

SENIOR INTERCLUB RULES

PART I - INTRODUCTION

1. Interpretation

In these rules-

Committee means the Interclub Committee appointed by Tennis Auckland.

contest means the matches between one team and another team in any grade, section or playoff.

grading band and **grading** in relation to an individual player means the player grading taken from Match Hub at the date or dates prescribed at the beginning of the season by the Committee. For the Singles Competition the player's singles grading applies; for the Doubles Competition and the Super Tennis Competition the player's doubles grading applies.

higher/lower grade - In determining whether a grade or team is higher or lower than another grade or team:

- (a) The Promotion/Relegation Grades listed in the First Schedule are listed in descending order; and
- (b) Open Grades are lower grades than Promotion/Relegation Grades. Open Grades are numbered according to playing level with Open 1 being the highest Open Grade; and
- (c) Caro Bowl is a higher grade than Caro Bowl Reserve for the purposes of these Rules.

match means one individual singles, doubles, or mixed doubles.

Promotion/Relegation Grade means the grades listed as promotion/relegation grades in the First Schedule. (Note: Open Mens 1, Open Womens 1, and Open Presidents 1 are NOT regarded as Promotion/Relegation Grades under these Rules.)

Promotion/Relegation Rules means the Promotion/Relegation Rules contained in the Second Schedule.

regular team member has the meaning set out in Rule 10(6).

Rule or Rules refers to these Senior Interclub Rules and the attached Schedules.

Senior Interclub Competition means either the Singles Competition, or the Doubles Competition, or the Super Tennis Competition as the case may require.

Senior Interclub Competitions means all of the Competitions listed in the First Schedule.

2. Application Of Rules

These Rules shall be applied and interpreted in the best interests of the game of tennis. The Committee may waive a Rule or make an exception to the strict interpretation of any Rule where it considers that to do so best reflects the spirit of these Rules and the good of the game of tennis. The Committee shall exercise this discretion sparingly and only in exceptional and genuine circumstances.

3. Responsibilities Of Interclub Committee

The Interclub Committee shall have the following duties and powers:

- (a) To arrange and control all interclub competition;
- (b) To interpret these Rules;

- (c) To decide any matters arising from the competitions not covered by these Rules;
- (d) To disqualify any club or player or team for breach of these Rules or to impose any penalty as set out in these Rules;
- (e) In its discretion to order any contest or match to be replayed;
- (f) To make recommendations to amend these Rules.

PART II - SENIOR INTERCLUB COMPETITIONS

4. Senior Interclub Competitions

- (1) The Senior Interclub Competitions shall be those listed in the First Schedule.
- (2) Each Competition listed in the First Schedule shall be a separate competition for the purposes of these Rules. ie The Singles Competition, the Doubles Competition and the Super Tennis Competition are each separate competitions.

5. Format For Entries

Entries for the Senior Interclub Competitions shall be submitted by Clubs to the Committee by a date to be fixed annually by the Committee. Entries shall be in the form prescribed annually by the Committee, shall contain all the information stipulated, and shall be accompanied by the entry fee.

6. Eligibility To Enter Promotion/Relegation Grades

- (1) Subject to the Promotion/Relegation Rules Clubs eligible to enter the Promotion/Relegation Grades shall be those Clubs which had teams entered in that particular Grade the previous season.
- (2) (a) If a Club feels it is unable to field a competitive team in a Promotion/Relegation grade it may request relegation to the immediate grade below. Such requests must be in the hands of the Committee prior to 15th July in any year.
(b) The vacant position will be offered to the next eligible Club/s in the grade immediately below as per Rule 4.1 of the Promotion/Relegation Rules. If the promotion offer is accepted, that Club shall be promoted and the Club requesting relegation will be relegated to the grade immediately below.
(c) Should no eligible Club take up the offer of promotion then the Committee will ask the Club requesting relegation if it wishes to withdraw its team from the Promotion/Relegation grades. The Club then has three working days from the receipt of this advice to advise the Committee of its decision.

