

Mixed Tennis

Age Group: Year 5/6 Mixed Competition. Where possible there will be Division A Competitive and Division B Social.

Field / Pitch / Ground Size & Markings: Normal Tennis Court

Equipment: Div A play with full compression tennis balls. Div B play with the green dot balls.

Duration of game: Play is between 4pm and 5pm. Each player plays one doubles match each. Each player plays one set each to six.

Number of Players: Teams of 2-4. Where there are more than 2 students in a team, players are ranked in ability level and play matches against corresponding players according to ability ie. 1 and 2 vs 1 and 2, 3 and 4 vs 3 and 4. Players not playing, should act as ball boys/girls where possible. If there are 3 players, one player plays twice.

Referee / Umpire: An adult should act as referee, standing at the net, and helping students to score themselves.

Equipment Needed: Players require a tennis racquet each. Division A: normal tennis balls. Division B: Green tennis balls

Rules of the game:

Scoring:

- The Server should keep and call out the score after each point is played. Players cannot call a ball out/in from the opposite end of the court.
- Whenever in doubt, play the point again.
- Scores start at love – all: 0-0 and progress in stages of 15 / 30 /40 where 40-40 equals deuce at which point it proceeds to either advantage server / advantage receiver. If either party wins the point, then it becomes game or if the advantage holder loses the point it reverts to deuce.
- SHORT DEUCE to be played - 'When the score reaches 40 all (deuce) for the first time, a normal deuce is played. If the game has not been decided after this first deuce and the score is back to deuce for a second time, then a sudden death point is played.'
- The first point of a game must always be served to the forehand court.
- Even scores must always be on the forehand/forehand court; odd scores on the backhand/backhand court. For example, 15-30 must always be on the backhand side just as deuce must always be on the forehand side.
- Players should change ends every time the game score adds up to an odd number.

Serving:

- Use two balls when serving (one must be in the pocket, not on the ground).
- In Division B, 2nd serve can be drop/hit from service line.
- Don't hit first serves if they are a fault.
- Balls are to be returned along the ground to the server.

General Rules:

- Remember court etiquette: polite behaviour before, during, and after play. Wait until a point is complete before crossing or running behind a court.
- No player is allowed to touch the net with any part of their body or racquet. If they do, their opponent wins the point.
- If a ball is clearly travelling out but the player either catches or stops it before it bounces, the hitter wins the point.
- If you serve hits the receiver or receiver's partner on the full it is your point.
- If a ball rolls onto your court from another court you should stop the rally and start again.
- If in a rally you lean over the net to hit the ball on the full and you hit a winner, you lose the point.