



The junior competitive structure in Alberta is designed and reviewed by Tennis Alberta's Junior Development Committee (formerly called the High Performance Committee). Questions or concerns related to the junior competitive structure should be directed to the committee member at your local club or Tennis Alberta.

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1. Jr. Development Committee Terms of Reference

1.1 Committee Type:	Standing committee. The Board reserves the right to disband this committee at its discretion.
1.2 Strategic Plan Goals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Key result areas pertaining to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recreational player development (Challenger players) 2. Competitive player development (Champs players) 3. Player retention (transition into Tennis for Life stream)
1.3 Vision:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To develop an effective and integrated system of competitive opportunities for Alberta Junior tennis players to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be active, healthy and engaged in physical activity for life; and 2. Achieve personal best performances at all levels of competition; 3. Achieve LTAD recommendations for the number of competitive opportunities which are developmentally relevant.
1.4 Purpose:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To set, monitor and enforce policies and practices intended to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. best develop a system which includes a route for those who wish to excel, and options that promote “tennis for life” for enjoyment, health, participation and achievement; 2. assist staff to effectively communicate the purpose, structure, policies and procedures of this system to all players, stakeholders and partners; 3. qualify Alberta’s best players for Jr. Champs Provincials and Jr. Nationals; 4. protect the interests of the Tennis Alberta, as well as current and future players. ● To act as ambassadors of Alberta’s competitive structure and a source of information for others. ● To support and act as consultants to TA staff who are responsible to design and implement Jr. High Performance programs and opportunities. ● To act as consultants to the Ad Hoc Jr. Parent Advisory Committee. ● To support Tennis Alberta’s Provincial Coaches.
1.5 Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Development, implementation and review of the Junior Competitive Structure (sanctioned Jr. Champs and Challenger events, qualification process for Jr. Champs Provincials and Jr. Nationals) ● Initial appeals regarding the JCS document or any selections to Jr. Champs Provincials or Jr. Nationals

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Applications for Special Exemptions and Wild Cards ● Coach selection for Jr. Nationals and for any previously unassigned opportunities ● Approval of selection criteria for HP Programs or other opportunities which would be proposed by TA staff (developed in consultation with Provincial coaches) ● Selection of Provincial Coaches (in consultation with Tennis Alberta's Executive Director- see Reporting and Authority section for details)
<p>1.6 Out of Scope:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HP Program design and player selections (U10/U12 Provincial Teams, CSG/WCSG teams, other ad-hoc opportunities) ● Provincial Coach duties, assignments and responsibilities ● Operational decisions- that is any type of short-term decision in lieu of long-term strategies. These involve the day-to-day operations of the association, contractor or staff conduct/responsibilities, or events
<p>1.7 Composition and appointment:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The committee will be comprised of one representative from each of the TDC's in Alberta (appointed by the Club Manager, Head Tennis Professional or President of the club) and the Executive Director of Tennis Alberta. ● Each club may have a maximum of two representatives attend face-to-face meetings and conference calls at the discretion of the Committee, although each club will have only one vote ● Committee members will be appointed for an indefinite term, and will be removed or replaced at the discretion of his or her Club Manager, Head Tennis Professional or President ● Committee members must be in good standing with the association and may be removed at the discretion of the Board for reasons such as inappropriate conduct or actions which are detrimental to the interests of the association
<p>1.8 Chair:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Chair will be a member of Tennis Alberta's Board of Directors or a member of the tennis community at large ● The Chair will be appointed by the Jr. Development Committee and approved by Tennis Alberta's Board of Directors ● Previous experience in and knowledge of the competitive junior environment in Alberta is preferred ● The Chair will be responsible to: ensure that each meeting is planned effectively, ensure that minutes are kept (which record decisions made, actions to be taken and/or recommendations for consideration), monitor

