

MARYBOROUGH & DISTRICT TENNIS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED.

BY-LAWS

- 1 NAME OF ASSOCIATION The Association shall be called the Maryborough and District Tennis Association.
- 2 PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION: The purpose of the Association shall be to promote the game of tennis and social interaction among the bona fide members hereinafter mentioned.
- 3 The Association shall adopt and abide by Consumer Affairs Victoria Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 –MODEL RULES For an INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION.
- 4 MINUTES: Minutes of all resolutions and proceedings of the Council shall be entered in a book provided for that purpose.

RULES

1. ADMINISTRATION

- 1.1 COUNCILS POWER: The Council shall have power to make Rules and Regulations, appoint committees to govern the play of matches and tournaments, or for any other purpose which may be deemed necessary. Where no other Committee has been appointed the Match and Permit Committee will be the governing body and a meeting of this Committee must decide on all matters relating to the running of the Association.
- 1.2 BREACH OF BY-LAWS: A breach of any of these provisions shall result in the forfeiture of the match in which the breach occurred. The Match and Permit Committee shall have the right to award such match to the opposing team at any time during the season on it being satisfactorily proved that an infringement of the provisions has taken place.
- 1.3 TENNIS VICTORIA RULES: Rules of play, where not otherwise provided for, to be such as are adopted by Tennis Victoria.
- 1.4 TENNIS VICTORIA AFFILIATION: All players, Clubs & MDTA Association to be affiliated with Tennis Victoria Annually.
- 1.5 INFRINGEMENT OF RULES: Any infringement of rules to be immediately reported to the Association Secretary and dealt with by the Match and Permit Committee.
- 1.6 RE-PLAY OF MATCHES: The Match and Permit Committee shall have the power to order any match to be played over again, wholly or in part, and to alter or extend the time for playing any match.
- 1.7 INTERPRETATION OF BY-LAWS: Any question arising in these competitions as to the interpretation or construction of these By-Laws shall be decided by the Match and Permit Committee.
- 1.8 TWO MATCHES DEFAULTED: In the event of any team making default by failing to play without notification any two consecutive matches at the appointed time, the Match and Permit Committee shall have power to cancel the premiership points of that team, and in addition, the team shall be liable to a fine of \$20.00.
- 1.9 INFORMATION FROM CLUBS: The Committee shall have power to demand from any club or clubs information regarding circumstances under which any match has or matches have been played, or respecting any matters relating thereto; and in the event of any club or clubs declining or neglecting to supply such information within such time as the Committee shall fix, such club or clubs shall be debarred from taking any further part in any of the matches in which they are concerned for such period as the Match and Permit Committee may think fit, or may, at the discretion of the Committee, be deprived of some or all of the points scored in all or any of the sections in which such club or clubs have been competing at the time of so declining or neglecting to supply such information.
- 1.10 PENALTIES FOR BREACHES OF BY-LAWS: The Match and Permit Committee shall have power to impose penalties for the breach of all or any of these By-Laws, whether by forfeiture of matches

- (accompanied, if the Committee shall so think fit, by the awarding of any match to the opposing team), disqualification, fine or otherwise howsoever, provided no fine shall exceed the sum of \$50.00.
- 1.11 SEVEN DAYS TO PAY FINES: Any team or club not paying the amount of fine inflicted under any of these By-Laws within seven days after the notification of the infliction of such fine, shall be liable to disqualification by the Match and Permit Committee.
- 1.12 PROTESTS: All protests, accompanied by a deposit of \$10.00, must be lodged in writing to the Association Secretary within four days of the match being played. Intention of the protest must also be clearly given to the concerned club's Secretary, or the particular team's captain who shall be given 48 hours from receipt of advice to counter protest should he/she so desire. Deposits shall be forfeited if protest is deemed to be frivolous.
- 1.13 REPRESENTATION AT PROTESTS: At all appeals and/or protests before the Match and Permit Committee, single representation may appear on behalf of a club or a team or a player. Should a player be concerned he himself may appear. Should representation be by the club, team or player's desire, the intention of appeal and/or protest and the intended representation must be stated in the notice of appeal and/or protest.
- 1.14 OFFICIAL CONTACT: No contact may be made with the President or Secretary of the M.D.T.A. All official contact to be made through Club Secretaries to the M.D.T.A. Secretary.
- 1.15 EXECUTIVE POSITIONS: The three executive positions of President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer shall be rotated around the clubs from year to year. The honorarium position of Ladder Secretary shall be given out by the Association. The list is as follows:

