

ANNEXURE 'A'

**RULES AND CONSTITUTION**

**OF THE**

**SATURDAY MORNING MENS  
LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED**



05 October 2021

## Saturday Morning Mens Lawn Tennis Association Incorporated

### RULES AND CONSTITUTION

#### General

1. The name of the incorporated Association shall be "Saturday Morning Mens Lawn Tennis Association Incorporated" (SMMLTA or Association).

2. The objectives of the Association shall be:

To provide a programme of tennis matches played according to these Rules and Constitution and the Rules of Play, for Teams possessing suitable lawn tennis courts. All Matches must be played on natural Lawn Tennis Courts.

3. (a) The Association shall be managed by an Executive Committee which shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Recording Secretary, each of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and must be a member of an Associated Club. No more than two of these persons shall be from the one associated club.

(b) A club, as determined by the Executive Committee, will be recognised as an Associated Club upon acceptance by the Association, of a correctly nominated Team for the forth coming season. The club will remain an Associated Club until the next Annual General Meeting, or unless the club no longer has a Team participating in the current programme.

(c) The Committee of the Association shall consist of the Executive Committee plus one delegate proposed by each Associated Club. The minimum number of committee members to form a quorum for a General Meeting shall be five. The President shall have both a deliberative and casting vote.

(d) Should a casual vacancy occur on the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee may fill the position with a member of an Associated Club until the next Annual General Meeting.

(e) The Committee shall have all powers conferred by section 25 of the Act.

(f) The Committee shall appoint a public officer as required by the Act.

4. The role of the Executive Committee shall be:

(a) Interpretation and enforcement of these Rules and Constitution.

(b) The hearing and determination of disputes in the case of an appeal.

(c) Arrange the gradings of Teams and have full control of such gradings.

(d) Management of funds, property and general administration.

(e) The Executive Committee may create a sub-committee to carry out one or more of the above functions provided that a delegate from any

Associated Club shall have recourse to the Executive Committee if his Associated Club disagrees with the decision of any sub-committee, including the Disputes Committee. In that event he will notify the Secretary in writing within seven days and request that the matter be reviewed by the Executive Committee within fourteen days of receipt of the appeal.

- (f) A sub-committee of five persons, comprising the Secretary (as Chairman), the Recording Secretary and three of the Associated Club delegates, and known as the Disputes Committee shall be elected at each annual meeting, and any other delegate may be co-opted to the committee to replace a member if that member's club is involved in the dispute. It shall rule on any matter relating to eligibility of players or breaches of rules. Any member of the Executive Committee shall be able to request the adjudication of the Disputes Committee on any matter in which it is competent.

5. An auditor shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

6. (a) The Annual General Meeting will be held in September. The order of business shall include:

- the confirmation of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and of any subsequent Special General Meeting
- consideration of the accounts and reports of the Executive Committee
- the election of the Executive Committee
- the election of the Disputes Committee
- the timetable for the forth coming seasons match programme
- any other business.

(b) Any two bona fide members of an Associated Club shall be eligible to vote on any matter at an Annual General Meeting. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

(c) The rules of this Association shall not be altered or repealed except at the Annual General Meeting, or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, both of which fourteen days' notice shall be given by the Secretary setting out the proposed amendments.

(d) Any members of the Committee, comprising the Executive Committee and delegates, shall be eligible to vote on any matter at the Special General Meeting.

(e) The Secretary shall notify Associated Clubs in writing, and with 14 days' notice, of all general meetings. Notification shall include: the time and place of the meeting; the order of business; and any special resolutions.

(f) All matters arising at any meeting shall be decided by simple majority vote. The President shall have both a deliberative and casting vote.

