

# CONDITIONS OF PLAY

2020 Associations Junior League



## 2020 Associations Junior League – Conditions of Play

1. All players must be a current registered participant of Tennis Victoria.
2. All players must have played at least six matches for his or her club in their association's competition from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (this excludes Tennis Victoria Pennant matches).
3. Each team shall consist of a maximum of four players for home and away matches.
4. In the 10/u sections, teams may consist of any combination of male and female players (ranked in singles order of merit). In the 18/u section, teams must consist of two male players and two female players.
5. All matches must be played at a Tennis Victoria affiliated venue.
6. All associations participating in the Associations Junior League competition must be affiliated to Tennis Victoria.

### Order of Merit and Emergencies

7. Players must be of age as at 31 December 2020.
8. Players must play in the singles order of merit submitted on the entry form. Emergencies may not strengthen a team, except in A grade divisions, and should be of equivalent standard to the nominated player they are replacing in that match and so cannot play in a singles position higher than the player they are replacing. Nominated players cannot play below their nominated singles position, but may play up in a higher singles position (as long as the team adheres to correct singles order of merit).
9. Any team not playing in their correct and approved singles order of merit shall lose any singles rubbers where the player has played out of the nominated singles order of merit and the team will also lose the match points. Change in Singles Order of Merit: Any singles order of merit changes must be received in writing by no later than 12 Noon Thursday and approved by Tennis Victoria before it can be used in any match. After the fourth round, no singles order of merit changes will be accepted.
10. Any player nominated in a team may not play as an emergency in a lower grade team. No player, having played three times in a team, is eligible to play in an equivalent or lower team.
11. If an association has more than one team in a grade, nominated or emergency players can play with both teams through the home and away season. Once they have played three matches with one team, they are tied to that team. If an emergency player plays three matches they are eligible to play in finals.
12. No player will be permitted to play out of age (in older age group) as an emergency on more than two occasions in one season without prior approval from Tennis Victoria.

### Matches

13. Tennis balls which are nationally approved will be adopted by Tennis Victoria for the Associations Junior League. Eight new balls must be provided by the home team for each match. Green modified balls must be used for 10/u matches.
14. Tennis Australia's Code of Behaviour, National Extreme Weather Policy and Member Protection By-law will apply to all matches.
15. No alterations can be made to the place, date or time of a match, without the approval of Tennis Victoria.
16. Matches will commence at 8:30 am (9:00 am for 18/u section). All players of each team shall be in attendance at 8:30 am (9:00 am for 18/u section). If all players are not in attendance by 8:45 am (9:15 am for 18/u section) then those singles rubbers involving the missing players are forfeited. If all players are still not in attendance by 9:30 am (10:00 am for 18/u section) then those doubles rubbers involving the missing players are also forfeited. All other rubbers must still be played. Two points will be awarded for each rubber won.
17. Where a team elects to play a rubber that may be awarded to them as a default because an opposing player's late arrival, once the relevant rubber has commenced (1 point played) that team may not subsequently claim that rubber as a default for punctuality reasons.
18. If no members of a team are present by 9:00 am (9:30 am for 18/u section) then the match will be forfeited.
19. For home and away matches that do not commence by 9:30 am (10:00 am for 18/u section) because of adverse weather conditions will be a draw. For finals matches that do not commence by 10:00am because of adverse weather conditions the first placed team will be declared the winner.
20. For home and away matches where a delay occurs because of adverse weather conditions after



the commencement of play, the match shall be abandoned by both teams after a continuous period of 60 minutes - or earlier if mutual agreement of each nominated team representative. Remaining rubbers will be a draw and all points equally shared. For finals matches where a delay occurs because of adverse weather conditions after the commencement of play, the match shall be abandoned by both teams after a continuous period of 90 minutes and the first placed team will be declared the winner.

