



## Configure Rankings changes for Spring 2017

The annual review of player activity in Configure Rankings has resulted in these actions as of September 1st.

1. Downgrades will be in future done **quarterly** instead of annually.
2. Junior Masters singles matches - restrictions on double wins
3. The grading formula for **Doubles** will be slightly changed to use the same logic as in singles.
4. Inactive players have been adjusted downwards.

### 1. Downgrades will be done quarterly instead of annually

In July there were **571** regrade adjustments for active adult singles players and **723** for doubles. This has been an annual process with the aim being to preserve the integrity of the grading system. Incorrect gradings can mean that other players are promoted too soon or are unfairly penalised.

In future these regrades will happen Quarterly as a year is too long to keep an active player at an artificially high level because other players can earn too many easy Grade Wins against them.

To enable a quarterly review the system will now keep track of Grade Losses by showing them on the Grading List as a negative win. e.g. S7-1500-(-1)w.

At the end of each quarter, players will be downgraded if

1. they are on negative wins and
2. they have not had a Grade Win since the start of the preceding quarter.

This gives players up to 6 months to get another Grade Win and so avoid a downgrade. Downgrades will be to near the top of the grade below.

There will of course be some **anomalies** as it is impossible to predict all situations. E.g. a player may be inactive because they are overseas on a college scholarship, or a player was injured for a significant period, or has had limited opportunities. A club may apply for an adjustment to be reversed where there is good reason.

Singles and doubles are processed separately and it does not apply to Grades 1 and 10-12.

### 2. Junior Masters singles matches

In the last year players in Junior Masters singles events gained 850 double wins by beating players in a higher grade.

The reason for granting double wins was to incentivise players to enter Junior Masters events. However the volume of wins has meant players being promoted when they are not really ready for it.

Double wins will continue to be granted **except for when the player in the higher grade has zero wins**.

### 3. Doubles Grading Formula Changes

The doubles grading formula is being slightly changed to align it more closely with singles and to slow down the promotion of player, especially in the higher grades. Doubles players can often play 3 or more matches in a day and under the present rules can get promoted rather too quickly after a 'good' day.

The change is that, in matches where the sides are evenly balanced, **Grade Wins will no longer be awarded to the winners where the losers are both on zero wins, unless the winners also have zero wins.**

Evenly balanced means the combined grades of each side are equal.

### 4. Inactive players.

Adult players who have **not played in the last year** (i.e. since July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016) have been adjusted as follows...

- a. If the player currently has zero Grade Wins then drop a grade and set on base points with zero wins. E.g. S6-1820-0w drops to S7-1500-0w
- b. Otherwise drop the player to their current grade's base points. E.g. S6-1925-1w drops to S6-1800-0w

About **1200** singles gradings and **1700** doubles gradings were adjusted as of July 1st.

Singles and doubles are treated separately and it does not apply to Grades 1 and 10-12.

Players are not downgraded in consecutive years.

Contact [info@tennis.kiwi](mailto:info@tennis.kiwi) for any Configure Rankings questions.