Majorca
 Cal Gully
 Amphitheatre
 Bealiba
 Avoca
 Talbot
 Lawn
 Moonambel

<u>Clubs currently in recess</u>
Timor
Dunluce
Dunolly
Carisbrook
Daisy Hill
Natte Yallock

New affiliating clubs and clubs who reform after a period of two years recess shall be placed at the bottom of the list. Clubs who refuse to take their turn automatically forfeit the right to enter any teams in the Association for that year. That club will then be placed next on the list.

Any club holding office for a year may have an option of extra time. This applies only to each position singularly, not bulk positions. Positions that do become vacant to be filled by the club next on the list.

- 1.16 PRESENTATION EVENING: The Association shall conduct an Annual Presentation Evening. The MDTA Executive shall organise the Presentation Evening.

2. REGISTRATION

- 2.1 REGISTRATION OF TEAMS AND PLAYERS: Teams are to be submitted at the Team Submission meeting held by the Association/Match and Permit Committee each year. Clubs submitting teams must provide a minimum of two male and two female names for that team (excluding c-grade). Players are deemed registered once their name appears on a scorecard unless they are identified as a Day Pass player (See 2.11). Each team in Senior Grades will consist of three men and three women on the day of play. Women can play in place of men in all grades. In C- Special, one male can play as a female player if no female player is available. Permission can be sought from the Match and Permit Committee if the team wishes to play a second male as a female. In C-Grade Males can play as females.

- 2.2 GRADING PLAYERS AND TEAMS: Each year the Match and Permit Committee reserves the right to grade teams and players into grades as deemed necessary.

- 2.3 ELIGIBLE AGES FOR JUNIOR GRADES: C Grade – 12 years and under. C Special – 15 years and under. Ages as of 1st November each year. A Club may seek permission for an age increase from the Match & Permit Committee each request to be looked at on a case by case basis.
- 2.4 AUTOMATIC GRADING: Once a player has played four matches in grade(s) higher than his/her normal grade, they are ineligible to play in his/her normal or lower grade that season. The four match limit to be waived for registered players in C Grade and C Special.
- 2.5 PLAYING WITH TWO TEAMS IN ONE GRADE: In the event of any club entering two or more teams in the one grade, any player who plays three matches with one team cannot play in another team in the same grade. (Excludes Day Pass Players 2.11)
- 2.6 REFUSAL OF REGISTRATION: The Match and Permit Committee shall have the power to refuse the registration of any member and such member shall thereupon become debarred from taking part in any competition match conducted by the Association.
- 2.7 CLEARANCE WITHOUT CLUB'S SANCTION (Excludes Day Pass Players 2.11) No player, having played one match with a club, may play for other club in the Association without a clearance from the Match and Permit Committee who must investigate the reason for the application if permission of the club is not at hand.
- 2.8 TRANSFER WITHOUT CLEARANCE: Any player after standing out of competitive tennis for one season shall be free to transfer to another club without a clearance.
- 2.9 CLEARANCE CLOSURE: Interclub clearances close each season on December, 31st. No clearance shall be granted within the M.D.T.A. after this date. Any application for a clearance must be dealt with within 14 days. All clearances must pass through the Association Secretary.
- 2.10 PROGRESSION OF PREMIER TEAM: All premierships teams from the previous season to be automatically risen to the next highest grade for the following season. (A Reserve exception – only a team that wins two premierships in a row be automatically entered into A Grade) All disputes to be referred to the Match & Permit Committee.
- 2.11 DAY PASS: A Day Pass allows players to play with another club for a match and not require a clearance.
Rules:

Player's name to be written on back of card and clearly state the name of their home club
Cannot play in lower grade.
Lower graded player can play up.
Cannot play (fill-in) two consecutive matches in a row. Must play for their Club in between.
Cannot play more than 2 games for one opposing team unless exceptional circumstances then it is to go to Match & Permit for a decision.
Not allowed to play in finals.