7. The Secretary of the Association shall, upon requisition in writing by a member of the Executive Committee, convene a special meeting of the Executive Committee.
8. The President shall submit a report on the work and progress of the Association during the season at the Annual General Meeting.
9. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys, and hold same in trust. A financial statement shall be submitted when called upon by the Executive Committee. At the Annual General Meeting a duly audited statement of shall be produced.
10. The Auditor shall have access to the books and vouchers of the Treasurer at any time, and shall, before the Annual General Meeting, audit the books and vouchers, and report on same at such meeting.
11. Any losses of the Association shall be borne by the Associated Clubs. Each Club shall guarantee to give a sum proportional to their number of Teams, to make good any deficiency of the Association.
12. Any Team desirous of participating in the Association's programme of Matches must be approved of by the Executive Committee. Each Team admitted shall pay an annual subscription to be determined at the Annual General Meeting.

### **Finals Matches**

13.
  - (a) To be eligible to play in any Finals Match, a player must have played at least 33.3% of "Playable Matches" with his Team during the current season. (Playable Matches means scheduled matches less those cancelled or declared cancelled by the Executive Committee.)
  - (c) In exceptional circumstances the Disputes Committee may grant permission for a player, being a member of an Associated Club, to fill a vacancy for that club in a Finals Match or one of the last 3 Minor Round Matches. The replacement player, as far as can be determined, is not of a higher standard than the player whose place is to be filled.
  - (b) The players and their playing order for Teams in the first Finals Match must be communicated to the Recording Secretary no later than three weeks prior to the first Finals Match. If a playing order is not received, the order of the 4th last completed round will be assumed. A player not qualified, or who is unable to qualify, for the finals, is not permitted to play the last three Minor Round Matches of the season unless in exceptional circumstances, permission is granted by the Disputes Committee.
  - (d) Where a Team plays in more than one Finals Match and the composition of that Team remains the same as previously stated to the Recording Secretary, further notification is not required. However, if a Team change is made, the playing order must be re-submitted to the Disputes

Committee via the Recording Secretary by the Wednesday preceding the Match for approval.

- (e) Where a Finals Match is drawn, a doubles first-to-10 point tie-break set will immediately be played to decide the Match. Captains will select any 2 of their Match day players to play the deciding first-to-10 point tie-break set.
- (f) Where a semi-Final or preliminary Final round is cancelled by the Executive Committee prior to the commencement of play, the Team finishing higher at the end of the Minor Round Matches will progress.
- (g) Where a semi-Final or preliminary Final match is interrupted due to adverse weather or some other event, relevant players must remain at the venue, until at least 1:00pm, for the purposes of continuing the match to a result, if conditions allow. If, after 1:00pm the captains agree that a result cannot be achieved on that day, the captains must immediately agree a date/time to continue the match within the next 5 days, to a result. If agreement on a date/time is not reached at that time, the Executive Committee will either set a date/time or determine the result.
- (h) Where a grand Final Match fails to reach a result on the scheduled day, the Match will be completed at the earliest mutually agreed opportunity. If agreement on the date/time is not reached by the captains within 2 days of the uncompleted Match, the Executive Committee will set a date/time.
- (i) Any unplayed or incomplete Finals sets and rubbers are not required to be played or completed once a result is achieved.

### **Minor Round Matches**

- 14. (a) No player shall play for two different clubs in the Association in the same season without the prior approval of the Disputes Committee.
- (b) Where a club has multiple Teams in the same grade or division in a season, a player may not change Teams after having played four or more Matches for one of the Teams without the approval of the Disputes Committee.
- (c) Players listed on score cards and/or the Recording System automatically become registered players for the particular club for that season provided that they are financial members of that club.
- (d) Any player nominated for, or playing in the Tennis South Australia State League competition or division 1 of the Metro League competition or equivalent grade or standard, must play in Division 1 (one).

- (e) A player shall not be able to play in a division after having played four or more Matches that season in higher divisions, without the prior permission of the Disputes Committee.
- (f) A player can only play for one Team in any round (week) of Matches.