21. Matches must be played across a minimum of two courts. Four courts may be used for a match, but this requires mutual agreement from both team representatives.
22. Matches cannot change surfaces once commenced unless mutual agreement is reached by both teams. During finals, this decision is at the Referees discretion (if one is present).
23. Each team must record singles players in their singles order of merit and doubles pairings on the score sheet prior to the commencement of play. There is no doubles order of merit.
24. Each match will consist of four singles and two doubles rubbers (mixed doubles for 18/u section). Singles rubbers are to be the best of two tie-break sets. At six games all (in any set) a seven point tie-break will be played. At one set all, a match tie- break (10 point tie-break) will be played. Doubles rubbers are to be an eight game pro-set (at eight games all a seven point tie-break will be played).
25. All singles rubbers are to be played first, followed by the doubles rubbers. The away team has choice of first rubber, the home team has second choice, away third, home team fourth.
26. Home and away matches will cease at 1:00 pm with any game in progress to be completed.
27. Wash-outs and unfinished matches (without a result) will be a draw in home and away matches.
28. The winner of each match shall be decided by the number of rubbers won and, if equal, then by the number of sets won and, if equal, then the number of games won. A Match tiebreak will count as both a set, and a game.
29. Six points shall be awarded to the team that wins the overall match and three points will be awarded to each team when the match is a draw. Two points will be awarded for each rubber won. For home and away matches where one team has an incomplete team, the complete team will be awarded the six points regardless of the results of the rubbers. For finals matches, a team may still win the match if a player short.
30. Match results must be recorded online at [matchcentre.tennis.com.au/dashboard](http://matchcentre.tennis.com.au/dashboard) by the home team no later than 12:00pm on the Monday following each match. In the event of a draw, wash-out or walkover, the home team must still record the result online. Late recording of results may incur a \$33 fine.
31. Protests: Any association shall have the right to protest as a result of any matter or thing arising during or after a match. Where possible "Match Played Under Protest" shall be recorded on the score sheet when the score sheet is signed by both team representatives. All protests must be lodged by the association, in writing, on association letterhead, containing full particulars of such protest to Tennis Victoria by 5pm on the Tuesday after the match to which the protest relates. The Competitions Committee shall consider and determine each protest and Tennis Victoria will notify the association having an interest in such protest of its determination.
32. If an Association wishes to lodge an appeal, the appeal must be lodged to Tennis Victoria, along with the prescribed \$100 fee by 5:00pm two days from the day the notification of a determination was given. Appeals shall be heard as soon as practicable by an Appeals Tribunal consisting of three members who shall consider the appeal and notify clubs and players of its determination. If the appeal is upheld by the Appeals Tribunal the Appeal fee will be fully refunded to the Applicant.

## Finals

33. The total number of points awarded per team determines ladder positions.
34. Finals play off: In six team sections, teams finishing first and second playoff at the home site of the first placed team, third and fourth play at the home of the third placed team, and fifth and sixth play at the home of the fifth placed team. In five team sections, first and second playoff at the home site of the first placed team, and third through fifth will play a modified round-robin at the third placed team's home site. Four team sections will not play finals in 2020.
35. In the event that two or more teams are equal on points at the end of the season, the tie will be broken by the number of matches won, and if still equal, percentage of rubbers won, and if still equal, by the percentage of sets won, and if still equal by the percentage of games won.
36. No player may play in a finals match unless two matches have been played in the competition. This includes matches that the player is listed in that were forfeited or abandoned due to adverse weather. Any other changes need prior permission from Tennis Victoria.



37. Teams for finals matches may consist of a minimum of four and a maximum of six eligible players.
38. Should there be a tie in any finals match, after a five minute warm-up, the nominated doubles pairs from each team shall each play a standard seven point tie-break game. (pair 1 v pair 1, pair 2 v pair 2). If tied at one tie-break all, a count-back on points shall be used. Should there still be a tie, this process shall be repeated until a result is gained.
39. If no result is able to be obtained on the finals day, then the team finishing first on the ladder will be declared the winner. Also refer to Rules 17, 20, 21.
40. Finals will be played without a pre-determined finish time.

**Tennis Victoria contact**

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For all results & fixtures please go to [matchcentre.tennis.com.au](http://matchcentre.tennis.com.au)

