BAYSIDE REGIONAL TENNIS ASSOCIATION

BY-LAWS FOR THE CONDUCT OF JUNIOR COMPETITIONS

1. The ITF Rules of Tennis, as adopted by Tennis Victoria, Tennis Australia's Procedures for Matches Without Chair Umpires (where no chair umpires are used for a match), Tennis Australia's Code of Behaviour (as applicable to Member Associations' weekly competitions) and Tennis Australia's Disciplinary Policy shall apply to all matches, except where hereafter modified.

2. Competitions offered shall consist of:

2.1 ***Open Singles / Doubles Sets – Four a side (Saturday AM & Sunday AM) (Any combination of boys and girls)***

Players must be eighteen (18) years or under up until the originally scheduled grand final date for the season.

Matches shall consist of six (6) game sets in which a twelve (12) point tie breaker shall be played if the score reaches six (6) games all. Each pair shall play one opposing pair, and each player shall play one opposing player in a singles match. Singles matches are to be played in order of merit as approved by the Association. In all matches, the majority of sets shall decide the match; sets being equal, games to decide.

2.2 ***Girl's Singles / Doubles Sets – Four a side (Saturday AM & Sunday AM)***

Players must be eighteen (18) years or under up until the originally scheduled grand final date for the season.

Matches shall consist of six (6) game sets in which a twelve (12) point tie breaker shall be played if the score reaches six (6) games all. Each pair shall play one opposing pair, and each player shall play one opposing player in a singles match. Singles matches are to be played in order of merit as approved by the Association. In all matches, the majority of sets shall decide the match; sets being equal, games to decide.

2.3 Open Singles / Doubles Sets (Green Ball) – Four a side (Saturday AM & Sunday AM)

Players must be twelve (12) years or under up until the originally scheduled grand final date for the season, subject to the discretion of the Association.

Matches shall consist of four (4) players (any combination of boys and girls) where each pair shall play one opposing pair in a first to six (6) games set and each player shall play one opposing player in a singles match in a first to six (6) games set. There are no tiebreakers played in Green Ball sections. Singles matches are to be played in the order of merit, approved by the Association. In all matches, the majority of sets shall decide the match; sets being equal, games to decide.

2.4 Open Singles / Doubles Rubbers – Two a side (Saturday AM & Sunday AM)

Players must be eighteen (18) years or under up until the originally scheduled grand final for the season.

Matches shall consist of two (2) players (any combination of boys and girls) who will play an eight (8) game doubles set with a twelve (12) point tie-break at 8 all. Both players play a singles rubber – best of two six (6) game tie-break sets with a twelve (12) point T/B at six (6) all. If one set all, a ten (10) point match tie-break will be played to decide the rubber.

2.5 If a player is found to be overage, all singles and doubles matches played by the player during the current season will be forfeited as well as any match result points.

3. Registration of Players

3.1 At the commencement of each season, each team entry must be entered into the Association's online competition system, including the players to be registered for the season. Players nominated thereafter shall not play with any other club in the nominated competition without the sanction of the Association.

3.2 All teams are to be nominated at the start of the season in order of their current singles UTR.

3.3 Prior to play commencing, additional registrations may be made on the scoresheet on the day of play witnessed by captain / team member of the opposing team. The team / club shall be held responsible for the action of any player already registered who signs another registration and shall be dealt with as the Association may think fit.

3.4 The Association shall have the power to enquire into the absence of registrations of any team / club, and such team / club proved in default shall forfeit the match. All games pertaining to an unregistered player shall be forfeited, and the scores, as adjusted shall be recorded for the purpose of percentage.

4. Transfers

Applications by players requesting clearance to play with another club after grading of teams, shall submit a request via email to the Competition & Online Coordinator. Any player who is refused a clearance shall have the right of appeal to the Association.

5. Details of Play

5.1 For all matches, each team shall be under the control of an adult supervisor / parent, who shall remain at the court location for the entire match.

5.2 In addition, all home clubs shall have a Club Supervisor for the entire morning. This Club Supervisor does not have to be the same person for the entire morning.

