



PADEL AUSTRALIA TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

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1. THE COMPETITION

The Australian Padel Tour (APT) features the International, National, Masters, Club Championships and future development of the Next Gen Series. Padel Australia endorsed tournaments will be published annually based on the calendar year.

1.1. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

Padel Australia issues the Padel Tournament Regulations to provide fairness and consistent regulations in tournament categories endorsed by Padel Australia forming part of the annual calendar.

Any ambiguity or uncertainty in connection with these regulations shall be resolved by Padel Australia acting reasonably. Padel Australia reserves the rights to interpret these regulations, when necessary, in order to resolve particular or unusual circumstances. In addition, it may be necessary to determine the most appropriate procedures to be utilised in special or unusual circumstances.

In the event that these regulations do not cover a rule/procedure related item at a Padel Australia Tournament, Referees and Tournament Directors should refer to The International Padel Federation Documentations (available via <https://www.padelfip.com/documentation/>)

Effective from June 2024, these regulations may undergo revision, which will be updated via a newly released version published online as per section 1.5.

All persons participating in any way (including players, officials, staff, coaches, representatives, agents, medical staff, relatives and associates of a player, a player's entourage and spectators) must abstain from negative comments about players, organisers, or officials, including to representatives of the media or through social media with breaches addressed under the related Code of Behaviour.

1.2. TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES

Listed below are tournament categories that will be accessible at the time of entry for players who meet the entry eligibility. The availability of each category may be dependent on the number of registrations and court availability.

For example, category C may only become available in consultation with the host club or in the instance where a high volume of registrations is expected. In the Masters, 35+ and 45+ categories may be combined where there is a low number of registrations across both categories.

1.2.1. National Opens

- Men's Open Doubles (Available to all players above minimum age requirement)
- Men's B Doubles (Available to males only ranked beyond #40 in the Aus Padel Rankings)
- Men's C Doubles (Available to males only ranked beyond #100 in the Aus Padel Rankings)
- Women's Open Doubles (Available to all players above minimum age requirement)
- Women's B Doubles (Available only to females ranked beyond #20 in the Aus Padel Rankings)
- Women's C Doubles (Available only to females ranked beyond #80 in the Aus Padel Rankings)

1.2.2. Masters

- Men's Masters Doubles (35 years +)
- Men's Masters Doubles (45 years +)
- Women's Masters Doubles (35 years +)
- Women's Masters Doubles (45 years +)

For a player to be eligible in the 35 years + category, a player must reach at least the age of 35 the year of the competition.

For a player to be eligible for the 45 years + category, a player must reach at least the age of 45 the year of the competition.

1.3. MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT

To compete in the International, National, Masters categories of the Australian Padel Tour and FIP sanctioned tournaments, the minimum age will be 15 years on January 1st of the same year in which they want to participate. Padel Australia reserves the right to accept players under the minimum age requirement by written submission from the players parent/guardian.

1.4. GROUNDS FOR REFUSING ENTRY

Padel Australia reserves the right to refuse entry to players or other participants in Australian Padel Tournaments and related venues if they:

- Have outstanding financial obligations.
- Violate Padel Australia's code of behaviour.
- Is not of good standing or character or has or will likely embarrass or bring into ridicule or disrepute to Padel Australia, the applicable tournament and/or the sport of Padel.
- Fail to meet condition of entry.
- Are restricted from tournament participation due to visa or legal constraints imposed by government agencies or courts.

1.5. AMENDMENTS

The Australian Padel Regulations are subject to modification, repeal, or other alterations, whether in entirety or partially, solely by Padel Australia (PA). PA reserves the right to periodically review and revise the Australian Padel Regulations throughout the year, even with retrospective application, when deemed by PA, at its sole discretion, to be in the best interests of players and the Australian Padel Tour (APT). These revisions will be published on the Padel Australia website.

1.6. PLAYER LICENSE

All players entering Padel Australia endorsed tournaments, as a condition of their entry are required to register for and have active their annual player license, accept the related terms and conditions, and pay any appropriate fee. Failure by a player to register for their License and failure to accept the related terms and conditions may result in the rejection of that player's entry.

To complete your registration, visit <https://pa.tournamentsoftware.com>, click log-in and follow the prompts to complete.

NOTE: For assistance in this process please email – info@padelaus.com.au.

2. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

2.1. DRAW FORMAT

The following draw formats may be used at Padel Australia Tournaments.

	Main Draw	Match Play
International	As Per FIP Regulations	
National Open Series	5 Teams or Fewer Round Robin 6 Teams or More Single Elimination	Round Robin Single Elimination Match Play
Masters Series	5 Teams or Fewer Round Robin Between 6 - 24 Teams Round Robin Pools 25 or more Teams Single Elimination	Round Robin Single Elimination Match Play
Club Series	5 Teams or Fewer Round Robin Between 6 - 24 Teams Round Robin Pools 25 or more Teams Single Elimination	Round Robin Single Elimination Match Play
NextGen	5 Teams or Fewer Round Robin Between 6 - 24 Teams Round Robin Pools 25 or more Teams Single Elimination	Round Robin Single Elimination Match Play

2.1.1. Round Robin

A round robin draw is a format where each team competes against every other team within their group. Multiple round robin draws can be used in a group stage with winners of each group advancing to a single elimination draw.

2.1.2. Single Elimination

A single elimination or knockout draw is a type of elimination format where the loser of each match is immediately eliminated from the draw. Teams may have the option to sign-in for the additional Match Play draw. Match Play can consist of either round robin, single elimination or match play draw.

2.1.3. Match Play (formerly known as consolation)

The organising club may offer a match play draw, whereby pairs will be offered a minimum of 1 and maximum of 2 matches in a match play draw.

