1. CONDUCT

Players

a. Dress: Schools should approve their own recognisable tennis uniform, which is to be worn by members of all its teams.
b. Behaviour and language must be kept under strict control.

Tennis etiquette on the court

c. It is your obligation to call all balls on your side, to help your opponent make calls when the opponent requests it, and to call against yourself (with the exception of a first service) any ball that you clearly see out on your opponent's side of the net.
d. If you have any doubt as to whether a ball is out or good, you must give your opponent the benefit of the doubt and play the ball as good. The point is forfeited if you incorrectly call a ball out. No 'let' taken.
e. In doubles, when returning service, the partner of the receiver should call the service line for him, with the receiver calling the centre and side service lines.
f. Any "out", "let" or "fault" call must be made instantaneously (i.e., made before either an opponent has hit the return, or the return has gone out of play) otherwise the ball continues in play.
g. Do not enlist the aid of spectators, including parents, coaches etc. in making line calls, or attempting to determine other on-court matters.
h. Players are prohibited from checking the mark of the ball on their opponent's side of the court. However, if playing on a clay type surface (where ball marks are visible) you may ask the referee to check the mark.
i. Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
j. Wait until the players have completed a point to retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court.
k. Do not stall, sulk, complain nor practice gamesmanship.
l. To avoid controversy over the score, the server should announce the game score before starting a game and the point score prior to serving for each point.
m. Thank your opponent for the match.
n. If players cannot agree on the score, they should calmly discuss the points/games that are the area of disagreement. Each player should keep points that are agreed upon. For example, a player claims the score is 40-30 and his opponent claims the score is 30-40. They cannot agree on the first point in the game. The correct decision is to continue the game from 30-30, since both players agree that each of them has won two points in that game. When a game is in dispute, the same principle applies. When play resumes, the player who received in the last game that was played will serve in the next game**.**
o. Where a ball interrupts play, either by rolling/bouncing onto the court, and or creating a visible interruption behind the court a let should be played.
p. If a player hinders his/her opponent it can be ruled involuntary or deliberate.
    i. When a player has created an involuntary hindrance (ball falling out of pocket, hat falling off etc), the first time a "let" should be called and the player should be told that any such hindrance thereafter will be ruled deliberate.
    ii. Any hindrance caused by a player that is ruled deliberate will result in the loss of a point.

SPECTATORS

Good play from both sides should be recognised. Spectators should be made aware that an opponent's errors are not applauded. Spectators should be quiet as a player serves.

1. See General Regulations Governing Sporting Competitions.

2. Tennis is conducted under the rules of **Tennis Australia** unless otherwise stated.

3. **The Draw:** The APS Tennis and Cricket draw shall be the same.

4. **Teams:** Each school shall, if possible, field as a minimum a first team, a second, a Year 10 and a Year 9 team**.**

5. **First matches**
    a. First matches will be played on Saturday morning and commence at 8.30am unless otherwise arranged by the home team and agreed to by the visiting team. A **Tennis Australia** Referee will be appointed to First Team matches.
    b. Any student who plays in the First Team may not play in another APS match in the same sport during that weekend.
    c. **Courts:** At least four outdoor courts should be made available for the match**.** In the case of only four courts being available, the courts need to be available for a minimum of five and a half hours. En-tout-cas or **Tennis Australia** approved synthetic surfaces should be used. If more than four courts are available, they should all be used for the singles games.

d. **Delayed Start:** If a Firsts Match does not commence one and a half hours after the start time the match will be abandoned, i.e. a wash-out. **In the Grand Final, teams may wait until 1:00pm before the match is abandoned**.
Weather interruptions: If play commences on time and is then interrupted for a total of one and a half hours before a result is achieved the game will be abandoned, i.e. a wash-out. **Where adverse weather conditions affect play, and if the Referee agrees, play may resume on a different court surface at the same time, day and campus to complete the tie.**

e. **Etiquette:** Etiquette and good manners must be stressed. It is the responsibility of the home team captains to greet the opposition on arrival. All the home teams should mix with opposition players at afternoon tea.

6. **Balls**
   a. Top grade **Tennis Australia** approved balls should be used for all matches.
   b. **First teams**: One pair of new balls shall be supplied to each court for **each** doubles round and a **new pair** of new balls shall be supplied to each singles rubber by the home team.

7. **Teams**
   a. **Number of Players**
   Teams shall consist of eight doubles players and eight singles players who need not necessarily be the same players.
   b. **Substitutes**
   Where a player is prevented, through illness, injury or any other good reason, from commencing or completing a match, then, with the approval of both coaches or, if they disagree, with the referee's approval, one substitute player may commence or complete the match. The removed player must forfeit the set in progress and the substitute player must take his position in his remaining doubles or allocated singles sets.
   c. **The named substitute**, whether he fills in or not, may play in another team on the same weekend.

