

SENIOR Interclub Rules

2022/2023



Glossary

Interpretations in these rules:

- ★ **Match** means one individual singles doubles or mixed doubles.
- ★ **Contest** means the total of all matches between one team and another team.
- ★ **Competition** means the total of all contests.
- ★ **Interclub Sub-committee** means those persons appointed by TWBOP Committee.
- ★ **TWBOP** stands for Tennis Western Bay of Plenty Incorporated.

Interclub Sub-Committee

The Interclub Sub-Committee is appointed by the TWBOP Committee to make quick decisions on Interclub matters. The Interclub Sub-Committee have the power to rule on any dispute or disagreement and have the power to rule on anything not contained in these rules.

Competition

- ★ The competition is played on a round robin basis, followed by semi-finals and finals if time permits.
- ★ Men's, women's, and mixed teams.
- ★ There must be a minimum of four (4) teams in each division and a maximum of eight (8) teams.
- ★ At the semi-finals stage, first and fourth placed teams' playoff and second and third placed teams' playoff (highest placed team to choose venue). Winners of semi-finals to play finals and losers from semi-finals to play off for third and fourth.
- ★ If there is insufficient time for semi-finals and finals the competition winner is the team with the highest number of points at completion of the round robin.

Team List and Player Eligibility

- ★ Clubs need to submit their teams/players via **the official Tennis WBOP online entry form** by the **fixed closing date**. Affiliated club name must be shown.
- ★ Late entries will not be accepted.
- ★ Club captains, and senior convenors oversee Interclub team submissions, team submission by individual club members directly to the Tennis Western BOP manager will not be accepted.
- ★ All queries or changes to a club's interclub teams before the start date of the interclub season, need to be addressed to the Tennis Western BOP manager via club captains or senior convenors.
- ★ Teams' players must be listed in strict order of merit as per singles or doubles Match Hub player ranking. Flexibility will be given to players within the same S or D band, however order must be retained throughout the competition.
- ★ No limit to number of players listed in teams but note the eligibility to play in the finals. Players from outside TWBOP/ BOP may compete in the interclub competition but must be a member of a TWBOP/BOP club and be affiliated to TNZ.
- ★ Teams must play in the nominated playing order for the duration of the competition. All team lists will be published on Match Hub under the *Interclub>>Points/Draw* section ([InterclubCompetitionsList \(tennis.org.nz\)](https://www.tennis.org.nz/interclub-competitions-list)).
- ★ New players can join a team and existing players can be withdrawn from a team at any time in the competition by requesting a team change through the Manager of Tennis Western BOP (within 24 hours before the next match date).

- ★ Match Hub player ranking must be used by clubs to rank both their singles and doubles players. Challenges to the playing order or Match Hub ranking must be lodged with the TWBOP manager (email address) before the competition starts.
- ★ Clubs may submit combined teams if each club has insufficient players to field a team.
- ★ If there are 6 teams or less, players must play in a minimum of one round robin and for draws with more than 6 teams, players must play a minimum of two round robin contests to be eligible to play in the semi-finals & final.
- ★ Continuous interclub allows for team players to move out of one division to another division due to change of circumstances before and after Christmas.
- ★ Continuous interclub allows for a club to share a reserve pool to ensure the availability of players for divisions.

Format

Friday Night Matches: All Friday night play commences weekly at 5:45pm. This mean you go on the court at 5:45 to start warming up with the opposition or your own team. Teams cannot request for warm-up courts before 5:45. Most junior social nights at clubs finish around 5:30pm. Please be courteous and respectful of the club's rules/coaches/juniors you are playing at.

Division Grade Men's Singles/Doubles: Teams of 4 men. Maximum of 6 men can play on the day. Each contest consists of 2 doubles matches, one reserve doubles, followed by 2 singles matches . Players who are to play singles in a contest are not to partner each other in doubles. The reverse doubles combination must be a different combination than either the #1 Doubles or the #2 Doubles combinations that played together at the start of the contest. All matches based on second deuce sudden death due to time constraint, but both parties are allowed to play long deuces if both agree.

