

### **2015 JUNIOR PENNANT COMPETITION – CONDITIONS OF PLAY**

1. All players must be a current registered participant of Tennis Victoria.
2. All players must have played at least four matches for his or her club in their association's competition from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 (this excludes Tennis Victoria Pennant matches). 2. In the 10/u sections, teams may consist of any combination of male and female players (ranked in singles order of merit). In the 18/u section, teams must consist of two male players and two female players.
3. Each team shall consist of a maximum of four players for home and away matches.
4. All matches must be played at a Tennis Victoria affiliated venue.
5. All associations participating in the Junior Pennant Competition must be affiliated to Tennis Victoria.

### **Order of Merit and Emergencies**

6. Players must be of age as at 31 December 2015.
7. Players must play in the singles order of merit submitted on the entry form. Emergencies may not strengthen a team and cannot play in a singles position higher than the player they are replacing. An emergency player does not necessarily have to play at position No. 4. Registration of emergencies must arrive at Tennis Victoria's office in writing no later than the entering of the result on-line.
8. Any team not playing in their correct and approved singles order of merit shall lose any singles rubbers where the player has played out of the nominated singles order of merit and the team will also lose the match points.
9. Change in Singles Order of Merit: Any singles order of merit changes must be received in writing and approved by Tennis Victoria before it can be used in any match. After the fifth round (third round for 18/u section), no singles order of merit changes will be accepted.
10. Any player nominated in a team may not play as an emergency in a lower team or equivalent team. No player, having played three times in a team, is eligible to play in a lower team.
11. If an association has more than one team in a grade, emergency players can play with both teams through the home and away season. Once they have played three matches with one team, they are tied to that team.
12. No player will be permitted to play out of age (in older age group) as an emergency on more than two occasions in one season without prior approval from Tennis Victoria.

### **Matches**

13. Tennis balls which are nationally approved will be adopted by Tennis Victoria for the Junior Pennant Competition. Eight new balls must be provided by the home team for each match. Green modified balls must be used for 10/u matches.
14. Tennis Australia's Code of Behaviour, National Extreme Weather Policy and Member Protection By-law will apply to all matches.
15. No alterations can be made to the place, date or time of a match, without the approval of Tennis Victoria.
16. Matches will commence at 8:30 am (9:00 am for 18/u section). All players of each team shall be in attendance at 8:30 am (9:00 am for 18/u section). If all players are not in attendance by 8:45 am (9:15 am for 18/u section) then those singles rubbers involving the missing players are forfeited. If all players are still not in attendance by 9:30 am (10:00 am for 18/u section) then those doubles rubbers involving the missing players are also forfeited. All other rubbers must still be played. Two points will be awarded for each rubber won.