2.2. SCORE FORMAT

	Main Draw	Match Play
International	As Per FIP Regulations	
National Series	2TB Sets + 10MTB Semi Final 3TB Sets Final 3TB Sets	2TB Sets + 10MTB
Masters Series	2TB Sets + 10MTB Final 3TB Sets	2TB Sets + 10MTB
Club Series	2TB Sets + 10MTB Final 3TB Sets	2TB Sets + 10MTB Short Sets 1TB Set
NextGen	2TB Sets + 10MTB Final 3TB Sets	2TB Sets + 10MTB Short Sets 1TB Set

- Standard International Padel Federation game scoring will be followed, however after a first deuce is played as traditional advantage scoring, should the game score return to deuce, golden point will be applied. The receiving pair will choose whether to receive the service on the right or the left side of the court. The receiving pair cannot change positions to receive the deciding point. The pair that wins the point wins the game.
- SHORT SET: The team to win four games wins the set, with a minimum margin of two games. If both teams tie at four games each a tie-break (7 point) will be played.

2.3. ENTRIES AND DRAWS

2.3.1. Team Registrations

It is a mandatory requirement for all Padel Australia tournaments that each individual player registers online via the official tournament entry system available for each tournament.

- Padel Australia will open registrations approximately 4 weeks from the event start date.
- Entries will close five (5) days prior to the start of the tournament at 11:59PM AEST or as indicated by the tournament organiser.
- Player payment must occur at the time of registration.
- Players are required to register with an identified partner. Both players must nominate their partner during the entry process for the entry to be accepted. It will be each player's responsibility to confirm their playing partner. Should a partner withdraw following the closing of entries the host venue will make best endeavours to find another player up until the draw is published.
- If a player has entered a category without nominating a partner, the tournament may pair individual entries together. The procedure for pairing these players will be as follows: Players will be paired with the next highest player with the most recently available ranking without a partner.
- Once all players with a ranking have been allocated a partner, any remaining players without a ranking may be paired by random draw.
 - The pairing of unallocated partners will only be undertaken once and will not be redone if any player withdraws from the event
- Discretionary consideration may be given if both players are the same handedness, for which players then may be paired with a player of opposing handedness

- If a player has an outstanding payment, their registration won't be accepted into the tournament/s.

2.3.2. Acceptance List

Each APT Tournament will produce a pre-event Acceptance List. The Acceptance List is designed to display the following:

- Teams accepted directly into the main draw of an event based on combined ranking points.
- Teams that have received wildcards into the draw.
 - Teams that have not been accepted into the event.
- Teams that have withdrawn from the event.

To calculate the team points, the respective event category ranking points of both players are added together. If either player does not have any current points, they are considered to have zero (0) points.

The order of acceptance will be based on the sum of points. If two (2) or more pairs have the same number of points, the order will be established by the team with the highest combined ranking.

Ranking and points are updated periodically as part of a rolling ranking system and annual tournament calendar.

<https://www.padelaus.com.au/auspadel-ranking/>

2.3.3. Maximum Draw Sizes

If a tournament has advertised to accept a restricted number of entries teams will be accepted based on:

- Ranking points
- Entry Timing (entries based on what teams entered first)

2.3.4. Minimum Draw Sizes

The minimum draw size is three (3) teams, which will be played in a round-robin format. If fewer than three (3) teams are entered into a draw after the entry period has closed, the tournament committee will issue a full refund and remove the draw from the tournament schedule

2.3.5. Wildcards

Wildcards are teams included in the draw at the sole discretion of the tournament, with approval from Padel Australia. Wildcards must enter the event and may be seeded. Wildcards must be named at the time the draw is made and Wildcards who withdraw may not be replaced with new Wildcards after the appropriate draw is made. Any such vacancies shall be filled by the next eligible team on the acceptance list.

Draw Size (Teams)	16	24	32
Wildcards*	2	4	4

**If wildcards are not issued, these positions are to revert to direct acceptances*

Tournaments may not receive compensation and players may not offer compensation in exchange for the awarding of a wildcard.

2.3.6. Seeding

To calculate the team points, the respective event category ranking points of both players are added together. If either player does not have any current points, they are considered to have zero (0) points.

The order of seeding will be based on the sum of points. If two (2) or more pairs have the same number of points, the order will be established by the team with the highest combined ranking.

2.3.6. Main Draw Seeds

The number of seeds shall be as follows:

8 teams or less: 2 seeds

9 to 16 teams: 4 seeds

17 to 32 teams: 8 seeds

32 to 64 teams: 16 seeds

NOTE #1: The number of seeds required for a draw is different if undertaking a Round Robin draw. Two seeds are required for each Round Robin group.

NOTE #2: For match play events, the number and placement of seeds follows all principles of Main Draw elimination draw procedures.

2.3.7. Discretionary Selection of Seeds

If, in the opinion of Padel Australia or the Tournament Director a team is worthy of being seeded, they will be placed in the seeding position deemed suitable to standard by the tournament direction. Reasons for a discretionary seeding include (but are limited to):

- A team comprising of a player(s) recovering from illness/injury, currently with a low ranking.
- A team comprising of 'known performer(s)' either internationally or nationally who either PA or the Tournament Director deems suitable for seeding in comparison to other competitors.

a. Masters 35+ Seeding Considerations

Players ranked in the top 20 on the Australian Padel National Tour may be prioritised in regard to discretionary seedings.

b. Masters 45+ Seeding Considerations

Players ranked in the top 10 in the Masters 35+ and top 20 on the Australian Padel National Tour may be prioritised in regard to discretionary seedings.

The decisions of Padel Australia and Tournament Director on seeding will be final and binding on all parties (including all relevant players) and no one will have the right to appeal against or otherwise challenge such decisions.