Division Grade Women's Singles/Doubles: Teams are made of 2 women. 3 players can play on the day. Each contest consists of 2 singles matches followed by 1 doubles match.

Division Grade Men's and Women's Doubles: Teams of 4 men or 4 women, maximum of 4 men or 4 women can play on the night. Each contest to consist of four doubles. Number 1 stays in top pairing. Swap partner for second match.

Division Grade Mixed Doubles: Teams of 2 men and 2 women. Maximum of 2 men and 2 women can play on the day. Each contest consists of 1 women's doubles match, one men's doubles match followed by 2 mixed double matches. Minimum of 4 teams. Maximum of 8 teams per division. Will not be scheduled on same date as a TSWBOP tournament or rep game.

All Grades:

- ★ All matches are to be best of two tie-break sets (7-point tie-break, winning by 2), with a super tie-breaker (10 points, winning by 2) in lieu of a third set, long deuces (accept for Div Grade Mens's S/D see above).
- ★ If a round robin competition of less than 8 teams ends in playoffs the top 4 will be required to play, however positions 5, 6 or 7 playoffs are not a mandatory requirement.
- ★ Players shall umpire their own matches unless an umpire is requested by one of the players.
- ★ Results sheets with players listed in order are to be completed and exchanged by Team Captains before any matches commence.
- ★ Singles players must play in their ranked order.
- ★ No limit to number of players listed in teams but note the eligibility to play in the finals.
- ★ All matches will be scheduled home and away where possible.

Balls

All divisions:

- ★ Each team is to provide 1 can of Tecnifibre X.
- ★ Men may want extra balls if you play doubles matches first and you want new balls for singles matches.

Attire

- ★ It is encouraged for clubs to provide uniforms for their players, especially the top club teams.
- ★ Correct tennis attire and shoes as described in the New Zealand tennis rules, shall be worn.

Playing Etiquette

- ★ Players to adhere to the [TNZ Code of Conduct](#).

Time and Venue

- ★ Time, day, and venue as laid out in the interclub draw. Contests involving teams that must travel some distance, may by mutual agreement of both Captains arrange a later start time.
- ★ If any person arrives 15 minutes after a court is available for play a match default can be claimed.
- ★ Decisions regarding the day and time for games should be made in consultation but the final decision if agreement cannot be reached is made by the home team. If there is more than one court surface at the venue the home team will decide which court surface the match is to be played on.

Rained Off and Rain Interrupted Fixtures

- ★ Contests may only be postponed due to inclement weather by mutual agreement of both managers. Teams should always turn up and play as many matches as possible as weather conditions in the Bay can change very quickly. This particularly applies to artificial grass surfaces.
- ★ Unfinished or postponed matches/contests should be re-scheduled prior to the next scheduled contest or can be played on the rain off day allocated. If rain affects semi-finals, contests must be completed within 6 days. Finals date will not be changed. If finals (or last round if no playoffs) are affected by weather, then contests must be completed within 14 days.
- ★ There will be one rain off day allocated at the end of the comp but before playoffs (or last round if no playoffs).
- ★ Team Captains to reach mutual agreement on when contests are to be re-scheduled.
- ★ If teams cannot agree on a date to play the rescheduled matches/contest, then TWBOP will set the date (teams will be allowed to only one suggested date each).
- ★ Teams that do not play prior to playoffs will have no points awarded – TWOP will assist clubs to find courts if requested but the rescheduling of the contest is the sole responsibility of team captains. NO points will be awarded for the un-played matches. Bonus points will not be allocated for partially completed matches.
- ★ Partly completed matches will be resumed at the score standing at the time of postponement and team members must remain unchanged.

