



**NORTHERN SUBURBS
TENNIS ASSOCIATION Inc.**
www.nsta.com.au

NIGHT COMPETITION

--- RULES ---

*(These rules are to be read in conjunction with
the NSTA Competition Rules)*

- Determination of qualifying teams:** When 2 or more teams finish (the competition) on equal points, then the team/teams which qualify shall be decided as per XPoint placings.
- Finals series** (quarter, semi and finals): Quarter finalists will be decided by 1st v 8th, 2nd v 7th, 3rd v 6th, 4th v 5th. Semi finals will be decided by 1st v 4th, 2nd v 4th. Winners will then progress. Finals series matches will be played at times and venues as decided by the NSTA Administrator.
- Finals series ties:** When games and sets are equal at end of play in quarters, semis and/or finals, pairs playing the last set are to play a 10 point tie-break (first to 10, two point advantage), the winner of the tie-break is declared the winner of the match.
- Fixture Changes:** If teams mutually agree to change the play day of a match, the NSTA Administrator must be notified at least one day prior to the scheduled date and the match must be completed by 12.00 midnight of the following Sunday. The NSTA Administrator reserves the right to refuse any such change.
- Forfeits:** If players are not ready to play at the stipulated starting time, play may commence up to 30 minutes late without incurring a forfeit. However, if all games or sets are not completed by the stipulated finishing time, then the team which was late or not ready to play will forfeit the unfinished games of any set already commenced or any unplayed set(s). If players are not ready to play after 30 minutes after the stipulated starting time, the whole match shall be forfeited. If after a match has commenced, a team does not have the required pair to play the next set within 5 minutes, that team must forfeit that set and further sets each five minutes thereafter, unless mutual agreement has been reached to change the order of play.
- Hit-Ups:** Players are entitled to a five (5) minute hit-up before their first set ONLY.
- Home teams** are to supply a minimum of two new Tennis Australia approved balls per court and result card. Team Captains are solely responsible to ensure appropriate fees are paid and the team complies with Rules and Conditions applicable to the Competition.

8. **Reserves** should be nominated on the original registration form, otherwise reserves must be of a similar grade (or iPR) or lower to the player being replaced. Players are responsible for finding their own reserves. The NSTA Administrator reserves the right to deduct points from teams considered to have used incorrectly graded reserves.

9. **Reserves for finals series:** Any player who has played at least three (3) matches or was entered on the original team registration form is eligible for the finals series (quarters, semis, finals). Consideration may be given to late registration of reserves in extenuating circumstances, subject to request being made to the NSTA Administrator prior to the match being played. **Reserves for finals series must be approved by the NSTA Administrator (tel: 9436 2729) before play commences.**

10. **Results:** Team Captains are solely responsible to ensure result cards are filled out correctly, including date, round number, team name, division, FULL NAMES of players, scores, result and reserves recorded on reverse. All results must then be submitted online through XPoint within 48 hours of the match by:

- The **winning** team (this includes teams **receiving forfeited matches**)
- The **home** team in the case of drawn, wet or unplayed matches
- Winning bonus points will be deducted from any team entering scores on XPoint (eg 6-0) for any forfeited games/sets/matches; or any team entering results for incorrect players.

11. **Prizes:** A choice of trophies or towels will be offered to winning teams only.

12. **Washouts finals series:** There will be no postponement if finals (quarters, semis or finals) are washed out. The match will be awarded to the team finishing higher on the competition table.

13. **Wet weather:** Matches suspended for 30 minutes shall be called off unless both teams agree to wait longer. In cases of inclement weather players must turn up at the courts unless prior agreement has been reached by captains. Following an inspection of the court, the final decision as to court condition is the responsibility of the Home Captain unless overruled by the centre's Court Curator. Points will be split for any washed out matches and no refund can be given by the NSTA for wet matches. Players may arrange between themselves to replay washed out matches and the NSTA will endeavor to arrange courts, provided it is at no additional expense to the NSTA. Such matches must be completed by 12.00 midnight of the following Sunday.

