1. See General Regulations Governing Sporting Competitions.
2. Tennis is conducted under the rules of **Tennis Australia** unless otherwise stated.

3. **FIRST MATCHES**
   a. First matches will be played on Saturday mornings and commence at 8.30am.
   b. Length of matches: Five and a half (5 ½) hours should be allowed to play the match using four (4) courts.
   c. Courts: At least four outdoor courts should be made available for the match. TV approved synthetic surfaces should be used.
   d. Delayed Start: If a First match does not commence one and a half hours after the start time the match will be abandoned, i.e. a wash-out/heat policy. **In the Grand Final, teams may wait until 1:00pm before the match is abandoned**.
   e. i) 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/heat policy.
      ii) **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.**
   f. 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 team should mix with opposition players at morning tea.

4. **TEAM COMPOSITION**
   a. **Number of Players**: Each team shall consist of eight players playing one round of singles, and four pairs playing two rounds of doubles (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, one substitute player may commence or complete the match. The injured player must forfeit the set in progress and the substitute player may take her place in her remaining doubles or allocated singles sets.
      The named substitute, whether she fills in or not, may play in another team on the same weekend.

5. **MATCH PROCEDURE**
   a. **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.
   b. 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.
   c. In all other matches, Round 1 of doubles shall be played first and rounds of singles will follow.
   d. In the event of a weather-delayed start to play both coaches, in consultation with the Referee, will determine when play is to commence.
   e. A set played between incorrect opponents will be cancelled and replayed with the correct players/pairings (rankings) according to the team sheet.
   f. **Defaulted Player**: When a player is defaulted (code of conduct, etc.) she is disqualified from (i.e. forfeits) that set. The defaulted player then continues to play her remaining sets at the discretion of the coach. A substitute may be made for the defaulted player's remaining sets.
   g. **Balls**
      Top grade VTA approved balls shall be used for First Matches and provided by the home team.
      One pair of new balls will be supplied to each court for the doubles round and, at the discretion of both coaches; one pair of new balls may be supplied for each singles rubber.
   h. **Length of sets**
      Firsts: Doubles and Singles sets to **eight** (**8**) games with a 12 point tie breaker **(first to 7 with at least a two point advantage)** at **seven** (**7**) games all.
      For matches other than Firsts, please see Regulation 14.
   i. **The hit-up time is to be restricted to five minutes for each match.**
   j. Balls straying onto the playing surface from other courts: Balls that enter the playing surface during a point shall result in the replay of that point.
   k. **Drinks:** Players should not leave the court during a match - adequate refreshments should be made available at courtside.
   l. If a player arrives before the second round of doubles or before her singles set, she may take her usual place in the team.

6. **FOOTFAULT RULE**
   a. When a foot-fault is observed the Referee speaks to and warns the offender;
   b. The offender, if observed foot-faulting again, is called for a fault;
   c. The offender is recorded on the result sheet/match report.

7. **INJURY**
If there is an injury, the Referee will be informed immediately, then in conjunction 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**

8. **RESULTS**
The Referee will receive all scores and record the official results. **Both players/pairs, on completion of their set, must report to the Referee together to record the result of their set.** The Home Coach will forward the official results to the APS Chief Executive Officer by phone on 0417 512 174 on Saturday and by fax 9804 3630 on Monday morning.

1. **FINAL RESULT**
The final result will be based on completed sets. For a win, sets have a priority over games.

2. **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, and if required coaches may assist with scoring, rules, etiquette during matches."**

3. **PRE MATCH PROCEDURE**
   a. First matches
      The home coach to conduct the pre match meeting. To be present at the meeting: both teams and both coaches:
      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 (r) of player conduct and also the duties of the referee.
   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 (q) under "Conduct - Players' "of the APS Tennis Regulations.

4. Tennis Australia Referees will be appointed to all First games
Fees for Season 2025/26 are **$100.00** & a rate of **$110.00** if officiating both Girls' & Boys' matches.

5. **Redraws where required – Refer to General Reg 17 for method of calculation.**

6. **Semi finals: Semi Finals will be conducted following the conclusion of the regular season.**
   a. Allocation of points: Win: 2 points; draw/washout: 1 point, loss: 0 points.
   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. Where teams are equal on Premiership points refer to General Regulation 19 for method of calculation to separate teams and determine final 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.

7. **Grand final/premiership:**
   a. The team finishing higher on the ladder at the end of the home and away season will have the opportunity to host.
   b. The Grand Final will be decided on sets won and if equal on games won. If still equal, then the Premiership will be shared.

8. **All other games: Open, Intermediate and Junior.**
   a. Balls
      In all games other than Firsts, the home team will provide one pair of new or good used balls for each court for the match.
   b. Length of sets (for games other than Firsts):
      All Open divisions, Intermediate, and Junior A teams, will play doubles and singles to first of 6 games (advantage of 2 games) with a 12-point tie-breaker (first to 7 with at least a two point advantage) at 6 all. Junior B teams will play first to 6, without tie breaker. (Refer to Point 18 Match Procedures). All Junior C teams will follow the Fast-4 regulations, as listed in the information attached to the Junior C Scoresheet.
   c. Match procedure
      i. The round of doubles shall be played before the round of singles;
      ii. In the event of a weather delayed start the home coach will determine when play is to commence.
   d. Team
      All teams shall consist of eight players playing one round of four pairs of doubles and one round of singles.
   e. Late Finishes.
      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.
   f. **Courts - Four Courts should be provided.**

9. **CONDUCT**

Players

a. Uniform: School tennis uniform is to be worn. The school tracksuit may be used for warm-up but must be removed for games.
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. You should not play a let.
e. In doubles, when returning service, the partner of the receiver should call the service line for her, 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. 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.
h. Do not enlist the aid of spectators, including parents, coaches etc. in making line calls, or attempting to determine other on-court matters.
i. 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.
j. Players are prohibited from checking the mark of the ball on their opponent's side of the court.
k. Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
l. To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have completed a point.
m. Do not stall, sulk, complain nor practice gamesmanship.
n. 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.
o. Thank your opponent for the match.
p. Any student who plays in the First Team may not play in another AGSV/APS match in the same sport during that weekend.
q. 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.
r. 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. **No spectators are to be inside the playing area during game play.**

10. **APS Merit Team Selection:**

An APS Tennis Merit team will be selected annually. The APS Merit team will consist of up to 16 players and will receive an APS Badge and certificate each**.** The selectors will consider the best 4 doubles pairs and the best 8 singles players.

Selectors: 2027: HY & WC 2028: CY & Caul 2029: GC & GGS

11. **MATCH PROCEDURES FOR APS/AGSV TENNIS**

	SINGLES	**DOUBLES**
Firsts	**8 games (tie at 7 all)**	**8 games (tie at 7 all)**
2nds	6 games (tie at 6 all)	6 games (tie at 6 all)
All other Open	6 games (tie at 6 all)	6 games (tie at 6 all)
INTER A	6 games (tie at 6 all)	6 games (tie at 6 all)
INTER B & C	6 games (tie at 6 all)	6 games (tie at 6 all)
JUNIOR A	6 games (tie at 6 all)	6 games (tie at 6 all)
JUNIOR B	6 games (no tiebreaker)	6 games (no tiebreaker)
JUNIOR C	Fast - 4 Format	Fast - 4 Format