

**SOUTHERN TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC.****JUNIOR MATCH BY-LAWS**Current as at 29<sup>st</sup> May 2012

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**1. REGISTRATION**

- 1.1 Juniors shall be registered with the Junior Recording Secretary prior to their first match, or on the team sheet of their first match played. Registration consists of a player's name, address, telephone number and birth date.
- 1.2 A Club shall forfeit all sets played by unregistered players.

**2. TRANSFERS AND CLEARANCES**

- 2.1 A player shall not play for more than one affiliated Club in the Junior Competition during the season without permission of the Junior Match Committee.
- 2.2 Any player wishing to transfer from one club to another in the S.T.A. must first obtain a clearance from the club for which he/she played Juniors in the previous season.
- 2.3 All clearances must be received by the Junior Recording Secretary by the Thursday before the first match in which the player participates.
- 2.4 Any player desiring to play tennis in a Division higher than his/her Club can offer must request a permit from his/her Club, and forward the permit to the Club for which he/she intends to play. The permit must be received by the Association Junior Recording no later than 7.00p.m. on the Thursday preceding the match in which the player participates. The Association Junior Recording Secretary will confirm the permit. A permit will be valid for the current season only.  
**Penalty: 1.2**

**3. TEAMS:****ORDER OF MERIT**

Order of Merit means that players are ranked in order of their ability, in relation to the other players from their club.

Order of Merit shall be determined primarily, but not solely, by the player's recorded match results. Clubs deemed to have players playing out of Order of Merit will be required to provide a written explanation to the Junior Recording Secretary.

- 3.1 A Junior shall be under the age of 18 years on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December for each respective season.

- 3.2 There shall be 4 or 5 players in each team and the players shall be selected in order of merit. The configuration of teams is to be decided at grading with mixed teams to be considered. There will be no order of merit in the green and orange ball competition.
- 3.2.1 No player may participate in more than one match on the same day.
- 3.2.2 **Players playing Division 1** are not permitted to play in the Saturday morning competition, unless with permission of Junior Recording Secretary.
- 3.2.3 In Division 1 Only – Any reserve must play at bottom position in Div. 1 Friday Night and must return to normal position on Saturday morning. A reserve player constitutes a player playing in a lower division.
- 3.3 After playing 4 matches, excluding those in beginner divisions, no player may move above or below more than one other player (irrespective of whether or not that player is available) for each subsequent programmed match.
- 3.4 If a club has more than one team in a division they shall be of equal strength. After playing 4 matches within one colour no player may change team colour within the same division (except under extenuation circumstances and with the permission of the Junior Match Committee).  
**Penalty: Any of the above will forfeit the match (All sets).**
- 3.5 The Junior Recording Secretary has the power to recommend changes to the order of merit. The Junior Match Committee will direct any changes if needed to the clubs.

#### 4. **RE-GRADING**

- 4.1 Up to the completion of Round 4 Junior Match Committee may re-grade any team to a higher or lower Division. Re-grading must be in effect prior to the commencement of Round 5.

Decisions made at re-grading are not negotiable.

#### 5. **FORFEITS:**

- 5.1 Any Club not fielding a full team must provide a satisfactory explanation in writing to the Junior Recording Secretary with the score sheet recording the forfeits. Clubs not providing a satisfactory explanation will be penalized.  
**Penalty: Forfeiture of the match plus a fine as determined by the Junior Match Committee.**
- 5.2 Any club that finds it necessary to forfeit any sets or matches because of a lack of players, prior to commencement of the match, then sets and matches shall be forfeited in ascending order, commencing where possible with the team in the lowest division within the club. However, if the lowest divisions are repeatedly put in this position, the Junior Recording Secretary has the discretion to permit a forfeit in a higher division.

Teams forfeiting shall notify opposing teams as soon as possible before the commencement of a match. Teams winning on a forfeit shall submit a match team sheet as required, to receive premiership points and record qualifications for finals.