### **Playing Conditions**

- 15. The first Match for the season will be held on the last Saturday in October each year unless approved otherwise at the Annual General Meeting. All Matches, including Finals Matches, will be scheduled prior to Easter except when, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, there are insufficient Saturdays between the first round Saturday and Easter to complete all intended Matches.
- 16.
  - (a) Players must be played in order of merit in all Teams at all times. The Disputes Committee has the right to disapprove the ranking of any Teams. For OBVIOUS breaches of this rule, the Recording Secretary has the right to deduct points gained by the offending Team for that Match.
  - (b) Teams may be promoted or relegated, prior or during the season, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
  - (c) Matches are to start not later than 8:45 a.m. unless otherwise specifically stated on the programme or specifically varied by the Executive Committee. Teams must be able to commence two doubles rubbers at the scheduled time on the programme and continue the Match not later than ten minutes after the conclusion of the previous rubber. If any Team is unable to commence a rubber within 10 minutes of these times that Team shall forfeit the rubber(s) unable to be commenced.
  - (d) If Matches are not finished by 1.00 p.m. and no extra court time can be made available by the home club, then the home Team must forfeit the uncompleted sets as the score stands at 1.00 p.m.
- 17.
  - (a) Each captain shall, if requested by the opposing captain, prior to the commencement of the Match, furnish the opposing captain with a list of players in playing order.
  - (b) If any Team finds it necessary to forfeit a rubber prior to the start of play, the forfeit must commence with the last double and/or last single.
  - (c) Unless the captains agree otherwise, rubbers will be played in the order of first and second double (and third if relevant), then first, second, third and fourth single (if relevant).
- 18. Doubles and Singles competition Matches shall be played as follows:
  - (a) In every Match not more than eight (8) players shall represent each Team in respective grades. No one eligible player shall compete in more than one singles and doubles rubber.

- (b) A Match will consist of two doubles rubbers and four singles rubbers.
  - (c) All rubbers will be the best of three 6 game sets. At 5 games all a first-to-7 point tie-break game is to be played. If all on-court players agree, the third set may be played as a first-to-10 point tie-break set.
  - (d) The result of a Match shall be determined in favour of the Team winning the greater number of rubbers. If rubbers are equal the result shall be determined on sets. If rubbers and sets are equal the result shall be determined on games.
  - (e) Teams shall be awarded two (2) premiership points for a win, or one premiership point for a draw, plus one premiership point for each rubber the Team won.
19. Doubles Only 3-player competition Matches shall be played as follows:
- (a) In every Match not more than five (5) players shall represent each Team in respective grades. No one eligible player shall compete in more than two doubles rubbers.
  - (b) A Match will consist of three doubles rubbers. Players to be ranked 1 to 5 and rubbers played with players 1-2, 1-3, 2-3.
  - (c) All rubbers will be the best of three sets. The first two being 6 game sets with a first-to-7 point tie-break game played at 5 games all. The third set is to be played as a first-to-10 point tie-break set, unless all on-court players agree to play a six game set.
  - (d) The result of a Match shall be determined in favour of the Team winning the greater number of rubbers.
  - (e) Teams shall be awarded one (1) premiership point for a win, plus one premiership point for each rubber the Team won.
20. Doubles Only 4-player competition Matches shall be played as follows:
- (a) In every Match not more than six (6) players shall represent each Team in respective grades. No one eligible player shall compete in more than two doubles rubbers.
  - (b) A Match will consist of four doubles rubbers. Players to be ranked 1 to 6 and rubbers played with players 1-2, 3-4, 1-3, 2-4.
  - (c) All rubbers will be the best of three sets. The first two being 6 game sets with a first-to-7 point tie-break game is to be played at 5 games all. The third set is to be played as a first-to-10 point tie-break set, unless all on-court players agree to play a six game set.

