

SCARBRO CARO BOWL RULES

PART I - INTRODUCTION

1. Interpretation

In these rules-

Auckland Senior Interclub Competition means the Singles Competition or the Doubles Competition of the Auckland Senior Interclub.

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.

match means one individual singles or doubles.

Rule or Rules refers to these Scarbro Caro Bowl Rules.

2. Application Of Rules

- (1) These Rules apply only to the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition.
- (2) 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 the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition;
- (b) To interpret these Rules;
- (c) To decide any matters arising from the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition 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.

4. Format For Entries

Entries for the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition 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.

PART II - SCARBRO CARO BOWL COMPETITION

5. Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition

- (1) The Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition shall comprise a Mens section and a Womens section.
- (2) Maximum of eight teams in each of the Mens section and the Womens section.
- (3) Maximum of one team per Club in each of the Mens section and the Womens section.
- (4) Clubs eligible to play in the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition shall be those Clubs which had teams entered in the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition the previous season subject to the Promotion/Relegation requirements in sub clauses (5) and (6) below.
- (5) Promotion from the Caro Bowl Reserve Grades shall be as determined in the Auckland Senior Interclub Rules. Should none of the eligible teams take up the offer of promotion then the Committee shall offer promotion, in descending order, to Clubs that finished in the fourth to tenth positions in the Caro Bowl Reserve Grade the previous season and do not have a team in the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition. Should none of those teams take up the offer of promotion then the Club that was relegated the previous season will be offered promotion back to the Scarbro Caro Bowl competition. If the relegated team does not wish to return to the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition, then the Committee will use its discretion to fill the vacant slot
- (6) The team finishing in eighth position in each of the Mens section and the Womens section shall be relegated. Where there are less than eight teams in a section no team will be relegated that season.

6. Format of Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition

(1) Pool Play

Teams will be divided into two pools of four based on their final placing from the previous season. The formula for determining pools is:

Pool A	Pool B
1 st	2 nd
4 th	3 rd
6 th	5 th

Teams 7 and 8 (newly promoted team) are drawn from a hat to complete pools.

(2) Semi-Finals/Final/PlayOffs

- (a) At conclusion of pool play the winning team in each pool will play the second placed team from the other pool in the semi-finals. The winners of each semi-final match shall play each other in the final. The losers shall playoff for third and fourth place.
- (b) The two bottom placed teams in each pool will contest a playoff to determine relegation. First the third placed team in one pool will play the fourth placed from the other pool. The winners will playoff for fifth and sixth place and the losers will playoff for seventh and eighth place.
- (c) Should teams finish equal on points at the end of pool play the team that won the most contests is deemed to be first. If teams have the same number of winning contests then the decision will be made on who beat who during pool play. If still tied, a count back of all contests (sets and games) will be required. This formula also applies to determining the placement of teams for the playoffs for fifth to eighth positions.

(3) Tied Contests in Semi-Finals/Final/PlayOffs

In the event that sets and games are tied in any semi-final, final or playoff contest then the contest will be decided by three tie-break singles. The three participants from each

team who are to contest the tie-break singles are to be named within ten minutes of the last match finishing. The three participants must play in the approved playing order. The three tie-break singles are all to start at the same time, 15 minutes after the completion of the last match.

7. Host Venues for Semi-Finals, Finals and PlayOffs

- (1)** Semi-Finals to be hosted by the first placed team in each pool.
- (2)** Final to be hosted by:
 - (a)** The team with the most points in pool play (excluding sets/games countbacks); or if not conclusive
 - (b)** The team with the biggest winning margin in the semi-finals (excluding sets/games countbacks); or if not conclusive
 - (c)** The opposite venue to where they last played each other (current or previous season); or if not conclusive
 - (d)** Coin toss.
- (3)** The first playoff for fifth to eighth positions to be hosted by the third placed team in each pool.
- (4)** The playoffs for third and fourth positions, fifth and sixth positions, and seventh and eighth positions to be hosted by:
 - (a)** The team with the most points in pool play (excluding sets/games countbacks); or if not conclusive
 - (b)** The team with the smallest losing margin in its last contest (excluding sets/games countbacks); or if not conclusive
 - (c)** The opposite venue to where they last played each other (current or previous season); or if not conclusive
 - (d)** Coin toss.

PART III - TEAM LISTS AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

8. Team Lists

- (1)** A Team List along with individual player consent forms for all players shall be provided for each team entered by a Club by the closing date for entries for that season. No particular format is required for the player consent form so long as the form makes it clear that the named player agrees to play for that Club for the coming season and is signed and dated by the player.
- (2)** The Team List must contain a minimum of four team members.
- (3)** Each Team List shall list the team members for that team for the season in playing order. This playing order must be approved by the Committee. The Committee may seek the opinion of the Tennis Auckland selectors if it disagrees with the playing order submitted by the Club. The decision of the Committee shall be the approved playing order for the season.
- (4)** Additions to Team Lists may be made and must be received by the Committee by 5pm on the Wednesday prior to the first contest of the Competition. The Committee must approve the placement of the new team member within the team's approved playing order.

9. Transfers

- (1) Any player who represents any Club in a Scarbro Caro Bowl team or in a Promotion/Relegation grade in the Auckland Senior Interclub Competition in any season may not in the immediately following season represent any other Club in a Scarbro Caro Bowl team 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 that player on its Scarbro Caro Bowl Team List. 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 15th August each year.
- (5) Where a player does play for another Club contrary to Rule 9(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 Scarbro Caro Bowl team or a Promotion/Relegation grade in the Auckland Senior Interclub for the Club they played Scarbro Caro Bowl or 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 Scarbro Caro Bowl team or a Promotion/Relegation grade for another Club in the following season.

