged under 13 years of any sex or gender identity will be allowed to participate in any yellow ball competitions.

(c) Matches to be played

- (i) Teams comprising 4 or 5 players play 4 singles sets and 2 doubles sets.
All players are permitted to play one double or one single or both and shall play in strict order of merit. The first singles player does not have to play in the first double.
- (ii) Teams comprising 2 or 3 players play 2 singles sets in normal order, 2 singles sets in reverse order, and 1 doubles set.
A player may play one, two or three sets provided he/she does not play the same singles opponent twice.

(d) Replacement of an injured player

If a player is injured in the course of a set and cannot continue, the set must be forfeited. However, the third or fifth named player can replace the player for the remainder of the match. The score sheet should be amended to indicate this.

(e) No interchange between teams in a division

Where a club has more than one team in a division, there shall be no interchange of players after the first four matches have been played, not including grading matches, unless approved by the Junior Coordinator.

(f) Only one match per round

A player cannot play in a Friday night and a Saturday morning match of the EDTA competition during the same round of matches.

(g) Score sheets

Names of players should be provided to Court Supervisors so that Score Sheets can be filled in completely prior to the start of a match. Names must be printed and be legible with both given and family name.

6. MATCH FORMAT**(a) Order of play**

Matches involving teams of 4 or 5 players should commence with the 2 doubles sets followed by the 4 singles sets. Where 2 courts are allocated per match, the Court Supervisor can change the order of play with a single being played before a doubles in the event of the non-attendance of players, to allow 2 matches to commence. Forfeits cannot be claimed if a single can be played on an available court.

Matches involving teams of 2 or 3 players should commence with singles matches first, followed by doubles, then reverse singles.

(b) Format of sets – Friday nights

For Friday night matches, one straight 6 game set will be played in both doubles and singles. If the score reaches 5 games all, a tiebreaker will be played. In the tiebreaker, the player or pairing who first wins seven points shall win the game and the set, provided he/she/they lead(s) by a margin of two points. If the score reaches six points all the game shall be extended until the two-point margin has been achieved. Numerical scoring shall be used throughout the tiebreak game.

(c) Format of sets – Saturday mornings

In Green-ball and Saturday morning yellow-ball matches one straight 6 game set will be played in both doubles and singles, with no tiebreaker at 5 games all (i.e. the set is finished when the score reaches 6 games to 5).

(d) Match scoring for Yellow-ball and Green-ball competitions

Matches shall be decided by sets, and where sets are even, by games. Four premiership points shall be awarded for a win and two premiership points for a draw with each team being awarded one point for each set won.

(e) Finish times

If no conclusive result has been reached by 10:30 pm on Friday nights or within 2:00 hours of commencement on Saturday, then points shall be awarded on the basis of sets and games won.

(f) A completed match

A completed match is one in which every set of the match has been played to a finish. A match has been decided if either team has won more than half of the total number of sets to be played in the match or if a team has won exactly half but has a sufficient number of games in hand that it could not be beaten if the match was completed. Where a match has not been completed, points shall be awarded as per 6(e).

(g) Forfeits

In the event of any sets having to be forfeited due to non-attendance of players, those forfeits shall commence from the bottom. If a player is injured during the course of a match and is unable to continue, then the sets forfeited by that player are those that would have been played as listed on the scoresheet [see also section 5(d)].

The team receiving the forfeit shall be credited with 1 set and 6 games for each forfeited set and the team forfeiting shall receive 0 sets and 0 games.

During a match, if a set needs to be forfeited, the player to receive the forfeit must be present.

Forfeits given to a team by their opposition prior to their Friday / Saturday match will not count if the matches in that round are cancelled on the programmed day by the Association.

(h) Orange-ball Match scoring

In Orange-ball matches, four-game sets for singles and a four-game set for the doubles, with no tiebreaker, are to be played. One point shall be awarded for each set won with no premiership points awarded for winning the match. The premiership will be awarded to the team with the highest points and if then equal, the highest number of games.

(i) The season

The season shall be divided into both a minor and major round for all divisions except Orange-ball. The four highest ranked teams in each division [see 6(j)] shall play off in the major round.

