

NORTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC.

Reg No. A0058168N

MINUTES OF DELEGATES MEETING HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2018

37 of 43 Clubs present

Meeting opened: 8:06 pm

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Morton

APOLOGIES: Jennis Roemer (Deer Park), Jacqui Costanzo (West Brunswick), Kathleen Nolan (North Park).

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Circulated and taken as read.

MOVED: Peter Vass (Green Gully)

SECONDED: Linda Delahey (Glencairn)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Nil.

CORRESPONDENCE: As tabled by Robert McDonald

IN

1. Green Gully TC – Proposal to amend late player rules
2. Essendon TC — Alternative to C Grade format proposals
3. Princes Hill TC — Letter regarding changes to C Unisex
4. Mt Carmel TC — Email regarding concerns about parent behaviour

OUT

1. All Clubs — Minutes and proposals for next meeting
2. All Clubs — Agenda for 3 September 2018 Delegates Meeting together with minutes of Delegates Meeting held on 6 August 2018, five proposals for By-law changes, proposal from Green Gully TC regarding later players and copy of email from Essendon TC suggesting alternative to C Grade format proposals
3. All Cubs — Princes Hill TC letter regarding changes to C Unisex

CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS

2018/04	In	Code of Conduct complaint from Riverside TC regarding A Reserve 3 Mixed Friday match on 10 August 2018
	Out	Copy of the Code of Conduct complaint to Taylors Lakes TC

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Secretary)

SECONDED: Ray Reymers (Coburg)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance in transaction account as at 18 June 2018	\$1,805.88
Payments received since 18 June 2018	\$14,281.00

Payments out since 18 June 2018	-\$13,025.80
Balance in transaction account as at 3 September 2018	\$3,061.08
Balance in investment account as at 3 September 2018	\$22,901.13

MOVED: Colin Thompson (Treasurer) SECONDED: Jacqui Theuma (Keilor East)

There are only two clubs with outstanding fees — Mt Carmel and Taylors Lakes. Their delegates were asked to follow up the outstanding payments with their Treasurers as soon as possible.

The honoraria approved at the last meeting will be paid soon. The Treasurer will monitor the Association's finances to see if any changes to fees need to be made. At this stage, it seems manageable.

TENNIS EVENTS REPORT:

1. Associations Junior League 2018

Three rounds have been played of the season, and all the teams are running smoothly. The teams are using WhatsApp groups to share information, which has made communication much easier.

2. Alicia Molik Cup

The next representative event is the Alicia Molik Cup for 12 and Under players in December. Information will go on the NSJTA website in October.

TENNIS VICTORIA REPORT:

1. There have been no Associations Forums since the last meeting.
2. Senior pennant finishes this weekend.

MATCH SECRETARY REPORT:

1. Clubs have the opportunity to change their A Grade singles seeding for the second half of the season this Friday night and Saturday morning. Please email changes to your Grade Secretary. Teams which change their seeding order without informing the Grade Secretary will be immediately penalised with singles sets being forfeited.
2. This season has already had 21 approved additional registrations and new to tennis registrations. We have had 1 player rejected. A reminder that if a child is found to be too strong in his/her team, they can play in higher teams and go through the emergency process there. Please encourage them to do so.
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 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 (see important dates listed at the bottom of report)
4. Please encourage your team managers to always go through the delegates 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. New delegates please note it is a combined total of games played up.
5. Filling out sheets — When match result sheets are not filled out correctly the grade secretaries find it impossible to alter scores. The NSJTA cannot be chasing people and asking them if they remember the score or not. With us being half way through the season, an incorrect score could be what determines a finals berth.
6. The following are a few points that have come up recently.
 - i) When a player has not turned up and the players games are forfeited, please write forfeit. Please do not just write in 6-0. Even if you start with the doubles sets, it is the singles set that is forfeited.

- ii) Please encourage your team managers to write legibly.

Reminder : For the first few weeks being a D Grade team manager can be a very daunting job. Score sheets, umpiring, rosters and phone calls and addresses of clubs etc. Names on sheets can be a bit muddled at times. We are now up to Round 8 and I would like to remind all Delegates that if possible could the Team Managers be starting to put the names in the correct order. When it comes to finals the order needs to be correct. Hopefully the new style score sheet is helping ease this problem

