

NORTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC.

Reg No. A0058168N

MINUTES OF DELEGATES MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 2025

40 of 48 Clubs present

Meeting opened: 8:02 pm

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Morton

APOLOGIES: Aaron Sharpe (Doutta Galla), Luca Pilotto (Princes Hill), Michelle Miller (St Monicas) and Dave Theuma (Vice President)

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Circulated and taken as read.

MOVED: Rebecca Knowles (Keilor) SECONDED: Darren Irwin (Strathmore)

CORRESPONDENCE: The Secretary tabled the following correspondence:

IN

1. Fawkner TC — Change of Secretary
2. Essendon TC — Relocation of Friday night matches due to court resurfacing works
3. Tennis Victoria — Postponement of Associations Forum

OUT

1. All Clubs — Match Secretary Report and Dispute resolution steps
2. All Clubs — Agenda and attachments for Delegates meeting on 24 March 2025

CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS

2025/01	Out	Letters to Ascot Vale TC and Strathmore TC advising outcome of complaint
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MOVED: Robert McDonald (Secretary)

SECONDED: Tom Karamzalis (Glenroy Community)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance in transaction account as at 17 February 2025	\$7,531.19
Payments received since 17 February 2025	\$5,006.50
Payments out since 17 February 2025	-\$49.00
Transfer to investment account	-\$10,000.00
Balance in transaction account as at 24 March 2025	\$2,488.69

Balance in investment account as at 24 March 2025	\$16,427.18
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MOVED: Colin Thompson (Treasurer)

SECONDED: Monica Lamaris (Avondale Heights)

Two clubs still have fees outstanding. Colin is following up with those clubs.

TENNIS EVENTS REPORT

1. The team has been selected for the Victorian State Team Championships to be held in Horsham on 29 and 30 March 2025.
2. Details of future events will go up on social media.
3. The new Tennis Events Committee has been meeting and is working well.

TENNIS VICTORIA REPORT

1. An Associations Forum was held on 12 March 2025. The NSJTA was asked to present on its approach to flexible competition times and formats to assist with court congestion. Robert attended and spoke about the NSJTA Friday night competition and variable start times on Saturday mornings.
2. No update has been received on Junior Pennant season dates at this stage.

MATCH SECRETARY REPORT

1. **Seedings** — Clubs can now change their A Grade singles seedings order for the second half of the season (Round 8 to Round 14). Please email your completed seeding sheet (regardless if you make a change to the seeding order or not) to results@nsjta.org.au. Seedings must be sent no later than Wednesday 26 March 2025

Teams which change their seeding order without informing the NSJTA will not be able to change their order and will be required to play in the order entered for Rounds 1- 7. In the finals you can play your team as either Rounds 1-7 or Rounds 8-14. Whichever order you choose for the Semi Finals must be used in the Grand Final. An example would be: A Club may play their girls in the Rounds 1-7 order and the Boys in the Rounds 8-14 order. This order must be then used in the Grand Final.

2. **New Registrations** — May 09 and 10 (Round 11) — Last opportunity for additional registrations. Emergencies wanting registration must have played their third match by and including these dates.
3. Round 7 was the last week that By-Law 6b could be used for registering children with no competition experience. All new players must now go through the Emergency player process of playing 3 games before, and including, round 11. Delegates are reminded that emergencies must play 3 matches (not including washouts) before being considered for additional registration, and that these 3 matches the emergency details must be clearly stated on the match sheet
4. **Emergency players** — Please encourage your team managers to always go through you, the Club Delegate, to find emergency players. It is a combined total of emergency matches eg: 3 games in A-4 and 3 games in A-1 adds up to a total of six games played up. You should never play a player any more than 4 games. Please ring me if that occurs. This is why it is important to send your results in on time.
5. There are still six outstanding score sheets from Round 7. Delegates could you please follow up. It doesn't matter if it's the Home team or the Away team who enters them right now. We cannot have accurate reports if everything isn't up to date.
6. The following are a few points that have come up recently:
 - a) In D Grade both teams must supply umpires. It usually works out 3 sets each. If either team has parents who do not know how to umpire, invite them out to stand by the side of other umpires to learn. It is just not acceptable to expect other clubs to umpire all the games.
 - b) On Friday nights and Saturday mornings there must be an allocated Court Supervisor. We have the green fluoro vests that Aaron had organised to wear on Friday nights and Saturday mornings so people know who to approach if there is an issue. If your club hasn't got one, please see me.
 - c) When a player has not turned up and the players games are forfeited, please write forfeit. Please do not just write in 6-0. 1/ There was a situation last season where an Emergency player was refused registration as this player's combined statistics, were considered to be, strengthening the

team on the day, and better than their other team players. Upon my call to the Delegate, to notify them of the refusal, it was discovered that the game was not played at all and an additional game had then been requested to be played by the Match Committee of that player. The result was the player was accepted into the team.

