

# ***Waverley Tennis***

## **Junior Tennis**

# **GUIDELINES TO COMPETITION BY-LAWS**

**TO BE DISPLAYED IN CLUBHOUSE**



# WAVERLEY TENNIS

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## WAVERLEY JUNIOR TENNIS GUIDELINES TO COMPETITION BY-LAWS

These Guidelines have been prepared to assist in the interpretation of the Waverley Tennis Competition By-laws, in particular for Venue Supervisors or supervising parents who may not be generally familiar with tennis rules and tennis etiquette, and for new players who are commencing tennis competition.

Waverley Tennis welcomes feed-back and comment on these Guidelines, especially on any areas not covered and which are of concern in the smooth running of the Waverley Tennis Junior tennis matches.

**Issued: September 2015 (Edition 04)**

[www.waverleytennis.asn.au](http://www.waverleytennis.asn.au)

# WAVERLEY JUNIOR TENNIS

## GUIDELINES TO COMPETITION BY-LAWS

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>SECTION 1.</b>	<b>GENERAL COMPETITION</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	Club Fines	4
1.2	Coaching (ref. Code of Behaviour/Tennis Etiquette)	4
1.3	Emergency Players (ref. By-law 10)	4
1.4	Filling In of Scoresheets and Entering of Results Online (ref. By-law 21)	4
1.5	Final Series Regulations	5
1.6	Foot faulting (ref. By-law 7)	5
1.7	Match Results (ref. By-law 8)	5
1.8	Parental Supervision	6
1.9	Player Grades (ref. By-law 10(a))	6
1.10	Players Absent from Venue (ref. By-law 13)	6
1.11	Playing Rules (ref. By-law 7)	6
1.12	Preparation of Tennis Courts for Play	7
1.13	Provision of Playing Balls (ref. By-law 18)	7
1.14	Order of Play/ Order of Merit (ref. By-law 8)	7
1.15	Outside Courts	7
1.16	Scoring Disputes (ref. "Tennis Etiquette"/ "Rules of Tennis")	8
1.17	Sickness During Play (ref. By-law 15)	9
1.18	Spectator Interference / Code of Behaviour	9
1.19	Supervision – Venue and Team Managers	9
1.20	Tennis Attire (ref. By-law 19)	10
1.21	Timely Commencement/ "Hit-ups" (ref. By-law 12)	10
1.22	Unsportsmanlike Conduct/ Code of Behaviour	11
1.23	Vacating Courts/ Clubrooms	11
1.24	Verbal Abuse/ Code of Behaviour	11
1.25	Wash-Outs (ref. By-law 14)	12
<b>SECTION 2.</b>	<b>WAVERLEY TENNIS JUNIOR POLICIES</b>	<b>13</b>
2.1	Away Matches	13
2.2	Extreme Weather	13
2.3	Respect for Tennis Club Property	13
2.4	Smoking/ Alcohol	13
2.5	Sun Protection	13
2.6	Transport	13
<b>SECTION 3.</b>	<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>14</b>
3.1	Tennis Victoria Correct Tennis Attire	14
3.2	Players	14
3.3	Commercial Identification	14
3.4	Manufacturer's Identification	14
3.5	Identification on Clothing	14
3.6	Correct Tennis Attire	14

## SECTION 1. GENERAL COMPETITION

### 1.1 Club Fines

In order to ensure the smooth running of Junior matches, Waverley Tennis imposes a number of automatic fines for various offences.

The most significant issues of which venue supervisors are to be aware are the following:

- \* Late result entry;
- \* Incomplete results (with significant details missing);
- \* Failure to provide timely advice to visiting team(s) of the use of outside court(s);
- \* Team forfeit;
- \* Failure to provide appropriate Junior supervision at home matches and during final series.

*Index*

### 1.2 Coaching (ref. Code of Behaviour/Tennis Etiquette)

A player receives any type of coaching from any person while a match is in progress, except where special provision is made for a tournament/competition. Communication of any kind, audible or visible between a player and any other person may be construed as coaching. Coaching shall be permitted where there is an off-court break between sets or during interruptions to play caused by bad weather or light where players leave the court. Coaching is not permitted while a court is being serviced at the end of or during a set and players are still on court, or during a toilet break.

#### Off-court involvements

Players should not enlist the aid of spectators, including parents, coaches, etc., in making line calls, or attempting to determine other on-court matters.

