



Welcome to Junior Tennis Winter Season 2010

This document has been written to give you a better understanding of how the club operates to make the season more enjoyable for you and your team.

Teams

Teams are selected by the club's coaches Sue Davey and Cynthia Doerner. The selection process is determined by results of the previous season and knowledge of the kids through the coaching program.

Home Courts

1. South Hawthorn Tennis Club

Cnr Widdford St and Anderson Rd, East Hawthorn
5897

(Mel ref 59 G3). Phone - 9882

2. Boroondara Tennis Centre

150 Bulleen Road, North Balwyn (Mel ref. 32 D10).
Phone - 9850 4500

Team Roster and Handbook

The team roster and ERT (Eastern Region Tennis) handbook will be provided to you by your team manager. The handbook is a very helpful resource that outlines all the rules and requirements for playing junior tennis in the Eastern Region. The more familiar you are with the layout of the handbook, the easier it is for you to find the information you may require. The duty parent should always ensure they have a handbook with them whilst on duty. A copy is also kept in the drawer in the kitchen at South Hawthorn Tennis club.

In particular, the handbook has information on the following:

Tie breaks

Please read the tie break rules carefully. A tie break is played when the score reaches 6 games all. A tie break is won when one team reaches 7 points with a margin of 2, or after 6 points all, a margin of 2 points. You may need to help new players with running the tie break but the sooner they attempt to do it for themselves, the faster they will learn. The handbook has a very helpful diagram on the sequence of play.

Dress code

It is preferable that members of South Hawthorn teams wear correct tennis attire.

For boys, it is not acceptable to wear footy or casual shorts. Sports shorts with pockets (for holding the ball when serving) are recommended.

For girls, a tennis skirt/dress or sports shorts with pockets (for holding the ball when serving) are recommended.

Sunscreen, water and caps are also a good idea.

SHTC now offer club clothing. Caps, visors and playing shirts with club logo are available to purchase. For further information, visit the 'Shop – Club Gear' section on the website.

Outside courts (home courts at an alternate venue)

Some clubs, including South Hawthorn, use outside courts. Please make note of matches that you are involved in that are held at outside courts. Turning up to the wrong venue causes enormous frustration and sets may be forfeited for arriving late. Addresses of clubs are listed in the back of the handbook and there is also a section entitled 'outside courts'.

Rules regarding the forfeiting of sets are in the handbook. In general, you must be able to start at least 1 set within 15 minutes of the start time. Then each 15 minutes after that, the late team will forfeit another set. The match cannot be called off altogether until 1 hour after the starting time has elapsed.

Eastern Region Tennis rules

There are many regulations to help keep the competition running smoothly and these change constantly (hence refer to the current handbook!). Breaking the regulations can result in a **fine to the club**. Please keep in mind that the Eastern Region Tennis Association and the South Hawthorn Tennis Club are run by volunteers who give immense amounts of time and energy to help run the competition for our kids.

All the fines are listed in the handbook, but the most common ones are as follows:

1. Emergencies and swaps:

Players who are emergencies must have their details listed in the emergency section of the scorecard, including birth dates. Please write "E" next to their name. If this is not filled out correctly, much time can be wasted in having to find out this information at a later time.

It is the responsibility of the player who is unable to play to find a replacement. The first port of call is to ask to do a swap with a player who is rostered off for that week. A player from a lower section in the club may play but not a player from a higher section or the same section. It is a good idea to find out from tennis playing friends if they would like to be an emergency for the team and the coaches will also know of possible players from the coaching program. Please give as much notice as possible and once a swap is made, the rest of the team must be informed. This is to avoid confusion about who is and isn't playing, particularly for the parent who is on duty that weekend. If the game is an away game, the emergency must be aware of the pick up point and time.

2. Forfeits:

If you have to forfeit a match at any time you will receive a fine.

The minimum number of players per BSD team to play is 3 and GSD is 2.

In the event that you cannot find a replacement (in a 4 player team), you can still play the match with only 3 players.

You lose 6-0 in the matches that the player would have been involved in.

If you have to forfeit a match, you should call the opposing club ASAP. You will find the phone #s of opposing clubs' Junior convenors in the ERT handbook. You should also let Jenny Donald know so she can inform the region.

(juniorconvenor@southhawthorntennisclub.com or 0418 386 837)

Cards for scoring home matches

It is the responsibility of the home team to provide a scorecard for the match and enter the results on the ERT website (this is done by SHTC junior committee).

For those teams who are based at South Hawthorn, you will find the scorecards in the top drawer of the clubhouse kitchen. Please make sure you use the correct one for your team, Saturday or Sunday, boys or girls (pink and blue to make it easier).