- (d) The result of a Match shall be determined in favour of the Team winning the greater number of rubbers. If rubbers are equal the result shall be determined on sets. If rubbers and sets are equal the result shall be determined on games.
  - (e) Teams shall be awarded two (2) premiership points for a win, and one premiership point for a draw, plus one premiership point for each rubber won.
- 21.
- (a) Every Minor Round Match commenced must be played to a finish otherwise mutually agreed by the captains concerned.
  - (b) If 50% or more of Matches in a round reach a decision, completed results and scores will stand. All Matches without a result/decision will be cancelled unless the captains are able to agree on a resumption date/time. The Recording System's "Match Ratio (MR)" will apply to the cancelled matches.
  - (c) If less than 50% of Matches reach a decision, the particular round will be cancelled.
  - (d) Interrupted Matches shall be resumed at the score at which the game stood at the time of the postponement. Players in each Team must be the same as at the start of the Matches.
  - (e) If an Associated Club finds it necessary to forfeit a Match, the club Delegate must notify the opposing club Delegate as the earliest possible time. Players from either Team may play in another Team on the day subject to these Rules and Constitution.
- 22.
- (a) In the minor rounds, for Doubles & Singles Matches and 4-player Doubles Only Matches, the home Team shall provide four new balls. For 3-player Doubles Only Matches, the home Team shall provide 2 new balls.
  - (b) In the finals, for Doubles & Singles Matches, both Teams shall provide four new balls. For Doubles Only Matches, both Teams shall provide 2 new balls.
  - (c) All balls must be approved by Tennis Australia for grass court play.
23. Heat Policy. If the Adelaide Bureau of Meteorology weather forecast for Adelaide at 6:00pm prior to Matches is:
- (a) 36° or more, then all doubles and singles 3rd sets are first-to-10 point tie-break sets,
  - (b) 40° or more, then all Matches are automatically cancelled.
  - (c) All players need to make their own decision to play and take adequate precautions in terms of hydration and sun protection, to ensure their own safety.



## **Disputes, Results and Finals**

24. All disputes referred to the Association must be in writing or email and in the hands of the Secretary by 9.00p.m. of the Wednesday following the day of the occurrence which caused the dispute. The Secretary shall have forwarded to the delegate of the club against which the complaint was made, a copy of the stated dispute at least three days before the meeting at which the complaint is to be considered.

25. (a) A detailed result of Matches signed by both captains shall be retained by the winning captain.

(b) The detailed Match result must be entered into the Recording System by the home Team by 8.00p.m. on the Tuesday following the Match. If no results are received by that time, the Recording Secretary will notify the relevant Associate Club Delegates. The Executive Committee will have the discretion to forfeit some or all of the points of one or both Teams.

(c) Match and premiership results shall be kept on the Recording System showing the performances of the Teams in each division. Positions on the premiership table will be determined by Match Ratio (ie premiership points Match average), then Matches won, then Matches drawn, then rubbers, then sets, then games. (Note: Byes are not "Playable Matches". The Match Ratio adjusts Team premiership table positions accordingly.)

(d) The Team finishing top of the premiership table in each division of the minor round shall be the minor premiers of that division.

(e) The Teams that finish in the top four (4) positions on the premiership table at the end of the minor round in each division shall play off in the major round as follows:

<u>Semi Finals:</u>	Match One	1 Vs 2
	Match Two	3 Vs 4

Preliminary Final: Loser Match One Vs Winner Match Two.

Grand Final: Winner Match One Vs Winner Preliminary.

(e). The Executive Committee shall determine the venues of Finals Matches.

26. If a Team plays a player who does not use his correct name or is not a member of the Club, or enters a player's name on the Recording System who is not actually playing the Match, then at any time during the season, the points accrued by the Team shall be forfeited, and the Disputes Committee deems the right to withdraw all the offending Team's points that have been accrued during

the year. The Executive Committee of the Association reserves the right to ban the player or players involved in the deception from the Association.

27. Definitions

"Associated Club" or "Club" means any natural lawn tennis club which has an approved, nominated and participating Team in the current season.

"General Meeting" means Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

"Match" means the scheduled game play in the programme between two Teams in accordance with these Rules and Constitution.

"Recording System" means the Match results recording system endorsed by the Executive Committee.

"Rules of Play" means the current International Tennis Federation (ITF) Rules of Tennis

"Team" means any team as defined by rule 12.

"The Act" means the Associations Incorporation Act 1985.

*This is the annexure marked 'A' referred to in the statutory declaration  
of \_\_\_\_\_  
made on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_  
before me (Justice of the Peace signature) \_\_\_\_\_.*