	<p>the committee’s performance and to generally manage and drive the functions of the committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Chair will act as a liaison with the Board as requested ● The Chair of the committee will be appointed for a term of one year, for an unlimited number of terms
<p>1.9 Current Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Calgary Winter Club- Peter Smythe ● Glencoe Club- Neil Parker ● The Tennis Academy- Jeff Spiers ● World Health Club- Adrian Court ● The Royal Glenora Club- Ryan Schroffel ● The Saville Community Sports Centre- Corey Stewart ● Osten & Victor Alberta Tennis Centre – Tom Mclean ● Tennis Alberta’s Executive Director- Jill Richard ● Tennis Alberta’s Coordinator of Player Development & Club Liaison- Aaron Lee ● Committee Co-Chairs- Ryan Schroffel & Jeff Spiers
<p>1.10 Accountability:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Committee members and any sub-committees report to the Chair ● Chair will act as the liaison to the Committee and as the liaison with the Board ● Members are expected to publicly support the decisions of the Committee ● Members are expected to be familiar with the activities and decisions of the Committee
<p>1.11 Reporting and Authority:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The committee will report back to the Tennis Alberta Board by submitting minutes which record decisions made, actions to be taken and/or recommendations for consideration regarding anything outside the scope of this committee ● The Chair will provide an annual or semi-annual report to the Board, as requested. ● The committee may only make decisions falling within the scope outlined in this document. ● Only the club representatives shall have voting privileges. The only exception is the appointment of any the Provincial Coaches (as these are contracted and paid positions). While the ED will retain the right to refuse the appointment of any individual to this position at his or her sole discretion, he or she will not have the authority to appoint a Provincial Coach without the approval of the HP Committee.
<p>1.12 Meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Committee will hold a minimum of two face-to-face meetings per year

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Additional meetings and conference calls will be at the call of the Chair of the Committee
1.13 Quorum	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● A quorum of 50% plus one (of voting members) is required to conduct the business of the committee● Note that some decisions may have a supermajority requirement (such as a two-thirds majority). These cases will be outlined in the Junior Competitive Structure document.

2. Appeals

- 2.1. Tennis Alberta's Jr. Development Committee is responsible to oversee the qualification processes for the Provincial Championships and Junior Nationals. Appeals may be submitted in the case that the Committee has failed to carry out the qualification processes outlined in this document.
- 2.2. Any situation that may arise that is not covered by these policies shall be dealt with on a case-by case basis by the committee.
- 2.3. Appeals must be submitted in writing (emailed) to Tennis Alberta's Executive Director within three days of final selections which will be posted on the Tennis Alberta website. Appeals will first be heard by the HP Committee.
- 2.4. An appellant may appeal the ruling of the HP Committee within 48 hours of the decision. This secondary appeal will be heard by a small, impartial committee appointed by Tennis Alberta's Executive Director and a final decision will be rendered within five days.

3. Jr. Champs Series (Qualifying Tournaments)

3.1. Purpose & Description

- 3.1.1. The purpose of the Jr. Champs Series is to establish which junior players will represent Alberta at the Rogers Junior National Championships.
- 3.1.2. Each season will consist of a minimum of three regular qualifying tournaments for each age category, which will qualify players to compete in the Jr. Champs Provincials.
- 3.1.3. The Jr. Champs Provincials will also serve as the final qualifying event for Jr. Nationals.
- 3.1.4. The schedule of qualifying events will be clearly listed in Tennis Alberta's sanctioned tournament schedule. This schedule may be subject to change. If any changes are made they will be communicated to members via e-blast and on the Tennis Alberta website.

3.2. Eligibility

- 3.2.1. Players must have a valid membership with Tennis Alberta and be in good standing.

3.2.2. Players ranked inside the top 24 according to Rogers Rankings in their primary age category may participate in any one Jr. Champs event. Players ranked outside the top 24 according to Rogers Rankings in their primary age category may now only participate in Jr. Champs events within that age division (i.e.- they may not play a Jr. Champs category older than their primary age category).

3.2.3. Playing Up Rule: Players are only allowed to compete up to two age groups above their actual playing category. This means that:

- U10 players: only be allowed to compete in the U10, U12 and U14 categories
- U12 players: only be allowed to compete in the U12, U14 and U16 categories

Note: Players are responsible for knowing the aforementioned “Playing up Rule.” If a player enters an event/category for which he/she is ineligible based on the playing up rules and it is not caught at the time of entry, Tennis Alberta reserves the right to remove the player from the tournament draw. In the case where a player is allowed to play the event by mistake, the rankings points earned in the tournament will not be counted.

Exceptional Player Clause

U10s: if they qualify on their own merit for U14 Nationals or are meeting the published performance levels for 2nd year U10 Players (see below), then they can compete in U16 events.

U12s: if they qualify for the U16 Nationals on their own merit or are meeting the published performance standards for 2nd Year U12 players then they can compete in U18 event.