- d) It is important to get all spelling of names absolutely correct. One letter different can cause all sorts of issues.
- e) **FAIR LINE CALLS** — As we progress further into the season and get closer to finals, I once again ask Clubs to encourage fair line calls. We all make mistakes. I, personally, have seen some very confronting line calls. Please encourage all players to be fair.

7. **Player and Spectator behaviour** — There have been a number of complaints lately from Clubs about the Unsportsmanlike behaviour of some of our NSJTA players. We have also received complaints about Parents and Spectators being vocal and using hand gestures from the sidelines during games. I must remind you that there must be no interference from Spectators. In umpired games, please allow the Umpire to deal with anything that might arise. Delegates, in any non umpired games, please let the children know that they can call for an umpire if need be. Both Team Managers or the Court Supervisor can help get that organised. This should only happen if the players cannot sort the issue out themselves.

None of this behaviour is acceptable.

ADVICE FOR ALL TEAM MANAGERS:

- 18) Ensure that there is no ‘coaching’ or ‘umpiring’ or other disturbances occurring from outside the courts. If this continues after you have warned the offender(s), report the matter to the home club supervisor, who may ask the offender to leave the courts.
- 19) Poor behaviour by players, e.g. swearing, racquet throwing, intimidation, deliberate time-wasting, should not be tolerated. Team Managers or the home club supervisor should first warn the child and then declare a forfeit of that set if the behaviour continues.

Home Club Supervisor.

One of the requirements of Clubs participating in the NSJTA is for there to be a Supervisor. The Supervisor is in charge of the smooth running of Friday nights and Saturday mornings. If there are any problems they need to be aware of the Rules and Contact Phone Numbers (Delegate, Match Secretary or NSJTA Committee members). Situations that can arise during the course of the match should/could be brought to the attention of either the opposition Team Manager or Court Supervisor. It is often so much better to deal with it on the day/night without confrontation. Facts are clearer on the day.

By-law 30 Home and Away Matches

- a) For all home matches, the host Club must provide a senior person (over 18 years of age) to be the Court Supervisor who will supervise matches at their courts.
- b) The Court Supervisor must clearly distinguish themselves as the Court Supervisor by wearing the identification provided by the NSJTA.
- c) If a dispute arises during a match that cannot be resolved by the two competing teams, it should be reported to the Court Supervisor. If they cannot resolve the dispute, the Court Supervisor should contact a member of the Match Committee.
- d) Parents and spectators must comply with any instructions given to them by the Court Supervisor.

8. **Clearances (By-law 9)**

- a) To obtain a clearance, a player must complete a transfer application form, which must be signed by the Club Delegate or Secretary of both the current club and the new club.
- b) The completed transfer application form must be received by the Match Secretary by 6.00pm on the Saturday May 10th (Round 11).

- c) A club may only refuse a transfer on the grounds that the player owes fees to that club or the player is under suspension.
- d) Any club or representative of a club approaching a player registered to another club and intimating, suggesting or advising the player to change clubs without that player already having a clearance from that player's current club may be fined the fine specified in the Fines Schedule at the discretion of the Committee.
- e) A maximum of 3 players may transfer from one club to another in any one season. For the purposes of this by-law, multiple players from the same family will count as one transfer.

By-law 9 f), g), h), i), k), l), are all equally important and with transfer dates coming up it would pay all Delegates to familiarise themselves with all of these

9. Important dates

March 26th	All A grade teams including Saturday morning teams please send your seedings for Rounds 8 to 14 to results@nsjta.org.au Before Wednesday March 26th Club and Grade in subject line
May 9 th / 10th	Last opportunity for additional registrations - emergencies wanting registration must have played their third match by these dates.
May 10th	Transfers for next season close - transfer forms and \$20 clearance fee must be lodged with the Match Secretary by 6PM.
May 24 th (Round 13)	All A grade team entries for next season (Friday and Saturday) must be entered in League Manager on or before this date. We request that Saturday mixed teams also be entered by this date if possible.
May 26th	Third and final Delegates Meeting – starts 8PM at Buckley Park TC
June 7th	All other Saturday team entries for next season must be entered in League Manager on or before this date.

