

Tennis Seniors Association of South Australia Inc - TSSA



Trading Names: Tennis Seniors SA or South Park Tennis Seniors Centre
ABN: 48 070 901 457
Location: (located in the Adelaide Park Lands)
opposite 118 Greenhill Rd. UNLEY SA 5061
Postal Address: attn TSSA Secretary,
2/33A Old Tapleys Hill Rd, GLENELG NORTH SA 5045
Email: secretarytenniseniorssa@gmail.com
Website: <https://play.tennis.com.au/TennisSeniorsSA>

Person/s with Lead Responsibility:
TSSA Secretary & TSSA Competitions Manager

Approved:
by TSSA Committee: 17 November 2020

Next Review Date:
ASAP after 2022 AGM

TSSA's RULES for Seasonal Competitions SUMMER (October-March) & WINTER (April-September) held at South Park Tennis Seniors Centre

1. MANAGEMENT

The **TSSA Committee** has overall control of all tennis competitions played at the **South Park Tennis Seniors Centre** ("the **Centre**") and shall appoint a committee member as **TSSA Competitions Manager**, who is responsible to ensure that a **Competition Coordinator/s** is/are appointed for each competition conducted by **TSSA** at the **Centre**.

2. REGISTRATION

Every player who plays in more than 3 matches in a ***TSSA Seasonal Competition** must be a **Financial Member of TSSA** and have paid all relevant **TSSA membership subscriptions** as fixed at the previous **TSSA Annual General Meeting**.

Teams may include a player who is not a **Financial Member of TSSA** provided that player's full name, date of birth and contact details are supplied to the **Competition Coordinator/s** by the **Team Captain** on the first occasion the player participates in the Competition and further provided the player has not played more than 3 matches in that season's **TSSA Seasonal Competition**.

A player who is not a **Financial Member of TSSA** and wishes to play a fourth or subsequent match in a **TSSA Seasonal Competition**, must become a **Financial Member of TSSA** and pay current or prorate **TSSA membership subscription**. **Team Captains** and the **Competition Coordinator/s** can support a player in completing and submitting their **TSSA Membership Application**, if needed.

Team Captains are encouraged to use **TSSA members** as "Fill-ins" and/or "Emergencies", particularly new members not yet having regular membership in a team.

* **TSSA** generally organises and conducts two seasons of competitions each **TSSA Competition Year** referred to as **SUMMER COMPETITION** (approximately October-March) and **WINTER COMPETITION** (approximately April-September)

3. MATCH FEES

Each team must pay the fixed **Weekly Match Fee** in full to the **Competition Coordinator/s** prior to the commencement of each match.

Team Captains are to arrange collection of an equal share of the **Weekly Match Fee** from their players before the commencement of each match.

4. MATCH PROCEDURES

4.1 Behaviour

All matches MUST be played in accordance with Tennis Australia's [Code of Behaviour: Tournaments and Weekly Competitions](#) ("the Code"), with players obligated to ensure that match and tournament violations as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Code do not occur.

All players are required to comply with **TSSA's Tennis Etiquette & Rules for Non-Umpired Matches** which is affixed as APPENDIX A to this document.

Any player whose on-court or off-court behaviour at the Centre breaches the Code shall be reported by their *Competition Coordinator/s* to the *TSSA Competitions Manager/TSSA Member Protection Information Officer* who will manage the complaint adhering to PART IV – COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE in [Tennis Australia's \(TA's\) Member Protection Policy](#). Where a tribunal finds adversely for the offending player, they have a right of appeal adhering to the procedures as outlined in **Clause 16 Appeals** in TA's Member Protection Policy.

If required, an appropriate penalty will be determined as outlined in the Code. Severe penalties can include a player being suspended or being barred from **TSSA Competitions**.