#### “D” Grade Junior Matches

In “D” Grade Junior Matches, home clubs should provide an additional supervisor(s) for the home and away matches, who may be positioned on court to assist the players in the conduct of the match. If an on-court supervisor is in place, this supervisor shall not provide any coaching tips or instructions to any of the players, but is there to advise on the rules of the game, scoring and other matters pertaining to tennis etiquette.

*Index*

### 1.3 Emergency Players (ref. By-law 10)

A player who is used to fill a team vacancy, when a regular player is unavailable, is referred to as an “emergency player” and may be substituted only from a lower graded team, i.e. can only “play-up”. In addition, the emergency player may come from the club’s emergency list and have appropriate “Waverley Personal Grading”, or may transfer from equivalent grade within the Junior Competition, e.g., may transfer from “C” Grade (1) Mixed to “C” Grade (1) Boys Section to fill a vacancy on the day. Any other situations concerning the use of emergency players require prior approval from the Match Committee of Waverley Tennis.

If using an emergency player from Saturday competition in Sunday competition, and vice-versa, the full history of that player, including birthdate, **must be included** in emergency details.

*Index*

### 1.4 Filling In of Scoresheets and Entering of Results Online (ref. By-law 21)

Scoresheets shall be filled in progressively on the completion of each set played to avoid disputation over scores at the end of the match.

After the final set, the home team captain shall total the match points and both team captains shall sign the scoresheet to indicate that all match information is correct. This scoresheet then becomes the official record of the match and serves as the Waverley Tennis record for points allocation, player’s eligibility, and so on.

“Waverley Personal Gradings” are not to be shown on Junior result scoresheets, except in the case of new emergencies, where all personal details **MUST** be shown, this includes personal grade as allocated by the Club, date of birth and previous playing experience. This is done by completing the emergency details section at the bottom of the scoresheet. Each column of this registration must be filled in, and entered by the home team online, in full.

The home team’s club is responsible for entering each match result online through the Waverley Tennis Club Zone website by 5:30 p.m. on the Tuesday following the day of the match.

Where non-attendance at a match is agreed to due to inclement weather, the home club must enter the result by using the “By Phone” feature on Club Zone. Washed out matches do not qualify towards eligibility for Finals.

For Finals matches, see By-laws 17 and 24 for ruling practices.

Where there is an injury it should be noted on the scoresheet and entered online as it then becomes a record should an insurance claim be made in due course.

*Index*

## 1.5 Final Series Regulations (ref. BY-LAWS AS LISTED BELOW)

For easy reference, the following specific information and Waverley Tennis By-laws relate to the Final Series:

* General Guidelines .....	Refer to FINALS PROCEDURE which is always printed near the back of each Season's Official Handbook and Fixture and available on website.
* Eligibility .....	Refer By-law 11e
* Captains "exchange of players" names .....	Refer By-law 13
* Umpires/Supervisors .....	Refer By-law 17
* "D" Grade Junior Matches (Supervisor on court) .....	Refer By-law 17
* Balls .....	Refer By-law 18
* Match scoresheets (entering results online) .....	Refer By-law 19
* Incomplete Matches .....	Refer By-law 23
* Final Series (General Conditions of Play) .....	Refer By-law 24(a) through (f)
* Substitutes During Match .....	Refer By-law 15
* Late-Finishing Matches .....	Refer By-law 16
* Court/Weather Conditions .....	Refer By-law 14

### Index

#### 1.6 Foot faulting (ref. By-law 7)

The server shall not infringe against the "Rules of Tennis" throughout the delivery of the service. (Rule 18).

When intervention by a venue supervisor is sought, the venue supervisor must firstly closely observe the player's action and be absolutely satisfied that the player in question is infringing. The venue supervisor should then:

- Warn the player that he/she is foot faulting and advise of the nature of the foot fault, e.g., standing with a foot on the baseline before hitting the ball, or standing with a foot on the baseline while serving.
- Such warning should be done as discreetly as possible at a changeover of ends or at the conclusion of a set or match.
- The player should be monitored to ensure that every effort is being made to correct the foot faulting and if the foot faulting persists the warning may need to be repeated at a subsequent changeover of ends or at the conclusion of a set or match.

The player must receive the benefit of the doubt in all cases.