(j) Team rankings

Teams rankings are determined by Match Ratio (i.e. the number of points accumulated for the season divided by the number of matches played). If two or more teams are equal on Match Ratio, then their position on the premiership table shall be determined by the descending order of team matches won and if these are equal then their positions will be decided by the descending order of games won. In the event of a tie at the conclusion of the minor round, the PERMIT COMMITTEE has the power to take any necessary action to separate the teams involved.

7. MATCH PROCEDURE**(a) Starting times**

The standard starting time for Friday night matches is 6:00 pm.

Where there are no split start times on a Saturday morning, matches shall commence at 8.30 am.

Where there are split start times on a Saturday morning, matches shall commence at times advised by the Junior Coordinator. According to the competition and venue capacity, these start times may be selected from the following; 8:15 am, 8:30 am, 9:30 am, 10:00 am, 10:15 am & 10:45 am.

(b) Reporting to the Court Supervisor

All teams will report to the allocated Court Supervisor before the scheduled start time, for allocation of courts.

(c) Friday evening commencement

On Friday evenings, all matches shall commence at 6:00 pm. commencing with doubles. Forfeit time for first doubles match to be 6:10 pm. If all players are not present by 6:30 pm the team shall forfeit all relevant remaining sets. All matches are to conclude by 10:30 pm and scores at that time will be final.

(d) Order of play - Saturday matches

Any team not prepared to start 2 doubles (or one double and 1 single in matches allocated 2 courts per match or one double in matches allocated one court) within 10 minutes, shall be liable to forfeit those programmed sets. If further, the team is not prepared to start the next programmed set(s) within 30 minutes of the scheduled start time, that set and subsequent sets (if appropriate) shall also be forfeited. All yellow-ball and green-ball matches are to be concluded within 2:00 hours and scores at that time will be final. All orange-ball matches are to be concluded within 1 hour and 15 minutes and scores at that time will be final.

(e) Order of play - Saturday late matches

On Saturday mornings the start time of late matches may be put back by 5 minutes to allow for a changeover period, if required by the Supervisor.

(f) Rotation of singles order of play

Supervisors are required to rotate the singles order of play (where possible) on a weekly basis in fairness to all players in a team.

(g) Players to remain on court

Whilst a match is in progress, no player(s) may leave the court without the approval of the Court Supervisor. Failure to do so may result in forfeiting the set(s) in progress at the discretion of the Court Supervisor.

(h) Match abandonment by Court Supervisors

No match shall be abandoned by the Court Supervisor before 9:00 am on Saturday mornings or 7:00 pm Friday evenings, except in the event of cancellation due to excessive heat [see Section 7(k)].

(i) Notifications to Junior Coordinator

The Junior Coordinator should be advised immediately by SMS should a venue decide to cancel matches not previously cancelled by the Association per Section 7(k).

(j) Attire

All players are required to wear the approved Club shirt, accompanied by either white, black or navy blue shorts / skirts as appropriate, unless a different colour is part of the approved club uniform. Football shorts or socks are not considered suitable attire. Clubs will be required to provide examples of their approved Club shirt to the Junior Coordinator which will be forwarded to Court Supervisors to adjudicate on compliance. Penalties can range from warnings, points loss or Club fines.

(k) Heat cancellations**(i) Heat cancellations based on forecasts for Saturdays**

If Saturday's forecast maximum temperature is 37 °C or more, as advertised by broadcast media between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm on the preceding Friday night, all matches are automatically cancelled. It is the responsibility of the Clubs' Junior Contacts to monitor the forecasts.

(ii) Heat cancellations for Friday evenings

On Friday evenings if the current temperature at 4:30 pm. as shown on the BOM website is 38 °C or higher all matches are automatically cancelled. If the current temperature is 37 °C or less players must attend their venue. The Supervisor will monitor the temperature and matches may commence, no later than 6:30 pm. if the temperature is below 37 °C . Matches will not proceed if the temperature is above 37 °C and the match will be abandoned after 6:30 pm.

