

STATE LEAGUE REGULATIONS

2021/22 SEASON



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1. Introduction

The “State League” is the premier weekly interclub tennis competition conducted by Tennis SA involving the best tennis players in South Australia and will comprise both a Men’s State League Competition and a Women’s State League Competition.

2. State League Advisory Group

- 2.1 Please refer to the State League Terms of Reference as found on the Tennis SA Website.
- 2.2 For the purpose of the Season 2021/22 the members of the State League Administration are
 - (a) Mike Daws (Chair);
 - (b) Luke Taylor Tennis SA, State League Coordinator/Recording Secretary;

3. Nominations of State League Teams by Clubs

- 3.1 A Tennis Club affiliated with Tennis SA may nominate a team to compete in either or both the Men’s State League Competition or the Women’s State League Competition.
- 3.2 The nomination will be made on the Nomination Form approved by the State League Advisory Group and provided to the State League Coordinator by the date specified by the State League Advisory Group. The nominating club must provide all details requested in the Nomination Form including details of its home courts which must comply with standards specified by the State League Advisory Group.
- 3.3 On lodgement of a Nomination Form each club nominating a team will pay to Tennis SA a fee of \$1,319.00 for each team nominated. This fee will cover purchase of all balls, prize money and associated costs of running the competition including officiating for finals and, where possible, Chair Umpires for these matches. If a nomination of a team by the club is not accepted by the State League Advisory Group, Tennis SA will refund the nomination fee to the club.
- 3.4 The Nomination Form will require a nominating club to name in Order of Merit the players which it proposes to play in its team.
- 3.5 A nominating club must lodge with its Nomination Form a “Player Undertaking” in the form required by the State League Advisory Group signed by all its proposed players.
- 3.6 A Player Undertaking will include a provision that, if selected by the club, the player undertakes to play for the nominating club a minimum of five matches in the State League season and also a provision that the player acknowledges that the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour applies to the State League competition.

- 3.7 A Player Undertaking lodged with the Nomination Form will include a provision that it is subject to the club's nomination being accepted by the State League Advisory Group. If the team of the nominating club is not accepted into the State League Competition then the player (the "Released Player") who signed the Player Undertaking is released from the Player undertaking to that club and the Released Player may seek to play for another club whose nomination to play a team in State League Competition has been successful.
- 3.8 A nominating club whose nomination of a State League team is successful may seek to recruit a Released Player. If it does recruit a Released Player, the club is to provide to the State League Advisory Group by a date specified by the State League Advisory Group an amended Order of Merit for its proposed players together with a Player Undertaking to that club signed by the Released Player.
- 3.9 If a player nominated by a club in the top four in the Order of Merit does not play a minimum of five matches, the State League Advisory Group may in its discretion deduct premiership points at the conclusion of the home and away season for each player who failed to play the minimum of five matches.
- 3.10 Any breach of the Player Undertaking by either the player who signed the Player Undertaking or the club may be taken into consideration by the State League Advisory Group when considering the nominations to play in State League competition for the following season.

4. *Selection of Teams to Compete in State League Competitions*

- 4.1 The State League Advisory Group in its discretion may determine how many teams and select which clubs compete in the State League Competition (either Men's or Women's) applying the Selection Criteria annexed to these Rules. The State League Advisory Group is not bound to accept any nomination
- 4.2 There is no appeal from the decision of the State League Advisory Group.
- 4.3 As a matter of guidance, the State League will consist of a maximum of eight men's and eight women's teams. If the nominated team player lists do not provide players at the required level, the State League Advisory Group may choose six teams in either competition.

5. *Registered players*

- 5.1 Any Club who has teams competing in State League must have all players registered in a Tennis Australia approved database management system by the date directed by Tennis SA or penalties will be applied as per below
- (a) No Premiership Points will be allocated should players not be registered in a Tennis Australia approved database management system.
 - (b) Newly added players to a team, must be registered within 7 days of play.