2.4. ENTRY FEES

The following entry fees will be charged by the tournament organiser per player as an entry requirement.

- International Series: FIP determined
- National Opens Series: \$60
- Masters Series: \$60

Players with unpaid entry fees after the entry deadline may not be accepted into the tournament.

2.5. ENTRY FEE REFUNDS

a. Tournament Cancellation: Padel Australia will process a full refund of the entry fee to each player if PA or the organising club cancels the event for any reason prior to the commencement of the tournament. The organising club will have the opportunity to reschedule the tournament after liaising with Padel Australia.

b. Impacted by weather or cancelled: If the tournament progresses past the first round of matches in any event, then the entry fees will not be refundable, and the ranking points will be allocated accordingly (should no alternative venue be secured to complete the event). However, if the first round isn't completed in its entirety, then the entry fee will be refunded, and the tournament will look to be rescheduled. If the event can't be rescheduled for any reason, then the tournament will be cancelled.

The following entry fee refunds will be processed by Padel Australia based on the following scenarios:

Scenario	Action
Player withdrawal before entry and withdrawal deadline	A full refund of the player entry fee
Player withdrawal after the withdrawal deadline, but before the release of the draw	Entry fee will not be refunded (unless supported by medical / injury certificate)
Player withdrawal after the withdrawal deadline and after the release of the draw	Entry fee will not be refunded
A player who is a 'No Show'	Entry fee will not be refunded
A player who has entered the draw whose partner withdraws before the release of the draw	A full refund of the player's entry fee
Where a partner can be found to replace a withdrawing partner, but the player chooses not to play	Entry fee will be refunded

2.6. WITHDRAWALS

The withdraw deadline will be the same date and time of the entry close date. Entries will close five (5) days prior to the start of the tournament at 11:59PM AEST or as indicated on the tournament guidelines.

All withdrawals must be submitted to Padel Australia via email (info@padelaus.com.au). Refunds will not be issued if the withdraw procedure is not followed.

If a player withdraws after the draw is released, but before the first match of the event due to injury, the player can be substituted with another player if the substituted player is of equal or lower ranking. It will be the player's/team's responsibility to source a new partner.

2.7. NO SHOW PROCEDURES

Any player not ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes after his/her match is called shall be defaulted unless the Referee/Tournament Director in their sole desertion and consideration of all relevant circumstances, decide otherwise.

To avoid Tournament Director discretionary withdrawal, the player must make contact with the Tournament Director within one (1) hour of the scheduled match time of the day of the "no-show".

A player who is defaulted under the "no show" provisions of the related code of behaviour may be permitted to play in subsequent draws at the discretion of the Referee/Tournament Director. Situations where this may be applicable include (but are not limited to):

- Family Grievances.
- Late arrival due to transport difficulties.
- Incorrect reading of the time schedule.
- Attending the wrong venue.

2.8. PLAYER SUBSTITUTIONS

- If a player intends on substituting their partner with another player prior to entries closing, they must notify Padel Australia and the Tournament Director (email, telephone, in person) before the substitute player can play.
- Should a player withdraw following entries closing but prior to the first match tournament match the player may find an alternate partner so long as the new player has a ranking equal or lower than the player substituted.
- Every effort by player/s should be made to find a replacement partner when one member of pair cannot compete.
- The substitute player must not be already confirmed into the draw unless that player was originally combined with another player who also withdrew.
- If the team was originally seeded, then any newly created team should have a combined ranking that is not higher than the next highest seeded team.
- Any such substitutions must be approved by the Tournament Director. Any substitution will then be altered in the draw following this approval and re-published as soon as possible.
- If a partner withdraws within 30 minutes of the first match of the team, or one partner is a "no show", the remaining partner will have 30 minutes (either from the time the withdrawal is notified to the tournament, or from the time the "no show" is declared) to find a new partner, providing the aforementioned provisions are satisfied.
- If another suitable partner cannot be found, a walkover shall be awarded.

2.9. MAKING THE DRAW

All draws should be made immediately after the respective withdrawal deadlines have passed, as outlined in Appendix A – Important Deadlines.

All draws shall be made by Padel Australia, the Tournament Director should be present when the draw is conducted or, if this is not possible and with the agreement of Padel Australia, approve all draws once conducted before being published, within an agreed timeframe, and any subsequent draw alterations before they are released.

2.9.1. Main Draw

a. Placing of Seeds

The procedures for placing seeds in the main draw where the single elimination format is being used are as follows:

- Place seed 1 on line 1 and seed 2 on line 16 (16 draw), line 32 (32 draw) or line 64 (64 draw). To determine the location (line of the draw) of the remaining seeds, draw in groups according to the following table:

Seeds		16 Draw - 4 Seeds	24/32 Draw – 8 Seeds	48/64 Draw - 16 seeds
3-4	First Drawn	5	9	17
	Second Drawn	12	24	48
5-8	First Drawn		8	16
	Second Drawn		16	32
	Third Drawn		17	33
	Fourth Drawn		25	49
9-12	First Drawn			9
	Second Drawn			25
	Third Drawn			40
	Fourth Drawn			56
13-16	First Drawn			8
	Second Drawn			24
	Third Drawn			41
	Fourth Drawn			57

The number of seeds required for a draw is different if undertaking a Round Robin draw. Two seeds are required for each Round Robin group.

b. Byes

In the event that there are not enough teams to fill the draw, then after the seeds are placed in the draw, the required number of byes shall be awarded to the highest seeds as a first priority and any remaining byes shall be drawn by a lot in a manner so as to distribute them as evenly as possible throughout the sections of the draw.

c. Match Play

The match play (formerly known as consolation) will only be conducted for those events offering single elimination draws.