YEAR/AGE	GIRLS PERFORMANCE BENCHMARK	BOYS PERFORMANCE BENCHMARK
2ND YEAR U12 12 YEARS OLD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Top 8 U14 Indoor or Outdoor nationals ● Quarter- finals U14 ETA events group 3 ● Round of sixteen U14 ETA events group 2 ● Semi-finals U12 Auray or Jr. Orange Bowl 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Top 12 U14 Indoor or Outdoor nationals ● Semi- finals Auray or Orange Bowl (top tier U12 international events) ● Win U12 ETA events
1ST YEAR U 12 11 YEARS OL D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Win U12 Indoor/Outdoor nationals ● #9-12 position U14 Indoor/Outdoor nationals ● Round of 1/16 at Auray, Orange Bowl (top tier U12 international events) ● Semi- finals ETA U12 events (summer tour, others) ● Qualifies on own merit to U14 Nationals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Qualify on own merit to U12 Nationals ● Top 4 U12 Indoor/Outdoor nationals ● Quarter-finals U12 ETA events (summer tour)
2ND YEAR U 10 10 YEARS OL D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Top 5 U12 Indoor/Outdoor nationals ● U12 Provincial champion ● 3rd round U12 Orange Bowl 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Qualify on its own merit to U12 Nationals ● Top 12 position U12 Indoor/Outdoor Nationals (April)

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3.2.4. In order to be eligible to compete in a second age category, according to Rogers Rankings as of the tournament registration deadline, players must be ranked in the top four of the age category directly younger than the age category that he or she wishes to enter into as a second event.

EXAMPLE #1: A U12 player must be ranked in the top four of the U14 rankings in order to be eligible to play in the U16's as a second event.

EXAMPLE #2: A U12 player who is ranked first in the U14 category, but fifth in the U16 category, would not be eligible to play in the U18's as a second event, but would be eligible to play in the U16's as a second event.

3.2.5. All players are limited to enter a maximum of two age categories.

3.2.6. Tennis Alberta will continue to honour out-of-province/country players entering and playing in the Jr. Champs Series qualifying events. However, a limit of 4 spots will be given to out of province players per draw. Out of province players must be in the Top 12 of the event player list according to Rogers Rankings in order to be entered into the draw. More spots may be awarded if the limit of 24 players is not reached. Out of Country players will be reviewed by the Co-Chairs of the JDC to determine their eligibility.

3.2.7. Age eligibility is based on the calendar year (Jan 1 to Dec 31). However, because the end of a calendar year (Dec 31) falls during the course of the indoor season (which lasts from September to April), for the indoor season, players must adhere to the age requirements as at January 1st of that season. This applies only to the indoor season for Champs events only as they serve to qualify players for Indoor Nationals in the new year (i.e. during the entirety of the indoor season, Champs players will compete in the age category for which they may qualify to compete at Jr. nationals in).

EXAMPLE #1:

Age Eligibility Chart for Junior Champs Events- 2017 Indoor Season

Age Category	Eligible Year of Birth
U12	2005
U14	2003
U16	2001
U18	1999

Age Eligibility Chart for Junior Champs Events- 2017 Outdoor Season

Age Category	Eligible Year of Birth
U12	2005
U14	2003
U16	2001
U18	1999

3.3. Tournament & Scoring Format

- 3.3.1. Each qualifying event will utilize a feed-in format through the main draw quarter-finals. There will be a 3/4 playoff match between the losers of the semi-finals. This means that the winner and finalist of consolations will place 5th and 6th.
- 3.3.2. Scoring format for U14, U16 and U18 (main draw and consolations) is best of three sets, regular scoring.
- 3.3.3. U12 scoring format (main draw and consolations) is best of three sets, third set super tie-breaker to 10, regular scoring.
- 3.3.4. If a tournament encounters weather delays, the scoring format may be abbreviated, but it must apply to all matches within the same round of the event.
- 3.3.5. Tournament Directors must seek approval from a Tennis Alberta staff member or a Chair of the JDC before abbreviating the scoring format.
- 3.3.6. Seeds for each qualifying tournament and provincials will be set according to Rogers Rankings. Out-of-Province seeds are subject to review based on recent significant results against Alberta players and their Rogers Rankings.
- 3.3.7. In-town players are expected to be available starting at 5:00 pm on Thursday and as early as 8:00 am on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, though in most cases Friday play will begin at noon or 5:00 pm where possible. Out-of-town players will not be expected to play Thursday evening, but may be scheduled any time for the remainder of the tournament. The Tournament Director will post any special notices related to tournament draw times in the tournament notes.
- 3.3.8. In the case that players are unavailable to play at certain times over the course of the tournament, they may “request” the Tournament Director to accommodate this. However, please be advised that these requests may be accommodated or denied at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director. Players making time requests will do so during the registration process online.

