

GWTC MENS & WOMENS SINGLES RULES 2019/20

1. Schedule of Matches

- 1.1 16 home and away rounds will be played
- 1.2 First round commences 12 October 2019
- 1.3 Last round before Christmas will be 14 December 2019
- 1.4 Resumes on 1 February 2020
- 1.5 Last round to be played on 14 March 2020; no match on 7 March
- 1.6 Finals to be played over 2 weekends commencing 21 March with Grand Final on 28 March 2020.
- 1.7 Minor round matches shall be played on Saturdays as programmed at 12.30 p.m. or 3.30 p.m. Major round matches shall be played at 1pm. 2 courts per match required for all matches.
- 1.8 Teams are able to apply to the Match Committee in writing, to hold matches at different times. These requests must be sent to the respective Association Secretary prior to the commencement of the season.

2. Matches/Players

- 2.1 Players must be ready to play at the stipulated match time.
- 2.2 Each match will comprise 4 singles matches and 2 doubles matches.
- 2.3 A team may use up to 6 players in each match. No player may play in more than one single and one double.
- 2.4 A team must play its singles and doubles matches in order of merit. No player may move more than one ranking position, up or down, in consecutive matches after four programmed matches. A losing player or doubles pair may not be promoted over a winning player or pair in the next match in which they participate. The offending player's sets shall be deemed forfeited. A fill-in/part-time player may move more than one ranking position with the approval of a Match Committee nominee.
- 2.5 Team nominations, including squads, are to be made in League Manager. Players must be registered members of their club. New player details must be recorded in full on League Manager by 7pm on the Tuesday following the match. Penalty: loss of two (2) Premiership points for the team. Team changes, other than by order of merit, which would have affected the original grading, can only be made with the approval of the Match Committee. Team squads are to be maintained in order of merit throughout the season.
- 2.6 Any team playing a player listed on Tennis SA's list of ineligible players shall be penalised by losing any points the ineligible player has accrued and forfeit all sets played by that person.
- 2.7 If a club has more than one team in a division, a player may play four matches in one team before being bound to that team.
- 2.8 On any given week, any player listed in the top four in order of merit on a State League and Metro League list is not eligible to play in GWTC competitions. This includes byes.
- 2.9 State League and Metro League players who have played five matches are ineligible for GWTC competitions unless given prior approval by the Match Committee.
- 2.10 Once a player has played half of the programmed matches in a competition, no transfer between competitions shall be allowed. This applies to competitions conducted at similar times e.g. Saturday pm.
- 2.11 Each team must have a Captain or Team Manager (where appropriate) appointed for each match.
- 2.12 A team with all players under the age of eighteen (18) is required to have an adult supervisor for each match.
- 2.13 Prior to the start of each match, each team is to print their own score sheet for the match via the leagues.tennis.com.au website. The opposing captains shall exchange a list of players on the prescribed form, showing both doubles and singles and play the team in that order without alteration. Singles only players must be available when required to play. If a team has more than 4 players and a player is

injured in the doubles, he or she can be replaced in the singles by a player who was not originally listed in singles. Order of merit must be followed.

2.14 A player may play at 12.30 and then at 3.30 in a higher division as a late emergency player with prior approval of the Match Committee nominees.

2.15 In exceptional circumstances, a player may be granted a one-time approval to play in a higher division out of their position in the order of merit with prior approval of a Match Committee nominee. The player may return to their normal position in the order of merit.

2.16 In exceptional circumstances, a player who has played less than 3 matches for a club outside the GWTC, may be granted, by a Match Committee nominee, a one-time permit to fill-in for a GWTC team. The player must be the same or lower standard as the players in the team.

2.17 Where courts are available beyond the scheduled completion of a match, matches are to be completed. Where courts are not available, matches-in-progress are to cease at the completion of the game, or tie-break, being played.

2.18 No player may play for more than one club in a competition nor in another association in a competition conducted at a similar time with the exception of 2.14, 2.15 and 2.18.

2.19 Players may "fill-in" for another club for up to four matches in Metro or State League provided that club does not have a team in that League.

2.20 Clubs with teams competing in the Division 1 Women's singles and Division 1 Men's singles competitions are to enter votes on the GDTA Parsons Medals App by 7pm on Tuesday following the match.

3. Balls and ball allocation

All balls must be of a type approved by Tennis Australia. The home team shall provide 6 new balls for the match except div 1 which is 8. Finals: each team to provide 4 new balls.

4. Order of Play

Doubles matches shall be played first. After commencement, play is to be continuous. The order of play may be amended by prior agreement between the captains.

5. Scoring

5.1 Matches shall be decided by sets and where sets are even, by games. If sets and games are even in a completed match then the match is a draw.

5.2 In Division 1, singles and doubles shall be 9 game sets with a 7 point tie-break at eight games all. For all other divisions, doubles shall be the best of three sets, the first two being six game tie-break sets with a 7 point tie-break at six games all, the third set being a match tie-break (first to 10 points with a 2-point margin or a 2-point margin after 9 points all). Singles shall be a six game tie-break set with a 7 point tie-break at six games all.