All tournaments conducting round robin – teams will automatically feed into the next relevant round until the completion of the draw. In this instance, teams are not required to sign in for Match Play.

For single elimination draws only, Match Play is optional, teams will need to sign-in with the Tournament Director to be included in the draw. Sign in will close five (5) minutes after the conclusion of the last relevant round match.

- For a 16-team main draw, the first-round losers only are eligible to compete in the Match Play event.
- For a 32/64-team main draw, the first and second round losers are eligible to compete in the Match Play event.

d. Vacancies and Substitutions

Draw vacancies shall be filled with substitutes in accordance with the following:

- From the Entry Deadline to the Withdrawal Deadline:**
 - Teams will be able to withdraw online up until the withdrawal deadline and the online entry process will automatically adjust the event Acceptance List subsequent to any withdrawals.
 - Entered teams will remain in the same relative order once the entry list is first released unless any administrative errors are determined to have occurred.
 - Vacancies in the draw shall be filled by entered teams in accordance with this relative position.
- From the Withdrawal Deadline until the Commencement of draw:**
 - Vacancies in the draw shall be filled by entered teams selected in accordance with the applicable System of Merit as displayed on the Acceptance List.
 - After the withdrawal deadline, teams must withdraw by advising the tournament of their intention to do and if required provide the necessary supportive documentation.
- Events without qualifying (after Main Draw matches have commenced):**
 - Vacancies in the Main Draw shall be filled by entered teams in accordance with the original acceptance list who have signed an alternates list.

2.10. ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR ON THE DRAW

If an administrative error is made on a draw, for example a team is not included or too many teams are published into the draw, the draw will be corrected at the earliest opportunity in accordance with the most recently available entry list and rankings.

A complete redraw will only take place in the event of that the administration error is believed by PA and the Tournament Director to be in the best interest of the tournament.

2.11. WITHDRAWALS AFTER THE DRAW AND REPLACEMENT OF SEEDS

Main Draw

a. Single Elimination Draw Format

The below seed replacement procedure should be followed for:

- Any vacancy in the main draw created by the withdrawal of a seed prior to 5pm on the day before the start of the main draw;
 - If the withdrawal is among seeds 1 to 4, the 5th seed is moved into the open position and the 5th position shall be filled by the next highest ranked team eligible to be seeded.
 - If the withdrawal is among seeds 5 to 8 (32 draw), the open position shall be filled by the next highest Ranked team eligible to be seeded.
- The position vacated by that next highest ranked team shall then be filled by:
 - The next team on the original acceptance list or a “Bye” if no eligible teams are available; or

Any vacancy created by the withdrawal of a Seed after the applicable deadlines mentioned above, shall be filled by a “bye”.

NOTE: Draws with two (2) seeds (8 draw) and four (4) seeds (16 draw), the open position created by the withdrawal of a seed shall be filled by the next highest Ranked team eligible to be seeded.

b. Round Robin Draw Format

The below seed replacement procedure should be followed for:

- Any vacancy in the main draw created by the withdrawal of a seed prior to 5pm on the day before the main draw (in a tournament using main draw only format);
 - If the withdrawal is the highest seed of any particular pool, the 5th seed (in the case of 4 round robin pools being used), or the 9th seed (in the case of 8 round robin pools being used) is moved into the open position created by the seed withdrawal, and the vacated seed position shall be filled by the next highest ranked team eligible to be seeded.
- If the withdrawal is the second highest seed of any particular pool, the team who is next highest ranked team eligible to be seeded shall move into the vacated seed position.
- In either of the above situations, the position vacated by the movement of the next highest ranked team eligible to be seeded shall then be filled by the next team on the original acceptance list or a “Bye” if no eligible teams are available.

Any vacancy created by the withdrawal of a Seed after the applicable deadline mentioned above, shall be filled by a “bye”.

c. Match Play

Any vacancy in the draw created by the withdrawal of a seed shall in all instances be replaced by a “bye” once the draw has been made. There shall be no movements of seeds due to seed withdrawals after the draw has been made.

2.12. REMAKE THE DRAW

A complete redraw will only take place in the event of an administration error or in the best interest of the tournament with the approval of Padel Australia and Tournament director.

The only exception to this is when a team who should have been seeded is for whatever reason placed in a position of an un-seeded team in the draw. In this instance, procedures to rectify the problem will by and large follow the principles of the seed withdrawal rule, both in relation to the seeding position that the ‘missed’ team should rightfully have held and also the timing of the discovery of the error.

2.13. SUSPENSION OF PLAY

The Tournament Director may suspend a match temporarily due to failing light or conditions of the court, weather, or other safety issues. The Tournament Director shall be the sole authority as to when play shall be resumed, which may be the next day. Until a match is formally postponed, the players must remain ready to resume the match.

- Upon suspension of a match, the tournament desk shall record the time, point, game and set score, and the name of the server, the sides on which pair was situated and shall collect the balls in use for the match.
- If suspension is due to darkness, the suspension should occur after an even number of games have been played in the set in progress or at the end of a set.

In the case of a suspended or postponed match, the period of warm-up shall be as follows:

Scenario	Action
0-15 minutes delay	no warm-up
More than 15 minutes, but less than 30 minutes	3 minutes of warm-up
30 or more minutes of delay	5 minutes of warm-up

In the event of inclement weather, changes to the venue court allocation, or exceptional player logistics/travel considerations, a decision can be made by the Tournament Director to shorten the format of matches. This will only be done in order to complete the tournament in its entirety.

In prevailing weather and/or safety conditions, if an alternative venue cannot be found to complete the remaining matches, then the event will be postponed or cancelled.

For cancelled events that have had completed matches, ranking points will be awarded accordingly to the round which has been completed in its entirety (example, if some 3rd round matches have been completed but some have not, only 2nd round points will be awarded). If events are abandoned before reaching the prize money stage, players that are still in contention to win the event should they receive a full refund of their entry fee.