10. Player Eligibility

- (1) Players must be financial full playing members of a Club affiliated to Tennis Auckland.
- (2) To play in any contest in the pool play for a Club a player must, by the Wednesday prior to the contest, either be listed on:
 - (a) A Scarbro Caro Bowl Team List for that Club; or
 - (b) An Auckland Senior Interclub Competition Team List for that Club.
- (3) To play in any playoffs, semi-finals or finals a player must have played a minimum of two contests for his or her Club in that season in the Scarbro Caro Bowl Competition or in the Auckland Senior Interclub Competition or in a combination of the two Competitions.
- (4) No player may play up from the Auckland Senior Interclub Competition on more than three occasions in any season.

PART IV - CONTESTS

11. Starting Time

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

12. Inclement Weather

- (1) No contest shall be commenced or continued if the weather or court conditions are not suitable for play.
- (2) Unless agreed otherwise by the Captains prior to the scheduled starting time a contest will be played at the scheduled Club venue.

- (3) Where there has been no play within one hour of the scheduled starting time due to the weather conditions the contest will go indoors. Where play is interrupted by inclement weather the contest is to go indoors should a break exceed 30 minutes. At any stage by mutual agreement a contest may be moved indoors.
- (4) The back-up indoor venue for each contest will be noted on the Draw.

13. Scarbro Caro Bowl Contests

(1) Singles

- The approved playing order from the Team List is to be followed for Singles matches.
- Where a player is required to play up from another team that player must play below the players on the Team List regardless of his or her Match Hub Ranking. If two players are required to play up on any given day then these two players must both play below the players on the Team List, but the player with the higher grading band must play ahead of the other player. If both players playing up have the same grading band they can play in any order.

(2) Doubles

- The No.1 singles player in a contest on any given day must play in the top doubles if playing doubles in that contest. The only exception is where a specialist doubles player is used and is either ranked higher on the approved playing order from the Team List, or has a higher singles grading band, than the player playing the No.1 singles. In that case, the specialist doubles player must play in the No.1 doubles and the No.1 singles player can then play in either doubles pairing.
- There is no limit to the number of specialist doubles players that can be used in any one contest.

14. Order Of Play

- (1) Captains or Managers will name the playing order for the first matches to be played fifteen minutes before a contest commences. At the conclusion of these matches the teams shall have a maximum of ten minutes to name their team for the remainder of the contest.
- (2) Where four courts are used the contest will start with the two doubles matches followed by the four singles matches.
- (3) When two courts are used the contest will start with the two doubles matches. The two teams will then alternate in deciding the order of the singles matches with the Home Team deciding the first singles match to be played.

15. Format of Matches

- (1) 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 the first to seven points with a two point advantage.
- (2) Doubles matches to be two Tie-break sets with no-ad deuces (ie. at deuce one deciding point is played with the receiver choosing the side which they wish to receive from). Tie-break to apply at six games all in either set. Tie-break to be the 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.

16. Substituting Players After A Contest Has Commenced

- (1) A player may not be substituted once that player has commenced playing a match in the contest.
- (2) 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.

17. Coaching

Coaching by either the Team Coach or a designated person is permitted during a match. Coaching shall only take place during the change of ends and must not disrupt progress of the match. Each team is allowed no more than one person at the side of each court.

18. Match Officials

- (1) Players shall umpire their own matches.
- (2) The Committee shall provide the officials for the semi-finals and the finals contests and shall determine whether the officials shall adjudicate or fully call matches.
- (3) A Club may arrange at its own cost for a Referee to be present at any other contest through the Auckland Referees Association. The Auckland Referees Association will require seven days notice of any such request for a Referee.

19. Official Ball

Teams shall use the adopted ball specified each season by the Committee. Each team shall provide 3 x three ball cans of new first grade tennis balls for each contest.

20. Court Surface

Where a Host Club has a choice of court surfaces available the Host Club must notify the opposing Club as to the court surface that will be used at least one week prior to the contest.

21. Defaults

- (1) Unless both captains agree otherwise the following default process shall apply:
 - (a) Any doubles combination not on court within 20 minutes of the designated start time will be defaulted.
 - (b) Any singles player not present to play his or her singles match within 45 minutes of the designated start time will be defaulted. The players present in that team must then play in the highest position possible in any remaining match or matches and the team sheet shall be altered accordingly.
- (2) Where a Club defaults a contest or defaults more than half the matches in a contest that Club shall be deemed to have committed an offence against these Rules and the Committee may if it sees fit take action against that Club under Rule 25.

PART V - RESULTS

22. Entering Results

The captain or nominated person from the winning team is responsible for entering the results into the Match Hub electronic system by 12pm the day following 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.

23. 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.

PART VI - GENERAL

24. Code Of Conduct

- (1) The Tennis New Zealand Code of Conduct shall apply to all contests under these Rules.
- (2) Approval of team uniforms including any recognition of sponsors on that uniform (where approval hasn't previously been given) must be obtained from the Committee prior to the first round of competition.

25. 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) The timetable followed by the Committee shall reflect the importance of making a timely but fair decision for this Competition. The Committee may proceed to make a decision on a matter notwithstanding the failure by any party to comply with any requirements of the Committee. The decision of the Committee shall take effect forthwith and shall be binding on all parties unless and until altered on appeal.
- (6) 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.

26. 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.