

# BENDIGO TENNIS ASSOCIATION



## COMPETITION BY-LAWS

1/12/2020

# GENERAL BYLAWS

## REGISTRATION

### 1.1 Membership

All players must be a member of an affiliated club of the Bendigo Tennis Association (BTA) upon commencement of the current season to compete in BTA Pennant competitions.

All players must be a member of an affiliated club of the Bendigo Tennis Association (BTA) or the Bendigo Tennis Centre (BTC) upon commencement of the current season to compete in BTA social competitions.

### 1.2 Affiliated Clubs

Bendigo Tennis Association Affiliated clubs consist of:

- Ironbark Tennis Club
- South Bendigo Tennis Club
- Spring Gully Tennis Club
- Strathdale Park Tennis Club
- Strathfieldsaye Tennis Club

### 1.3 Player Registration

All Pennant competitions require affiliated clubs to return teams no later than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled commencement of the season

All social competitions require teams to complete a registration form no later than (7) days prior to the scheduled commencement of the season.

### 1.4 Player Fees

All fees are payable prior to taking court each week unless otherwise stipulated within specific competition by-laws.

The Bendigo Tennis Association reserves the right to alter payment policy

### 1.5 Compliance

Failure to comply with law 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 will result in the offending team losing the sets of the offending player or players.

The offending team will receive no games and the non-offending team receive full sets and games.

## GENERAL RULES

### 2.1 Governing Body

All matches played shall be governed by the By-Laws of the Bendigo Tennis Association.

Where an abnormality may appear, the Bendigo Tennis Association Committee of management will seek clarification.

### 2.2 Rule Clarification

All BTA run competitions will differ in formats. These will be clearly published upon season registration.

Any clarification of a rule must be directed to the competition's coordinator.

Where indiscretion may appear, the Bendigo Tennis Association Board of Management will seek clarification.

### 2.3 Score Cards

All names must be completed on the scorecard before the commencement of the second sets.

No alterations are to be made after the card is filled in.

Sets can be played out of order, but only if both teams agree.

If there can be no agreement reached, then matches must be played in order.

In the event of an injury, refer to By-law 2.8.

### 2.4 Start of Play

All matches will begin at the scheduled start time.

Players must warm-up prior to the scheduled starting time.

Where play is delayed by 15 minutes, the offending team must forfeit the set.

Where play is delayed by 30 minutes, the offending team must forfeit the match.

### 2.5 Finish of Play

All matches must be completed within the allocated time.

If the match cannot be completed within allocated time period, the result is upon the agreement of both teams by one of the following procedures:

- The result stands as at all completed games
- The match is moved to an available court (subject to availability)
- Both Teams agree to continue until match is concluded on the same court (subject to availability)

Upon conclusion of the match, completed score cards and balls are to be returned to the Front Desk to allow other matches to access the courts if required.

### 2.6 Match results

All match results will be in the following format where applicable unless stipulated in specific competition By-Laws.

A team is declared having won a match by number of Rubbers won.  
If teams have won equal rubbers, a winner is declared by number of Sets.  
If teams have equal Rubbers and sets, a winner is declared by number of games.  
If teams cannot be split by the above, the match will be declared a draw.

## **2.7 Premiership Points**

All matches premiership points will be based on the following format where applicable unless stipulated in specific competition By-Laws.

- One (1) point for each rubber or set win
- Two (2) points for a match win
- One (1) point allocated to each team in the event of a match draw

If 2 teams are on the same premiership points, percentage will be used in order to decide team placings.  
Percentage will be calculated by using games for and against.

## **2.8 Fill-ins**

It is the responsibility of the team to seek their own fill-ins.  
Bendigo Tennis Association employees will not be available to help teams find fill-ins.

A fill in must abide by the following criteria:

- A registered member of another team (Bylaw 1.1)
- A registered member of an affiliated Bendigo Tennis Association Club (Bylaw 1.2)
- An unregistered player approved at the discretion of the competition coordinator

The fill in must pay the associated competition fee specified within specific competition By-Law.

A fill in must only play for the same team a maximum of three (3) times.

## **2.9 Injury during play**

If an injury occurs during play, the injured player must cease play and forfeit the remaining games of that set.  
A substitute player who is registered in that team can take such players place in remaining un-started sets only provided they are available to play within 30minutes of the injury occurring.

If no registered player is available, the team must forfeit the offending player's sets.

If the set has commenced and needs to be forfeited, the non-offending team receives full set and games, and the offending team receives their games won only.

## **2.10 Incomplete Sets**

If a player needs to leave early and cannot fulfil their commitment of playing out any of their sets, the team must forfeit the players remaining sets.

