

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA

12 YEARS & UNDER TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

PART A "The Bruce Cup" – Teams Event

1. These rules and guidelines are to be read in conjunction with the School Sport Australia 12 years and under General Rules.
2. Unless otherwise stated the Tennis Australia rules shall apply.
3. Each Championship shall comprise three (3) to seven (7) playing days.
4. The competition shall consist of a series of Ties, each being a separate entity. Each state shall play the other only once.
5. There will be one team from each state consisting of seven (7) girls and seven (7) boys, from which any six (6) members from each gender shall be selected to play in the singles in each Tie. Should a state or territory not be able to field a team of seven (7) girls and seven (7) boys through injury to a selected player, approval to field six (6) players should be sought from the School Sport Office of the host state.
6. Players are to be aged 12 Years & Under as at 31 December in the year of competition unless age dispensation has been granted to a State or Territory via the School Sport Australia Sport Participation Policy.

Added June 2019
7. All team members will be graded on ability from 1-7 for each gender.
8. The addition of singles rankings is to be used to rank boys, girls and mixed doubles pairs. The lower the addition the higher the doubles ranking. If the addition of the rankings is the same then the pair with the highest ranked player becomes the higher ranked pair. In the mixed doubles if pairs are equal on rankings then the highest ranked boy player must play in the higher position. Any breach of this rule means that any doubles pairing played out of order means a loss of 4-0, 4-0.

Amended March 2017
9.
 - a) The order of players in the girls and boys doubles and singles is to be declared in writing and presented to the opposing managers before the commencement of a Tie. Singles matches should be started as soon as practical once courts become available after each doubles match finishes. At the conclusion of the singles matches the order of the mixed doubles should be declared in writing and presented to the opposing managers so as the Tie can be concluded.
 - b) In the event of a forfeit in doubles due to illness or injury, or subsequent illness/injury after the doubles match (subject to medical certification), that player may be substituted in the singles. A lower ranked player can replace the injured player from a doubles match only into the injured player's singles position. If there is no lower ranked player available then the two Team Managers will negotiate with the National Tennis Advisor and the Tournament Director a possible replacement of the order of play and thus some rescheduling of matches.

Amended October 2019
10.
 - a) No player shall move up or down more than one position in consecutive Ties without the approval of the tournament director in consultation with the opposing team manager. No player shall move up or down more than 2 places from the list presented at the Pre-Championship meeting through the course of the Championship. Nominations for singles to take place after the girls and boys doubles have been played. Mixed doubles nominations after the singles have been played.
 - b) Any breach of this rule means that any Singles player played out of order means a loss of 6-0, 6-0.

11. In the event of inclement weather interrupting play, the managers will meet to decide proceedings i.e. the order of play and/or any changes to the existing format. A Tie should only be abandoned if no other alternatives can be applied.
12. An abandoned Tie shall be declared a draw.
13. If all Ties have been abandoned, then the competition shall be struck out for that year and the Bruce Cup will be retained by the state currently holding it at that time.
14. The winner of each Tie is the team winning the most number of rubbers. Should the total number of rubbers in a Tie be equal, the results will then be decided on sets. Should the total number of sets be equal, the results will then be decided on games. Should games be equal then a draw shall be declared.
15. **Points for a Tie:**
 - Win - 3 points
 - Draw - 2 points
 - Loss - 1 point

In the event of a player retiring hurt, the opposing player/team shall be awarded the maximum number of sets/games available in that match i.e. Singles – 2 sets (6, 6 games), Doubles/Mixed – 2 sets (4, 4 games). The team that forfeits the match will retain the games they have won.

Amended March 2017
16. The winner of the Bruce Cup will be the team with the highest points score tally. In the event of a tie joint winners / placings will be declared.

Amended June 2017
- 17a) Each Tie shall consist of:
 - i. 3 Boys Doubles
 - ii. 3 Girls Doubles
 - iii. 6 Mixed Doubles
 - iv. 6 Boys Singles
 - v. 6 Girls Singles
- b) Order of play shall be:
 - i. Boys and Girls Doubles
 - ii. Boys and Girls Singles
 - iii. Mixed Doubles
18. Singles are to be two (2) tie breaker sets with a third set match tie breaker to be played if needed. One of two nominated team officials from each state is allowed on court once per set to provide positive and constructive feedback during the 90 seconds allowed during the change of ends during both singles and doubles matches in the Bruce Cup. The first two sets played in singles are to be twelve (12) point tie-breaker sets at six games all. Doubles are to be two (2) short sets (first to 4 games) with a tie break at four (4) games all. At one set all a match tie breaker will be played. All doubles matches will be sudden death (short) deuces.

