## Tennis NSW

## Sydney Badge Competition

 Rule BookBy submitting an entry, you agree to abide by the terms and conditions as set out in the 2020 Sydney Badge Competition Rules and 2020 Sydney Badge Fact Sheets.

## Contents

1. Objectives 2
2. General 2
3. Badge Competition 2
4. Team Entry 2
5. Team Composition 3
6. Reserve Players 3
7. Unregistered Players 4
8. Grading 4
9. Grading Appeals 4
10. Match Format 5
11. Match Schedule 6
12. Match Scoring 7
13. Player Injury 7
14. Extreme Weather and Cancellations 7
15. Defaults/Forfeits/Withdrawals from Teams or Players 8
16. Entering Results 8
17. Courts and Facilities 9
18. Playing Attire 10
19. Match Balls 10
20. Finals 10
21. Finals Eligibility 11
22. Prizes 11
23. Powers of Tennis NSW 11
24. Dispute Resolution 12
25. Interpretation of Badge Rules and Regulations 12
26. Appeals from Disputes 12
27. Policies and Regulations 13
28. Miscellaneous 13

Appendix A - Online Team Entry 14
Appendix B - Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register 17
Appendix C - 'How to Join Tennis' \& National Player Rating 18
Appendix D - Entering Results on Match Centre 20
Appendix E - Tennis Australia Tennis Etiquette for Non-Umpired Matches 21

## 1. Objectives

1.1 One of the objectives of Tennis NSW is to organise, conduct and promote team inter-club competitions for members of affiliated tennis clubs/associations, to enable players who have reached a standard an equal opportunity to play against players of similar ability, over a given period of time. Tennis NSW competitions aim to enhance tennis and foster friendly rivalry, as a means of promoting tennis participation and improving standards.
1.2 Players, teams, coaches, officials (participants) must at all times act in the best interests of the Sydney Badge Competition and Tennis NSW and not at any time engage in conduct which brings or has the potential to bring a participant, the Competition or Tennis NSW into disrepute, or which is or would have the tendency to be contrary to or prejudicial to the best interest, image or values of the Sydney Badge Competition or Tennis NSW or not in the "Spirit of Tennis".

## 2. General

2.1 Tennis NSW, in conjunction with TNSW Competitions Team and the Sydney Badge Panel, administers the Badge Competition and has the power to make final decisions in respect of the conduct of the Badge Competition. The goal of Tennis NSW is to create the strongest metro league structure in Australia within 5 years, as measured by the number of participants. These Competition Rules are made by Tennis NSW pursuant to its functions under the Tennis NSW Constitution. In these rules, references to "Tennis NSW" include references to the TNSW Competitions Team and the Sydney Badge Panel in this capacity.
2.2 All participants in Badge Competition, including players, coaches and officials (participants) are bound by these rules and regulations and Tennis Australia's national policies and by-laws including, without limitation, the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program, the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour (including its reference to spectator behaviour and interference), the Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy and the Tennis Australia Anti-Doping Policy (each a Policy).
2.3 If any player or team is alleged to be in breach of these rules and regulations, the alleged breach should be drawn to the attention of the alleged offending player or team as soon as it is detected and the parties should try and resolve the matter on the spot. If the parties are unable to resolve the matter, notice should be provided to Tennis NSW of the dispute in accordance with these Rule 24 (Dispute Resolution).

## 3. Badge Competition

3.1 The Sydney Badge Competition will consist of the following competitions. - Thursday Ladies; Saturday Ladies; Saturday Mens; Saturday Mixed
3.2 Each grade will include between a minimum of six (6) teams and a maximum of eight (8) teams. However, depending upon number of entries and grading, Tennis NSW reserves the right to alter the number of teams in a grade as deemed appropriate for the competition. Tennis NSW will provide reasonable notice to teams where it alters the number of teams in a grade under this clause.

## 4. Team Entry

4.1 A team may only be entered into the Badge Competition by a club, association or individual that is registered with, and affiliated to Tennis NSW, and which has paid its annual affiliation fee (and any other such fees as required by Tennis NSW for affiliation). Team nominations must be submitted through Match Centre. Appendix A provides guidance on how to nominate your team on Match Centre.
4.2 Team entry applications must be submitted to Tennis NSW by the entry closing date, to be advised by Tennis NSW for each competition. The team entry application must include all the names of the Base Players in the team (excluding reserves).
4.3 Tennis NSW will determine the entry fees for entry into the Badge Competition. This fee will be revised and published annually. Each team must pay the entry fee Tennis NSW by advertised date.
4.4 Tennis NSW has the sole and absolute discretion in whether to accept a team's application for entry into Badge Competition. Without limiting that discretion, Tennis NSW may refuse a team's entry for reasons including, but not limited to:
(a) if a player in the team is currently suspended by Tennis NSW or another tennis authority;
(b) if a team has an outstanding financial liability to Tennis NSW or another tennis authority;
(c) if a player is ineligible to play under these rules and regulations or a Policy; or
(d) if in the opinion of Tennis NSW a team or player is not of good character or standing, has breached one or more of Tennis Australia's national policies, or is likely to bring the badge competition into disrepute.

