



2026 AUSTRALIAN CBC TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

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AUSTRALIAN CBC TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

Tennis Australia circulates these Australian CBC Tournament Regulations for the purpose of providing fair and reasonable rules for the orderly and uniform conduct of CBC Tournaments endorsed by Tennis Australia or the Member Association. These Regulations shall be applicable to all Australian CBC Tournaments that form part of the Competitive Play Calendar.

Any ambiguity or uncertainty in connection with these regulations shall be resolved by locating the relevant regulation(s) within the Australian Competitive Play Junior Regulations. Outside of this, Tennis Australia reserves the rights to interpret these regulations, when necessary, in order to resolve particular or unusual circumstances.

These regulations take effect from January 1, 2026, and may be varied from time to time by Tennis Australia. Any new or revised policy, rule, procedure, or regulation will be published on the Tennis Australia website (www.tennis.com.au) and/or notified to (a) tournament organisers and officials by email.

2. RULES TO BE OBSERVED

The following operating procedures for Australian CBC Tournaments are designed to raise the quality of tournament conduct throughout Australia. They provide parameters to ensure all tournaments endorsed by Tennis Australia or the Member Association are managed professionally and with uniformity across the country and in so doing provide the most optimally positive playing experience for players transitioning into tournament play within the Colour Ball environment.

All Australian CBC Tournaments must be conducted in accordance with, in their most current form the following procedures & regulations.

- The Uniform Tennis Anti-Corruption Program.
- The Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy.
- The Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour: Competitive Play.
- And any other policy, rule, procedure, or regulation of which Tennis Australia may notify the relevant club/centre/association from time to time.

In the event that these regulations do not cover a regulation / procedure related item at an Australian Competitive Play Junior Tournament, Referee/Venue Supervisors and/or Tournament Directors should refer to:

- The ITF Rules of Tennis via <https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/governance/rules-and-regulations/>
- The ITF Duties and Procedures via <https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/governance/rules-and-regulations/>
- Procedures for Matches Played without a Chair Umpire via (<http://www.tennis.com.au/doc/tennis-etiquette-and-rules-for-non-umpired-matches>)
- Tennis Australia Player Dress & Equipment Regulations: <https://www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2023-Player-Dress-Equipment-Regulations.pdf>
- Tennis Australia's Anti-Doping Policy via <http://www.tennis.com.au/about-tennis-australia/reports->

[and-policies/policies](#)

- Tennis Australia Extreme Weather Policy: [TA-Extreme-Weather-Policy-effective-13-Oct-2022.pdf](#)
- 2025 Australian Competitive Play Junior Regulations: <https://www.tennis.com.au/competitiveplay/regulations>

3. UNIVERSAL TENNIS RATING

Tennis Australia have partnered with Universal Tennis as the primary rating provider that will be used throughout all endorsed tournaments.

There is a Coloured Ball Rating that caters to red, orange and green ball players. Progression within a specific ball colour is contingent on match performance within that ball colour, and transitioning between ball colours is contingent on participation in matches for each specific ball colour. Note that if a player has played a yellow ball match that counts towards UTR Rating, their Coloured Ball Rating will not appear publicly, but it will continue to be calculated in the background.

Coloured Ball Rating shall be used for the purposes of seeding and acceptance lists (see point 9).

4. ENTRY RESTRICTIONS AND TIMELINES

Players and tournament directors should ensure players are entered into the correct ball type for their ability and Coloured Ball Rating. Players should only enter events that are one stage above their current Coloured Ball Rating (i.e. red ball rated player cannot enter a green ball event) unless it is signed off by the relevant Member Association.

For all Australian CBC Tournaments apart from Green Ball State Finals and Green Ball Nationals the entry deadline shall be no earlier than: 11:59pm (local time), ten (10) days prior to the first day of the tournament.

5. COURT AND EQUIPMENT SIZES

When delivering CBC Tournaments, deliverers must ensure they are utilizing the correct court size, net height and ball for competition. Additionally, players must be utilizing the correct racket size for that stage. Approved court dimensions, net heights, ball types and racket sizes can be found below:

Event	Court size	Net height	Ball	Maximum racket size
Red	10.97m long x 5.5m wide	75cm	Red ball (25% compression)	23 inches
Orange	Orange 1: 13m long x 5.5 m wide	75cm	Orange ball (50% compression)	25 inches
	Orange 2: 18.29m long x 6.4m wide	65cm		
Green	Green 1: 20m long x 7m wide	65cm	Green ball (75% compression)	26 inches
		Standard net height		

	Green 2: Traditional full size court (23.77m long x 8.23m wide)			
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Tournaments that are endorsed by the Member Association as being part of the Orange Ball Series (or relevant MA series) or the Green Ball Points Race (or relevant MA series) must use the Orange 2 or Green 2 court respectively. State and National based tournaments will also use these courts. Other tournaments can utilize either court.