2.14. MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS AND INJURY PREVENTION

Any player injured during play may:

- Firstly, take a two (2) minute break for a medical assessment, then
- Five (5) minute medical time out (if deemed necessary).

If no medical staff are onsite, these assessments/timeouts may be self-assessed by the players.

3. PRIZE MONEY

3.1. AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SERIES - OPEN

A total of \$3,000 will be distributed amongst the Open category winners and finalists.

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY - \$3,000 (\$1,500 Men's, \$1,500 Women's)	
WINNING TEAM	\$1,200 (\$600 per player)
FINALIST TEAM	\$300 (\$150 per player)

3.2. AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SERIES

A total of \$1,000 will be distributed amongst all the masters event category winners on offer at the event.

TOTAL PRIZE POOL - \$1,000	
WINNING PAIR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men's Masters (35 years +) Men's Masters (45 years +) Women's Masters (35 years +) Women's Masters (45 years +) 	\$250 per Winning Team (in the event draws are combined due to low entries, the above prize money will exist for the combined draw)

3.3. PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTION IN ABANDONED MATCHES

Where it is not possible to complete the final, affected players will receive an equal distribution of the advertised winner and finalist prize money. If events are abandoned before the final, but having reached the prize money distribution stage, any players that are still in contention to win the event should receive an equal distribution of the prize money being offered. For example, if the event is abandoned at the semi-finals stage, the tournament should total up the prize money on offer (winner, finalist, semi-finals) and distribute this equally to the four remaining pairs.

NOTES:

- Teams needs to have played and won at least one match to be entitled to prize money.
- 1. Teams who have not won through to a prize money round but have completed a match are not entitled to any prize money.
- 2. Teams who have not completed their first match at the time of the abandonment will be entitled to a full entry fee refund.
- A "bye" does not count as a win but a retirement/walkover or default after the start of the match does.
- 3.

3.4. PAYMENT METHOD FOR PRIZE MONEY

Prize money can either be paid by bank transfer or by cheque in Australian Dollars. Payment of prize money must be completed either onsite or by no later than seven (7) days by the host venue following the completion of the tournament.

3.5. UNPAID ENTRY FEES AND PRIZE MONEY PAYMENT

Where a player has unpaid entry fees, the Tournament providers reserve the right to deduct outstanding fees from any prize money won by the player and/or withhold all or a part of any prize won by the player until the outstanding fees are paid.

3.6. SMALL DRAW REDUCTION

Prize money will only be allocated when an event has a minimum of four (4) pairs for an elimination draw or three (3) pairs for a round robin draw, entered in the appropriate ranking and/or age band category. Combined draws will only have one prize money allocation.

4. RANKING POINTS

4.1. RANKING LISTS

The Padel Australia (PA) rankings consist of eight (8) separate ranking lists:

- National Open Woman's Ranking
- National Open Men's Ranking
- Masters Men 35 years+
- Masters Men 45 years+
- Masters Women 35 years+
- Masters Women 45 years+
- International Woman (player residing overseas)
- International Men (player residing overseas)

Ranking points aim to be updated at the end of each calendar month and published within 10 days of the following month. The most up to date rankings are published on the Aus Padel website:

<https://www.padelaus.com.au/auspadel-ranking/>

4.2. POINTS DURATION

Points remain valid for a rolling 12-month period and are updated approximately on a monthly basis. For example:

- If the Padel Sydney tournament occurred during the month of March in 2023, regardless of the timing of the event in 2024, points accrued from that tournament will expire following the 12-month anniversary of the tournament
- Should the same tournament from 2023 take place two (2) months earlier in 2024, participants would retain their points from the 2023 event for a 12-month duration following the tournament, and also earn additional points for the 2024 event. This results in a 2-month overlap where 'double points' from the same event are accumulated.

4.3. ZERO POINT PLAYERS

Players with zero points (i.e. have lost their points from the year before), will remain on the points rankings list with 0 points.

4.4. RANKING POINTS ALLOCATION TABLE

The Australian Padel Tour allocates ranking points based on the table below.

NATIONAL SERIES							
	WINNER	FINALIST	SF	QF	R16	R32	R64
OPEN	1000	600	360	180	90	40	18
CATEGORY B	120	72	44	22	11	5	2
CATEGORY C	12	8	5	3	2	1	0
MASTERS SERIES							
	WINNER	FINALIST	SF	QF	R16	R32	R64
MENS 35+	1000	600	360	180	90	40	18
MENS 45+	1000	600	360	180	90	40	18
WOMENS 35+	1000	600	360	180	90	40	18
WOMENS 45+	1000	600	360	180	90	40	18
CLUB SERIES							
	WINNER	FINALIST	SF	QF	R16	R32	R64
CLUB	12	8	5	3	2	1	0

4.5. TOURNAMENT CATEGORY CRITERIA

3.5.1. National Series

- Subject to a player's ranking band, players can participate in a maximum of two (2) categories from either Open, B, or C.
- If players are participating in two (2) categories from either Open, B or C, they will accumulate points for the event in which they achieve the greater value of points
- Players will not accumulate ranking points for both events of participation.

3.5.2. Masters Series

- A player can participate in both the 35's+ and 45's+ events, leading to separate rankings lists for each event, with points awarded separately.
- In the event of a smaller draw size, the 45 + category will be merged into the 35+ category. In this instance, players will only receive ranking points for the 35+ category.
- Category B and C rankings do not exist in masters'

3.5.3. Club Series

- Once a year, each club partnered with Padel Australia will have the opportunity to host one (1) Club Series event to allow local players to accumulate ranking points.

