

## TENNIS NORTHERN REGION



## Wilson Chelsea Cup Rules 2021

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## The Purpose of the Wilson Chelsea Cup

Three key principles underpin Tennis Northern Region's vision for the WCC and they are that it be:

- a) A well contested club competition.
- b) A competition that showcases top regional talent.
- c) A competition that intentionally promotes player development.

### 1) MEANINGS

In these rules:

- a) **Contest** means the total matches between one team and another.
- b) **Match** means one individual singles or doubles.
- c) **TNR** shall mean Tennis Northern Region Incorporated.
- d) **Interclub Committee** means those persons appointed by the TNR board.
- e) **Words importing one gender** shall include the other gender and words importing the singular or plural numbers shall include the plural or singular numbers as the case may be or as the context shall require.
- f) **Interclub panel** shall be a group of people appointed by the Interclub Committee.

### 2) INTERCLUB COMMITTEE

The Interclub Committee manages Interclub, under delegated authority from the TNR board, with the following powers:

- a) To arrange and control all Interclub competitions and rules.
- b) To interpret these rules.
- c) To decide any matters arising not covered by these rules.
- d) To disqualify, in its discretion, any club or player for any breach of these rules or to impose any penalty.
- e) To order, in its discretion, any contest or match to be replayed.
- f) To regrade or decline any entry.

### 3) ALTERATIONS

- a) These rules supersede all Interclub Rules formulated prior to November, 2020. All previous rules are to be disregarded whether or not they are directly covered in these rules.
- b) The Interclub Committee shall undertake a review of the WCC rules each year.

### 4) COMPETITIONS

WILSON Chelsea Cup (WCC) Men's and Women's grades.

### 5) ENTRIES

- a) The composition of grades will be based on the team entries from clubs within TNR.
- b) The date for commencing play shall be decided annually by the TNR Interclub coordinator.

### 6) MAKE UP OF GRADES

The WCC shall be composed of Mens and Womens grades with a limit of 8 teams in each grade. If more than 8 teams are entered the Interclub Committee has the right to adjust teams to fit. Subject to the approval of the Interclub Committee second teams from clubs may be allowed if less than 8 teams are entered, on the condition that both teams are of equal standard.

## 7) TEAM LISTS

a) Clubs must submit WCC team lists online by **13 December 2020**. Player additions and changes are allowed by e-mails to TNR until **31 January 2021**. Players must be listed, and play for the season, in order of Match Hub Ranking singles points at **1 February 2021**. Clubs should note that while they may list as many players as they like there are restrictions as to who can play in a contest during the competition.

A maximum of 2 players with over 3275 points may play in the singles round and/or doubles round of a contest. For men and women at least one 18 and under junior\* must play at least one round in a contest which can be singles or doubles. If a junior does not play at least one match, the offending team will be deducted 3 competition points.

b) At the time of playing a match, players must be listed on the club's WCC team list or on the club's Mens /Womens Singles or Doubles team lists for the current season (**2020-21**).

Requests to add a player before the first contest must be submitted to the TNR office by the club captain or approved interclub person in writing or by email at least 3 days before the player is due to play. Clubs should not consider the player is listed or eligible to play until they have had confirmation from the TNR office. After the competition has commenced players may only be added to the list with the approval of the Interclub Committee Chelsea Cup Panel. This is likely to be allowed only in the case of injury. Only the straight swapping of players with similar rankings will be allowed in the case of injury.

c) The playing order for the whole of the competition will be based on the Match Hub Singles Ranking after the **1 February 2021** update. No exceptions or regrade applications will be considered.

NB: If a player was **not** originally listed in the team then their position on the day is always number 4, behind the first three available players as originally listed for the competition.

\*An eligible 18 and under junior, is a player who is 18 years or younger on the 30 April **2021**.

## 8) PLAYERS PLAYING WCC AND OTHER GRADES

a) WCC players will be entitled to play WCC and in the club's Men's and Women's grade 1 singles so long as their Match Hub Singles Ranking is S2 or lower.

b) WCC players may also play in the Doubles 1 grade, however they must be listed in the team at the start of the Doubles 1 competition.

c) Junior Players (18 & under) who are already playing a lower grade than singles 1 or doubles 1 at the start of the season, and then are subsequently selected for WCC for the first time, may continue to play in that grade provided they were named in that grade at the start of the season.