### Index

#### 1.7 Match Results (ref. By-law 8)

**For home and away matches, the following applies:**

##### Junior Singles/Doubles Rubbers

Each rubber is based on the best of two sets, if the match is at 1 set all, a match tiebreaker is to be played, that is, the first team to 10 points with a margin of 2 points. (see By-law 29 for details of the tiebreaker system of scoring).

##### Saturday/Sunday Morning "Triples" Singles/Doubles

Each set is won by the first team to win 6 games in any set, except that the team must win by a margin of at least 2 games over the opposing team. In the event that the score reaches 6 games all, and except in "D" Grade matches, a 12 point tiebreaker shall be played to decide the winner of the set (see By-law 29 for details of the tiebreaker system of scoring). NOTE: Tie-breakers at six games all will apply to all Grades except "D" Grade.

##### Winning team

On completion of the morning's play, the winner is declared as the team with the most rubbers/sets won. If sets are equal, the team winning the most games is declared the winner.

**For Final series matches only.**

**There must be a winner of each Finals match, and the following applies in the event of a draw:**

##### All Triples formats

In the event of a draw, the last four doubles players listed on the scoresheet shall play a 12 point tiebreaker to decide the winning team (ref. By-law 24e for further information).

### Index

## **1.8 Parental Supervision**

Waverley Tennis expects that all Junior teams shall have a rostered parent or adult in attendance with each team throughout the morning's play at all home and away matches. (See also under "POLICIES").

The supervision requirements for home clubs are covered under By-law 17.

*Index*

## **1.9 Player Grades (ref. By-law 10(a))**

All players that have competed in the Waverley Tennis Junior Competition will have been given a "Waverley Personal Grading".

It is the responsibility of the individual clubs to monitor their own player records as detailed on the website.

*Index*

## **1.10 Players Absent from Venue (ref. By-law 13)**

Players must not leave a venue, for safety and security reasons, prior to the completion of their match. By "playing venue" it is meant the courts, clubhouse and precincts of the club.

Players who requested to leave early by a parent or parents must seek prior permission from the venue supervisor before leaving the venue.

Junior players should also be reminded by venue supervisors that they must be ready to commence play within 10 minutes of the completion of the previous set, otherwise they run the risk of forfeiting their next set. In applying this By-law (By-law 12), matches are to be considered as being played on one court only, regardless of the availability of a second court.

Venue supervisors need to exercise reasonable care of all Junior players whilst such players are under their care and supervision and the foregoing provisions must be strictly enforced at each playing venue where Waverley Tennis conducts Junior tennis matches. Failure to maintain or restore discipline at a playing venue may also substantiate a breach of the standard of care which venue supervisors have to show in the conduct of their duties.

Clubs using "Outside Courts" must also observe these matters.

*Index*

## **1.11 Playing Rules (ref. By-law 7)**

All matches are played in accordance with the "Rules of Tennis", as issued with the approval of Tennis Australia. All clubs should have a copy of the "Rules of Tennis" prominently displayed and available in their clubhouses.

In particular, the following should be noted:

### **Net Interference**

When attempting to play a shot, if any part of the player's body, clothing or racquet comes in contact with the court net, or the ground within his opponent's court, then the point is lost, irrespective of where the ball lands. (Rule 24g).

### **Out of Court**

If the ball in play touches the player or anything that the player wears or carries prior to the ball landing outside the court lines, no matter how obvious the ball appears to be out, then the point is lost. (Rule 24i).

### **Ball left on Court**

If a first serve ball is out but remains on court and the second serve ball strikes the ball lying on the court, play must continue. If the second serve ball becomes unplayable due to striking the first ball, then the point is lost by the receiver as the receiver should have cleared the first ball from the court. (Rule 25f).

### **Catching of Ball**

If the ball was certainly going out of court and a player standing outside the court volleys the ball or catches it in his/her hand, then the point is lost (the player cannot claim the point, the ball must be allowed to actually bounce outside the court lines). (Rule 24f).

### **Underarm Service**

Players may serve underarm if having difficulties using normal serving techniques, but the practice is not encouraged (may be appropriate if the player is injured or if a player is just learning the game and playing in the lower competition grades).

Copies of the "Rules of Tennis" are available from the Waverley Tennis website.

*Index*

### **1.12 Preparation of Tennis Courts for Play**

Waverley Tennis requires players from both the home team and the visiting team to assist in the bagging, watering and sweeping of lines on red porous tennis courts at the completion of each set played. In the event of inclement weather it is expected that players and parents from both competing teams will assist with preparing the courts ready for play (ref. By-law 14f).