## 5. Team Composition

5.1 Base Players (as per Match Centre) - are the registered players in the team who will play during the competition and will be used for the teams grading. A player shall be a base player of only one team in a competition. Each team shall have at least five (5), and not more than eight (8), Base Players.
5.2 Reserve Players (as per Match Centre) - are registered players in the Team who are not listed as Base Players on the team nomination at the time of grading. Their names are to be added during team nomination or when required to play.
5.3 A Player cannot be listed in more than one (1) team as a Base Player in the same competition, but may play as a Reserve for another team in accordance with Rule 6 (Reserve Players)
5.4 Players may play in more than one (1) Badge Competition in the same season provided they meet any conditions as specified by Tennis NSW. For example, Thursday Ladies and Saturday Ladies or Mixed.
5.5 Players cannot play as a Base Player in two (2) different teams within the same competition on the same day.
5.6 Juniors playing in adult competitions - clubs may only nominate players who are a minimum of 14 years of age on the day of commencement of the competition. Exceptions may be considered and approved in writing at the sole and absolute discretion of Tennis NSW.
5.7 A team may request to add/change Base Players in their team by submitting the request in writing to Tennis NSW for approval. Teams may be allowed to add/change Base Players should a player be affected by illness, injury, work or personal reasons.

## 6. Reserve Players

6.1 Reserve players do not need to be nominated in team nomination, but can be added throughout the season as required.
6.2 All Reserve Players must be registered with Tennis NSW as per Rule 7 (Unregistered Players.)
6.3 A Reserve Player may reserve for any other player providing the Reserve player's rating is equivalent to or weaker than the Base player they are replacing according to TA Rating listed in Match Centre. For example, (Reserve Player) Bill has a rating of 3+ and is replacing (Base Player) Dave who has a rating of 3+. OR (Reserve Player) Jill has a rating of 5P and is replacing (Base Player) Anne who has a rating of 4+.
6.4 A Reserve Player may be listed as a reserve on two (2) separate teams in the same competition, providing they are used in accordance with Rule 6.3.
6.5 Should a player not have a TA Rating listed on Match Centre, the player must be approved by Tennis NSW before participating. Teams must request approval in writing to Sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au and supply the following information:

- First name and last name with correct spelling.
- email address
- Brief playing history/background.
6.6 Should a Team Captain or Badge Delegate be unsure about whether a Reserve Player is suitable, the Team Captain / Badge Delegate should seek written approval from Tennis NSW prior to the round in which the Reserve Player is intended to play.
6.7 Should Tennis NSW deem a Reserve player as inappropriate level for the competition, this may result in penalties against the player/ team as per the Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register (Appendix B).


## 7. Unregistered Players

7.1 All players must be registered with Tennis NSW (via the club/s they are representing) to participate in the Sydney Badge Competition. Players/Teams found to be in breach of this rule may be subject to a penalty according to the Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register (Appendix B).

## 8. Grading

8.1 Tennis NSW is responsible for grading all competitions and determination of the number of teams in each division.
8.2 Teams will be graded on the National Player Rating of the Base Players listed in team nominations. A player's National rating is calculated by Tennis Australia under its National Player Rating System. (See Appendix C for information on 'How to Join Tennis' and National Player Rating)
8.3 Tennis NSW reserves the right, at its sole and absolute discretion to accept or deny any team or team member nominated and/or allocate the team or team member to a higher or lower division.
8.4 Should a player not have a National Player Rating, the Badge Delegate/Team Captain may be requested by Tennis NSW to provide additional information to assist with the correct grading of the player/team.
8.5 Tennis NSW may at its sole and absolute discretion give permission for a player to use a temporary rating at any time prior to or during the season, based on a written application from the club's Badge Delegate.
8.6 In exceptional circumstances, Tennis NSW may at its sole and absolute discretion alter the grading of teams after the season commences, and shall adjust fixtures accordingly.
8.7 Tennis NSW may consider other information to assist with the Grading process. This may include previous player/team performances or alternate player/team ratings however this information will be secondary to National Player Ratings.
8.8 Tennis NSW will work with the Sydney Badge Panel to produce the preliminary grading.
8.9 Any team that withdraws from the Sydney Badge Competition following the release of preliminary grading will be required to pay $100 \%$ of the Sydney Badge team entry fee. Teams may also be denied entry into future competitions.

## 9. Grading Appeal

9.1 Teams wishing to appeal their preliminary grading may do so in writing to Tennis NSW within four (4) days of the grading being published to sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au and should include:

- Request for team to be moved to a higher/lower grade.
- Evidence/Facts supporting the request. (Eg: Team Results, player rankings, ratings \& recent performances etc.)
9.2 Any Grading Appeals received by Tennis NSW later than four (4) days after the grading being published will not be considered.
9.3 Appeals cannot be guaranteed and will be decided at the sole and absolute discretion of the grading committee.
9.4 Should there be any changes to grading's following an appeal, the affected team/s are permitted 48 hours to lodge a right of reply. Any right of reply received by Tennis NSW after the 48-hour deadline will not be considered.
9.5 Tennis NSW in conjunction with the grading committee will release the FINAL Grading to all Badge Captains within seven (7) to ten (10) Business days following the preliminary grading release. No Teams will be allowed to appeal the final grading.


