



Western Districts Tennis Association Juniors

Rules

2024-25 Junior Summer Season



1. Schedule of Matches

- 1.1 15 home and away rounds will be programmed
- 1.2 First round commencing – 18/19 October 2024
- 1.3 Last round before Christmas to be 13/14 December 2024
- 1.4 Break after 14 December 2024, and resuming on 31 January/1 February 2025
- 1.5 Last round to be played on 14/15 March 2025
- 1.6 Finals to be played over 2 weekends, commencing 21/22 March 2025 and 28/29 March 2025
- 1.7 Matches will not be played over the Adelaide Cup Long Weekend – 7/8 March 2025

2. Start Times

- 2.1 All players are to be ready to play 15 minutes before start time.
- 2.2 Friday night matches are scheduled to commence at 5.30pm (but may commence up to 6.00pm – please notify opposition team as early as possible).
- 2.3 Saturday morning matches commence at 8.15am or 10.15am as per match program. Orange Ball competition commences at 10.30am. The WDTA Junior Competitions Committee shall determine annually the divisions that shall play in each timeslot.
- 2.4 Scheduled finish times shall be 10.15am (for the 8.15am session of matches) and 12.15pm (for the 10.15am and 10.30am session of matches) or at the discretion of the Venue Supervisor.
- 2.5 Any team unable to commence a double within 10 minutes of scheduled starting time (6.00pm for Friday night) shall forfeit such double, unless a singles match is played by mutual agreement. Doubles will then be played after completion of all singles in this instance.
- 2.6 Major Round matches commence at the same time as during the season.

3. Registration of Players

- 3.1 All players nominated must have registered and activated their own Competitive Player Profile to compete.
- 3.2 New players into a team who are not in the initial squad list must be approved by Tennis SA. If Tennis SA is not notified before match day, you will have until 7.00pm Tuesday to notify Tennis SA or penalties will be imposed. Newly nominated players, who substantially alter the general standard of the team as originally graded, may not be accepted. **Penalty** if player is not accepted – Loss of sets played by that player. Squads will be locked all season to assist in monitoring requests from clubs.
- 3.3 No player shall play for more than one Club in this Association in any one season unless such player has received a clearance from that Club and obtained the consent of the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee. **Penalty** - the team playing such a player shall lose the match. Offending team shall score Nil, opposing team 6 sets 36 games.
- 3.4 No player shall play in more than one Association Junior Competition in any one season except by the consent of the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee. **Penalty** - as for Rule 6.1.



4. Age Qualifications

- 4.1 The age limit for Junior Competition is 17 and under as at the 1st October.
- 4.2 The age for the Orange Ball competition shall be 10 and under on the 30th September; and for Green Ball competition shall be 12 and under on the 30th September, unless permission is given by the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee.

5. Match Play

- 5.1 Each Team Captain or Manager must, prior to the scheduled start time of the match, complete the team score sheet showing the order in which his/her team will play and exchange the score sheet with the Team Captain or Manager of the opposing team. Scoresheet must be signed by both teams at the completion of play.
- 5.2 Friday night - doubles and singles shall be six game tie-break sets (first to seven with advantage of 2 points). Saturday morning matches - both doubles and singles, shall be a six game set.
- 5.3 Teams shall consist of four to six players who shall be divided into first and second doubles, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th singles. A player may play either a double only or a single only. The player named as 1st single must play in the 1st double. If 1st single player does not play doubles, then the highest position singles player participating in doubles must play in 1st double. **Penalty** shall be 1 set 6 games to be deleted from the score of the offending team (offending player) and added to the score of the opposing team. Tennis SA may report repeated infringements to the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee who shall decide the penalty to be imposed.
- 5.4 Singles shall be played in order (1 to 4) or by mutual agreement in any order when courts are available for play.
- 5.5 Any sets won by unspecified players will not be eligible for premiership points. The points will not be awarded to the opposition, and the result of the match will be determined as the team that won the most eligible sets and games. If a player name and profile is provided to Tennis SA by the Thursday following the match, the penalty will be overturned.