If the set has commenced and needs to be forfeited, the non-offending team receives the full set and games, and the offending team receives their games won only.

## **2.11 General Play**

General play rules will be governed by Tennis Australia Guidelines for matches played without a chair umpire. This can be found online at [www.bendigotennis.com.au](http://www.bendigotennis.com.au) or a copy can be asked for at the Fosterville Gold Tennis Centre.

Standard tennis balls will be used for all matches unless stipulated within specific competition by-laws. Number of tennis balls provided will be stipulated in specific competition By-Laws.

Players will be expected to umpire their own matches

### **2.12 Scheduled Season**

The Bendigo Tennis Association reserves the right to schedule all competitions, alter or cancel competitions at any given time.

### **2.13 Breach**

A breach of any rules within the association bylaws will be adjudicated by the competition coordinator.

Where a breach has occurred, the offending team will receive zero (0) games for applicable sets and the non-offending team will be awarded full games.

### **2.14 Disputes**

All disputes must first be communicated to the competition's coordinator.

The competition coordinator will assess the breach and apply By-Laws accordingly.

Where an outcome is not reached or needs to be appealed, a final decision will be reached by the Bendigo Tennis Association committee of management at the appropriately arranged meeting.

## TEAMS GRADE AND GRADING

### **3.1 Team Grading**

The Bendigo Tennis Association reserves the right for the competition's coordinator to re-grade any team in any competition prior to or up to three (3) weeks into the competition.

In the event of a team being re-graded, all existing premierships points will be transferred.

### **3.2 Combining of Grades**

In the event there is less than four (4) teams entered in a division of a competition, the division will be combined with an applicable competition.

### **3.3 Splitting of Grades**

In the event of a competition has more than eight (8) teams, the Bendigo Tennis Association reserves the right for the competition coordinator to split the competition into two separate grades at their discretion.

## FINALS

### **4.1 Finals Format**

All finals will be completed in the following format, unless stipulated in specific competition by-laws:

Week 1 (Semi-Finals)

*Match 1 - 1<sup>st</sup> position V 4<sup>th</sup> position*

*Match 2 - 2<sup>nd</sup> position V 3<sup>rd</sup> position*

Week 2: (Grand Final)

*Match 3 – Winner of Match one (1) V Winner of Match two (2)*

### **4.1 Finals eligibility**

In order to be eligible to play in all competition finals By-Laws 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 must be fulfilled.

Players must also have played three (3) games for the team to qualify to play finals.

In the event a player is injured during play and cannot continue, teams must seek approval for a substitute to complete un-started sets from the competitions coordinator.

The substitute player must adhere to By-Laws 1.1 and 1.2 2 and be available to compete within 30 minutes of the injury.

### **4.2 Weather interference**

In the event of weather interference, players will refer to the Bendigo Tennis Association Extreme Weather Policy. This is available for download at [bendigotennis.com.au](http://bendigotennis.com.au) or a copy is available at the Fosterville Gold Tennis Centre.

In the event extreme weather causes play not to commence or conclude as scheduled in a final, the higher ranked team for each match will be declared the winner.

In the event extreme weather causes play not to commence or conclude as scheduled in a Grand Final, the higher ranked team for the match will be declared the winner.

In the event of extreme weather causing play not to commence or conclude as scheduled in all finals, the ladder will stand as the determining team placings.

### **4.3 Drawn Matches**

In the event a winner cannot be determined by By-Law 2.6 in any final or Grand Final a championship tiebreak between teams will be used to declare the winner.

The championship tiebreak will consist of the first rubber or set on the scorecard and follow the same format of players.

### **4.4 Determining players for finals**

Each team is responsible for selecting their finals team

## FORFEIT

### **5.1 Forfeit Policy**

In the event of a team needing to forfeit, the following disciplinary procedure will apply:

- First (1) Forfeit: An official warning from the competitions coordinator
- Second (2) Forfeit: A Forfeit Fee of \$96 will be payable to the Bendigo Tennis Association.
- Third (3) Forfeit: Team will be removed from the competition

### **5.2 Forfeit due to injury**

In the event of a team's player being injured prior to match, the forfeit policy still applies.

The team and player should make every effort to organise a fill in to ensure both teams still get a match.

## WEATHER

### **6.1 Extreme Weather Policy**

All Competitions will follow the policy and procedures of the Bendigo Tennis Association Extreme weather policy.

This is available for download at [bendigotennis.com.au](http://bendigotennis.com.au) or a copy is available at the Bendigo Tennis Centre.

## SPECIFIC COMPETITION BYLAWS

### **7.1 Overreaching By-laws**

**All competitions conducted by or on behalf of the BTA on BTA controlled facilities will be governed by the BTA By-laws**