## 10. Match Format

10.1 Match Formats for each competition are set out in the table below.

| Day | Competition |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |

## 11. Match Schedule

11.1 Matches are to be played in two sessions during the day as follows:
a) For Thursday Ladies: 10am - Completion.

- Natural Grass courts may choose to start at 10:30am but must state this in their team nomination.
- Should teams require to finish at a set time, the team captains must agree to this prior to the start of the match.
b) For Saturday Afternoon Ladies, Mens \& Mixed: a fixed period of time, being 2 hours and 45 minutes (or another period of time as notified to teams by Tennis NSW in advance of the match) as follows.
- Session A times: 11:30-14:15 (Grass Courts) or 12:00-14:45 (all other surfaces)
- Session B times: 14:20-17:05 (Grass Courts) or 14:50-17:35 (all other surfaces)
11.2 A match is completed at the end of the session time above, regardless of whether all rubbers have been played or finished.
11.3 Matches that are incomplete after the allotted time may be played out to completion providing both Captains have agreed to complete the matches prior to the commencement of the round and court access/lights are available.
11.4 Clubs who do not have lights will be allocated Session A times (as far as is reasonably practical) in order to be able to complete matches.
11.5 All Clubs using Grass Court surfaces must try to provide an alternative venue which can be used to minimise 'Wash Outs'. Alternative venues to be submitted at time of nomination.
11.6 Clubs which have multiple surfaces must advise the opposing team 24 hours prior which surface the match will be played on. This will ensure fairness to the opposing team being appropriately prepared and equipped.
11.7 Matches to commence as advised on the draw which is published on Match Centre http://leagues.tennis.com.au/. Please note it is the Captain's responsibly to check Match Centre prior to each round to ensure correct information is received.
11.8 A maximum of five (5) minutes is allowed for warm up prior to commencement of each rubber including practice serves. Players must ensure they restrict their warm-up time, and minimise time between points and at change of ends.
11.9 Clubs to provide a warm up court (where practical) 30 minutes prior to start of scheduled match time. Visiting team captains must be advised of the availability of such warm up courts.
11.10 Session A players must leave the courts immediately at the conclusion of their match in order to allow Session $B$ to commence.
11.11 A match must not be played on a date other than the scheduled date without prior consent from Tennis NSW. Tennis NSW reserves the right to refuse consent to a match being played on a different date at its absolute discretion.
11.12 Matches may be re-arranged or commence earlier or later when mutually agreed between the opposing team captains and approved in advance by Tennis NSW.
11.13 The Order of Play is as follows:

The home team nominates which of their pairs plays on each of the courts. The visiting team matches those pairs. The visiting team nominates which pairs are to switch courts in the reverse rubbers.
11.14 Where there are lights on-site, they must be used so Session B matches can be played until 17:35.

## 12. Match Scoring:

12.1 There is a maximum of ten (10) points available for each match. A team scores one point for each of the eight (8) sets won. The winning team also receives two (2) bonus points for winning the match.
12.2 The winner of the match is the team with the greater number of sets won in a completed match. If at the conclusion of the match, the number of sets won by each team is equal, the team that has won the greater number of completed games will be declared the winner. If the number of games won is equal, then the match shall be declared a draw.
12.3 If at the completion of the match not all rubbers have been finished or played, but subject to the applicability of rule 13.2 below, each team will be awarded 0.5 points for each unfinished or un-played set. For example: if score is 4-3 in the last rubber and time has run out, each team will be awarded 0.5 points.
12.4 In the event that rubbers are incomplete and the result is not a clear win when play is finished, the two (2) bonus points awarded under rule 12.1 above will be split between both teams.
12.5 If either team leaves the court without agreement from the opposing team (other than in extenuating circumstances, or as otherwise permitted by these rules), then the team that has left the court shall forfeit points for that rubber.
12.6 Teams are awarded five (5) points for a bye.
12.7 The ladder for each section will be ordered based on the highest total points won. If two or more teams are equal in points on the ladder, their ranking will be decided by the following:
a) The team with a higher percentage of sets won (that is, sets won/sets played $\times 100 \%$ ) (Percentage of Sets Won) will be ranked higher on the ladder.
b) If the Percentage of Sets Won is equal, the team with a higher percentage of games won (that is, games won/games played x 100\%) (Percentage of Games Won), will be ranked higher on the ladder.

## 13. Player Injury

13.1 If a player is injured during a match and forced to retire from a rubber, the injured retiring player cannot return to court and play any other rubber in the match, unless both Captains agree, acting reasonably, that the player can return for a different rubber.
13.2 All incomplete or un-played sets at the time a player is injured will be forfeited and all points for the incomplete or un-played sets will be awarded to the non-retiring pair.
13.3 An injured player cannot be replaced by another player during a match.
14. Extreme Weather and Cancellations (Inclement Weather)
https://www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Extreme-Weather-Policy-Effective-25-November-2019-1.pdf
14.1 The Tennis Australia Extreme Weather Policy applies to all matches - click on link above
14.2 The 'Thermal Comfort Level', where applicable must be taken from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website.
14.3 The reading shall come from the Weather station closest to the location of the match (measured using the shortest path between the two (2) points and always taken from the WBGT Shade Column, where applicable.
14.4 On all court surfaces (excluding grass) Team Captains must communicate with each other a minimum two (2) hours prior to scheduled match time to determine whether match which will proceed.
14.5 During inclement weather on all court surfaces, every effort should be made to use an alternate to ensure matches are played on scheduled date and time. Options may include:

- Playing the round at the home team's alternate venue.
- Playing the round at the away team's venue.
14.6 Unless both Team Captains agree, acting reasonably, to cancel the match all players must meet at the venue for the start of the match.
14.7 Both Team Captains must agree, acting reasonably, to cancel the match due to inclement weather (Wash Out), each team shall receive five points.
14.8 If Team Captains cannot agree on cancellation of a match under clauses 14.6 or 14.7, then the Home Captain will make the final call following their club's internal safety requirements.
14.9 No match can commence later than 45 minutes after the match's scheduled start time. If the match has not commenced within this time period, the match will be declared a Wash Out.


