



2026 Junior Development Series

Rules & regulations

Requirements and Guidelines for JDS events in Metropolitan Sydney

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GENERAL JDS REGULATIONS

OVERVIEW

The Junior Development Series (JDS) events are designed to be a players' first tournament experience. JDS events must be held for 10/U, 12/U and 14/U age groups and act as an introduction to tournament play. These JDS events are participation based and will be the initial step in tournament play before the J125, J250, J500 and J1000 level events as part of the DeMinaur Tour. The JDS operate under the principles of a healthy attitude, fair play and an opportunity to compete to the best of your ability.

Players in Metro Sydney will have the opportunity to participate in up to 9 events across Term 2, 3 and 4 and gain points in the Metro JDS points series as well as being given an opportunity to improve their Universal Tennis Rating (UTR). Metro Sydney JDS points will be accumulated across the 9 events and be used to determine the top 8 players to progress to the Metro JDS Champion of Champions event to be held later in the year.

The following set of rules will be in place and applicable to the administration and operations of all events associated with the Metro Sydney JDS. These Regulations are to be read in conjunction with the Tennis Australia Competitive Play Regulations for Junior competitions.

Tennis NSW holds delegated authority to administer and oversee Metro Sydney JDS events in accordance with these regulations.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to enter a JDS event for 2026, all players need a Tennis registration (ID) number. A player's registration number is an 11-digit number starting with 66. If players do not have an ID number, they should visit <https://www.tennis.com.au/competitiveplay/competitive-player-profile>. If a player has trouble after visiting the website you can contact Tennis Australia Customer Service via email customersupport@tennis.com.au or via phone on 1800 PLAY TENNIS (1800 752 983)

Players must reside within the boundaries of Metropolitan Sydney as per the below Local Government Areas

- The Hills Shire
- Hornsby Shire
- City of Blacktown
- City of Penrith (East of the Northern Road)
- City of Liverpool
- Camden (East of the Northern Road)
- City of Campbelltown
- City of Fairfield
- Cumberland
- City of Parramatta
- Canterbury Bankstown
- Sutherland Shire
- Georges River
- Ku-Ring-Gai
- City of Ryde
- Bayside
- Inner West
- Northern Beaches
- City of Sydney
- Woollahra
- Waverly
- Randwick
- Burwood
- Strathfield
- Canada Bay
- Hunters Hill
- Lane Cove
- North Sydney
- Mosman
- Willoughby

AGE ELIGIBILITY

The 2026 Metro JDS will be played in the 10U, 12U and 14U. The below table illustrates the age eligibility for 2026.

<i>10/U Eligibility</i>	Players must be 10 years or under as at the 31 st December 2026
<i>12/U Eligibility</i>	Players must be 12 years or under as at the 31 st December 2026
<i>14/U Eligibility</i>	Players must be 14 years or under as at the 31 st December 2026

ENTRY PROCEDURE

In 2026, entries will only be accepted online through each individual JDS Tournament page.

- All players must enter online to be eligible to play in a JDS event.
- Entry deadline will be the **MONDAY** prior to the event at 11:59pm.
- Withdrawal deadline will be the **TUESDAY** prior to the event at 11:59pm.
- Entries will be accepted on a first-in basis, that is if the number of entries exceeds the capacity for the venue, priority will be to players who entered the event first.
- Recommended start time for all events is 8:00am. Individual tournaments may decide to split the start times if entry numbers exceed the ability to all start at the same time, subject to approval by Tennis NSW.
- Entry Fees for all Metro JDS events for 2026 will be \$45.00.

WITHDRAWAL AND REFUNDS

Players will be provided with a full refund of any entry fee paid should they withdraw before the withdrawal deadline. Players that withdraw after the withdrawal deadline will not be entitled to any refund of any monies paid.

In addition to no refund being issued, late withdrawals will be penalized under the Tennis Australia Code of Behavior.

It is the responsibility of the player or parent to be aware of the correct withdrawal procedures. Withdrawal notification must be completed online via the players account used for entry or provided to the tournament in writing via email prior to the withdrawal deadline. Text messages and Social Media messages will not be accepted as an appropriate notification of a withdrawal.

