



# **North West Sydney Tennis**

## **Saturday Junior Competition (SJC) Rules 2024**

Effective Term 4 2024

V1.5

### **PLAYING RULES**

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## Rules

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## Rules

### Playing Category

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### **A1 Composition**

The composition shall consist of 3 timeslots of 8am start, 10am start and 3pm start. (The timeslot for 10am is often varied to 10:30am to ensure 8am overruns don't impact 10am players.)

Each timeslot has different Divisions which could include Premiers, Div 1, Div 2, Div 3 and Div 4.

Dependent on the number of players enrolled for SJC, NWST may have two or more groups per division and/or a combination of 2 divisions e.g. a Div 3/4 group.

### **A2 Playing Dates**

The Junior Committee shall determine the playing dates of the competition.

### **A3 Entry Fees**

The Council of Management shall determine all fees no later than the Grand Final of the previous term's SJC Grand Final.

Payment of the prescribed fees shall be deemed to be acceptance of these Rules in their entirety.

Should a team or player withdraw or be disqualified from the competition after entries have closed and grading has been completed and after a "keyed" draw has been published and distributed, entry fee shall be non-refundable unless under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Junior Committee.

Where inclement weather has impacted play for 3 or more weeks of the competition, a credit will be applied to the players next competition term registration fees. The value of the credit to be determined at the discretion of NWST.

Players who sustain a more serious injury after competition commences and as a result cannot play for 4 or more consecutive weeks will have their entry fees refunded on a pro rata basis.



#### **A4 Entries**

All entries shall be lodged in the prescribed manner on or before the closing date of entries as decided by the Junior Committee.

#### **A5 Late Registrations**

The Junior Committee may consider late registration of players after the initial entry.

The Junior Committee may, at its discretion, reject the application for extra registration.

#### **A6 Eligibility of Players**

Only players registered with NWST may compete in the SJC.

#### **A7 Grading**

All players shall be graded on perceived ability using all aids available including UTR and past performance.

Where the number of entries does not meet the constraints of the draw, the Junior Committee may seek additional teams or reduce the number to meet these constraints.

#### **A8 Match Results**

The official Score Sheet, viewed by a member of both teams, must be entered into XPoint by 20:00 on the day of the match.

#### **A9 Courts & Equipment**

One suitably and properly equipped court for each two person team will be made available to players for a 2 hour period.

Two courts will be made available where possible for 3 person teams to play on for the same 2 hour period.

NWST provides courts to other court hirers and coaching partners both before and after the competition slots and SJC games are not permitted to overrun the allocated time.



### **A10 Trophies**

NWST will provide the winning team of each division with a trophy for each player and a medal for each runner up player. Whilst substitutes will be recognised during the awards ceremony, the trophy or medal will only be issued to the original team members.

Any team that forfeits a complete match at Final rounds shall not be entitled to the award of any prize, award or trophy.

Trophies and medals will not be presented until any Dispute or Protest has been resolved.

### **A11 Behavioural Complaints**

All matters concerning behaviour and breaches of the Code of Conduct shall be referred to the Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO). Email [daviesduncan@hotmail.com](mailto:daviesduncan@hotmail.com) on or before the Wednesday following the match in which the alleged incident took place.

Please ensure that behavioural complaints are submitted separately to a Dispute or Protest relating to tennis rules.

### **A12 Disputes and Protests**

All matters under dispute shall be made to the Duty Officer on the day the match was played or scheduled to be played. The Duty Officer will record the Dispute or Protest and may ask for additional information. This information must be provided by the Wednesday following the impacted match.

The player or team against whom the complaint is made shall, within 7 days, forward a written reply to the complaint to the Competition Secretary.

Points awarded to a team subject to a protest may be reversed if the protest is upheld.

A Duty Officer or Referee appointed by the Junior Committee will adjudicate on any disputes that might arise during the progress of Finals rounds.



Disputes and Protests for Finals Round must be raised during Finals round and the matter adjudicated during the Finals match. A protest or dispute cannot be raised after the medals ceremony.

A dispute or protest may result in the medals ceremony being postponed until after the dispute or protest is dealt with.

### **A13 Appeals**

A team dissatisfied with any decision of the Junior Committee may lodge an appeal with the NSWST Council of Management.

Such appeal must be lodged with NSWST's Secretary in writing within three (3) days of any decision of the Junior Committee.

The appeal shall set out the grounds upon which the appeal is made. The Junior Committee shall furnish to the Council of Management the reason for any decisions that are subject to appeal.

