



# TENNIS VICTORIA LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS REGULATIONS 2026

## Conditions of Entry

1. Teams must have won an open-age or adult premiership in a Tennis Victoria-affiliated association between 1 April 2025 and 29 March 2026.
  - a. If no team from an association section wishes to participate, teams finishing second or below may apply to participate.
2. Players must have played three times for their team during the association season unless they have received express written permission from Tennis Victoria to participate.
3. Teams must have a minimum of four players and a maximum of eight players on their roster.
4. A minimum of four players must be able to participate in each round for the entirety of the Championships.
5. If a qualifying team does not have the minimum number of participants, additional players may be added to the team as long as they have played the minimum number of qualifying matches in the same association and have a doubles UTR equal or lower than the team average or they have a lower doubles UTR than a base rostered player from that team's season that is not participating in the Championships.
  - a. Tennis Victoria reserves the right to approve additional players that do not meet this requirement in exceptional circumstances.
6. Players may only participate for one team during the Championships unless given approval by Tennis Victoria.
7. Not all team applications may be accepted and Tennis Victoria reserves the right to determine accepted teams by any criteria they deem appropriate.

## Matches

1. Team matches in four-team groups will consist of four advantage-scoring eight-game doubles sets, with a seven-point tiebreaker played at 7-7. Team matches in five or six-team groups will consist four advantage-scoring six-game doubles sets, with a seven-points tiebreaker played at 5-5. Match formats may be altered at the sole discretion of Tennis Victoria.
2. A minimum of four players may participate in a match, with a maximum of six.
3. Two courts will be used for all matches.
4. Four new, Tennis Australia-approved balls will be used for each team match, with two balls for each court.
5. The match format will consist of the following doubles combinations:  
1+2 v 1v2, 3+4 v 3+4  
1+3 v 1+3, 2+4 v 2+4
6. Two extra players may be substituted into the second doubles sets in any position, for a maximum of six players used in each match.
7. If both players have not arrived on court ready to play five minutes after matches are called, the loss of toss and first game may be given to their opponents. If both players have not arrived on court ready to play ten minutes after their match is called, they will lose the toss and the first two games will be given to their opponents. A set will be deemed a forfeit if both players have not arrived on court ready to play



15 minutes after matches are called. If both players have not arrived 30 minutes after the match is called, the team match will be a forfeit.

8. Matches may be called up to 15 minutes prior to their scheduled start time, or earlier if both teams are present and courts are available.

#### **Ladder Sorting and Finals Advancement**

1. A round-robin will be played in each group.
2. Ladder sorting will be determined by team matches won, then by sets won percentage, then by games won percentage, then by head-to-head matchup.
  - a. If two teams are still drawn at the top of the ladder, then both teams will select a doubles combination and they will play a seven-point tiebreaker to determine the team that advances if there is a State Championship match in that grade.
3. Teams may be placed in two subdivision groups within a grade, named A and B, and play a round-robin solely within their subdivision group.
  - a. The teams that finish on top of the A and B groups using the ladder sorting method will advance to the State Championship match for their grade.
4. Players do not need to have participated in any round-robin matches to participate in the State Championship match.
5. If State Championship matches end in a draw, both teams will select one doubles combination and those combinations will play a ten-point tiebreaker to determine the State Champion.

#### **Powers of Tennis Victoria**

1. Tennis Victoria reserves the absolute right to make any determination or alteration on these rules as they see fit for the betterment of the competition before, during, or after the Championships.