(l) Wet-weather cancellations**(i) Decision times**

If appropriate, the Junior Coordinator will make a decision regarding cancellations due to inclement weather by 4:30 pm on Friday (for Friday nights) or 8:00 am on Saturday (for Saturday mornings).

(ii) Basis for cancellation

Advance cancellation of all matches will be automatic if the rain prediction "probability" on the BOM website (www.bom.gov.au, select MetEye, select Rainfall Forecasts, then type Adelaide) at 4:30 pm on a Friday or at 7:00 am on a Saturday, for **the actual hours of play** (Friday 6 pm – 9 pm or Saturday 8 am – 11 am), is greater than 75%. Otherwise, advance cancellation will be at the discretion of the Junior Coordinator.

- (iii) Notice on the EDTA Website
The Junior Coordinator will place a notice on the EDTA Website notice board and he/she should not be contacted by either clubs' contacts or parents. An email will also be sent to the Junior Contact group.
- (iv) Players to go to their venues
If no notification is given, players must go to their venues for their scheduled match. Supervisors may cancel matches if they believe their courts are unsafe for play but should first make every attempt to prepare the courts to enable safe play.
- (v) Supervisor to inform the Junior Coordinator
If a supervisor cancels, they should at that time also send a text message or email to the Junior Coordinator with that advice.
- (vi) Scoring of matches not completed due to rain
In the event of a WET Friday night or Saturday morning where a decision has been reached in any match (but not actually completed) that match shall be classed as completed. All other matches in which a decision has not been reached, points shall be awarded on the basis of sets and games won.

(m) Equipment to dry courts

All venues must have equipment available for wet weather to dry courts. Every effort should be made to sweep or squeegee the courts before considering cancellation. If there has been no cancellation made by the Court Supervisor, matches shall proceed as scheduled. The Junior Coordinator to be advised immediately of any cancellation by SMS.

(n) Provision of balls

- (i) On Friday nights: two new approved balls per team per match will be provided to the venue by clubs prior to the commencement of the first round.
- (ii) On Saturday mornings: each yellow-ball team will provide to their allocated venue a tin of 4 new approved balls for all Saturday morning matches.
- (iii) All yellow-ball teams represented in all FINALS must provide 2 NEW balls per match.
- (iv) The green and orange ball competitions must use the appropriate ball which may be provided by the Association or a direction will be given regarding the requirement for those Divisions by the Junior Coordinator.

(o) Provision of score sheets and recording results

- (i) Score sheets will be provided by the Court Supervisor at the venue allocated.
- (ii) Players may bring their own score sheets to the venue for their information and may take a photo of the venue match sheet prior to any award voting taking place.
- (iii) Each team, or its club representative, is required to enter its results in League Manager / Match Centre by no later than 11:59 pm on the Monday following the match.
- (iv) The venue is to retain the Score Sheets, including the award voting. These votes will be entered by the Recording Secretary via the EDTA Website or clubs may be asked to similarly record these votes. The Management Committee will advise prior to each season.

8. FINALS

(a) **Submission of order-of-merit lists**

Teams participating in major round matches, shall in the first week, submit a list of players in order of merit to the Junior Coordinator by 12:00 noon on the Sunday preceding the first final. This order of merit, if accepted, will be the relative playing order for that team for all finals. Any team fielding players not approved by the Junior Coordinator or playing out of order will be disqualified.

(b) **Eligibility of players**

- (i) No player shall be eligible to play in a major round match with a club in the Association unless such player has played in four minor round matches in the current season with that club.
- (ii) Any player who has not played in 2 matches of a division in the current season must not then play in a major round match of that division or a lower division.
- (iii) Any player having played their last 3 minor round matches in a higher division in the current season may not then play in a major round match of a lower division.
- (iv) no player having played in a major round match of one division in the current season may play in a major round match of a lower division without a permit from the Junior Coordinator.

(c) **Structure of the finals series**

The structure of the finals series will be determined when the program is set each year by the Junior Coordinator based on the number of weeks available.

