



2019

**SENIOR COMPETITIVE
STRUCTURE**

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1. CONTENTS

1.1 Tournament Sanction Agreement

All tournaments will follow the guidelines set out in the 2019 Tournament Sanction Agreement. The Sanction Agreement will dictate the following:

- Need for Officials.
- Entry and Withdrawal Deadlines.
- Tournament Costs.
- Tournament Scoring Formats.
- Sanction Fee.

Adjustments can be made to these standards upon consultation with Tennis Alberta. Example of adjustments that can be made are:

- Decreasing the cost of a tournament to attract more entries.
- Increasing the cost of the tournament to fund a prize pack.
- Extending a tournament deadline for a non-competitive event.
- Altering the scoring format to adjust for entry numbers.

1.2 Seasons

1.2.1 Indoor Season

The Indoor Season will take place from the beginning of October and continue until the middle of April. It will last for approximately 29 weeks.

1.2.2 Outdoor Season

The Outdoor Season will take from the middle of April and continue until the end of September. It will last for approximately 23 weeks.

1.3 Registration Policies

- 1.3.1 The registration date for each tournament will open exactly four weeks prior to the registration deadline.

- 1.3.2** The registration deadline for each tournament will be explicitly stated on the tournament page. Some tournaments will allow for late registrations, accompanied by a Late Registration fee of \$10.00.
- 1.3.3** Tournaments with strict guidelines regarding the number of entries will not allow for any late entries.
- 1.3.4** The withdrawal deadline for each tournament will be explicitly stated on the tournament page.
- 1.3.5** Players are expected to withdraw before the withdrawal deadline. Players who fail to do so will not be issued a refund. Junior and Open players who fail to withdraw before the withdrawal deadline will also be allocated one suspension point.

2. SENIOR COMPETITIVE STRUCTURE

2.1 Senior Overview and Regulations

The Senior Competitive Structure will consist of two types of senior Tournaments, fitting into two categories of tournaments with their own unique purpose and description. The following is the breakdown of tournaments sanctioned by Tennis Alberta.

- Senior Tournaments
- Provincials -Tier 2
 - Masters- Tier 3

2.2 Senior Provincial Championships

2.2.1 Purpose and Description

- 2.2.1.1 The Senior Provincial Championships will be used to determine the provincial champion of Alberta for each age category.

2.2.2 Eligibility

- 2.2.2.1 Players must be in good standing with Tennis Alberta and have an active Tennis Alberta membership or membership with any other Provincial Association.
- 2.2.2.2 Age eligibility is based on the calendar year (Jan 1 to Dec 31). Players must be the minimum age of the category by December 31st of the playing year. For example, in order to play in the 35s category, the player must be age 35 or older as of January 1st of the playing year.

PLAYING CATEGORY	BIRTH YEAR
35+	1984
40+	1979
45+	1974
50+	1969
55+	1964
60+	1959
65+	1954
70+	1949
75+	1944
80+	1939
85+	1934

2.2.2.3 Players may only play down, and the player may play down as many age categories as desired. For example, a 40 year old player may play 35+, but not 45+.

2.2.3 Tournament Format

2.2.3.1 The format for each tournament may be different but the scoring will remain consistent across the age groups.

2.2.3.2 For the senior provincials event, singles will be played as a best of three sets match, with a full third set. Doubles will be played as a best of three sets match, with a ten-point tiebreaker replacing the third set.

2.2.3.3 Tournament organizers will do their best to ensure that the tournament is completed on the appropriate surface. If a tournament is registered as an Outdoor Hardcourt tournament, all matches are expected to play outdoors on hardcourt.

2.2.3.4 Consolations will be played for all singles event in provincials. The scoring format for consolation is up to the discretion of the tournament director. Singles consolation will be available upon sign up, and seeding's for consolation will be decided by committee.

2.2.3.5 During the outdoor season, if there is inclement weather, the tournament organizers will do their best to ensure that the tournament continues outdoors.

