



ILLAWARRA SUBURBS LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION LTD.

COMPETITION RULES

MONDAY MORNING LADIES COMPETITION

1. COMPETITION

In accordance with the By-Laws the Match and Grading Committee shall, with the consent of the Directors and Council, alter such Competition rules as may be necessary for the running of the competition.

All Matches must be played in accordance with the official rules of tennis in conjunction with the competition rules as laid down by the ISLTA Ltd.

Play in the competition shall be on Mondays from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Entry closing dates, commencing dates and playing dates for new competitions are at the discretion of the Competition Secretary, with the following exception/s.

(a) There will be no play during NSW School Holidays or on public holidays if the holiday falls on the Monday.

2. PLAYERS

All players competing must be registered members of the ISLTA. Ltd. and must be affiliated with the organisations as specified by the ISLTA Ltd. at the time of registration.

3. ENTRY FEES

Entry fees to be as determined by the council of management.

4. ENTRIES

All Team Entries for the competition must be on the prescribed form in force at the time of acceptance. All details as required on the form must be filled in correctly. Players are permitted to register with only one team.

5. NUMBER OF PLAYERS IN A TEAM

A team shall not at any time have more than six players registered unless the additional players are registered under the one day registration rule No.8

6. LATE REGISTRATIONS

Applications for late registrations received after the competition has been graded shall be dealt with by the Match and Grading Committee. Applications for late registrations must be in the hands of the Competition Secretary before the commencement of the match. The Competition Secretary is empowered to grant permission for late registrations over the telephone subject to the decision of the Match and Grading Committee. All applications must be submitted in writing on the prescribed form in force at the time with all details filled in correctly and accompanied by the correct fee as required. All players must be affiliated with the organisations as specified by the association at the time of registration. For applications accepted over the telephone the correct form and fees must be in the hands of the Competition Secretary no later than 48hrs after the match is played. When making application for late registration of a player, team secretaries must ascertain and declare strength of such player which must not strengthen the team as determined by the Match and Grading committee. If the information be later considered incorrect, the committee may withdraw the registration of such player and award to the opponents any sets in which such player took part. If the information given is proved to be deliberately false then further penalties may be imposed against the team and / or the team secretary and / or the player concerned at the discretion of the Match and Grading Committee.

7. ONE DAY TRANSFERS

One day transfers from the same or a lower grade within the same competition are permitted. Prior permission is not required but the opposition team must be informed before the match commences and the details **MUST** be noted on the result sheet. Teams violating this rule will incur the same penalties as if playing an unregistered player. Players transferring to another team under this rule may subsequently return to their own team provided they do not play more than two (2) matches **for any one team** under this rule during the current competition. Players violating this rule will be automatically deregistered and will have to apply to be reregistered under the Late Registration Rule. Matches played under the one day transfer rule do not count towards making a player eligible for semi-finals, finals or grand finals in the higher grade.

8. ONE MATCH REGISTRATIONS

A player may be registered for one match only without deregistering any other member of the team. All applications for one match registrations shall be dealt with by the Match and Grading Committee. Permission for one match registrations must be obtained from the Competition Secretary before the commencement of the match. The Competition Secretary is empowered to grant permission for the one match registration over the telephone subject to the decision of the Match and Grading Committee. Full details of the player must then be noted on the result sheet. All players must be affiliated with the organisations as specified by the association at the time of registration. When making application for the one match registration of a player, team secretaries must ascertain and declare strength of such player which must not strengthen the team as determined by the Match and Grading committee. If the information be later considered incorrect, the committee may withdraw the registration of such player and award to the opponents any sets in which such player took part. If the information given is proved to be deliberately false then further penalties may be imposed against the team and / or team secretary and / or the player concerned at the discretion of the Match and Grading Committee. If a player plays more than two (2) matches with the same team under this rule then the registration becomes a permanent registration and if the team then has more than six (6) players registered then another member of the team must be deregistered. Matches played by any player under this rule **DO** count towards eligibility for semi-finals, finals, challenge finals & trophies.

9. COURT HIRE & BALLS

All matches will be played at the Rockdale Tennis Centre (unless more teams enter than courts allow) and the association will allocate the courts for each team. The cost of court hire and balls is included in the team entry fee.

10. GRADING OF TEAMS

The competition shall be played in grades determined by the Match and Grading Committee, which reserves the right to finally decide in which grade or division any team or individual player shall compete.

11. MODE OF PLAY

Each match will consist of two teams of three ladies. A match shall consist of six (6) eight (8) game sets to be played in the following order:

The home team shall first write their team members' names on the Score Sheet in any chosen order in positions 1, 2 & 3.

