



BNP Paribas RCS Rising Star Tennis

2020/21

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

A national schools' tournament to find the best boys and girls school tennis teams in South Africa.

Structure of the event:

There are 3 phases, and they apply equally to the respective boys' and girls' events:

Phase	What	When
Phase 1	District events in all 9 provinces to determine a winner and second placed team from each district who will both advance to the provincial final	A weekend in each district between February and March 2021.
Phase 2	9 x Provincial finals to determine a winner who will advance to the national final.	A weekend/s in April 2021.
Phase 3	<p>National final in Gauteng consisting of 9 provincial finals winners as well as 2 wild card teams (see the transformation section of this document for more info on the wild card teams).</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt the boy's competition will consist of 11 teams and the girl's competition will consist of 11 teams in both Primary and Secondary School categories.</p>	A weekend in May 2021.

- Entry is open to ALL primary and secondary schools in South Africa. However, schools must be in good standing with their district/regional or provincial tennis body to participate.
- Entry to the event will be free for participating schools, furthermore key tournament expenses (tennis balls and officials) will be provided at no cost by TSA.
- Travel and accommodation support will be provided to participating schools for the provincial finals (phase 2), as well as for the national final (phase 3).
- A venue hosting fee will also be paid to each host of a district event or a provincial final.
- Trophies will be awarded to phase 2 and 3 winners.
- Non-cash prizes (e.g. tennis balls and tennis equipment) will be awarded to the national championship winners.

District Incentives:

In order to generate enthusiasm for the event, as well as to assist in driving participation, TSA will offer a cash incentive of **R15 000.00** for the district with the most entries and a minimum of eight teams from historically under serviced communities participating.

Transformation:

- The four TSA/Growthpoint National Development Centres and development hubs will participate in the Inter-hubs competition with winners awarded wild cards into the national final.
- Schools from historically disadvantaged areas will be allowed to combine to enter teams.
- Selected schools from historically disadvantaged areas, who perform well in the district events, will receive a fixed number of wild cards into the provincial finals. The wild cards will be decided by the tournament organizing committee, with input from the relevant provincial or district structures.

Wheelchair Tennis:

- All special schools that offer wheelchair tennis in South Africa have been identified and formally introduced to the sport under Tennis South Africa.
- Tennis South Africa provides coaching and equipment support at the schools.
- Schools will participate in regional and provincial tournaments with winning teams advancing to the national finals.
- The national final will consist of 4 girls' teams and 4 boys' teams

Tournament rules:

Below is a high-level overview of the rules and structure of the event. Some elements may be subject to change:

- The event will consist of a boy's competition and a separate girl's competition. Coed schools can enter appropriate teams in both competitions. Schools will be allowed and encouraged to enter more than one team.
- Only schools in good standing with their district, region and/or provincial tennis body will be allowed to participate.
- Every participating player requires a TSA member registration number. Registration is FREE for school players and can be done online via: <http://tsa.sportyhq.com>

- This is a team tennis event and the players, and a coach OR manager will be allowed to sit on the court.
- A team will comprise of four players.
- Only players aged 13 and under will be eligible to enter the Primary School competition.
- Only players aged 16 and under will be eligible to enter the Secondary School competition.
- Each player must be a full time "bona fide" learner at the school and must be on the attendance roll at the school on the 31st January 2021. This is because the national final will be played in May 2021.
- A tie (i.e. school A versus school B) will consist of three matches i.e. one doubles match, and two singles matches. Two of the players will play doubles and the other two will play singles.
- Doubles players are not allowed to play singles and singles players not allowed to play doubles. In other words, all four players must compete in the tie. The team must be confirmed 15 minutes before a tie. No substitutions are allowed. Any illness or injury during a match will result in the opponent getting the match point. The players playing doubles or singles may be changed from tie to tie.
- A match will be best of 3 sets, first 2 sets will be short sets, starting at 2-2 with a 7-point tie breaker at 6-6 and 3rd set will be a match tie or super tie i.e. first to 10 points with a lead of 2 points.
- On court coaching is only allowed during change overs. The official coach or manager is the only one allowed on court.
- The coach / manager must be a registered coach in good standing with TSA or a full-time teacher on monthly salary with a valid SACE registration.
- The TSA Code of Conduct will be enforced, and no unsportsmanlike behavior will be tolerated.
- The same four players that competed in the inter region competition must represent the school in the national final. Should a player be injured or have left the school a request for a substitute may be made to the organising committee who shall have the final say.