4.2 Commencement of Matches

Scheduled weekly competition matches must commence with at least one doubles match commencing at the scheduled starting time and play must be continuous. Hit ups should be restricted to 5 minutes for players' first match, then 2-3 minutes (if any) for later matches to ensure matches are completed at a reasonable hour.

A **FORFEIT** may be imposed if a team is unable to field a starting double within *fifteen* minutes of the time set for commencement of matches. All players must be present within 5 minutes of the first set finishing or a forfeit of the next scheduled set for the absent player/s can be claimed. If a *Team Captain* is unable to put a further set on the court within five minutes of completion of any set, the team will be liable to forfeit that match.

4.3 Composition of Team and Match Formats

Men's or Women's Seasonal Competition Teams are generally to consist of 4 or 5 players listed in Order of Merit. Mixed Seasonal Competition Teams shall consist of 2 or 3 Men and 2 or 3 Women, with the Men and Women listed respectively in Order of Merit.

MATCHES generally, consist of 2 nine-game sets, with tiebreaker at 8 games all, and 4 six-game sets, with tiebreaker at 6 games all, but may consist of 6 six-game sets if later starting time is required. Tiebreaker, if required, shall be first to 7 points, with a 2-point advantage or continue after 7 points until a 2-point advantage.

If the number of players nominating for a Seasonal Competition is low, teams may consist of 3 players, with matches consisting of 3 nine-game sets, with tiebreaker at 8 games all.

Variations to team numbers and/or match formats for a seasonal competition may be made by the *TSSA Competitions Manager* in consultation with the relevant *Competition Coordinator/s*, with all decisions underpinned by the first **Object of TSSA**, namely *"To encourage, promote and advance the continued playing of Tennis by senior players irrespective of standard"*.

5. FORFEITS

In the event of a team forfeit becoming known before the starting time of a match, the **Team Captain** of the team forfeiting must notify their opposing **Team Captain** as soon as practicable and also notify their **Competition Coordinator**, to ensure that the forfeit is accurately recorded on the **Score Sheet** by the **Competition Coordinator***.

Any forfeits made on the night of a match but prior to the commencement of match (e.g. due to non-arrival of a player) will take precedence over any forfeits occurring during that match (e.g. due to injury). An injured player unable to complete a set or the match will forfeit any incomplete set. Any other eligible player may be a substitute in the remaining set/s. The conditions of **RULE 8** will apply to a player from another team.

When a **Competition Coordinator submits the signed **Score Sheet** regarding the Forfeit to the TSSA Recorder/s it will be ensured that individual player ranking records are not adversely affected.*

6. SCORING FOR MATCHES

Team Captains must list the Family Name AND Given Name (*plus preferred*) of each player on the **Score Sheet**, complete the results of their match and hand the **Score Sheet** to their **Competition Coordinator**.

Matches will be decided by sets and where sets are even, then by games. 2 points shall be awarded for a win, and 1 point for a draw, plus 1 point for each set won. In the case of a team forfeit, the team receiving the forfeit will be awarded 8 points. In the event of an unfinished match, with no result having been reached, 1 point shall be allocated to each team playing in that round, plus 1 point for each set won with points for unfinished sets divided equally between each team.

To qualify for individual ranking (consistency) trophies, players must play in at least two-thirds of matches played in their respective divisions.

7. WEATHER CONDITIONS

Our processes in managing extreme weather conditions is based upon [Tennis Australia's Extreme Weather Policy \(25 November 2019\)](#) wherein each TSSA ***Competition Coordinator** makes environmental assessments based upon the Bureau of Meteorology's (BOM) [Estimated WBGT \(Wet Bulb Global temperature\) and Apparent Temperature for Kent Town and West Terrace/ngayirdapira stations](#) and weather forecasting for [Adelaide](#).