6. Forfeits

6.1 Except in the case of injury or sickness during the match, forfeits of doubles and/or singles must be from the bottom double and/or single up. Failure by a team to forfeit in the correct order will result in a loss of two (2) Premiership points.

6.2 If any team cannot commence both doubles rubbers (unless by prior mutual agreement) within 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time, that team shall forfeit any double that cannot be commenced. Any team not able to commence two matches within half an hour of the scheduled starting time, shall be liable to forfeit the entire match. This is a competition requirement, not at the discretion of team captains.

6.3 A team proposing to forfeit a match or a set shall notify the opposing team as soon as possible.

7. Weather implications

7.1 In the event of extreme weather (including but not limited to rain or excessive heat) any match cancellations will be posted on GDTA and WDTA Association websites.

7.2 Matches will be cancelled when the forecast maximum temperature on match day, as issued by the Bureau of Meteorology at www.bom.gov.au at 6 am on the morning of matches, is 37^o Celsius or more.

7.3 In the event of any match being interrupted or incomplete due to inclement weather the following will occur:

a. On the day set down for such, players must remain at the courts for at least one hour before making any decision to abandon the match. The match status will be decided by the Match Committee.

b. If neither team is in an unbeatable position, no sets will count and the match will be considered "unplayed" with the premiership ladder determined using a match ratio (i.e. average points per matches played).

c. If one team is in an unbeatable position, it will be deemed the winner and given 4 premiership points (2 for at least a draw), plus one point for each set won.

The premiership ladder will be calculated using match ratio (average points per matches played)

7.4 In major round matches players must remain at the courts for at least two hours before making any decision to abandon the match. If no result is achieved the higher placed team will be considered the winner.

8. Results

GWTC will be using the Tennis Australia approved competition software, League Manager. Captains will be required to enter and confirm or dispute the results of their match on League Manager/ Match Centre by 7pm on Tuesday following the match. Finals by 9am Sunday. Penalty: a loss of two points to teams not entering/confirming results by 7pm on Tuesday following the match will apply.

9. Match Disputes

All match disputes must be made by the team captain or Manager by email to the respective Association Secretary by 7:00pm on Tuesday following the match.

10. Premiership table

10.1 Four premiership points will be awarded for a winning match and two points for a draw plus one premiership point for each winning set.

10.2 Premiership tables are to be decided by points and should points be equal at the end of the minor round, then by percentage for and against of wins, then sets, then games. In divisions with a bye, or "unplayed" matches, the premiership table will be decided by match ratio. (Match ratio is the premiership points divided by the number of matches played). If equal on match ratio then by ratio percentage for and against (wins, then sets, then games).

11. Finals

11.1 The top four teams in the premiership table at the end of the minor round shall play off in the major round. In the semi-finals, the 1st and 2nd placed teams will each have the option of hosting a home final on courts of a standard approved by the Match Committee. If the team declines, the decision as to where the match is to be played shall be made by the Match Committee.

11.2 (A) The team finishing 1st plays the team finishing 4th;

11.3 (B) The team finishing 2nd plays the team finishing 3rd;

11.4 (C) The winner of (A) plays the winner of (B) in a Grand Final.

11.5 In finals matches, doubles precede singles. The order of play of the singles is 4, 3, 2, 1.

11.6 In the event of a drawn match in Finals, the winner shall be the team that finished higher in the premiership table at the conclusion of the minor rounds.

11.7 A player who has played in a major round match of one division/ team /competition (Saturday pm) is not permitted to play another major round match in a lower division/team/competition unless approved by the Match Committee. Penalty: the offending player's sets shall be deemed forfeited.

11.8 A player having played six matches in any one division shall not be permitted to play in a major round match of a lower division unless approved by the Match Committee. Penalty: the offending player's sets shall be deemed forfeited.

11.9 Undecided finals matches, not affected by weather, are to be completed on the following Sunday at mutually agreed times, and if no agreement, at times specified by the Match Committee. No team changes are permitted.

12. Finals Qualification

12.1 Nominations of teams including singles order and doubles pairings for the final rounds must be submitted in accordance with any determination made by the Match Committee. Singles players are to be listed in order of merit as established in the minor rounds.

12.2 Players in the major rounds are to remain in the same order of their position of merit throughout the finals series (singles and doubles) - unless injury or similar requires any replacement players.

12.3 No player may play in finals matches in a division unless that player is a registered member of Tennis SA and has played in no less than five (5) minor round matches in that division or in a lower division of that competition. In the event of 12 or less matches being played during the season, players will be required to play in no less four (4) minor round matches to qualify for finals. There are no grounds for appeal for players who have played less than the required number of matches to qualify for finals.

13. Code of Behaviour issues

13.1 All matches shall be played in accordance with the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour for Weekly Competitions.

13.2 All reports of Code of Behaviour breaches shall be sent by email to the respective Association Secretary by midnight Monday following the match in which the incident took place.

13.3 Team Captains and Team Managers are responsible for exercising control over their own players in relation to all aspects of match play, discipline and sportsmanship, etc.

14. Penalties

The Match Committee may apply penalties for any breaches of the Competition Rules. The Match Committee may determine a dispute in any way it sees fit and impose a penalty, including but not limited to the forfeit of matches or sets, and the loss of premiership points, on any club or player involved in such a dispute.