8. **Pre Match Procedure**
   a. **First matches**
   The home coach to conduct the pre match meeting. To be present at the meeting:
   both teams
   both coaches
   the referee
      i. Captains to exchange team lists:
      These lists must show the doubles pairs and singles players, both ranked in order of merit. Nominated teams cannot be changed without the agreement of the opposing captain or coach.
      ii. In 1st team matches, the team list should be signed by some responsible authority in the school (Head or Vice Principal).
      iii. Players are to be made aware of, and reminded about, points (a) to (s) and also the duties of the referee.
      iv. That the No. 1 and No. 2 ranked singles players as selected in a match, must play in either the No. 1 or No.2 double pairing**. That the number 7 & number 8 ranked players must play in the third or fourth doubles pairing.**
   b. **All other matches**
   The home coach, with both teams and the opposition coach, will conduct a meeting to remind and make players aware of points (b) to (p) under "Conduct - (a) Players" of the APS Regulations.
   c. In seconds and Year 10 matches, one new pair of balls shall be supplied to each court for the match.
   d. In Year 9 and other matches, one pair of new or good used balls shall be supplied to each court for the match.

9. **Match Procedure**
   a. In the first matches, two rounds of doubles shall be played first as follows:

Round 1	**Round 2**
Pair 1 v Pair 1	Pair 1 v Pair 2
Pair 2 v Pair 2	Pair 2 v Pair 1
Pair 3 v Pair 3	Pair 3 v Pair 4
Pair 4 v Pair 4	Pair 4 v Pair 3

   For reverse doubles the visiting team will remain on the same court and the home team will change courts.

   Then a round of singles will follow. The selection of singles matches to play first should alternate, starting with the away coach. Play should be continuous but, depending on circumstances, a break between sets will be given in consultation with the Referee.
   b. In all other matches, Round 1 of doubles shall be played first and round of singles will follow.
   c. In the event of a weather-delayed start to play **both coaches**, in consultation with the referee, will determine when play is to commence. **If the coaches disagree about when play is to start, the referee will make the final decision.**

d. A set played between incorrect opponents will be cancelled and replayed with the correct players/pairings (rankings) according to the team sheet.
e. **Defaulted Player:** When a player is defaulted by a Referee (code of conduct) he/she is disqualified (i.e. forfeits) that set. The defaulted player then continues to play his remaining sets at the discretion of the coach. A substitute may be made for the defaulted player's remaining sets.

10. **Length of Sets**
    a. In First team matches, each round will consist of one set **first to eight games**. A 12 point tiebreaker **(first to 7 with at least a two point advantage)** will decide the match if the scores reach seven games all.
    b. In all matches below Firsts both doubles and singles matches will consist of one set - first to six games with no-ad scoring; a 12-point tiebreaker will decide the match if the scores reach five games all.
    c. To avoid late finishes to games if a match is not completed 15 minutes after the fixtured time, then the match will cease at that time if another match is scheduled to follow.
    d. The **hit-up time** is to be restricted to five minutes for each match.
    e. If a player is not present 15 minutes after the agreed starting time of a set that set will be forfeited or a substitute included.
    f. In the event of a forfeit or retirement, the full 9 games, and therefore, the set, will be awarded to the non-retiring player/s. Any games won by the retiring player/s still stand in the result.
    g. If a player arrives before the Second Round of doubles or before his singles set, he may take his usual place in the team.
    h. **Drinks**: Players should not leave the court during a match - adequate refreshments should be made available at courtside.

11. **Footfault Rule**
    a. When a footfault is observed the Referee speaks to and warns the offender;
    b. The offender, if observed footfaulting again, is called for a fault;
    c. The offender is recorded on the result sheet/match report.

12. **Injury Time**
    If there is an injury, the Referee must be informed immediately, then in consultation with both coaches, the Referee will put in place a reasonable time frame for the resumption of play. **Players are permitted one medical time out of 3 minutes for each new injury/illness**

13. **Results**
    Referees will receive all scores and record the official results. Both player/pairs, on completion of their set, must report to the Referee together to record the result of their set.

14. **Final Result**
    A match is completed only if a winner can be determined. The final result will be based on completed sets. For a win, sets have priority over games.

15. At Firsts level, no coaching or advice is to be given to a player during a set. In games other than Firsts, coaching or advice may be given to a player during the change of ends by a teacher or designated coach.

16. **Semi finals: Semi Finals will be conducted following the conclusion of the regular season.**
    a. Allocation of Premiership Points: Win: 2 points; Tie/No Result/Adverse Weather: 1 point.
    b. If, at the end of the allotted time or if adverse weather intervenes and all sets have not been completed, a team will be awarded the premiership points for a win, only when in an unbeatable position.
    c. Should any two or more teams be equal on Premiership Points and played each other, the team winning that fixture shall take precedence, otherwise refer to General Regulation 19 for determination of ladder position.
    d. The format will be 1v4 and 2v3 with the winner of each match progressing to the Grand Final.
    e. The Semi Final will be decided on sets won and if equal on games won. If still equal, then the team that finished higher on the ladder at the end of the home and away season will progress to the Grand Final.

17. **Grand Finals/Premiership**
    The following tie-breaking procedures shall apply for a Grand Final:
    i. Sets won, and if equal
    ii Games won, and if equal, the Premiership will be shared

17**. Referees Fees:** Season 2027 are **$100.00** & a rate of **$110.00** if officiating both Girls' & Boys' matches.