5.3 Saturday matches shall commence at 8.00am, 8.30am or 10.00am as stated on the fixture.

5.4 Sunday matches shall commence at 8.00am, 9.00am or 10.00am as stated on the fixture.

5.5 Home clubs must provide at least two courts per match, unless approved by the Association.

5.6 All players must present for play in clean and customarily acceptable tennis attire and correct footwear.

5.6.1 Clubs have the right to not allow players to play on their courts if they have the incorrect footwear.

5.6.2 Items of clothing not permitted are:

i. Dress shirts
ii. Singlets, although Tennis shirts without sleeves are allowed.
iii. Football shorts & jumpers
iv. Jogging shorts and sweat shorts
v. Cargo pants / shorts
vi. Any article of clothing with advertising other than sporting company logos.
vii. Any article of clothing and/or headwear with writing or logos that are offensive or derogatory, in the opinion of the Association, in its sole discretion.

5.6.3 Warm up clothing shall not be worn during a match, except where extreme weather or religious circumstances dictate.

5.6.4 The Association encourages players to wear headwear as protection from the sun.

5.7 Prior to the commencement of the match, the captains of the teams must complete the names of competing players on the scoresheet. Surnames must be included. Singles are to be listed in the order of merit approved by the Association. There is no order of merit for doubles pairings.

5.8 Matches shall be played as per the fixture and the dates strictly observed. If both teams agree, the start time and / or venue may be amended for home and away matches subject to the approval of the Record Secretary no later than 1 hour before the original scheduled start time.

5.9 Matches shall commence no later than five (5) minutes after the fixtured start time. The Home club may nominate the order of play of the match. Doubles sets do not have to be played first.

5.10 All team members must be present within fifteen (15) minutes from the fixtured start time. Player(s) not present after fifteen (15) minutes cannot take part in the match.

If a club allows a player to play in a match who arrives later than fifteen (15) minutes from the fixtured start time to play in a match, the club cannot subsequently claim any of the sets or the match as a forfeit.

5.11 In Rule 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 competitions, a team cannot win a match with only three (3) or less players. All singles and doubles matches that can be played should be played other than those players who are more than fifteen (15) minutes late.

5.12 Where there are two start times for the morning, teams must be allowed to complete any set still in progress from the first match. No sets may commence from the first match after the second match is scheduled to commence.

5.13 Hit-ups are limited to three (3) minutes for each set.

6. **Injuries / Substitutes**

6.1 Injury time allowed during any match shall not be more than ten (10) minutes. If the player cannot continue after ten (10) minutes, the set or sets to be played are forfeited (games won up to the point of injury are maintained), unless Rule 6.2 can be applied.

6.2 An approved substitute shall be allowed to take the place of any player who is prevented through illness or injury sustained during play, provided that such substitute shall not take the place of any player in a set that has commenced. Such substitute shall be in attendance within fifteen (15) minutes of play ceasing due to injury.

6.3 Substitutes cannot strengthen a team, and the substitute must have an UTR equal to or less than the player they are replacing.

7. **Tennis Balls / Scoresheet**

7.1 Rule 2.1 and Rule 2.2 Competitions

7.1.1 The home team shall provide four good used tennis balls, of an approved brand and type, as listed on the Tennis Australia website, for each match.

7.2 Rule 2.3 Competitions

7.2.1 The home team shall provide four good, used low compression tennis balls, of an approved brand and type as listed on the Tennis Australia website, for each match.

7.3 Rule 2.4 Competitions

7.3.1 The home team shall provide six new tennis balls of an approved brand and type use as listed on the Tennis Australia website.

7.3.2 For the completion of any adjourned match, new balls need not necessarily be provided, it being deemed sufficient for the home team to provide the same balls as used in the previous day's play providing, they have not been further used.

7.4 All home teams must supply a scoresheet for each match.

8. **Grading / Playing Order / Finals Qualification**

8.1 The Association has the right to grade players, and no player shall participate in matches in a section lower than approved by the Association.

8.2 If a player plays in a section lower than approved, all sets played by the player will be forfeited and the team will forfeit the match points.

8.3 If a player plays lower than approved order of merit, only the singles set played by the player will be forfeited.

8.4 No emergency player can strengthen a team. Emergencies must play in order of merit and must have a singles UTR the same as or lower than the player they are replacing. If a club is in any doubt, they should check with the Association prior to play.

