



**AYC TENNIS  
ASSOCIATION  
Pennant Rules  
2016/ 2017**

## **PART 1 -PRELIMINARY**

1. These rules are to be known as the Rules of the AYC Tennis Association

### **Interpretation**

2. In these rules –

**Annual General Meeting** means the Annual General Meeting of the Association;

**Annual Grading List** means the Annual Grading List referred to in rule 9;

**Annual Report** means the Annual Report of the Association;

**Appeal** means an appeal to the Tournament Committee against a decision of the Executive Committee or the Tournament Committee;

**Association** means the AYC Tennis Association;

**A Y C grading** means a current grading assigned to a player by the Association as specified in-

(a) the Annual Grading List; or

(b) the roster book; or

(c) advice to captains;

**Captain** means a captain of a team;

**Championships** means the championships conducted by the Association in accordance with rule 40;

**Club** means one or more teams registered under the same name;

**Club Administrator**, means the person nominated by the Club to enter results of home matches into scoring system nominated by AYC Committee.

**Compulsory Grading Session** means a compulsory grading session conducted in accordance with rule 8(2)

**Delegates Meeting** means a Delegates Meeting held under rule 11;

**Division** means a division of the current pennant

**Division Administrator**, means the person nominated by the Association to manage one or more divisions.

**Emergency player** means a person who plays a match for a team in respect of which the person is not a nominated player.

**Executive Committee** means the Executive Committee elected under rule 7(1)(a);

**Finals Match** includes a semifinal match, a preliminary final match or a grand final Match

**First Mixed Doubles Set** means the set in which the mixed doubles pair with the lowest ITN total according to graded Value's plays

**Home Team** means the team on whose courts a match is played;

**Home Night** means the night specified in the roster book as the night on which a team is a home team;

**Nominated Player** means a person whose nomination for a particular team has been accepted by the Association

**Nominated team** means the particular team for which a nominated player plays

**Pennant** means the series of rostered matches and finals matches conducted by the Association in any year;

**Player** means

(a) a nominated player; (b) an emergency player; or (c) a substitute player:

**Playing Position** means a playing position determined in accordance with rule 19(1);

**Provisional Grading** means a grading assigned to a player nominating for a pennant whose grade;

(a) does not appear in the Annual Grading List for that pennant

(b) was not assigned as a result of a grading session for the current pennant.

(c) is not listed as a correction to or omission from the Annual Grading List in the current roster book,

Any provisional grade will be confirmed or adjusted within the first half of the roster.

**Registered** means registered with the Association;

**Roster** means the roster of matches drawn up by the Association for a pennant;

**Round** means a round of rostered matches in which each team in a division plays each other team once;

**Second Mixed Doubles Set"** means the set in which the mixed doubles pair with the second lowest ITN total according to graded values plays;

**Secretary** means the Secretary of the Association;

**Substitute Player** means a player who replaces an injured player in the course of a match, following the injury of that player in that match;

**Team** means a team registered in a pennant;

**Third Mixed Doubles Set** means the set in which the mixed doubles pair with the third lowest ITN total according to graded values plays

**Tie-break Game** means a tie-break game played in accordance with rules 22 and 23;

**Tournament Committee** means the Tournament Committee elected under rule 8(1) (a).

Unless varied by these rules, the rules of tennis issued by Tennis Australia apply.

**Web Site** means the web site ([www.tennis.com.au/ayc](http://www.tennis.com.au/ayc)) in which the roster is published.

## **PART 2 -THE ASSOCIATION**

### **Affiliation**

3. The Association is to be affiliated with the Tennis Tasmania.

### **Membership**

4. Membership of the Association is open to any person approved by the Association.

### **Annual General Meeting**

5. The Association is to hold an Annual General Meeting not later than 1 July in any year, unless otherwise determined by the Executive Committee.

### **Annual Report**

6. The Annual Report is to be presented at the Annual General Meeting

### **Executive Committee**

7. (1) The Executive Committee is to -

- (a) be elected at the Annual General Meeting; and
- (b) consist of the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

(2) The members of the Executive Committee are ex-officio members of all committees of the Association.

(3) Any decision of the Executive Committee is binding, subject to a successful appeal.

