



# TENNIS BY LAWS



# 2026

***AIC BY LAWS ARE DEVELOPED IN ADDITION TO THOSE OF THE STATE AND NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY, EXCEPT STATED OTHERWISE. THE BY LAWS ARE REVISED ANNUALLY.***

# AIC TENNIS BY LAWS 2026

## RULES PERTAINING TO ALL TEAMS

### Clause 1: GRADES AND AIC AGGREGATE

- (a) Grades catered for shall be:  
1st IV, 2nd IV, 3rd IV, 4<sup>th</sup> IV, 10A, 10B, 9A, 9B, 8A, 8B, 7A, 7B, 6A, 6B, 5A, 5B
- (b) All grades except for the 6A, 6B, 5A and 5B shall count towards the AIC Aggregate.

### Clause 2: COMPETITION POINTS

|         |   |          |
|---------|---|----------|
| Win     | = | 2 points |
| Tie     | = | 1 point  |
| Washout | = | 1 point  |
| Loss    | = | 0 points |

### Clause 3: SELECTION OF TEAMS AND RESTRICTION ON PLAYERS

- Each 1<sup>st</sup> IV and 'A' team shall consist of four players. B teams will be permitted to have 5 players.
- Any reserve must not have previously played in that round of competition.
- In all age groups, the teams shall be graded and the players within the teams are to be ranked 1 to 4. A playing order must be exchanged prior to the start of play. This playing order must not be altered throughout the course of the match and will include the 5<sup>th</sup> player (if being utilised) clearly showing each 'rubber' players will play in.
- In the event of an 'A' team or 1<sup>st</sup> team having insufficient number of players, a 'B' player must fill the vacant position.

### Clause 4: FORMAT OF MATCHES (this pertains to all teams EXCEPT for 1<sup>st</sup> IV)

- Matches shall consist of eight sets - four sets of singles and four sets of doubles.

#### Singles

- The winner of each set shall be the first to six games with an advantage of two games, or by winning seven games to five.
- If the games are tied six all, the "7 Point tie-break" system shall apply i.e. first to seven points with a two-point advantage.
- One long deuce followed by a short deuce (sudden death) shall apply for all singles sets

### Doubles

- The winner of each set shall be the first to four games.
- If the games are tied at three all, the traditional 7 point tiebreak system shall apply (I.e. First to 7, must lead by 2).
- One long deuce followed by a short deuce (sudden death) shall apply for all doubles sets
- 'Traditional' service lets shall be called and replayed.

b) The match shall be decided on the number of completed sets won at the designated finishing time, or, if the sets are equal, on the number of completed games won including unfinished sets. If the sets and games are equal the result is a tie.

c) If a player is absent from a match, the team shall forfeit all sets in which he should have taken part.

d) If a team is unwilling or unable to commence play within one quarter of an hour of the time set down for commencement, a forfeit of the first set may be claimed. For each subsequent half hour, a further set shall be forfeit

### **Clause 5: MATCH TIMES**

#### HOME VENUE

| TIME                                    | Court 1            | Court 2            | Court 3            | Court 4            | Court 5            | Court 6            | Court 7            | Court 8            | Court 9            | Court 10           |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>7.45am – 10.00am</b><br>(Session 1)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> IV | 1 <sup>st</sup> IV | 2 <sup>nd</sup> IV | 2 <sup>nd</sup> IV | 3 <sup>rd</sup> IV | 3 <sup>rd</sup> IV | 4 <sup>th</sup> IV | 4 <sup>th</sup> IV | 5 <sup>th</sup> IV | 5 <sup>th</sup> IV |
| <b>10.15am – 12.30pm</b><br>(Session 2) | 1 <sup>st</sup> IV | 1 <sup>st</sup> IV | 10A                | 10A                | 10B                | 10B                | 9A                 | 9A                 | 9B                 | 9B                 |

Warm up: Session 1 (7:30am – 7:45am) - Session 2 (10:00am – 10:15am)

**\*THIS SCHEDULE CAN BE ALTERED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE HOME SCHOOL**

## AWAY VENUE

| TIME                                | Court 1 | Court 2 | Court 3 | Court 4 | Court 5 | Court 6 | Court 7 | Court 8 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 7.45am –<br>10.00am<br>(Session 1)  | 5A      | 5A      | 5B      | 5B      | 7A      | 7A      | 7B      | 7B      |
| 10.15am –<br>12.30pm<br>(Session 2) | 6A      | 6A      | 6B      | 6B      | 8A      | 8A      | 8B      | 8B      |

Warm up: Session 1 (7:30am – 7:45am) - Session 2 (10:00am – 10:15am)

**\*THIS SCHEDULE CAN BE ALTERED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE HOME SCHOOL**

### **Clause 6: MATCH VENUES**

Year 9 to Open teams shall play on courts (10 courts) designated by the home team. Year 5 to 8 teams shall play on courts (8 courts) designated by the away team. Wherever possible no more than two venues should be used, and teams within the same age group or year level should play at the same venue.

