



## League Vancouver Lower Mainland Inter Club Doubles

# NSWC TENNIS LEAGUE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

*Revised 2019 Approved by Tennis Committee.*

The Vancouver Lower Mainland Inter Club Doubles league is a competitive league for men and women which takes place from April to June of each year. This policy provides a framework that governs the teams representing the NSWC.

Everything hereunder must conform to the Vancouver Lower Mainland Men's and Women's League Rules and Regulations.

## MEMBERSHIP

Anyone playing league must be both a Full Membership or Trial club member and paying the annual tennis activity fee.

For **Men's A1 and Women's Open teams ONLY**, players who are affiliated with the NSWC ("Affiliate Members") may be considered. Affiliate Members are high performance players who have or have had a previous association with the club as a tennis pro or member, or junior member of the Club. To play as an Affiliate Member, the player must have been recommended by the Tennis Director and approved by the Tennis Committee.

## TEAMS

Teams are made up of those players from the previous year's team wishing to continue. Players must be willing to commit to playing a minimum of 60% of the matches.

At the beginning of each league season, each team must elect one or more captains.

A team will consist of 12 players, subject to the following exceptions:

1. The lowest day and night divisions can carry more than 12 players
2. New players to league can be added to a team's roster as determined by the Tennis Director.
3. As approved by the Tennis Committee.

**NOTE: Captains must submit their returning player rosters to the Tennis Committee by September 1<sup>st</sup>.**

If there is an open position(s) on a team, any current league players can apply to the Tennis Director to fill the spot on that team. The Tennis Director will make a recommendation to the Tennis Committee. A determination will be made by a subcommittee consisting of the Tennis Director and 4 members of the Tennis Committee including, where possible, 2 men and 2 women.

## FORMATION OF A NEW TEAM

In order for a new team to be established, there must be a player willing to be the captain and to organize the team for at least the first season. There must be a minimum of 10 players available to play on the new team. There will always be consideration to preserving existing teams when reviewing or accepting the formation of new teams.

### NEW Women's League Teams:

The Tennis Director will send an email to all women tennis members on August 15 asking if there are any new players interested in joining women's league. The deadline to reply is August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Requests to form a new women's team are to be submitted to the Tennis Committee in writing by September 15th.

### NEW Men's League Teams:

The tennis Director will send an email to men tennis members on September 15 asking if any new players are interested in joining Men's League. The deadline to reply is October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Requests to form a new men's team are to be submitted to the Tennis Committee in writing by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Final approval of any new teams will be made by the Tennis Committee.

If the Tennis Committee approves the formation of a new team, the following must take place:

- Applications for a **new women's team** must be made by the team captain to Women's League Vancouver Lower Mainland before November 15<sup>th</sup>. (The process for submission of new teams is posted on the Women's League Vancouver Lower Mainland website)
- Applications for a **new men's team** must be made by the team captain to Men's League Vancouver Lower Mainland at the February Men's league meeting.

## SPARING

Anyone sparing on a men's or women's league team must be both a full NSWC member and a tennis member. For Men's A1 team and Women's Open team, any Affiliate Member may spare.

In women's league spares must be drawn only from the roster of another team and must comply with Vancouver Lower Mainland Women's League Rules and Regulations. NSWC tennis members who are not on a roster of another NSWC team may not spare for Women's Spring League. A player can only spare twice in a season.

In men's league, a spare may be drawn from the roster of another team or from the roster of spares and must comply with the Vancouver Lower Mainland Men's League Rules and Regulations.

### **ELIGIBILITY TO CHALLENGE UP TO A HIGHER DIVISION**

- Players from a division directly below can challenge up to a team in the next division.
- All challenges must take place as doubles partnerships i.e. two players challenging any other two players.
- Players wishing to submit a challenge of two players on another team must do so in writing to the Tennis Committee in the period from September 15<sup>th</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Written challenges must contain the names of the players challenging, the team they wish to challenge onto, and the names of the players on the higher division team that they wish to challenge.
- The challenged players will be contacted by the Tennis Director
- If the challenged players choose to not accept the challenge, they will automatically be moved to the lower division and the players challenging moved to the higher division.
- If the challenged players accept the challenge, they will coordinate a time to play against the challengers.
- Challenges will consist of 1 match of 3 full sets.
- All challenges must be completed within a month and in all circumstances by December 31<sup>st</sup>. In the event this is not possible, a determination will be made by the tennis Committee.
- The outcome of the challenge will be reported to the Tennis Director by the team that wins the challenge.
- Players can only have one challenge outstanding at any point in time.
- Players who have been challenged cannot be challenged again but have the right to challenge onto any team, including the ability to challenge any players on their original team in the event they lost a previous challenge.

### **NEW LEAGUE PARTICIPANTS**

Any existing tennis members who have never played league, or who played league in the past but have not played for more than one league season, or new tennis members wishing to play league must contact the Tennis Director by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

After evaluating the player, the Tennis Director will contact the Captain of the appropriate team to notify them of the potential new player. (Note: in this case exceptions to the 12-player cap will be decided by the Tennis Committee as outlined above).

If there is insufficient room on a team to add a player, that player may be considered for a lower team, or in the case of the Men's League, added to a roster of spares.

If there are a sufficient number of players wishing to play league, but unable to be added to an existing team, and one of them is prepared to act as the captain, the Tennis Director will assist

the prospective captain in formulating a request to form a new team.

## **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

### **LOA - By injury, illness, or choice**

- A player missing one league season may return to their previous team regardless of whether that team has moved up or down a Division.
- A player missing one league season must notify their captain and/or the Tennis Director by September 1<sup>st</sup> of their wish to return to the team.

(Note: in this case exceptions to the 12 player cap will be decided by the Tennis Committee as outlined above).

### **LOA – Exceeding one league season**

- A Player missing more than one league season will follow the process outlined above for new league participants.

## **REMOVAL OF PLAYERS FROM LEAGUE TEAMS**

Any player whose behavior is found to be in contravention of the Tennis Code of Conduct may, by decision of the Tennis Committee, be temporarily removed from a team or permanently restricted from playing on a league team.

## **LEAGUE ISSUES AND DISPUTES**

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Tennis Director, the Tennis Committee Chair, or the Tennis Committee Men's or Women's League Liaison. All league issues will be adjudicated by a subcommittee consisting of the Tennis Director and 4 members of the Tennis Committee including, where possible, 2 men and 2 women.