



# VICTORIA UTR SERIES



## Rules & Regulations

Requirements and Guidelines for Victorian UTR Series



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### 1. Introduction

UTR Victorian Series events are designed to give players competitive matches against people of a

similar ability by implementing the Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) system. Players are drawn against each other based on their rating. All players are on the same rating scale of 1.0 – 16.5. This differs from with the Australian Ranking system where male and female players are on separate ranking bands.

Unlike Australian Ranking Tournaments, rating bands through the UTR system will be used to separate players in to draws. Male and female players will be combined, which means that there may be instances where boys and girls play matches against each other.

The main aim of UTR Victorian Series events is to ensure that all players are playing matches against players of similar ability. This will be integral in the improvement of the player pathway in Victoria, where players of all levels and ability will be able to have an enjoyable match playing experience.

## 2. Balls

As per the approved ball requirements. Visit <https://www.tennis.com.au/learn/courts-and-surfaces/resources/approved-balls>

## 3. Entry Fee

Each club will determine the entry fee with a maximum cost of \$35 to be charged to each player for each Victorian Series event that they participate in.

## 4. Entering Victorian Series

Entries will only be accepted online via the [UTR website](#).

In addition, each player or guardian (if player is under 18 years) must complete the [Player Declaration Form](#) before play.

### 4.1. Universal Tennis Rating

UTR will be used in all Victorian Series events to determine where players sit in their respective draws.

Information about UTR including how your rating is calculated can be found [here](#).

### 4.2. Claiming Your Profile

All players who play in Victorian Series events **MUST** have a UTR profile. If you have played Australian Ranking Tournaments, Tennis Victoria Pennant, Tennis Victoria Regional Team Events or Junior Development Series (JDS) matches over the past year, there is a possibility that you have a profile already.

If you don't already have a profile, please use the below information and link to join and you can start your journey as a player.

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#### Here's How To Get Started!

Step 1: Go to [MyUTR.com](#).

Step 2: **Click Join** at the top-right corner of the page.

Step 3: Enter your email address and a password and **click Sign Up With Email**.

Step 4: Enter your profile info! Note that if you're signing up for your child, this information and e-mail address should be uniquely their own as each child needs their own account at [MyUTR.com](#).

Step 5: **Click Continue as a player**.

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Further information can be found [here](#).

#### 4.3. Multiple Player Profiles

As we start to transition toward a player rating system, there may be instances where you see your name appear multiple times. To help ensure that you have the most correct and up to date profile, you may be required to submit a profile merge request. Players must perform this action themselves. To submit a request, you will need to [click here](#) and submit the request.

#### 4.4. Player Registration

All players who play in Victorian Series events **MUST** be a registered member of Tennis. All players must provide their Tennis registration number upon entry into all Victorian Series events. A player's registration number is an 11 digit number starting with 61. If a player cannot provide their registration number they will need to become a member of their club and contact Tennis Australia Customer Service on 1800 PLAY TENNIS (1800 752 983) to be given their number.

**If an event allows a player to play without being registered and an incident occurs, the club may compromise their position with regards to insurance.**

#### 4.5. Up to Date Player Information

As per any other Tennis Victoria Tournaments and Competitions, the primary method of communication with players and parents will be via email. The onus is on the players and parents to ensure that their contact information is up to date. Emails will need to be regularly checked leading up to and during the event to ensure relevant information is being received.

#### 4.6. Late Entries and Reserve Lists

The acceptance of late entries is prohibited at Victorian Series events. Players and parents are required to be accountable and organised in their commitment to playing these events.

All events will be on a 'First-in, First Served' basis. Once a draw is full, players will be placed on the reserve list, no matter what their rating is.

When there are reserve lists for events, it is up to the Victorian Series organisers to communicate to these players regarding the process and what is required from them.

### 5. Draws and Format

All Victorian Series events will be held over 1 day.

Events and draw sizes are to be confirmed and will be dependent upon current government restrictions. Draws will be determined by player's UTRs. Players who do not have a UTR will be placed with players of similar rating or ability.

There will be no finals played at Victorian Series Events.

#### Victorian Series Matches Format –

- All matches will be singles
- Best of 3 FAST4 Sets, with No Ad scoring
- A set is complete once a player/team reaches four (4) games.
- Lets are played in accordance with the rules of tennis
- A FAST4 tie-break is played when the score reaches three (3) games all.  
In a FAST4 tie-break, the player/team who first wins five (5) points shall win the set, with a deciding point played at 4-4. The player whose turn it is to serve at the commencement of the tie-break (Player A) will serve two (2) points starting on the right half of the court. The opposing player (Player B) will then serve two (2) points starting on the right half of the court. Player A will then serve two (2) points. Player B will then serve the following two (2) points.  
If the score reaches 4-4, Player B will serve the final point of the tie-break with the receiver(s) choosing whether to receive the serve from the right half or the left half of the court.

For further information regarding the Fast4 scoring rules please see <http://www.fast4tennisrules.com/>

It is the responsibility of both players to ensure that the correct score is being reported back to the tournament director during the day. Scores reported on the day will stand as final.