- iii) In A grades, occasionally the Match Committee will specify where an emergency should play. If you are given directions by a NSJTA Match Committee member then that information needs to be written on the score sheet. If it is not written on the score sheet the Grade Secretary will automatically put the player down as playing out of order and your team will lose points. It is also good for the opposing team to know this information on the sheet.
- iv) Please ring Brendon re A Special queries.
- v) 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, but I have seen some very confronting calls. Please encourage everyone to be fair at all times.
- vi) There have been quite a number of complaints about parents being vocal from the side lines. Some parents have not been kind with their words. Could we please note the following Code of Conduct information:

CODE OF CONDUCT:

11. PARENTS AND SPECTATORS: A parent or spectator must not disrupt or interfere with the proper conduct of a match. For the purposes of this rule, interference includes physical abuse, verbal abuse, audible obscenities, visible obscenities, coaching, intimidation, excessive cheering or any unsportsmanlike conduct, whether directed towards a player, a parent, a spectator or an official.

3. AUDIBLE OBSCENITY: Players shall not use an audible obscenity within the precincts of the competition venue. For the purposes of this rule audible obscenity is defined as the use of words commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by the court officials or spectators.

ADVICE FOR ALL TEAM MANAGERS:

16. Ensure there is no coaching, umpiring or other disturbances occurring from outside the courts. If this continues after warning the offenders report the situation to your home club supervisor who may ask the offender/s to leave the courts.

17. Poor behaviour by players ie: 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.

We must remind ourselves that this is kid's tennis, and we are all volunteers. Parental help is paramount in the lower grades. Let's make junior tennis a fun experience for our children. If there is a problem it should be taken to the Team Manager and then the Club Delegate.

- 7. Transfer forms are available under the documents section on the NSJTA website. Please give a copy to anyone wanting to transfer to or from your club. Please adhere to the dates.
- 8. Clubs can advertise on our web site for players shortly. We ask that you only state that a player required will be needed in B to High B (example only). We will not advertise that a player is needed in A2 in the second position (example only).
- 9. Our recent weather has caused washouts and partial washouts. I would like to remind Delegates to check that your grade secretaries have entered the results correctly. Every game that is played before the "washout decision" must be entered on the computer. An incomplete 4-3 set should be entered as such. All games count towards the percentages.

10. Important Dates

- 7/8 September — A Grade teams may now change their seedings for the second half of the season. Please take a photo of your seedings sheet and email with the match result sheet.
- 19/20 October — Last opportunity for additional registrations - emergencies wanting registration must have played their third match by these dates.
- 20 October — Transfers for next season close - transfer forms and \$20 clearance fee must be lodged with the Match Secretary by 6PM. It is preferred for money to be Direct Deposited. The form can be emailed to myself
- 10 November — All A grade team entries for next season (Friday and Saturday) must be placed on the website on or before this date.
- 12 November — Third and final Delegates Meeting – starts 8PM at Buckley Park TC
- 17 November — All other Saturday team entries for next season must be placed on the website on or before this date.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. The following proposal to change the mixed format on Saturday mornings to 2 boys and 2 girls for all grades, including Saturday A grades was proposed and debated:

Amend the By-laws as follows to take effect from Season 1 2019:

Replace By-laws as follows:

Friday A special, A grade and A reserve mixed grades

- 14) a) For Friday A special, A grade and A reserve mixed grades, the competing teams shall comprise three (3) girls and three (3) boys.
- b) For Friday A special, A grade and A reserve mixed grades, a match shall consist of nine (9) sets made up of three (3) boys and three (3) girls singles of 8 games with a tie-breaker at 7 all. There will also be one (1) boys, one (1) girls and one (1) mixed doubles set each of six (6) games with no tie-breaker.
- c) During the first seven rounds of matches the singles shall be played in ‘seeded’ order as advised by the club. This ‘seeding’ may be varied by notification to the Grade Secretary concerned before commencement of the eighth round. In finals matches, EITHER ONE OR THE OTHER of these seedings shall be played for the series.
- d) In all grades other than A Special, an emergency player must play in the lowest seeded position.
In A Special only, if a club intends to play an unregistered emergency player that is stronger than other players in the team, they must contact the Match Committee in advance with details of the player and the Match Committee will determine the seedings to be used. If a club does not follow the direction of the Match Committee, the sets played out of order will be forfeited. If a club uses an unregistered emergency that is clearly stronger than the other players in the team and fails to contact the Match Committee, the singles set played by that player will be forfeited.
- e) In the event that a registered player from a lower grade and an unregistered emergency player both play in the same match, the unregistered emergency player must play in the lowest seeded position.
- f) In the event that two or more players registered in different lower grades play as emergencies in the same match, the player registered in the higher grade must play at a higher seeded position than the player registered in a lower grade.
- g) In the event that two or more players registered in the same A level team play as emergencies in a higher A level team in the same match, the higher seeded player in the players’ original registered team must play at a higher seeded position.