*Index*

### **1.13 Provision of Playing Balls (ref. By-law 18)**

The home team shall provide balls of a brand approved by Tennis Australia, refer Tennis Australia website.

Each home team shall provide a minimum of two (2) new tennis balls and two (2) good used balls per match for each morning's play.

In the final series each home team shall provide four (4) new tennis balls for each final series match.

In all "D" Grade matches low-compression green dot tennis balls must be used.

*Index*

### **1.14 Order of Play/ Order of Merit (ref. By-law 8)**

To ensure that all players play against players of similar ability in their singles and as a result have enjoyable matches, it is important that the order of play be applied to all matches.

In all Waverley Junior competitions where a "singles match" is part of the format, it is a requirement that the strongest singles player must play in the number 1 position and the weakest player must play in the number 2/3 position, depending on the format.

When teams are entered for the season the club and club coach will assess the ability of all players and then enter them in playing order to meet the above requirement.

This must be strictly adhered to and will be closely monitored by the Association Junior Record Secretary. If the order of play is ignored points will be deducted for breaches of this requirement (after an initial warning).

Club Junior Conveners should review each player's statistics at least midway through each season and adjust the order of play, if appropriate, by requesting the change of the appropriate Association Record Secretary.

#### **"D" Grade and "D" Special Only**

Your Association understands that with new teams and younger players in these sections the order of play entered is at best an "educated guess". During the season young players are often improving at different rates due to their maturing, both mentally and physically, and this can raise the need for an adjustment of the order of play to meet the Association order of play requirements.

In these two grades points will not be removed for incorrect order of play as we wish to encourage clubs to change order of play to accommodate changing player abilities as the season progresses.

**This, however, should not be seen as an opportunity to change the playing order to gain an advantage over an opposition team. Playing order will still be monitored.**

The primary object in all lower grades should be to encourage enjoyable competition for all players, thus ensuring their continued participation at competition, club and coaching levels. If they don't have a good experience they will take up another sport!

*Index*

### **1.15 Outside Courts**

Where clubs field more teams than they have available home courts, or elect to use additional courts for whatever reason, arrangements to use alternative club courts are made. Such courts are referred to as "Outside Courts". Regular "Outside Court" usage by a team is nominated in the Waverley Tennis Handbook and Fixture. Visiting clubs should make themselves aware of such arrangements in order to avoid incurring a late start penalty.

When arrangements are made to use "Outside Courts" on an irregular basis, the home club must advise the visiting club by no later than the Wednesday prior to the match.

Clubs using "Outside Courts" must provide an additional senior member to act as a supervisor at the "Outside Court" venue(s) in use.

*Index*

## **1.16 Scoring Disputes (ref. “Tennis Etiquette”/ “Rules of Tennis”)**

NOTE: “Tennis Australia’s Tennis Etiquette & Rules for Non-Umpired Matches” is published in the Waverley Tennis Handbook, copies of the “Rules of Tennis” are available from the Waverley Tennis website and all Tennis Clubs should have a copy on display in their clubhouses.

Cannot agree on point score in a game or on game score -

If players cannot agree on the score, they should calmly discuss the points/games that are the areas of disagreement. If they cannot reach agreement they should replay only the points or games in question. All points or games which the players agree on stand, e.g. 2 players cannot agree on whether the score is 40-15 or 30-30, but agree on the winner of the 1st, 2nd and 4th points. Therefore only the 3rd point needs to be replayed.

To minimise the possibility of “forgetting the score” and to avoid any disputation and 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. If in disagreement, the receiving player(s) should query the score prior to the serve proceeding.

### **Serving from wrong court**

The point stands as played and the next service should be from the correct station according to the score. In other words, all play resulting from such wrong service or services shall stand, but the inaccuracy of station shall be corrected immediately it is discovered. (Rules 9a & 11). In adjusting to the correct station it will mean serving twice from the same side. Similar arrangements apply to the 12 point tiebreaker (see Rule 27b iii).

### **Serving out of turn in singles**

If a player serves out of turn, the player who ought to have served shall serve as soon as the mistake is discovered, but all points scored before such discovery shall stand. A fault served before such discovery shall not stand. If a game shall have been completed before such a discovery, the order of service shall remain as altered. (Rule 15).

### **Serving out of turn in doubles**

If a partner serves out of his turn in doubles, the partner who ought to have served shall serve as soon as the mistake is discovered, but all points scored, and any fault served before such discovery, shall be counted. If a game shall have been completed before such discovery, the order of service remains as altered. (Rule 37).