PLAYING OUT OF AGE

Players are permitted to play outside of their age group in Metro JDS. Players and parents need to be aware that points accumulated in age groups are non-transferable and can only be counted for the age group in which they were originally earned

POINT SCORES AND LADDERS

Points will be awarded for each event via the following table which will go towards qualifying for the NSW Metropolitan JDS Champion of Champions (12/u and 14u). Winners of the Metropolitan Champion of Champions will then qualify for the state champion of champions (J125). Please reach out to nswtournaments@tennis.com.au for more information.

Single Pool Allocation

First	21 points
Second	19 points
Third	17 points
Fourth	15 points
Fifth	12 points
Sixth	10 points
Seventh	8 Points

Multiple Pool Allocation

Tier 1 – Pool Points

First	17 points
Second	16 points
Third	15 points
Fourth	13 points
Fifth	11 points
Sixth	9 points
Seventh	8 points

Tier 2 – Pool Points

First	11 points
Second	10 points
Third	9 points
Fourth	7 points
Fifth	6 points
Sixth	5 points
Seventh	4 points

Tier 3 or lower – Pool Points

First	7 points
Second	6 points
Third	5 points
Fourth	4 points
Fifth	3 points
Sixth	2 points
Seventh	1 points

Play- Off Points

Winner	4 points
Runner-Up	3 points
Semi Finalist	2 points

Points for the 10/u JDS will go towards qualifying for the 2026 10/u Green Ball Nationals.

DETERMINING THE ROUND ROBIN WINNER

In the event of a countback being necessary to determine which player advances to the playoffs. The following formula will be applied

Play Offs

1. Greatest number of match wins, otherwise
2. Head-to-head results if only two (2) players are tied, or if three (3) players are tied, then
3. Highest percentage of sets won (sets won against sets played); then if still tied:
4. Highest percentage of games won (games won against games played).

If Point 3 or Point 4 produce one winning player (first place), or one player for third place, and the two remaining players are tied, the tie between those two players shall be broken by head-to-head record.

JDS OFFICIALS

An official will be appointed to each venue hosting a Metro Sydney JDS event. Depending on the number of courts, the minimum requirement is for a Court Supervisor. If an event is running over multiple venues, an official will be required for each venue in use.

The purpose of an official at an JDS event is to act in an education role with a focus on player and spectator behavior. An official working at an JDS event should not under any circumstances involve themselves in the administration of an JDS event or the production of an JDS draw.

OUT OF REGION PLAYERS

In the 2026 Metro Sydney JDS, players can participate in JDS events in regions outside of their ordinary place of residence, however the player will not be allowed to accumulate points at JDS events unless that player's ordinary residence is within the region hosting the JDS event or unless the player has been approved and registered as an in-region player. Out of Region players will only be permitted to participate in JDS events after all Metro based players have been accepted into the tournament and there are remaining places available.

FORMATS OF PLAY

All Metro JDS events will be played as **1 Tie-Break Set (First to 6 games, Tie Break at 5 games all)**

Long Deuce will be used in all matches. Short Deuce can only be used under special circumstances with prior approval from Tennis NSW.

DRAWS

All Metro JDS events will use a five-player round robin format where entry numbers allow. Where there are insufficient entries to form five-player pools, players will be allocated into pools as evenly as possible.

Events with eight or more entries will be divided into multiple round robin groups. Each event will have a maximum capacity of 20 players, with a maximum UTR spread of 2.5 within each event. Where entries exceed this limit and the host venue has sufficient capacity, additional event tiers may be created. Tennis NSW will determine the most appropriate pool structure, taking into account total entry numbers and venue capacity.

Where multiple round robin groups are conducted within a single event, the winner of each group will progress to a play-off stage to determine the overall winner. In events with a single round robin group, the overall winner will be determined based on the final round robin standings.

ACCEPTANCE ORDER

Entries will be accepted on a first-in basis. If the number of entries exceeds the capacity of the host venue, players will be accepted in the order their entry was received until the event reaches its maximum capacity. Where additional tiers are created, acceptance into each tier will also be determined strictly in order of entry, with places filled tier by tier until all available positions have been allocated.

RESERVE LIST

Entries that are not accepted into the draw (Acceptance List) will be placed on a reserve list, ordered using the same entry order as the Acceptance List. Where multiple tiers exist, players will be assigned to the relevant reserve list based on their UTR. If a withdrawal occurs, reserve players will be offered a position in the appropriate tier (where applicable), in accordance with their UTR and their position on the reserve list.

START AND REPORT TIMES

It is recommended that all Metro JDS events commence at 8.00am unless prior notification is provided of an alternative start time.