3.5.4. Participation Points

- Players may receive participation points (registration) for the event: three (3) points for opens and masters, two (2) points for B, or one (1) point for C events.
- Players will receive the greater of the participation points awarded in addition to any points they earn for each tournament.

4.6. POINTS ALLOCATION ROUND ROBIN FORMAT

For round-robin format events, points are awarded based on final group standings, which are then matched to corresponding positions for knockout points. For example:

- In an event with two groups of four teams, the top two teams from each group proceed to the semi-finals. The remaining positions are ranked based on head-to-head, followed by matches, followed by sets, and awarded points as quarter-finalists equivalent. The last group teams would be awarded participation only points.
- Tournaments are occasionally played in a round robin format due to the size of the draw.

4.7. AUSTRALIAN FIP TOUR RANKING ALLOCATIONS

Throughout the year, the APT may host International Padel Federation (FIP) sanctioned events. Points for these events will be allocated to the APT ranking lists using the FIP points x 100 multiplier.

Please see below the points allocation for FIP events.

FIP RANKING POINTS (INTERNATIONAL)									
CATEGORY	WINNER	FINALIST	SF	QF	R16	R32	R64	Q R2	Q R1
FIP RISE	31 (3100)	18 (1800)	11 (1100)	5 (500)	2 (200)	1 (100)	(50)	(25)	(10)
FIP PROMOTION	15 (1500)	9 (900)	5 (500)	2 (200)	1 (100)	(50)	(25)	(10)	(5)

*All FIP ranking points will be multiplied at a ratio of 1:100 when converted to APT points. The x100 figure after the conversion is represented in the brackets. FIP points may vary each year.

5. ADDITIONAL TENNIS (PADEL) AUSTRALIA POLICIES

5.1. EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

Tennis Australia recognises the dangers of extreme weather and the need to ensure that there are appropriate policies and procedures in place to mitigate risks to players, officials, coaching staff and spectators at all of our tournaments and competitions should an extreme weather event occur.

You can view the document via <https://www.tennis.com.au/doc/extreme-weather-policy>

5.2. CODE OF BEHAVIOUR: COMPETITIVE PLAY

The Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour: Competitive Play regulates behaviour breaches related to and during tournaments and competitions in Australia. These may be directly applied to the APT at the discretion of PA

You can view the document via <http://www.tennis.com.au/doc/code-of-behaviour>

5.3. REGISTERED ASSISTANCE DOG – TA POLICY

1. A Registered Assistance Dog (RAD) is permitted onto court during practice, warm-up and competitive matches provided always that:
 - It is securely tied up to the player's chair; and
 - It does not pose at the Referee/Venue Supervisors sole discretion (or in the absence of an official, the Tournament Director's sole discretion) any health or safety risk to any other person.
2. The player seeking to bring the RAD onto court must:
 - Obtain prior approval from a Referee/Venue Supervisors or Tournament Director; and
 - Provide the Referee/Venue Supervisors or Tournament Director with evidence of appropriate accreditation and registration for the RAD.
3. During a match, RADs cannot assist a player with any procedure of a tennis match (e.g. collecting tennis balls or other equipment).
4. If a RAD interrupts play during a match:
 - On the first occasion: a warning will be issued to the player.
 - On the second occasion: a final warning will be issued to the player; and
 - On the third occasion: the RAD will be removed from the court.
5. In addition to any procedures invoked under paragraph 4, if a RAD interrupts a point, it will be considered a deliberate hindrance and the player loses the point.
6. Notwithstanding paragraph 4 and 5 above, if the Referee/Venue Supervisors or Tournament Director considers that a RAD is causing unreasonable or sustained interference to play, the Referee/Venue Supervisors or Tournament Director may immediately remove the RAD from the court.

6. PADEL AUSTRALIA CONTACTS

Where a matter arises for which provision has not been made in these Regulations, Padel Australia will provide decisions for the matter as it sees fit.

A ruling by a competent authority that any provision of the Regulations is invalid or unenforceable will not affect the legal enforceability of the Regulations as a whole. Instead, such provision will be replaced by Padel Australia with a valid and enforceable replacement provision as close as possible in effect to the replaced provision.

Any questions concerning these Regulations can be addressed to Padel Australia at:

Padel Australia
Private Bag 6060
Richmond, Victoria, 3121
Email: info@padelaus.com.au

7. APPENDIX A – ONSITE REQUIREMENTS

7.1. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR AND SUPERVISOR

In partnership with Padel Australia and any identified Tournament Supervisor, the Tournament Director's decision is final across all areas including discretionary seeding and scheduling decisions, conduct disqualifications, and any other issues or conflicts that may occur throughout the organisation of the event.

7.2. DAILY RELEASE OF THE SCHEDULE

At the conclusion of play, the schedule for the following day's schedule will be emailed to players. The Tournament Director will make every effort to be time efficient with regards to scheduling. This includes:

- Accurate scheduling.
- Appropriate match formats for the number of entries received.
- Communication of scheduling and of any scheduling changes.
- Sensible and timely announcements in the event of rain or heat delays.
- Updating of match schedules and draws as frequently as possible and if applicable a text messaging service.
- Timely advice to players regarding withdrawals, no shows etc.

7.3. CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Warm-ups

Immediately prior to a match, the players are entitled to a warm-up period not exceeding five (5) minutes.

Rest Breaks

The following are the suggested minimum rest periods between matches:

- Matches lasting less than 2 hours = 30 minutes rest
- Matches lasting between 2 to 3 hours = 1 hour rest
- Matches lasting more than 3 hours = 1½ hour rest
- In the case of players voluntarily playing 2 events, rest breaks may be shortened to a minimum of 10 minutes to keep the event to schedule

Where the Extreme Heat Policy has been invoked, the suggested minimum rest periods should be extended within reason in conjunction with using shortened match formats.

