



## **Return to Play Summer 2021**

### **Modifications to the Junior Competitive Structure**

The purpose of this document is to communicate important guidelines that will enable competitive tennis to resume in the most safe and practical manner possible. These changes are designed to be temporary and will solely be implemented while the province manages the COVID-19 Pandemic.

This document and the policies contained within are subject to change given there will be a requirement for Tennis Alberta "TA" to have flexibility during this uncertain period. Such changes may include TA adapting, modifying, or cancelling the 2021 competitive structure.

#### **Safety Measures:**

Tennis Alberta "TA" remain cognizant of the health guidelines set aside by the provincial government. As such the following temporary changes will be implemented:

1. TA wish to limit the number of players on site at any given time. Specific numbers permitted on tournament site at any one time will be limited and disclosed in advance of tournament play resuming.
2. Adequate time shall be required in between matches for sufficient sanitization of court equipment and grounds to take place.
3. TA desire to limit contact between other participants and tournament staff.
4. TA will not have access to indoor facilities for back-up in the case of inclement weather.

**Results:**

All of the aforementioned considerations will result in fewer players being eligible to enter each tournament which will in turn reduce total match loads being played over the course of each event. This will result in the following:

1. Less competitors will ensure smaller draw sizes and fewer matches, as well as less contacts per event.
2. In the case of inclement weather, less matches will allow the tournament to be completed in entirety thus making up for any time lost.
3. A first-match consolation will be provided to allow for first round losers to have the opportunity of a second match. However, in the case of inclement weather, the consolation event will be the first matches to be cancelled, if needed.

**3.5 Star Tournaments**

- Main Draw - 16 Players.
- Consolation - First Match Consolation Draws.
- Qualification – None.
- Seedings- Will be based on Rogers Rankings.
- Scoring - Best two of three tie break sets, regular scoring. Match tie-break for a third set. This may change based on inclement weather and will be at the sole discretion of the tournament referee.
- Playing-Up - Players will be allowed to play up a maximum of one age group.
  - U14's may play in U16, but not U18
  - U10's may play U12, but not U14
- Multiple Events - Players will be limited to one event per weekend.
- Order of acceptance - Players will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Doubles - There will be no doubles offered at these events.

**4 Star Tournaments**

- Main Draw - 16 Players.
- Consolation - First Match Consolation Draws.
- Qualification - One round of qualifying, consisting of 8 players will take place on Thursday evening. 4 Qualifying spots will be available.
- Seedings- Will be based on Rogers Rankings.
- Scoring - Best two of three tie break sets, regular scoring. Match tie-break for a third set. This may change based on inclement weather and will be at the sole discretion of the tournament referee.
- Playing-Up - Players will be allowed to play up a maximum of two age groups.
  - U12's may play in U16, but not U18
  - U10's may play up to U14
- Multiple Events - Players will be limited to one event per weekend.
- Order of acceptance - Players will be accepted based on their ranking on the week prior.
- Doubles - There will be no doubles offered at these events.

## **5 Star Tournaments**

- Main Draw - 12 Players.
- Consolation - First Match Consolation Draws.
- Qualification - Two rounds of qualifying, consisting of 16 players will take place on the first day of the event. 4 Qualifying spots will be available.
- Seedings- Will be based on Rogers Rankings.
- Scoring - Best two of three tie break sets, regular scoring. Match tie-break for a third set. This may change based on inclement weather and will be at the sole discretion of the tournament referee.
- Playing-Up - Players will be allowed to play up a maximum of two age groups.
  - U12's may play in U16, but not U18
  - U10's may play up to U14
- Multiple Events - Players will be limited to one event per weekend.
- Order of acceptance - Players will be accepted based on their ranking on the week prior.
- Doubles - There will be no doubles offered at these events.

## **National Selection Process**

- Players will be selected to represent team Alberta at Nationals Championships based on their ranking at the time of the Nationals Selection cut off – (Date to be determined and communicated in due course).
- There will be no wildcards given for this year's National Selection process.

**\*Please note that all specified changes are considered temporary and may change based on provincial legislation surrounding COVID-19.**

**\*Tennis Canada's Rules of the Court 2021 edition shall be adhered to and will be enforced during all Tennis Alberta sanctioned competitions.**

**\*Entry to events referred to in this document shall only be open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents holding residency in the province of Alberta.**