To accommodate overall entry numbers, events may be scheduled across multiple start times or, where necessary, across more than one venue, subject to approval from Tennis NSW. All efforts will be made to communicate these arrangements to parents no later than 5:00pm on the Thursday prior to the relevant JDS event.

All players and parents are required to arrive at the assigned venue at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start time, and to check in with the Event Director at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to ensure play can commence on time.

The Event Director may, at their absolute discretion, excuse late attendance; however, the Event Director's decision in this regard is final.

NO SHOW/FAILURE TO ATTEND

If a player does not turn up on the day (and has not previously withdrawn consistent with these regulations) that player will be declared a "No Show". If a player is deemed a No Show, the player will be penalized under the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour.

JDS CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The Code of Conduct applies to players, parents, coaches, and spectators off the court as well as players on the court. Code Violations and other sanctions may also be issued under the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour. Additionally, Tennis NSW may impose additional sanctions upon any player or parent consistent with the following table.

For clarity, the below applies in totality and cumulatively during the entire year of Metro Sydney JDS events and not per individual event.

<p>Code Violation -</p> <p>Audible Obscenity</p> <p>Visible Obscenity</p> <p>Verbal Abuse</p> <p>Racquet Abuse</p> <p>Ball Abuse</p> <p>Unsportsmanlike Conduct</p> <p>Best Effort</p> <p>Coaching</p> <p><i>Definition</i></p> <p>As defined within the Tennis Australia 'Code of Behavior</p>	<p>1st Offence – Tennis Australia Code Violation entered in accordance with the relevant Tennis Australia Competitive Play Regulations</p> <p>2nd Offence – Tennis Australia Code Violation Issued + 5 Point deduction from Metro JDS points ladder.</p> <p>3rd Offence - Tennis Australia Code Violation Issued + 10 Point deduction from Metro JDS points ladder.</p> <p>4th Offence – Disqualification from all Metro Sydney JDS events</p>
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<p>Code Violation Spectator Misconduct</p> <p><i>Definition</i> As defined within the Tennis Australia 'Code of Behavior'</p>	<p>1st Offence - Tennis Australia Code Violation Issued.</p> <p>2nd Offence - Tennis Australia Code Violation Issued + 10 Point Deduction form Metro JDS points ladder.</p> <p>3rd Offence - Tennis Australia Code Violation Issued + Disqualification from all Metro Sydney JDS events</p>
<p>Code Violation - Associated Persons Misconduct</p> <p><i>Definition</i> An Associated Person is an Adult or Child irrespective of age who has a domestic, personal or professional relationship with a player who participates in 1 or more JDS events</p> <p>Associated Persons Misconduct is defined as any intentional action either in person, via Text Message, Phone Call, Email or social media or other means that can reasonably be considered bullying, harassment or causes intimidation to another person either at an event location or outside of the day of an event.</p>	<p>1st Offence - Tennis Australia Code Violation Issued + 5 Point deduction from Metro JDS points ladder + offending parent suspended from attending for 3 Months.</p> <p>2nd Offence – Disqualification</p>
<p>Code Violation - Physical Abuse (i.e., physical contact with another player, official, coach or spectator)</p> <p><i>Definition</i> As defined within the Tennis Australia 'Code of Behavior'</p>	<p>1st Offence - Tennis Australia Code Violation Issued + Disqualification.</p>

Serious for JDS of misconduct may be referred directly to the Tennis Australia Integrity unit and if so, the imposition of any sanction under this policy might be delayed pending outcome of any Tennis Australia Integrity unit action.

Where possible, breaches of the Code of Conduct witnessed by an official or event director should be dealt with on site consistent with the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour and the Metro Sydney JDS Regulations.

Tennis NSW holds the authority to impose any sanction under these Rules and Regulations irrespective of any inaction taken by the Tournament and or Referee, if in the view of Tennis NSW such action is necessary considering the circumstances present.

Players or parents wishing to make a complaint about an alleged breach of the TA Code of Behaviour or the Metro Sydney JDS Rules and Regulations, not witnessed by an onsite official should do so via nswtournaments@tennis.com.au. Any such complaint must be lodged within 14 days of the alleged incident.