### **Serving from wrong end**

If a mistake is made and players have not followed the correct practice in respect to changing ends, i.e., the correct sequence has not been followed, the players must take up their correct station as soon as the discovery is made and follow their original sequence. (Rule 16).

It is the responsibility of all players to be aware of:

- (a) who should be serving,
- (b) from which court and
- (c) from which end.

### **Line dispute**

Each player is responsible for all decisions in his/her half of the court. If in doubt, give your opponent the benefit of the doubt and play the ball as good. A let should not be played in cases of doubt. (Refer to Tennis Etiquette, Rules for Non-Umpired Matches).

The call made has to be accepted. Players are prohibited from checking the mark of the ball on their opponent’s side of the court, unless invited by their opponents to do so. Ball mark inspections are only permitted on red porous tennis courts.

Where players are dissatisfied with the line calling of their opponents, the venue supervisor should be requested to observe the play, or, with the agreement of the opponent(s) team, appoint an umpire to act as the Chair Umpire for the remainder of the match. The Chair Umpire should call the score according to the “Rules of Tennis”.

**Index**



### 1.17 Sickness During Play (ref. By-law 15)

Where a player becomes indisposed (ill) during a match, or is prevented through injury or illness from continuing the match, all remaining games of the incomplete set/rubber shall be forfeited.

A substitute shall be allowed to take the place of any player who is prevented from completing the match. A team requiring a substitute player shall be allowed thirty (30) minutes, from the time of the occurrence of the event which led to the need for a substitute, to arrange such a player to be in attendance and on court ready to play.

Play shall never be suspended, delayed or interfered with for the purpose of enabling a player to recover his/her strength, breath or physical condition. However, in the case of accidental injury, a one-time three (3) minute suspension of play may be allowed for that injury. (Rule 29c).

The venue supervisor may allow a one-time three (3) minute suspension for that injury with the option of extending this to not more than ten (10) minutes at his/her discretion.

Where a player is clearly suffering from cramps, or heat related illness, he/she must be provided with immediate assistance, however, the foregoing would apply.

In the event of an injury, this should be noted in the "Comments" section of the scoresheet and entered online with the match result.

*Index*

### 1.18 Spectator Interference / Code of Behaviour

#### Spectators

No spectators should disrupt or interfere with a match. Where a match is being disrupted or interfered with, the venue supervisor must act and issue a warning to the spectators to ensure that any disruption ceases immediately and request the spectators to watch from a "suitable" distance. If the problem persists, the venue supervisor should prepare a full report of the incident and submit full details to Waverley Tennis within 3 days of the match.

Under no circumstances can the players be penalised for the action of spectators in non-umpired Waverley Tennis Junior matches.

The venue supervisor should advise the offending spectator(s) of his/her intention to submit a report to Waverley Tennis and then should remain visible and close by during the remainder of play of the set or match in question (and of the remaining morning's play). If the latter is not possible, a substitute supervisor should be appointed to monitor proceedings and ensure that minimal interference occurs from off-court spectators.

This Code infringement is one of the most difficult for which officials can gain a positive response, but the outlined approach should be attempted in order to ensure the proper conduct of all Junior matches.

*Index*

### 1.19 Supervision – Venue and Team Managers

#### Venue Supervisor Responsibilities:

Ensure venues are open at least 15 minutes prior to match starting time. Allocate courts, scorebooks and balls to teams.

Actively monitor that all matches start on time and that time isn't unnecessarily wasted between sets, particularly when using shared courts.

Be available at all times to address any on-court issues or disputes that may arise. Venue supervisors should also monitor the involvement of parents/supporters and be aware that players should keep their own score and make their own line calls. Parents/supporters may remind players to do so but not do it for them.

Under no circumstances is any form of coaching allowed while players are on court.

**In "D" grade matches only**, and if requested, provide an independent adult supervisor to go on court to assist the players.

In the case of inclement weather Venue Supervisors have sole responsibility for declaring the cessation of play taking into account current court conditions, the potential for further weather events and the capacity to restore courts in time to complete matches. At all times the safety of players should be paramount! Waverley Tennis endorses and abides by the **Tennis Australia "Extreme Weather Policy"** which can be found at [www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Extreme-Weather-Policy-September-2014.pdf](http://www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Extreme-Weather-Policy-September-2014.pdf)

At the conclusion of the morning's play Venue Supervisors should ensure that a responsible adult remains on site until all players are safely collected.