- (i) Three weeks for finals – In the first week, the 1st ranked team shall play the 2nd ranked team (2nd semi-final) and the 3rd ranked team shall play the 4th ranked team (1st semi-final). The winner of the first semi-final shall play the loser of the second semi-final in the preliminary final and the winner of the preliminary final shall play the winner of the second semi-final in the grand final for the premiership.
- (ii) Two weeks for finals – In the first week, the 1st ranked team plays the 4th ranked team, and the 2nd ranked team plays the 3rd ranked team. The winners of these two matches play off in the grand final.

(d) **Drawn matches**

Any major round match which is drawn, must be played until a result is determined as follows.

Both doubles are replayed.

If the total of the replayed games are equal at the end of the completion of both sets, the first doubles shall be replayed again for a final decision.

Whilst a final is in progress no players(s) may leave the venue. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit should the outcome of the match be a draw.

(e) **Format of matches**

All major round matches are extended matches and must be played to completion.

9. COURT SUPERVISORS

(a) **Clubs to provide supervisors**

All Clubs entering teams will supply at least one person for court supervision for each Saturday morning and Friday night competition.

(b) Supervisors' general duties

- (i) Court Supervisors shall ensure courts are prepared for match play and be in attendance during the times allocated. Supervisors should be visible at all times and available to players.
- (ii) For yellow-ball competitions, supervisors shall receive from each Club the required balls for the season prior to the commencement of the season See section 7(n). For Saturday morning matches, Supervisors shall receive from each Club four (4) new approved balls;
A request for replacement balls may be made during the season from teams, if required;
- (iii) For all matches, the venue will supply a match sheet downloaded from Match Centre or an approved sheet from the EDTA Website. This sheet is to be retained at the venue and also used for the purpose of voting for the Semmens Awards.
(Players may bring their own match sheets to the venue for their information and may take a photo of the venue match sheet prior to any award voting taking place.)
- (iv) Supervisors shall administer the filling out of Score Sheets and will verify and sign the retained Score Sheets at the completion of matches, ensuring all details are correct and readable and that the Les Semmens / Pat Semmens Award voting has been completed.
- (v) Supervisors shall remind players/teams of the requirement to enter their team sheet to Match Centre by 11:59 pm on the Monday following the match.
- (vi) The venue is to retain the Score Sheets, including the award voting. These votes will be entered by the Recording Secretary via the EDTA Website or clubs may be asked to similarly record these votes. The Management Committee will advise prior to each season.

(c) Inclement weather

In the event of inclement weather, or any other event impacting play, the Court Supervisor shall determine if matches at their location shall commence or continue. In any event (except for automatic cancellation from excessive heat, or rain) teams must report to the location to obtain such a decision. The Junior Coordinator must be advised immediately by SMS should a decision to cancel be taken.

(d) Code of Conduct

Clubs must provide a copy of the EDTA Code of Conduct to Court Supervisors.

10. MISCONDUCT**(a) Warning by supervisors**

The court supervisor may in the event of observed bad sportsmanship or line calling, in the first instance, warn the offending player(s). He/she will then monitor the match and may over-rule blatant bad calls. Tactical coaching is not permitted during play, and should be pointed out as soon as it is observed.

(b) Player disqualification from a match

A player may be disqualified (removed from the court) if persistent bad sportsmanship occurs, e.g. swearing, racquet-throwing or ball abuse.

(c) Parental interference

Parental interference will not be tolerated and Supervisors have the authority to request parents refrain from speaking with players and standing in a position considered too close or intimidating players i.e. standing or seated closer than 1.5 metres from the fence.

Should this interference not cease the supervisor will then declare the match in favour of the team of the opponent receiving the unfair interference.

(d) Reporting misconduct

In such incidents where the Supervisor took action under sections (b) or (c), the Supervisor will automatically report to the Junior Coordinator directly (not on the back of a score sheet), who may take further action if deemed appropriate.

(e) Queries to supervisor

Queries on the rules and match procedure are to be referred to the Court Supervisor by the team captain or team manager as soon as possible after any incident has occurred.

11. EDTA CLOSED TOURNAMENT

The EDTA closed tournament is open to all EDTA players within the ages prescribed on the tournament entry form. In the first instance, the tournament will be used for selection in the events that the EDTA participates in (e.g. Les Tapp OAM Inter Association and the Compass Draw event).