After viewing the home team's order, the visiting team shall then write their team members' names on the Score Sheet in any order in positions 1, 2 & 3.

The format of play will then be:

HOME TEAM PLAYERS		VISITING TEAM PLAYERS
1 & 2	V	1 & 2
1 & 3	V	2 & 3
2 & 3	V	1 & 3
1 & 3	V	1 & 2
1 & 2	V	2 & 3
2 & 3	V	1 & 3

12. DECIDING THE WINNER OF A MATCH

Each match is awarded sixteen (16) points. The winner of each set (reaching five (5) games or more) will be awarded two (2) points. If sets finish at four (4) games all, each team will be awarded one (1) point. If any sets are unplayed or unfinished (a team has not reached five (5) games), each team will be awarded one (1) point each.

Matches are to be decided by games, with the team reaching 25 games or more being declared the winner and awarded four (4) points. When neither team reaches 25 games by 1:00pm two (2) points will be awarded to each team. In semi-finals, finals and grand finals, the winner will be firstly the team with the most points at 1:00pm or, in the case of equal points, the team leading on games. In the event of a draw or wet weather preventing at least 4 sets being completed, the team who finished higher on the ladder at the completion of the ten (10) rounds will be declared the winner.

13. COMMENCEMENT OF PLAY

All matches must commence at 10:00am sharp.

If a team does not have a pair on the court at the time when play should commence, the other team shall be awarded the first set 8-0, thirty (30) minutes after the starting time the second set shall be awarded 8-0. If the team is unable to proceed one (1) hour after the starting time the match shall be forfeited. If more than 3 sets are forfeited, the sets are forfeited as 5-0 (not 8-0). See rule 26.

If a player(s) fails to turn up, or is injured during play and no substitute is available, as many sets as possible should be played and only those sets that the missing or injured player(s) would have been involved in should be forfeited.

14. CONTINUITY OF PLAY

Play shall be continuous throughout the match and no interval is permissible, except in the case of inclement weather. Not more than 3 minutes, including a hit-up (there will be no hit-ups after each player has played a set) shall elapse between the conclusion of any set and the commencement of the next set. Teams will be allowed to claim a forfeit if the opposing players are not ready to commence play within 3 minutes of the completion of the previous set.

Exception: Player #3 from the home team has the option of taking a 10 minute (absolute maximum) break at the completion of the 4th set.

15. TERMINATION OF PLAY

Play shall cease at 1:00pm Sharp, with the proviso that any game started prior to 1:00pm is to be finished. If both Captains agree to cease play early due to inclement weather, or for any other reason the match is terminated early, the reason must be stated on the result card.

16. WET MATCHES

The centre manager, court owner or the caretaker is the authority for determining whether or not a court is playable when inclement weather has created a doubt in this regard, but in any case, players cannot be compelled to play in rain. It is the responsibility of each team to have its players at the court if it is playable. When a firm decision can be obtained within one hour prior to starting time, from the center manager, court owner or the caretaker by telephone or other means, this may relieve the teams from actual attendance at the court, but in cases of doubt, actual attendance is necessary.

Wet matches & unfinished matches will not be replayed or completed.

17. POSTPONED MATCHES

No postponements or change of dates will be granted by the committee. Should extenuating circumstances occur where a change of date is requested by a team, the team captain may contact the opposition's team captain to request a change of day/date. The opposition team is under no obligation to agree to the change of date. If a change of date is accepted by the opposition, the match can be played on any day or time earlier than the scheduled date or no later than the Friday following the match. In such case it is the responsibility of the team requesting the change to:

1. Obtain a suitable court to play the match
2. Pay for any court costs
3. Provide the three (3) new tennis balls for the match
4. Immediately notify the Competition Secretary of the changed date and venue

Examples of acceptable reasons to contact the opposition for a change or date include (but are not limited to):

(a) The death or funeral of a registered member of a team involved in the match, or the death or funeral of someone in the immediate family of a registered member of a team involved in the match, occurring immediately preceding the match.

(b) The court owner or caretaker declaring the court unplayable for any reason other than inclement weather.

Notice of postponement or change of date of a match must be advised to the Competition Secretary prior to the match.

No postponement is allowed for Round 10 or Semis, Finals or Grand Finals. Round 10 matches can be played on an earlier date but Semis, Finals and Grand Finals will be played only on the dates set down.

18. ORDER OF SERVICE / ENDS

The order of service shall be home team serves first in sets 1, 3 & 5 and visiting team serves first in sets 2, 4 & 6. The receiving team shall choose ends in each set.

Each pair will play four (4) games at one end and then change ends for the following four (4) games.