Under no circumstances are players to be forced to play inside their allocated rest period unless they voluntarily choose to do so. The Referee/Venue Supervisor must provide a minimum of 12 hours rest between matches played on consecutive days except in exceptional circumstances where a minimum of 10 hours can be applicable.

7.4. WELCOME FUNCTION

The venue may organise a player function to welcome all players and support staff to the tournament.

7.5. PRACTICE COURTS

The organising club will make practice courts available on the afternoon/early evening before the event for participating players.

7.6. TIME RESTRICTIONS

For all Padel Australia Tournaments, no matches may be scheduled before 7:30am, unless exceptional circumstances (including weather - extreme or otherwise) exist in the opinion of the Tournament Director or Supervisor.

The Tournament Director must provide a minimum of 12 hours rest between matches played on consecutive days except in exceptional circumstances where a minimum of 10 hours can be applicable.

7.7. NEW BALLS

New balls will be utilised under the following conditions:

- New balls will be used for each main draw round as well as the 3rd set in the final of the National Open and Masters categories (Men and Women).
- New balls will be used for each main draw round, semi-final and final of Category B and C.
- No new balls required for Match Play Draw.

7.8. OFFICIAL PRESENTATION

An official presentation to the winners and finalists of the tournament will take place at the conclusion of the tournament and photographed for digital upload.

8. APPENDIX B – ROUND ROBIN DRAW STRUCTURE

If team entries and court availability permit, and a round robin draw format is chosen for the main draw, it must be operated according to the following guidelines.

8.1. Guiding Principles for Round Robin Pool sizes and Number of Pools

- There should be no pools with less than three (3) teams, and no more than four (4) teams.
- For four (4) or less pairs, a one (1) pool format should be used.
- If one pool is used, a final will be played between the top two teams with the best of 3 sets match format.
- Recommended pool formats based on entry numbers:

NUMBER OF TEAMS	NUMBER OF POOLS	TEAMS PER POOL
7	2	3 & 4
8	2	4 & 4
9	3	3, 3 & 3
10	3	4, 3 & 3
11	3	4, 4 & 3
12	4	3, 3, 3 & 3
13	4	3, 3, 3 & 4
14	4	3, 3, 4 & 4
15	4	3, 4, 4 & 4
16	4	4, 4, 4 & 4

- For draws with 17 or more teams, the above general principles and recommendations should be applied, with the exception that the maximum number of teams in each pool is to four (4).

8.2. 16 Team Round Robin

Determining the composition of each pool

- Each team to play the three teams within their pool.
- Each pool is to have two seeded teams (provided there are enough players with a current ranking).
- The top team from each pool (4 total) to move into cross over semifinals.

The following procedure will be followed to place the sixteen (16) teams into the four round-robin groups.

- The field shall be divided into four (4) groups of four (4) teams each. The top-seeded team shall be placed in Group "A", the second-seeded team shall be placed in Group "B". The third and fourth seeded teams shall be drawn randomly into Group "C" or "D".
- Teams seeded 5 & 6 shall be drawn into either Group "C" or "D". Teams seeded 7 & 8 shall be drawn into either Group "A" or "B".
- The remaining eight (8) teams shall be drawn by lot – the first and second players drawn to go to Group "A", the third and fourth players drawn to go to Group "B" and so on.

b. Determining the pool winner

The final standings of each group shall be determined by the first of the following methods that apply:

- Greatest number of wins.
- Greatest number of matches played.
- Head-to-head results if two (2) teams are tied, or if three (3) players are tied, then:
- If three (3) teams each have one win, a team that has played less than all three (3) matches is automatically eliminated and the team advancing to the Single Elimination competition is the winner of the match-up of the two (2) team tied with 1-2 records; then
 1. Highest percentage of sets won (sets won against sets played); then
 2. Highest percentage of games won (games won against games played).

If 1, 2, or 3 (above) produce one superior team (first place), or one inferior team (third place), and the two remaining teams are tied, the tie between those two teams shall be broken by head-to-head record.

If ties still exist after the above procedures, the Tournament Director shall make the final determination.

In applying the tie-breaking procedures, a conduct default or retirement shall count as a straight sets win or loss. However, games won or lost in matches with the defaulting or retiring player shall not be counted in the application of point 3 (percentage of games won) above.

A player who retires during the round robin because of illness or injury may continue in the tournament if it is approved by the onsite Doctor/Sports Physiotherapist or Tournament Director discretion.

c. Creating the single elimination draw after the determination of the pool winner

After the round robin group phase has been completed, the following procedure will be followed to place the four (4) eligible teams into the single elimination draw.

- The winner of Group "A" will be placed on Line 1.
- The winner of Group "B" will be placed on Line 4.
- The winners of Group "C" and "Group "D" will be randomly placed on either Line 2 or Line 3.

9. APPENDIX C – SCORING FORMATS

a. 3 TB Sets = Best of 3 Tie-Break Sets (Average 75 Minutes)

- For each match played to the best of 3 sets - a team needs to win 2 sets to win the match.
- Each set is the first to 6 games. The first team who wins 6 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 6 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.

b. 2 TB Sets + 10MTB = 2 Tie-Break Sets and 10 Point Match Tie-Break (Average 55 Minutes)

- Each match is played to the best of 3 sets - a team needs to win 2 sets to win the match.
- Each set is the first to 6 games. The first player/team who wins 6 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 6 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.
- If the score in a match is one set all, one tiebreak game is played to decide the match. This tiebreak game replaces the deciding final set. The team who first wins 10 points shall win the Match Tiebreak and the

match, provided there is a margin of 2 points over the opponent(s).

c. 3 Short Sets = Best of 3 Short Sets (Average 45 Minutes)