In the event of forecasted inclement or hot weather ($\geq 36^{\circ}\text{C}$ or $\text{WBGT} \geq 32.5^{\circ}\text{C}$), **Team Captains** may be notified by their **Competition Coordinator/s** the night before scheduled matches that matches have been cancelled. Where making an early determination regarding whether or not play can occur due to weather conditions could be problematic (e.g. night-time competition and/or cool change resulting in cooler temperatures) a **Competition Coordinator** will make the final determination 1½ hours before the scheduled starting time and if play is determined NOT possible, will notify the **Team Captains**. Players must report to the match venue unless their **Team Captain** has been notified of cancellation by their **Competition Coordinator/s**.

In the event of inclement or hot weather after the match commencement time, the **Competition Coordinator/s** will decide if play continues. In the event of play being *abandoned* due to the weather, a result in at least 25% of scheduled matches will constitute a valid round and unfinished matches will be scored in accordance with **RULE 6**.

**Competition Coordinators will monitor WBGT in hot weather and consider reducing match format when $\text{WBGT} > 30.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ and cease matches when $\text{WBGT} \geq 32.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ or $\geq 36^{\circ}\text{C}$.*

8. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Players may play for any team until they have played 5 matches with one team, after which the player becomes ineligible to play for any other team in the same competition, except in an emergency and with the prior approval of the opposing **Team Captain** and the **Competition Coordinator/s**. In such an instance, the Fill-in Player shall be of a similar or lower standard than the player being replaced. Players should only play in the division appropriate to their standard of play, except in an emergency and with the prior approval of the **Competition Coordinator/s** and opposing **Team Captain**.

9. QUALIFICATION FOR FINALS

To be eligible for finals, a player must be a **Financial Member of TSSA**, have paid all relevant **TSSA membership subscriptions** as fixed at the previous **TSSA Annual General Meeting**, and have played at least 3 minor round matches for the team wishing to nominate that player for the final. A player is only eligible to play in finals for the team in which that player first qualified.

The number of players who may be used in a Finals match shall accord with **RULE 4.3**, provided all players are eligible.

10. MAJOR ROUNDS

Finals *may* be played at the completion of the minor round.

In the event of a draw in any final, the four players on court *in the last match completed* will play a ONE MATCH (*ten point*) TIE-BREAK GAME to determine the result. Serve and ends to be decided by a toss in the usual manner.

In the event of a final match being washed out, the match is to be continued from the point at which play ceased. The match must be completed within two weeks on a date and at a time fixed by their **Competition Coordinator/s** after consultation with the 2 **Team Captains**. If any participating player in any previously un-completed set is not available to play, teams may substitute an eligible player of equal or lesser standard in the postponed match with the approval of their **Competition Coordinator/s**.

APPENDIX A:

Tennis Seniors Association of South Australia Inc - TSSA		
	Trading Names:	Tennis Seniors SA or South Park Tennis Seniors Centre
	ABN:	48 070 901 457
	Location:	(located in the Adelaide Park Lands) opposite 118 Greenhill Rd. UNLEY SA 5061
	Postal Address:	attn TSSA Secretary, 2/33A Old Tapleys Hill Rd, GLENELG NORTH SA 5045
	Email:	secretarytenniseniorssa@gmail.com
	Website:	https://play.tennis.com.au/TennisSeniorsSA
		Person/s with Lead Responsibility: TSSA Chairperson & Secretary Reviewed, updated, and approved by TSSA Committee: 17 November 2020

TSSA's TENNIS ETIQUETTE & RULES for Non-Umpired Matches

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION:

TSSA Committee has overall control of all competitions, social play/open court sessions and tournaments/carnivals it conducts.

TSSA Committee appoints committee member/s to act as **TSSA Competitions/TSSA Social Play Manager/s** whose responsibilities include the appointment of, and provision of support for **TSSA Competition Coordinators** and **TSSA Social Play/Open Court Coordinators**. These Manager/s are also appointed as **TSSA Member Protection Information Officer/s** to deal with any complaints that may arise adhering to the Complaints Procedure as outlined in Part IV of [Tennis Australia's \(TA's\) Member Protection Policy](#).

