



Lower Mainland Women's League NSWC TENNIS LEAGUE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Updated October 2023 by Ladies league sub-committee (LLSC)

The Lower Mainland 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 here under must conform to the Lower Mainland Women's League Rules and Regulations.

DEADLINES -

August 1

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

September 1

- 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

- Date by which requests for formation of a new team must be submitted to the Tennis Committee. As of September 1, 2023 there is a waitlist and no teams may be added. December 15 (February 28 for Men)
- Final date for completion of all challenge matches is December 15.

MEMBERSHIP:

- League play is open to any North Shore Winter Club tennis player who earns a position on a team and commits herself to the round robin challenges and Inter-Club league game schedules. A player who cannot commit to the above would be penalizing a team and is encouraged to play as a spare.
- League play is open to Full and Trial members who also pay the annual Tennis activity fee. Exception: 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 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:

- A maximum of 12 players per team (plus 2 alternates if a team requests that). Exceptions to the cap will only apply to the day and night division 5 teams
- Teams are identified by division number (indicating level of competition) & each player is given a court placement (indicating relationship to other NSWC players on that team).
- It is the objective of all NSWC teams to win their division title.

- It is the objective of the Ladies League Sub Committee (LLSC) to help maintain an existing division when circumstances dictate that it can be saved.

FORMATION OF A NEW TEAM:

- Requests for formation of a new team are to be submitted to the LLSC (Ladies League Sub-committee) in writing. In considering any such requests, it is the intention of the LLSC to preserve existing teams wherever possible.

Teams are made up of two player categories:

- a) Regular – those who are available for participation in at least 70% of scheduled matches and who are willing to participate in round robin challenges.
- b) Alternates (2 max) – those who cannot fulfill the above requirements for the current season.

Note: There is no distinction made between alternates and regular team members on the Tennis BC rosters; this is an internal distinction which is intended to reflect the ability of the player to commit to playing 70% or more of the league matches.

Where there is more than one team in a division, there will be a round robin at the discretion of the LLSC and the Tennis Director to determine spots on each team to create an A team, B Team and possibly C and D team should that be necessary. At the discretion of the LLSC and Tennis Director, if possible the team will be allowed to remain intact if it wins the division.

SPARING

Spares are to be drawn from an existing roster only and must comply with Tennis BC Rules and Regulations; NSWC tennis members who are not currently on a roster may NOT spare for Ladies Spring League.

Spares should be drawn from the team directly below the requesting team and should be requested in order of court ie: Ask Court 1 players first, then if they cannot, go to the Court 2 players. Spares are only used when there are not enough roster players to field the team (including the alternates).

PLAYING TIME

All players should be given the chance to play at least two matches, unless you are a designated spare. This is a competitive league. You win and lose as a team, whether you played all the matches or not.

ELIGIBILITY TO CHALLENGE UP TO A HIGHER DIVISION.

The challenge time period is from September 1 to December 15th.

- The LLSC will invite players to be involved in challenges. In order for them to invite players:
 - a) The player must have played 70% of available matches on Court 1 and Court 2.
 - b) The player must have at least a 60% winning percentage on Court 1.
 - c) The player must have at least a 65% winning percentage on Court 2.
 - d) The player must have played minimum 30% of all matches on Court 1.

Note: Matches played on court 3 do not factor into these winning percentages.

- The team captain must verify the player/s eligible to challenge based on their stats. If a player or players are eligible, the team captain must approach the LLSC at the end of the league season to advise of a potential candidate/s for challenging. The

LLSC will initiate all challenges and will approach players who have met the criteria listed above. Challenges will be scheduled between September 1 - December 15 .

- The LLSC will contact the eligible player/s as well as the 2 or 3 lowest ranked players from the team above. Those players will have played Court 3 or 4 and stats will be based on prior year performance. (Single player challenge will involve the 3 lowest ranked players; if two players are challenging up it will involve the 2 lowest ranked players). If 3 players, one player from that team will be invited to play a round robin with the other 3 to determine the top 2 who will then move into the challenge with the team above.
- The 2 or 3 lowest ranked players must accept the challenge from all eligible players from the team below.
- If any of the 3 lowest ranked players decline the challenge, the declining player/s will move down and the challenger/s will move up.
 - Once the date for the challenge has been agreed upon, the challenger/s and the 2 or 3 lowest ranked players from the team above will play a doubles round robin.
 - The round robin will consist of 3 full matches; one match partnered with each player on the court.
 - Following completion of the 3 match round robin, the player/s with the lowest amount of GAMES won will move down or remain on the lower division team. The player/s with the highest amount of GAMES won will move up or remain on the higher division team.

Note: Partnerships who challenge up will be required to earn their spots as individuals; if one member of a partnership fails to make the higher division the partnership may choose to stay on the lower division team.

EXAMPLE:

Match 1: Player 1 & 2 vs. Player 3 & 4 – Score 6-4

Match 2: Player 1 & 3 vs. Player 2 & 4 – Score 6-1
Match 3: Player 1 & 4 vs. Player 2 & 3 – Score 6-0

Total Scores:

Player 1 = 18
Player 2 = 7
Player 3 = 10
Player 4 = 11

The player/s with the lowest amount of games won will play on the lower division team.

If there are openings on a team above, it is at the LLSC's discretion to contact the player/s on Court 1 or 2 from the team below and invite the player/s with the best stats to fill the position above. This/These players have one year's "right of refusal", but after that must move or challenge up if their stats meet the requirements. This holds true for players who qualify based on stats and choose not to - one year to refuse, but must move up the following year.

*PLAYER POSITIONING

In order to determine the lowest ranked members on a team, it is strongly recommended that:

- Beginning in January, all members of a team should participate in a round robin in order to determine court placement for the upcoming league season.
- Consistent with Tennis BC rules, players should be assigned to courts in the order in which they complete the round robin.

NEW NSWV MEMBERS

Every effort will be made to place new members on a league team at their request.

- New members to contact the Club Tennis Director.

- After evaluating the player, the Tennis Director contacts the Captain of the appropriate division to notify her of the potential new player.
- If there are available spots on the team, the new player will be invited to participate in the procedure for setting court placements.
- If there are no available spots on the team, the new player must challenge in to the team. (See format for Round Robin Challenge). The player with the least games won will be placed on a lower division team or may opt to continue as a spare.
- Members new to the NSWC must complete all challenges by the December 15th challenge end date in order to play on a league team. New members who cannot complete the challenges by December 15th will have the opportunity to engage in challenges to begin June 30th for the following league season.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY

a) LOA- By choice

- A player missing one league season by choice must initiate a challenge in order to determine her placement for the new league season.
- The player is required to challenge into the Division from which she left even if that team has been moved up or down a Division or failing that, into a Division below that which she left.

b) LOA – Due to illness or Injury

- A player missing one league season due to illness or injury has the right to reclaim their position for the following league season.
 - LOA – Exceeding one league season

- Players missing more than one league season must challenge in at the appropriate level, but this may be overlooked depending on the circumstances and at the discretion of the LLSC.
- Players in this situation should contact the Tennis Pro to determine at which level the challenge should be initiated.

With a LOA, the LLSC has the discretion to move players from other teams into that spot temporarily. (i.e. maternity leave)

LEAGUE ISSUES AND DISPUTES

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Racquets Committee. All league issues will be adjudicated by a subcommittee consisting of the Tennis Director and 3 members of the LLSC.