



**Growthpoint Top Guns
YEAR 5**

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT:

There are two phases of the tournament, and these phases apply to all 14 Tennis South Africa districts.

Phase	What	When
Phase 1	Regional events in all 14 districts to determine a winner of each province. Each province will consist of an A, and a B section.	A designated weekend in each province between September 2022 and March 2023.
Phase 2	Winners of each province will advance to the national final tournament in Sun City.	Prospective dates for the national final are 28 April to 1 May 2023.

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

- Entry to the event will be free for participating clubs, furthermore key tournament expenses (tennis balls and officials) will be provided at no cost by TSA.
- Travel and accommodation support will be provided to, and from regional winners to the national final in Sun City.
- A venue hosting fee will also be paid to each host of a regional event.
- Medals will be awarded to A and B section winners and runners-up of each regional event, as well as national winners and runners-up. Trophies will be awarded to the winners of A section regional events, as well as national final winners.

TOURNAMENT RULES:

A DIVISION	
General Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players must be 16 years or older at the time of their specific regional competition taking place (first day of the competition). • Players must be affiliated with TSA via their province and be in good standing with any provincial, regional, or district membership fees. • Players must be a League/Tournament member (Full Member) of an affiliated club within their province (14 TSA districts). • In cases where a player is a member of more than one club in more than one province, the player must determine which club/province they are going to represent. They may not represent both. • Players may only compete in one regional qualifying competition. • Players are only eligible to represent a club if they have competed in one full league season within their province in which the specific club is affiliated and has competed. • The club chairperson and provincial district association, by submitting and accepting the entry, endorses all player eligibility issues. Queries will be resolved by the provincial association.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs may enter multiple teams. Entries are not restricted to one entry per club. • Any player to have a current WTA/ATP ranking within the top 500 may not enter. • Retired professional players are eligible to participate. • Only one tennis player with a current professional WTA/ATP ranking outside of the top 500 or former professional tennis player is permitted to play per team (either male or female). • TSA reserves the right to refuse an entry.
Composition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regional club competition is a team composition. • The competition is open to all League/Tournament affiliated players. • Teams comprise of two men and two women, all being from the same club and subject to being eligible as stated in the general information above.
Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams will play against one another on a tie basis. • Ties consist of a men's doubles, women's doubles, and a mixed doubles. • Each match will be the best of two short sets and a 10 point match tie-breaker if the match reaches one set all (first team to reach 4 games, with a margin of 2, or with a regular 7 point tie-break being played at 4 games all). • The mixed doubles will allow 'free substitution' where a mixed combination may be changed at the end of each set. • At the start of the tie, the team captains will toss a coin. The winner of the toss may elect the order in which the matches are to be played i.e. 1st match – mixed doubles, 2nd match – men's doubles, and 3rd match – women's doubles. • The 'No Let' rule on the serve will be used i.e. if the serve hits the net and falls in the correct service block the point continues, a Let is not played. • With the 'No Let' the intended receiver must still return the serve i.e. the partner at the net may not intercept to return the serve. • The 'No Ad' rule will also be played i.e. when the score reaches Deuce, a deciding point is played. • In men's and women's doubles, the receiving team may elect which team member is to receive the serve. In mixed doubles, the male must receive if the opposing male is serving, and the female player must receive if the opposing female player is serving. • Teams will be divided into Round Robin pools. • The number of teams participating will determine the number of pools and play-off matches in the competition. • During the round robin competition, all matches (doubles and mixed doubles) must be played. • Teams will be awarded 1 point per set won, the match tie-breaker will count as a set played, with the team winning the tie being awarded 2 bonus points. • The final position within the round robin pool will be determined on the number of points and not matches won. • In the event of a two-way tie, the head to head result between the two teams when they played against one another will determine the outcome. • In the event of a three-way tie, the following procedures will be used to break the tie:

