



2023

**ADULT COMPETITIVE
STRUCTURE**

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1. CONTENTS

1.1 Tournament Sanction Agreement

All tournaments will follow the guidelines set out in the **2023** 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. ADULT COMPETITIVE STRUCTURE

2.1 Adult Overview and Regulations

The Adult Competitive Structure will consist of two types of adult 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.

- Adult Tournaments
- Open Events (100, 200, 350, 1000)
 - NTRP Events (3.0, 4.0, 5.0)

2.2 Open Events (100, 200, 350, 1000)

2.2.1 Purpose and Description

- 2.2.1.1 Open level events are an opportunity for the top-level players in the province to compete against one another. Prize money **may** be given for all open level events (men's and women's).

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 Open events do not have any level restrictions. Juniors wishing to play open must be at least thirteen years of age in order to play.

2.2.3 Tournament Format

- 2.2.3.1 The format for each tournament may be different but the scoring will remain consistent for all matches.
- 2.2.3.2 For open events, 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 not be played for any open level events.
- 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, and Tennis Canada rankings will be taken into consideration. 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 NTRP Events (3.0, 4.0, 5.0)

2.3.1 Purpose and Description

2.3.1.1 These are events that are level based play and provide a competitive opportunity for adult players in Alberta.

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 Junior players (age 17 and under) are not eligible to play in NTRP events.

2.3.2.3 If a player wins 3 or more NTRP singles events at one level (ex. 3.0) during the playing year (September to August), that player must move up a level for the remainder of that year. The tournament win count resets at the end of September every year.

2.3.3 Tournament Format

2.3.3.1 The format for each tournament may be different but the scoring will remain consistent across all three event categories.

2.3.3.2 For NTRP events, 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 also replacing the third set.

2.3.3.3 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.

2.3.3.4 Consolations will be played for all singles event in NTRP 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. There will be no consolations for doubles in NTRP events.

2.3.3.5 If two players of differing levels play doubles together, the average of the two levels will decide the event they will play in (rounding up). For example, if a 3.0 player plays with a 5.0 player, they will play in the

4.0 doubles event. This will be up to the discretion of the tournament coordinator.

- 2.3.3.6 If a singles or doubles event receives four or less entries, the event will be a round robin. If the event receives less than three or less entries, the event will be cancelled. A round robin can be run with up to six players, and this is up to the discretion of the tournament director.
- 2.3.3.7 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.
- 2.3.3.8 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.
- 2.3.3.9 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.
- 2.3.3.10 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.
- 2.3.3.11 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.

- 2.3.3.12 If a player decides to play two singles event (ex. 3.0 and 4.0) that player is not eligible to receive a break in between matches. If a player plays one singles event and one doubles, that player is eligible for a break between matches. The length of the break is dependent on the length of the previous match.

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

Tennis Alberta shall not utilize officials at adult sanctioned events throughout the duration of the 2022 season.

GENERAL

Tennis Alberta reserves the right to change all tournament formats. Any modifications made will be at the sole discretion of Tennis Alberta technical staff and final approval being issued by the Executive Director. Any modifications will be shared in advance with Tennis Alberta stakeholders.

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2023 ADULT COMPETITIVE STRUCTURE

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