- 5.3 If a player is not able to play after team sheets have been exchanged only that player's sets are to be forfeited.
- 5.4 No Club is obligated to move a player more than 2 divisions for Boys and 1 Division for girls. Green and Orange Balls divisions are exempt.

## **6. MATCHES**

### **6.1 Friday night matches (all divisions)**

- 6.1.1 All Matches to be played at designated venues on Friday evenings and are to commence at 6.30 p.m. sharp and conclude at 10.30 p.m. sharp.
- 6.1.2 All team players must be present by 7.15 p.m. otherwise they shall forfeit their singles and then doubles if not present by 7.45 p.m.

### **6.2 Saturday morning matches (all divisions)**

- 6.2.1 All matches will commence at 8.15 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. sharp and conclude at 10.30 a.m. and 12.45 p.m. respectively, on completion of any game in progress.
- 6.2.2 A team unable to commence two single sets at 8.15 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. shall forfeit two singles.
- 6.2.3 A Team unable to begin the remaining singles by 8.45 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. shall forfeit the match.

### **6.3 Division 1 Only**

- 6.3.1 Doubles matches shall be played prior to singles where possible.
- 6.3.2 Singles rubbers shall be the Best of Two (6 game sets – a tie break at 6 all) with a 10 point (super) tie break.  
e.g. if one set all, a ten point tie break is played to determine a result – Peter d. John 6/4, 2/6, (10/4: first to ten by a margin of two, which is recorded as 7/6).
- 6.3.3 Doubles rubbers shall consist of 9 game sets, with a tie breaker (first to 7 by a margin of 2) at 8 games all. Written as 1 x Rubber, 1 x set.

### **Other Divisions**

- 6.3.2 A match shall consist of **4 singles and 2 doubles (6 game sets)** with a tie break to be played at 5 games all.  
 Excluding the:  
 Green Ball , which will play a **straight 6 game set of doubles and singles.**  
 Orange Ball which will play a straight 4 game set of doubles and singles.
- 6.4.2 Singles matches to be played before doubles where possible in all matches played including Finals.
- 6.4 A Maximum of 3 minute hit up for singles and maximum of 3 minutes hit up Doubles will be strictly adhered to.**
- 6.5 The number of programmed courts for the minor round for singles in all Divisions is a minimum of 2 courts.**
- 6.7 Every effort is to be made to avoid byes in all divisions.**

### **7. MATCH SCORE SHEET:**

- 7.1 The match team sheet shall be filled in by the team captains or supervisors before the match commences.
- 7.2 At the conclusion of a match, the match team sheet shall be signed by both captains and supervisors
- 7.3 The sheets in duplicate must be submitted by each club and received by the Junior Recording Secretary not later than 6.00 p.m. on the Tuesday following the match.  
 Team Score Sheets for the last minor round and all finals matches must be received no later than 6.00 p.m. on the Sunday following the match.
- 7.4 The winning team shall record the match result on the ResultsVault program no later than 7 pm on the Monday immediately following the Saturday competition match- except for finals.

The losing team shall confirm the match result on the ResultsVault program no later than 9 pm on the Tuesday immediately following the Saturday competition match.

Penalty: Any team not complying with Clause 7.4 shall forfeit the match. This penalty shall not be enforced until the season after its introduction.

**8. TENNIS BALLS:**

- 8.1 Balls and court size for the lower divisions shall be determined at grading.
- 8.2 EACH **Division 1** Boys and Girls team shall provide 4 new balls for each match, including Finals.
- 8.3 EACH **Division 2** Boys shall provide 2 new tennis balls for each match, including Finals.
- 8.4 EACH **other division** in minor rounds shall provide 2 good tennis balls (ie with some brand on them) for the match including finals.

**9. DRESS CODE:**

Players must present themselves for play in clean and customarily acceptable tennis attire.