	<p>ALL the results of the matches played in the group will be used for the calculation method in determining the final position within the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Percentage sets won, if a tie still exists ○ Percentage games won, if a tie still exists ○ A shoot out, based on a traditional seven-point tie-breaker between the tied teams comprising of a men's doubles, a women's doubles, and a mixed doubles. ○ Draw by lot to determine the positions in question ○ If at any stage the three way tie is broken and a two way tie exists, the steps in breaking the three way tie will continue, the head to head result WILL NOT BE REFERED TO.
Regional Qualifying Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Each province (14 TSA districts) to host a regional competition. ● Regional qualifying events to be held at a club and not at the provincial head-quarters. ● Each province to advise of club and can determine their own tender/allocation process. ● Total number of entries will determine the number of days required to complete the regional tournament. ● Two weekends can be identified and used if necessary (depending on entries). ● Condition of entry as per general section above. ● The winner from each province competition (14 winners) will qualify for the National final. ● Entry is fee.
National Final	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 14 regional winners. ● 2 x TSA wild card teams from historically under-serviced communities. ● 16 teams in total. ● 'A' Division only. ● Same format as regional competition (best of 2 sets and 10 point match tie-breaker if match reaches one set all). ● 16 teams = 64 players ● 4 pools of 4 teams ● 3 day competition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Day 1 – 1st and 2nd round of round robin ○ Day 2 – 3rd round of round robin and semi-finals/play-offs (all group winners in semi-final, followed by runners-up, 3rd place, and then 4th place). ○ Day 3 – Finals and play-offs. ○ Final to be best of 3 short sets, with regular 7 point tie-breaker to be played at 4 games all in each set.

B DIVISION	
General Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Players must be 16 years or older at the time of their specific regional competition taking place (first day of the competition). ● Players must be affiliated with TSA via their province and be in good standing with any provincial, regional, or district membership fees. ● Players must be at least a social member of an affiliated club within their province (14 TSA districts).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In cases where a player is a member of more than one club in more than one province, the player must determine which club/province they are going to represent. They may not represent both. • Players may only compete in one regional qualifying competition. • The club chairperson and provincial district association, by submitting and accepting the entry, endorses all player eligibility issues. Queries will be resolved by the provincial association. • Clubs may enter multiple teams. Entries are not restricted to one entry per club. • No former or current ATP/WTA players may be in a team. • TSA reserves the right to refuse an entry.
Composition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regional club competition is a team composition. • The competition is open to all players who are affiliated as social members. • Teams comprise of two men and two women, all being from the same club and subject to being eligible as stated in the general information above.
Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams will play against one another on a tie basis. • Ties consist of a men's doubles, women's doubles, and a mixed doubles. • Each match will be the best of two short sets and a 10 point match tie-breaker if the match reaches one set all (first team to reach 4 games, with a margin of 2, or with a regular 7 point tie-break being played at 4 games all). • The mixed doubles will allow 'free substitution' where a mixed combination may be changed at the end of each set. • At the start of the tie, the team captains will toss a coin. The winner of the toss may elect the order in which the matches are to be played i.e. 1st match – mixed doubles, 2nd match – men's doubles, and 3rd match – women's doubles. • The 'No Let' rule on the serve will be used i.e. if the serve hits the net and falls in the correct service block the point continues, a Let is not played. • With the 'No Let' the intended receiver must still return the serve i.e. the partner at the net may not intercept to return the serve. • The 'No Ad' rule will also be played i.e. when the score reaches Deuce, a deciding point is played. • In men's and women's doubles, the receiving team may elect which team member is to receive the serve. In mixed doubles, the male must receive if the opposing male is serving, and the female player must receive if the opposing female player is serving. • Teams will be divided into Round Robin pools. • The number of teams participating will determine the number of pools and play-off matches in the competition. • During the round robin competition, all matches (doubles and mixed doubles) must be played. • Teams will be awarded 1 point per set won, the match tie-breaker will count as a set played, with the team winning the tie being awarded 2 bonus points. • The final position within the round robin pool will be determined on the number of points and not matches won. • In the event of a two-way tie, the head to head result between the two teams when they played against one another will determine the outcome.

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Regional Qualifying Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each province (14 TSA districts) to host a regional competition. • Regional qualifying events to be held at a club and not at the provincial head-quarters. • Each province to advise of club and can determine their own tender/allocation process. • Total number of entries will determine the number of days required to complete the regional tournament. • Two weekends can be identified and used if necessary (depending on entries). • Condition of entry as per general section above. • Entry is fee.

TRANSFORMATION:

- Two wildcard teams will progress to the national finals. The wildcard teams will be selected by a TSA wildcard committee from best performing historically disadvantaged clubs who participate in the regional events.

NATIONAL FINALS:

- The national finals is set to take place at Sun City from 28 April to 1 May 2023.
- All regional finals need to be played before the end of March 2023.

ENTRIES:

- Please note that this year entries will take place online via the following link:
<https://forms.gle/M48NGSWf9WaiATeh6>
- This link will also be made available on the TSA website under the Play > Top Guns > Online entry.
- Entries will close three weeks before the regional event is to take place.
- Entries will be communicated to tournament directors once entries have closed to ensure sufficient time for planning and invoices to be sent.

For any queries, please contact kyla@tennissa.co.za.