- h) Any seeded player who plays at a lower seeded position than a lower seeded player, or plays at a lower seeded position than an emergency player, will forfeit the set.
- i) Any registered player who plays at a lower seeded position than required by subsections e), f) or g) of this By-law will forfeit the set.

Saturday A grade, A reserve, B special, B grade, B Reserve, C special, C grade and C reserve mixed grades

- 15) a) The competing teams shall comprise two (2) girls and two (2) boys.
 - b) A home and away match shall consist of six (6) sets made up of two (2) boys and two (2) girls singles sets and two (2) doubles sets.
 - c) For A level matches, singles sets shall be played to 8 games, with a tie-breaker at 7 all. For B and C level matches, singles sets shall be played to 6 games, with a tie-breaker at 5 all.
 - d) For all grades, doubles sets shall be played to six (6) games with no tie-breaker.
 - e) For odd rounds, teams will play one (1) boys doubles and one (1) girls doubles set.
 - f) For even rounds, teams will play two (2) mixed doubles sets.
 - g) For A grade and A reserve matches, the provisions of By-law 14(c) to (i) apply and singles sets must be played in seeded order.
- 29) b) For Saturday matches, Clubs must provide at least one court for each home match.
- 42) d) Saturday Mixed, Boys and Unisex teams are allowed to play one player short, however will forfeit those sets 6-0 (or 8-0 for A singles sets). Friday Mixed teams are allowed to play two players short, however will forfeit those sets 6-0 (or 8-0 for A singles sets). The forfeit must be taken in the lowest position/s for Mixed grades or the number four position in Boys and Unisex grades. If a team inadvertently gives a forfeit at a higher position, the opposing team has the option of replaying the affected sets if they so desire.
- e) Saturday Mixed, Boys and Unisex teams which are two or more players short must give a walkover. Friday Mixed teams which are three or more players short must give a walkover.
- 45) e) In Saturday Mixed, Boys and Unisex grades, in the event of a draw (even on games and sets) each team will be credited with three (3) points FOR HOME AND AWAY MATCHES ONLY. In FINALS MATCHES Boys and Unisex teams must nominate an 'extra set' as listed on the match result sheet, to be played after the scheduled six (6) sets. This set must be nominated BEFORE THE MATCH COMMENCES.

Friday A Mixed teams

- 53) a) Three boys and three girls play the singles sets.
- b) Any or all of these players may be substituted by a player of the same sex for the doubles sets. Substitute players can play in the boys, girls and/or mixed doubles.
- c) Each player can play a maximum of one singles and one doubles set.

Insert a new By-law as follows:

Saturday A, B and C Mixed teams

- 54) a) A finals match shall consist of seven (7) sets made up of two (2) boys and two (2) girls singles sets and one (1) boys doubles, one (1) girls doubles and one (1) mixed doubles set.
- b) Two boys and two girls play the singles sets.

- c) Any or all of these players may be substituted by a player of the same sex for the doubles sets.
- d) Each player can play a maximum of one singles and two doubles sets.

As new By-law 54 inserted, other By-laws to be renumbered accordingly.

MOVED: Brendon Noonan (Delahey) SECONDED: Julie Thompson (Buckley Park)

Carried by a majority.

2. The following proposal to remove C Unisex so the only C level formats would become C Mixed or C Boys was proposed and debated:

Amend the By-laws as follows to take effect from Season 1 2019:

Replace By-law 17 with the following:

B special, B grade, B Reserve, C special, C grade, C Reserve boys grades

- 17) a) Competing teams shall be composed of four (4) boys.
- b) A match shall consist of six (6) sets made up of four (4) boys singles of six (6) games with a tie-breaker at 5 all. There will also be two (2) boys doubles sets each of six (6) games with no tie-breaker.

Delete By-law 18.

Replace By-law 54 with the following:

A, B and C Boys teams

- 54) a) Four boys play the singles sets.
- b) Any or all of these boys may be substituted for the doubles sets.
- c) Each player can play a maximum of one singles and one doubles set.
- d) Any two players may be chosen to play the extra set in the event of a draw.

Delete By-law 18.

As two By-laws deleted, other By-laws to be renumbered accordingly.

MOVED: Kelly Townsend-Booth (OLN) SECONDED: Brendon Noonan (Delahey)

Defeated by a majority.

3. An alternative proposal was put forward to remove C Special Unisex and C Grade Unisex, but retain C Reserve Unisex.

MOVED: Bruno Alderuccio (Essendon) SECONDED: Julie Thompson (Buckley Park)

Defeated by a majority.