3.4. Limited Draws

- 3.4.1. Jr. Champs qualifying events will be limited to ensure quality match play and reduce/eliminate the requirement for late night matches, abbreviated or modified scoring formats, and/or excessive match play in one day.
- 3.4.2. Maximum draw sizes will be limited to 24 players per event. Entry will be given to the 24 highest ranked players based on the most recent Rogers Rankings at the closing of registration with a maximum of 4 out of province/country players.
- 3.4.3. Only out of Province players who are in the Top 12 of the event player list according to Rogers Rankings will be accepted into the draw.
- 3.4.4. Any remaining players will be placed on a waiting list. In the event that any players withdraw from an event before the draw is made, the next player in line will be awarded entry.
- 3.4.5. Occasionally, there may be extenuating or unforeseen circumstances which may necessitate a change to eligibility criteria, format, etc. If so, any modifications or special notices will be posted in the tournament regulations.
- 3.4.6. When registrations exceed the maximum draw size, entry into the tournaments will be granted to the highest ranked players according to 'Rogers Rankings' for each age category at the tournament registration deadline.
- 3.4.7. In the event of a tie in Rogers Rankings it will be broken:
 - 3.4.7.1. By head-to-head results between players over a 12 month period
 - 3.4.7.2. Then by the player with the best finish at the most recent provincial championships in the applicable age category
 - 3.4.7.3. If the tie is still not broken, a random coin flip will determine the spot. This will be done by Tennis Alberta's Tournament Coordinator and witnessed by a Tennis Alberta Staff member and a board member or witness.
- 3.4.8. Players who have registered, but are not admitted into an event will be notified and issued a full refund.

4. Jr. Challenger Tournaments

4.1. Purpose & Description

- 4.1.1. The Jr. Challenger Series is meant to provide additional tournament opportunities outside of the Champs events.
- 4.1.1. Age eligibility is based on the calendar year (Jan 1 to Dec 31) and will not change during the course of the indoor season (September to April).
EXAMPLE:
Age Eligibility Chart for Junior Challenger Events - 2016

Age Category	Eligible Year of Birth
U12	2004
U14	2002
U16	2000
U18	1998

Age Eligibility Chart for Junior Challengers Events - 2017

Age Category	Eligible Year of Birth
U12	2005
U14	2003
U16	2001
U18	1999

4.1.3. There is no set number of tournaments per year but all tournaments will be listed in Tennis Alberta's sanctioned tournament schedule.

4.1.4. This relatively new tournament tier has and may continue to undergo changes to best accommodate the players attending the tournaments and the clubs who put them on.

4.2. Eligibility

4.2.1. Players must have a valid membership with Tennis Alberta and be in good standing.

4.2.2. All players are limited to enter a single age category.

4.2.3. There will be no limitations on entry numbers for these tournaments unless absolutely necessary.

4.2.4. Junior Challenger events will be open to all players except for the following limitations:

- Any U12 or U14 players ranked in the Top 12 of their age category in Alberta at the time of the entry deadline may not enter a Junior Challenger tournament in any age category.
- *Exception: if a player is ranked in the top 12 of either age category but is not in the top 24 of the age category above at the closing of registration, these players may enter Challenger events in the older age category. For example, a U12 player ranked in the top 12 of U12 but outside of the top 24 of U14 would be eligible to play U14 Challenger events. U14 players ranked in the top 12 of U14 but outside of the top 24 of U16 would be eligible to play U16 Challenger events.*
- *Exception #2: if a player ranked in the top 12 of an age category and in the top 24 of the age category above is unable to enter a Champs event in the age category above*

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due to Out of Province Players, they may play the following Challenger event in that age category.

- Any U16 or U18 players ranked in the Top 8 of their age category in Alberta at the time of the entry deadline may not enter a Junior Challenger tournament in any age category.
- *Exception: Any player ranked in the top 8 of U16 but not in the top 8 of U18 may enter U18 Challenger events.*
- *Exception #2: if a player ranked in the top 12 of an age category and in the top 24 of the age category above is unable to enter a Champs event in the age category above due to Out of Province Players, they may play the following Challenger event in that age category.*
- The “Playing Up” rules still apply to these tournaments as reference in section 3.2.3
- These eligibility rules apply to all players within their age group up until the end of the year (December 31st).

4.2.5. Tennis Alberta will continue to honour out-of-province players entering and playing in the Jr. Challenger tournaments. However, tournaments with limited draws will admit Alberta players of any rank above an out-of-province player and the provincial championships (Champs or Challenger) will remain as closed events. Out-of-province players will be subject to the same Rogers Ranking eligibility as Alberta players. If required, a limit to the number of out province players will be set on a case-by-case basis.