10. **Finals** — Let Kym know (via email) if your club would be interested in hosting finals. The NSJTA is looking at giving the finals a great atmosphere again, by playing a few matches at some venues. This has been very successful previously. The NSJTA tries to share finals around our clubs.

Kym's email address is matchsecretary@nsjta.org.au for all communication.

11. **Team entries** — Team entries for next season will open soon. When entering teams, we have a few new guidelines, as the number of fixture requests being made by clubs is making it very hard to complete the fixture. Please make yourselves familiar with the following.
 1. Clubs must put their fixture requests on the cover sheet — do not put fixture requests in League Manager.
 2. Clubs must list their fixture requests in order of priority from most important to least important.
 3. Please refer to teams by team number, not grade applied for.
 4. Clubs may make up to five fixture requests, but they should only expect to be granted their first two fixture requests. Fixture requests after the first two will only be granted if possible.
 5. No fixture requests are guaranteed.
12. **Advice for team managers** — Answers to a lot of commonly asked questions can be found in the advice for team manager documents, which can be downloaded at:
<https://nsjta.org.au/documents/advice-for-team-managers/>

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. **Child Safety and Code of Conduct Update** — Following the last meeting, a draft process for resolving disputes between clubs was emailed to clubs for feedback. As there was no further feedback, the document will be finalised and published on the NSJTA website.

2. **Proposal to amend the By-laws — D Unisex finals teams** — The following change to provide further clarity about the order of players in D Unisex finals teams was proposed:

Replace By-law 58 with the following:

D Unisex teams

- 58) a) A team can consist of between 4 and 8 players.
- b) In teams of 4 players, the sets shall be played in the order 1+2, 3+4, 1+3, 2+4, 1+4, 2+3.
- c) In teams of more than four players:
- i) Any four players may play sets 1 and 2.
- ii) Any four players may play sets 3 and 4.
- iii) Any four players may play sets 5 and 6.
- iv) The same two players cannot play together more than once in sets 1 to 6.
- d) No player can play in both sets 1 and 2, no player can play in both sets 3 and 4, and no player can play in both sets 5 and 6.
- e) Any two players may be chosen to play the extra set in the event of a draw.

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Airport West)

SECONDED: Bobby Dela Cruz (Taylors Lakes)

Carried unanimously.

3. **Proposal to amend the By-laws — A Special matches** — The following change to allow A Special teams to list players for washouts and walkovers and for registered players only, the match counts towards finals qualification, was proposed:

Replace By-law 53 paragraphs (a) to (c) with the following:

- 53) a) All players participating in finals matches must be registered and —
- i) for A Special finals, have played at least five (5) matches in a season;
- ii) for all other finals, have played at least three (3) matches in a season.
- b) A player shall be deemed to have played a match when:
- i) their name is listed on the match result sheet and the match has been played and completed (even if one or more of the sets the player was listed to play was forfeited by the opposition); or
- ii) their name has been recorded on the match result sheet and the match has commenced but is unable to be completed due to unplayable conditions.
- c) When the match does not commence due to unplayable conditions (e.g. complete washout) or the entire match is forfeited by one team:
- i) for A Special only, teams that did not give a walkover may enter a result online within 48 hours of the match listing the players that were due to play the match and registered players will be deemed to have played a match for finals qualifications purposes, however emergency players will not be deemed to have played a match and the match will not count for additional registration purposes; and
- ii) for all other grades, no players will be deemed to have played a match.

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Airport West)

SECONDED: Rebecca Knowles (Keilor)

Carried unanimously.

3. **Proposal to amend the By-laws — A Special matches** — The following change to clarify the penalty for playing an unqualified player in finals in seeded grades was proposed:

Replace By-law 53 paragraph (j) with the following:

- 53) j) If a breach of any of the provisions of the By-laws is discovered after the competition of a match, or the match result sheet cannot be altered to avoid a breach, the team at fault will forfeit the set/s played in breach of the By-laws.
- k) In seeded grades, if a team plays an unqualified player in finals, the team will forfeit the singles and doubles sets of the unqualified player and forfeit the singles set/s of any players that play at a lower seeded position to the unqualified player.

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Airport West)

SECONDED: Glenn Ferris (Oak Park)

Carried unanimously.

MEETING CLOSED: 8.35 PM

NEXT MEETING: BUCKLEY PARK TENNIS CLUB ON MONDAY 26 MAY 2025 at 8.00 PM