**10. PREMIERSHIP POINTS:**

- 10.1 4 Premiership points shall be awarded for a win and 2 point for a draw. In addition 1 point shall be given for each set won.

**10.1.1 Division 1**

10.1.1.1 The team winning the most rubbers will win the match, if rubbers equal the team winning the most sets, if sets equal the team winning the most games.

10.1.1.2 Incomplete matches during the minor round due to 10.30p.m. lights out, the score at completion of play on the night will be the final score.

- 10.2 **Division 1** – a team receiving a forfeit shall be awarded 14 points, 6 rubbers, 10 sets, 66 games.
- 10.3 **Other Divisions** – a team receiving a forfeit shall be awarded 10 points, 6 sets, 36 games.

**11. DISPUTES:**

- 11.1 No player shall act in a manner calculated or likely to give offence to any person or likely to reflect adversely on the Association.  
Such person(s) may be reported to Junior Match Committee of the Association who may deal with the matter as they see fit.
- 11.2 All disputes arising from match play or match rules must be submitted in writing via a Junior Manager to the Association Secretary by 9.00p.m. of the Monday following the match concerned.

## 12. SUPERVISORS:

- 12.1 Each Club shall appoint an adult or responsible person to supervise each home match venue.  
The Venue Supervisor shall have the powers of a referee when a referee is needed.
- 12.2 **All teams must** be supervised by an adult who will remain with the team and assist with the umpiring as required. **(i.e. – NO supervising from cars or club rooms).**
- 12.3 If an umpire is appointed by the supervisor they should not be a parent of any player involved in the set being played.
- 12.4 During the conduct of a match, only supervisors and players shall be permitted inside the playing area.
- 12.4.1 Venue Supervisors will adjudicate on all matters of play including weather conditions, tennis attire, player conduct and disputes.
- 12.5 Team supervisors and venue supervisors only, may offer coaching advice to players in the green and orange ball divisions. and only during minor round matches.

**PENALTY: If a team supervisor is not present within 15minutes of commencement of play, the match will be forfeited and the opposing team awarded all points. Children are not permitted on court without a team supervisor.**

## 13. HOT WEATHER

- 13.1 **Friday night matches:** In the event of the weather being forecast at 38°C or more on Thursday night, on the Bureau of Meteorology website after 6pm, for Noarlunga, the round of matches will be cancelled.
- 13.2 **Saturday morning matches:** In the event of the weather being forecast at 36°C or more on Friday night, on the Bureau of Meteorology website after 6pm, for Noarlunga, the round of matches will be cancelled.

**14. INCLEMENT WEATHER and INCOMPLETE MATCHES**

- 14.1 In the case of an unfinished match from any minor round a team will be awarded the win, **IF** it is in an unbeatable position.  
If a decision is not reached then each team will be awarded 2 points each plus a point for each set won.
- 14.2 Where more than 50% of matches in any division are undecided the complete round of matches in that division shall be cancelled and no points allocated. In accordance with the Result Vault Rules, the Junior Recording Secretary will administer that round to reflect the incomplete and abandoned matches.
- 14.3 The **Junior Weather Committee** may cancel matches in the case of inclement weather.  
Friday night – Weather committee may elect to shorten matches and change start times.
- 14.4 All matches shall be played as scheduled unless cancelled as in Clause 13 (13.1 or 13.2) or by agreement of responsible persons at the court locations.  
**TEAMS MUST REMAIN AT COURTS FOR AT LEAST 30 MINUTES BEFORE CANCELLATION IS MADE.**
- 14.5 Each team may submit their results sheet listing players in which case, the match will count for finals qualification for each player correctly listed.