TENNIS AUSTRALIA NATIONAL POLICIES

All Metro Sydney JDS Participants (whether as a player, coach, official, spectator or otherwise) are subject to the Tennis Australia National Policies including but not limited to the Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy, The Tennis Australia Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct and the Tennis Australia social media policy, or any other policy of a similar nature but with a different name as may apply from time to time.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE EVENT

In the event a player fails to complete any match in a Metro Sydney JDS event, the players completed matches up to and including retirement will be counted for the purpose of onboarding onto a player's UTR profile, but the players' results will be discounted from the event for the purpose of determining points allocation.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tennis NSW reserves the right to depart from these regulations from time to time to ensure events are run with common sense and integrity and may do so without notice.

FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

In consideration of accepting your entry into a Regional Matchplay Series event, you grant and assign to Tennis NSW, NSW Tennis Country and the Event Host and any applicable third party (at the reasonable discretion of Tennis NSW) the right in perpetuity throughout the world to make or capture, use, show and reproduce moving pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television, sound recordings and any other reproductions of any description of you during or in connection with your participation in the Regional Matchplay Series event.

You agree that your name, voice, likeness, image, and biographical material may also be used and reproduced in any way for the purpose of providing information and news in relation to the JDS, providing written or audio-visual coverage, distribution, and broadcast of the JDS, for archival purposes, and/or publicising, promoting, and advertising Tennis NSW and the Regional Matchplay Series. You acknowledge and agree that this usage, including for commercial purposes, is without compensation or notice to you and/or your heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns.

Regional Committees, NSW Tennis Country, Tennis NSW, or the Event Host may appoint third parties to attend selected Regional Matchplay Series events and capture or make images or recordings of on-court action (Authorised Filming). Third parties appointed to conduct Authorised Filming may make and reproduce still and motion pictures of participants for the purposes of selling footage back to TA, broadcasters, or participants. You must give verbal or written notice to any person conducting Authorised Filming prior to the match starting if you do not wish to be filmed.

It is your responsibility to seek out the person conducting Authorised Filming if you do not wish to be filmed. TA and the Event Host will take reasonable steps to comply with your wishes regarding filming, subject to any agreement regarding broadcast of Regional Matchplay Series matches.

You acknowledge that, other than for private domestic purposes only, you and your coach, trainers and other guests are strictly prohibited from taking any photographs, still images, sound recordings, visual footage, audio-visual footage, and any other reproductions in connection with the Regional Matchplay Series by any means (Recordings) for commercial purposes. If you do take any Recordings without Tennis NSW consent you will, on request from Tennis NSW:

- a) assign all copyright and all other intellectual property rights in the Recordings to Tennis NSW; and
- b) consent to Tennis NSW's use, dealing and exploitation of the Recordings for any purpose in any media in perpetuity world-wide and without payment to you.

Filming or photography of players on court for private domestic purposes is only permitted where:

1. Both players provide their express consent both for the filming/photography and to the purpose for which it is being taken (or, where a player is under 18, their parent or guardian provides express consent).

2. The Event Host provides its express consent to the proposed filming/photography on its premises; and
3. A flash is not used.

Filming and photography are strictly prohibited in restricted areas of a Regional Matchplay Series including change rooms. All filming and photography must adhere to the Tennis Australia Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct and the Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy (or any policy with a similar intent but a different name as may apply from time to time).

At all times, an official or Event Director has discretion in relation to filming and photography. Any person acting inappropriately in the opinion of the referee or Event Director may be directed to cease taking photographs/film, may have his/her recording device confiscated while onsite at the event or may be asked to leave the venue.

2026 JDS DATES

Term	Date	U10	U12	U14
Term 1	15/02/2026	Superb Tennis	West's Tennis Centre	West's Tennis Centre
Term 1	22/02/2026	Panania Tennis Courts	Vince Barclay	Ingleburn
Term 1	08/03/2026	North West Sydney Tennis	Cintra Park Tennis Centre	North West Sydney Tennis
Term 1	22/03/2026	Superb Tennis	Oxford Falls Racquet Club	Oxford Falls Racquet Club
Term 2	03/05/2026	Parramatta	Sylvania Waters Tennis Centre	Wyatt Park Tennis Centre
Term 2	17/05/2026	Vince Barclay	North West Sydney Tennis	Northwest
Term 2	31/05/2026	West's Tennis Centre	Ingleburn	Superb Tennis
Term 2	14/06/2026	Cintra Park	Oxford Falls Racquet Club	Cintra
Term 4	20/09/2026	Panania Tennis Courts	Parramatta	Sylvania

Contacts

- **For further inquiries please contact-** nswtournaments@tennis.com.au

