

InterCounty Tennis Association

Plus 55 League Rules and Regulations (Updated April 2009)

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General Rules and Regulations

- G1** (a) Player Agreement: All players participating in the InterCounty Tennis Association (ICTA) programs, as a condition of their participation, agree to abide and be bound by the ICTA Constitution and By-Laws; the respective League Regulations; the "Rules of The Court" which includes, The Code for Unofficial Matches; and adhere to the standards of good conduct, fair play and sportsmanship.
- (b) WAIVER OF CLAIMS. Players participating in any InterCounty Tennis Association Program acknowledge the risks associated with playing competitive tennis, accept those risks voluntarily, and in consideration of their acceptance in the Program assume all risks for bodily injury, waive all claims for injury and property damage and release and hold harmless the ICTA and the host facility, their officials, employees and agents with respect to any injury or loss caused by negligence or otherwise to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- G2** All clubs must keep a copy of the "Rules of the Court" displayed in their clubhouse. "Rules of the Court" is the official rule book of Tennis Canada and can be obtained at a small cost or is free to download and print. Call 416-665-9777 to purchase, or download the [Rules of the Court](#) and [The Code](#) for Unofficial Matches.
- G3** Clubs, which have not paid club and /or team fees by the Spring General Meeting date and have not submitted up to date information sheets are subject, at the discretion of the ICTA Executive, to either one of the following: 1) be assessed a late entry fee of \$50.00 or 2) be deemed to not be a member of the Association and therefore ineligible to play in the leagues or tournaments for the specific year. All clubs excluded in one year will have to re-apply for entry to the Association at the next general meeting.
- G4** The League Director, subject to review by the ICTA Executive, may enact penalties against clubs, captains and individuals arising out of the behavior and non compliance with the rules both on and off the court. These penalties may include, but are not limited to, suspension of playing privileges, disqualification of teams, alternative placement in standings and/or denial of promotion to higher divisions.
- G5** All captains will ensure that ALL of his/her team members obtain both the schedule and ALL of the League Rules.
- G6** Coaching while a match is being played is NOT allowed except in Juniors Mixed League.
- G7** Cellular phones and pages are to be turned off and be only used in emergencies.

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League Rules and Regulations

- L1** There will be two divisions called Division "1" West and Division "1" West. Each level may be subdivided into geographical divisions which will contain an approximate equal number of teams.
- L2** Because visiting teams are guests of the home club, home club rules apply and all players must conform to those rules. The home club will retain the right to refuse playing privileges to those players not abiding by their rules. These rules may include court demeanor as well as dress codes including the types of shoes one may wear.

Team Organizations Rules and Regulations

- T1** (a) A team will consist of six (6) players each of whom will be a bona-fide member of her/his club (as determined by that club). Composite teams made up of players from different member ICTA clubs are permitted entry into a league as long as it is at the lowest league level providing the host club(s) which is/are providing the courts approves of the concept.
- (b) A league fixture will consist of three (3) matches-one (1) men's doubles, one (1) mixed doubles and one (1) women's doubles.
- T2** Players may play for only one club in the Plus 55 League - except as follows:
- Where a player has moved her/his residence during the season and their new residence is not in the same vicinity of the original club.
 - A player having played only once for any club in any league may, at the discretion of the League Director, switch to any other club in that league, but will play only for that club for the balance of the season.
 - In other exceptional circumstances as permitted by the League Chairperson.

In no case is a player to play for more than one club at the same time.

- T3** To address player shortages:
- a) If you know of any extra players (men or women) for a "general sub list" please submit names and phone numbers to your Div. chairman who will circulate the information to all Captains. These players can be called upon to sub for any team in the division.
- b) Any 54 year old is eligible to play on +55 teams.