### **Tournament Committee**

8. (1) A Tournament Committee is to -

- (a) be elected at the Annual General Meeting; and
- (b) consist of at least 5 members
- (c) **consist of the number of members decided by the Annual General Meeting**

(2) The Tournament Committee is responsible for the following

- (a) The organization of the pennant and championships
- (b) AYC Gradings
- (c) The conduct of a compulsory grading session or sessions before a pennant begins for all players who, do not have AYC Grading, and intend to play in that pennant
- (d) The grading of teams into divisions
- (e) The prompt advice to clubs and captains of AYC gradings
- (f) The conduct and determination of appeals
- (g) The hearing of complaints
- (h) The discipline of players

(3) The Tournament Committee may fill any casual vacancy that occurs in its membership after the Annual General Meeting is held.

(4) The Tournament Committee may appoint any member of the Association to hold office for the balance of the term.

(5) Any decision of the Tournament Committee is binding, subject to a successful appeal.

### **AYC gradings**

9. (1) The Association is to publish AYC grading
  - (a) Before a pennant begins in,
    - (i) the Annual Grading list, and
    - (ii) the web site and
  - (b) if necessary, during a pennant, in written advice to captains.
- (2) The Association is to provide each captain with a copy of the Annual Grading List.

### **Other committees**

10. A Social Committee or any other committee may be elected at-
  - (a) the Annual General Meeting; or
  - (b) a Delegates Meeting.

### **Delegates**

11. (1) The captain of any team, or a player nominated by the captain, is the delegate of that team.
- (2) The Executive Committee may require all delegates to attend a Delegates Meeting at any time the Executive Committee decides.

### **Amendment of rules**

12. (1) An amendment to these rules may only be made at
  - (a) an Annual General Meeting; or
  - (b) a Delegates Meeting called for that purpose.
- (2) At least 7 days before an Annual General Meeting or a Delegates Meeting is to be held, notice of any motion to amend these rules is to be given to –
  - (a) all delegates; and
  - (b) all club secretaries.
- (3) If, as a result of any amendment made to these rules, the Executive Committee considers it necessary, to ensure uniformity of purpose, to renumber these rules or to make any consequential amendments to these rules, the Executive Committee may make those amendments.
- (4) The Executive Committee is to advise captains in writing of any renumbering of, or consequential amendment to these rules under sub rule (3).
- (5) Amendment of Division Limits may be amended by the Tournament Committee.

## **PART 3 -REGISTRATION OF TEAMS**

### **Registration**

13. Any team that wishes to register in a pennant must send to the Association, before any date determined at the **Annual General Meeting –**
  - (a) **an application to register the team** consisting of the required number of players, a preferred home night, an alternate home night.”; **and**
  - (b) the registration fee as determined at the Annual General Meeting

### **Teams**

14. (1) A team must consist of at least 4 players. Gender requirements may be specified for particular divisions which will be decided by the Tournament Committee and communicated to Club representatives by a date specified by the Tournament Committee.
- (2) A team must not consist of more than 2 nominated players under the age of 18 years, without the consent of the Tournament Committee
- (3) In special circumstances the Association may allow or require female players to play as males and male players to play as females
- (4) All divisions will have 4 player teams with the committee having the flexibility to have non gender specific teams.

### Nominated Players

15. (1) A nominated player may play rostered matches for a team of any division subject to Division Limits. A nominated player can fill in in finals for a team of any division other than the division in which his or her nominated team plays, subject to Division Limits and rule 33.
- (2) Subject to Division Limits, within the first 4 weeks of a pennant, -
  - (a) a nominated player may apply to the Association to transfer his or her nomination to another team; and
  - (b) a club may apply to the Association to substitute any nominated player.

### Emergency players

16. (1) Subject to Division Limits, an emergency player may play for any team in any division.
- (2) An emergency player who has played in 6 or more matches for a particular team in any division is ineligible to play for any other team in that division.
- (3) A team playing an emergency player who has played in 6 or more matches for another team in the same division forfeits any set or sets involved.
- (4) If an emergency player does not have an A YC grading, that player assumes the grade of nominated player they are replacing on each occasion they play until written advice of an AYC grade is sent to team Captains.

