BY-LAWS 2020/21

1 Team Affiliation

Affiliated clubs shall enter a team, or teams, for competition in a series of matches to be arranged each season.

Team entries together with a list of anticipated players' names and birth dates must be lodged with the secretary by the closing date set by the Executive.

Clubs shall nominate the grades required but final grading will rest with the Executive.

2. Registration

A player will be eligible to play in the Association provided he or she is:-

(a) A member of a club affiliated with the Association.

(b) Seventeen (17) and under on the 31st day of December in that year (2006)

(c) The appearance of a player's name on a result sheet shall constitute registration of that player.

Affiliation fees shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting and be payable on or before the 31st October in each year. Clubs in default shall have no game points or premiership points until they are so affiliated.

No player being a registered member of one club will be eligible to play with another club in this Association unless a clearance is granted, in writing, from his/her previous club, by the Executive of the Association.

No player can be registered in more than 1 team in a fixture round (2006)

3. Teams and grades

The Association shall consist of such grades as the Executive shall decide when all entries are to hand.

(a) *Teams in A1, B1, B2, B3, C1, C2 & D1 (Green Dot) Grades shall consist of 4, 5 or 6 players of NON Gender specific (2018, 2019,2020)*

(b) *The Association will also conduct a competition for doubles D2 (Green Dot) Grade which will consist of 4, 5 or 6 players of NON Gender Specific. (2018 & 2019)*

(c) Players names should be placed at the top of the score sheet and numbered one to four, one to five & one to six, respectively. (2018)

(d) A Tie-Breaker is to be played in A and B Grades (2018)

(e) *In C1 C2 and D1 (Green Dot) Grades they shall play first to 6 games. That is at 5 games all the winner of the next game wins the set 6-5. (2019)*

(f) *In D2 (Green Dot) Grade each player shall have 2 serves each. The set will be complete when each player has had 2 serves each and the score recorded as it stands. That is 8-0,7-1,6-2,5-3,4-4. (2019)*

(g) All Teams must provide –
In Association Grades a minimum of (2) two courts and in Doubles Grades a minimum of (1) one court, for the duration of each match. (2018)
In the event of extra courts being available, we recommend they be utilised to hasten completion of the match . (2018)

(h) *In D1 (Green Dot) & D2 (Green Dot) Grades to play "Sudden Death" at deuce. (ie: the next point winner , wins the game) (2018 & 2019)*
At Deuce, the player next in line to serve will serve the ball and the team receiving the ball has the choice of which player will receive the serve.

(i) *In D1 (Green Dot) & D2 (Green Dot) Grades, D Grade Green Dot ball must be of 12 and under age limit (2020)

4. Time of Match Commencement

Home and away matches will commence at 9.00a.m. Finals will commence at 8.30 a.m. Teams not ready to start on (1) one court within (15) fifteen minutes of the specified starting time shall forfeit that set. Teams not ready to start on both courts within (15) fifteen minutes of the specified starting time shall forfeit (2) two sets. If play is not started on both courts within (30) thirty minutes of the specified starting time the defaulting team shall forfeit the match.

All forfeited points must be shown as a minus before the match commences.

Three (3) minutes is the maximum time allowable between the finish of a set and the commencement of the next. (2003)

4.(a) Supervision and Umpiring

Each team must have an adult in attendance for the duration of the match.

In A & B Grades; players will umpire their own matches. If needed, the supervising adult will resolve any dispute. (2018)

In C Association grades; players will umpire their own matches with Adult Supervision from the net. Supervising adult to keep score and to over-rule any line calls where needed. (2018)

*In D1 (Green Dot) & D2 (Green Dot) Grades; matches will be umpired by the supervising adult. (2018 & 2019) *

5. The order of play

The order of play should be by mutual agreement between the opposing captains. If agreement cannot be reached, the home captain shall decide the order. Opposing captains must exchange teams, fully written out in order of play, before the match commences.

In the event of a player through sickness or injury during a match being unable to continue that player shall forfeit the rest of the set. A substitute, not otherwise debarred by these rules, shall be allowed to play in any subsequent sets.

