

SENIOR PENNANT CHANGES 2023/24 SEASON



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SENIOR PENNANT CHANGES

B-GRADE FORMAT

The BTA is introducing a new format for B-Grade for the 2023/204 season. This consists of transitioning to **teams of 6 players with a gender requirement of 1 female player.**

The reasons for the changes are:

- To align with our current A-Grade format which has been successful in increasing female participation.
- To promote diversity, inclusivity, and healthy competition at the B-Grade level.

B-Grade 2023/24 Format:

Teams of 6
(Min 1 Female)

Player 1, 2, 3 & 4

1 x Set Singles & 2 x Sets Doubles

Player 5 & 6

3 x Sets Doubles

3 x 8 Game Sets Per Player (Tiebreak 7-7)



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3 ROUND FINALS SERIES

Due to the success of the '3 Round' Finals Series in A-Grade for the 2022/23 season, and in response to player feedback, a '3 Round' Finals Series is being introduced for **all** grades.

In addition, the Finals Series is being condensed to occur over two action-packed weekends. This will ensure our Finals Series will not be interrupted by the Labour Day long weekend and allows teams to maintain their momentum between matches.

Round 1 will see the Qualifying & Elimination Finals played on the Saturday with Round 2 and the Preliminary Final played on the Sunday of the same weekend.

Finals Round 1	Qualifying Final & Elimination Final	Saturday, 16 March
Finals Round 2	Preliminary Final	Sunday, 17 March
Finals Round 3	Grand Final	Saturday, 23 March



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UTR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAYER GRADING

To promote fair and balanced competitions, a UTR (Universal Tennis Rating) guideline is being introduced for clubs to consider when entering their pennant teams, as follows:

UTR Rating between 1 to 4.0: Recommended for C Grade

UTR Rating between 3.5 to 6.5: Recommended for B Grade

UTR Rating above 6: Recommended for A Grade

We understand some players might fall on the borderline between two Grades and in such cases, we expect clubs to assemble teams that generally align with the UTR rating guidelines provided for all players in the team to ensure the integrity of the competition.

Our aim is to promote balanced matchups, allowing players to challenge themselves and grow while maintaining the integrity of the competition. By following these recommendations, we continue to work towards a more enjoyable and rewarding tennis experience for everyone involved.

Please feel free to contact the BTA if you require any assistance with accessing player UTRs when forming teams.

Note: The BTA Senior Match Committee will review all team entries and will make grading determinations in accordance with the BTA General Competition By-Laws.