- Each match is played to the best of 3 sets - a team needs to win 2 sets to win the match.
- Each Set is the first to 4 games, the first team who wins 4 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 4 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.

d. Best of 2 Short Sets and 10 Point Match Tie-Break (Average 30 Minutes)

- Each match is played to the best of 3 sets - a player/team needs to win 2 sets to win the match.
- Each Set is the first to 4 games, the first player/team who wins 4 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 4 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.
- If the score in a match is one set all, one tiebreak game is played to decide the match. This tiebreak game replaces the deciding final set. The player/team who first wins 10 points shall win the Match Tiebreak and the match, provided there is a margin of 2 points over the opponent(s).

e. 1 TB Set = 1 Tie-Break Set (Average 20 Minutes)

- Each match is 1 set - the player/team that win the set win the match.
- The set is the first to 6 games. The first player/team who wins 6 games wins that set, provided there is a margin of 2 games over the opponent(s).
- If the score reaches 6 games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.

f. Timed Matches

- Matches will continue for nominated length of time as set by the event.

g. Short Sets

- The first player / team who wins four games wins that set, provided there is a margin of two games over the opponent(s). If the score reaches four games all, a tie-break game to 7 points leading with a margin of 2 shall be played.

Match Tiebreak (10 POINTS)

- When the score in a match is one set all, one tiebreak game is played to decide the match. This tiebreak game replaces the deciding final set. The player/team who first wins ten points shall win the Match Tiebreak and the match, provided there is a margin of two points over the opponent(s).

Note: When using the Match Tiebreak to replace the final set:

- The original order of service continues.
- In doubles, the order of serving and receiving within the team may be altered, as in the beginning of each set.
- Before the start of the match tie-break there may be a 120 second set break.
 - Balls should not be changed before the start of the match tie-break even if a ball change is due.

h. Scoring Format Reductions

In exceptional circumstances (such as inclement weather, including where the extreme heat policy is activated), the Tournament Director/Venue Supervisor, who will be the final authority in this matter, can change the scoring formats, when it becomes clear that such circumstances will prevent a tournament from being completed within the publicised dates. Player will be consulted accordingly.

Changes to scoring formats must be made giving regard to the following priority, noting that not all options need to be used:

1. Introduce “No-Ad” scoring to match play matches.
 - Reduce match format for Match Play matches.
2. Reduce match format for doubles main draw matches.

The following reduced scoring formats are available, and listed in recommended order:

1. 2 tie break sets + 10 Point match tie-break
2. Best of 3 short sets
3. 2 short sets+10 Point Match Tie-Break

The Tournament Director/Venue Supervisor must determine the appropriate scoring formats to use, based on the remaining time available to complete the tournament.

10. APPENDIX D – MEDICAL AND TOILET / CHANGE OF ATTIRE BREAKS

10.1. Toilet Breaks / Change of Attire

A player is allowed to request permission to leave the court for a reasonable time for a toilet break or change of attire break. Players may change their attire during a toilet break.

Toilet breaks / change of attire breaks must be taken on a set break.

In any match played with a reduced match format of two tiebreak sets and a match tiebreak, a toilet break/change of attire break is not permitted before the match tiebreak.

In a doubles match, each team is entitled to two (2) breaks. If partners leave the court together, it counts as one (1) break. If only one player leaves the court, it also counts as one (1) break. These breaks may be taken for toilet visits, change of attire, or both, but for no other reason whatsoever.

Any toilet/change of attire break taken after a warmup has started is considered one of the authorised breaks.

Toilet breaks not taken on a set break may be authorised but will be penalised in accordance with the point penalty schedule (Code Violation Delay of Game) if the player is not ready to play within the allowed time. The Referee/Tournament Director has the authority to deny a player permission to leave the court during a match for a toilet and/or change of attire break if it is interpreted by the Referee/Venue Supervisor as gamesmanship and/or flagrant abuse of the Rule.

A player should not take a toilet/change of attire break and a medical time out consecutively unless approved by the Referee/Tournament Director.

Any player abuse of this rule will be subject to penalty in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour: Competitive Play.

10.2. Medical Treatment procedure for events without appointed Doctor / PHCP

In a situation where there is no tournament appointed Doctor / Sports Physiotherapist, players are permitted one medical time out (3 minutes) for each new injury/illness, including cramping conditions at the discretion of the Referee/Tournament Director. However, one medical time out permitted per match for any and all cramping conditions.

Medical time out can be extended at the discretion of the Referee/Tournament Director up to a maximum of ten (10) minutes. At these tournaments, players may receive assistance from coaches/guardians under the supervision of a relevant Referee/Tournament Director.

11. APPENDIX E – BREAKS IN PLAY (SUMMARY)

BREAK	WHEN AVAILABLE	MAX TIME PERMITTED	MAX NUMBER PERMITTED	PERMISSION REQUIRED
During Play	Between Points	25 seconds	N/A	No
	Between games when a change of end is required (except after the first game of each set and during a tie-break)	90 Seconds	N/A	No
	Between Sets	120 Seconds	N/A	No
Toilet Break Change of Attire break	Must be taken between sets	Reasonable amount of time	1 per match (male or female) 2 per team in Doubles. Not allowed before Match Tie-Break.	Yes Permission may be given for additional breaks, but these will be penalised if the player is not ready to play within the time allowed.
Medical break (for evaluation, treatment or supplies, but not for Non-Treatable Conditions)	In the 90 second or 120 second breaks in play	90 seconds / 120 seconds	N/A but in general, permission will not be granted for evaluation, treatment or supplies on more than two breaks for each condition	Yes
Blood Rule Break	At any time	Up to 5 Minutes	N/A	Yes



Tennis acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, rest and play, and pay our respect to Elders past and present.