7. Declaring Grade Abandoned Due To Lack Of Entries

The Committee may declare any grade abandoned for any season should the Committee consider that insufficient entries have been received in that particular grade. Clubs who have entered in any abandoned grade shall be given the opportunity to make entries in other grades.

8. Restriction On Number Of Teams Per Club

- (1) A Club may enter one team of eight persons for every 15 financial full playing members of the Club.
- (2) A team consisting of four persons shall be considered to be half a team under this Rule.

9. Court Requirements

- (1) Clubs shall be required to make the following courts available for interclub each interclub

day:

- (a) Less than four teams entered in the Senior Interclub Competitions...two courts
 - (b) Four or more teams entered in the Senior Interclub Competitions...two to four courts
 - (c) Eight or more teams entered in the Senior Interclub Competitions...four to six courts
- (2) The host Club has the right to change the court allocation on any given interclub day.
- (3) Where a Club proposes to use courts other than their club courts for interclub, such courts and facilities must first be approved to be of sufficient standard by the Committee.

PART III - TEAM LISTS AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

10. Team Lists

- (1) A Team List shall be provided for each team entered by a Club in the Senior Interclub Competitions by the closing date for entries for that season.
- (2) Each Team List shall show the names of the regular team members for that team for the season.
- (3) The highest-graded player on a Team List in the Singles Competition and in the Super Tennis Competition must be a regular member of that team. The highest-graded man and the highest-graded woman on a Doubles Competition Team List must be regular members of that team.
- (4) The Team List for a Singles Competition Team and for a Super Tennis Competition Team must show a minimum of four regular team members.
- (5) The Team List for a Doubles Competition Team must show a minimum of four regular men and four regular women team members.
- (6) A "regular team member" is a player that the Club at the time of entering the Team List reasonably believes will play in a significant proportion of the contests throughout the season for the team in which that player is listed. The onus of establishing that belief shall lie with the Club.
- (7) A player may be listed on the Team List of one or more of the Senior Interclub Competitions (ie the Singles Competition, the Doubles Competition and the Super Tennis Competition) subject to meeting the player eligibility criteria in Rule 14.
- (8) Where a Club has more than one team in the same Grade, these team compositions can be balanced (eg each team can be made up of two S2 and two S3 players). The teams will be numbered Team 1 and Team 2 etc but once these teams have been listed players cannot be interchanged.
- (9) The Committee may require a Club to produce evidence as to the availability of a player included in a Team List. If the Committee is not satisfied that the Club has reasonable grounds to believe that the player would be a regular team member then the Committee may delete that player's name from the Team List.

11. Amending A Team List

Except as provided in Rules 10(9) and 12(2), players may only be added to or removed from a Team List:

- (a) In exceptional circumstances; and
- (b) With the consent of the Committee; and
- (c) Where a player is to be added to a Team List that player's grading band is not higher than the grading band of the highest graded man on the Team List in the case of a man, or the grading band of the highest graded woman on the Team List in the case of a woman.

NOTE: There will no longer be a Reserves List.

12. Substitute Players For Team List Players

(1) Players Listed On A Team List Playing For Another Team

- (a)** A player listed on a Team List may play a maximum of three contests for higher graded teams in the same Senior Interclub Competition provided that that player's grading band is not higher than the grading band of the highest graded man on the Team List in the case of a man, or the grading band of the highest graded woman on the Team List in the case of a woman.
- (b)** A player listed on a Team List may not play in a lower graded team in the same Senior Interclub Competition notwithstanding that the player may not have played in any contest or contests in the grade in which that player is listed.

(2) Players Not Listed On A Team List

- (a)** A player not listed on a Team List in a particular Senior Interclub Competition may play a maximum of two contests for any team in that player's Club in that particular Senior Interclub Competition provided that that player's grading band is not higher than the grading band of the highest graded man on the Team List in the case of a man, or the grading band of the highest graded woman on the Team List in the case of a woman.
- (b)** After playing the second contest in a Senior Interclub Competition under Rule 12(2)(a) that player shall be listed by the Club as a regular team member of one of the teams that that player has played for. That player is not eligible to play for a higher team in that Senior Interclub Competition in any subsequent contests.
- (c)** To be eligible to play in Promotion/Relegation contests after 10 February a player must by that date –
 - (i)** In the case of the Singles Competition be listed on the Team List of a team in the Singles Competition;
 - (ii)** In the case of the Doubles Competition be listed on the Team List of a team in the Doubles Competition.

