
Moorabbin & District 17/U Junior Tennis Association Inc.

Rules as at January 2015

Sections in italics are guidelines rather than rules

Eligibility

1. All members of teams (including emergencies) must be 17 years of age or under at the conclusion of the current home and away season, i.e. the day after the last home and away match.
2. If a player is found to be over-age, all singles and doubles matches played by the player during the current season will be forfeited as well as any match result points.
3. Players can only play for one Club through the season. All points (involving that player) will be awarded to the opposition if a player plays for a Club other than the Club that originally nominated them.
4. Players can only play one match per round. The date of each round is deemed to be the date on which the match was originally scheduled to be played. All points (involving that player) will be awarded to the opposition in the second match that a player plays in the week.

Prior to Saturday matches

5. Where possible any Club unable to field a team must advise the opposing club delegate preferably on Friday evening or early Saturday morning. *Please be aware that a match can still be played with only 3 players, although a match cannot be won with 3 players.*

Saturdays – Conditions of Play in Home and Away Season

6. Matches may commence at 8.00am, 8.30am or 10.00am, depending on advice from the **Home** Club. *All Players should be in attendance at least 15 minutes prior to the advised commencement time. Just as in football or netball, the match shall commence at the advised time whether all players are in attendance or not.*
7. Prior to the commencement of the match the Captains of the teams must complete the scoresheet. Doubles pairings and then singles listed in the **approved** order of merit. Surnames must be included. Scoresheets can only be amended with the prior approval of the Home Club Supervisor.

All sections are to play in the **approved** order.

Emergencies are required to play in order of merit.

Clubs have 3 matches to decide a team's correct order. After this all players must play in their approved order. If a player plays lower than their approved order the games/sets will be reversed. If a new player is added to a team, a new Order of Merit is to be forwarded to the Record Secretary for approval and amendment in the online system. No amendments can be made to the order after Round 5 without approval from the Record Secretary.

Teams are advised not to change the order of a team unless they have received advice from their club of an approved change to the nominated order.

8. Once 3 matches have been played by a player in a higher team, they cannot drop back into their originally nominated team. Where a club has two (or more) teams in one section, the No 1 team is considered to be the higher ranked team. Players from the No.1 team cannot drop down into the No.2 team but players from the No. 2 team can play up in the No.1 team.
9. Home clubs must provide at least 1-1/2 courts per match
10. Where clubs have multiple surfaces, teams are to be scheduled to play on the same surface for the duration of the match. *In the event of wet weather, a change of surface can be made with the approval of both team captains.*
11. Where there are two start times for the morning, i.e. 8.00am and 10.00am, 8.00am teams must be allowed to complete any set still being played.
12. Home teams must supply a scoresheet and good used balls. Away teams should complete their own copy of the score sheet for confirmation of results.
13. Clubs **must** have a supervisor in attendance. *At the conclusion of each doubles and singles match the score must be entered on the scoresheet, do not leave it until the end of the match to remember the scores. Team Captains must sign the scoresheet at the end of the match.* The supervisor must sign the score sheets and note any breaches of the rules on the back of the sheet.
14. Players must wear correct tennis attire. Acceptable shorts and shirts for the boys and skirts/shorts/dresses for the girls. Correct shoes must be worn especially *(but not limited to)* on en-tout-cas courts. Clubs can request to view the shoes and if they are not the correct type, can refuse to let players on the courts. *If in doubt ask your coach or club as to what they consider correct tennis attire.*
15. Matches shall commence no later than 5 minutes after the advised start time. The two doubles matches shall be played first. If there are only 3 players in attendance then a doubles and singles should be played. If a team is unable to do so, then the team will forfeit the doubles rubber that could not be played.
16. All team members must be present within 15 minutes from the advised start time. If only three players are present then, the non-attending player's singles matches will be forfeited (in addition to any forfeited doubles match).