Amended November 2018
Amended March 2017
19. In the singles, the players ranked 1-6 for each gender on that day, play against their opponent of the same position.
20. In doubles, 12 players are selected from the 14 team members to in both doubles (3 boys/3 girls) and mixed doubles (6).
21. The host state organisers must ensure that all players are involved in a minimum of two rubbers per Tie notwithstanding injury or illness. Any breach of this rule means a 3 match penalty for that block of doubles.

22. All courts used should have a surface approved by the controlling State Tennis Association. Preferably, only one type of surface should be used.
23. Certificated or competent umpires using elevated chairs are to be provided by Host State. Unless umpires are available for all games the competing players shall umpire their own matches. In the event of a dispute, the referee may appoint an adjudicator from a state not involved in the rubber. If a dispute arises and an appointed referee is unavailable then the managers of both teams can go on court to resolve the dispute.
24. New tennis balls, conforming to standards approved by Tennis Australia shall be used for all rubbers and shall be provided by the host state.
25. Where possible, the itinerary shall be designed to include some practice sessions.
26. There shall be no coaching of the players on the court while the match is in progress.
27. At the pre-Championship managers meeting the conduct and behaviour of competitors whilst on court shall be emphasised. All team officials shall be issued with the published "Codes of Behaviour". During competition, any evidence of dissent by players may be dealt with by automatic disqualification from the match by the Championship organiser in consultation with the Tournament referee and team managers of the offending player.
28. The Tennis Australia Code of Conduct will apply for all Bruce Cup play.
29. Players shall compete in state/territory team uniforms.
30. Where a bye occurs, the host state has the option of providing an invitational team which may include players from the other participating states/territories. Invitational team management will be negotiated through the host state.
Former rule 30 removed June 2019
31. Warm ups: Once the official warm up has commenced parents/coaches will not be permitted to participate in the warm up of teams or individuals for the duration of the match.
32. Injuries: In the event of a player being injured, that player's continuation in the competition shall be determined by his / her Manager / Coach in consultation with the Championship Referee, & the Championship Sports Trainer.

Part B. School Sport Australia 12 Years & Under National Singles Championships

1 DIVISIONS

There will be separate competitions for Boys and Girls.

2 DATE AND VENUE

The event will be held concurrently with the School Sport Australia Bruce Cup Teams Event. Each day's play will be scheduled with a round of The Bruce Cup Teams Event in the morning, followed by the National Singles Championship draw in the afternoon. In the event of matches having to be cancelled Bruce Cup matches will take priority.

Amended March 2017

3 ELIGIBILITY

- i. Players eligible for this competition must be members of their State/Territory Bruce Cup Team and play in their state uniform.

Amended February 2016

- ii. This event is a closed invitational event open to players selected in the Bruce Cup Teams event only. All players chosen to represent their State/Territory in their

respective teams are therefore eligible for Australian Ranking points with age restrictions matching the SSA guidelines.

Amended February 2016

RULES OF PLAY

That while an individual singles event is held as an official part of the 12 Years & Under Bruce Cup Tennis Championships the individual event be divided into two separate events with no consolation matches;

- Event 1: Gold AR points event consisting of the highest ranked (AR) 24 players participating in the team's event + 1 wildcard given to each State/Territory for the Team Coach & Managers to allocate. (in the unlikely event that all members of a team are in the highest ranked 24 players, their wildcard will be reallocated to the player with next highest AR.)
- Event 2: Bronze AR points consisting of the remaining 24 players participating in the team's event.

Amended November 2018

- For the Gold and Bronze Singles events, where possible, avoid having students from the same State or Territory playing each other in first round matches.

Amended November 2019

4 AWARDS

Winners of the gold draw will receive the perpetual trophy.

Winners of the bronze draw will receive the perpetual trophy.

Individual trophies will be awarded to all winners and runners up.

Amended November 2018

Previous rule 5 removed November 2018

5 AUSTRALIAN RANKING POINTS

Gold and bronze AR points are attached to the School Sport Australia 12 Years & Under National Singles Championships. Please refer to the Tennis Australia website www.tennis.com.au.

Amended November 2018

**SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA
LIFE MEMBERS**

NAME	STATE	YEAR
John Ferguson	NSW	2015

**SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA
SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Bob Hodge	QLD	2002
Vanette Tobin	QLD	2002
John Ferguson	NSW	2003
Colin Schulz	SA	2003
Dianne Eatts	SA	2005
Peter Hirst	NT	2007
Margaret McCaskie	ACT	2013
Patricia Sherring	NSW	2013
Andrea Rundle	WA	2015

**SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA
ECLECTIC SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

NAME	STATE	YEAR	SPORTS
Graeme Waight	VIC	2018	Basketball, Tennis