8.5 No player having participated in a total of four (4) matches in higher grades during one season shall be eligible to play thereafter in lower grade fixtures during the season without the approval of the Association.

8.6 In the event of a club being represented by more than one team in any grade, no player who has participated in four (4) matches in one team shall be eligible to play thereafter in the other.

8.7 No player excepting with special permission of the Association shall be eligible to play in semi-finals or final matches unless they have played three (3) matches during the current season, two (2) of which must be played prior to the last three (3) home and away matches.

9. **Players can only play one match per round.**

9.1 The date of each round is deemed to be the date on which the match was originally scheduled to be played. All points (involving a player breaching this rule) will be awarded to the opposition in the second match that a player plays in the round. The player will be deemed to be an ineligible player, and the match points will also be awarded to the opposition.

9.2 Where a player is a regular player in a team, the second match will be deemed to be the match played, in addition to the player's regular team. Where the player is an emergency, the second match will be the second physically played match.

10. **Court Surfaces**

10.1 Where clubs have multiple surfaces, teams are to play on the same surface for the duration of the match. In the event of wet weather, a change of surface can be made with the approval of both team adult supervisors.

10.2 Multi-lined or dual-lined (for other sports) tennis courts cannot be used for competition play.

11. **Inclement Weather**

11.1 **Wet Weather**

11.1.1 If, at the time of commencing play, or at any time during the match, the opposing adult supervisors disagree as to the fitness of the courts for play, both teams shall remain in attendance until the opposing adult supervisors agree that no further play is possible for the day. The maximum wait time shall be thirty (30) minutes from the time players leave the court surface. All reasonable efforts should be made to resume playing a match. Teams should also refer to Rule 5.11.

11.1.2 If the Home Club Supervisor, or an executive member of the home club, acting reasonably, determines that the playing on the surface is a danger to player or court surface. The match shall immediately cease. All sets / rubbers won or incomplete to that point shall be recorded.

11.1.3 In all situations, if the match has not been decided, there shall be no further play and the details of games played shall be recorded for the purpose of points and percentage.

11.1.4 In the case of wet days, the home team club's authorised representative may contact the away team's authorised representative, to determine if their courts are playable on that day. If both clubs agree to abandon play for the day, each team shall enter their players names into the Association's online system by using the "By Phone" icon on the right-hand side of the scoring page and then click on washout.

11.2 **Thunderstorms**

11.2.1 When thunderstorms threaten, the Home Club Supervisor should ensure that all players and spectators, where possible, are inside safe shelter during a thunderstorm. Where lightning can be seen or thunder heard, there is already a risk. Home Club Supervisors should use the 30-30 lightning rule.

If the flash to bang count approaches thirty (30) seconds or less, all individuals should be inside safe shelter. Play shall not be allowed to continue until thirty (30) minutes after the last thunder sound or observation of lightning. Each time lightning is observed, or thunder is heard the thirty (30)-minute clock should be restarted.

11.3 **Extreme Heat**

11.3.1 If the temperature should reach thirty-four (34) degrees Celsius at the appointed starting time, or thereafter, play must cease. Notwithstanding the foregoing, play may cease below this temperature with the consent of both adult team supervisors. The physical wellbeing of players is paramount in making this decision.

11.3.2 For the purpose of this By-law, the temperature used is as provided by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), either on their app or on their website, and according to the BOM weather station closest to the venue.

11.4 **High Winds**

11.4.1 High winds have the potential to create dangerous conditions for players and spectators. Where these winds create unreasonable risks, the Home Club Supervisor may suspend the matches until the winds abate.

Indications of risk displayed would be on court furniture or fixtures disturbed, fences damaged, items being blown onto the court, or the force of the wind threatening player health.

12. **Smoke**

12.5.1 Smoke is a by-product of a number of other extreme conditions, including weather, and can create a risk to people with certain conditions i.e. asthma and heat conditions. The Home Club Supervisor should be aware of these extreme conditions and take necessary steps to suspend or cancel play.