## 15. Defaults/Forfeits/Withdrawals by teams and players.

15.1 Where a team or a doubles pair is not ready to play 5 minutes after the start time of the match, the first set of the rubber (or rubbers) will be forfeited by that team.
15.2 If a team or doubles pair is not ready to play 30 minutes after the start time of the match, both the first and second set of the rubber (or rubbers) will be forfeited.
15.3 Any team that does not have at least one pair ready to play 45 minutes after the scheduled starting time, will forfeit the entire match (Default).
15.4 In the event of a team fielding only one pair, that pair may play their two rubbers. The remaining rubbers will be forfeited. The score of such sets played shall stand and points awarded in accordance with the completed results. The remaining sets shall be forfeited and scored six games to nil against the defaulting team. In the unlikely event that a draw was to occur, the team fielding all 4 players would be awarded the additional two (2) match points.
15.5 If any team Defaults or fails to meet its commitment, in the opinion of Tennis NSW, without sufficient cause being shown, will not score any points for the round. The opponents of such team shall score ten points and be awarded eight sets and forty-eight games. The defaulting team will be awarded zero points, zero sets and zero games. Further penalties may be applied according to the Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register (Appendix B).
15.6 Teams who forfeit two or more matches during the season without sufficient cause being shown (in the opinion of Tennis NSW) may be penalised in accordance with the Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register (Appendix B). Teams may also be denied entry into future competitions.

## 16. Entering Results

16.1 A member of the home team must print and have available at the match a scorecard for completion and signing. Appendix $D$ sets out instructions for printing scorecards and using the League Manager system.
16.2 Immediately after the completion of each rubber (whether or not a match result is determined) the official scorecard must be completed and signed by a member of each team. The Team Captain for each team is responsible for ensuring that a member of his or her team signs the scorecard.
16.3 In the event of a match not being commenced or being incomplete, the score sheet shall be completed as far as practicable and must include each nominated player's name and the score (if any) of each completed or incomplete rubber as well as the reasons for the match not being commenced or completed.
16.4 The winning team shall be responsible for online lodgment of results in Tennis Australia's online competition system (Match Centre) within 24 hours of scheduled commencement time of Match. For all matches whether they are Won, Lost, Drawn, Incomplete or Forfeited. (must include reason for incomplete matches). If a match is washed out, the home team must enter that result.
16.5 Once the winning team has entered match results, the losing team must confirm or dispute the results within 48 hours of the results being lodged by the winning team. Failure by the Winning team to lodge results within 24 hours may result in the team being penalised according to the Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register (Appendix B).
16.6 The losing team is responsible for confirming the online results in Match Centre, within 48 hours after they have been entered. Failure to confirm results within the 48 hours may result in the team being penalised according to the Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register (Appendix B).
16.7 All results will be deemed official 72 hours after the scheduled commencement time of the match.
16.8 Tennis NSW reserves the right to amend any scorecards/errors that may impact the overall result of any fixture outside of these deadlines.
16.9 Any issues arising from the weekend's matches must be lodged within 48 hours following, so they may be dealt with before the commencement of the next round. This may include incorrect results, player names, and behavioral concerns. (Refer to Rule 24 - Dispute Resolution.)

## 17. Courts \& Facilities

17.1 The Home Team are responsible for providing the following facilities:

- Minimum 2 courts of any surface in Good Condition (Courts must be well maintained, clear of any equipment/obstacles with proper fencing, level surface and decent bounce.)
- Clean Bathroom/Toilet Facilities.
- Parking \& Accessibility Options.
17.2 Each team must register with Tennis NSW: (i) venue and (ii) the court surface at the venue for its home matches (Home Venue).
17.3 Tennis NSW may request, and the team must provide, any information deemed necessary by Tennis NSW to determine whether to approve the venue and court surface, including but not limited to, the location of the courts, the number of courts, court surface information, parking and accessibility and facilities at the venue.
17.4 If a team wishes to use outside or indoor courts as an alternative location for wet weather or overflow, these courts must also be registered and approved by Tennis NSW prior to the commencement of each season of Badge Competition (Alternate Venue Courts).
17.5 Unless another time frame has been agreed by the Team Captains, a team wishing to use an alternative Venue for a match, must give the opposing team minimum 48 hours' notice (refer to rule 14 - Extreme Weather and Cancellations (Inclement Weather))
17.6 Both courts used in a match must be at the same venue and should use courts with the same court surface where possible.
17.7 The use of Alternate Venue Courts for semifinals, and finals is not permitted unless the number of home teams exceeds the number of courts at the Home Venue, or when the courts are unplayable at the Home Venue and the Alternate Venue has been approved by Tennis NSW.
17.8 If the Home team's venue is unavailable, it is permissible for the match to be played at the Away team's venue if two courts are available and both team captains agree to this change.