## 9) ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

a) Players representing a Club in interclub should be a financial member of that club and must be registered by the club when it submits its membership data at the end of the interclub season.

b) Clubs may select players for their WCC teams from anywhere, including other TNR clubs, without prejudicing those player's rights to continue playing interclub for their "own" club. These players MUST be listed on the WCC team list at the time of playing the match.

c) **Players who are listed and play in the club's TN Mens /Women's Singles or Doubles team lists for the current season may reserve for WCC up to 4 times without being listed in the WCC team. Players who do not play for the club in TN competitions are not eligible to reserve. The reserve must play below listed players on the day (ie generally at No.4)**

## 10) CONTESTS

- a) WCC will be played on Friday evenings commencing at **6.30pm**. (start of play 6.30pm sharp – not time of assemble)
- b) The winner of a Contest is the team that wins the greater number of matches. If matches are equal, the countback system (Rule 14b) will be used to determine the contest winner.
- c) All Singles matches shall be decided by the best of three 7-point tiebreaker sets, with the tiebreaker at 6 games all.
- d) Doubles matches shall be decided by two 7-point tiebreaker sets, no-advantage deuce scoring (sudden death deuce) and, if one set all, a deciding third set super tiebreaker (first to 10 points with a margin of 2 points) will be played.
- e) Please note the sudden death deuce rule applies in Doubles matches only and the receiving team decides in which court they will receive the serve.
- f) Contests shall be played in the following order (4 Singles first, followed by 2 doubles) with two exceptions:
- If both teams are in agreement to change the sequence of matches.
  - If the home team is hosting a double-header, but has less than 8 courts available to play the tie i.e. both Men's & Women's teams are playing at the same venue. In this instance the **home** team may decide the order of play for all matches.
- g) The Men's & Women's competitions will be round robin's played at clubs, followed by two semi-finals, played at clubs, and a final played indoors at the Albany Tennis Park. The semi-finals will be determined by the round robin standings.
- h) The final competition structure depends on the number of teams entered and the Interclub Committee will decide on the most appropriate method once team numbers are confirmed. All clubs and managers will then be informed
- i) To be eligible to play in a semifinal or final a listed player must have played in the required number of round robin matches listed below. A non-listed reserve must have played in the same number of TN singles or doubles interclub matches for the Chelsea Cup club.

No. of Round Robin Matches	No. of Matches required to play in Semi Final	No. of Matches required to play in Final
5	2	3
7	3	4
9	4	5

## 11) PLAYING ORDER

- a) Once the order of play has been established for the evening (see rule 10f) team managers must write out their team order in their interclub booklet, for the first half of the contest. This will either be all four singles ties, or, both doubles ties. Once the first half of the contest has been completed, team managers must write out their team order for the remaining singles or doubles matches. The Chelsea Cup booklets (with completed team orders as per above) must be exchanged between managers before a ball has been struck and again at the half-way stage. This rule is to allow team managers to bring a substitute player in should someone get injured in the first half of the contest or, to give young players an opportunity in dead rubbers. TNR expects all team managers to work together to ensure these rules are followed.
- b) In the singles matches, the singles players must play in the order of their club's team list.

- c) In the doubles matches the highest ranking singles player playing in the doubles round must play in the top doubles.
- d) An 18 and under junior must play in the singles or doubles. Clubs failing to do this will be deducted 3 competition points.
- e) Any singles player (up to a maximum of two per contest) may be replaced by another player for the doubles. In all cases the highest ranking singles player in the doubles round must play in the top doubles.
- f) Doubles rankings/bands are not considered in regard to playing order for WCC.

## **12) POINTS**

Points will be awarded in each contest as follows:

- a) Each team shall receive one point for each match it wins. The team winning the greater number of matches shall receive 2 bonus points.
- b) Should the teams win an equal number of matches the winning team is the team which won more sets or if the sets are equal won more games. If matches, sets and games are all equal both teams will be awarded 1 bonus point. Notes:
  - i) In these calculations any match won by default will be:  
If Player A does not take the court, Player B wins the match 6-0, 6-0. When a match in progress is defaulted by Player A, Player B receives all remaining sets and games.
  - ii) A 3<sup>rd</sup> set super tiebreaker is counted as a set when a set countback is required. If sets are even and a countback of games is required then the super tiebreaker is counted as one game. This means the super tiebreaker could potentially have two values.
- c) The first time a team loses a contest wholly by default it will have to pay the standard default fee. If a team defaults a second time it will lose all competition points for the season.