17. If no members of a team are present by 9:00 am (9:30 am for 18/u section) then the match will be forfeited.
18. Matches that do not commence by 9:30 am (10:00 am for 18/u section) because of adverse weather conditions will be a draw.
19. Where a delay occurs because of adverse weather conditions after the commencement of play, the match shall be abandoned by both teams after a continuous period of 60 minutes - or earlier if mutual agreement of each nominated team representative. Remaining rubbers will be a draw and all points equally shared.
20. Matches must be played across a minimum of two courts.
21. Matches cannot change surfaces once commenced unless mutual agreement is reached by both teams. During finals, this decision is at the Referees discretion (if one is present).
22. Each team must record singles players in their single order of merit and doubles pairings on the score sheet prior to the commencement of play. There is no doubles order or merit.
23. Each match will consist of four singles and two doubles rubbers (mixed doubles for 18/u section). Singles rubbers are to be the best of two tie-break sets. At six games all (in any set) a seven point tie-break will be played. At one set all, a match tie-break (10 point tie-break) will be played. Doubles rubbers are to be an eight game pro-set (at eight games all a seven point tie-break will be played).
24. All singles rubbers are to be played first, followed by the doubles rubbers. The away team has choice of first rubber, the home team has second choice, away third, home team fourth.
25. Home and away matches will cease at 1:00 pm.
26. Wash-outs and unfinished matches (without a result) will be a draw.
27. The winner of each match shall be decided by the number of rubbers won and, if equal, then by the number of sets won and, if equal, then the number of games won. A Match tiebreak will count as both a set, and a game.
28. Six points shall be awarded to the team that wins the overall match and three points will be awarded to each team when the match is a draw. Two points will be awarded for each rubber won. In the instance where one team has an incomplete team, the complete team will be awarded the six points regardless of the results of the rubbers played.
29. Food and drink are to be provided by the home team after the match.
30. Match results must be recorded online at [tennis.com.au/vic](http://tennis.com.au/vic) by the home team no later than 9:00pm on the Monday following each match. In the event of a draw, wash-out or walkover, the home team must still record the result online. Late recording of results may incur a \$33 fine.
31. Protests: Any association shall have the right to protest as a result of any matter or thing arising during or after a match. Where possible "Match Played Under Protest" shall be recorded on the scoresheet when the scoresheet is signed by both team representatives. All protests must be lodged by the association, in writing, on association letterhead, containing full particulars of such protest to Tennis Victoria by 5pm on the Tuesday after the match to which the protest relates. The Competitions Committee shall consider and determine each protest and Tennis Victoria will notify the association having an interest in such protest of its determination.
32. If an Association wishes to lodge an appeal, the appeal must be lodged to Tennis Victoria, along with the prescribed \$100 fee by 5:00pm three days from the day the notification of a determination was given. Appeals shall be heard as soon as practicable by an Appeals Tribunal consisting of three members who shall consider the appeal and notify clubs and players of its determination. If the appeal is upheld by the Appeals Tribunal the Appeal fee will be fully refunded to the Applicant.

## Finals

33. The total number of points awarded per team determines ladder positions.
34. Finals play off: teams finishing first and second in each section.
35. In the event that two or more teams are equal on points at the end of the season, the tie will be broken by the number of matches won, and if still equal, percentage of rubbers won, and if still equal, by the percentage of sets won, and if still equal by the percentage of games won.
36. No player may play in a finals match unless three matches have been played in the competition in that team or a lower team in that age group. This includes matches that the player is listed in that were forfeited or abandoned due to adverse weather. Any other changes need prior permission from Tennis Victoria.34. Teams for finals matches may consist of a minimum of four and a maximum of six eligible players.
37. Should there be a tie in any finals match, after a five minute warm-up, the nominated doubles pairs from each team shall each play a standard seven point tie-break game. (pair 1v pair 1, pair 2 v pair 2). If tied at one tie-break all, a count-back on points shall be used. Should there still be a tie, this process shall be repeated until a result is gained.
38. If no result is able to be obtained on the finals day, then the team finishing first on the ladder will be declared the winner.
39. Finals will be played without a pre-determined finish time.
40. In the 18/u section only, the team finishing first on the ladder after the completion of their season will be declared the winner. There will be no final held for the 18/u section.

**All out of age requests (see condition 3) must be submitted to Tennis Victoria by 5pm Wednesday 8 July 2015**

Competition matches will be held on Sunday mornings commencing 23 August 2015 with the finals on 22 November, 2015. There will be no play on the following dates – 20 September, 27 September and 1 November, 2015. Please note that matches will be played on the last Sunday of the September/October school holidays (5 October)

The following age groups will be run in 2015:

1. 10/u unisex
2. 12/u, 14/u and 16/u boys
3. 12/u, 14/u and 16/u girls
4. 18/u mixed

Each round, 4 players will compete in a singles rubber (best of 2 sets) and a mixed doubles rubber (8 game pro set).

All 18/u matches will commence at 9am and must be completed by 1pm. The 18/u competition will be a 5 week competition finishing on the 4 October with each team playing other teams only once. The 18/u competition will commence on the same date as the 10/u - 16/u competition.