19. DRAW FOR SEMI-FINALS, FINALS AND GRAND FINALS

The winner of the competition shall be decided by the four leading teams on points in each grade or division playing in the semi-finals. In the event of two or more teams being equal, positions to be decided by total games won during the competition minus total games lost during the competition. In the event of this also being equal, percentages of games won will be used.

To ensure that all teams receive an equal number of matches during the competition, all teams compete each week during the finals series.

The draw for semi-finals will be	(A) 1 v 2	
	(B) 3 v 4	
	(C) 5 v 6	(non qualifying social match)
The draw for the final will be	(D) Loser (A) v Winner (B)	
	(E) Winner (A) v Winner (C)	(non qualifying social match)
	(F) Loser (B) v Loser (C)	(non qualifying social match)
The draw for the grand final will be	Winner (A) v Winner (D)	
	Winner (E) v Winner (F)	(non qualifying social match)
	Loser (E) v Loser (F)	(non qualifying social match)

In the event of a draw in semi-finals, finals and challenge finals the team who finished higher at the completion of the rounds will be declared the winner. One spare week has been allocated in case of rain washing out the Grand Finals (less than 4 sets played). In this case, the Grand Finals will be played the following week.

20. DECIDING OF HOME AND AWAY TEAMS IN SEMI-FINALS, FINALS AND CHALLENGE FINALS.

Semi-finals, Finals and Challenge Finals as directed by the Match and Grading Committee, shall consist of six (6) sets. In Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals tossing by the teams is to be done. The winner of the toss has the option of choosing to be the Home or Away team.

21. COURT ALLOCATIONS

Courts will be allocated by the Competition Secretary. At times they may need to be altered by the Centre Manager and/or Caretaker. Semi-Finals, Finals and Challenge Finals, where possible, will be played on neutral courts at the discretion of the Competition Secretary unless two teams from the same court are playing each other. Posting of the DRAW on the Association's web site (www.stgeorgesutherlandtennis.com.au) or in the Association's Club House will be considered sufficient notice to the teams on which courts such matches are to be played.

22. ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY IN SEMI-FINALS, FINALS AND CHALLENGE FINALS

A player is not eligible to play with a team in semi-finals, finals or challenge finals, unless he or she has played in at least three (3) matches during the competition with such team. Where a bye exists in the grade, two (2) matches will be deemed sufficient, but in the case of a forfeit a team may forward a result card to the Competition Secretary as a declaration of such players who would have played in the match and will be counted as a qualifying match.

23. SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS

In the event of a player being unable to complete a match due to one of the reasons listed below during the match being played, a substitute who must not have taken part in the match previously, and who is a registered member of ISLTA, will be allowed to continue the match. Play to be resumed from the exact position in which the match stood when the player withdrew. The substitute must be available within one hour or the sets unplayed shall be forfeited. Notice of such substitution to be noted on the result sheet.

Acceptable reasons:

- Injury
- Illness
- Family emergency

Notes:

If the substituting player is not a registered member of the team, such player must not strengthen the team as determined by the Match and Grading committee.

If the injury/illness occurs late in the match and there is insufficient time to complete the match, any unplayed sets or games are to be forfeited.

If substituting during Semi-Finals, Final or Grand Final, the substituting player must be a registered member of the team and eligible to play in that match.

The match should continue if waiting for a substitute to arrive and the opposition shall decide the order of play for subsequent sets.

24. UNFINISHED SEMI-FINALS, FINALS OR GRAND FINALS

At least four (4) sets must be completed in Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals to be classified as a completed match. If a match is not finished due to time or weather after four (4) or more sets have been completed, the team leading on points in the match will be declared the winner. In the event of equal points, the team leading on games will be declared the winner. In the event of a draw or less than 4 sets being completed, the team who finished higher at the completion of the rounds will be declared the winner with the exception of the Grand Final. If the first date for the Grand Final is washed out (less than 4 sets completed, the match will be completed the following week. If the following week is also washed out (less than 4 sets competed over the 2 weeks), the winner of Semi-Final (A) will be declared the winner.

25. LODGEMENT OF RESULT CARDS

The players' names and the scores of each match shall be entered on a result sheet which must be signed at the end of the day's play by both captains as a true and accurate record of the match. The captain of the winning team or the team leading at the end of the day's play must deliver the result sheet to Rockdale Tennis Centre Pro Shop immediately following the completion of the match. In the event that the match is not played at the Rockdale Tennis Complex, the result sheet is to be delivered to the Competition Secretary not later than 6pm on the Wednesday following the day that the match was played by hand, mail or fax. In the event of a draw or there being no play for any reason other than a forfeit the home team is responsible for delivering the result sheet to the Pro Shop or Competition Secretary. In the event of a forfeit the team receiving the forfeit is responsible for delivering the result sheet to the Pro Shop or Competition Secretary. Failure to comply with the above may result in the team responsible for delivering the result sheet losing all their competition points for that match.

