



General Information – New Gisborne Tennis Club Junior Comp

Competition Rules and Code of Conduct

See MRTA JUNIOR COMPETITION BY-LAWS www.mrta.org.au/rules for Rules and Code of Conduct covering the Junior Comp. All families should have read the Rules and Code of Conduct.

Match Scheduling

A roster will be prepared by the Team Manager and provided to all players in advance of the first match. There will be an opportunity to adjust the roster in conjunction with the Team Manager.

Players are to arrive at the nominated courts by **8:45am** for a **9am** start on Saturday mornings and **5:45pm** for a **6pm** start on Friday evenings.

Team Managers

A team manager is nominated by the club each season. Where possible, a family will not be nominated as team manager for concurrent seasons.

Team Manager Responsibilities:

- Complete your team's draw for the season using the MRTA draw which is supplied by the Junior Coordinator
- Complete a player roster and duty family roster for the team
- Distribute the draw and duty roster to each team member
- Manage the team folder
- Organise finals rosters – playing and umpiring (see below)
- Distribute other information to team members as required
- Act as coordinator for roster changes, player unavailability and/or emergency players through the season as necessary
- Liaise with the other team manager by phone in advance of the match where it is obvious that play is not going to be possible due to rain or heat – See "Washouts" and "Extreme Heat Rule"

Duty Family

Every week, a family will be rostered for duty. It is expected that the Duty Family member will remain at the courts to supervise the team for the whole match (or ensure their responsibilities are delegated to another person if they need to leave).

Duty Family Responsibilities:

- **Home Matches:**
 - Bring team folder to the match
 - Open the courts and clubhouse
 - Welcome the opponents and liaise with the other team manager to fill in the playing order on the score sheet
 - Ensure there is court space allocated for the warm-ups for both teams
 - Access the balls cupboard and allocate balls for matches - see "Balls".
 - Arrange our umpires and liaise with the other team manager to allocate umpires – see "Umpires".
 - Ensure that the match starts on time and that play runs smoothly. Be available to assist to resolve any problems with the other team manager.
 - Manage the score sheet and ensure that scores are filled in and that the sheet is properly signed off by both teams at the end of the match – see "Score Sheets".
 - Ensure that the courts and clubhouse are left neat and tidy after the match and locked before leaving.
- **Away Matches:**
 - Liaise with the other team manager to fill in the playing order on the score sheet
 - Organise our team warm-ups and ensure they are ready by the scheduled start time
 - Arrange our umpires and liaise with the other team manager to allocate umpires
 - Be available to assist to resolve any issues that arise during the match with the home team manager
 - Ensure that our team signs off the score sheet and take a photo of the completed score sheet in case of lost scoresheet or any score dispute.
- All parents have provided consent by signing the Registration form, for emergency treatment to be provided to their children should the need arise. Contact details are provided in the team folder.

Match Format

- Section "D" consists of doubles sets only (3 doubles sets for each player). Other sections are singles/doubles (2 doubles, 1 singles for each player)
- **Sections A & B players are ranked and are to be played in their ranked order.** Players cannot play out of ranked order without a permit from the match committee. A loss of games won by a player playing out of order will be the penalty. Application for review of the team order can be made half way through the season.
- Matches in **Sections B and below** – sets are played as **first to 6 games, no tie breaker** at 5 all.
- **Section A** matches will have a **standard 12-point tie breaker** played at 6 games all.



Umpires

- **Sections A & B** are self-umpired
- **Sections C & D** requires parents to act as umpires. There is an expectation that each team provides umpires. Umpiring coaching is usually available from parents with umpiring experience (either our team or the opposing team).

Score Sheets

- **The home team is responsible for providing and completing the official scoresheet whether you win, lose or draw.**
- Ensure that the official scoresheet is fully completed (including date, section, and players' full names LEGIBLY WRITTEN).
- On completion, the score sheet should be left in the ball cupboard. The club representative will collect it and submit the results to MRTA.
- For away games, a photo of the completed and signed scoresheet should be retained by the Duty Manager as a back-up or just in case of any score dispute.

Balls

- New balls are to be provided by **home** team.
- Enough new balls are kept in the ball cupboard – the lock code will be provided to the Team Manager. If the stock of balls is getting low, contact the Junior Coordinator.
- At the end of play, all used balls should be collected and returned to the ball cupboard.
 - Once-used balls may be used for singles matches where extra courts are available (i.e. only one home match scheduled at NGTC).
 - Older used balls should be used for warm-ups.
- Some used balls may be retained by the Team Manager to take to away matches for warm-ups.

Washouts

- If play has not started and rain is falling or courts wet, wait one hour before declaring a washout. The official scoresheet is to be completed and marked "washout" and submitted as per usual.
- If rain begins during play and a washout is called, the match is drawn and marked as such on the scoresheets, unless it is the case where one team is in an unbeatable position. Completed sets should be marked on the scoresheet as these still count towards season points. The official scoresheet is to be completed and submitted as per usual.
- A decision to cancel may only be made in advance of the scheduled start time if it is obvious that play will not be possible due to heavy rain / flooded courts. In these circumstances, the Team Manager should liaise with the other team manager by phone, sufficiently in advance of the start time to avoid unnecessary travel for the away team, and the match may only be declared a washout if both team managers agree.

Forfeit

- If a team or player does not turn up, all the sets they are involved with are marked as a 6-0 victory for the opposition
- Specific MRTA rules apply for teams/players arriving late to matches. Should this circumstance arise, consult the MRTA rules and liaise with the other team manager to ensure a mutually agreeable outcome.

Injury

- If, during a game, a player is injured and cannot continue, an emergency player can replace them. If no emergency is available, then the player retains the number of games they have already won in the current set – the opponent is given 6 games.
- Specific MRTA rules apply for injuries and use of emergency players. Should this circumstance arise, consult the MRTA rules and liaise with the other team manager to ensure a mutually agreeable outcome.

Extreme Heat Rule

- The MRTA operates an extreme-heat rule and this must be strictly applied
- On days of extreme heat, the managers of each team shall measure the temperature in the centre of the court out of direct sunlight. Should the temperature be 34°C or above, no play shall take place. If there is a perception of an increase in temperature during the match, the temperature may be re-measured prior to the commencement of the new set. Should the temperature at this time be 34°C or above, play is to cease. Play can be halted at any time by mutual agreement of the team managers. Results should be handled as per "Washouts".
- A digital thermometer is kept at the NGTC in the back left cupboard.

Finals

- Finals will be umpired/supervised in the same way as the home and away season
- The Team Manager will have the responsibility to select the team for finals. For teams with more than 4 players, the selection policy should consider that all players have contributed through the season so there should be an opportunity for all players to take part in finals matches if possible. This is normally achieved by substituting in one or more of the "reserve" players into the last doubles set which is allowed under the MRTA rules. The other team manager must be advised of this plan prior to the start of the match.