Tournaments should aim to have an education focus when players have a racket that is too big for the relevant ball. Repeat offenders will be asked to provide a new racket. It is recommended that tournaments have a small supply of correct size rackets on hand.

6. ENTRIES AND DRAWS

6.1 ACCEPTANCE LIST

Each Australian CBC Tournament must produce a pre-event Acceptance List.

The acceptance list is designed to display the following:

- a. Players/teams accepted directly into the event based on the most recently available Coloured Ball Ratings, released weekly on a Tuesday
- b. Players/teams seeded based on the most recently available Coloured Ball Ratings, released weekly on a Tuesday (see point 8 for more details).
- c. Players/teams that have not been accepted into the event.
- d. Players/teams that have withdrawn from the event.

6.2 ENTRY FEES

The maximum entry fees that may be charged by a CBC Tournament is \$50 for singles and \$25 for doubles, outside of Green Ball State Finals and Green Ball Nationals. Fees must be collected by the Tournament Organiser prior to the start of the tournament. The Tournament Organiser should provide a receipt for fees if they are collected onsite.

These maximum entry fees are inclusive of any Member Association sanction fee that is required to be paid per player and also include any online processing fee charged by Stripe.

6.3 ENTRY FEE REFUNDS

The following entry fee refunds will be processed by the Tournament Organiser based on the following sliding scale:

Time of withdrawal	Refund required
Before withdrawal deadline	A full refund of the player entry fee
After the release of the draw	A refund of the player entry fee is not required
A player who is a 'No Show'	A refund of the player entry fee is not required
A player entering a doubles draw without a	A full refund of the players entry fee

doubles partner and has to withdraw due to a partner not being allocated	
Where a doubles partner can be found to replace a withdrawing partner, but the remaining player chooses not to play	A refund of the player entry fee is not required

All withdrawals must be submitted by the player in writing (via email) or via the player’s account in which they entered the tournament. Tournaments need not issue a refund if the withdrawal procedure is not followed.

Refunds less a \$10.00 administration fee must be issued if a draw is cancelled (due to weather or other extenuating reasons) before the completion of a player’s first match within that draw.

6.4 WITHDRAWALS

For all Australian CBC Tournaments apart from Green Ball State Finals and Green Ball Nationals the withdrawal deadline shall be no earlier than: 11:59pm (local time), five (5) days prior to the first day of the tournament. For Green Ball State Finals and Green Ball Nationals, the withdrawal deadline shall be no earlier than: 11.59pm (local time), seven (7) days prior to the first day of the tournament.

A player's first four (4) disciplinary points incurred for Late Withdrawal and/or Failure to Complete Match or Tournament violations in a twelve (12) month rolling period will not be included when calculating the accumulated disciplinary points total.

Before the withdrawal deadline: No penalty, withdrawal done through the player's account or in writing(via email)

After the withdrawal deadline: First violation will be a written warning from Tennis Australia/Member Association, regardless of reason. Any additional violations will attract two (2) disciplinary points (as outlined in the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour: Competitive Play).

If the Tournament Director is satisfied with the validity of the injury / illness onsite, then the withdrawal should be excused.

Withdrawal vs. No Show

A Withdrawal is received by the Tournament Director before the start of the relevant first match for that player at the tournament. A No Show applies when no valid withdrawal is received before the match is called to the court.

It is the player's responsibility to be aware of the correct withdrawal procedures.

For no shows in doubles it is essential to accurately record the actual player that does not appear, as the innocent partner will not receive demerit points. Also, it is necessary to complete this within the code violation function within Tournament Planner.

7. CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE

7.1 SINGLES

In determining acceptances of players for singles, players must be selected in accordance with the most recently available singles Coloured Ball Ratings (released weekly on a Tuesday) at the time of the Entry Deadline. Yellow Ball rating (i.e. standard UTR Rating) shall not be used in any way for acceptances.