13. **Role of Home Club Supervisor**

13.1 The Home Club Supervisor is to ensure that no adults or others interfere with play (other than in subsection (e) below), examples of which are:

(a) no line calling, scoring, or coaching from a player's entourage (parent, family members, coach, friend, and participants in the match) from outside the court area.
For clarity, any communication other than in English to a player during a match will be considered coaching.
(b) no filming or videoing (by any means) of any competitor.
(c) no adults are to enter the playing area during a match.
(d) no parent, family member, coach, friend, or participant in the match not actively playing in the match shall be within 1.5 metres of the court fence.

(e) For the first four rounds of each season the lowest green ball section will be the subject to the following conditions:

a. A parent / carer may enter the court and standing at the net post at the side of the court:
   i. Encourage all players to call out the score after each point and correct the score after the players have called the score, if required.
   ii. Direct the server to have two balls with them before they serve and correct them if they are serving from the wrong side.
   iii. Prompt the players to return the balls to the server under the net.
   iv. Direct when to change ends if required.
   v. Encourage loud calls on in/out, fault (other than into the net) and not to return obvious faults.

b. A parent / carer on the court cannot:
   i. Be assisting a match involving their own child.
   ii. Advise on technique.
   iii. Advise on where to stand at the start and during the point.

Should the Home Club Supervisor note any interference, they should request that the away team adult supervisor to address the situation. If there is a further incident, the matter should be noted on the scoresheet and reported to the Association.

14. **Scores**

14.1 Rule 2.1, 2.2, 2.3

Teams shall be awarded four points for a win, two (2) points for a drawn/undecided match, and in addition will be awarded one (1) point for each set won and half a point for each set not completed. No points are awarded for a Bye.

14.2 Rule 2.4

Teams shall be awarded two (2) points for a win, one point for a drawn/undecided match, and in addition will be awarded one (1) point for each set won and half (0.5) a point for each set not completed. No Points are awarded for a Bye.

14.3 If by reason of stress of weather or other good and sufficient cause, a match has not commenced or if commenced has not been decided on the date laid down, there shall be no further play, and the details of any games shall be recorded for the purposes of percentage.

All semi-finals shall be continued at a time and date, to be fixed by the Association until a result has been reached.

14.4 On completion of the home and away matches, in the event of teams being equal on points on the premiership ladder, placings shall be determined by the percentage of games for and against.

14.4 In the event of a complete team forfeit, the team receiving the forfeit, shall be awarded points for all sets and will not receive any percentage.

15. Finals Matches

15.1 Junior Competitions – 8 Team Sections

Rule 2.1, Rule 2.2, Rule 2.3, and Rule 2.4

At the completion of the home and away matches, the four leading teams shall play off in the semi-final matches.

The first team shall play the fourth team, and the second team shall play the third team. The winners of these two matches will play off in the grand final.

15.2 Junior Competitions – 6 Team Sections

Rule 2.1, Rule 2.2, Rule 2.3, and Rule 2.4

At the completion of the home and away matches, the two leading teams shall play off in the grand final.

15.3 Rule 2.1, Rule 2.2, and Rule 2.3

In semi-finals and grand finals, a maximum of six (6) players may participate in a finals match. For example, two (2) players may play doubles without playing singles.

15.4 Rule 2.4

In semi-finals and grand finals, a maximum of four (4) players may participate in a finals match.
For example, two (2) players can play doubles without playing singles.

15.5 Semi-finals and grand finals shall be played at venues to be determined by the Association.

15.6 Where, due to inclement weather, or any other reason, the semi-final and grand final are being played on the same day, the first final must cease once a result has been determined. A maximum of twenty (20) minutes shall be allowed between the cessation of the first completed final and the commencement of the second final.

16. **No draws in Finals Matches**

16.1 Rule 2.1 & Rule 2.2

In the event of a tie in a finals match, two (2) pairs shall play a twelve (12) point tie-break game. The points added to determine the winner. In the event of a further tie, then one pair shall play a twelve (12) point tie-break to determine the winner. The tie-break pairs and opponents can be played in any combination by those players who have participated in the match.

16.2 Rule 2.3

In the event of a tie in a finals match, one (1) pair shall play a first to six (6) game set. The doubles pairs and opponents may be played in any combination by those players who have participated in the match.

16.3 There can be no draw in a finals match. In the event of a match not being decided, the Record Secretary shall be informed of the position and any agreed mutual arrangement regarding completion.