Match Rules and Regulations

- M1 a** Each match will consist of the best of three sets with a 12 point tie-breaker at six games each. The option is also available to replace the third set with a twelve (12) point tie-breaker if agreed upon by both captains, for instance, with adverse weather conditions.
- M1 b** One point will be awarded for each set won with the exception if a match is won at two sets straight, three points will be awarded allowing a maximum of nine (9) points per fixture.
- M1 c** The visiting team will be deemed to have won the toss at the start of play. The visitors may choose to be Server or Receiver in which case the home team will choose the side, or the Visitors may choose the side in which case the home team will choose to be SERVER or RECEIVER.

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- M2** All Plus 55 League matches must be played on outdoor courts, weather permitting, except with mutual agreement of Team Captains. This rule does not apply to those few clubs whose membership in ICTA is as an indoor club.
- M3** Home teams will supply new sets of yellow balls (tournament quality) for each match.
- M4** The home team will supply suitable refreshments (food and drink) to be available at the completion of play.
- M5** There must be a minimum of three courts available for play. Host captains should inform visiting captains of club rules (i.e. dress code) prior to the day of the match.
- M6** Each team will have a captain to be in charge of the line-up. Opposing captains are to exchange line-ups prior to the start of play. Changes are not to be made after the line-ups have been traded unless by mutual consent of captains or unless a match has been defaulted by one team.
- M7** The starting time of League Matches will be determined in accordance with court availability of the host club and advised by the host team for the season. When a player is more than fifteen, (15) minutes late for her/his match, the match will be defaulted at the request of the opposing captain.
- M8** Should a team have fewer than six (6) players, one match will be declared forfeited and the score entered as 6-0, 6-0, 6-0. Should a team have less than four (4) players the whole fixture will be forfeited, and provisions of rule M12 will apply.
- M9** No substitution will be made for any player once that player has commenced play. In the event of a player retiring during play, the match will be scored as if the opposing team had won all the remaining games in that set and subsequent sets.
- M10** Should a fixture be abandoned after play has started any completed matches will stand. Matches not completed will be re-scheduled in their entirety on another night using players who have not already played in the completed matches.
- M11** Any matches of fixtures which are re-scheduled must be re-scheduled by the host captain within six (6) weeks of the originally scheduled date, except with the specific permission of the League Chairperson. All re-scheduled fixtures will be completed within two weeks of the final scheduled match of the League. Matches that involve teams potentially involved in playoffs should be completed prior to the end of the regular schedule. When these conditions are not adhered to, the Division Chairperson and/or the Plus 55 League Director has the discretion to default the fixture/match.
- M12** When matches or fixtures are defaulted:
- (a) the offending team (s) (as determined by the Division Chairperson) will be given zero points for the match/fixture and may be subject to discipline by the Association.
 - (b) the team offended will be awarded points based on the percentage of possible points that they won during the balance of the schedule, or points equivalent to those obtained in the other fixture played between the two teams- the choice at the discretion of the Division Chairperson.
- M13** Balls hitting lights, wires or other fixtures protruding over court surfaces will be declared a fault. M14.

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Division Rules and Regulations

- D1** The host club captain will forward match results along with the player roster by the following day, to their respective Division Chairperson.
- D2** The winner in each division will be the team with the most points at the completion of the playing schedule. If teams are tied with the same amount of points and sets won, the winner will be the tied team that has won the most games.
- D3** The Plus 55 League Director will have the authority, subject to the review and/or approval of the Executive, to determine promotion and relegation policies. As the League is presently comprised, the top team in Div 2 will be promoted to Div 1. The bottom team in Div 1 will be relegated to Div 2.
- D4** Teams will have the right to refuse promotion in the Plus 55 League.
- D5** Division Chairpersons will have the authority to rule on specific complaints or questions, subject to the approval of the League Director.
- D6** Plaques will be awarded to all League Division winners and will be presented at the Fall Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- D7** The Plus 55 League Director will convene a meeting of all Plus 55 Division Chairpersons and the team captains at the end of the season and before the Fall AGM for the purpose of reviewing the year's play, reviewing complaints and making recommendations for the Fall AGM. The purpose of the meeting will also be to consider the expansion of the player rosters and/or amend match fixtures. Of primary importance is the potential of increasing participation of ICTA clubs in the Plus 55 category.