If a substitute player is not available, then the opposing team manager shall select a substitute from the same team. (1999)

The substitute must be available to play when called upon as in the order of play. (1993)

6. Adverse Weather

In the event of adverse weather, the Adverse Weather Committee shall make a decision as to whether there shall be play for that particular round of the fixture.

If their decision is that matches should be abandoned for that round, such decision will be made by 7.30a.m. on the match day.

The Adverse weather Committee will send out a text to all Club Junior Coordinators to advise clubs of their decision, between the times of 7.30am – 8.00am.

If the round is abandoned all teams shall receive two (2) premiership points. (2018)

In the event that courts are deemed unplayable by both the home Club and the Association Adverse Weather Committee, matches will be cancelled and two (2) points awarded to each team.

Mooroopna Lawn Tennis Club, Nathalia Lawn Tennis Club, Shepparton Lawn Tennis Club and Nathalia Lawn Tennis Club are to go through the Association Adverse Weather Committee. (2005)

Where lawn matches are cancelled due to rain making them unplayable, the opposition teams may have courts available in this situation.

If lawn matches result in cancellation, then the opposing teams may lodge a sheet for registration purposes, if they wish to. (2010)

In the event of adverse weather, after 8.00am on the day of a match, which interrupts the re-commencement of play, the club's adult representatives being in agreement, the match will be abandoned and two (2) premiership points will be awarded to each team.

In A1, B1, B2, B3, C1, C2 & D1 (Green Dot) Grades, six (6) sets must be completed by midday (2018 & 2019)

In D2 (Green Dot) Grade, four (4) sets must be completed by midday (2018 & 2019)

...before a result can be achieved, otherwise the match will be deemed to be abandoned and each team shall receive two (2) premiership points. (1993)

7. Results

All match results shall be on games. If games are equal the results will be decided on sets.

8. Result Sheets

It is the responsibility of the winning team to have the result sheets signed by both captains and in the hands of the Ladder Secretary by 8.00pm on the Saturday, the day of the match. (2006)

The penalty for no result sheet by Saturday 8.00pm .. (1) One premiership point deducted. (2006)

If no result sheet in Ladder Secretary's hands by the following Saturday .. No premiership points will be allotted. (2003)

All result sheets will now be submitted by scanning the scoresheet as a PDF and emailed to sjtascores@gmail.com per instruction in TEAM APP. (2019)

9. Any Mutual Agreement

Any mutual agreement arrived at by opposing teams shall be submitted to the Executive for approval.

10. Forfeiture

The offending team shall notify the Club Contact of the opposing club as soon as it is evident that a forfeit is necessary.

The team not in default shall forward signed score sheet, with their team written out, and be awarded one third (1/3) of the possible game points for percentage. (2005).

The team in default shall have one third (1/3) possible game points added to their against points.

Forfeit sheets to be signed by the captain receiving the forfeit and to have the same penalty as a result sheet.

Players named on any such result sheet shall be deemed to be registered.

11. Premiership points

Four points for a win, bye or forfeit received. Two points for a tie.

12. Matches in Higher Grades

A player may play five (5) matches in a higher grade before being ineligible to play in a lower grade.

A player must play three (3) matches with a club in a current season to be eligible to play in final series matches.

Players named on a result sheet lodged by a team receiving a forfeit shall be credited with that game for the purposes of the three match rule.

Where a club has two teams in one grade a player becomes ineligible to play in the other team after five (5) matches.

If Clubs play ineligible players, their sets will be 6-0 to the opposition. (2010)

13. Balls

Balls used in home-and-away matches are to be supplied by the home team. The balls are to be of "very good" quality. This is to be interpreted by the Association as being either new balls or previously used balls, as long as the quality is "very good" and the balls are Tennis Australia approved. (2004)

In finals matches each team is to supply two (2) new balls.

In D1 (Green Dot) & D2 (Green Dot) Grades matches; it is now compulsory for all clubs to use the modified green dot tennis ball. (2018 & 2019)

14. Dress

Regulation attire must be worn.

15. Finals

(a) Finals matches shall be played on dates and courts as decided by the Executive.

The Final series will be played under the "Paige system"

A player must play three (3) matches with an affiliated club to be eligible to play in a final series match.