(3) Substituting Players After A Contest Has Commenced

- (a)** A player may not be substituted once that player has commenced playing a match in the contest.
- (b)** If a player is injured or falls ill during his first match in a contest and has to default this match, this player is still eligible to play in his or her second match in that contest.
- (c)** Where a team is shorthanded the players present must play in the highest position possible and the bottom match/matches shall be defaulted by the shorthanded team. Should an eligible player become available after the contest has commenced that player may play in the contest provided that the playing order in Rule 18(2) or Rule 19(2) can be observed.

NOTE – each Senior Interclub Competition (Singles, Doubles and Super Tennis) is a separate Competition for the purposes of Rule 12.

Rule 12(1) – a player on a Team List in the Singles Competition may play three contests for higher-graded teams in the Singles Competition. Similarly, a player on a Team List in the Doubles Competition may play three contests for higher-graded teams in the Doubles Competition. A player listed on both a Team List in the Singles Competition and a Team List in the Doubles Competition may play three contests for higher-graded teams in the Singles Competition and three contests for higher-graded teams in the Doubles Competition.

Rule 12(2)(a) and (b) – a player not listed on any Team List may play two contests for any team in the Singles Competition before having to be listed on a Team List in the Singles Competition AND may also play two contests for any team in the Doubles Competition before having to be listed on a Team list in the Doubles Competition.

A player listed on a Team List in the Singles Competition may play two contests in the Doubles Competition before having to be listed on a Team List in the Doubles Competition.

A player listed on a Team List in the Doubles Competition may play two contests in the Singles Competition before having to be listed on a Team List in the Singles Competition.

A player who joins a Team List under Rule 12(2) is not eligible to play any contests for any higher-graded team in that Competition.

Rules 12(1) and (2) are subject to other qualifications as to players' gradings and Rule 14.

Rule 12(2)(c) – each Senior Interclub Competition stands on its own in assessing a player's eligibility to play in Promotion/Relegation contests after 10 February. ie being eligible to play in the Singles Competition on a Singles Team List does NOT qualify that player to play in Promotion/Relegation contests in the Doubles Competition after 10 February and vice versa.

13. Transfers

- (1)** Any player who represents any Club in a Promotion/Relegation grade in any season may not in the immediately following season represent any other Club in a Promotion/Relegation grade without first obtaining the consent to transfer in writing from the Club which that player represented in the previous season. Until such consent is obtained no Club may include any player on a Team List which requires such consent as set out in this Rule. Consent to transfer may not be unreasonably withheld.
- (2)** Consents to transfer must be submitted on the official Transfer Form.
- (3)** If a decision on a request to transfer is not forthcoming within a reasonable time the Committee may be approached to adjudicate on that request to transfer.
- (4)** All consents to transfer must be in the hands of the Committee by the 1st August each year.
- (5)** Where a player does play for another Club contrary to Rule 13(1) then:

- (a) All points for matches won by that player and all points for matches won by any other member of the team who played below the player playing without consent in any contest shall be deducted and those points will be awarded to the opposing team.
- (b) That player may play in a Promotion/Relegation grade only for the Club they played Promotion/Relegation for the previous season. For the purpose of transfers for the following season that player will be deemed to have played for this Club and will therefore require a transfer to play in a Promotion/Relegation grade for another Club in the following season.