A team cannot win a match with only 3 players, but all singles and doubles matches that can be played should be played.
17. Boys Sections 1 – 10 inclusive and Girls Sections 1 – 5 inclusive, play a 12 point tie break at 6 all if required in any set. All other sections play a straight six game set, i.e. first to 6 games.
18. Hit-ups are limited to 3 minutes for a players' first set only. No further hit-ups are to take place.

19. All players are expected to abide by Tennis Australia's "Rules for Matches Played Without a Chair Umpire". A copy of which is available on the MDJTA website.

Please note that a Club Supervisor is unlikely to be a qualified Court Supervisor or Referee but may act in their place to ensure all disputes are quickly settled and the matches continue promptly.

20. All players are subject to the Tennis Australia's Code of Behaviour – Weekly Competitions. A copy of which is available on the MDJTA website.
21. All matches are decided on **Games**. If games are equal then the match is decided on sets. If games and sets are equal, the match is declared a draw.

Teams will receive 4 points for a win (2 points each for a draw) plus 1 point for each set won. No points will be awarded for a Bye. In the event of a washout or heat out, points will be awarded for any sets completed and the 4 points for the "win" will be split between the two teams.

22. The Association supports Tennis Australia's Extreme Weather Policy, a copy of which is available on the MDJTA website, and has adopted or bettered the regulations for competitions involving players under 16 years of age.

22.1 Extreme Heat

Where the forecasted temperature determined 1 hour prior to the scheduled start of play for the Moorabbin Airport is a WBGT (as determined via the BOM website) of 34 C or greater or an Ambient Temperature of 35 C or greater, play for the day will be cancelled and an announcement made on the MDJTA website. Any matches played in violation of this rule will be treated as a draw.

The Home Club Supervisor must ensure that where, during Saturday morning the WBGT is identified as 34C or greater or the Ambient Temperature 35 C or greater play must cease on completion of the current game. The Association reserves the right to investigate any match that has been completed in violation of this rule where other matches have been stopped.

Scoresheets must be completed and entered into the online system.

22.2 Wet Weather

In the event of wet weather at the commence of the match, all players must be present and wait until both captains agree or in the event of disagreement the Home club supervisor determines that a match cannot be completed unless a call has been made to the opposition club by the Home club delegate calling a washout.

If no call has been made and a team does not turn up, the offending team will be forfeited. A scoresheet must be entered online naming the payers for that day. Away team names to be entered via "By Phone" if they don't attend the courts.

In the event of wet weather during a match, play may be discontinued and conditions reassessed to determine whether play should continue. The Home Club Supervisor should ensure that the court surface and surrounds are safe for play. It is essential that each court is inspected to determine if matches can be resumed.

22.3 Lightning

When thunderstorms threaten, the Home Club Supervisor should ensure that all players, and spectators where possible are inside a safe shelter during a thunderstorm. Where lightning can be seen or thunder heard there is already a risk. Home Club Supervisors should use the 30-30 lightning rule.

If the flash to bang count approaches 30 seconds all individuals should be inside safe shelter. Play shall not be allowed to continue until 30 minutes after the last thunder sound or observation of lightning. Each time lightning is observed or thunder is heard the 30 minute clock should be restarted.

22.4 High Winds

High winds have the potential to create dangerous conditions for players and spectators. Where these winds create unreasonable risks the Home Club Supervisor may suspend the match until the winds abate. Indications of risk would be on court furniture or fixtures disturbed, fences damaged, items being blown onto the court or the force of the wind threatening player health.

22.5 Smoke

Smoke is a by-product of a number of other extreme conditions including weather and can create a possible risk for people with certain conditions i.e. asthma and heart conditions. The Home Club Supervisor must be aware of these extreme conditions and take necessary steps to suspend or cancel play in the case of a significant potential risk.

23. The Home Club Supervisor is to ensure that no adults or others interfere with play:

- a>. no line calling, scoring or coaching from a player's entourage (parent, family member, coach or friend) from outside the court area.
- b>. no adults are to enter the playing area during the course of a match, without the Home club Supervisor's approval, to assist in watering en-tou-cas courts for younger players.