No member of the Junior Committee may sit as a member of the Protests subcommittee on any such appeal.

### **A14 Interpretation of Rules**

The interpretation of these Rules shall devolve upon the Junior Committee, which shall have the power to adjudicate upon any matter not specifically covered by these Rules. Any adjudication so made shall operate as a decision on the Rules and the right of appeal shall lie in the same way.

The Junior Committee may also promulgate any special Rule at the commencement of competition series.

The Junior Committee shall have the power to alter the format of the "Final" if necessary due to weather or other factors.

### **A15 Tennis Attire**



Tennis attire not permitted:

- Any item of clothing considered inappropriate or offensive by NWST.

### **A16 Venue**

All Finals Rounds to be played at Pennant Hills Park Tennis Centre (PHPTC).

### **A17 Duty Officer**

A Duty Officer is available at Pennant Hills (PHPTC) for each SJC competition round and timeslot with contact through the Pennant Hills Proshop.

SJC players playing at Midson Road or other alternative courts should make contact with the Duty Officer via phone at the Pennant Hills Proshop (Tel: 94810970) as no physical presence is available at Midson Road.



# PLAYING

## **P1 Interference**

During the progress of a set, neither the captain, manager, coach, parent or any other person shall coach, advise or instruct any player participating in that particular set.

## **P2 Courts for Matches**

All matches shall be played on one (1) court in ordinary rounds for a two player team and (2) courts in ordinary rounds for a three player team where these are made available.

## **P3 Commencement of Play**

Ordinary rounds are played in 3 timeslots:

- 08:00am
- 10:00am (or 10:30am)
- 15:00pm

**The format of play must be strictly adhered to as set out in *Format of Play Section*. No variation of format is permitted** ensuring that all sets are played within the allotted timeslot.

If a team does not have:

- a player or playing pair on the court at the **scheduled starting timeslot** or
- a player or playing pair on the court ***within 5 minutes of the end of the previous set***
- then the team shall forfeit the set and the next set is to be commenced.

The decision to claim a forfeit shall be left to the opposing team concerned and once a decision has been made, the set claimed shall not be played.



In the event of any match not commencing within 1 hour of the timeslot start time because of inclement weather, the match shall be declared abandoned, and the points shall be shared between both teams.

The Duty Officer shall be the Sole Arbiter as to matches being called off due to inclement weather or court playability.

#### **P4 Continuity of Play**

Play shall be continuous for the entire match, and no interval is permissible, except in the case of inclement weather.

No more than five (5) minutes (including hit-up) shall elapse from the start of the SJC timeslot to start of first match (or from time court becomes available if previous timeslot overruns).

No more than five (5) minutes, including hit-up shall elapse between the conclusion of any singles and/or doubles set and the commencement of the next set. The Player 1s of both teams shall be jointly responsible for the observation of this rule.

Time wasted during and between sets or consequent upon prolonged hit-ups is often responsible for unfinished matches which is undesirable.

Teams should have their players ready to commence the next set, and strictly observe this rule.

Slow play should be brought to the attention of the Duty Officer who may direct a player to speed up play. A maximum of 90 seconds break is allowed at changeovers however no break is allowed during first changeover.

#### **P5 Termination of Play**

Play shall cease at the end of the allotted timeslot regardless of whether courts were available on-time at the start of the SJC timeslot.

Any game in progress at the end of the allotted time must be completed. The allotted time for Round Matches is two (2) hours from scheduled start of timeslot.



All scores are entered and finalised once the game in progress at the end of the allotted time is completed.

Play shall not continue on a different court after the allotted timeslot regardless of whether alternative courts are available.

**P6 Abandoned Matches**

All teams shall be on the grounds whatever the weather, excepting where the Duty Officer has made the decision that the court is unplayable.

No postponements will be allowed for any reason, except under exceptional circumstances.



## **P7 Format of Play**

SJC format of play is a round robin competition.

The format of play is released prior to competition commencement each term and could be different from the previous term at the discretion of the competition organiser.

Players are arranged into 2 player teams. All players play 3 sets comprising of two singles sets and 1 doubles set in that order. Each set consists of 8 games. No tiebreaks in ordinary rounds. Tiebreaks will only be played in the finals round.

Examples of valid scores include 8-0, 4-4 , 5-3 etc . Each match won contributes to your team's points.

### **Format**

P1 v P1

P2 v P2

P1 v P2

P1 v P2

Doubles P1 P2 v P1 P2

After the last ordinary round, the two teams with the highest points in the division face off in the finals.