All matches in TSSA conducted competitions MUST be played in accordance with [TA's Code of Behaviour: Tournaments and Weekly Competitions](#), with players obligated to ensure that match and tournament violations as outlined in Appendix 1 do not occur.

All Players are required to comply with ***TSSA's Tennis Etiquette & Rules for Non-Umpired Matches** and TA's General Code of Conduct as outlined in TA's Member Protection Policy **Attachment A – General Code of Conduct**. *(copy included in this document)*

**Based upon relevant sections contained in Tennis Australia's [Member Protection Policy](#) and other resources contained on [Tennis Australia's website](#) and [Tennis SA's website](#), with modifications to suit TSSA's context.*

TENNIS ETIQUETTE

1. Players are always expected to clink racquets or elbow bump with their opponent(s) at the completion of a match. *(will revert to shaking hands post COVID-19)*
2. Do not enlist the aid of spectators in making line calls or attempting to determine the score or other on-court matters.
3. Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
4. To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have completed a point.
5. Do not stall, complain, be bad-tempered or practice gamesmanship.
6. In doubles, when returning service, the partner of the receiver should generally call the service line for the receiver. The receiver should generally call the centre and side service lines. The call needs to be loud enough to stop their opponents/partner continuing to play the point.
7. Loud comments, whether in relation to winning and/or losing a point is likely to cause interference to play on nearby courts, is considered unsportsmanlike conduct.
8. Constant overt celebration directed at an opponent may be considered intimidation, and therefore unsportsmanlike conduct.
9. If a player is unhappy with their opponent's actions or decisions, the player should refer to their **Team Captain** who will consult with their counterpart and if still unresolved, consult with their **Competition's Coordinator** and the **TSSA Competitions Manager** for further action, if required.
10. If a player involved in a TSSA Social Play/Open Court session is unhappy with their opponent's actions or decisions and cannot resolve the issue one-to-one, then the player should refer the issue to their **Social Play/Open Court Coordinator** who will endeavour to support them in resolving the issue, and if still unresolved, will request the player to put the issue in writing, for further investigation by the **TSSA Social Play Manager**.

RULES for NON-UMPIRED MATCHES

All Players should be aware of the following basic principles when playing a match without a Chair Umpire: -

1.	If in doubt, a player must give the benefit of any doubt to their opponent, particularly regarding line calls
2.	Each player is responsible for all calls on their side of the net and must also help their opponent/s make calls if their opponent/s request it, provided however any player can call a “foul shot” (e.g. ball bounces twice before being hit - “not-up”; ball has not reached the net when hit; or player’s racquet hits the net) and that these calls occur in a timely manner.
3.	Any “out”, “let” or “fault” call must be made immediately (i.e. made before either an opponent has hit the return, or the return has gone out of play); otherwise the ball continues in play. “Calls” must be verbal and clearly audible to the opponents/s, followed by a signal, if necessary. A service “Let” may be called by any of the participating players.
4.	If a player incorrectly calls a ball “out” and then realises that the ball was “good”, the point should be replayed, unless that point was a winning shot. However, if that same player has previously during the match incorrectly called a ball “out” and then realised the ball was “good”, that player who again called the ball “out” but realises the ball was “good”, will then lose the point.
5.	Players are prohibited from checking the mark of the ball on their opponents’ side of the court, unless invited by their opponents. Ball mark inspections are only permitted on clay courts. On clay courts if a player incorrectly calls a ball “out” and then realises that the ball was “good”, the player (and doubles partner where applicable) who called “out” loses the point.
6.	The receiver must play to the reasonable pace of the server, noting that there is a normal standard time of 20 seconds between points. Both players must ensure they restrict their warm-up time, and minimise time between points and at change of ends.
7.	To avoid controversy over the score, the server should announce the game score before starting a game and the point score prior to serving for each point and must be loud enough for the opponent/s to hear.
8.	<p>If players cannot agree on the score, they should calmly discuss the points/games that are disputed. All points or games which the players agree on stand and only those in dispute should be replayed i.e. two players cannot agree on whether the score is 40–30 or 30–40 and disagree only on who won the first point in the game. The game shall continue from 30–30, since both players agree that they have won two points each.</p> <p>When the game score is in dispute the same principles applies i.e. two players cannot agree on 4–3 or 3–4 and disagree only on who won the second game. The match shall continue from 3–3, since both players agree that they won three games each. The player who received in the last game that was played will serve in the next game.</p> <p>Where there is a score dispute, all participating players must make a reasonable effort to remember the actual score i.e. points/games played.</p>
9.	<p>If a player hinders their opponent/s this can be ruled involuntary or deliberate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">When a player has created an involuntary hindrance (e.g. ball falling out of pocket, hat falling off, etc.) the first time a “let” should be called and the player should be advised that any such hindrance thereafter, at the sole discretion of their opponent/s, may be ruled deliberate.Any hindrance caused by a player that is ruled deliberate will result in the loss of a point.