## PART 4- ROSTERED MATCHES

### Team list

- 17 (1) A team playing in any match -
  - (a) Must consist of the number of players required by the Association; and
  - (b) must not consist of more than 2 players under the age of 18 years, unless otherwise approved by the Tournament Committee
- (2) The captains are to enter the names of players on the score sheet before the match begins, and can only be changed with mutual consent of the captains.
- (3) The name and grade of any emergency player or substitute player is to be entered on the score sheet
- (4) **The Christian name of each player is to be used at least once on the score sheet.**
- (5) A team playing players whose combined graded values are less than the minimum value for the division as specified in Division Limits forfeits the match.
- (6) A team playing a player with an A YC grading below that permitted for the division as specified in Division forfeits the match.
- (7) When a team has less than required **number of** players, then the match continues subject to the following,
  - (a) Playing position and order of play for the remaining players will be determined by Rule 18 & 23 respectively.
  - (b) Rule 24 Commencement of Play, will determine which sets are forfeited.
  - (c) Either due to an appeal by the opposing team, or at the discretion of the Committee on receipt of the scoresheet the committee may forfeit further sets against the team with insufficient players if, in the opinion of the committee, unfair advantage has been gained by the team with less than **the required number of** players.
  - (d) A team that, on three or more occasions fields less than **the number of** players required by Rule 17(1), may be excluded from the pennant by the Tournament Committee.

### Playing position

18. (1) Players are to play in the following playing positions:
  - (a) In men's or ladies doubles sets, the lowest possible graded combination of players according to ITN is to play in the highest position specified on the score sheet;
  - (b) In mixed doubles, the pair with the lowest total according to ITN must play in the highest position.
  - (c) Players names must be entered on the score sheet before the match begins with the homeside entering their teams first.
- (2) A team playing any player in an incorrect playing position forfeits the set or sets involved.

### Effect of regrading

19. (1) A nominated player who is assigned a new AYC grading during a pennant assumes the new AYC grading only for matches played other than with his or her nominated team if the AYC grading previously assigned to that nominated player.
- (a) appears in the Annual Grading List; or
  - (b) was assigned as a result of a compulsory grading session.
  - (c) is a provisional grade, which has been confirmed in advice to Captains
- (2) A nominated player who is assigned a new A YC grading during a pennant assumes that grading for all subsequent matches in that pennant if the AYC grading previously assigned to that nominated player
- (a) does not appear in the Annual Grading List; or
  - (b) was not assigned as a result of a compulsory grading session. .
  - (c) is a provisional grade, which has not been confirmed in advice to Captains

### Sets

20. (1) A match is to consist of either 9 sets comprising
- (a) 3 mixed sets; (b) 3 ladies sets and (c) 3 men's sets or
  - 6 sets comprising
  - (d) 3 sets of doubles
- (2) Each player in a 9 set match is to participate in-
- (a) 1 mixed doubles set; and
  - (b) 2 ladies' doubles sets or 2 men's doubles sets
- (3) In a 9 set match the same two players may only play together in 1 set, in a 6 set gender based match the players will play in 1 mixed set and a 2 set gender based doubles. In a 6 set non-gender based match, the players will play 1 set with each player – no two players will play together twice.
- (4) A set is won when the first pair reaches 6 games with a 2 game advantage
- (5) If the score in a set reaches 5 games all, the set is won by-
- (a) the pair that wins the next 2 games; or
  - (b) if the score reaches 6 games all, the pair that wins the tie-break game
- (6) In a 4 player gender based division, a 10 point tie breaker will be played at a set each.

### Procedures for tie-break game

21. (1) The player whose turn it is to serve serves for the first point in a tie-break game, delivering the serve from the right court
- (2) After the first service, according to the order the players served previously in the set, each player serves for 2 consecutive points, beginning from the left court.
21. (3) Players change ends after every 6 points.
22. (1) Numerical scoring is used in a tie-break game.
- (2) A tie-break game is won by the team that first wins 7 points, provided that the team leads by a margin of 2 points.
- (3) If the score reaches 6 all in a tie-break game, the game is extended until a team leads by a margin of 2 points.
- (4) The tie-break game counts as one game.
- (5) The team that wins the tie-break game wins the set.