3. HOME & AWAY MATCHES

- 3.1 ARRANGEMENT OF MATCHES: The Match and Permit Committee shall arrange a series of matches between the teams competing.
- 3.2 ORDER OF PLAY: Order of play, unless a change agreed by both Captains, must be played as laid out on team lists (See By-Law No 3.3)
- 3.3 TEAM LISTS: Prior to the commencement of a match team lists will be exchanged and written on the cards.
- 3.4 GAMES IN A SET: Each set will be a six game sets for junior matches and eight game sets for seniors in nine set matches.
- 3.5 STARTING TIME: Starting time for senior matches shall be 1.15 p.m. and 9 a.m. for juniors. A team (2 men & 2 women) not prepared to commence at 1.15 p.m. or 9.00 a.m. will have to forfeit the first set men's and / or women's set appearing on the team's card. If one team is not in attendance by 2 p.m. for seniors or 9.45 am for juniors, they must forfeit the whole match.
- 3.6 INCOMPLETE TEAMS: Teams with one player short shall play the sets which the missing player would have played with a 0-4 disadvantage in an 8 game set or a 0-3 disadvantage in a 6 game set. Each team can apply this rule at any time throughout the season for 5 matches for the season. If an incomplete team occurs in finals it must be ratified by the Match and Permit Committee.

- 3.7 TIME OF FINISH: All home and away matches incomplete by 12.45 p.m. for juniors or 7.30 p.m. for seniors to be stopped at this hour except where a set commenced before 12.15 pm. for juniors or 7 p.m. for seniors is still in progress and play in this set was not interrupted by rain, then this set only to be completed. The team leading at this hour or at the end of the set referred to and abiding by the next two By-Laws shall be deemed the winner.
- 3.8 INCOMPLETE MATCH: When play has been interrupted and cannot recommence before 4.30 p.m., if less than five sets have been completed in a nine set match or seven sets in a 12 set match, the match shall be deemed a draw, but if these or more sets have been completed the leading team shall be deemed the winner. Only completed sets are to be considered when determining the result, and all completed games in uncompleted sets to be counted.
- 3.9 ALL MATCHES NOT COMPLETED: At least half of the scheduled matches in a grade must obtain results, otherwise all matches in that grade will be deemed a draw.
- 3.10 FORFEITED MATCH: When a match is forfeited only the team prepared to play must send in their card, and this must reach the Ladder Secretary within 48 hours (see 3.13 results). A team forfeiting a match must notify the Secretary of their own club and the Secretary of the club to whom the forfeit of the match is made by 10 a.m. on the day of match for seniors and 8 p.m. the night before scheduled match for juniors. Penalty – 3 points.
- 3.11 COURT ARRANGEMENTS: It shall be the duty of home teams to see that all lines on courts are properly marked and otherwise make full arrangements for the match listed to be played on that teams court or courts.
- 3.12 UMPIRES: Each team to supply umpires for junior grades and be properly supervised.
- 3.13 RESULTS: Winning captains are to be responsible for results reaching the Ladder Secretary, or any place decided on by the Match and Permit Committee, within 48 hours of completion of the match. If card not received following the match, a penalty of loss of two points shall be deducted from previous round total prior to that match. Losing team does not receive the two points.
- 3.14 UNFIT LAWN COURTS: When lawn courts are unfit for play and fit hardcourts are available the lawn teams must use these hardcourts as home courts.
- 3.15 NUMBER OF BALLS PER MATCH: At least four new regulation L.T.A.V. tennis balls shall be supplied by the home team for each match.
- 3.16 UNFIT COURTS: If, for any reason, a court upon which a match is to be played is deemed unfit for play, upon mutual consent of the captains the match may be played on any other court on the same day. Upon failure to agree, a decision will be necessary from the Match and Permit Committee.
- 3.17 EXTRA COURTS: Should a captain decide to use, in conjunction with the listed court or courts, extra court or courts, permission of the other captain must first be obtained.
- 3.18 TIEBREAKER: Tiebreaker to be included in senior grades only.
- 3.19 TIME BETWEEN SETS: During interclub matches players not available to commence a set within five minutes of the completion of the previous set (unless under By-Law 3.5) must forfeit the set 6-0 or 8-0, whichever applies.
- 3.20 SICK OR INJURED: Should a player become sick/injured during the course of a match and is unable to continue playing he/she would forfeit the set or sets remaining. Substitution of players is not permitted.

