

SMMLTA Rules and Constitution

Amendments (Temporary) 2025/26 Season Trial

Amendments are to be read in conjunction with the SMMLTA Rules and Constitution.

Definitions

Fill in Player means a player other than a Nominated Player.

Match Agreement means the agreement between the two opposing captains, either prior to, or during a match, to avoid a post match dispute by either team.

UTR or Universal Tennis Rating means the player standard ranking published on a Tennis Australia or Universal Tennis Rating website, of recorded matches.

Order of Merit means the order of UTR per player, from highest to lowest. UTR's for singles and double assessed independently for respective rubbers to determine which rubbers a player can participate.

Amended Rules

32. Players must play in Order of Merit in all Teams at all times in accordance with this clause. Order of Merit will be determined by the player's UTR as on the day of the Match. Order of Merit is to be applied to each format as follows -

- a) Doubles (all formats) –when assessing all players competing in a rotation or a pair of rubbers, either the highest or second highest UTR player(s) must play in the top double.
- b) Singles – the players competing in the Match singles rubbers are permitted to move one position up or down in the Order of Merit.

An incorrect Order of Merit may result in the penalising of rubbers below an incorrect Order or Merit. The Association has the right to disapprove the ranking of any Teams. For obvious breaches of this rule, the Association will have the discretion to amend (remove/add) or forfeit some or all of the Recording System ladder points of one or both offending Teams.

33. Fill-in Players (not a Nominated Player for that Team), must not be of a higher standard than the player they are replacing, according to UTR for that format (i.e. singles or doubles).

- a) If a Nominated Player is replaced for singles only, but still plays doubles in the same Match, then the singles Fill-in Player is not permitted to play doubles in the same Match.
- b) If the Fill-in player is of a higher standard than the Nominated player being replaced or does not have a UTR, then the Team requesting the Fill-in Player, must obtain approval from the opposing Club acting reasonably, prior to the match to include the Fill-in Player.
- c) If a Fill-in Player is determined by the Association to be of a much higher standard than represented by the UTR or the Team, the Association has the right to disapprove the inclusion by any Club and will have the discretion to amend (remove/add) or forfeit some or all of the Recording System ladder points of offending Teams.
- d) Fill-in Players eligibility for any Finals Match is subject to Clause 65.

77. The Association will recognise Match Agreements by –

- a) notification by the Teams; or
- b) by the confirmation of match results in Match Centre (or League Manager); or
- c) no dispute has been lodged within 48 hours of the match conclusion if the match results are unconfirmed.

Match Agreements will not be considered or included as precedents or otherwise, by the Association or Clubs when assessing or ruling on disputes or requests. The Association has the discretion to overrule Match Agreements if deemed to be detrimental to the competition in any way.

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