Yarraville Tennis Club is what is known as a “grass roots” tennis club. This means that we cater for players from beginners to highly competitive. We use the International Tennis Number (ITN) Standards as a guide to assess your level of tennis achievement and to suggest, if your achievement level meets the minimum standard, the type of competition suitable for your standard. The ITN’s are listed below. Those of you who attend coaching should ask your coach to assess you against the ITN’s Standards. Then you will be sure you select a competition suitable for your current ability.

Players who wish to play **Social Night Tennis (SNT) Competitions** need to be playing at an intermediate standard at a minimum of **No 7 Standard**.

At the start of each SNT season we start with a grading night where players are randomly mixed to give an initial starting ranking within the competition.

After three weeks of the season, players in lowest group will be assessed by a coach who will provide guidance for improvement. The coach will work with the group for a total of three weeks to assist their competitive ability. If any players do not meet the Level 7 entry requirements, YTC will:

* refund the payment for the remainder of the season, or
* put the money towards further group coaching on the same night or
* allow the recreational group to play independent of the main competition (if there are enough players).

Players who are assessed at Recreational level only, will not be eligible for future competitions until a coach has verified, they are at level 7 standard or above. This will ensure that all players are ensured of competitive tennis even at the lower levels of development.

The following checklist is the expectation for all players

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **YTC Night Tennis Self-Assessment** | **Yes/ No** |
| * I can play in a rally of more than 7 hits or ball returns
 |  |
| * I can play doubles with one player on the net one and one player on the baseline
 |  |
| * I can serve consistently with no more than one double fault per game
 |  |
| * I can return serve consistently
 |  |
| * I can consistently return balls on my forehand (4 out of 5 balls)
 |  |
| * I can consistently return balls on my backhand (4 out of 5 balls)
 |  |
| * I can move towards the net to return short balls
 |  |
| * I can hit a forehand volley
 |  |
| * I can play a backhand volley
 |  |
| * I can lob a ball as required
 |  |

* Players who can answer **yes to 7 or more** of these criteria should be at the appropriate standard.
* Players who can answer **yes to 5** of these criteria could **request to hit** with someone to confirm standard
* Players who can answer yes to **less than 5** of these criteria should **seek some coaching** to play in competitions.