Results Sheets

- ★ Results sheets to be completed by the winner of the contest and results to be entered by the winner on Match Hub ([GradingList \(tennis.org.nz\)](#), instructions on how to enter results are stipulated on the Result Sheet.
- ★ Losing team manager to take a phone/photo copy of the result sheet, and double check that results were done correctly by the winning team before the next contest (please do not send the image to the Tennis Western BOP manager – if results are not entered correctly or entered at all, please text winning team manager to address, otherwise if any disputes please contact Tennis Western BOP manager to resolve).

- ★ If both team managers have no access to printing result sheets and have no result sheets on the day/night the winning team manager can send losing team manager a record of scores via text and losing team manager to confirm correctness via text.
- ★ Points: See points explained below, under *Points*.

Contest Defaults

- ★ Teams of 4 players which do not have sufficient players (Minimum 2 players) 30 minutes after the start time will be liable to a default.
- ★ Teams of 2 players or Mixed Doubles teams do not have any default options, all players must turn up to play minimum of 2 matches.
- ★ Opposition teams must agree to play against a team with at least two players. Notice that a team is unable to field a full team also should be given to the opposition team at least 24 hours prior to contest.
- ★ When a team loses a contest wholly by default a standard default fee of \$50 will be invoiced to the club Secretary/Administrator of the defaulting team. The club has 48 hours to appeal this action through the Interclub Sub-committee. Their decision is final.
- ★ If a team defaults 3 times during the competition, they and their points will be withdrawn from the competition immediately.
- ★ Teams that win a contest by default will receive points for that contest equal to the average of the points they have accumulated in the other contests they played over the season. These points will be awarded upon completion of their final match of the round prior to semis and finals or the final match of the competition where no semis or finals are played.

Points

Points will be awarded as follows, on the night of the contest:

- ★ 1 point for every match won.
- ★ 2 bonus points for an overall contest win.
- ★ If matches are even there will be a countback on sets won to determine a winner.
- ★ If sets are even there will be a countback on games to determine a winner.
- ★ 1 bonus point to each team for a draw, if matches, sets and games are even.

NOTE: A third set super tie-break is counted as a set when a set countback is required. If sets are even and a count back of games is required, then the super tie-break is counted as a game. Therefore, the super tie-break could potentially have two values.

Countback to decide Semi-finalists, Finalists, Competition Winner

Where a countback is required to decide semi-finalists, finalists or the competition winner as **teams are tied on points**, the following will determine the order:

1. The most number of points won by a team in all contests against the other team.
2. The most number of matches won by a team in all contests in the entire season.
3. The most number of sets won by a team in matches in the entire season.
4. The most number of games won by a team in matches in the entire season.

The first criteria will be used to break the tie. If teams are still even, the progress to the next criteria.

NOTE: A third set super tie-break is counted as a set when a set countback is required. If sets are even and a count back of games is required, then the super tie-break is counted as a game. Therefore, the super tie-break could potentially have two values.

Disputes and Rulings

Any interclub disputes to be emailed to the Tennis Western BOP manager:
manager@tenniswesternbop.co.nz

Interclub Process

1. Tennis WBOP Manager publishes Interclub entry and closing dates on the [TWBOP calendar](#) and website ([Senior Interclub page](#)).
2. Clubs ensure all members participating in interclub have Match Hub player codes.
3. Clubs submit teams by closing date (late entries not accepted).
4. Clubs that have players interested in playing interclub but do not have enough players to form a team should submit players names to TWBOP manager to be added to a 'Floaters Players Pool'.
5. Senior Interclub Seeding Meeting (post-closing date) - TWBOP Manager to report to club delegates on team numbers and any concerns.
6. Any concerns re over entry, lack of entries, uneven contests to be discussed (if needed) by interclub committee.
7. The TWBOP manager will do his or her best to ensure that contests reach the minimum 4 team requirement by using players from the player pool where needed. The TWBOP Manager may also contact players outside the player pool, but those players must be a member of a TWBOP/BOP club. Clubs to be cc'd into communications.