If required, tournament providers will be given full Coloured Ball Ratings to sort players, these are not to be made public. If there is a tie, a chip draw shall be conducted to break the tie.

7.2 DOUBLES

Method will be as above, with priority as follows:

- Two players with a Coloured Ball Rating
- One player with a Coloured Ball Rating
- No player with a Coloured Ball Rating

If there is a tie, a chip draw shall be conducted to break the tie.

8. SEEDINGS

Seedings shall be optional at tournaments endorsed by the Member Association as being part of the Orange Ball Series (or relevant MA series) or the Green Ball Points Race (or relevant MA series). Seedings shall always be utilized at state and national tournaments. Seedings shall not be used at all other Coloured Ball tournaments.

Where they are used, they must be based on the Coloured Ball Rating. Yellow Ball rating (i.e. standard UTR Rating) shall not be used in any way for seedings.

If required, tournament providers will be given full Coloured Ball Ratings to seed players, these are not to be made public. If there is a tie, a chip draw shall be conducted to break the tie.

If seeds are used, the following guide should be utilized:

- 8 players / teams or less: 2 seeds
- 9 to 16 players / teams: 4 seeds
- 17 to 32 players / teams: 8 seeds
- 33 to 64 players: 16 seeds

The number of seeds required for a draw is different if undertaking a Round Robin draw. If utilizing seeds, two seeds are required for each Round Robin group.

9. SCORE FORMAT

Events must choose from the below scoring formats when delivering CBC Tournaments. It is recommended that Red Ball events choose from one of the quicker scoring formats to ensure a positive first experience without overburdening the young player. Similarly, multi-match formats such as a Round Robin, Monrad or Compass should utilize a shorter match format given that players are competing in multiple matches over the course of the tournament.

2 TB Sets + 10MTB = 2 Tie-Break Sets and 10 Point Match Tie-Break (Average 90 Minutes)

(Must be used for playoff matches in Green Ball State Finals and the Green Ball Nationals)

- Each match is played to the best of 3 sets - a player/team needs to win 2 sets to win the match.

- Each set is the first to 6 games. The first player/team who wins 6 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 6 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.
- If the score in a match is one set all, one tiebreak game is played to decide the match. This tiebreak game replaces the deciding final set. The player/team who first wins 10 points shall win the Match Tiebreak and the match, provided there is a margin of 2 points over the opponent(s).

2 Short Sets = 2 Short Sets and 10 Point Match Tie-Break (Average 60 Minutes)

- Each match is played to the best of 3 sets - a player/team needs to win 2 sets to win the match.
- Each Set is the first to 4 games, the first player/team who wins 4 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 4 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.
- If the score in a match is one set all, one tiebreak game is played to decide the match. This tiebreak game replaces the deciding final set. The player/team who first wins 10 points shall win the Match Tiebreak and the match, provided there is a margin of 2 points over the opponent(s).

1 TB Set = 1 Tie-Break Set (Average 40 Minutes)

(Must be used for Green Ball Points Race tournaments endorsed by the Member Association)

- Each match is 1 set - the player/team that win the set win the match.
- The set is the first to 6 games. The first player/team who wins 6 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 6 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.

1 Short Set = 1 Short Set (Average 25 Minutes)

(Must be used for Orange Ball Series tournaments endorsed by the Member Association)

- Each match is 1 set - the player/team that win the set win the match.
- The set is the first to 4 games. The first player/team who wins 4 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 4 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.

No advantage scoring can be utilised for a tournament if desired. If inclement weather or other scheduling conflicts occur, the Tournament Director, who will be the final authority in this matter, can change the scoring formats, when it becomes clear that such circumstances will prevent a tournament from being completed within the publicised dates.

10. DRAW TYPE

It is recommended that events employ a multi-match draw format for singles (i.e. Monrad, Compass or Round Robin) to ensure a positive first experience into playing tournaments, and ensure each player is not eliminated after playing one match.

If a Single Elimination draw type is used, Matchplay must be offered.

10.1 MONRAD

A monrad draw is a multi-match draw format whereby all players continue to play, win or lose through to a final finishing position.

10.2 COMPASS

A compass draw is divided into eight brackets, each bracket representing a point on a compass (i.e., North, South, North-East, etc.).

All players start in a main draw which is the East draw. A player simply moves into a new bracket when they lose a match.