4.3. Tournament & Scoring Format

- 4.3.1. The format for each event is variable but will guarantee each player in a singles event a minimum of two matches.
- 4.3.2. Scoring format for U14, U16 and U18 (main draw and consolations) is best of three sets, and may be either regular or no-ad scoring (at the discretion of the Tournament Director).
- 4.3.3. U12 scoring format (main draw and consolations) is best of three sets, third set super tie-breaker to 10, and may be either regular or no-ad scoring (at the discretion of the Tournament Director).
- 4.3.4. If a tournament encounters weather delays, the scoring format may be abbreviated at the discretion of the Tournament Director, but it must apply to all matches within the same round of the event. Tournament Directors must seek approval from a Tennis Alberta staff member or a Chair of the JDC before abbreviating the scoring format.
- 4.3.5. Seeds for each qualifying tournament and provincials will be set according to Rogers Rankings.
- 4.3.6. In-town players are expected to be available starting at 5:00 pm on Thursday and as early as 8:00 am on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, though in most cases Friday play will begin at noon or 5:00 pm where possible. Out-of-town players will not be expected to play Thursday evening, but may be scheduled any time for the remainder of the tournament.

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The Tournament Director will post any special notices related to tournament draw times in the tournament notes.

4.3.7. In the case that players are unavailable to play at certain times over the course of the tournament, they may “request” the Tournament Director to accommodate this. However, please be advised that these requests may be accommodated or denied at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director. Players making time requests will do so during the registration process online.

4.3.8. The scoring format for Jr. Challenger Provincials will be the same as other challenger events.

4.4. Limited Draws

4.4.1. Where required, due to limited court availability, draw sizes in the Jr. Challenger events may be limited to ensure quality match play and reduce/eliminate the requirement for late night matches, abbreviated or modified scoring formats, and/or excessive match play in one day.

4.4.2. Maximum draw sizes may vary between events, dependent on the number of courts available to the host club and will be posted on a case by case basis.

4.4.3. Occasionally, there may be extenuating or unforeseen circumstances which may necessitate a change to eligibility criteria, format, etc. If so, any modifications or special notices will be posted in the tournament notes.

4.4.4. When registrations exceed the maximum draw size, entry into the tournaments will be granted to the highest ranked players according to ‘Rogers Rankings’ for each age category as at the tournament registration deadline. If, after all ranked players are allowed entry, a group of players with no ranking are leftover, the remaining players will be chosen randomly. However, the host club reserves the right to grant two spots to any two players for each event, regardless of rank.

4.4.5. Players who have registered, but are not admitted into an event will be notified and issued a full refund.

5. U9 and U10 Future Stars Tour

5.1. Description and Purpose

5.1.1. The Future Star Tour includes U9 and U10 progressive tennis sanctioned events which encourage frequent player participation throughout the year.

5.1.2. These events are provincially sanctioned (on the Tennis Alberta association calendar) but are not eligible for ranking points.

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- 5.1.3. Note that players are expected to be able to serve, return and rally in order to play in a Future Stars event. It is recommended that entry-level competitors compete in Rogers Rookie Tour Events.

5.2. Eligibility

- 5.2.1. Players must have a valid membership with Tennis Alberta and be in good standing.
- 5.2.2. Players must meet the age category requirement according to the calendar year.
- 5.2.3. Players may not register in a U10 Future Stars as well as a Champs or Challenger event on coinciding dates as they are considered two separate tournaments.

5.3. Tournament and Scoring Format

- 5.3.1. Boys and girls will be combined in the U9 Advanced Tour events and play on $\frac{3}{4}$ court dimensions with an orange ball.
- 5.3.2. Boys and girls will be separated, where draw sizes allow, for U10 events, and will be played on full-court dimensions with a green-dot ball.
- 5.3.3. The tournament and scoring format for U10 Future Stars events will be set at the discretion of the Tournament Director, but must guarantee a minimum of two matches per player.
- 5.3.4. If seeds are required for a U10 event, they will be set according to the U12 Rogers Rankings. If there is no ranking information available, fewer or even no seeds will be set (a player must be ranked in order to be seeded).
- 5.3.5. If seeds are required for U9 events, they will be set at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 5.3.6. For U9 Future Stars events, a 30 minute skill competition will be included where possible.
- 5.3.7. The U9 and U10 Future Stars Tour players will collect participation points throughout the season and each player will receive entry gifts courtesy of Tennis Alberta and Tennis Canada. Gifts will be given to each individual player once per calendar year as available. Players can view their points on the Tennis Alberta website (<http://alberta.tenniscanada.com/future-stars-tour>).

Points Table

Circuit Participation Points:

- Each tournament played = 400 points

Tournament Points awarded:

- Tournament Winner = 200 Points
- Tournament Finalist = 100 Points

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- Round Robin Winner with no playoff = 75 Points
- Consolation Winner = 50 Points

6. Jr. National Points

6.1. Description and Purpose

6.1.1. The primary purpose of the 'Jr. Nationals Points' is to select players to represent Alberta at the Rogers Junior National Championships. As required, the Jr. Nationals Points standings may also be used to select players to other training and competitive opportunities. The points are calculated based on Jr. Champs Series tournament placement and are monitored and updated by Tennis Alberta's Tournament Program Coordinator.

