



Tennis Handbook

Season 2024



Season Dates			
Grade	Playing Day & Time	Season	Entries Closing
Premier, A2 Girls & Boys Season (4 per team):	Wednesdays 4.15pm	7 th February – 13 th March	31 st January
Auckland (all other grades) Term 1:	Saturday 8.15 or 10.15am	17 th February – 23 rd March	7 th February
North Harbour Term 1:	Mondays 4.00pm	19 th February – 25 th March	
Champ of Champs:	-	Day 1: 4 th April Day 2: 9 th April	14 th March
Auckland Term 4:	Saturday 8.15 or 10.15am	2 nd November – 30 th November	15 th October
North Harbour Term 4:	Mondays 4.00pm	21 st October – 25 th November	

**Note: Any schools with requests in regards to court usage or time allocation need to notify College Sport at the time of entry.*

Term 1 Age Groups

Junior: U14 and Year 9 & 10

Senior: U18 and Year 11-13

There are separate Boys and Girls grades for all age groups

Grades for Term 1

Grades available in each age group are:

Premier Boys & Girls: Top eight teams based on configure ranking (4 per team)
A2 Boys & Girls: Next eight teams based on configure ranking (4 per team)
A3 Boys & Girls: 6 players and Zonal where possible
Senior B Boys & Girls: 6 players and Zonal where possible
Junior A Boys & Girls: Rankings based on the top 6 players
Junior B Grade Boys & Girls: 6 players and Zonal where possible

Term 4 Age Groups

Auckland: A1, A2, A3, B and C (Junior Only)

North Harbour: A-C (Junior and Senior)

There are separate Boys and Girls grades for all age groups.

Grades for Term 4

A1 & A2: Based on Ranking Points

A3: Based on ranking points and competent players eg rallies and serves consistently

B Grade: can serve and rally

C Grade: can serve and rally majority of the time (Novice, needs to have manger/TIC to help them play)

Eligibility

As per the College Sport Bylaws, outlined on the College Sport website www.collegesport.co.nz. A player who has played three or more matches in an older age group may not then revert to his/her own age group during the year's competition. A player must have played at least 50 % of matches in the round robin to be eligible for the semi-finals or finals.

Draws and Results

If teams are on equal points at the end of a round, placings will be determined as follows:

1. The team winning the tie between them shall be placed higher.
2. If teams are still even, the team with the highest total score in the tie between them shall be placed higher.
3. If teams are still even, the team with the highest points differential in that round (i.e. total points for – total points against) shall be placed higher.

Draws and results can be found on the College Sport website www.collegesport.co.nz or College Sport App. Results are entered online via SportsRunner.

Team Management

Each team must have a teacher or adult with them at every game. This person is to complete the score sheet before the game; be aware of any medical problems of players in the team; implement the rules of the competition; supervise the players.

Premier and Senior A Teams managers are to record results, agree, sign-off on the results sheet with the manager of the winning team entering the results in to Gradings/Tennis Hub within 24 hours of the event taking place. If this is not completed within 24 hours the other team manager can add.

Rubbers

A rubber will be played between teams in the same grade from two opposing schools according to the draw.

Premier, A2 & North Harbour Competition

In each rubber, number 1 rank play number 1 rank, number 2 rank plays number 2 rank, 3 plays 3 etc. All schools are required to play their team members in correct order, according to their TennisNZ ranking on the day of the match. In doubles 1 and any other player play as per NZ Tennis rule 8.4.2. Thus, there are six matches in each rubber. The top player must play in the top doubles. If you have a 5th player, they can play in the doubles in place of a singles player.

Saturday Competition

In each rubber, number 1 rank plays number 1 rank, number 2 rank plays number 2 rank, 3 plays 3 etc. All schools are required to play their team members in correct order, according to their TennisNZ ranking on the day of the match. In doubles rank 1 and any other player play as per NZ Tennis rule 8.4.2. Thus, there are nine matches in each rubber.

Matches:

Premier & A2

- Best of 3 sets, first to four games
- At 3-all the first to 5 games will win the set. At 4-all a 12-point tiebreaker to be played (first to 7 with a margin of 2).
- Normal advantage
- The third set to be a super tiebreaker (first to 10 with a margin of 2)
- Double combination - #1 in top double combination as per NZ Tennis rule 8.4.2.
- All singles matches must be played first, then doubles (if 4 courts allocated)

- 2 singles and 1 double must be played (if 3 courts)
- Your choice of combinations (2 courts)
- All teams should be taking 6 balls for the competition in case required
- *(If time is an issue, then the doubles could be sudden death deuce)*

All other Grades

Matches are played according to the normal rules of tennis. All matches are of one set with a tiebreaker at 6-all.

The Competition (Season)

- In any rubber, a competition point is gained by a team for each match won. The team which wins the rubber by winning five or more matches is awarded two bonus points.
- Score sheets must be filled in completely at the courts, the scores agree to and signed by both team captains.
- All results (final rubber scores) must be entered online via SportsRunner the next working day/
- The winner of a grade – Please refer to individual grade draw information's

Score Sheets

- The person in charge of tennis in each school must issue each team with a score sheet.
- A suitable form of score sheet is available on the College Sport website.
- Captains must consult each other over the following:
 - Names and order of team members
 - Correctness of all scores
 - Signing the completed score sheet
- Premier and Senior A Teams managers are to record results, agree, sign-off on the results sheet with the manager of the winning team entering the results in to Gradings/Tennis Hub within 24 hours of the event taking place. If this is not completed within 24 hours the other team manager can add.

Cancellations & Rescheduling

- College Sport do not cancel any matches. Postponements can be caused by rain, by approved fixtures under the jurisdiction of Auckland or NZ Associations, or by mutual agreement.
- For the College Sport Auckland Defaults & Rescheduling Policy please refer to <https://collegesport.co.nz/bylaws/>

Defaults

- Managers should make every effort to avoid incurring defaults, as this limits the tennis, not only of their own team, but also of the school.
- Postponed matches should be played during the first week following the postponement.
- A team which is unreasonably tardy in playing postponed matches may be defaulted. Such a default shall be ruled only by the Association.
- In the event of a team being late at a venue, the following shall apply:
 - If no member of a team is present and ready to play at 8.45am/10.30am the first two matches are defaulted (see times section above)
 - If at any time an allocated court is free and a team has no player on, then after 5 minutes, that team defaults the next match in playing order.
 - If a team has no players present at 9.00am/10.45am then the whole team is defaulted.
 - Notwithstanding any of the above, any player whose opponent has not arrived at the courts within one hour of the scheduled start, (i.e., 9.15am/11.15am) may assume a win by default.

Court Control

- Schools are responsible for supervision on their home courts. At non-school venues all staff present should take responsibility for the conduct of players and the care of the facilities.
- Approved tennis clothing and shoes should be worn.
- A high standard of behaviour is expected of players both on and off the court.
- Any breaches of the above should be brought to the attention of the offending players and their captain or manager and, in extreme cases the principal of the offending school and the association.

Umpires

- All matches should be umpired, except where players agree to umpire themselves.
- All players are expected to be available to umpire and should be training to do so.
- Team captains should arrange alternate umpires.

Balls

- Each team must provide at least one pair of good quality balls, which for A grades must be new balls.
- Premier and A2 teams usually provide two new pairs.
- With three courts now being available for most rubbers, it is essential for each team to have one or more extra pairs of good quality balls available.

Disputes

- All disputes must follow the dispute guidelines document available on the College Sport website.

General Information

By entering any College Sport Auckland competition schools give permission for College Sport Auckland to use images taken at events/competitions on the College Sport website and social media platforms.