- You must fill these in with the full names (first and last names) of players from both home and away teams.
- Cards should be filled in before the start of play by the captain, or, if the captain is not playing, the child of the duty parent. Younger teams should be assisted by the duty parent and checked for legibility!
- Scores from each set should be filled in as they are finished. At the end, add up the sets and games and fill them in. You receive 1 point for each set won and 2 points for winning the match. The match is decided on sets but in the event of the sets being equal the winner is determined by the number of games (this is detailed in the ERT handbook).
- When the card is complete both captains are to sign the card.
- When signed, please return the card to the top drawer in the kitchen so the results can be entered on-line by SHTC junior committee.
- For teams who are playing home matches at Boroondara, please ensure that you have a scorecard with you. After completion, please drop it into the letterbox of John Best, 26 Mt Ida Ave, East Hawthorn (0418 557 262) for on-line entry. Please ensure the card is dropped in asap after the game to avoid it being lost.

Balls

The home team must provide 2 new balls and 2 used balls for the match (for the first match you will use 4 new balls). At the end of the match, keep 2 used balls (the ones in best condition) for the following week. The 2 older balls are to be returned to the club via the ball chute (located near the bar). It is a good idea to keep a couple of used balls spare in case balls are lost or go over the fence. Try to keep up to date with duty parent rosters, so that balls and cards can go home with the duty parent for the following week. It is the Team manager's responsibility to supervise the issuing of balls and to hand out the correct allocation each week. The team is allocated a set number of balls for the season.

Supervisors

For the most part there is a supervisor for matches played at South Hawthorn on Sundays, which is the busiest day. These supervisors all play tennis and can answer any questions you may have. In the event of a dispute the supervisor is there to help the kids work it out.

For Saturday teams the duty parent is the supervisor.

If you don't have an access card to open the courts, use the one located in the letterbox of the Longmuir's house at 16 Anderson Rd (across the road from the lower courts). Please make sure you return the card as soon as you have opened the clubhouse! The access card is not required for lock up.

Parent involvement

- As a general rule, parents are not to interfere with matches in any way including line calls and, in particular, no coaching at all is permitted.
- In general, if a player is not sure whether the ball is in or out or if there is any doubt, then the ball must be played as in. It is the player who is at the end the ball lands who makes the final call. If they want to, the kids can ask their opponent if they are sure about the call and can ask to see if there is a mark from the ball. You will see bad line calls, most are accidental and some are not.
- Please help your children before the match not to dwell on bad calls but to play fairly themselves. If, for some reason, you feel that some parent involvement is warranted (for eg. with younger players), please confer with the duty parent of the opposing team. Each season, there are occasions when complaints are made to the ERT about this matter. Don't let it be you.
- **You must not help in scoring**, except to encourage all players to call out the score after each point and each game and to encourage them to adjust the scoreboard. The rule is if the score is disputed then they must go back to the last score both players can agree on. In most cases the kids manage to work it out for themselves. If necessary the home supervisor can help them negotiate the score. If the kids are not coping, the duty parent should speak with the opposing duty parent and then help the kids together to work it out.
- **Only players on the court at all times.** Please keep kids who are not involved in the set off the court. Parents should not go on the court, except between sets to help with bagging and brushing the lines.

Please remember that this is a social competition and will not affect the chances of the kids qualifying for Wimbledon.

Keep it fun for them at all times!

Web sites

South Hawthorn has a web site www.southhawthorntennisclub.com.au which has a Junior Tennis Program section which outlines our Junior program and includes parent information, news about events at the club and reports on the progress of our teams and players.

Eastern Region Tennis has a terrific website www.ertinc.org.au

It is easy to use and you can access results from each match and track your ladder position.

In the Documents section, you can find the Rules of tennis and guidelines for Junior Convenors, which you may find helpful and or interesting.

Pick ups and Duty parents' role

Duty parent information is located both in the team kit and on the SHTC website – Junior Tennis Program – Parent Information section.

It is expected that each family in the team will be duty parent on 2 – 3 occasions per season. For away matches, the duty parent will pick up the kids from the driveway below the club approximately ½ an hour before the match (you may want to arrange an earlier time if the venue is further away).

Ideally, the duty parent will email the whole team during the week leading up to the match providing information as to who is playing and where and ask players to confirm. It is expected that players will be dropped home after the game. It is a nice idea to bring a packet of biscuits or some other snack to the game for the kids to share. Perhaps discuss this as a team. It is very important that duty parent stays at the venue with the children for the **duration of the match**. This is especially important in case of an emergency. Clubs can be fined if a duty parent is not present.

Away games

It is the responsibility of the home team to enter the results of the game on-line to ERT. SHTC duty parents are required to record the results of the game on a scorecard (should be spare scorecards in team kit). The duty parent should then check the result has been entered by the home team correctly on the ERT website (www.ertinc.org.au) mid-week (results are usually posted on Thursday). If there are any errors please contact the SHTC junior convenor ASAP.

Washouts and heatouts

SHTC washout information is located both in the team kit and on the SHTC website – Junior Tennis Program – Parent Information section.

The general rule is that you must proceed to the venue as per usual. At times, a club may call to cancel a game due to unplayable court conditions and we may do the same. In this case you will be notified by the junior convenor or your team manager.

Troubleshooting

For any problems you have during the season, you can call your team manager or Jenny Donald (Junior Convenor): 9882 0294 0418 386 837 or

E-mail: juniorconvenor@southhawthorntennisclub.com