14. Player Eligibility

- (1) Players must be financial full playing members of a Club affiliated to Tennis Auckland.
- (2) In the Doubles Competition players must be 30 years of age or over as at the 1st September of the year that the Competition starts.
- (3) Players shown on a SCARBRO Caro Bowl Team List are ineligible to play in the Senior Interclub Competitions with the exception that players who are 35 years of age or over as at 1st September of the year that the Competition starts may play in Ferrier Cup in the Doubles Competition.
- (4) Players shown on Caro Bowl Reserve (Men and Women) and First Grade Men's Team Lists may play no lower than Ferrier Cup in the Doubles Competitions.
- (5) Players shown on a Second Grade Men's Team List may play no lower than Open Presidents 1 Grade in the Doubles Competition.
- (6) Players shown on a First Grade Women's Team List may play no lower than Presidents A Grade in the Doubles Competition.
- (7) No player may play for more than one team on any one day except for juniors who may play both Junior Interclub or School Tennis in the morning and Senior Interclub in the afternoon of the same day.
- (8) A player must use his or her correct name and player code in any contest.
- (9) Teams may include an unlimited number of players under the age of 15 years. Where there are more than two players under the age of 15 years in a team that team must be accompanied by an adult who may be a playing member of that team.

15. Playing For More Than One Club

- (1) A player may play for a different Club in each of the following four competitions in any season provided that that player is a financial member of the Club for which he or she plays:
 - (a) Senior Interclub Competitions;
 - (b) Twilight Interclub;
 - (c) Ladies Midweek Doubles;
 - (d) Winter Interclub.
- (2) A player may not play for more than one Club in any one of the four competitions listed in Rule 15(1) in any season.
- (3) If a player plays for more than one Club contrary to Rule 15(2) that player will, for the remainder of the season, be deemed to be a member of the Club for which he or she was originally listed for. The Club for which the player subsequently played shall lose all points for matches won by that player and all points for matches won by any other members of the team who played below the player in question in any contest and those points will be awarded to the opposing team.

PART IV - CONTESTS

16. Starting Time

Unless otherwise agreed by the Captains of both teams the starting time for any contest shall be the time specified in the Draw.

17. Wet Weather

- (1) No contest shall be commenced or continued if the weather or court conditions are not suitable for play.
- (2) In the event of inclement weather no contest shall be postponed before two hours after the scheduled commencing time except with the agreement of both captains.
- (3) If any contest between teams containing six or more members, three or more matches have been completed and if in contests between teams containing four members, two or more matches have been completed before play ceases for the day, then the contest shall be completed within 16 days of its commencement from the point at which play ceased; where fewer than this number matches have been played, the contest shall be cancelled and the Committee must be advised immediately and it shall arrange another contest for a later date.
- (4) If a contest is required to be completed under Rule 17(3) the Team captains shall arrange the playing of the remaining matches. Should either Team captain consider that the opposing Team captain is not co-operating in the arrangement of any match the matter shall be referred to the Committee which will assume control of the completion of the contest.

18. Singles Competition Contests

(1) Team Content

- Teams of four players or five players if a doubles specialist is used.
- Each player plays one singles match and one doubles match except where a double specialist is used.

(2) Playing Order

(a) Promotion /Relegation Grades

- Players with a higher singles grading band must play ahead of players with a lower singles grading band.
- Players with the same singles grading band may play in any order.
- The player who plays the No1 singles in a contest must play the No1 doubles if playing doubles in that contest except where a specialist doubles player with a higher singles grading band is used.
- If a specialist doubles player is used and that player has a higher singles grading band than the player playing the No1 singles match the specialist doubles player must play in the No1 doubles.

(b) Open Grades

- A player from the highest singles grading band must play in the No1 singles position.
- All other players can play in any order in the singles.
- The player who plays the No1 singles in a contest must play the No1 doubles if playing doubles in that contest except where a specialist doubles player with a higher singles grading band is used.

- If a specialist doubles player is used and that player has a higher singles grading band than the player playing the No1 singles match the specialist doubles player must play in the No1 doubles.

(3) Scoring in Matches

- Singles matches to be the best of three Tie-break sets. Tie-break to apply at six games all in any set. Tie-break to be first to seven points with a two point advantage.
- Doubles matches to be two Tie-break sets. Tie-break to apply at six games all in either set. Tie-break to be first to seven points with a two point advantage. If the score is one set all a Super Tie-break (first to ten points with a two point advantage) will be played to decide the winner.

19. Doubles Competition Contests

(1) Team Content

- Teams of four men and four women players.
- Each player will play one men's or women's doubles as the case may be and one mixed doubles.

