



Competition Rules – TENNIS

1. TEAM ENTRY

1.1 The following grades are offered.

- **Premier League** (formerly Premier League and Premier League Reserves) This is the shield grade.
- **Division 1** – can confidently serve, return serve and rally with forehand and backhand.
- **Division 2** – slower serve, few double faults, forehand and developing backhand.
- **Division 3** – learning to play tennis. Evidence of serve, forehand and backhand but is inconsistent with rally and return of serve.
- **Division 4** – learner. Weak service, loopy forehand and backhand. Few rallies occur, learning to score.

1.2 Team Numbers

1.2.1 Premier League consists of 8 players. Teams can have up to 9 players.

1.2.2 All other teams consist of 6 players. Teams can have up to 7 players.

1.3 Teams are open regardless of year level (Year 6-12)

1.4 Schools need to provide a minimum of 2 courts for every 2 teams entered in the Saturday competition. 3 is preferable. 4 courts are required to host Premier League round on Monday nights.

2. UMPIRING

2.1 Players can request an umpire.

3. MATCH RULES

3.1 Premier League

3.1.1 Premier League will play 4 doubles and 8 singles.

3.1.2 Premier League must play a 6-game set.

3.1.3 Premier League will play a 7-point tiebreaker at 5-all.

3.1.4 In Premier League, doubles games must be seeded. Seeds 1-4 may play in any combination against the opponents seeded 1-4. Seeds 5-8 will play against the opposition seeds 5-8. There will be no crossover of doubles between the top 4 and bottom 4 seeds.

3.2 Divisions 1-4

3.2.1 Matches will start at 8am, therefore players should arrive at 7.45am.

3.2.2 Divisions 1-4 will play 3 doubles and 6 singles.

3.2.3 Divisions 1-4 may shorten sets in order to finish games by 10am if required. Players should understand whether they are playing to 4 or 6 games before they begin.

3.2.4 Divisions 1-4 will play a 7-point tiebreaker at either 5-all or 3-all.

3.2.5 In Division 4 grade, the second serve may be made from the service line and/or served underarm.

4. 4. RESULTS

4.1 A shield is awarded in Premier League grade only.

4.2 All results from the preceding week's matches must be in by COB each Tuesday afternoon. EO will update the standings tables Tuesday evenings. Standings tables will then be forwarded to all, and published on the IGSSA website, each Wednesday morning.

4.3 For IGSSA Premiership tables, three points will be awarded for a win, one for a draw and zero for a loss.

4.4 If a match is washed out part way through, there needs to be at least 4 of the 6 sets completed for a winner to be announced. Otherwise, a tie is awarded. If the match is not even started due to weather, every effort will be made to re-schedule the match. In the event of a bye, the team drawn to have a bye will be awarded three points. In the event of a forfeit, the non-offending team will be awarded three points and the maximum winning margin. The offending team will be awarded zero points and the maximum losing margin.

4.5 A 1 v 2 Final will be scheduled with the top 2 teams (finalists) playing for the shield in the nominated shield grades. The winner of the 1 v 2 Final will be awarded the shield.

4.5.1 Finalists will be determined by total points initially (i.e., win/loss tally) and then SD (Score differential) if points are equal but a split needs to be made.

4.5.2 If a finals fixture is tied at the end of all matches, then the split method is sets won, then games won, then play 2 x doubles if required.

4.5.3 If no finals fixture can be played and team(s) are on tied points in shield grades at the end of the season, the shield winner will be identified using the following criteria:

- i. Head-to-Head – Calculate the premiership points for fixtures played between *each team involved in the tie* only. The school with the most Head-to-Head premiership points wins the shield (providing equal number of Head-to-Head games between tied teams exist). If there is still no clear winner from Head-to-Head calculation, then:
- ii. Score Differential – Calculate the score differential for all fixtures played. The team with the greatest score differential will be awarded the shield. If there is still no clear winner from the score differential, then:
- iii. The shield will be shared between all teams on tied points.

4.6 The IGSSA First Singles trophy will be awarded to the player with the most matches won over the season. If one or more players are tied on matches won, the games score differential will determine the winner.

5. 5. EQUIPMENT

5.1 Match quality balls are to be supplied for all grades by the home team.