There was a request for more information about participation trends and the reasons why the number of players was declining so clubs could make a more informed decision. Tennis Victoria has engaged a consultant to undertake research on this issue, and the results will be passed on to clubs when they are available.

4. The following proposal to enable D Special players to umpire their own matches was proposed and debated:

Amend the By-laws as follows to take effect from Season 1 2019:

Replace By-laws 31 and 51 (e) with the following:

- 31) D Grade matches are to be umpired under supervision of the host club. Each competing team is required to supply an umpire on an alternative basis. Umpires are to keep written record of the scoring in each set, on a score sheet.
- 51) e) Saturday morning grand finals:

- i) A and B level grand finals shall be supervised by a nominated host club as directed by the Match Secretary and, if required, umpired by players from that club.
- ii) C and D level grand finals shall be supervised by a nominated host club as directed by the Match Secretary. D Grade matches will be umpired by senior umpires. C level and D Special matches will only be umpired by senior umpires if required.

MOVED: Ray Reymers (Coburg)

SECONDED: Trudi Hay (Greenvale)

The result of the vote was tied — 16 votes in favour and 16 votes against.

The President exercised his casting vote against the proposal, to retain the status quo.

Motion defeated.

- 5. The following proposal to clarify the rules for wheelchair players participating in the NSJTA competition was proposed and debated:

Amend the By-laws as follows to take immediate effect:

Replace By-law 20 with the following:

- 20) a) Except as provided in By-laws 19 (c) and 21, all matches are to be played under the ITF Rules of Tennis as adopted by Tennis Victoria and Tennis Australia.
- b) If a player is using a wheelchair, the ITF Rules of Wheelchair Tennis apply to that player, and to that player only, in both singles and doubles.

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Airport West)

SECONDED: Ray Reymers (Coburg)

Carried unanimously.

It was clarified that if a club did seek to have a wheelchair player participate in the competition, the NSJTA would communicate with the other clubs in the grade to check their facilities could accommodate the player for away matches and that their players knew what to expect.

- 6. The following proposal to clarify that emergency players in A Special must play 3 matches by Round 11 to be considered for additional registration was proposed and debated:

Amend the By-laws as follows to take immediate effect:

Replace By-law 36 with the following:

- 36) a) Players who have played three (3) matches as emergencies (wash-outs not included) will be automatically assessed by the Match Secretary for additional registration. Additional registrations close at Round 11 and a player must have played three matches by Round 11 to be considered for additional registration.
- b) For A Special only, additional registrations will be automatically approved once a player has played three (3) matches by Round 11.
- c) For all grades other than A Special, an additional registration will be approved if the Match Secretary deems that, based on the player's results in the three (3) matches played, the player is not strengthening the team. In certain circumstances, the Match Secretary may authorise an emergency to play a fourth match before a decision regarding the additional registration is made.
- d) It is the responsibility of the Club to look on the NSJTA website prior to an emergency playing a fourth match to check whether an additional registration has been approved. If a player plays again in the grade in which their additional registration has been refused, all sets played by that player shall be forfeited.
- e) If an additional registration is refused, a player can play a further three (3) matches as an emergency in a higher grade than the grade that was refused and then be considered for additional registration in that grade. In exceptional circumstances, the Match Secretary may approve an additional registration after fewer than three (3) matches in the higher grade.

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Airport West)

SECONDED: Colin Thompson (Buckley Park)

Carried unanimously.

7. The following proposal to relating to late players was proposed and debated:

Amend the By-laws as follows to take effect from Season 1 2019:

Replace By-law 26 with the following:

- 26) a) At least half the team must be present and ready to start the match within 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time, otherwise the first set listed on the match result sheet must be forfeited.
- b) If any players are missing at the start of play, sets should be played out of order if necessary to allow play to start and be continuous.
- c) Where a player is unable or unwilling to commence play 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, sets shall be forfeited in the following manner. One set shall be forfeited initially for each available court (up to and including two courts) and then one set shall be forfeited for every 15 minutes thereafter for each available court (up to and including two courts).
- d) If any D Grade player is more than 45 minutes late after the scheduled start time, then that player must forfeit all three sets.
- e) If, after arrival, any player when called upon to play does not do so, then the player shall forfeit that set.

MOVED: Peter Vass (Green Gully)

SECONDED: Colin Thompson (Buckley Park)

Carried by a majority.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.10 PM

NEXT MEETING: BUCKLEY PARK TENNIS CLUB ON MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2018 at 8.00 PM