6.1.2. Jr. Nationals points will be awarded after each of the regular qualifying tournaments and after the Jr. Champs Provincials and posted on Tennis Alberta's website. The points awarded for placement at the Jr. Champs Provincials will be weighted at 1.5 times the points relative to the preceding regular qualifying events, making Provincial Championships results more significant and valuable. Partial points will not be rounded but listed exactly as they are.

6.1.3. No points will be awarded to players who do not win a match in any of the regular qualifying events leading up to the provincial championships.

6.1.4. The best three results will be used to calculate the final standings (which ultimately qualifies the top four players for Junior Nationals).

6.2. Points Table

Final Placement	Qualifying Tournaments	Jr. Champs Provincial Championships (1.5 X)
Champion	50	75
Finalist	35	52.5
3 rd	28	42
4 th	24	36
5 th	20	30
6 th	17	25.5
7 th – 8 th	13	19.5
9 th – 12 th	10	15
13 th – 16 th	7	10.5
17 th – 24 th	4	6
25 th and below	2	3
No matches won	0	0*

*Applies to the Qualifying Draw only

- First round losers in the main draw of Jr. Champs Provincials will receive 9-12th place points

6.3. Rain-out Rules

6.3.1. Main Draw Points: Players who lost a match will be subject to consolation round placements. For players who were still in the main draw and were unable to play their remaining matches, they will receive hybrid points based on the circumstances in the draw.

Any remaining players in the main draw will split the remaining points. Ex. If neither of the semis had been played, the points for 1st through 4th would be combined and divided equally among those players. This also applies to a scenario where some players completed a round and others did not. Ex. If one semi-final had been played and one had not, the semi-finalists and the finalist would split the 1st-3rd points and the remaining player (who lost their semi-final) would receive 4th place points. In events with more than 16 players, there is a 3-4 playoff. If only the final and 3-4 match had not been played, the finalists would split 1st/2nd points and the 3-4 playoff players would split 3rd/4th points.

6.3.2. Consolation round points: These will be awarded as usual; each player will get points equivalent to the round they made it to. The only exception to this rule is if a player did not have an opportunity to play two matches. Normally, a player is not awarded points if they do not win a match. In this case, because they were not afforded an opportunity to play a second match, they will receive points equivalent to their placement in the consolation draw.

6.4. Wildcard Placement

6.5. All Wildcard players will be placed in the top position of the Junior National Points chart as the first place player. This player will be awarded one of the first four spots to Junior Nationals, and will count as one of the total number of players who will be issued an invitation, including provisional spots. (See also section 8.2-Allocated, Declined, Extra & Provisional Spots).

7. Jr. Champs Provincials

7.1. Purpose & Description

7.1.1. The limited draw sizes of the Jr. Champs Provincials are intended to: ensure properly scheduled events, allow for both singles and doubles play to be accommodated, and to avoid abbreviated scoring and many one-sided matches.

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7.2. Eligibility

- 7.2.1. Players must have a valid membership with Tennis Alberta and be in good standing.
- 7.2.2. Players must reside in Alberta for a minimum of six months prior to the date of the Provincial Championships.
- 7.2.3. Most Eligibility rules from the Jr. Champs tournaments still apply.

7.3. Qualification

- 7.3.1. The top eight players in the Jr. Nationals Points standings after the regular qualifying tournaments will qualify directly for the Jr. Champs Provincials in each age category (boys and girls). A player's top three finishes from the qualifying events will be used to determine their placement.
- 7.3.2. Players are eligible to enter a 16 player qualifying draw of that age category from which four players will qualify for the main draw. Rogers Rankings will determine the top 16 players to gain entry.
- 7.3.3. Players may only enter one qualifying draw at a time and may only play in the qualifying draw in their own age category unless they are in the Top 24 of Rogers Rankings. If they are in the Top 24 of their age category they may enter the qualifying draw of the age category directly above their own.
- 7.3.4. The number of players that receive direct entry may be expanded to accommodate placement ties and Special Exemptions (details in the Special Exemptions section).
- 7.3.5. Placement ties for the final direct entries into main draw will be broken first by head to head results over the past 12 months followed by Rogers Rankings. Any player who misses out on direct entry due to a tie-breaker will still have the opportunity to compete in the Qualifying draw.
- 7.3.6. In the event that some players are needed outside the top eight to fill direct entry spots, ties between two players for 9th place or lower will be broken first by head to head results in the past 12 months (win-loss record only of any age category) and secondly by Rogers Rankings. Any ties between three or more players will be broken by Rogers Rankings.
- 7.3.7. All players who do not qualify for the Jr. Champs Provincials main draw are eligible to compete in the Challenger Provincial Championships.
- 7.3.8. Should any of the Jr. Champs Provincials qualifying players withdraw for any reason or decline their spot, the spot will be offered to a Lucky Loser, who is the highest ranked player to not proceed through the qualifying draw. This will only happen where time permits (at the sole discretion of Tennis Alberta) and will only be offered to the two players next in the standings.

