

Club championship rules

Approved 15th February 2021
Effective 15th February 2021

Championships to be played the weekend of 20/21 March 2021 commencing at 8am on the Saturday and 9am on the Sunday.

If required, finals to be played the following Sunday at a time to be advised.

Entry

Players wishing to enter the Sunshine Tennis Club Championship events must do so by the advertised cut-off date of **10th March 2021**. The closing date will be advised on the club noticeboard at least two weeks in advance.

Entry is on an opt-in basis. An entry fee of \$10 will be charged per player per event. As mentioned below in qualification, intending players must be a Sunshine Tennis Club member as at 13th February 2021.

Junior entries are available for anyone 16 years of age as at the end of March 2021.

For an event to proceed a minimum number of entries need to be received which will be decided by the subcommittee at the time of entry being closed.

The draw

Singles

Singles championships will be drawn the week before the event each year. Events will be filled as follows, based on players' ratings or ages on the date of the draw:

Men's 'A' up to ranking 7, 'B' 7.5 +

Women's

Boy's 16 & Under, 10 & Under

Girl's 16 & Under, 10 & Under

If a player does not have a rating, the subcommittee will appoint one for the competition. If a player wishes to play in a higher grade, they may do so at the discretion of the subcommittee.

The FUN Doubles and Mixed Doubles

Doubles championship draws will be completed in the week leading up to the event with partner drawn from a hat by subcommittee.

Men's

Women's

Boy's 16 & Under, 10 & Under

Girl's 16 & Under, 10 & Under

Player information

By entering Sunshine Tennis Club Championships, players agree to their contact details being shared with other players in the draw. Draws will be displayed in the Sunshine Tennis Club noticeboard and updated when needed. Draws and player contact information may be emailed to the participants.

New balls will be provided for every round match and final depending on weather.

If necessary, you may arrange to play your matches at a convenient time to both parties in the preceding week of the Club Championships weekend.

Qualification

To qualify for entry, a player must be a Sunshine Tennis Club member as at 13th February 2021. Players may enter any grade above the one they qualify for in addition to their own grade. Qualification is determined by the player's age or rating at the date of the draw.

Scheduling

Sunshine Tennis Club members will make every attempt to ensure their matches are played in good time.

Finals Sunday.

Players entering singles events must make themselves available for the Club Championship finals weekend, which is set by the Tennis Subcommittee prior to the start of the championships. All singles finals will normally be played on the finals weekend. In special circumstances, where a player is unable to play their final on the Club Championship finals weekend, a player may apply to the Sunshine Tennis Club Tennis Subcommittee to play the final in advance of the finals weekend. If the match cannot be arranged by the finals weekend, the player unable to attend on the finals weekend will forfeit the match.

Cancellations

Singles

Once a singles match is confirmed, a player who is unable to play will forfeit the match. If a player is unable to confirm a match within the Club Championship round cut-off period for any reason, including injury, the player will forfeit the match.

Doubles

In the case of a scheduled weekend Championship event, if a player cancels or fails to appear, the player will forfeit the match.

Not played

Each club championship tournament must have at least one set completed during the tournament. If no sets were completed, the Championship will be recorded as not played.

For example, if one player forfeits the semi-final, and one of the finalists subsequently withdraws from the final without completing a set, then the players arrange to play at a mutually agreed time.

However, in this case, if the player withdraws in the second set, the match and the championship is awarded to their opponent.

Late arrivals

Players must be on court not later than 5 minutes after the scheduled start of the match according to the clubhouse clock. At this time, one game will be awarded to the player's opponent and an additional game will be awarded to the player's opponent every 3 minutes until either the player is on court or the match is forfeited.

Matches

Adult matches will be a best of three with tie breaks at 6 all in the first two sets and to 10 points in the final set tie break.

Juniors will be allocated a half hour with the winner having the most games won at the conclusion of the game being played on the half hour bell/siren.

Players are permitted a warm-up period, ending not more than 5 minutes after the arrival of the last player on court. Matches are expected to be played expeditiously, with only short refreshment breaks taken at the change of ends. A player may take a break of up to 5 minutes to receive treatment or to replace or repair equipment and clothing.

Playing before matches

Players are prohibited from playing or practicing on court during the two hours immediately preceding any championship match.

Uncompleted matches

Matches running into the next court booking may be completed with the consent of the players in the following match.

Forfeits

A player forfeits a match if:

- A player is unable to confirm a time or date for a match prior to the round cut-off date.
- A player cancels a confirmed match a second time.
- A player gives less than 24 hours notice of cancellation of a confirmed match.
- A player plays or practices on court within 2 hours before a match.
- A player fails to appear on court for a confirmed match within the allowed time.
- A player suspends play or leaves the court for more than 5 minutes for any reason.

Conduct

Players are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the etiquette, sportsmanship and standards of behaviour expected of the sport. In particular, players must:

- Ensure that play throughout is expeditious, especially in changing ends and in being ready to serve and receive service.
- Accept the decisions of the umpire (if appointed) without question or protest.
- Where a match is self-marked, players should mark cards in a sportsmanlike manner and accept the call of the opponent with good grace.
- Exercise self-control at all times.
- Not behave in any way likely to bring the game into disrepute.

Marking

With the exception of finals, matches will normally be self-marked. However, another club member may mark the match with the consent of both players but not act as an umpire.

Coaching

A player may not receive coaching during a match except from their partner in a doubles match.

Disputes

All disputes regarding the draw or scheduling of Club Championship matches will be decided by the Sunshine Tennis Club Subcommittee. If an umpire is appointed, the umpire's call is final and cannot be disputed. In a self-marked match, all disputes between players will be decided by the Club Captain.

Championship Board in Clubhouse.

To have your name included on the Championship Board in the clubhouse will come from the following **Singles** events:

Men's 'A' up to ranking 7

Women's

Boy's 16 & Under

Girl's 16 & Under

Changes to rules

If a situation arises during the championships that are not covered by the rules, the Sunshine Tennis Club Subcommittee will adjudicate and amend the rules as required.

Mike Geard

Club Captain

14th February 2021