Should the Supervisor note any interference the player from that team will receive a warning and if a second incident occurs, the player will be forfeited. A report is then to be submitted by the Home Club Secretary along with a copy of the score sheet to the President of the Association for investigation by the Association's disciplinary committee.

24. The Home Team must pass the scoresheets to their Club Delegate for entry into the online system. If a score sheet is deemed to be “missing” (red asterisk on the ladder), the Club responsible must forward the information to the Record Secretary no later than the Friday following the publication of the Ladder.

Failure to attend to this matter will result in all points being awarded to the Away Team.

Saturdays – Additional Conditions of Play - Finals

25. At the conclusion of the Home and Away matches the highest point scoring 4 teams shall play off in a final series. The highest scoring team shall be Team 1 and the 4th highest scoring team shall be Team 4. Any ties shall be determined by the highest % of the teams.

Order of Play for Finals Series:

Semi- Finals: Team 1 plays Team 2 with the winner going straight into the Grand Final.
Team 3 plays Team 4 with the loser being eliminated from the finals series.

Preliminary Finals: The loser of the Teams 1 and 2 match will play the winner of the Teams 3 & 4 match. The loser of this match is eliminated and winner goes to the Grand Final.

Grand Final: Winning team from the Semi-Final Team 1 v Team 2 match plays the winner of the Preliminary Final.

Both Grand Final team’s members will receive trophies at a presentation ceremony to be held immediately the Grand Final at a nominated venue. The Association will provide 5 trophies per team, competing clubs should advise the Record Secretary in advance if they require further trophies. Clubs will be invoiced for the additional trophies.

All Finals matches will be played at venues as determined by the Committee.

26. Players must have played at least 4 matches during the current season, with 3 of those matches played prior to the last three matches; with that team or a lower graded team within their Club.
27. There are no draws in the finals series. Where games and sets are equal at the conclusion of the match, one doubles set will be played. Any two players (that participated in the match) can be nominated to play in this doubles. The doubles match will consist of a 6 game set, tiebreak at 6-all for Boys Section 1 – 10 and Girls Sections 1 – 5 and a straight 6 game set for all other sections. This will ensure a decision in the match.
28. In the event of wet weather in a finals match, **ALL** players must turn up regardless of the weather. Teams must wait 30 minutes before calling a washout unless agreed by both Team Captains. Scoresheet is to be completed and signed by the Team Captains. This sheet should be taken when the match is re-scheduled.

- 29. The Committee reserves the right to determine the rescheduling of all finals matches.
- 30. A maximum of 6 eligible players can play in a finals match.
- 31. Each team must supply four good used balls for finals along with a scoresheet.

Awards

- 32. The Committee reserves the right to determine the awarding of all trophies

Section 1

32.1 Ron Cummins Trophy

The Ron Cummins trophy is awarded to the best performed player at the No. 1 position in the Boys Section 1. To be eligible a player must play at least 70% of the seasons matches in the No.1 position only.

32.2 Phyl Crowther Trophy

The Phyl Crowther trophy is awarded to the best performed player at the No. 1 position in the Girls Section 1. To be eligible a player must play at least 70% of the seasons matches in the No. 1 position only.

32.3 Strachan Shield

The Strachan Shield is presented to the team with the highest percentage over the season.

32.4 Achievement Awards

Achievement awards are made to the next best performed player in both Boys and Girls Section 1 regardless of their position in the team. Players must have played 70% of matches in the current season.

Sections 2,3,4 & 5

32.5. Achievement Awards

Achievement awards will be made for the best performed player in both the boys and girls sections 1 through to 5 regardless of their position in the team. Players must have played 70% of matches in the current season.

33. Fines

Team not advising of forfeit	\$10
Withdrawal of team after draw published (when sent to delegates)	\$50