### **Team Manager Responsibilities:**

Home and Away Matches: Players MUST arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the match starting time. Away teams should announce their arrival to the venue Supervisor. Fill in player names in score book in correct order of play noting any emergency players complete with any previous playing history and date of birth (this is Important!). Collect balls and take players to their allocated courts. If using red porous courts organise sweeping of lines before the start of each set and water these courts during hot weather. (Players should be encouraged to bag and water the courts from fence to fence).

Ensure that initial hit up is kept to 5 minutes.

Under no circumstances should parents/supporters make line calls, call the score or coach players while they are on court! Should this be apparent the venue supervisor should be advised and asked to take the appropriate action. Team Managers should not try to resolve these issues themselves as this can lead to further conflict.

In "D" Grade matches only, (particularly early in the season) if needed an experienced adult may be positioned on court to assist the players in the smooth running of matches. HOWEVER this must be requested from, then organised by, the Venue Supervisor.

On days of doubtful weather teams must attend both home and away match venues unless advised otherwise by their home club Junior Convener. At all times the Home venue supervisor shall have sole discretion as to when washouts are declared. A team leaving without the permission of the venue supervisor may be declared as having "forfeited" their match. Parents and supporters of both teams should be prepared to assist in the restoration of courts to a playable state if needed.

It is expected that Team Managers of away teams will remain at their match venue until the players have completed their mornings play as home clubs cannot be held responsible for any treatment required for injuries or illness that might occur during the morning for visiting players.

#### **Index**

### **1.20 Tennis Attire (ref. By-law 19)**

Players need to be able to present themselves for commencement of play in appropriate tennis attire, including shorts/skirts and suitable footwear that will not damage the playing surface, to avoid the danger of forfeiting the first set.

Players are ONLY permitted to wear additional suitable clothing (e.g. track-suit pants or warm-up pants) for warmth when weather conditions dictate.

For up to date information on correct clothing and footwear refer to By-law 19 in current Handbook. At all times, common sense should prevail in the adjudication of what is acceptable or unacceptable tennis attire, i.e. what a reasonable person would consider as suitable tennis attire in a particular circumstance, yet upholding the defined and desired standards set down in this area for the game of tennis.

The venue supervisor shall adjudicate on all issues pertaining to tennis attire.

#### **Index**

### **1.21 Timely Commencement / "Hit-ups" (ref. By-law 12)**

It is essential that play commences at 8:15 a.m. Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday (after "hit-up") in order to ensure that all sets are completed during the morning's play. The "hit-up" should be completed prior to the commencement time. Players arriving late are not entitled to a "hit-up". The complete team must be in attendance by 9:30 a.m. Saturday, 9:40 a.m. Sunday, otherwise the match is forfeited by the defaulting team.

When players arrive later than 8:30 a.m. Saturday, 9:15 Sunday, the home club must make a decision to play the first set or to claim a forfeit. Alternatively, the home club may choose to advise the visiting players that the first set will only be played after all other sets have been completed and, if unable to be completed, then they will be required to forfeit that set or any unfinished games. If the home club is at fault, the reverse shall apply.

All clubs are advised by Waverley Tennis that it is in the interest of both the players and the sport that all sets are played and that results are not obtained simply by forfeit.

All play shall cease at 12:15 p.m. Saturday, 12:30 p.m. Sunday. If in the middle of a set, the game that is in progress shall be completed, but not the set. This requirement must be strictly enforced at all venues.

The second set listed on the scoresheet is permitted a small hit-up in Junior matches, afterwards no other hit-ups are to be allowed.

Parents are encouraged to assist in the bagging, watering and sweeping of lines.

#### **Index**

## 1.22 Unsportsmanlike Conduct / Code of Behaviour

A player shall not, during any match or at any other time within the venue engage in conduct to the prejudice of the image and integrity of tennis. Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. For the purposes of this policy, unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct by a player, prior to, during or subsequent to a match that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the sport, including, but not limited to blatant cheating, but does not specifically fall within other violation categories.