### Order of play

- 23 (1) Sets are to be played in the following order for 6 player teams:
- (a) first mixed doubles set
  - (b) second mixed doubles set
  - (c) third mixed doubles set where required;
  - (d) first & second ladies' doubles set
  - (e) first & second mens doubles set;
  - (f) first & third ladies' doubles set where required;
  - (g) first & third men's doubles set where required;

- (h) second & third ladies' doubles set where required;
- (i) second & third men's doubles set where required;

(2) Sets are to be played in the following order for 4 player gender based divisions (2 males / 2 females):

- (a) mixed doubles set
- (b) ladies doubles
- (c) mens doubles

(ii) Procedures for a 10 Point Tie Break Game

- (1) Numerical scoring is used in a 10 point tie-break game.
- (2) A 10 point tie-break game is won by the team that first wins 10 points, provided that the team leads by a margin of 2 points.
- (3) The 10 point tie-break game decides the winner of that rubber.

(3) Sets are to be played in the following order for 4 player non gender (line based) divisions:

- (a) Lines 1 & 2
- (b) Lines 3 & 4
- (c) Lines 1 & 3
- (d) Lines 2 & 4
- (e) Lines 1 & 4
- (f) Lines 2 & 3

(4) Captains may consent to a variation in the order of play.

(5) The second and subsequent sets in any match are to begin within 10 minutes of the previous set finishing.

#### **Commencement of play**

- 24 (1) The first set of a match is to commence at 7.30 pm.
- (2) A captain may require the opposing team to forfeit the first set of a match if the opposing team is unable to commence that set by 7.30 pm.
- (3) A captain may require a team to forfeit any subsequent set if that team does not have the appropriate pair available for play 10 minutes after the previous set finishes.
- (4) Any player who is not available to play in any match by 8.00pm is ineligible to compete in that match, unless prior agreement between captains has been reached.
- (5) If a match is not played in accordance with the roster, neither team receives any points.
- (6) All players to be in attendance by 7.15pm unless prior arrangement between captains has been reached.

#### **Injuries**

- 25 (1) If a player is injured during a set and is unable to continue playing, the set is forfeited.
- (2) A substitute player of the same grade as, or lower than, the injured player may be used for the remaining sets.
- (3) If an injured player completes the set during which the player was injured, but is unable to play in any **remaining sets, the next set in which he or she would have played must be forfeited.**
- (4) A substitute player must be available within 30 minutes of play ceasing due to an injury, otherwise the remaining sets in which the injured player would have played must be forfeited.
- (5) A substitute player takes the playing position of the injured player, regardless of the grade of the substitute player.

#### **Inclement weather**

- 26. (1) Before the first set begins, captains may agree to cancel a match due to inclement weather.
- (2) If a match is cancelled, points are shared equally.
- (3) If captains do not agree to cancel a match, the match may be abandoned at the request of either captain if the first set has not begun by 8.00 pm.
- (4) If a match is abandoned, points are shared equally.
- (5) If the match has begun and play is interrupted due to inclement weather, play must recommence within 30 minutes or the match may be abandoned at the request of either captain and the remaining points share equally.

## Umpiring

27. (1) Captains may agree that a match is not to be umpired.
- (2) If a match is umpired, teams are to umpire alternate sets in accordance with rules 1 to 40 of the rules of tennis issued by Tennis Australia.
- (3) If a match is not umpired, rules 1 to 3 of Tennis Etiquette & Rules for Non Umpired Matches as issued by Tennis Australia apply.
- (4) If there is a dispute about rules of tennis or court etiquette of non umpired matches, players should refer to written copy of the rules issued by Tennis Australia. All Clubs will be required to have a copy of the rules available at their courts.
- (5) Before the finals commence, captains may contact the Secretary to request that independent umpires be provided for any finals match .
- (6) The Association may require participating teams to pay the cost of providing independent umpires for a finals match.

## Points score

28. (1) The Committee will
  - (a) Determine the scoring system at the commencement of each pennant.
  - (b) Publish on the website and notify and send to club delegates prior to the season commencement.
- (2) (a) A team having a bye receives half the available points.