(2) Playing Order

(a) Promotion /Relegation Grades

- For the men's/women's doubles a player from the highest doubles grading band must play in the No1 doubles.
- For the mixed doubles the No1 mens doubles player in a contest must play in the No 1 mixed doubles in that contest. The remainder of the men must play in the order of their doubles grading bands. The women can play in any mixed doubles combination.

(b) Open Grades

- For the men's/women's doubles a player from the highest doubles grading band must play in the No1 doubles.
- For the mixed doubles the No1 mens doubles player in a contest must play in the No 1 mixed doubles in that contest. The remainder of the men may play in any order. The women can play in any mixed doubles combination.

(3) Scoring in Matches

- Doubles matches to be two Tie-break sets. Tie-break to apply at six games all in either set. Tie-break to be first to seven points with a two point advantage. If the score is one set all a Super Tie-break (first to ten points with a two point advantage) will be played to decide the winner.

20. Playing Out Of Order

When a player plays out of order in a contest the number of points to be deducted and awarded to the opposing team shall be determined by the number of matches that gained an advantage by that action.

21. Team Sheet

Each captain shall hand to the other captain before the first match a team sheet showing the playing order of players for all matches in the contest. This team order may not be departed from unless a substitute is required to be played (see Rule 12(3)).

22. Order Of Play

- (1) Unless otherwise agreed by both captains the order of play in contests shall be:
 - (a) Singles Competition: No.2 doubles, No.1 doubles, No.4.singles, No.3 singles, No.2 singles, No.1 singles.
 - (b) Doubles Competition: No.4 mixed doubles, No.3 mixed doubles, No.2 mixed doubles, No.1 mixed doubles, No.4 doubles, No.3 doubles, No.2 doubles, and No.1 doubles.

23. Umpires

Any player may require an umpire for a match who shall in that case be arranged by agreement between the captains.

24. Official Ball

Teams shall use the adopted ball specified each season by the Committee. Each team shall provide three pairs of new balls for each Singles Competition contest, four pairs of new balls for each Doubles Competition contest and one pair of new balls for each Super Tennis Competition contest.

25. Defaults

- (1) A Club must notify the Committee and the opposing team at least 24 hours before the scheduled starting time of the contest if a team from that Club has to default that contest.
- (2) Unless both captains agree otherwise the following default process shall apply:
 - Where a team does not have available the players to play in the first two matches as prescribed in Rule 22 within 20 minutes of the scheduled starting time the players present for that team must play in the highest position possible and that team shall lose by default the match or matches that cannot be played at that time. Should an eligible player become available after the contest has commenced that player may play in the contest provided that the playing order in Rule 18(2) or Rule 19(2) can be observed.
 - Where a team does not have all of its players present within 45 minutes of the scheduled starting time the players present in that team must play in the highest position possible in any remaining match or matches and that team shall lose by default all of the lower match or matches irrespective of whether or not a court or courts were available to play any matches or whether any eligible player subsequently becomes available.
- (3) The following penalties shall apply to defaults:
 - Failure to notify the Committee and opposing team at least 24 hours in advance of the contest (including defaulting on the day of the contest) will result in the deduction of three competition points for singles grades or four competition points for doubles grades.
 - Where a default is notified at least 24 hours before the scheduled starting time of the contest the team defaulting shall have two competition points deducted in the singles grades or three competition points deducted in the doubles grades.
 - Where a team defaults for a third time it shall be withdrawn from the Competition and shall be relegated at the end of the season.
 - Where a team withdraws from a Competition after the draw has been published the Club will incur a \$100 fine and the team will be relegated at the end of the season.
- (4) Where a team whether through absence of players from that team or individual defaults by players from that team fails to complete more than one half of the matches in that

contest on the scheduled date for that contest that team shall have two competition points deducted in the singles grades or three competition points deducted in the doubles grades. Matches played shall still count for the purposes of Rule 27.

PART V - RESULTS

26. Entering Results

The captain or nominated person from the winning team is responsible for entering the results into the Match Hub electronic system within five days of the completion of the contest. The correctly completed team sheets must be signed by both captains and include the player codes. Such Team sheets are to be kept for four weeks after the end of the competition and to be made available to the Committee within five working days if so requested.