MONDAY PAIRS

1. **Allocation of Points:** **The match will be decided by games.** If games equal, by sets. If both equal, points will be shared. One point will be awarded for each set won, half a point for each set unplayed, unfinished or tied and 2 points for the winning team. If no winning team, bonus winning points will be split. Two and a half points each will be awarded for any

unplayed matches and five points awarded for teams receiving forfeited matches.

2. **Format:** Each set of the 3 sets played will be 8 game sets, with short deuce (3 point) – second deuce serve to same gender if appropriate pairings, and if not, then it is receiver's choice. Service rotation will be continuous throughout all 3 sets.

3. **Starting/Finishing Times:** The match is to begin at the time specified for the Home Team as indicated on the draw sheet. Finishing times will be one and a half (1.5) hours after start time indicated on the draw sheet, unless agreed by both teams to finish, provided subsequent matches are not drawn for the court. Subsequent matches drawn for the court must be allowed to proceed on time.

TUESDAY

1. **Allocation of Points:** Matches will be decided by sets, if sets are equal by games, if sets and games are equal points will be shared. One point will be awarded for each set won, half a point for each set unplayed or unfinished and 2 points for the winning team. If no winning team, bonus winning points will be split. Equal points each will be awarded for any unplayed matches, and maximum points awarded for teams receiving forfeited matches.

2. **Format: Mixed** – 6 sets to be played in 4 player teams or 3 sets in 2 player teams. Sets first to 6 games, tie-breaks 5 games all, 3 point [short] deuce (2nd deuce, serve to same gender). Order of play (4 player teams): 2 mixed, reverse mixed, 1 mens doubles, 1 ladies doubles, all played simultaneously on 2 courts, where possible.

Singles – 3 sets to be played, despite the outcome after the first 2 sets. Sets first to 6, tie-break 5 games all, normal deuce

3. **Home teams** are to supply supper for the Mixed competition.

4. **Starting/Finishing Times** are as indicated on the draw sheet, dependent upon home court playing times. Finishing times, after starting, are 2 hours later if further matches are to follow or as court finishing times permit

WEDNESDAY

1. **Allocation of Points:** Team placings will be calculated on games won in each match. 36 games (or points) will be awarded for a forfeited match and 25 games (or points) will be awarded to each team for an unplayed or washed out match.

b) **Format** – Six sets: No 3 v No 3 singles; Nos 1 & 2 v Nos 1 & 2 doubles
No 2 v No 2 singles; Nos 1 & 3 v Nos 1 & 3 doubles
No 1 v No 1 singles; Nos 2 & 3 v Nos 2 & 3 doubles

Each set is 9 games or 30 minutes, whichever is quicker

c) **Starting/Finishing Times** are as indicated on the draw sheet, dependent upon home court playing times. Finishing times, after starting, are 1.5 hours later

INTERPRETATION OF RULES

1. **NSTA:** These Night Competition Rules are to be read in conjunction with the NSTA Competition Rules.

2. Interpretation of NSTA Competition Rules and Night Competition Rules are entirely as determined by the NSTA Committee of Management.

TENNIS AUSTRALIA TENNIS ETIQUETTE

- It is your obligation to call all balls on your side, to help your opponent make calls when the opponent requests it, and to **call against yourself** (with the exception of all first serves) any ball that you clearly see out on your opponent's side of the net.
- Each player is responsible for all decisions in his/her half of the court. He/she should be completely honest on all 'calls' but, if in doubt, he/she should give his/her opponent the benefit and play the ball as good. A let should **not** be played.
- In doubles, when returning service, the partner of the receiver should call the service line for him/her, with the receiver calling centre and side service lines.
- Any 'out', 'let' or 'fault' call must be made instantaneously (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.
- If you call a ball 'out', and then realise it was good, you should correct your call.
- Do **not** enlist the aid of spectators in making the line call.
- If players cannot agree on the score, they may go back to the last score on which there was agreement and resume play from that point.
- To avoid controversy over the score, the server should announce the game score before starting a game and the point score prior to serving each point.
- Players are prohibited from checking the mark of the ball on their opponent's side of the court.
- To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have completed a point.
- Do not stall, sulk, complain nor practice gamesmanship.
- When ball persons are not available all balls on your side of the net are your responsibility to pick up and where appropriate, return direct to the server.
- The receiver should not return the first service if it is an obvious fault.