



## Lower Mainland Men's and Women's League

# NSWC TENNIS LEAGUE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

*Revised 2022 Draft to Tennis Committee.*

The Lower Mainland Men's and Women's league is a competitive league that runs annually from April to June. This document provides a framework that governs the teams representing the NSWC.

Everything hereunder must conform to the Lower Mainland Men's and Women's League Rules and Regulations.

## DEADLINES

### August 15<sup>th</sup>

- Tennis Director to email to all tennis members regarding league and applicable deadlines

### September 1<sup>st</sup>

- Returning player rosters to be submitted by the Captains to the Tennis Committee
- Existing player requests for movement to another team must be submitted, in writing, to the Tennis Director
- All requests to join a league team (new players/and or players returning to league) submitted in writing to the Tennis Director

### November 1<sup>st</sup> (February 1<sup>st</sup> for Men)

- Date by which requests for formation of a new team must be submitted to the Tennis Committee.

### December 15<sup>th</sup> (February 28<sup>th</sup> for Men)

- Final date for completion of all challenge matches.

## MEMBERSHIP

League play is open to Full and Trial members who also pay the annual Tennis activity fee.

Exception: **Men's A1 and Women's OPEN Division**

These teams may carry players who are Affiliate Members:

- high performance players who have or previously had an association with the NSWC
- as a tennis pro, or
- member or junior member of the NSWC.

To play as an Affiliate member, the player must be recommended by the Tennis Director and approved by the Tennis Committee.

## **TEAMS**

Teams are comprised of returning players who are willing to commit to playing a minimum of 60% of the matches.

A team will consist of 12 players, subject to the following exceptions:

1. The lowest day and night divisions may carry more than 12 players
2. Players joining the NSWTC after September 1st may be added to an existing team roster by the Tennis Director
3. As approved by the Tennis Committee.

## **FILLING OPEN POSITIONS ON EXISTING TEAMS**

All player requests for movement received on or before September 1st (February 1<sup>st</sup> for men) will be considered when filling open positions.

Open positions will be filled in the following order:

1. Players requesting a move to a Division below their current Division
2. Players requesting a lateral move (same Division).
3. All remaining player requests as approved by the Tennis Director.

Challenge matches will be used to fill available spots when the number of players exceeds the available positions.

## **ELIGIBILITY TO CHALLENGE UP TO A HIGHER DIVISION**

Once all positions are filled on existing teams:

- Player requests received on or before Sept 1st (February 1<sup>st</sup> for men) will be eligible to challenge
- All challenge requests are subject to the approval of the Tennis Director; The Tennis Director may take into consideration results from the prior league season
- All challenges are to the team directly above the team the player is currently on. All exceptions are subject to approval of the Tennis Director.
- NOTE: In the event there are two or more teams in a Division, challenges are to the lower ranked (or B team). Players from the B team may challenge up to the A team).

## **ROUND ROBIN CHALLENGES**

To initiate a challenge match:

- Submit a request in writing to the Tennis Director naming all players.
- Eligible players may challenge 2 players from the team above.
- If only one player has requested to challenge, the challenge will include 3 players from the Division above.
- If there are more than 2 challengers the order of challenge matches will be based on prior league season results.

A player or players who decline the challenge will be moved down and the challenger/s will move up.

Once challenged the player/s have 3 days in which to respond with 2 available dates for the challenge match.

The challenge match is to be completed within two weeks of the challenge being issued and in all circumstances by December 15<sup>th</sup> (February 28<sup>th</sup> for men). In the event this is not possible, a determination will be made by the Tennis Director and/or the Tennis Committee.

Players may only be subject to one challenge.

A player who has been challenged has the right to challenge *back onto their original team or onto another team of the same division*.

### **FORMAT OF CHALLENGE MATCH**

- Challenges will consist of 1 match of 3 full sets, each player playing 1 set with each player on the court.
- The outcome of the challenge will be reported to the Tennis Director.
- Following the challenge match, the players will be ranked based on the number of sets won and ties will be broken based on the percentage of games won.

### **FORMATION OF A NEW TEAM**

Requests for formation of a new team are to be submitted to the Tennis Committee in writing by November 1<sup>st</sup> (February 1<sup>st</sup> for men) In considering any such requests, it is the intention of the Tennis Committee to preserve existing teams wherever possible. A minimum of 10 players are required to form a new team.

### **SPARING**

Spares on men's or women's league teams must be both a full NSWC member and a tennis member. (For Men's A1 team and Women's Open team, any Affiliate Member may spare).

Women's league: spares must be drawn from existing rosters only and must comply with Lower Mainland Women's League Rules and Regulations. NSWC tennis members who are not currently on a roster may not spare for Women's Spring League. A player can only spare twice in a season.

## **NEW LEAGUE PARTICIPANTS**

Existing tennis members who have never played league, those who have sat out for more than one league season, and/or new tennis members wishing to play league must contact the Tennis Director by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Tennis Director will evaluate the new player for inclusion in the process defined above for filling open positions or challenging onto a team.

Members who join the club after September 1<sup>st</sup> may be placed on a team by the Tennis Director (Note: in this case exceptions to the 12-player cap will be allowed for that league season only).

## **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

### **LOA - By injury, illness, or choice**

A player missing one league season may return to their previous team regardless of whether that team has moved up or down a Division. A player missing one league season must notify their captain and/or the Tennis Director by September 1<sup>st</sup> of their wish to return to the team.

(Note: in this case exceptions to the 12 player cap will be decided by the Tennis Committee as outlined above).

### **LOA – Exceeding one league season**

A player missing more than one league season will follow the process outlined above for new league participants.

## **REMOVAL OF PLAYERS FROM LEAGUE TEAMS**

Any player whose behavior is found to be in contravention of the Tennis Code of Conduct may, by decision of the Tennis Committee, be temporarily removed from a team or permanently restricted from playing on a league team.

## **LEAGUE ISSUES AND DISPUTES**

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Tennis Director, the Tennis Committee Chair, or the Tennis Committee Men's or Women's League Liaison. All league issues will be adjudicated by a subcommittee consisting of the Tennis Director and 4 members of the Tennis Committee including, where possible, 2 men and 2 women.