Home 1<sup>st</sup> IV, 2<sup>nd</sup> IV, 3<sup>rd</sup> IV, 4<sup>th</sup> IV, 5<sup>th</sup> IV, 10A, 10B, 9A, 9B

Away 8A, 8B, 7A, 7B, 6A, 6B, 5A, 5B

### **Clause 7: TEAMS AND ORDER OF PLAY**

- Each member of the team shall play a set of singles against the correspondingly ranked opposition player, and each doubles pair shall play both opposition doubles pairs. (See order of play below)
- For singles play, the team is to be ranked. An exchange of team lists must be made immediately on arrival at the venue and prior to warm up.
- For doubles play, the pairings and rankings are at the discretion of each College.
- Matches may be played in any order by mutual arrangement, but if agreement cannot be reached, then the order of play shall be:

| COURT 1                | COURT 2                |                 |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| No 1 pair vs No 2 pair | No 2 pair vs No 1 pair | Reverse Doubles |
| No 1 pair vs No 1 pair | No 2 pair vs No 2 pair | Doubles         |
| No 1 v No 1            | No 2 v No 2            | Singles         |
| No 3 v No 3            | No 4 v No 4            | Singles         |

**Clause 8: UMPIRES/SCORERS**

Players are to umpire and score their own matches.

**Clause 9: BALL PERSONS**

No ball persons shall be organized for any AIC fixtures

**Clause 10: COACHES**

- i. Coaching of players is not permitted once play has commenced and the players are on the court.
- ii. In accordance to Clause 10 (a) coaching is only permitted outside the playing arena prior to, and after the rubber.
- iii. The exception to Clauses 10 i) and ii) is coaches/managers are permitted on court in Year 5 and 6 fixtures when it is necessary to assist students in conducting the fixture.

**Clause 11: BALLS**

- a) The College at whose grounds the match is being played shall supply the balls. Balls are to be new.
- b) Three balls are required for each court. Four balls are required for each First IV court.
- c) The Dunlop AO Ball is to be used for all fixtures. If fixtures are to be played on 'Clay', the Dunlop Clay Ball is to be used.

**Clause 12: WEATHER**

- a) If the two teams are at the courts at the time set down for start of play, the decision of the fitness of the courts shall be made by the coaches. If they do not agree, the existing state of affairs shall continue until agreement is reached. If there is no play the match shall be drawn.

Clarification of "existing state of affairs": If the match has not started, and the umpires/coaches do not agree, then the match does not start. If the match is in progress and agreement cannot be reached, then the match is to continue.

- b) If courts are not playable within one hour of the scheduled start of play, the match shall be recorded as a draw.
- c) Unfinished matches shall be recorded as a draw. However, if unattainable, a winning margin has already been established when play is stopped and a win shall be recorded.
- d) If play is interrupted or delayed continuously the match shall be declared a draw or continue until a result is achieved.
- e) Matches shall remain at the venue where they started.

**Clause 13: SPECTATORS**

No player, participating in that match or spectator is permitted in the playing area whilst a match is being played. All such persons shall remain behind the designated playing areas, this may include any fenced area.

**Clause 14: SCOREBOOKS**

Captains and/or coaches shall sign both scorebooks at the conclusion of each match.

**Clause 15: PUBLICATION OF SCORES**

All scores are to be recorded as number of sets won unless the number of sets is tied, then the number of games are to be published as well as the number of sets. (1<sup>st</sup> IV match results are to be reported as per number of matches eg 8-0; 7-1 etc)

**Clause 16: MEDICAL**

Adequate sports medicine staff and first aid are to be available.

**Clause 17: HOSPITALITY**

A brief exchange of speeches and refreshments can be made to First players and coaches following the match.

**RULES PERTAINING TO FIRST IV MATCHES****Clause 1: FORMAT OF MATCHES**

a) 1st IV fixtures shall consist of eight matches, which require the playing of eight sets of singles and four sets of doubles. The winner of each set shall be the first to six games with an advantage of two games, or by winning seven games to five. If the games are tied six all, the "tie-break" system shall apply.

b) In singles each match shall consist of two sets. If one player wins both sets then he shall be the winner of that match. If the sets are tied 1-1 then a "tie break" (first to ten points with a two point advantage) shall be played to establish the winner of the match. This "tie break" is purely designed to provide a winner for an individual singles match and shall not be counted as a set if a count back is required as outlined in Clause 1 c)

c) The fixture shall be decided on the number of matches won, or, if the matches are equal, on the number of sets won, or, if the sets are equal, on the number of games won. If the matches, sets and games are all equal then the result is a tie.

**Clause 2: TEAMS AND ORDER OF PLAY**

a) Each member of the team shall play two sets of singles against the correspondingly ranked opposition player, and doubles pairings shall play one set against each of the opposition doubles pairings.

b) For singles play, the team is to be ranked. An exchange of team lists must be made immediately on arrival at the venue and prior to warm up.

c) Doubles pairings and rankings are at the discretion of each College, but they cannot be changed once play has commenced.

d) Matches may be played in any order by mutual arrangement, but if agreement cannot be reached, then the order of play shall be:

| COURT 1                | COURT 2                |                 |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| No 1 pair vs No 2 pair | No 2 pair vs No 1 pair | Reverse Doubles |
| No 1 pair vs No 1 pair | No 2 pair vs No 2 pair | Doubles         |
| No 1 v No 1            | No 2 v No 2            | Singles         |
| No 3 v No 3            | No 4 v No 4            | Singles         |

**Clause 3: COURTS**

Two courts shall always be made available for First IV fixtures.

**Clause 4: UMPIRES/SCORERS**

Players must call their own lines.

**Clause 5: BALLS**

Eight balls shall be supplied by the home team for all 1st IV matches (four per court)