## 18 Playing Attire

18.1 All players must wear correct tennis attire and comply with the reasonable dress regulations of the home team's club. Failure to do so may result in players being unable to play their match and those players forfeiting their rubbers.

## 19. Match Balls

19.1 All clubs must provide a minimum of 3 brand new balls per court.
19.2 ITF approved tennis balls must be use for all Tennis NSW Matches. https://www.itftennis.com/technical/balls/approved-balls.aspx

## 20. Finals

20.1 At the end of the regular season of Badge Competition, the following teams (after any deductions for a breach of rules) will qualify for the finals.
A) 8 Team Competitions = Top 4 placed teams to play in Semi-Finals Round
B) 6 Team Competitions = All Teams to participate in Finals Round
20.2 Positions on the ladder are decided by points won, minus any deductions for a breach of rules.
20.3 In the event of two or more teams being equal in points at the end of the regular season, their positions on the ladder shall be decided by the Percentage of Sets Won, or in the event of them being equal, by the Percentage of Games Won as per clause 12.7.
20.4 The finals schedule for each section of Badge Competition is as follows: - 8 Team Competition: 2 weeks finals.

| Finals Week 1 | Finals Week 2 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Semi Final 1 $_{1^{\text {st }} v 4^{\text {th }}}$ | Grand Final <br> Home Team: 1st |
| SF1 Winner |  |
| v |  |
| Semi Final 2 |  |
| $2^{\text {nd }} v 3^{\text {rd }}$ |  |
| Home Team: 2nd | SF2 Winner |
| Home Team: |  |
| Highest Placed Team |  |

- 6 Team Competition: 1 week finals.

| Finals Week |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Grand Final 1 st $v 2^{\text {nd }}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} / 4^{\text {th }} \text { Playoff } \\ 3^{\text {rd }} \vee 4^{\text {th }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5^{\text {th }} / 6^{\text {th }} \text { Playoff } \\ 5^{\text {th }} v 6^{\text {th }} \end{gathered}$ |
| Home Team: 1st | Home Team: 3rd | Home Team: 5th |

20.6 One (1) wet weather week has been reserved which can be used for either semi-finals or finals if a wash-out has been agreed by both teams. The following schedule will be used when managing wet weather rounds during the Semi-Finals/Finals.

| Week | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semi Final | RAIN | Semi Final | RAIN | Semi Final/ <br> RAIN |
| Grand Final | Semi Final | RAIN | RAIN | RAIN |
| Rain-out <br> (If Needed) | Grand Final | Grand Final | Grand Final* <br> $\left(1^{\text {st }} \vee 2^{\text {nd }}\right)$ | RAIN** $^{\text {RAI }}$ |

* In the event only one (1) week is available for finals, the Grand Final will be played out between the $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ placed teams.
** In the event all finals weeks are rained out, the winner will be the $1^{\text {st }}$ placed team, or in the scenario where the Semi Finals have been completed, the highest place team remaining in the competition will be the winner.
20.7 Semi-Finals and Finals must be played out to ensure there is a winner. Should the Semi Final end in a draw on both sets won and games won, both teams will select any two (2) players to play one (1) tie-break (First to seven, win by two points) to decide the winner.


## 21. Finals Eligibility

21.1 To be able to play in Semi Finals or Finals matches, a Player must have played in a minimum of three (3) matches. For the purposes of this rule, a played match is when a player plays a season of Badge Competition but does not include any byes, Wash Outs or Defaults.
21.2 Upon application by a team, Tennis NSW has the power to grant an exemption to rule 21.1 At the absolute discretion of Tennis NSW may:
a) grant the exemption requested; or
b) compel the team to forfeit one or more rubbers of the final; or
c) compel the team to forfeit the final.
21.3 For incomplete matches to be counted towards Finals eligibility, player's names must be registered on the score card.
21.4 Reserve Players may play in a Semi-Finals and Final in that division or any other division of that competition, provided they have met the criteria for an appropriate reserve player (Rule 6 - Reserve Players) and been approved by TNSW.
21.5 Should a reserve player be used without approval in a Semi Final or Final, and/or their rating is stronger than the Base player being replaced, the team may incur a penalty as per the Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register (Appendix B).

## 22. Prizes

22.1 Prizes for Badge Competition (if any) will be determined by Tennis NSW in its absolute discretion.

## 23. Powers of Tennis NSW

23.1 To the extent permitted by law and the Tennis national policies, Tennis NSW shall have absolute power and discretion relating to the Badge Competition or any matter or issue arising from or in connection with the Sydney Badge Competition and without limiting the foregoing it shall have the power and discretion to: a) demand from any team any information of any nature relating to any matter or thing arising from any match;
b) prohibit a player or team from registering for the Badge Competition;
c) suspend or disqualify a player or team from the Badge Competition as a result of a player's conduct or behavior arising from or in connection with a match;
d) impose penalties on any player or team, whether by fine, suspension or disqualification or by forfeiture of points for any non-compliance or breach of any of these rules and regulations, including any Policy according to agreed guidelines; and
e) Apply penalties where necessary as per the Sydney Badge Penalty Register (Appendix B) and the Tennis national policies.
23.2 If a player is alleged to have breached these rules or a Policy, the allegation against the player must be made in writing and forwarded to Tennis NSW within seven days of the alleged breach. The reported player shall be notified in writing of such allegation within seven days of the receipt of the allegation by Tennis NSW. The player will have the right to appear before Tennis NSW to answer any allegations and the person or a representative of a Club making the allegation may also be in attendance. Subject to the provisions of natural justice, Tennis NSW shall hear and determine, in its absolute and sole discretion, whether the allegation against the player is substantiated, and if so, what penalties should apply.