Without limiting the foregoing any conduct that is disrespectful or offensive to a player's opponents, or to Officials, Tournament Directors or competition managers, tournament staff, spectators or players on other courts is deemed to be Unsportsmanlike Conduct. This may include failure to return the ball appropriately to the server, inappropriate or unsportsmanlike comments or gestures (on court or on-site at a Tournament or within the precinct), sledging, intimidating, threatening or abusive acts or omissions (whether verbal, in writing or otherwise), overt celebrations consistently directed at opponents, excessive noise disrupting the Tournament Precinct, or any other unsportsmanlike acts or omissions that are inconsistent with commonly understood tennis etiquette.

### Line Calling

Where a player is consistently making incorrect line calls on a clay court resulting in numerous ball mark inspections or is constantly showing the incorrect ball mark in order to justify line calls on a clay court, or is consistently making incorrect line calls on any other court surface (i.e., hardcourt or artificial grass), the venue supervisor shall caution the player involved and advise that this practice can be deemed as Unsportsmanlike Conduct under this section - also see para below. Where a venue supervisor is in attendance, or has been called to a court to observe a player(s) reportedly making incorrect line calls, and **clearly** observes an incorrect line call (i.e., the ball is well out or well in), the venue supervisor should correct the line call and then allow play to continue.

In instances of the above occurring, the venue supervisor shall immediately issue a warning to the player to refrain from such unsatisfactory conduct. If the player persists with the unacceptable conduct, the player should be advised that an official complaint will be submitted to Waverley Tennis and the venue supervisor should fully report on the unsatisfactory conduct, in detail and provide a **full account** of any warnings issued, etc.

**Under no circumstances should the offending player be made to forfeit points or games, or be defaulted from the match or the remaining morning's play. Venue supervisors are not empowered to take on the role of a Referee, but must leave the handling of reports of violations of the Code of Behaviour and the determination of any appropriate penalties to the Waverley Tennis Complaints Sub committee.**

Venue supervisors should also be alert to a player making offensive or obscene gestures during any match, or within the precincts of the tournament site. For the purposes of this Rule, visible obscenity is defined as the making of signs by a player with his hands and/or racquet or balls that commonly have an obscene meaning or import to reasonable people ("Visible Obscenity").

### Index

## 1.23 Vacating Courts / Clubrooms

Although visiting teams should vacate the premises (courts and clubhouse) as soon as matches are completed, it shall be the responsibility of the home club to extend courtesy to visiting players and allow them to remain on the premises until they have appropriate transport to take them home.

Phone calls to parents may be necessary in some instances to ensure that visiting players are expediently collected from venues.

### Index

## 1.24 Verbal Abuse / Code of Behaviour

Players shall not at any time directly or indirectly verbally abuse any official, opponent, sponsor, spectator, or other person within the precincts of the tournament/competition site. For the purpose of this rule, verbal abuse is defined as a statement about an official, opponent, sponsor, spectator or other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting, racially or otherwise abusive.

In the event of inappropriate language, the venue supervisor shall immediately issue a warning to the player to refrain from such language. If the player persists, the player should be advised that an official complaint shall be submitted to Waverley Tennis and the venue supervisor should report on the abusive/coarse language, quoting the actual word(s) used and a full account of any warnings issued.

Under no circumstances should the offending player be made to forfeit points or games, or be defaulted from the match or the remaining morning's play. Venue supervisors are not empowered to take on the role of a Referee, but must leave the handling of reports of violations of the Code of Behaviour and the determination of any penalties to the Waverley Tennis Complaints Subcommittee.

### Index

### **1.25 Wash-Outs (ref. By-law 14)**

In the event of inclement weather (wet, rainy or stormy/cyclonic), if Junior matches have not commenced by 9:45 a.m. Saturday, play shall be called off (read 10:15 a.m. for Sunday morning matches in the following section).

If a venue supervisor believes that play will be unable to commence by 9:45 a.m., a “wash-out” should be declared. “Wash-outs” should not to be declared too early, unless it is believed that the courts concerned would be unlikely to be ready for play by 9:45 a.m. even if the rain were to stop immediately.

At all times, the home club, represented by the venue supervisor, has the right to decide as to whether courts are fit for play.

**No player shall leave the venue prior to authorisation by the venue supervisor or the rubbers/sets may be declared as a forfeit.**

In the case of “wash-outs”, both team captains shall sign the scoresheet in the normal manner.

Where it is obvious that play is unlikely to be commenced on a particular morning, a visiting team may phone the home club prior to departure to determine the possibility of play. If a “washout” is declared, then it is not necessary for the visiting team to attend the venue courts, however, the home team must enter the result on Club Zone website using the “By Phone” facility. Individual matches may be cancelled without teams attending the courts, if approved by the home venue supervisor, otherwise players must attend courts.