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> position will not have a play off and will be determined by ladder position after the ordinary rounds.

### **Deuce Policy**

In the interests of having everyone finish on time, NWST employ a sudden death deuce. This means that the next point decides the outcome of the single game. The receiving side will choose the side that the server will serve to for this final point for doubles play.



### Finals

There are no quarter- and semi- final playoffs. Ladder positions determine who plays in the final so leading your ladder guarantees you a spot in the final.

“Count back” rules apply for any ties and also apply in case of weather cancellations of a finals round.

In the event of two or more teams being equal on points at the conclusion of the preliminary rounds their respective positions for the right to contest the finals rounds will be determined on averages i.e. Sets won over Sets played, and if the Sets averages are equal, then the Games will be taken into consideration.

Forfeited sets will not be recorded in averages where applicable.

### Underarm Serves

Underarm serves are not permitted in the Saturday Junior Competition.

## **P8 Tossing**

Before each set, the Home team will toss to determine which team has the CHOICE in the first set of:

1. The right to be Server or Receiver, in which case the other team shall choose the END; or
2. The END, in which case the other team shall choose the right to be Server or Receiver;

## **P9 Substitution of Players**

In the event of a player becoming incapacitated during the progress of a match, he/she may NOT be replaced by another player in that particular set in which they were participating. In a finals match, the withdrawing player



will have their completed games score won recorded and the opponent will be allocated 6 games.

Substitute players in normal round matches must be from the same or lower division. Order of Play will be based on UTR.

Any player who is substituted, shall not take any further part in that MATCH.

For finals rounds, players who are already in an SJC finals round in a different timeslot are not eligible to play as a substitute in a different SJC finals round timeslot. Ineligibility includes players competing for 4<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> position.

Penalties will be applied to any player who is a “no show” and has not given the pro-shop notice of there inability to find a replacement. The nature of these penalties will be communicated each term at the discretion of NWST.

### **P10 Forfeits - Withdrawals**

In all cases, the opposing team may choose to seek a forfeit by advising the Duty Officer. A forfeit will not automatically be awarded. A forfeit cannot be entered into XPoint unless the Duty Officer has been advised of the circumstances of the proposed forfeit.

### **P11 Point Scores**

All scores are recorded in the XPoint system and point allocations are based on the XPoint point allocation system.

XPoint allocates 1 point each for each match won and 2 points to the side that wins the most matches.

All incomplete matches due to weather or time should have their game scores entered to the last game finished.

### **P12 Umpiring Responsibilities**

No umpires will be provided for SJC matches.

In exceptional circumstances an umpire can be requested in advance through the Pro Shop for a finals round.



Any issues during play should be reported to the Duty Officer as soon as an incident occurs.

### **P13 Provision of Balls**

NWST will provide balls of acceptable standard for each SJC round. New balls will be provided for the Finals round.

3 balls only will be supplied and used in ordinary rounds and finals round.

Prem players will receive new balls every round.

Competition balls shall be used for hit ups.

Players are not permitted to play with balls not issued by NWST.

### **P14 Tiebreak Procedures**

#### **Singles**

*Ordinary rounds* - No tiebreaks to be played in normal rounds. Scores at 4 all are to be entered as a draw without a tiebreak being played.

*Finals rounds* - First to 7 point tiebreaker is played at 4-4.

A player who first wins seven points shall win the game and the set provided he/she leads by a margin of two points. If the score reaches six points all, the next point will be a sudden death tie break point deciding the match.

The player whose turn it is to serve shall be the server for the first point. His/her opponent shall be the server for the second and third points and thereafter each player shall serve alternatively for two consecutive points until the winner of the game and match has been decided.

From the first point, each service shall be delivered alternately from the right and left courts, beginning from the right courts.

Players shall change ends after every six points.



## **Doubles**

*Ordinary rounds* - No tiebreaks to be played in normal rounds. Score at 4 all are to be entered as a draw without a tiebreak being played.

*Finals round* - First to 7 point tiebreaker is played at 4-4.

A player who first wins seven points shall win the game and the set provided he/she leads by a margin of two points. If the score reaches six points all, the next point will be a sudden death tie break point deciding the match.

The player whose turn it is to serve shall be the server for the first point. His/her opponent shall be the server for the second and third points and thereafter each player shall serve alternatively for two consecutive points until the winner of the game and match has been decided.

From the first point, each service shall be delivered alternately from the right and left courts, beginning from the right courts.

Players shall change ends after every six points.

END