## 24. Dispute Resolution

24.1 Subject to these rules any dispute between a team and/or participants must be referred to Tennis NSW in writing within 48 hours of the date of the alleged incident/breach. Any complaints received after this time may not be considered by Tennis NSW.
24.2 Disputes must:

- Only be sent by Team Captain or Badge Delegate of a team involved in the match.
- Be submitted either by dispute through Match Centre or in writing to Tennis NSW (emailed to sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au)
- Contain a precise statement of the issue(s) in the dispute, and include all relevant facts such as correct name of person/s involved, date, time, location.
24.3 Tennis NSW will acknowledge receipt of complaint and will aim to provide a response within three (3) business days if practical.
24.4 Tennis NSW may call on an independent committee to review the complaint/dispute who may provide a recommendation to Tennis NSW.
24.5 Tennis NSW has the power to adjudicate any dispute referred to it for determination in any way in its absolute discretion but subject to the principles of natural justice, these rules and regulations and any Policy (if relevant).


## 25 Interpretation of Badge Rules and Regulations

25.1 Any question arising from or in connection with the interpretation or construction of these rules and regulations shall be determined by Tennis NSW in its absolute discretion.
25.2 Tennis NSW may alter or amend these rules and regulations from time to time without prior notice. If updated, Tennis NSW will endeavour to provide sufficient notice and distribute the updated version of the rules to all teams.

## 26. Appeals from Disputes

26.1 Unless stated otherwise, all decisions made from Tennis NSW in regard to disputes are final, and no further appeals will be considered.
26.2 Should a decision be appealable, Tennis NSW will provide a reasonable window of opportunity for appeals to be lodged and a response supplied. Appeals received outside this window may not be considered by Tennis NSW.
26.3 Should a team fail to accept the decision, issue complaints or unsportsmanlike conduct following a ruling, the team may be penalised in accordance with Rule 1.2. Penalties may apply according to the Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register (Appendix B).

## 27. Policies and Regulations

27.1 All competitions and matches must be conducted in accordance with their relevant policies, procedures and regulations and all Tennis Australia National Policies (available at https://www.tennis.com.au/about-tennis-australia/reports-and-policies/policies) including but not limited to:
a) Tennis Australia Code of Behavior, which includes disciplinary action for inappropriate spectator behavior;
b) Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy
c) Tennis Australia Anti-Doping Policy
d) Tennis Australia Disciplinary Policy
e) Tennis Australia Anti-Corruption program
f) Tennis Australia Social Media Policy
g) And any other policy, rule, procedure or regulation of which Tennis Australia may publish from time to time
h) Tennis Australia Rules for non-umpired matches (Appendix E)

## (https://www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Procedures-for-Matches-played-without-a-Chair-

 Umpire-V19.3.pdfi) Tennis Australia Dress \& Equipment Regulations
j) AR Tournaments Rules \& Regulations - Publicity, promotion and use of Image.

In the event, that these regulations do not cover a rule/procedure - Players, Referees and Match Supervisors should refer to - The ITF Rules of Tennis (available via http://itftennis.com/officiating/rulebooks/rules-
oftennis.aspx)

## 28. Miscellaneous

28.1 Each Club/Association will nominate a 'Sydney Badge Delegate' to act as the main point of contact for all teams representing the Club/Association.
28.2 Tennis NSW shall primarily communicate with Sydney Badge Delegates. Team Captains may be contacted, but all communications between teams and Tennis NSW should be channeled through relevant Sydney Badge Delegate.
28.3 Each Badge Delegate and Team Captain agrees to provide an email address and telephone number to Tennis NSW for publication as a point of contact for other Team Captains. Badge Delegates and Team Captains acknowledge that their contact details will be provided to other Team Captains. However, Badge Delegates and Team Captains are not permitted to distribute any contact details provided under this rule 28.3 to any other players on their teams or any other person, except as expressly permitted by Tennis NSW or as permitted by the Tennis Privacy Policy (https://www.tennis.com.au/privacy).
28.4 Appendix E sets out all players must comply with the etiquette of play for non-umpired matches.
28.5 In the event a Sydney Badge Delegate or Team Captain is unable to be contacted for any period during the season (for example, if the Sydney Badge Delegate is overseas), the Sydney Badge Delegate or the Team Captain must advise Tennis NSW in writing of an alternative person ("Alternate Delegate") to be nominated by the Club/Association to act as Sydney Badge Delegate for that period. The Alternate Delegate will be the contact person for that period for both TNSW and the other teams in the event the Team Captain or Sydney Badge Delegate needs to be contacted during the period in which they are unavailable.

## Appendix A:

## Online Registration Guide

1. Log into leaguemanager.tennis.com.au. This is the same log in for match centre. If you do not have administration access to league manager please contact sydneybadgetennis @tennis.com.au and we can update your permissions.