RULES for NON-UMPIRED MATCHES *(continued)*

All Players should be aware of the following basic principles when playing a match without a Chair Umpire: -

- | |
|--|
| <p>10. Where a ball interrupts play, either by rolling/bouncing onto the court, and/or creating a visible interruption behind the court, a “let” should be played.</p> |
| <p>11. Where a ball is lying on the court at the commencement of the point (1st or 2nd serve) it will be deemed to be part of the court during the rally. Movement of this ball during the rally does not constitute hindrance.</p> |
| <p>12. Players are entitled to request their opponent/s to remove the ball from the court prior to the commencement of the point.</p> |
| <p>13. All balls on a player/s side of the net are the responsibility of those player/s to pick up and return directly to the server, after the point is completed.</p> |
| <p>14. The receiver should not return the first service if it is an obvious fault – let it go by or ground it.</p> |
| <p>15. If at the completion of a match, the players involved realise that the scoring format used was incorrect (for example, no tie-break has been played at six-six or 8-8, or the wrong type of tie-break has been played), the score based upon the incorrect format shall stand provided all players have left the court enclosure. If the mistake is realised before the players have left the enclosure, the correct scoring format should be used to finalise the match. If this is not possible (i.e. the match has progressed beyond the point where the correct scoring format can be implemented), then the score based on the incorrect format stands.</p> |

Tennis Australia's MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

Attachment A -General Code of Conduct

As an Australian Tennis Organisation affiliated with Tennis Australia, members of TSSA are required to comply with Tennis Australia's Member Protection Policy. Each member is required to meet the following requirements as outlined in *Attachment A – General Code of Conduct* in regard to their conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by Tennis Australia and TSSA and in any role they hold within Tennis Australia or TSSA.

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
2. Be fair, considerate, and honest in all dealing with others. Each player is responsible for all calls on their side of the net and must also help their opponent/s make calls if their opponent/s request it, provided however any player can call a “foul shot” (e.g. ball bounces twice before being hit - “not-up”; ball has not reached the net when hit; or player’s racquet hits the net) and that these calls occur in a timely manner.
3. Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions.
4. Make a commitment to providing quality service.
5. Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to, Tennis Australia’s standards, rules, regulations, and policies.
6. Operate within the rules of the sport including national and international guidelines which govern Tennis Australia and Australian Tennis Organisations.
7. Do not use your involvement with Tennis Australia or an Australian Tennis Organisation to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of Tennis Australia and the Australian Tennis Organisations.
8. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
9. Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons under 18 years of age, wherever possible.
10. Refrain from any form of harassment of others.
11. Refrain from any behaviour that may bring Tennis Australia, and Australian Tennis Organisations into disrepute.
12. Provide a safe environment for the conduct of the activity.
13. Show concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured.
14. Be a positive role model.