7.4. Special Exemptions

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- 7.4.1. The term 'Special Exceptions' (SE) refers to direct entry into Junior Champs Provincials that may be awarded to players who did not qualify by acquiring (enough) Jr. Nationals Points.
- 7.4.2. Special exceptions may be granted to players who have been injured, sick, or played out-of-province through the qualifying process.
- 7.4.3. If a player does not compete at a qualifying event for any reason, this will NOT guarantee that an SE will be granted. This decision rests within the jurisdiction of the Jr. Development Committee.
- 7.4.4. Players can apply for a Special Exception (SE) spot if they do not compete in more than one qualifying event in the age category in which they are applying for an SE.
- 7.4.5. SE's will only be awarded to players who consistently rank among the top three players in the province or have had success at the national and international level.
- 7.4.6. Players must have completed in at least one Jr. Champs tournament within the last twelve months in order to be eligible to receive an SE.
- 7.4.7. At no time will a SE spot be awarded to any player who simply chooses not to participate in the qualifying events when he or she is otherwise available and able to compete.
- 7.4.8. All SE applications must be emailed to Tennis Alberta's Executive Director before the start of the final qualifying tournament preceding the Provincial Championships.
- 7.4.9. Any player who is awarded an SE by the Jr. Development Committee will be identified in the Junior National Points standings table.
- 7.4.10. From time to time, a player may apply for an SE in advance of the application deadline, which is granted by the JDC, but ultimately qualify for the Junior Champs Provincials by placing in the top eight in the Junior National Points standings. In this case, the SE designation will be no longer apply to that player and the draw would not be expanded.
- 7.4.11. If an SE or multiple SE's are granted within an event, the size of the main draw is simply expanded. Players who finish from first to eighth in the Junior Nationals Points standings will not be displaced, and four players will still qualify to be added to the main draw.

7.5. Format & Scoring

- 7.5.1. Scoring format for all Jr. Champs Provincials singles Main Draw events is best of three sets, with ad scoring. Qualifying draw scoring for U12 is best of three sets, with ad scoring and a super tie-break to 10 for the third set.
- 7.5.2. Four seeds will be set for each singles draw in the Jr. Champs main draw.
- 7.5.3. All players who qualify for the Junior Champs Provincials must also play doubles. It is the responsibility of the players to choose their partners (from among the other players who have qualified for Jr. Champs Provincials). However, if a doubles event has an odd number of players the "odd player out" may then select a partner of their own choosing from among those who did not qualify for the main draw Champs Provincials, if time permits. If a partner cannot be found, the odd-player out will not be able to participate in doubles.

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- 7.5.4. If players register for doubles without identifying a partner, they will be assigned one according to rank (that is, the two highest ranked players will be matched together, then the next two highest ranked will be partnered, and so on).
- 7.5.5. Doubles scoring will be no ad, super tie-break to 10 for the third set. There will be no consolations for doubles events.
- 7.5.6. If a player qualifies to play (singles) in two age categories at Junior Champs Provincials, he or she may only play doubles in one age category, if both age categories play on the same weekend. If the two events are on different dates, the player may play two singles and two doubles events if they wish to do so.

8. Jr. Nationals

8.1. Eligibility

- 8.1.1. Players must possess a valid Tennis Alberta player card.
- 8.1.2. Players must be in good standing with Tennis Alberta and Tennis Canada, and must not have any outstanding debts to Tennis Alberta.
- 8.1.3. Players must be either a Canadian citizen (hold a Canadian passport) or a permanent resident of Canada (must have lived in Canada for a minimum of 3 years and hold proper documentation).
- 8.1.4. The finalized rosters and the list of prioritized alternates for each age category will be communicated to players and parents at least five days before each tournament's entry deadline (posted on the TA website and sent in an e-newsletter. The notice will identify the deadline and process for appeal. It is the responsibility of the players to be aware of this notification. Note that the finalized roster is still subject to change due to injury, illness or other unforeseen circumstance. If this is the case, any changes will be posted on the Tennis Alberta website.

