

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. All team members will be graded on ability from 1-7 for each gender.
7. 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 8-0.
8. The order of players in girls and boys doubles, mixed doubles and girls and boys singles, is to be declared in writing and presented to the managers of opposing teams prior to the commencement of each section.
9.
 - 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.
10. 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.
11. An abandoned Tie shall be declared a draw.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. **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 – 1 set (8 games). The team that forfeits the match will retain the games they have won.

15. 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

- 16a) 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

17. Singles are to be two (2) tie breaker sets with a third set match tie breaker to be played if needed. Team Managers have the option of speaking with their player prior to the commencement of the third set match tie breaker. 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 March, 2017

18. In the singles, the players ranked 1-6 for each gender on that day, play against their opponent of the same position.
19. In doubles, 12 players are selected from the 14 team members to in both doubles (3 boys/3 girls) and mixed doubles (6).
20. 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.
21. All courts used should have a surface approved by the controlling State Tennis Association. Preferably, only one type of surface should be used.
22. 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.
23. New tennis balls, conforming to standards approved by Tennis Australia shall be used for all rubbers and shall be provided by the host state.
24. Where possible, the itinerary shall be designed to include some practice sessions.
25. There shall be no coaching of the players on the court while the match is in progress.
26. 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.

27. The Tennis Australia Code of Conduct will apply for all Bruce Cup play.
28. Players shall compete in state/territory team uniforms.
29. 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.
30. NT & ACT will be entitled to age dispensation as per SSA policy.
Amended February, 2016
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

4 RULES OF PLAY

- i. The draw shall be a regulation 64 draw in each of the Boys and the Girls competitions.
- ii. Seedings and draw for the 12 & Under National Singles Championship to be done in conjunction with Tennis Australia.
- iii. The draw is to be done as per Tennis Australia rules, with the following exception, that in the Round of 64 no players from the same state are to be drawn against each other.
- iv. The Draw for both the boys and girls events shall be confirmed at the Bruce Cup Preliminary Meeting.
- v. All matches will be played as two tie breaker sets with a super tie breaker third set if needed.
- vi. The Tournament Committee shall have sole control of the conduct of the competition.
- vii. The event will have assistance from Tennis Australia with a tournament director, referee, parent education sessions, and supply of tennis balls

5 CONSOLATION PLATE

A full feed in draw will be used in the event. All matches will be played as best of two (2) short sets, first to 4 games, with a 7 point tie break at 4 all. No-ad scoring to be used. If one set all, a third set will be a match tie-break (to 10 points).

6 AWARDS

Winners of the main draw will receive the perpetual trophy.

Winners of the consolation will receive the perpetual trophy.

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

7 AUSTRALIAN RANKING POINTS

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

**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