4. INTERUPTION TO PLAY

- 4.1 NO SETS COMPLETED: In the event of play being interrupted or delayed through rain and no set has been completed by 2.30 pm for seniors and 10 am for juniors, the match is to be abandoned and deemed a draw.
- 4.2 3 SETS NOT COMPLETED: In the event of play being interrupted through rain and three sets not completed by 4 pm for seniors or 11 am for juniors, the match is to be abandoned and deemed a drawn.
- 4.3 CANCELLATION OF ALL MATCHES ON WET DAYS: On wet days when matches are listed by play the Match and Permit Committee have the power to call off all matches. The decision must be reached between the hours or 11.30 am and 12 noon. Home team to make a decision by 8 am, in the morning for junior matches and notify opposing team.
- 4.4 FIRE/EMERGENCIES: In the event where two or more men and/ or women who are registered members of e.g. CFA, SES are called away to an emergency, and five sets have not been completed, the match is to be abandoned and deemed a draw (points shared). If called away prior to

commencement of the match (must be on the same day) and team unable to find a replacement/s, points are to be shared and not deemed a forfeit. Teams affected by the emergency must still play with two men and two women, if available.

- 4.5 HEAT RULE: In the interest of player Health and Safety, the controlling body shall contact all secretaries to recommend there be “No Play” when the following weather conditions are predicted; Extreme temperatures above 34 degrees Celsius at 10.00am and above 38 degrees Celsius at 2.00pm predicted for the day (according to Bureau of Meteorology website). This is usually accompanied by high overnight temperatures.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1 POINTS PER MATCH: Three points shall be awarded for a win, equal points for a draw, and one point for each winning set. 6 points awarded for bye to be given only when an incomplete rotation of rounds occur.
- 5.2 PERCENTAGES: Percentages shall be awarded by dividing games lost into games won and multiplying by 100.
- 5.3 FORFEITED MATCH RESULTS: A team that receives a forfeit will be credited with all of the games listed to play (i.e. result 72) plus full premiership points for percentage purposes and when necessary to use sets to finalize percentages, a 100 per cent basis will be used. Team withdrawing during season is deemed to forfeit matches.
- 5.4 RESULT OF MATCH: The result of matches shall be decided on games, if these are equal, then on sets; if both equal, then the match shall be deemed a draw. Result sheet to be signed by both captains.
- 5.5 ALLOCATION OF PREMIERSHIP POINTS (12 points in total): When allocating premiership points, all available points for a match must be allocated. In the event of a result being reached in an incomplete match:
- Points for sets played must be allocated accordingly;
 - Points for the overall win (3 points) must be allocated accordingly;
 - Points for incomplete/unplayed sets are to be shared equally between both teams.