- In Round 1, winning players stay in the East bracket and losing players move into the West.
- In Round 2, winning players in the East bracket stay in the East bracket, while losing players in the East bracket move into the North bracket. Similarly, winning players in the West bracket stay in the West bracket, while losing players in the West bracket move into the South bracket.
- This process continues in rounds 3 and 4 where losing players can be moved into the Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, or Southwest brackets.
- The champion of the East draw is the overall winner of the tournament, having remained undefeated throughout the tournament.

10.3 ROUND ROBIN

A round robin draw is a format where each player competes against every other player within their group.

Multiple round robin draws can be used in a group stage with winners of each group advancing to a single elimination draw. Below are some suggested guidelines for the creation of a round robin draw:

- There should be no pools with less than three (3) players, and no more than six (6) players
- There must be an even number of pools
- Only winners of pool groups should move to any single elimination rounds
- For six (6) or less players, a one (1) pool format should be used. If one pool is used, there should be no additional single elimination draw. I.e. the winner of the pool is to be declared the winner of the event, without a final being played.

10.4 SINGLE ELIMINATION

A single elimination or knockout draw is a type of elimination format where the loser of each match is immediately eliminated from the draw.

Players have the option to sign in for the additional Match Play draw. Match Play can consist of either single elimination or round robin draws.

11 REGISTRATION

For all 2025 Australian CBC Tournaments, it is a mandatory requirement for all entries to be submitted online via the official tournament entry system available for each tournament at <http://tournaments.tennis.com.au>. Any entries that are received by tournaments outside of the online entry system must not be accepted.

All players entering Australian Competitive Play Junior Tournaments agree, as a condition of their entry, to complete their Competitive Player Profile, to accept the related terms and conditions and pay any appropriate fee and hence become a member of an affiliated tennis club or member association.

12 CONDITIONS OF PLAY

12.1 WARM-UPS

Immediately prior to a match, the players are entitled to a warm-up period not exceeding five (5) minutes.

12.2 REST BREAKS

Whenever it is necessary to schedule more than one match in the same day such player shall be given the following minimum rest periods:

- Matches lasting less than 1 hour = 15 minutes rest
- Matches lasting between 1 to 2 hrs = 30 minutes rest
- Matches lasting between 2 to 3 hours = 1 hour rest
- Matches lasting more than 3 hours = 1½ hour rest

Where the Extreme Heat Policy has been invoked, the suggested minimum rest periods should be extended within reason in conjunction with using shortened match formats.

13 GREEN BALL NATIONALS

The Green Ball Nationals event will be held November 16-20 2026, and provides a pathway for players competing in Green Ball Points Race tournaments and the Green Ball Series to progress to a National carnival event. The invitation-only event is open for players 10 and under as of 30 November 2026, and will consist of 32 boys and 32 girls. Spots available for each state are below:

MA	Spots for Points Race	Spots for State Finals Winner (or next highest ranked athlete)
ACT	1	1
New South	5	1

Wales		
Northern Territory	1	1
Queensland	5	1
South Australia	2	1
Tasmania	1	1
Victoria	5	1
Western Australia	2	1
Wildcards*	2	

If the State Finals winner already has a spot in the event, the next best performing athlete at the State Finals that hasn't yet gotten a spot shall be awarded the position.

The four Wildcards will be decided upon by the Talent Development team at Tennis Australia. To be eligible, players must have participated within their local Green Ball Points Race and Green Ball State Finals, unless extenuating circumstances apply i.e. a long term injury. All awarded Wildcards are final.

The Green Ball Points Race will be administered by each Member Association accordingly. For more details on how to qualify, please contact the relevant Member Association as provided below.

14 CONTACTS

Any questions concerning these Regulations can be addressed to Tennis Australia at:

Competitive Play Team

Tennis Australia

Private Bag 6060

Richmond, Victoria, 3121

Email: tournaments@tennis.com.au

Any questions concerning the conduct of tournaments can also be addressed to the relevant Member Association:

	Contact Name	Contact Email
Tennis ACT	Brittany Hughes Skye Davis	acttournaments@tennis.com.au
Tennis NSW	Shaun Mulraney Rick Lavers (Officiating for NSW and ACT)	nswtournaments@tennis.com.au rick.lavers@tennis.com.au
Tennis NT	Sam Giess Emily Ooms-Webb	tournamentsnt@tennis.com.au
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Tennis acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, rest and play, and pay our respect to Elders past and present.