17. Delayed Finals

17.1 Finals matches delayed due to stress of weather must be played on the next "match" day. For example, for the Saturday Competition on the very next Saturday), or earlier, by mutual agreement. Any mutually agreed time must be adhered to. If a team subsequently cannot play after agreeing to the reschedule, the match is considered a forfeit.

17.2 If the season has not been concluded by the reserve grand final date, the highest ranked remaining team shall be declared the premier.

18. Results

18.1 Each club shall record the scores, and at the conclusion of the match, each captain shall sign the scoresheet. The match result must be entered online by the home team by 7.00pm on first business day after the match.

18.2 If the match result has not been received by the Record Secretary within five (5) business days after the schedule match, all points will be awarded to the visiting team.

18.3 Any team making default by failing to play any three matches, without good and sufficient cause to be determined by the Association, or any club having been disqualified by the Association shall be deemed to have retired from the competition, and all points or scores for or against any club deemed to have retired from the competitions shall be deleted from the records.

19. Trophies

19.1 The premier team in each section shall be awarded a pennant.

19.2 Members of the premier team and runner-up team shall be awarded a trophy.

19.3 The best performed singles player in each Junior competition section shall be awarded the achievement award for the season. A minimum of 70% of matches (rounded down to a whole number) shall be played in the season to qualify for this award. This award shall be awarded to any player in a team, regardless of the grading of the player in the team.

In addition, the following special trophies are to be awarded:

19.4 The ***Strachan Shield*** shall be awarded bi-annually to the Saturday AM team Singles/Doubles Sets team with the best percentage of games for and against at the end of the home and away matches.

19.5 The ***Daryl Cox Memorial Shield*** shall be awarded bi-annually to the Junior Sunday AM Open Singles Sets team with the best percentage of games for and against at the end of the home and away matches.

19.6 The ***Phyl Crowther Shield*** shall be awarded to the best No 1 girl playing in Girls Section 1 Sets competition in the Saturday AM junior competition for the best win/loss ratio of singles sets for the season. A minimum of 70% of matches (rounded down to a whole number) played at the No 1 position in the season shall be the minimum standard to be considered for this award.

19.7 The ***Ron Cummins Shield*** shall be awarded to the best performed No 1 player playing in Open Section 1 Sets competition in the Saturday AM junior competition for the best win/loss ratio of singles sets for the season. A minimum of 70% of matches (rounded down to a whole number) played at the No 1 position in the season shall be the minimum standard to be considered for this award.

19.8 The ***Larraine (Larry) McLean Shield*** shall be awarded to the best performed No 1 player in the Open Section 1 Rubbers competition in the Sunday AM junior competition for the best win/loss ratio of singles sets for the season. A minimum of 70% of matches (rounded down to a whole number) played at the No 1 position in the season shall be the minimum standard to be considered for this award.

19.9 The ***Colin & Lyn Price Shield*** shall be awarded to the most successful club in the Saturday AM Junior Competition each season. Clubs shall be awarded points according to final home and away ladder. eight points for finishing first down to one point for finishing eighth.

The total of points earned by each club will be divided by the number of teams entered by the club to derive a ratio. The club with the highest ratio will be awarded the shield.

20. Disputes

20.1 Team adult supervisors and Home Club Supervisors are required to make all reasonable efforts to resolve disputes as they occur during the match.

20.2 Disputes cannot be noted on a scoresheet after the scoresheet has been signed by both team captains.

20.3 Any club with an unresolved dispute shall, within three (3) days after the completion of the match in dispute, forward a statement in writing, signed by a club executive to the Association Secretary.

20.4 The Association will not consider disputes raised other than through an executive of a club. Parents, coaches, and others must raise the dispute with their club.

20.5 The Association shall have the power to inquire into all disputes arising out of or in connection with fixture matches, and its decision shall be final.

20.6 The Association Secretary shall if deemed necessary call on the disputing clubs to appear before the Association, who shall, after hearing the evidence, decide thereon.

20.7 The Association shall have the power to decide all questions arising out of Association matches and tournaments not provided for in these By-Laws.

20.9 The Association shall have the power to suspend or disqualify a player from its competitions, as a result of a player's conduct or behaviour arising from or in connection with a match.