**15. FINALS:**

- 15.1 No player may participate in the Final series for any division unless he/she has played a combined total of four or more matches in that division or in a lower division, for the same club, excepting the bottom Division where they must have played 3 matches.
- 15.2 No player who has played more than two thirds of the programmed minor round matches in one division may participate in any finals series match in any lower division.
- 15.3 No player who plays in any finals series match in any division may subsequently play in finals series match in a lower division unless required to do so because of unavailability of player or players returning from unavailability.
- 15.4 When 5 players make up a team, the 5<sup>th</sup> player is allowed at the discretion of the club, to play the second double or the 4<sup>th</sup> single in any finals match.  
To play a 5 person team in the Finals the same 5 person team must have played a minimum of 3 matches.

- 15.5 Each club competing in a finals match shall submit a list of all eligible players in teams in correct order of merit for singles play to the Junior Recording Secretary by 6.00 p.m. on the Sunday preceding the first finals match.
- 15.6 Any club playing players in position other than approved shall forfeit the match (all sets) involved.

15.7.1 **Friday night matches** – All Finals Matches will commence at 6.30 p.m. sharp on Friday night and be concluded by 10.30 p.m. All team players must be present by 7.15 p.m., otherwise they shall forfeit their doubles and then singles if not present by 7.45 p.m.

15.7.2 **Saturday morning matches** – Finals Matches will commence at 8.30 a.m. and be concluded by 12.45 p.m. sharp. All team players must be present by 9.30 a.m., otherwise they shall forfeit their singles and doubles.

15.7.3 **Matches to be played:**

**All Divisions** – Single matches shall be played prior to doubles where possible and singles to be played in reverse order where possible (e.g. played 4,3,2,1)

**Division 1 only** – 4 Singles rubbers shall be the Best of Two (6 game sets – a tie break at 6 all) with a 10 point (super) tie break.

e.g.: if one set all, a ten point tie break is played to determine a result  
- Peter d. John 6/4, 2/6, (10/4; first to ten by a margin of two, which is recorded as 7/6).

Doubles rubbers shall consist of 9 game sets, with a tie breaker (first to 7 by a margin of 2) at 8 games all. Written as 1 x Rubber, 1 x set.

**All Other Divisions** – A match shall consist of 4 singles and 2 doubles (6 game sets) with a tie break to be played at 5 games all.

Excluding the:

Green ball, which will play a straight 6 game set of both doubles and singles.

Orange Balls will play 4 game sets of both doubles and singles.

- 15.7.4 In the event of an unfinished match with no result or cancellation due to Hot Weather Clause 13 it should be finished on the following Sunday with the same players and venue.

Where a finals match cannot be completed due to inclement or hot weather on the Sunday immediately following the scheduled match the round shall be completed on the following weekend.

Where the Grand Final cannot be completed the premiership shall be awarded to the highest placed team to qualify to play in the Grand final, ie if the second semi final is played and the preliminary final is cancelled

then the winner of the second semi-final would be the highest placed team to qualify for the grand final.

15.7.5 **IN ALL FINALS** if drawn, then the **4 singles players will play a tie-breaker** and then if no result achieved, **both doubles will play a tie-breaker.**

The winner will be the team with the **most ties won**, if equal then the **most points won. If teams are still equal** then the **tie-breakers** (singles and doubles) will be repeated until a **result is achieved.**

15.8 **IF** teams have equal number of premiership points at the conclusion of the minor round, the team which has been awarded the most points for wins and draws shall finish the highest.

**IF points** are still equal, the team with the least number of sets lost shall finish highest.

**IF points** are still equal, the team with the highest number of games shall finish the highest.

**IF points** and games are equal a play off shall decide the position.

15.8.1 Where a division has teams which have been re-graded, teams withdrawn or teams added, the finals positions shall be decided by dividing the premiership points by the number of matches played in the division they have been re-graded to.

15.9 **The finals round shall be played**

1. First Semi Final – The third team shall play the fourth team.
2. Second Semi final – The first team shall play the second team.
3. Preliminary Final – The loser of 2 shall play the winner of the 1
4. Grand Final – The winner of 2 shall play the winner of 3