6. Player Movements

- 6.1 After the second programmed match no player is permitted to move over more than one player either up or down without the permission of Tennis SA. Absent players when returning shall resume the same position in relation to the other players as vacated, or one position up or down, or in a position as approved by Tennis SA. **Penalty** shall be 1 set 6 games to be deleted from the score of the offending team and added to the score of the opposing team. Tennis SA may report repeated infringements to the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee who shall decide the penalty to be imposed.
- 6.2 When a Club has two or more teams in a division, no player shall play for more than one team in such division after the second match unless approved by Tennis SA. **Penalty** - Tennis SA shall report infringements to the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee if a satisfactory explanation is not supplied with the scoresheet. The penalty shall be forfeiture of all sets played by the offending player.

6.3

- (a) Junior players nominated for and playing Saturday afternoon senior competition matches are not permitted to play WDTA Friday night/Saturday morning matches unless nominated in the WDTA Friday night/Saturday morning teams on nomination day except by permission of the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee.
- (b) JSL and JSL2 players 1 to 4 are not permitted to play WDTA Friday night/Saturday morning Juniors. JSL and JSL2 players 5 & below can play in WDTA Premier League or by approval in A1 or A2 but are not permitted to play Saturday morning Juniors. Note - Approval to play A1 or A2 may be given if the club does not have a Premier League team.

7. Tennis Attire

- 7.1 Players shall present themselves for play in tennis attire.

8. Balls

- 8.1 All balls must be of a type approved by Tennis Australia.
- 8.2 Friday night matches - the Home Team shall provide four new balls. For Major Round matches each team shall supply four new balls.
- 8.3 Saturday morning matches - the Home Team shall supply four good quality balls. For Major Round matches each team shall supply four good quality balls.

9. Weather

- 9.1 In the event of extreme weather (including but not limited to rain or excessive heat) a message will be placed on the Tennis SA Website – [Inclement Weather Update](#). Friday night matches to be updated by 4.30pm, Saturday Morning 8.15am matches to be updated by 7.00am and Saturday Morning 10.15am and 10.30am matches to be updated by 9.00am. Venue Supervisors may cancel matches after a Tennis SA announcement only if they believe their courts will be unsafe for play. If courts can be prepared to enable safe play and weather conditions improve, matches should commence as programmed.
- 9.2 Matches will be cancelled when the projected forecast maximum temperature for match time (based on Adelaide West Terrace forecast), is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology at www.bom.gov.au is 36 degrees or higher. If the said forecast includes a temperature of less than 36 degrees then Tennis SA may still cancel the said round in the manner set out above.
- 9.3 In the event of any match being interrupted or incomplete due to inclement weather the following will occur:
 - (a) On the day set down for such, the matter shall be referred to the Venue Supervisor for decision. Players must remain at the courts until the Venue Supervisor has made the decision to abandon the match. No match shall be abandoned before 7.00pm on Friday night or 9.00am or 11.00am (for 10.15am and 10.30am matches) on Saturday morning, except in the event of cancellation due to excessive heat.

- (b) If neither team is in an unbeatable position, both teams will receive two premiership points, plus one point for each set won, and the unplayed or unfinished sets will be deemed split between each team.
 - (c) If one team is in an unbeatable position, it will be deemed the winner and given four premiership points, plus one point for each set won, and the unplayed or unfinished sets will be deemed split between each team.
 - (d) The premiership ladder for this division will then be calculated using Match ratio (average points per match played).
- 9.4 All venues must have equipment available for wet weather to dry courts. Every effort should be made to sweep or squeegee the courts before considering cancellation. If there has been no cancellation made by the Venue Supervisor, matches shall proceed as scheduled.

10. Recording of Results

- 10.1 Each Team/Club are required to enter and confirm the results of their match on League Manager/Match Centre by Tuesday 7.00pm following the match. **Penalty** - loss of 2 premiership points. Finals results must be recorded by Sunday 10.00pm following the match.

11. Premiership Tables & Points

- 11.1 Four points shall be awarded for a win and two points for a draw, and one point shall be awarded for each set won.
- 11.2 The team winning the greater number of sets, or if sets are equal, the greater number of games, shall be the winner. If sets and games are equal, the match shall be a draw.
- 11.3 Premiership tables to be decided by points and in the case of equality of points at the end of the minor round, the team with the best percentage for and against (sets then games) shall be deemed minor premiers. Second, third and fourth position shall be decided likewise. In Divisions with a bye or 'unplayed' matches the premiership table will be decided by Match ratio. (Match ratio is the Premiership points divided by the number of matches played). If equal on Match ratio then by sets, then games.
- 11.4 To decide the Premiership of each division, the first team shall play the fourth team and the second team shall play the third team in the Semi-finals. The winners will play in the Grand Finals.

