

NEW RULES

Playing Conditions: Please could all Players make sure they are familiar with the by-laws for the Senior competition, not a thrilling read but they are the rules we are all expected to follow! In particular I would like to draw your attention to the following points (some of these are new changes for this season).

- 2.4.1 The method of awarding points shall be on the basis on one point per set won and one point for overall winner on games – therefore the **total number of points that can be won on any match day is 7**. A washout results in 3.5 per side. No points awarded for a BYE.
- Ladies can only play as men if they are registered to do so at the start of the season and **only one lady per match can be played** in a Men's Section (a team of three men and one lady is fine, but not two men and two ladies in a Men's section.)
- A reminder that it is the home team's responsibility to complete the scorecard on Match Centre by Sunday 1PM, and the Away Team's responsibility to confirm it. If, as an away team, you find the scorecard has not been entered then you may enter it and leave the home team to confirm it, please do not do this before 1PM on Sunday.

Most other rule changes that were made to the By-laws for the Seniors competition we designed to bring us into line with what we already did.

- Under the authority of Rule 1.8 (new rule); the Senior Match Committee is making the following three adjustments to the rules effective from Round 1 of this competition:
 - **There will not be any umpires required for any Sections of the Senior Competition in the finals series** – this will be reviewed by the committee at the end of the season. (This is essentially abandoning rule 2.10.2)
 - 2.2.3.1 & 2.2.4.1 (these rules relate to the use of additional players or substitutes in matches) – it is now **permissible, although there is no obligation**, to even distribute the sets between 5 players in the men's competition or 5 or 6 players in the mixed competition:
 - Mens: if you want to play five players then two players can play three sets and three players can all play two sets – this must be decided prior to the start of play. In terms of finals qualification, the specific number of sets played counts, please take care when qualifying players for finals.

- Mixed: applicable to either the men or ladies in the team. Should a team want to play an extra player (man or lady) then all three of these players can play two sets – this must be decided prior to the start of play. In terms of finals qualification, the specific number of sets played counts, please take care when qualifying players for finals.
- Please take care when putting these scores into Match Centre.
- This is a very technical change, that will only affect a very specific circumstance in the finals (essentially don't write in until nearer finals if you are not clear!). In the event that the second place team beats the first placed team in week one of the finals, and the second round of finals are called off, for any reason, the second placed team on the ladder (who qualified first for the Grand Final) will be considered the highest ranked and home team. Therefore, in the event that the Grand Final is also called off, they would be declared the winner of the Section. Not only does this scenario require a first final upset, it also requires two washouts in the finals; very unlikely. However, the current rules imply a different outcome, the Junior correctly identified this and made a change, we will be copying their rule and hoping to adopt it at the next AGM.