## Score sheets

- 29 (1) Score sheets provided by the Association are the only official record of a match.
- (2) Captains are to ensure that a match has been played in accordance with these rules before signing the score sheet for that match
- (3) The captain of the home team is responsible for –
  - (a) Ensuring the Club Administrator receives score sheet by the Friday following the match,
  - (b) Checking results on scoring system nominated by AYC Committee and notify the Division Administrator within 3 weeks if any alterations need to be made.
- (4) The Club Administrator is responsible for entering scores of all the home team's results on scoring system nominated by AYC Committee by 4pm on the Sunday after the match.
- (5) The Divisional Administrator is responsible for;
  - (a) Checking results entered by Club Administrator's
  - (b) Recording a washout for any match not entered by 6pm on Sunday following match.
  - (c) Checking and adjusting any results which are disputed within 3 weeks and emailing team captains involved

## Forfeiture

- 30 (1) A team winning a match on a forfeit receives all available points.
- (2) A team forfeiting a match on 3 or more occasions may be excluded from the pennant by the Tournament Committee.
- (3) If a team is excluded from the pennant, all points received by opposing teams in matches against that team **in the rounds in which the forfeits took place are forfeited.**
- (4) A team winning a set on a forfeit receives all available points for that set.
- (5) A team forfeiting a set under these rules does not receive any points for that set.
- (6) A team unable to complete a set due to retirement / injury shall receive points available for games completed.

## Appeals

- 31 (1) An appeal against a decision of the Executive Committee or an initial decision of the Tournament Committee in relation to loss of points, forfeiture, AYC Grading or any other matter is to be referred to the Tournament Committee for hearing.
- 31 (2) An appeal is not to be heard unless notice of the appeal is received by the Secretary within 48 hours after the person bringing the appeal is notified of the decision appealed against.

## Complaints

- 32 (1) A complaint relating to the misconduct of any player -



- (a) is to be referred to the Tournament Committee for hearing; and
  - (b) is not to be heard unless it is received by the Secretary within 48 hours of the conduct occurring.
- (2) On the proving of a complaint, the Tournament Committee, having regard to the seriousness of the offence, may suspend or expel a player for misconduct for a period determined by that Committee.

## **PART 5- FINALS**

### **Players in finals matches**

- 33 (1) A player who has played in less than 6 matches in the current roster is ineligible to compete in any final matches unless approved by the Tournament Committee.
- (2) Any player with an AYC grading may play as a substitute player or an emergency player in a finals match with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- (3) An emergency player in a finals match will be approved if;
- (i) Players having participated in more than 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the possible rostered matches will be approved as replacement players in finals matches while they continue to fit with the grade and points limit the particular division.
  - (ii) Players having participated in more than half of the possible rostered matches will be replacement players in finals matches if they are the same grade as the nominated member.
- (4) A player who has played for a particular team on 6 or more occasions, is ineligible to play for any other team in the same division in a finals match
- (5) Players having participated in less than 4 matches in current season will not be permitted to play in the finals.
- (6) In exceptional circumstances the "Executive Committee" has the discretion to make a decision outside these guidelines.
- (7) A nominated player in a team who qualifies to play as in rule 33 (1) cannot fill in for the same or lower division than they are nominated in.

### **Postponement of finals matches**

34. (1) If a finals match is postponed before play begins, a team may issue a revised team list for the rescheduled match.
- (2) If a finals match is postponed during play due to inclement weather, a captain may issue a revised team list for the balance of the match.
- (3) Any additional emergency player required for a finals match that has been postponed-
- (a) must not have a higher AYC grading than the player being replaced; and
  - (b) must be approved by the Executive Committee.
- (4) A postponed finals match is to be played in the week following the postponed match in accordance with Rule 35

### **Where and when finals matches are to be held**

35. (1) A finals match is to be played on the home court and on the home night of whichever team finished higher in the pennant
- (2) If, in the semifinal, the team that finished second in the pennant beats the team that finished first in the pennant, the grand final is to be played at the home court, and on the home night, of the team that finished second in the pennant.
- (3) If both teams agree, a finals match may be played on another night in the same week.

### **When scores are drawn in a final**

36. (1) If there is a draw on count back in a final then the winner is the team that finished highest on the ladder.

## **PART 6- MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Balls**

- 36 Tin of new balls, of a brand approved by Tennis Australia, is to be provided by home team in any match.

### **Light fees**

- 37 (1) The home team for any match other than a finals match is to pay the light fees for that match
- (2) Light fees for finals matches are to be shared by the participating teams.

### **Alternative competition**

- 38 (1) If, in any year, the Tournament Committee is unable to organise a pennant, it may organise an alternative form of

competition for that year.

- (2) The Committee is to determine the rules that are to apply to an alternative form of competition.
- (3) Any rules determined by the Committee are to be consistent with these rules.