12. Forfeits

- 12.1 When a team forfeits to an opposing team the score shall be 6 sets 36 games to nil. Winning team must submit full team sheet to gain maximum points. Any Club unable to fill all of its teams must fill the highest Division teams first. This is not mandatory if the teams are two or more divisions apart, e.g. 1 to 4, or different start time. **Penalty** - if a satisfactory explanation is not forwarded with the result sheet, a penalty, as decided by the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee shall be imposed.
- 12.2 Any player unable to commence or complete his or her set or sets due to illness, injury or any other cause, other than postponement of a match, shall forfeit such set or sets or the remaining games to the opposing player. Players do not move positions in these situations.

13. Major Round Players

- 13.1 A player shall not be permitted to play in any Major Round match unless;
- (a) Such player has played five matches in the required division or a lower division.
 - (b) Such player not having complied with Rule 13.1 (a) is required to fill the lowest position in the lowest team, and obtained the approval of the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee. **Penalty** - the team playing such player shall lose the match.
- 13.2 A player who has played in a Major Round match of one division or team is not permitted to play in a Major Round match of a lower division or other team except by permission of the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee. **Penalty** - the player shall forfeit all sets played.

14. Teams for Finals

- 14.1 All clubs shall update their playing lists for all teams in League Manager to reflect the correct order of merit for all qualified players no later than 7:00pm on Tuesday following the second last match for the season. All players not qualified for finals will be changed to Reserve Players. The squads will be reviewed by Tennis SA and the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee. Any changes required will be communicated with the relevant clubs no later than the Friday following. Teams must then play in the approved singles order of merit and this order of merit shall not be alterable for the Finals Series. **Penalty** for playing sets out of order – forfeiture of those sets.

15. Incomplete Finals

- 15.1 Players must remain at courts for at least 90 minutes before making decision to stop play for the day. In the event of an incomplete Semi-final the winner shall be the higher ranked team. Grand Finals not played or completed to a result will be completed the following Friday or Saturday respectively. Any scheduling/playing issues during finals will be referred to the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee.

16. Drawn Finals

- 16.1 To decide Major Round draws there will be two tiebreak doubles played. First to 7 points with advantage of 2 points. The doubles shall be played by the same players in the same pairings that played in the drawn match. The highest ranked player in the first double. The scores for each double are to be added together to obtain result. If this is drawn then the same process is repeated until a result is obtained, using the same combinations.

17. Interference in Match

- 17.1 The coaching of, or interference with, players during the progress of a match is not allowed. No players or adults are permitted courtside during a match except that, in the Hot Shots divisions and the lowest non-Hot Shot divisions, an adult may, by mutual agreement, be permitted to assist in the progress of the match.

18. Code of Behaviour Issues

- 18.1 All matches must be played in accordance with the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour.
- 18.2 All Code of Behaviour reports shall be lodged by filling out the [Tennis SA Competition Code of Behaviour Report](#) by COB Tuesday following the match in which the incident took place.
- 18.3 Tennis SA, in conjunction with the WDTA Junior Competitions Committee, may meet to consider any alleged breaches of the Code.
- 18.4 Tennis SA may appoint a Tribunal to deal with any Code of Behaviour reports.
- 18.5 Team Managers are responsible for:
 - (a) Educating all players in their team on their responsibilities in the Tennis Australia National Policies (particularly the Code of Behaviour and Disciplinary Policy); and Managing all players in their team in relation to match play and sportsmanship.

19. Disputes and Appeals

- 19.1 All match disputes must be made by the Club Junior Coordinator by email to the Coordinator at Tennis SA by 7.00pm on Tuesday following the match, and the referral must contain a precise statement of the issue(s) in dispute and the relevant facts giving rise to the dispute.
- 19.2 Please be aware that all teams are responsible for following the rules and regulations stated. It is the team's and club's responsibility to dispute a ruling if they believe they have been unduly affected by the result of a rule breach. Penalties will only take place after a dispute has been made and proven true. If teams are to break the rules the opposition has the right to dispute the result.
- 19.3 Tennis SA must, within two days of the date of request for such adjudication by any party, request any response to the dispute from the other party.