20.8 The Association reserves the right to forward any matter to Tennis Victoria's Member Protection Officer or the Tennis Integrity Unit of Tennis Australia.

20.9 A player serving a suspension from any other competition conducted by the Bayside Regional Tennis Association, any member association of Tennis Australia or Tennis Australia, is ineligible to compete in the Association's competitions until that suspension has been served.

20.10 A Club failing to respond to correspondence from the Secretary of the Association within thirty (30) days shall be liable to a fine.

21. Power to Amend

21.1 The Committee of the Association may make changes to these By-Laws as provided under Section 19 of the Rules of the Bayside Regional Tennis Association Inc. Member clubs wishing to propose changes to these By-Laws should forward such change proposal to the Secretary of the Association, who will table the proposal at the next committee meeting.

22. Fines

1.	Withdrawal of a Team After Grading	$80.00
2.	Late Result	$5.00
3.	Clubs failing to respond to correspondence	$10.00

Definitions

10-point tie-break	One games of first to ten (10) points with a margin of at least two (2) points
12-point tie-break	One game of first to seven (7) points with a margin of at least two (2) points
Association	The Committee of Management of the Bayside Regional Tennis Association Inc.
ITF	International Tennis Federation
UTR	Universal Tennis Rating as adopted by Tennis Australia for competitive play in Australia.

Appendix 1 Playing a Tie-Breaker

Who serves first in a set tie breaker?

If you are playing a tiebreaker, follow these steps:

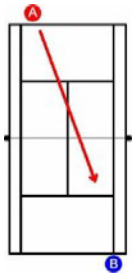
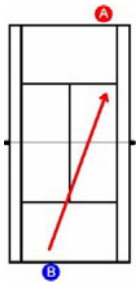
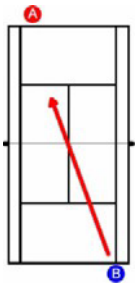
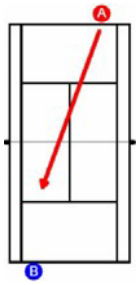
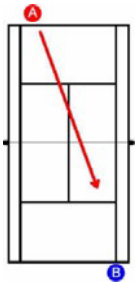
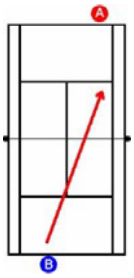
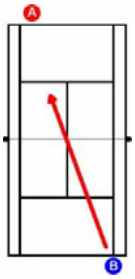
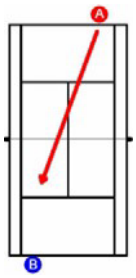
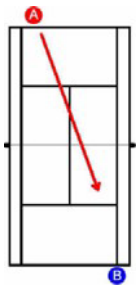
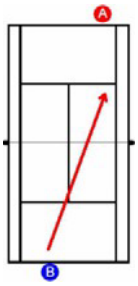
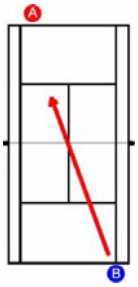
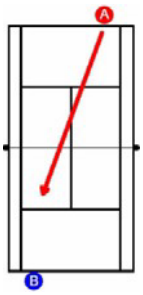
The player due to serve the 13th game (in six (6) game sets and 17th game in eight (8) game sets) serves the first point into the opponent's deuce court.

After the first point, the serve goes over to the other player to serve, who then serves the next two points, serving first into the ad court (right hand side) and then into the deuce court.

In doubles, keep the same serving rotation that occurred during the match.

A 12-point tie-break is first seven (7) points with a margin of two (2) (played as the ending 13th game), and a 10-point tie-break is first to ten (10) points with a margin of two (2) (played as substitute for a 3rd set), when playing best of three sets.

Visually the Tie Break may look like this.

1st POINT  A: 1 B: 0	2nd POINT  A: 1 B: 1	3rd POINT  A: 2 B: 1	4th POINT  A: 3 B: 1	5th POINT  A: 4 B: 1	6th POINT  Change ends A: 4 B: 2
7th POINT  A: 4 B: 3	8th POINT  A: 4 B: 4	9th POINT  A: 4 B: 5	10 POINT  A: 4 B: 6	11th POINT  A: 5 B: 6	12th POINT  Change ends A: 5 B: 7