



# Tennis Victoria Country Week

*Event Conditions and Rules*

**13 - 17 February 2023  
Yarrawonga**

## Tennis Victoria Country Week 2023 – Event Conditions and Rules

- 1 This event shall be played in accordance with the ITF Rules of Tennis except where altered by the regulations, policies and conditions as follows.
- 2 Team entries are completed through the League Manager online system with each player entered with their unique profile.
- 3 Each team may nominate up to eight players. The names of the players nominated must be registered in the online team entry form. If 8 players have all played at least 1 game for the same team, then the Team Captain must obtain the Tournament Director's approval to play a 9th player in either a round or in the semi-final or final (and subject to clause 19). Unless prior consent has been obtained from the Tournament Director, any team playing a non-nominated player, in any match, shall forfeit the set(s) that this player has played.
- 4 Teams may nominate in A, Special B, B, Special C or C grade, but the final classification and grading is at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 5 When a Club, Centre or Association has multiple teams entered, a nominated player cannot play in a lower grade than the team they are nominated for unless prior permission has been obtained from the Tournament Director.
- 6 When a Club, Centre or Association has two or more teams in the same grade, a player having played three matches with a team in that grade is then tied to that team only. Said player can play up in a higher graded team, but not in a lower graded team or in another team in that same grade.
- 7 All matches in all grades must be doubles only. I.e Player 1 and 2 and Player 3 and 4 of Team A play Player 1 and 2 and Player 3 and 4 of Team B for Rubber 1. For Rubber 2 Player 1 and 2 of Team A play Player 3 and 4 of Team B.
- 8 As per the fixture, the first named team is the Home team and the other team is the Away team.
- 9 All rubbers in all grades shall play an 8 game set. If scores are level at 7 all, a tie – break (first to 7 points with a 2pt advantage) is played. This applies to all rounds and all finals matches. Please note for finals Condition No.21
- 10 **To substitute an injured player**  
In case of injury, a substitute player may be utilised only when a rubber is incomplete. The players of the teams shall be nominated prior to the commencement of each rubber, by recording their names on the official score sheet provided. No alteration to the players of the team shall be allowed during the progress of a rubber except with the permission of the Tournament Director for illness, injury or another sufficient reason.  
Should the Tournament Director approve the substitution of a player, the team is to forfeit the uncompleted set (games played will stand) and the substitute can take the subbed out player's place in the remaining un-played set only. A substitute player will not be permitted if the first rubber is completed.

### **To play a fifth player**

Teams will be permitted to play a fifth player by substituting them into the round matches. This player must be named on the scorecard prior to the round commencing. The player may take the place of another player in the team, allowing 2 players only to play 1 rubber each. Your remaining pair must remain consistent for both rubbers. Matches played will contribute to players' eligibility. (The intent of this rule is to allow more than 4 players to play a round). Teams may use the 'fifth player' ruling in all home and away matches only.

- 11 If a team is 10 minutes late reporting to the Tournament Box for their match, the team at fault shall lose 1 game for each 5 minutes that they are late. If they are more than 30 minutes late, the team at fault shall lose the first set 8-0. If a team is unable to field a complete team (4 available players named on the scorecard for that round), 60 minutes after the scheduled time of play, that team shall forfeit the match and no points shall be awarded to that team. The other team will be awarded the two sets 8-0 8-0.
- 12 If a *default* is made by any team without sufficient cause being shown, their opponents shall be awarded the win (6 points on the ladder) and shall be credited with 4 sets, 32 games and the match will apply for that teams' players for finals eligibility. This decision is at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 13 All round matches will be of 3 hours duration. E.g. 9am to 12 noon. When time is called by the Tournament Box, matches are to finish (the game or tie-breaker currently being played is to be completed only). Prior to the end of each round, a 15 minute warning prior will be announced. In the case of inclement weather (rain or heat etc), the Tournament Director has the discretion to reduce the time allocated for each round.
- 14 Teams must only use the courts allocated for that match. Where possible, an extra court may also be used for some matches as advised by the Tournament Box before play commences. The extra court must be shared fairly amongst the teams in that grade. Access and use of the extra court(s) will be the discretion of Tournament Box before the round commences.
- 15 The winner of each match shall be decided by the number of games won, and if equal on games, then by the number of sets won. A point shall be awarded for each set won and two points awarded for winning the overall match (6 points maximum if you win everything). At least one set must be completed to award the overall win. No point(s) shall be awarded for an incomplete set due to inclement weather or due to time constraints at the end of each round, however, the games won will tally to the overall game total of the match. If a minimum of one set is not completed in a round, no win points will be allocated. No point(s) shall be awarded for a bye.
- 16 At the conclusion of each match, the Captain of the winning team will confirm the scores with the opposition captain and will then return the scorecard to the Tournament Box. Should an addition or any other error be discovered by the Tournament Box, the Tournament Director will call one or both Team Captains to the Tournament Box to resolve any error.
- 17 In the event of any teams in a grade being equal on points at the conclusion of the rounds, the ladder shall be decided by total sets won and if equal, by the percentage of games won over games lost. If still equal, then the head to head result of the teams will be used to determine the

placing. Should no head to head result exist, one pair nominated by each team shall play a 7 point tie-break to decide the higher placed team. All nominated players for this tie-break must meet the eligibility to participate in the semi-finals.

- 18 In the semi-finals and finals only, in the event of a drawn outcome, the first named pairs (Players 1 and 2) on the score sheet shall play a first to 7 point tie-break to decide the winner of the match.
- 19 To be eligible to participate in semi-finals or the final, a player must have played in a minimum of three matches with that team. Players must only play in semi finals or finals with their one team.
- 20 In all finals matches, should inclement weather interfere and cause matches to be abandoned after they have commenced, the following will apply: unless an overall team win result has been obtained (at least one set won), the team finishing higher on the ladder after the rounds, shall be declared the winner.

Should finals be abandoned before commencing, the team who finished higher on the ladder after the rounds shall be declared the winner.

- 21 All semi-final & finals matches are to be played to a result only. I.e when a team has scored enough games/sets won that it is impossible for the other team to win, the match is complete.
- 22 Dunlop Australian Open approved tennis balls will be provided by Tennis Victoria and used throughout the event.
- 23 Team names, and logo's displayed on tennis uniforms must be appropriate and not contravene Tennis Victoria or Event sponsors. This decision will be at the Tournament Directors' discretion.
- 24 Conditions 3, 5, 6, 9, 18 and 21 may be altered at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 25 Any team that enters and participates in one or more match and then intends to forfeit, must inform the Tournament Box at their earliest convenience of their intention to withdraw from the rest of the tournament. Permission to forfeit must be given by the Tournament Director.
- 26 In the case of a team withdrawing because of forfeit, an average of points (to 2 decimal places), sets and games of the opposing teams that have completed matches against the withdrawn team, will be allocated to each of the remaining teams in this grade, and will be added to their overall totals, after each day's matches have been played.
- 25 Conditions of participation for players  
All matches shall be played under the Country Week Conditions of Participation, ITF Rules Tennis as adopted by Tennis Victoria, Tennis Australia's Procedures for Matches without a Chair umpire, and the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour Policy and Disciplinary Policy. The Tennis Australia National Extreme Weather Policy shall also apply. A copy of these documents is available from <https://www.tennis.com.au/competitiveplay/regulations>