No player shall take part in a final series match in a lower grade than that in which he/she has played in the current season. (see also "matches in higher grades")

The umpires in control of a match shall name the order of play.

Referees (at each venue) will be available, where possible, to make the final decision on any matters (2011)

The Executive shall as far as possible play final matches on neutral courts.

No clearance will be granted by the executive for finals

(b) Supervision & Umpiring for Finals

Supervision and Umpiring for finals will be the same as the home and away season where each team must have an adult in attendance for the duration of the match. (2010)

In A & B Grades; players will umpire their own matches. If needed, the supervising adult will resolve any dispute. (2018)

In C Grades; players will umpire their own matches with adult supervision from the net. Supervising adult to keep score and to over-rule any line calls where needed. (2018)

In D1 (Green Dot) Grade, matches will be umpired by the supervising adults (2018 & 2019)

(c) Adverse Weather

In the event of rain occuring when a finals match has commenced the following will occur:

(1) The Supervisor, in consultation with team managers, assess whether the courts are unfit for play. The Site Referee and or a member of the Association Committee, may be consulted. (2011)

(2) All finals matches are to be played to completion of all sets. However, if one team is in an unbeatable position, then that team will be deemed the winner.(1999)

(3) In the event of rain stopping the completion of all sets, then sets not completed previously will normally be completed the next Saturday/Sunday unless otherwise decided by the Executive. Completed sets will stand.

(4) Sets which are partially played will be deemed incomplete and will recommence with a nil all scoreline.

(5) Clubs with players unavailable from the incompleted final may apply in writing, with reasons, to the Executive, for permission to include other eligible players.

(6) Court venues remain the same. (1998 & 2011)

(7) *In the event of the semi-finals are unable to be played due to adverse weather, the two teams on top of the ladder automatically progress to the Grand Final. In the event of the Grand Finals are unable to be played due to adverse weather, the highest ranked team be declared the Premiers.
All finals to be completed on the weekend scheduled. (2019)*

16. Finals Drawn

If games are equal and sets are equal:-

In all Singles grades each team will select an existing doubles combination from the team sheet. (2018 & 2020)

The team of the combination to win a six (6) game set shall win the match

17. Protests

Any infringement of these by-laws should be reported to the Secretary of the Association.

All protests must be lodged within seven (7) days of the infringement concerned and be accompanied by a deposit which will be set at the Annual General Meeting prior to that season. (1993)

A formal protest must be lodged in writing, with fee, to the secretary no later than Tuesday 5.00pm, after the match. If the protest is not resolved by the 'executive committee', then it will be referred to Tennis Victoria disputes committee. (2018)

Lodgement Fee for Protest will be **$50.00** deposit (2012)

18. Misconduct

Any player, who argues with an umpire, may be penalised one (1) point or more during that game.

All players and spectators must abide with the Tennis Victoria 'Code of Conduct' (2018)

The Association will not tolerate any breach of these rules. (2009)

19. Permits

After consideration of a special circumstance, a permit may be granted.

This must be done by request through the Registrar/Ladder Secretary.
If granted, the permit must be noted on the result sheet.

NO PERMITS WILL BE GRANTED FOR FINALS. (2007)

*A permit may be granted in the following situations –

- 1 player who is registered with another club, with permission from the other club (Players name, name of Club and grade played must be supplied to the Registrar/Ladder Secretary.
- If a permit is sought to play a player in a Friday night match and again in a Saturday match in the same round the following will apply –
    - A permit must be obtained.
    - The player will only be registered with their usual team and will not be eligible to play finals in the team they have filled in for, and that match will not be counted in matches played (2018)

A PERMIT MUST BE APPLIED FOR IN ALL CASES. If a permit is not applied for, this constitutes playing an ineligible player/s and penalty of By-Law 12 – Paragraph 7 will apply. (2010)

20. General

Any matter not specifically covered in these by-laws shall be referred to the Executive whose decision shall be final.

Any portion of these by-laws shall be altered or amended only by an affirmative vote of a simple majority at an Annual General Meeting.

Explanation

Please note that the most recent alterations have been highlighted by the symbol * at the start of the relevant sentence / paragraph and the AGM year
at the completion.

The period reviewed - 2020

11.10.2020