26. FORFEITS

(a): If a team needs to forfeit a match, it is the responsibility of that team to contact the opposition's team secretary in advance to advise them.

(b): In the case of a forfeit the team receiving the forfeit will be awarded the maximum winning points, being 16 points. The games score will be recorded as 30-0 which is to say that each of the six sets forfeited were won 5-0.

(c): Any team receiving a forfeit will still have the opportunity to use the court and balls allocated for that match and undertake practice/social tennis.

(d): A team withdrawing from the competition, or forfeiting more than two (2) matches, without satisfactory reason, shall be disqualified and a fine of \$10.00 may be imposed upon the team and all registered members of such team suspended until such fine has been paid. All points, sets and games for and against any withdrawn or disqualified team shall be deleted, except if such team is withdrawn or disqualified during the second half of the competition and the first half of the competition is fully completed. In such cases the points for the first half will stand.

27. BALLS

Matches are to be played with Slazenger Tennis Balls provided by the Association. Three (3) new balls are to be collected by the Home Team (or first mentioned team in Semis, Finals and Grand Finals) from the Rockdale Tennis Centre Pro Shop (or caretaker at other locations) prior to the commencement of the match. At the completion of the match used balls are to be returned to the same location from which they were collected.

28. TENNIS ATTIRE

The correct tennis attire should conform to the following guidelines:

Colour: Any colour is permissible for basic clothing designed, described and designated specifically as tennis attire including cardigans, pullovers, jumpers, caps, hats, eyeshades and tracksuits.

Footwear: These articles must be designed for use on tennis courts and be free of heels, bars, treads and colours which are normally considered injurious to tennis court surfaces.

Skirts, divided or otherwise, shorts or frocks designed, described and designated as tennis attire are permissible.

Not Permitted

1. Slacks or similar garments while playing.
2. Clothing bearing lettering, writing or other illustration obviously designed as advertisements provided that piping, small manufacturer's motifs and monograms are permissible.
3. Scoops, scampis, stubbies, swimwear or any kind of similarly designed clothing.

29. UMPIRES

Umpires are not compulsory, but where a team insists on umpires and the opposition is not agreeable then that team may supply its own umpires.

30. PROTESTS

All protests to be lodged in writing to the Competition Secretary within 48 hours of completion of the match. Any appeal against a Match and Grading decision must be forwarded to the Hon. General Secretary within one (1) week of receiving the Match and Grading Committee's decision, with a fee of five dollars (\$5.00). Such deposits to be forfeited should the appeal be deemed frivolous.

31. ELIGIBILITY FOR TROPHIES

A maximum of six trophies will be supplied to members of winning teams in each division or grade, provided such members have played in at least three (3) matches, or two (2) matches where a bye exists in a grade.

32. TOURNAMENTS

In the event that courts are unavailable at any time due to a tournament, the Association reserves the right to transfer the matches to other courts / centres. If this occurs, substitute courts will be provided by the association for the match.

33. PENALTIES

The Match and Grading Committee may at its discretion impose a penalty for any breach of these rules, other than those for which a penalty is already provided. Any appeal against such penalty should be lodged with the Hon. General Secretary of the Association and accompanied by a deposit of \$5.00.

34. BYES

If a Bye exists in a grade, a court and balls can be allocated to the team for the day so that the team can practice / play social tennis. If a team wishes to have a court allocated during a Bye it is essential that the team captain notifies the Centre Manager (or Competition Secretary for locations other than Rockdale Tennis Centre) at least one (1) week in advance. Two teams may be allocated the same court and will need to share the time and balls.

35. REFRESHMENTS

As a courtesy to the opposition, the home team (or first mentioned teams during semi-finals, finals and grand finals) is requested to provide tea, coffee, sugar, milk, cups and a jug etc. for both teams. If food is required, it is each player's responsibility to bring their own snack.

36. HEAT RULE

Should **EXTREME** temperature occur during the playing of a match, the Centre Manager (or Caretaker in his absence) may determine that the temperature has reached an unsafe level to continue play. Should this occur, it then becomes the choice of each individual player as to whether they continue to play. Any unplayed sets shall be recorded as 4-4 and any incomplete sets shall be recorded as the exact score when play ceased.

37. MATTERS NOT MENTIONED IN COMPETITION RULES

The Council of the Association shall have the power to deal with all matters not mentioned in the foregoing competition rules.