18. **APS Merit Team Selection**:
    An APS Tennis Merit team will be selected annually. The selectors will consider the best 4 doubles pairs and the best 8 singles players. The APS Merit Team players will receive an APS Badge and certificate each

    Selectors: 2027: CY & Caul 2028: Caul & BGS 2029: BGS & HY

JUNIOR SECONDARY TENNIS

Rules of Competition

1. A team consists of eight players in ranked order. Seeding lists will be exchanged before play.
2. Singles games will be played after doubles games. Players shall play players of the opposing team of the same ranking. Play first to six games, with tie-breaker at 5-all.
3. Doubles games will be played first of all. Doubles teams shall consist of pairs in order of singles ranking, i.e., 1 & 2, 3 & 4, 5 & 6, 7 & 8. Play first to win six games with tie breaker at 5-all.
4. All matches shall be played in year levels and graded accordingly (A, B, C, D). A teacher or parent shall act as the referee for all games.
5. The Year 7 team shall play at the school named first in the draw and the Year 8 team shall play at the school named second in the draw.
6. The Home Team shall provide new tennis balls.
7. Time slots for Saturday will be 8.30am and 10.30am using 4 courts where ample facilities are available**.**
8. For Schools with limited facilities: Time slots will be 8.30am, 10am and 11.30am.
   Game format for 1½ hour matches:
   5 min. warm up - continuous 35 minute doubles
   5 min. change over - Singles 1-4 20 minutes
   5 min. change over - Singles 5-8 20 minutes
   Games must not run over time. Sudden death at deuce where the receiver chooses the side on which to play the point. When time is called the score is recorded at the last completed game.

Conduct

1. **Dress***:* Schools should approve their own recognisable tennis uniform which is to be worn by members of all its teams.
2. Behaviour and language must be kept under strict control.
   Tennis etiquette on the court
3 When ballpersons are not available, all balls on your side of the net are your responsibility, to pick up and, where appropriate, return directly to the server.
4. It is your obligation to call all balls on your side, to help your opponent make calls when the opponent requests it, and to *call against yourself* (with the exception of a first service) any ball that you clearly see out on your opponent's side of the net.
5. If you have any doubt as to whether a ball is out or good, you must give your opponent the benefit of the doubt and play the ball as good. You should not play a let.
6. In doubles, when returning service the partner of the receiver should call the service line for him, with the receiver calling the centre and side service lines.
7. Any "out", "let" or "fault" call must be made instantaneously (i.e., made before either an opponent has hit the return or the return has gone out of play); otherwise the ball continues in play.
8 On all court surfaces except clay if a player incorrectly calls a ball “out” and then realises that the ball was good, the point should be replayed on the first occasion (involuntary hindrance) and the point lost on each subsequent occasion (deliberate hindrance). In the case of a point winning shot, a let would not be played.
9. Do not enlist the aid of spectators, including parents, coaches etc. in making line calls, or attempting to determine other on-court matters.
10 If players cannot agree on the score, they should calmly discuss the points/games that are the area of disagreement. If they cannot reach agreement they should replay only the points or games in question. All points or games that the players agree on stand e.g. Two players cannot agree on whether the score is 40-15 or 30-30, but agree on the winner of the first, second and fourth points. Therefore, only the third point needs to be replayed.
11. Players are prohibited from checking the mark of the ball on their opponent's side of the court.
12. Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
13. To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have completed a point.
14. Do not stall, sulk, complain nor practice gamesmanship.
15. To avoid controversy over the score, the server should announce the game score before starting a game and the point score prior to serving for each point.
16. Thank your opponent for the match.

MATCH PROCEDURES FOR APS BOYS TENNIS

	SINGLES	DOUBLES
Firsts	8 games (tiebreak at 7 all)	8 games (tiebreak at 7 all)
All other Open	6 games (tiebreak at 5 all, no ad scoring)	6 games (tiebreak at 5 all, no ad scoring)
All Year Level	6 games (tiebreak at 5 all, no ad scoring)	6 games (tiebreak at 5 all, no ad scoring)

WINTER TENNIS

Pre Match Procedure:
The home coach, with both teams and the opposition coach, will conduct a briefing to remind and make players aware of points (b) to (o), under “Conduct - (a) Players” of the APS Regulations.

Rules of Competition

1. The competition is open to players of 3rds standard and below.
2. A team consists of eight players in order of merit.
3. Matches consist of two rounds of doubles, equivalent pairs first, followed by reverse doubles (1x2,2x1etc…), consisting in each case of a set played first to six games, with a 12-point tie-breaker to decide the match if the scores reach 5 games all.
4. The hit up time is to be restricted to five minutes for each match.
5. To avoid delayed finishes to games if a match is not completed 15 minutes after the fixtured time, then the match will cease at that time, if another match is to follow.
6. If a player is not present 15 minutes after the agreed starting time of the set, that set will be forfeited or a substitute included.
7. The Home Team shall provide new tennis balls for the match.