



Open Tennis Format

1. **Purpose:** To disseminate information and instruction pertaining to Open Tennis Tournaments.
2. **Eligible Teams / Players:** Open Island-wide to SOFA and NON-SOFA 18 years of age or older.
3. **Type of Competition:** Men's Singles Competition, (Beginner, Intermediate, or Advanced), Women's Singles Competition (Beginner, Intermediate, or Advanced). Players will be required to choose their divisions before tournament play starts.
4. **Division.** Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced.
 - A. Begin with 1.5. Read all categories carefully and then decide which one best describes your present ability level.
 - B. When rating yourself assume you are playing against a player of the same gender and the same ability.

1.5 (Beginner)

You have little to no experience playing on the court.

2.0 (Beginner)

Still learning the fundamentals of play.

2.5 (Intermediate)

You have limited experience and are working primarily on getting the ball in play.

3.0 (Intermediate)

you lack court experience and your strokes need developing. You are familiar with the basic positions for singles and doubles play.

3.5 (Intermediate)

you are learning to judge where the ball is going, although your court coverage is limited. You can sustain a short rally of slow pace with other players of the same ability.

4.0 (Intermediate)

You are fairly consistent when hitting medium-paced shots, but are not comfortable with all strokes and lack execution when trying for directional control, depth, or power. You're most common doubles formation is one-up, one-back.

4.5 (Advanced)

you have achieved improved stroke dependability with directional control on moderate shots, but need to develop depth and variety. You exhibit more aggressive net play, have improved court coverage and are developing teamwork in doubles.

5.0 (Advanced)

you have dependable strokes, including directional control and depth on both forehand and backhand sides on moderate-paced shots. You can use lobs, overheads, approach shots and volleys with some success and occasionally force errors when serving. Rallies may be lost due to impatience. Teamwork in doubles is evident.

5.5 (Advanced)

You have developed your use of power and spin and can handle pace. You have sound footwork, can control depth of shots, and attempt to vary game plan according to your opponents. You can hit first serves with power and accuracy and place the second serve. You tend to over hit on difficult shots. Aggressive net play is common in doubles.

6.0 (Advanced)

You have good shot anticipation and frequently have an outstanding shot or attribute around which a game may be structured. You can regularly hit winners or force errors off of short balls and can put away volleys. You can successfully execute lobs, drop shots, half volleys, overhead smashes, and have good depth and spin on most second serves.

5. **Rules.** The United States Tennis Association (USTA) rules will apply as modified by these bylaws or by the Tournament Director.

6. Bylaws.

a. The tournament format will be single elimination within each division or a round robin format depending of the number of participants.

b. All matches will be in a best 2 out of 3 format with regular scoring i.e. (Love), 15, 30, 40 and then game, unless duce & advantage comes into play until one of the players wins by a 2 point margin.

c. For the championship game which can be a 15 Points per match format the best 2 out of 3 matches set. Unless all participants agree to play the championship game with regular scoring before the start of the tournament.

d. Initial pairings for all tournament divisions will be done prior to tournament play.

e. Players will be granted a 10 minute grace period between sets.

f. The players should announce in a voice audible to his opponent the set at the beginning of each game and the point scores as the game goes on.

g. Always serve diagonally starting each game on the right. You can serve anywhere in the service box at any speed with any spin. If the ball goes out once it called a fault and you get a second serve, however, if this one goes out too then the point goes to your opponent.

h. A let is when the ball touches the net on a serve yet still goes over and into the service box. How many Lets in Tennis? You get as many let's as you want as long as the ball hits the net and goes over the other side. After one game the other player will then serve etc. A coin is tossed and the person who wins get to decide if they wish to serve first or not and the other player decides which end they will start playing from.

7. **Awards:** Will be presented to first, second, and third place winners in each division.
8. **Pets:** There shall be no pets of any kind allowed on any athletic field or within spectator seating.
9. **Officials:** There will be no officials. Disputes which cannot be resolved by the active contestants will be resolved by the (MCCS) designated Tournament Director.
10. **Tournament Director:** The Tournament Director or MCCS representative will be responsible for the administration of the tournament and all aspects thereof. Any and all decisions are final.