- If there is light rain, the correct procedure is to stop matches, wait for the courts to dry, and then resume matches outdoors.
- In the case of heavy rain, the correct procedure would be to stop matches for a set amount of time, and have the matches resume later in the day. Eg. Matches stopped at noon because of rain, may resume at 5pm.
- In the case of heavy rain forecasted for a long period of time, matches may be moved indoors. Please discuss this with the tournament referee, as the prerogative of the tournament is to have all of the matches played outdoors.

2.2.3.6 For tournaments with no indoor back-ups that have lost significant portions of the weekend due to inclement weather, the tournament organizer may consult with Tennis Alberta as to whether or not they may abbreviate the scoring method.

- 2.2.3.7 The seeds for each event will be decided by committee. The tournament organizers, along with Tennis AB, will set the seeds the best way they see fit.
- 2.2.3.8 In-town players are expected to be available starting at 5:00 pm on Thursday and as early as 5:00 pm on Friday. Play will not begin until 5 pm on Friday, and 8 am on Saturday and Sunday. Out-of-town players will not be expected to play Thursday evening, but may be scheduled any time (no earlier than 5 pm on Friday) for the remainder of the tournament. The Tournament Director will post any special notices related to tournament draw times in the tournament notes.
- 2.2.3.9 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.

2.3 Masters Events

2.3.1 Purpose and Description

- 2.3.1.1 The purpose of the Masters events is to provide an opportunity to further their ranking and engage in competitive match play.

2.3.2 Eligibility

- 2.3.2.1 Players must be in good standing with Tennis Alberta and have an active Tennis Alberta membership or membership with any other Provincial Association.
- 2.3.2.2 Age eligibility is based on the calendar year (Jan 1 to Dec 31). Players must be the minimum age of the category by December 31st of the playing year. For example, in order to play in the 35s category, the player must be age 35 or older by January 1st of the playing year.

PLAYING CATEGORY	BIRTH YEAR	PLAYING CATEGORY	BIRTH YEAR
35+	1984	65+	1954
40+	1979	70+	1949
45+	1974	75+	1944
50+	1969	80+	1939
55+	1964	85+	1934
60+	1959		

2.3.2.3 Players may only play down, and the player may play down as many age categories as desired. For example, a 40 year old player may play 35+, but not 45+.

2.3.3 Tournament Format

2.3.3.1 The format for each tournament may be different but the scoring will remain consistent across the age groups.

2.3.3.1.1 For Masters events event, singles will be played as a best of three sets match, with a ten point tiebreaker replacing the third set. Doubles will be played as a best of three sets match, with a ten-point tiebreaker replacing the third set.

2.3.3.1.2 Tournament organizers will do their best to ensure that the tournament is completed on the appropriate surface. If a tournament is registered as an Outdoor Hardcourt tournament, all matches are expected to play outdoors on hardcourt.

2.3.3.1.3 Consolations will be played for all singles event in Masters events. The scoring format for consolation is up to the discretion of the tournament director. Singles consolation will be available upon sign up, and seeding's for consolation will be decided by committee.

2.3.3.1.4 During the outdoor season, if there is inclement weather, the tournament organizers will do their best to ensure that the tournament continues outdoors.

- If there is light rain, the correct procedure is to stop matches, wait for the courts to dry, and then resume matches outdoors.
- In the case of heavy rain, the correct procedure would be to stop matches for a set amount of time, and have the matches resume later in the day. Eg. Matches stopped at noon because of rain, may resume at 5pm.
- In the case of heavy rain forecasted for a long period of time, matches may be moved indoors. Please discuss this with the tournament referee, as the prerogative of the tournament is to have all of the matches played outdoors.

- 2.3.3.15 For tournaments with no indoor back-ups that have lost significant portions of the weekend due to inclement weather, the tournament organizer may consult with Tennis Alberta as to whether or not they may abbreviate the scoring method.
- 2.3.3.16 The seeds for each event will be decided by committee. The tournament organizers, along with Tennis AB, will set the seeds the best way they see fit.
- 2.3.3.17 In-town players are expected to be available starting at 5:00 pm on Thursday and as early as 5:00 pm on Friday. Play will not begin until 5 pm on Friday, and 8 am on Saturday and Sunday. 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.
- 2.3.3.18 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.

2019 SENIOR COMPETITIVE STRUCTURE

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