If play is stopped due to weather or court conditions, the venue supervisor must agree before the match is abandoned. However, if play has not resumed within one and a half hours after play ceases, then the remainder of sets shall be declared “washed out”.

Where the match is a wash-out, players do not receive accreditation for Finals matches.

*Index*

## **SECTION 2. WAVERLEY TENNIS JUNIOR POLICIES**

### **2.1 Away Matches**

Waverley Tennis expects that all Junior teams shall have a rostered parent or adult in attendance with each away team throughout the morning's play. Visiting teams should not just be left at clubs to be picked up later.

### **2.2 Extreme Weather**

Waverley Tennis endorses the Tennis Australia Extreme Weather Policy. Venue supervisors need to be aware that should lightning, thunder, smoke, wet weather or high winds be prevalent in the area the need to judge whether or not it is safe for play to proceed.

### **2.3 Respect for Tennis Club Property**

Waverley Tennis expects that all players and spectators shall respect the property and facilities of each Tennis Club, for example, not hitting the net or court, the correct use of rollers/scrapers, leaving the Clubhouse as it was found for incoming persons, and so on. Reports of misuse or abuse should be conveyed back to the management of the offending Tennis Clubs, or be reported to Waverley Tennis.

### **2.4 Smoking/Alcohol**

Waverley Tennis recommends that smoking in club premises and surrounds be discouraged, where this is not already banned by Council Laws. Compliance with the new smoking restrictions introduced from 1 September 2002, and subsequent bans, must be complied with at all times.

No alcohol shall be consumed by spectators for the duration or at the completion of all Junior matches.

### **2.5 Sun Protection**

Waverley Tennis expects that clubs provide sunscreen or players provide their own. All players are encouraged to wear caps or hats, particularly during the summer months, but encouraged to do so all year round.

### **2.6 Transport**

Waverley Tennis recommends that parents provide the transport and that clubs should discuss their policy as relates to 18 year old "juniors" driving their fellow team members to junior matches.

*Index*

## SECTION 3. MISCELLANEOUS

### 3.1 Tennis Victoria Correct Tennis Attire

The following are the Dress Regulations for Victorian Tennis Series, Association Competition and Tournament play in Victoria.

Players in Tennis Australia Group 1 & 2 Junior Points Tournaments must comply with Tennis Australia Dress Regulations.

Associations and Clubs may modify these conditions for local competition.

### 3.2 Players

Every competitive player shall dress and present himself/herself for play in clean and customarily acceptable tennis attire.

Coloured recognised tennis garments and footwear may be worn. Specific non-tennis articles such as sweat shirts, dress shirts, tee shirts (mens must have a collar), Bermuda shorts, football shorts, board shorts and walk shorts shall not be worn by any player while competing in a match. Cycle shorts may be worn under tennis attire. Tracksuits may be worn at the discretion of the Referee or Association.

Suitable footwear for tennis matches shall be worn (depending on the type of surface) at the discretion of the Referee.

### 3.3 Commercial Identification

These must not exceed three square inches (19.5 square cm.), (see below). Clubs are permitted to have team or club identification on player's clothing which may exceed these limitations with Tennis Victoria or Association approval.

### 3.4 Manufacturer's Identification

This is the identification of the manufacturer and must not exceed three square inches (19.5 square cm. Except when manufacturer name is in the design on front of the shirt).

### 3.5 Identification on Clothing

#### (a) Shirts, Sweaters, Jackets

##### (i) Sleeves

One commercial identification on each sleeve

One manufacturer's standard logo on each sleeve

##### (ii) Front, Back & Collar

One manufacturer's logo

One commercial identification of team or club sponsor

##### (iii) Sleeveless

(Female only) Not sweater or jacket

Two manufacturer's logo

One commercial identification of team or club sponsor

#### (b) Skirts and Shorts

One manufacturer's logo

#### (c) Hat or Cap

Must be a tennis hat or cap with manufacturer's logo or manufacturer's name

### 3.6 Correct Tennis Attire

Players who do not comply with the dress regulations must be given the opportunity to change or alter their clothing (particularly before a match starts), prior to any action being taken under the Code of Conduct. Should this not occur the Code will be applied or the player must be reported to their Association or Tennis Victoria as the case may be.

*Index*