



SINCE
THE GREAT
PUBLIC SCHOOLS'
ASSOCIATION OF
QUEENSLAND
1918

The Great Public Schools' Association of Queensland

RULES OF COMPETITION

TENNIS

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Spirit of Fellowship



1. ADOPTED RULES

GPS Boys Tennis competitions are conducted in accordance with the International Tennis Federation (ITF) Rules of Tennis, except where these differ from the GPS competition Rules; in which case the latter shall take precedence. Reference should also be made to all GPS By-laws, Policies and Procedures. These rules are to be read in conjunction with information available on GPS Net.

2. ELIGIBILITY

To compete in a GPS competition, students must meet the eligibility criteria stated in the GPS Eligibility Rule.

- 2.1 Boys enrolled in Years 5 to 12 of a GPS member school are eligible to participate in the competition.
- 2.2 Boys in years 7 to 12 are eligible to play in the 1st IV or 2nd IV divisions. Players in the 1st IV must first be registered with the GPS Office.
- 2.3 Only Year 12 boys are eligible to participate in Open divisions 3rd IV and below.
- 2.4 Players will play in one division per fixture.
 - a. Exception: A substitute player in the 1st IV may play in a second division.

3. BEHAVIOUR

All misconduct by participants or other personnel that occurs during the normal proceedings of a Sport or Activity will be actioned as according to the Governing body and the GPS Code of Conduct.

4. STRUCTURE

GPS competitions must have a minimum number of five (5) teams from five (5) member schools competing in a division.

- 4.1 The competition will follow the schedule as set by the GPS Calendar, the Tennis Draw and the GPS Match Day Scheduling Guidelines.
- 4.2 The competition is comprised of a 1st IV division, 2nd IV division, and multiple year level divisions from Year 5 to Open (Year 12) as required.
- 4.3 Each Fixture will be comprised of the following rubbers in each division:

Division	Singles Rubbers	Doubles Rubbers
2 nd IV	School A Player 1 v School B Player 1 School A Player 2 v School B Player 2 School A Player 3 v School B Player 3 School A Player 4 v School B Player 4	School A Team 1 v School B Team 1 School A Team 2 v School B Team 2 (no reverse doubles)
All other divisions	School A Player 1 v School B Player 1 School A Player 2 v School B Player 2 School A Player 3 v School B Player 3 School A Player 4 v School B Player 4	School A Team 1 v School B Team 1 School A Team 2 v School B Team 2 School A Team 1 v School B Team 2 School A Team 2 v School B Team 1

5. OFFICIALS

- 5.1 The competition adopts the 'Procedures for Matches played without a chair umpire' issued by Tennis Australia.
- 5.2 The GPS Association, with the assistance of Tennis Queensland, will appoint one (1) court supervisor for each GPS 1st IV fixture.

6. ADDITIONAL RULES

- 6.1 Uniforms of competitors and personnel must comply with the GPS Uniform Policy.
- 6.2 Teams will consist of a maximum of six (6) players.
 - a. Exception: 1st IV teams will consist of a maximum of four (4) players.

6.3 Scoring:

Division	Singles Rubber	Doubles Rubber
1 st IV & 2 nd IV	Best of 3 x tie-break sets (12 points)	Best of 2 x tie-break sets (12 points) & a match tie-break (10 points)
Years 5 & 6	1 x set (first to 6 games)	
All other divisions	1 x tie-break set (12 points)	

6.4 The following rules regarding coaching apply:

Division	Coaching
1 st IV & 2 nd IV	On-court coaching is permitted at the end of each set.
Year 5 & 6	On-court coaching is permitted at all times.
All other divisions	Coaching is not permitted.

6.5 In divisions other than 1st IV and 2nd IV, a deciding point will be played if deuce is reached for a second time within a game.

6.6 Fixtures will not be played under lights.

6.7 If a player retires due to injury or illness, a substitution is permitted.

- a. The substitute player must have already completed their GPS playing commitment for that day
- b. If a substitution occurs during a rubber, the rubber is lost by the substituting player/team.
- c. If a substitution occurs during the fixture, the substitute will play in the position (or order) of the player he replaced.

6.8 Continuous Play:

Division	Singles	Doubles
1 st IV	The maximum delay between games and sets shall be one (1) minute	
	Exception: At the end of the second set a five (5) minute break between sets may be taken.	Exception: At the end of the second set when a two (2) minute break between sets may be taken.
2 nd IV	The maximum delay between games and sets shall be one (1) minute Exception: At the end of the second set a five (5) minute break between sets may be taken.	
All other divisions	As per ITF requirements	

6.9 Match Balls:

Division	Type	Number Required
1 st IV	Match balls will be the same type used at the Australian Open in the year of competition.	Three (3) new balls per rubber. No ball changes.
All other divisions	As per ITF requirements	Six (6) balls per division per fixture. No ball changes.

The following rules apply to 1st IV fixtures only:

6.10 1st IV players will play in order of merit, where the order is determined by an Australian Tennis Ranking, a Universal Tennis Ranking or a School Championships.

- a) If a player listed in the order of merit cannot play in a fixture, his replacement in the team will compete at position number four (#4), with the order of merit maintained.
- b) Each school is permitted to change their order of merit once during the season. The new order of merit must be submitted to the GPS Office no later than 12pm Wednesday prior to the fixture.
- c) Where a substitution occurs after the commencement of a fixture, Rule 6.7c applies.

6.11 A 1st IV fixture will be played in the following format:

- 4 x Singles Rubbers (simultaneously)
- 2 x Doubles Rubbers
- 2 x Doubles Rubbers

6.12 The court supervisor may extend a medical time-out to a maximum length of ten (10) minutes at their discretion.

6.13 1st IV Fixtures will not be played on indoor courts or undercover courts.

6.14 1st IV players are entitled to twenty (20) minutes rest between rubbers, time commencing from the conclusion of the last point of the rubber.

6.15 1st IV Fixtures must be played on a hard court playing surface.

7. RESULTS

- 7.1 Points, Premierships and Championships will be awarded in accordance with the GPS Championships & Premierships Policy.
- 7.2 Reviews & Protests of results will be conducted in accordance with the GPS Reviews & Protest Policy.
- 7.3 Counting for results shall be first by games, and if equal, on sets.
- a. Exception: 1st IV and 2nd IV fixtures where counting for results shall be first by rubbers, then by sets, then by games.
- 7.4 1st IV Competition Premiership Points:

Result	Points
Win / Win on Forfeit	2 points
Draw	1 point
Loss / Bye or Forfeit	0 points

8. CANCELLATIONS

When required, cancellations will be conducted in accordance with the Abandonment of GPS Competitions and Activities Policy.

9. AMENDMENTS

No amendment to these Rules of Competition is authorised unless such amendment is issued by the Executive Officer of the GPS.