8.2. Allocated, Declined, Extra & Provisional Spots

- 8.2.1. Number of Allocated Spots- Tennis Alberta is entitled to 4 spots in each age category for each boys and girls. The number of provincial allocated spots is subject to change by Tennis Canada.
- 8.2.2. Declined Spots- Should a player decline a spot to compete at Junior Nationals, the next player according to the Junior Nationals Points will be awarded the spot.
- 8.2.3. Unallocated (Extra) Spots- Unallocated spots may be awarded to Tennis Alberta players by Tennis Canada (for indoor nationals only) in the case that other provinces do not fulfil their own allocations. Tennis Canada's procedure for determining players selected for these positions is detailed in the Tennis Canada Unallocated Spot Criteria.

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8.2.4. Provisional spots- this term will apply to the number of positions outside the top four regularly allocated spots that will be offered a “provisional” invitation to participate if a spot is declined or if an extra spot becomes available. The number of provisional spots will be reviewed by the Jr. Development Committee prior to the start of each indoor season in case the number needs to be adjusted for any reason.

8.2.5. For 2017 Nationals invitations will only be extended to the top 6 players (according to the Jr. National Points standings) in all age categories for both boys and girls, meaning that only two provisional spots will be offered.

EXAMPLE #1: If a Wildcard is awarded in any category, that player plus the top three players would first be issued invitations. If any of the four spots are declined, only the next two players would also be issued invitations.

EXAMPLE #2: If all four spots to Jr. Nationals have been filled by the top four players, and an unallocated spot becomes available, it would be offered to the two provisional spots in order of their standing. If both decline, the spot would be passed back to Tennis Canada.

8.3. Qualification

8.3.1. Tennis Canada Performance Standards

Tennis Canada may allow players direct access to Junior Nationals by invitation. These players must meet the Tennis Canada Performance Standards (TCPS), which are detailed on the Tennis Canada website.

8.3.2. Provincial Wildcards

The provincial wildcard application process provides Alberta resident athletes that are unable to compete for Jr. Nationals Points the opportunity for direct qualification.

Suitable reasons for a wildcard application may include:

- Attendance at out-of-province competitions, preventing a player from competing for Jr. Nationals Points. Superior results at profile events must be achieved in order for this reason to be valid.
- Injury. Clear, superior performance in a player’s primary age category or above must be demonstrated in order for this reason to be valid. An athlete must also establish that the injury will be rehabilitated prior to the National Championships.
- Other factors deemed acceptable by Tennis Alberta’s Jr. Development Committee.

Wildcard applications may be submitted at any time leading up to Jr. Nationals, but the deadline for submissions will be 20 days prior to Jr. Champs Provincials. A decision will be rendered by the JDC within 10 business days from

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receipt of each application. The Jr. Development Committee must be in 75% agreement in order to grant a wildcard spot.

A maximum of two wildcards for Jr. Nationals may be granted for each category (boys and girls) by the JDC each season. A wildcard may not be granted in an age category where Tennis Canada has awarded a directly allocated spot.

The following information is required in the wildcard application, for consideration by the JDC:

- A. Reason for application (i.e. injury, competing out-of-province etc.), and;
- B. Documentation that the player has clearly and consistently outperformed all other players in their age categories or above, OR meets the wildcard criteria detailed in the chart below:
- C. If the reason for a wildcard application is related to a player who will be competing or training out-of-province during the course of the regular provincial qualifying series, an annual plan must be submitted indicating their training schedule and/or the tournaments they plan to participate in. In the case that there are any changes to that plan, or if the player does not actually compete in the identified events, notice must be sent to the Junior Development Committee. The JDC reserves the right to revoke a wildcard at any time based on the outcomes and circumstances related to these changes which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Age Category	Criteria	Standard
U18	Either of the Last two National Championships (in current age category)	Top 8 Finish
	ITF Junior Ranking	Top 150 Girls Top 250 Boys
U16	Either of the Last two National Championships (in current age category or above)	Top 8 Finish
	ITF Junior Ranking	Top 300 Girls Top 500 Boys
U14	Either of the Last two National Championships (in current age category or above)	Top 8 Finish
	ITF Junior Ranking	Top 800 Boys Top 500 Girls
U12	Either of the Last two National Championships (in current age category or above)	Top 8 Finish

8.3.3. Winning Jr. Champs Provincials

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Players who place first in each age category in the singles event at Jr. Champs Provincials will qualify for Junior Nationals, but only if a wildcard has not been granted for that age category.

Winning the Provincial Championship does not guarantee first seed from Alberta at Jr. Nationals.

Rogers Rankings will be used to determine the order of merit that is submitted to Tennis Canada. For 2017, order of merit will be sent using an adjusted rankings to equalize the 2016 and 2017 results.