2. Click "Teams" down the left hand side of the page then "Add Team"

3. Fill out all corresponding information relating to the team you are entering and then click create.

4. Add players into your team. At the bottom right of the page click on "Add New Player". A search bar will pop up with name and gender. When you are searching a player please make sure to add the correct player into the team with the correct contact details and rating. Once all players are added into your team, click "save" at the bottom right of the screen.


## Select Person

When selecting a playef, revew the detalls provided to assist you in selecting the correct player Ren
Iisted in any of the returied results, you can CREATE NEW PRRSNO in the OTHER RESULTS section
Note: You can click the persons name in the eeturned search results to view their Match centre profile
sYoney badge tennis (1) League manager (0) other results (1)


5. Confirm your team nomination by clicking "Teams" and then "Nominated Teams". It should appear in Nominated Teams under the League you have entered. You can also edit teams from here and edit the squad. If for any reason you need to remove a team from the league or have entered a team into the wrong league, please contact sydneybadgetennis@tennis.com.au

6. Once completed, please click on the Wufoo link below to finish registration. Payment will not be made through Wufoo in 2020. All teams will be invoiced during the first week of competition.
Saturday Competition - https://nswtournaments.wufoo.com/forms/z11h8lyb1ivhmfh/
Thursday Competition - https://nswtournaments.wufoo.com/forms/zwu8qci0vi5rd3/

## Appendix B - Sydney Badge Competition Penalty Register.

| Offence | Penalty | Examples (not limited to) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Minor Offences | - Official Warning | - Use of incorrect balls <br> - No/Poor communication to Captain regarding Inclement weather, venue information. <br> - Inability to provide a wet weather venue (Grass Courts) <br> - Forfeit due to not fielding a team ( ${ }^{15 t}$ instance only) <br> - Minor infringements of the Code of Behaviour or Unsportsmanlike Conduct. |
| Medium Offences | - Loss of Sets/Games played by a player. <br> - Loss of Competition Points | - Inappropriate Reserve player used (Player used has a stronger rating than the player being replaced. <br> - Serious infringements of the Code of Behaviour or Unsportsmanlike Conduct. <br> - Multiple warning received for minor offences. |
| Major Offences | - Match Forfeit <br> - Loss of Competition Points <br> - Removal of Player/Team from Competition. | - Severe infringements of the Code of Behaviour or Unsportsmanlike Conduct. <br> - Multiple forfeits due to not fielding a team. <br> - Multiple warnings/penalties for Minor/Medium Offences. |

The purpose of this register is to provide guidelines around the use of penalties within the Sydney Badge Competition. Penalties imposed are not limited to this register. The powers of Tennis NSW are listed in Rule 23 - Powers of Tennis NSW.

## Appendix C - 'How to Join Tennis’ \& National Player Rating.



Before you can access your profile, results and rating in Match Centre, you will need to Join Tennis. Joining Tennis simply means creating your online tennis profile.


## LINK YOUR ACCOUNT

If you have already been playing in a League that has been administered on League Manager, your player profile will have already been set up. You can link your player profile to your new account in three easy steps:

In your Dashboard (you will automatically be redirected to this page when you log into Match Centre) enter your name in the search bar at the top of the page and click search.


A list of proflles will appear, if you believe a profile listed reflects your personal details and your team, view the profile using the right hand side icon that resembles an eye.


Once you've viewed the profile and confirmed it is you, select the "Request IInk" button at the bottom of the profile. Your request will be reviewed and your profile linked
if it is a correct match.


## A RATING IS A MEASURING TOOL INDICATING A STANDARD OF PLAY AND ENABLES PLAYERS TO RECORD THEIR progress. A rating will give players access to APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF COMPETITION.

The primary aim of the rating is to provide a standard base of play. Play is based on the TA Rating System ensuring organisers of a eague will be able to grade efficiently and effectively. Players can choose the most appropriate league for them anc pay with ano against players of similar ability.
For junior and adult players there are 10 rating bands, starting with 10 which is the lowest and progressing through to 1 which is the highest rating. Before progressing to a higher rating, a player wil be g'ven a plus rating e.g. a player will rise from an 8 to an 8 to a 7 .

This means that players can play in the most appropriate league available and that administrators can grade efficiently and with less subjectivity. Administrators will ultimately be able to clearly promote the playing standard of their competition and players can select those compet tions that best su't their standara.
The rating is NOT designed to bea ranking whereby players can measure their performance improvement on a specific match.


The National Rating is available to all players who are competing in a league that is run using League Manager and Match Centre software.

## Appendix D - Entering Results on Match Centre

## Entering results

To enter results go to: http://leaques.tennis.com.au/
Login using your email address and password:
You can only enter results for matches in which you are a player in the team and your Tennis Account has been linked.

To enter results, go to your Dashboard:

1. Scroll to your 'Previous Matches', select View Scorecard
2. Once the scorecard displays, select Edit Scorecard and enter match results accordingly.
3. Once a player has entered the match results, select Save Scorecard

## Confirming results

Once the winning team has entered match results, the losing team will then need to confirm or Dispute the results. Following the previous steps 'Entering Match Results (Home Team)', the away team will need to view the scores entered and Confirm or Dispute the results.