6. FINALS

- 6.1 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS FOR FINALS: Any player playing in final matches must have played in at least three matches with that club during the season otherwise a permit must be obtained for him or her to play in the final matches. Should a team need to play a second boy as a girl in a C Special final, the Club must seek prior permission from the Match & Permit Committee.
- 6.2 STARTING TIME: Senior finals to commence at 1 p.m. Junior finals to commence at 8.45 am.
- 6.3 ARRANGEMENT OF FINALS: Top team and 3rd team have choice of final venue and that the loser of the second semi-final has the choice. All grades venues choices for minor finals, will be assumed as home games unless otherwise notified to the Match & Permit Committee. Grand Final venues will be the choice of the winner of the Second Semi Final and cannot be a home venue unless agreed to by the opposition. The Grand Final venues must also be approved by the Match and Permit Committee. Only venues that are played at in that grade during the regular season can be used.
- 6.4 UMPIRES FOR FINALS: A referee must be supplied by clubs for finals matches, if drawn to do so by the Match and Permit Committee. That Club will be held responsible for supplying the umpires. At least two umpires must be supplied for junior finals.
- 6.5 FAILURE TO SUPPLY UMPIRES: A fine of \$50.00 will be imposed on any club failing to comply with By-Law 6.4.
- 6.6 NOTIFICATION RE UMPIRES: Notification to clubs re umpires for all final matches shall be placed in the Maryborough “Advertiser” the week the matches are listed to be played and the Secretary must notify the clubs concerned. Either of these communications shall be deemed sufficient notification.
- 6.7 FINALS VENUES: Higher finishing teams may play Semi-Finals and Preliminary Finals on their home courts. The Grand Final must be held at a venue other than their home courts and must be a court already used in that particular grade.
- 6.8 BALL MONEY: All players of each finals team to pay money for balls supplied during finals, amount as determined by the Match & Permit Committee. All money collected to be retained by the Association.

- 6.9 TIMES OF MATCHES AND SETS: During all finals the maximum time allowable between sets is ten minutes. Failure to comply, forfeiture of sets to be played.
- 6.10 CONTINUANCE OF FINALS MATCH: In the event of finals being interrupted or delayed through Rain or inclement weather and all nine sets have not been completed, play to be continued the next day to obtain a clear result. If play cannot be continued due to rain/inclement weather the next day, by-law 3.8 applies. If less than 5 sets have been completed on the designated day of play the team positioned higher on the ladder at the end of the home and away season shall be deemed the winner.
- 6.11 TROPHIES: The Association shall present an individual trophy to each member of the winning and runner-up teams in each grade. An Association representative shall present these trophies.
- 6.12 ALL BY-LAWS TO APPLY FOR FINALS UNLESS SPECIAL BY-LAWS FOR FINALS ARE STATED.
- 6.13 BALLS FOR FINALS – A GRADE & A RESERVE: For Finals each A Grade and A Reserve match shall be supplied with 2 cans of balls. First can is to be used for first two mens and ladies sets. Second can for third mens/ladies and mixed sets. The best pair of balls to be selected and used for the final mixed set. Players in both grades shall pay a higher ball fee than other grades, as determined by the Committee.
- 6.14 PLAYERS FOR FINALS – C Special & C GRADE: When a team has entered 4 girls and/or 4 boys on the original team entry form, the team may play the 4th player in the 3rd girls' or boys' doubles, providing the player has played in at least 6 home and away matches for that team. (consideration to be also given to By-Law 2.1 C Grade only – One boy to play as a girl, although two boys can be nominated to play as girls – only one can play in a team at a time).

7. CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 7.1 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS: Only players registered with this Association shall be eligible to play in the M.D.T.A. championships and must have played at least three matches with an associated club during that season.
- 7.2 ORGANISATION: The organizing and running of the above mentioned championships shall be done by the Executive Committee unless a special committee is appointed by the Council. Either of these committees shall have power to withdraw any events if insufficient entries are received.
- 7.3 ENTRIES: A closing date for all entries and entry fees for the championships shall be fixed by the organizing committee.
- 7.4 PLAYERS NOT ON TIME: Where time for commencement of any championship match is made, five minutes grace shall be allowed. Any player or players exceeding this time shall automatically be withdrawn from the particular event except if permission granted by organizing committee.
- 7.5 TROPHIES: The purchase and selection of championship trophies shall be done by the Executive Committee unless a special committee has been formed for that purpose by the Council.

Amended & Approved by MDTA Committee 12th September, 2001

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