### **Championships**

- 39 (1) Championships -
- (a) are to be held as determined by the Tournament Committee; and
  - (b) are open to any player who has an AYC grading.
- (2) A match is won by the first player who reaches 31 points in a V ASSS Handicap match.
  - (3) The loser of any match in the championships is to umpire a match as directed by the Court Manager.

### **Footwear**

- 40 (1) All players are to wear correct tennis footwear.
- (2) The home team may exclude a player from a match due to incorrect footwear.
  - (3) If the home team excludes a player because of incorrect footwear -
    - (a) any sets that player was to be involved are to be abandoned; and
    - (b) neither team receives any points for those sets.

### **Easter holidays**

- 41 (1) Any captain whose team is scheduled to play in a finals match in the week following Easter Monday may request the Secretary to reschedule that match for the following week.
- (2) Any finals match scheduled for the week ending on Good Friday must be played in that week.

## Matches Played Without a Chair Umpire

Updated 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010



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

- i) Each player is responsible for all calls on his/her side of the net, however it should be noted that a Court Supervisor or Referee is permitted to reverse an incorrect line call. This reversal may be made by the official located within or outside the court enclosure. On the first occasion where this occurs the point will be replayed (regardless of whether it was point winning shot or not) and for subsequent incorrect calls the player loses the point.
- ii) 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.
- iii) All "out" or "fault" calls should be made promptly after the ball has bounced and loudly enough for the opponent to hear.
- iv) If in doubt, the player must give the benefit of the doubt to his/her opponent.
- v) If a player incorrectly calls a ball "out" and then realises 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.
- vi) A service "Let" may be called by either player/team.
- vii) 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.
- viii) The receiver must play to the reasonable pace of the server.
- ix) The server should call the score before each 1<sup>st</sup> serve, loudly enough for his/her opponent to hear.
- x) 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 applies 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.
- xi) 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.
- xii) Any hindrance caused by a player that is ruled deliberate by the relevant official will result in the loss of a point.
- xiii) Where a ball interrupts 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> serve, a second serve only should be played.
- xiv) In a situation where a ball is lying on the court at the commencement of the point it will be deemed to be part of the court during the rally. Movement of this ball during the rally does not constitute hindrance.

## Matches Played Without a Chair Umpire

Updated 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010



- xv) Players are entitled to request the opponent to remove the ball from the court prior to the commencement of the point.
- xvi) Players should only leave the court for a toilet break or any other reason with the permission of Referee/ Court Supervisor.
- xvii) If at the completion of a match, the players involved realise that the scoring format used is incorrect, the match result shall stand provided all players have left the court enclosure. If the mistake is realised before the players have left the enclosure, the correct scoring format should be used to finalise 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)
- xviii) Where a code violation second offence / Point Penalty is determined by the Referee or Court Supervisor this may be applied at anytime 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.
- xix) If a player is unhappy with his/her opponent's actions or decisions, he/she should call the Referee (or assistant) immediately. This may include any disputes regarding Lets, Foul Shots or Not Up situations where players cannot reach agreement.

### Matches played on Clay Courts

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

- i) 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).
- ii) 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.
- iii) If a player erases the mark, he/she is conceding the call.
- iv) If there is a disagreement over a ball mark, the Referee (or assistant) can be called to make a final decision.
- v) If a player calls a ball "out", he/she should, in normal circumstances, be able to show the mark.
- vi) If a player incorrectly calls a ball "out" and then realises that the ball was good, the player who called "out" loses the point.

Players who do not fairly follow these procedures could be subject to the Hindrance Rule and the Unsportsmanlike Conduct provision of the Code of Conduct. Any questions on these procedures should be referred to the Referee.

# *Matches Played Without a Chair Umpire*

## *Updated 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010*



### **Etiquette**

- i) When ball persons are not available, all balls on your side of the net are your responsibility, to pick up and, where appropriate, return directly to the server.
- ii) The receiver should not return the first service if it is an obvious fault – let it go by or ground it.
- iii) 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.
- iv) 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.
- v) Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
- vi) To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have completed a point.
- vii) Do not stall, sulk, complain or practice gamesmanship.
- viii) 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.
- ix) Overt celebration directed at an opponent may be considered intimidation, and therefore unsportsmanlike conduct.
- x) 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.