## **13) RESULTS**

- a) Team managers will have a handbook in which they should record the contest results and have them signed off by the opposing captain. The books will be used by the Interclub Committee if it needs to resolve any disputes.
- b) The winning manager of any contest must enter the results online on the TNR website within **24 hours** of the contest being completed to facilitate prompt media releases and website updates.
- c) The losing manager should check the results. If there is a disagreement the losing manager should first contact the winning captain to resolve the matter. If results need to be adjusted the winning manager should email the TNR office to arrange it.

## **14) CHELSEA CUP WINNERS**

These Rules apply to both Men's and Women's competitions

- a) The Chelsea Cup champions will be the winner of the final.
- b) If there is a tie on points for any position to determine the first 4 places a countback will be made, firstly of contests won, secondly of matches won, thirdly of sets won, and if these are equal of games won over the entire season. If points, contests, matches, sets and games are equal a playoff shall take place between the top 3 players in each team. The playoff shall be a super tiebreaker (first to 10 with margin of 2). The team winning 2 super tiebreakers shall be the winner.
- c) The countback system in Rule 14b) shall also be used if necessary to determine the winner of the semi finals and final and any promotion/relegation contests.

## **15) WEATHER & DELAYED MATCHES**

- a) Contests may only be postponed due to inclement weather by agreement of both team managers. Teams should always turn up for contests and play as many matches as possible as weather conditions in Auckland change very quickly. This particularly applies to matches on artificial grass.
- b) Any postponed contest must be completed **within** 14 days of the original scheduled contest date. Date of the rematch must be agreed upon by both teams and notified to TNR by email (admin@tennisnorthern.co.nz) **within** 48 hours of the postponed match so the draw can be updated. Any team failing to turn up for an agreed match will be defaulted. All round robin matches must be played before the semi-finals. If the last round robin match is postponed **due to weather**, this **MUST** be played and results entered **within** 5 days. If the contest was partially completed **and for any reason not completed within the required timeframes**, then points for the completed matches will be awarded and **NO** points awarded for the unplayed matches. Bonus points will **not** be allocated for partially completed contests. **This is to encourage teams to make every effort to complete contests.** If an agreed replay date is also unplayable due to weather TNR should be emailed and it will make a decision on how to proceed.
- c) Unfinished matches in a contest shall be continued from the same point's situation in the match whether play is recommenced on the same night or on another day.
- d) **Matches stopped due to failure or time limits of flood lighting will be completed in accordance with rule 15b. Clubs should do their utmost to avoid floodlight issues. Matches can start early or extra courts used.**
- e) Indoor courts may be booked at the following locations, subject to availability. Bookings should be made by 12pm to ensure staff can be organized as venues frequently close early on Friday evenings. Please note charges will apply at each venue.
- Albany Tennis Park – Pro-Shop (09) 414 5530 ext 704 (3 courts to be booked for one match (2 teams/clubs)
  - Scarbro Tennis Centre, Glen Innes – Simon Crozier / (09) 521 7630
  - Blockhouse Bay – Wayne Malloy / (09) 627 8735

## 16) SUBSTITUTES

- a) A substitute shall **not** play in the place of a player who has played or commenced to play in a particular match.

## 17) BALLS

- a) TNR will provide each team with one box (6 dozen) new top grade canned balls of the brand adopted by TNR. Two new balls will be used for each match played, with an additional two new balls for the third set of singles matches if required. Doubles matches do **not** have a change for the super tiebreak. Balls will be distributed evenly between clubs meaning it is the responsibility of both clubs to provide an equal number of balls for the match. Balls should be collected and signed for by team managers from the TNR office.