## 6. Withdrawal Deadline and Procedure

Once a player has entered a Victorian Series event, they are expected to play unless prevented by **illness or injury**. For all Victorian Series events, the withdrawal deadline is the same as the entry deadline, unless entries close early due to oversubscription. If entries do close early, the withdrawal deadline will remain as the original entry closing deadline.

Players are no longer required to provide a medical certificate to support their withdrawal, however, players are entitled to three late withdrawals per calendar year, across the tournaments system, before penalties are imposed.

Players will be issued one (1) disciplinary point under the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour policy when they have incurred their fourth late withdrawal in a calendar year.

### Note:

- It is the responsibility of the player to be aware of the correct withdrawal procedures
- Players are advised to keep copies of all withdrawal documentation in case of appeal
- Withdrawal notification must be in writing by email, (not via SMS or social media channels) and submitted to the Tournament Director or Referee prior to the start of the tournament
- Tournaments reserve the right to request a medical certificate at any time to support a withdrawal. Failure to provide a certificate when requested will result in a late withdrawal code violation.

**If anyone in your family is unwell, we respectfully request that you stay at home and do not attend the event.**

## 6.1 Refunds

Players will be provided with a full refund should they withdraw before the entry deadline. Players that withdraw after the entry deadline will not be entitled to a refund.

## 7. Venue Appearance and Amenities

All Victorian Series venues must present a venue that is safe, neat and tidy and adhere to the following requirements:

- Clearly defined entrance
- Gardens and grounds maintained
- Courts and surrounds welcoming and presentable
- Change room, and toilets available
- Noticeboards and tournament office
- Venues must provide an appropriately stocked first aid kit at each venue
- Food and/or canteen facilities

## 8. Code of Conduct

**The Code of Behaviour** applies to parents, coaches and friends off the court as well as players on the court. **Any interference from any parties off the court will not be tolerated.** The Referee or Venue Supervisor must submit a report following completion of the Victorian Series event, where any necessary follow-up can take place.

Officiating Requirements are the following;

1 x Court Supervisor / Court Monitor per 8 courts.

If venues are using more than 8 courts, a second official is recommended. This can be in the form of a Court Monitor.

Venue Supervisors are available to deal with player behaviour, player dress code, off-court parent/coach interference, player disputes, playing conditions (i.e. inclement weather).



## 9. Filming, Photography and use of image

### 9.1 Publicity, Promotions and Use of Image

I. In consideration of accepting your entry into the Victorian Series, you grant and assign to Tennis Victoria (TV) and the Event Host and any applicable third party (at the reasonable discretion of TV) the right in perpetuity throughout the world to make, use, show and reproduce moving pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television, sound recordings and any other reproductions of any description of you during or in connection with the Victorian Series. You agree that your name, voice, likeness, image and biographical material may also be used and reproduced in any way for the purpose of providing information and news in relation to the super series, audio visual coverage, distribution and broadcast of the super series, archival purposes, and publicising, promoting and advertising Tennis Victoria and the series. You acknowledge and agree that this usage, including for commercial purposes, is without compensation or notice to you, heirs, executors, administrators or assigns.

II. TA or the Event Host may appoint third parties to attend selected Series events and produce recordings of on-court action (Authorised Filming). Third parties appointed to conduct Authorised Filming may make and reproduce still and motion pictures of participants for the purposes of selling footage back to TA, broadcasters or participants. You must give verbal or written notice to any person conducting Authorised Filming prior to the match starting if you do not wish to be filmed. It is your responsibility to seek out the person conducting Authorised Filming if you do not wish to be filmed. TA and the Event Host will take reasonable steps to comply with your wishes regarding filming, subject to any agreements regarding broadcast of Series matches.

### 9.2 Filming and Photography

You acknowledge that, other than for private domestic purposes only, you and your coach, trainers and other guests are strictly prohibited from taking any photographs, still images, sound recordings, visual footage, audio-visual footage and any other reproductions in connection with the Series by any means (Recordings) for commercial purposes. If you do take any Recordings without TAs consent you will, on request from TA:

- a) assign all copyright and all other intellectual property rights in the Recordings to TA; and
- b) consent to TAs use, dealing and exploitation of the Recordings for any purpose in any media in perpetuity world-wide and without payment to you.

Filming or photography of players on court for private domestic purposes is only permitted where:

- a) both players provide their express consent both to the filming/photography and to the purpose for which it is being taken (or, where a player is under 18, their parent or guardian provides express consent);
- b) the Event Host provides its express consent to the proposed filming/photography on its premises; and
- c) a flash is not used.

Filming and photography is strictly prohibited in restricted areas of a Series including change rooms.

At all times, the referee has discretion in relation to filming and photography. Any person acting inappropriately in the opinion of the referee may be directed to cease taking photographs/film, may have his/her recording device confiscated while onsite at the event or may be asked to leave the venue.

TA may arrange for officials to wear cameras to record matches at the Series and their interactions with players and other attendees at the tournament. By participating in the Series, you consent to your voice, name, image, and/or likeness being recorded and used for monitoring, training and education purposes.