27. Points Awarded In A Contest

- (1) Points shall be awarded as follows:
 - One point for every match won.
 - Two points to the team winning the contest.
- (2) The winning team in any contest shall be decided:
 - By the number of matches won in the first instance.
 - If matches are equal by the number of sets won. (A Super Tie-break counts as one set).
 - If sets are equal by the number of games won. (A Super Tie-break counts as one game).
 - If games are equal then the contest shall be a draw and the two win points shared one each.

28. Determining Grade Winners

- (1) The team gaining the greatest number of points in all contests during a season shall be the winner of that grade or section. If a competition is played in more than one section, or the grade is to include a final series, the Committee shall hold a playoff or final series to determine who shall be the winner of the grade.
- (2) Should teams finish equal on points at the end of a competition the team that won the most contests shall be the winner. Where teams have won the same number of contests then the winning team shall be the team that won the contest when the two teams played each other.
- (3) If three or more teams score an equal number of points the following procedure will be used:
 - (a) The number of contests won shall decide the winner;
 - (b) If the number of contests won are equal, the percentage of sets won of sets played against all teams shall decide the winner;
 - (c) If the percentage of sets won is equal, the percentage of games won of games played against all teams shall decide the winner.
- (4) In all grades where a default has a bearing on the Promotion/Relegation positions or the winning of a grade; at the end of the season where a team has gained the maximum points from a default then the team/s that have been jeopardised by this default will also

be credited with the maximum points from the contest when they played the defaulting team.

PART VI - SUPER TENNIS COMPETITION

29. Super Tennis Competition

- (1) The Super Tennis Competition is a part of the Senior Interclub Competitions.
- (2) These Rules apply to the Super Tennis Competition but with the modifications detailed in (3) to (9) below.
- (3) Each player will play three doubles matches one with each team member. Players can play in any order from contest to contest provided that a player with the highest doubles grading band on any given day must play in the number one position. The pairings and order of play shall be 1 and 2, 3 and 4, 1 and 3, 2 and 4, 1 and 4, 2 and 3.
- (4) Each match will consist of one set being the best of 15 games (ie. first to eight games wins). A Tie-break to apply at seven games all. Tie-break to be first to seven points with a two point advantage.
- (5) At the scheduled completion time (3pm or 6pm) play shall continue until the game in progress is completed at which stage the pair with the most games is the winner of that set. If the games in this set are equal, then one point of the next game shall be played to determine the winner of that game and thus the set. The receiving pair shall decide with player receives the serve for this one point.
- (6) The captain of the home team shall be the judge of when the scheduled completion time has arrived. If the contest is not finished at the scheduled completion time and the court being used is available for further play then the contest may continue if both captains are in agreement.
- (7) If a team pair is not available to commence play at the scheduled start time, then the pair can be penalised one game for every five minutes that they are late. If the pair is not available for play 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, then they lose that match by default. The start time for the second match is then 30 minutes after the scheduled start time. If a team has not arrived within 45 minutes of the scheduled start time, then that team loses by default.
- (8) In the event of inclement weather the contest shall be postponed by the two teams at the scheduled venue at 12pm and/or 3pm.
- (9) If courts are available at a home venue, and if both teams agree, they can play at those home courts.

PART VII - TWILIGHT COMPETITIONS

30. Twilight Competitions

- (1) The Twilight Singles and Doubles Competitions are separate competitions from the Senior Interclub Competitions listed in the First Schedule.
- (2) These Rules apply to the Twilight Singles and Doubles Competitions but with the modifications detailed in (3) to (5) below.
- (3) Scarbro Carobowl players are excluded from playing in the Twilight Singles and Doubles Competitions.
- (4) **Twilight Singles Competition**
 - A Club must provide a Team List showing a minimum of two regular team members.

- Each contest shall comprise two singles matches and one doubles match. Up to four players may play in any one contest.
- Players may play in any order from contest to contest.
- Each match shall be two Tie-break sets. Tie-break to apply at six games all in either set. Tie-break to be first to seven points with a two point advantage. Sudden death deuces shall apply. If the score is one set all a Super Tie-break (first to ten points with a two point advantage) will be played to decide the winner.
- A Club must provide one court for each contest and one pair of new balls per team per contest.