- 5.2 All players within State League must be a registered player with Tennis SA after completing three competition matches within the competition. If a club plays a player who is not registered it will not be entitled to premiership points for any match in which that player plays.
- 5.3 The State League Advisory Group encourages the best players to play when available.
- 5.4 Any club which proposes to play in its State League team an additional player not included in the nomination of players list finalised prior to the first round of matches must, by 10.00 am on the Thursday immediately prior to the scheduled match in which it is proposed to play the additional player, register the additional player as a State League player with the State League Advisory Group, lodge a Player Undertaking signed by the additional player and nominate the player's position in the team Order of Merit.

6. *Age requirements for State League teams*

- 6.1 Each State League team must have at least one player 18 years or over as at 10 October 2021 playing in each match.
- 6.2 In the case that a team is not able to field a player 18 years of age or older in a State League tie, the club will be required to appoint a person over 18 years of age as a Team Manager.
- 6.3 Any player who is 13 years old or younger as at 10 October 2021 must be granted prior permission by the State League Advisory Group to be eligible to play in the State League Competition.
- 6.4 Each team may have a maximum of one 13/u player playing in any one match unless given prior approval by the State League Advisory Group.

7. *Order of Merit*

- 7.1 "Order of Merit" means that players will play in the order of players with greater ability playing higher in the team than players of lesser ability. Order of Merit shall be determined primarily but not solely by current match results. Players not listed on the original team Order of Merit will be included after they play a match.
- 7.2 Players must be played in Order of Merit in all teams at all times.
- 7.3 A club which is to play a team in a State League competition must confirm the Order of Merit of the players in that team following the nomination and team selection process.
- 7.4 The State League Advisory Group may at its discretion review the Order of Merit for any team at any time.
- 7.5 The State League Advisory Group shall have the power to disapprove the Order of Merit within any team and within any club, and to adjust match results accordingly as it sees fit.

- 7.6 Disputes as to Order of Merit shall be determined by the State League Advisory Group which may impose such penalty as deemed necessary.
- 7.7 The up to date Order of Merit will be posted on the Tennis SA website. Any proposed changes to a team's Order of Merit must be provided to the State League Recording Secretary (Luke Taylor) by 10.00 am on the Thursday immediately prior to the scheduled match for approval and Order of Merit positioning.
- 7.8 Players from other clubs can be used as fill-ins for a State League team provided the original club of the player concerned does not have a State League team. No player may play for more than one State League team in any season.

8. Media and Promotions

- 8.1 Tennis SA will provide the following media and promotion for the State League:
- (a) Weekly summary and preview on Tennis SA website
 - (b) Weekly Facebook posts
 - (c) State League Launch

9. Prizemoney

	MEN'S	WOMEN'S
9.1	Winner \$4,000	Winner \$4,000
9.2	Runner-up \$2,000	Runner-up \$2,000
9.3	Player of the Year \$500	Player of the Year \$500

10. Player Points Race

- 10.1 A player point's race will be tallied by points earnt divided by matches played throughout the year with players accruing points based on wins and singles position played. Players must have played in a minimum of 10 matches to be eligible. The points race top ten will be posted on the Tennis SA website and Facebook page. The men's and women's winners along with place getters will be awarded at the end of the season at the Awards Night.
- 10.2 Winners will receive \$500 each

11. *Fair Play Award*

The Fair Play award is awarded to the State League Men's and Women's players who best demonstrate the qualities of good sportsmanship and on court etiquette. The award is determined by Court Supervisors who award votes to players throughout the regular season.

12. *Presentations*

Presentations will be made to the Winner and Runner-up teams at the 2021/22 State League Tennis SA Awards Night held in April.

13. *Competition Rules for 2020/21*

The Competition Rules for State League matches for the Season 2021/22 are annexed to these Regulations.

14. *Circumstances not covered*

Where any issue arises which is not addressed in the Regulations or in the Competition Rules, there is uncertainty about the application of the Regulations or the Competition Rules or it is necessary to resolve any dispute which has arisen in relation to the Regulations or the Competition Rules, the State League Advisory Group has the power to determine the issue, the uncertainty or the dispute after giving the parties involved the opportunity to provide such information or submission as State League Advisory Group considers appropriate.

15. *Amendment of Rules*

State League Advisory Group can replace or amend the Competition Rules from time to time.