## Printing scorecards

Login to My Tennis using your email address and password:

1. Scroll to Upcoming matches and select View for the relevant match
2. Once the match is displayed, to print select the Print Scorecard icon to print the scorecard.

Help Guides<br>Support and Help Guides are available from the Sydney Badge Competition Website:<br>https://www.tennis.com.au/nsw/players/competitions/sydney-badge

## Appendix E - Tennis Australia - Tennis Etiquette for Non-Umpired Matches.

Procedures for Matches Played without a Chair Umpire
https://www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Procedures-for-Matches-plaved-without-a-Chair-Umpire-V19.3.pdf

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

Players who do not fairly follow these procedures could be subject to penalties under the Unsportsmanlike Conduct provision of the Code of Behaviour and/or subject to the Hindrance Rule (ITF Rules of Tennis). Any questions on these procedures should be referred to the Tournament Referee (or their assistant where applicable).

1) Each player is primarily responsible for line calls on their side of the net. However, a Court Supervisor or Referee is permitted to change an incorrect line call, either whilst located within the court (appointed as adjudicator/chair umpire) or from outside the court. The following procedures apply when a call is changed:
a) Official located outside the court:

On the first occasion, the official should enter the court and inform the player that the incorrect line call caused an unintentional hindrance to the opponent, and the point must be replayed. If however the opponents shot was a "point-ending shot", the point will be awarded to the opponent. The official must inform the player that any further incorrect line calls will be considered a "deliberate hindrance" for which they will lose the point. The player should also be cautioned that they may be subject to penalties under the Unsportsmanlike Conduct provision of the Code of Behaviour for having two line calls overturned in the same match.
b) On Court as an Adjudicator:

If an official is required to stand on-court to adjudicate the match, the official should advise the players to continue to perform all duties assigned to players by these procedures. The role of the adjudicator is purely to correct any clearly incorrect line calls made by either player, in which case the offending player will lose the point.
c) On Court as a Chair Umpire:

If an official is required to act as a Chair Umpire for the remainder of a match, the official must, where possible, take position in a chair umpires chair. The chair umpire must assume all the normal duties and procedures for chair umpires, i.e. making all line calls, determining lets, nets, not-ups and fouls shouts, and announcing the score after each point.

In addition, when a player makes a blatantly incorrect call, the player will lose the point, and a Code Violation for Unsportsmanlike Conduct may be given if the official determines that the player made the incorrect call on purpose.
2) If in doubt, the player must give the benefit of any doubt to his/her opponent, in particular regarding line calls.
3) 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.
4) All "out" or "fault" calls should be made promptly after the ball has bounced and must be loud enough for the opponent to hear.
5) 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.
6) A service "Let" may be called by either player/team.
7) 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.
8) The receiver must play to the reasonable pace of the server. Both players must ensure they restrict their warm-up time, and minimise time between points and at change ofends.
9) 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, and must be loud enough for his/her opponent to hear.
10) 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.

Where there is a score dispute, a player must make a reasonable effort to remember the actual score i.e. points/games played.
11) 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.
12) Any hindrance caused by a player that is ruled deliberate by the relevant official will result in the loss of a point.
13) Where a ball interrupts play, either by rolling/bouncing onto the court, and/or creating a circumstances provided they do so in a timely manner. Where this is between a $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ serve, a second serve only should be played.
14) In a situation where a ball is lying on the court at the commencement of the point ( $1^{\text {st }}$ or $2^{\text {nd }}$ serve) it will be deemed to be part of the court during the rally. Movement of this ball during the rally does not constitute hindrance.
15) When ball persons are not available, all balls on your side of the net are your responsibility to pick up and return directly to the server.
16) Players are entitled to request their opponent to remove the ball from the court prior to the commencement of the point.
17) The receiver should not return the first service if it is an obvious fault - let it go by or ground it.
18) Either player may call a "Let", "Net", "Not-Up" or "Foul Shot", providing this occurs in a timely manner. When there is a dispute regarding these, an official should try to determine from the players what happened and make a decision as they deem appropriate which may include replying the point.
19) Players should only leave the court for a toilet break, or any other reason, with the permission of Referee or Court Supervisor.
20) If at the completion of a match, the players involved realise that the scoring format used was 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).
21) Where a Code Violation second offence / Point Penalty is determined by the Referee or Court Supervisor this may be applied at any time 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.
22) 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.
23) Constant or overt celebration, or celebration directed at an opponent may be considered intimidation, and therefore unsportsmanlike conduct.
24) If a player is unhappy with his/her opponent's actions or decisions, he/she should call the Referee or Court Supervisor immediately.

## Additional procedures for matches played on clay courts

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

1. 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).
2. 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.
3. If a player erases the mark, he/she is conceding the call.
4. If there is a disagreement over a ball mark, the Referee or Court Supervisor can be called to make a final decision. However, where a player is consistently making incorrect calls resulting in numerous ball mark inspections, a Code Violation may be applied.
5. If a player calls a ball "out", he/she should, in normal circumstances, be able to show the correct mark.
6. If a player incorrectly calls a ball "out" and then realises that the ball was good, the player who called "out" loses the point.

## Etiquette

1. Players are expected at all times to shake hands with their opponent(s) at the completion of a match.
2. 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.
3. Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
4. To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have completed a point.
5. Do not stall, sulk, complain or practice gamesmanship.
6. 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.