## 18) REPRESENTATIVE FIXTURES

- a) In the event of a Chelsea Cup contest clashing with a TNR or TNZ Representative match or a TNR or TNZ controlled fixture any team having **two** or more players in the Representative Team shall, upon request, have the Chelsea Cup contest postponed. Notice to this effect must be given to the Interclub coordinator 28 days prior to the date set down for the Chelsea Cup contest. This rule only applies to round robin matches. Any postponed match must be completed before the date of the semi-finals.
- b) Where a player has been selected in a TNR or TNZ Senior or Junior Representative Team or a TNR or TNZ controlled fixture and has declined selection for any reason, then that player cannot take part in interclub matches on the date set down for such Representative match, and a substitute must be played by the club concerned.

## 19) DEFAULTS

- a) The first time a team loses a contest wholly by default it will have to pay the standard default fee. If a team defaults a second time it will lose all competition points for the season.

- b) A team which does not have sufficient players (75% of the team) 30 minutes after the start time may be liable to default.
- c) All claims for defaults must be lodged with the Interclub coordinator within three days of the contest. The Interclub coordinator will then contact the clubs concerned and after giving full consideration to the facts decide whether the default will be awarded or the contest be replayed.
- d) Teams that win a contest by default will receive points for that contest equal to the average of the points they have accumulated in the other contests they played over the season. This means default points cannot be allocated until the end of the round robin.

## **20) CLOTHING**

- a) In all matches players must wear clothing and shoes specifically designed for tennis.
- b) Clothing bearing a sponsor's name may be worn. TNR regulations state that a sponsor's name/logo should be no more than 8cmx8cm on match clothing. Match clothing may also include the club name. Team tracksuits may sport a sponsor's name/logo of any size.

## **21) PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT**

- a) Players must conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the game of tennis during all matches. The Tennis New Zealand Player Code of Conduct and Tennis New Zealand Self Umpiring Code shall apply to all contests. These codes form part of these rules and can be found on the TNR website.
- b) Players guilty of verbal or physical misconduct shall be liable to default.
- c) A supervisor or referee, who may be a member of the Interclub Committee or someone appointed by the Interclub Committee, may be in attendance and shall have the power to enforce these rules and the New Zealand Player Code of Conduct including the power to default players for misconduct on the court.
- d) Reports of misconduct must be made by Clubs, in writing or by email, to the TNR office within 7 days of the alleged offence. The Interclub Committee shall have the power to default a player if it thinks fit.

## **22) TEAM MANAGERS AND CAPTAINS**

- a) Managers and captains must take an active role in maintaining appropriate player and team behaviour throughout the competition.
- b) One team representative only may sit courtside on each court where a match is being played. This may include the team manager, captain or one of the team's players. No other persons shall sit courtside.
- c) Team managers and captains, one for each team, must be named at the start of the competition and cannot be named on the night. Stand-in managers/captains are not permitted.

## **23) SPONSOR SIGNAGE**

- a) Clubs hosting a home contest may be asked to erect match day signage as distributed by TNR in conjunction with the competition sponsor.

## **24) COMPLAINTS AND RIGHT OF APPEAL**

- a) Complaints or reports on breaches of these rules are to be made by Clubs (Club Captain, President or approved interclub contact person) in writing or by email, to the TNR office within 3 days of the alleged breach.
- b) The Interclub Panel will consider the complaint in the first instance and make a ruling.
- c) Clubs have a right of appeal to the Judiciary arm of the Interclub Committee if they disagree with a ruling made by the Interclub Panel. The appeal fee of \$200 is payable at the time of lodging the appeal. The appeal fee of \$200 will be refunded if the appeal is upheld. Any appeal shall be made within 7 days of the initial decision.
- d) The Interclub Committee process and final ruling will be reviewed and ratified by the TNR Operations Manager.
- e) Clubs have a right of appeal to the Interclub Committee decision under Rule 16 of the TNR constitution. This Rule is titled, Discipline, Disputes and Appeals and outlines the procedure for such appeals.

f) If the Interclub Committee rules that disciplinary action is necessary the following procedure will usually be followed:

- First complaint – the player concerned receives an official warning. This will be sent to the player's club captain and team captain by TNR.
- Second complaint – the player concerned will be stood down from the next interclub contest after the ruling. Confirmation of the suspension will be sent to the player's club captain and team captain by TNR.
- Third complaint – the player concerned will be suspended for the season. . Confirmation of this will be sent to the player's club captain and team captain by TNR.
- After each complaint it is expected that clubs will take their own disciplinary action to ensure that club members display appropriate behaviour.