

TENNIS

FACILITY & EQUIPMENT

Tennis courts may be inside or outside. However, hosts are encouraged to have at least 3 indoor courts to guarantee play in whatever condition.

Scheduling Considerations:

1. **Draw Size:** Adjust according to the number of participants in each category.
2. **Match Courts:** Allocate specific courts for each age group if multiple courts are available.
3. **Rest Periods:** Schedule adequate rest between matches, especially for younger age groups.

AGE CATEGORIES

Please refer to the **SGIS Age Categories** for this academic year located [HERE](#).

ROSTERS

Dependent on the organisation of the competition and competition host. Considerations for the tournament include:

- Flexibility in rules is a positive - discretion of host - but as the flagship event for the tennis players, an appropriate format for CAT A/B
- Does the Host venue need to have a minimum number of courts?
- Is there a cap on numbers of entrants per school CAT A/B - and should they be seeded or ranked?
- Consolation draw - what happens to eliminated students?
- Constraints on space/ courts vs duration of matches

OFFICIAL RULES

[ITF rules](#) should be followed. Any modification from ITF rules should be notified by the competition organiser to the participants at the time the schedule is sent out, at the latest.

FORMATS

Match:

- **Match Type:** Singles (individual players)
- **Set Format:** Best of 1 set
- **Minimum Match Duration:** Each match will be a minimum of 4 games. This means a player must win at least 4 games to secure the set
- **Games to Win:** A player must win 4 games to win the set (e.g., 4-0, 4-1, 4-2, etc.)
- **Tiebreak:** If the set reaches a 3-3 tie in games, a championship tiebreak (first to 7 points, win by 2) will be played to determine the winner
- **Service Order:** The player who serves first is decided by a coin toss or racket spin

Tournament:

- **Elimination Type:** Depending on the number of participants, this could either be a **single-elimination** (knockout) or **double-elimination** format.
 - **Single Elimination:** Players are eliminated after a single loss
 - **Double Elimination:** Players are eliminated after two losses, with a chance to come back through the "losers' bracket"
- **Round Robin Group Stage:** In larger tournaments, players may first compete in a round-robin format within their age category groups, followed by a knockout stage. This ensures every participant plays multiple matches.

SPECIAL RULES

Coaches will be allowed to consult briefly with their players at changeovers. All protests must go to the competition organiser.

The length of each game should generally be 1 regular set to 6 games with a traditional tiebreaker in case of a 6-6 tie. Depending on the number of registered participants, the competition organiser can decide whether to have deuces and/or a two point difference in tiebreakers. The tournament organiser can shorten the length of each match if needed but a match should be no less than first to 4 games.

The standard format should be with one deuce followed by a golden point format in a game or at a tiebreaker where the next point wins. Thus in a game, a normal deuce is played with advantage but if it returns to deuce, the next point wins. In a tie breaker, if there is a 2 point difference, the match will end when a player/pair reaches 7. At 6-6 or 7-7, the first player/pair

to reach 8 will be declared the winner. In the golden point format, the receiving player/pair can decide which side to receive the serve on.

OFFICIATING, SCORING & RESULTS

Players will referee their own games and keep score. Scores should be called out by the server before every point. Players must report to the scorer's desk when their match is called and also when their match is over to report the score.

The schools with the top 3 singles players or pairs will determine the team winners and placements for each category.

Scoring System:

- Scores are recorded in line with the ITF rules.
- Standard tennis scoring for games (15, 30, 40, game).
- Use a match referee or scorer to oversee the championship tiebreak and to resolve any disputes.

HEALTH & SAFETY