(5) Twilight Doubles Competition

- A Club must provide a Team List showing a minimum of four regular team members.
- Each contest shall comprise four doubles matches. The pairing and order of play shall be 1 and 2, 3 and 4, 1 and 3, 2 and 4.
- Players may play in any order from contest to contest provided that the top doubles graded player on any given day must play in the number one position.
- Each match shall be two Tie-break sets. Tie-break to apply at six games all in either set. Tie-break to be first to seven points with a two point advantage. Sudden death deuces shall apply. If the score is one set all a Super Tie-break (first to ten points with a two point advantage) will be played to decide the winner.
- A Club must provide two courts for each contest and one pair of new balls per team per contest.

PART VIII - GENERAL

31. Code Of Conduct

The Tennis New Zealand Code of Conduct shall apply to all contests under these Rules.

32. Representative Commitments

If any team has half or more than half its players selected in or officially representing Tennis Auckland or Tennis New Zealand or who have been directed by Tennis New Zealand to attend a pre-selection tournament or has three players involved in a combination of the above, then that team shall be granted a postponement and/or a new date for the contest which shall be scheduled on application to the Committee at least seven days before the original scheduled date for the contest.

33. Amendment To Rules

- (1) The following process shall be followed for amending these Rules:
 - (a) Suggested amendments from Clubs and from the Committee shall be discussed at the annual Senior Interclub Debrief held towards the end of each interclub season. The Committee shall give at least ten days notice to Clubs of the matters to be discussed at the Senior Interclub Debrief including details of any proposed changes to the Senior Interclub Rules.
 - (b) The Committee after considering the matters discussed at the Senior Interclub Debrief and any other factors that it considers relevant shall make such amendments to the Rules as appropriate and report those amendments to Clubs.
 - (c) The amendments to the Rules decided on by the Committee shall be ratified at a Delegates Meeting.

- (2) No amendment shall take effect any earlier than the beginning of the Interclub season following the Senior Interclub Debrief.

34. Offences

- (1) Every Club or its representative that commits any breach of these Rules shall be liable to one or more of the following penalties:
- (a) A fine not exceeding \$50 and where the offence is a continuing one, to a fine of \$50 on every occasion on which the offence is committed;
 - (b) To suspension of a team or teams from contests for whatever period the Committee decides;
 - (c) To the deduction of competition points. (Where appropriate competition points may be awarded to the opposing team if the Committee believes that the opposing team was disadvantaged by the breach of the Rules.)
- (2) Every player who commits any breach of these Rules shall be liable to one or both of the following penalties:
- (a) Suspension from contests for whatever period the Committee decides;
 - (b) Suspension from all or any events conducted by the Association for whatever period the Committee decides.
- (3) The penalties provided in this Rule shall be in addition to any other penalties herein provided.
- (4) Where the Committee considers that a Club or player has committed an offence against these Rules that Club or player shall be advised forthwith of the alleged offence by the Committee by telephone, email or otherwise, and shall be given a reasonable opportunity to submit a case to the Committee if they so wish either in writing or in person or through a representative.
- (5) Any Club or player that fails to pay a fine within one month of the imposition thereof or in the case of an appeal within one month of the final determination of the appeal shall automatically be suspended from taking part in all contests until the fine has been paid.

35. Right Of Appeal

Any Club or player shall have the right of appeal against any decision of the Committee as follows:

- (a) Within ten working days of the receipt in writing of the Committee decision the Club or player may request a meeting with the Committee. That meeting shall be chaired by an independent person. Should the matter not be resolved at this meeting the Club or player may within seven days appeal the matter to the Centre Judiciary Committee of Tennis Auckland.
- (b) A further right of appeal can be made against the decision of the Centre Judiciary Committee of Tennis Auckland to the Tennis New Zealand Judiciary Committee: such an appeal to be made in writing and within seven days of the receipt in writing of the decision of the Centre Judiciary Committee.