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STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

There are two phases of the tournament, and these phases apply to all 9 provinces in SA.

| Phase | What | When |
|---------|---|---|
| Phase 1 | Regional events in all 9 provinces to determine a winner of each province. Each province will consist of an A, and a B section. | Marketing of the event: October-December 2024 A designated weekend in each province between January 2025 and May 2025. |
| | Provincial competition: Limpopo Free State KwaZulu-Natal North-West Mpumalanga Northern Cape | Only winning teams in the A section in each province will progress to the national final. |
| | District competition: Tshwane Ekurhuleni Johannesburg Cape Town Winelands Eden Gqeberha (PE) East London | Top two teams in each category (A and B section) in the district competition will progress to the provincial finals. |
| Phase 2 | Provincial finals: Gauteng Western Cape Eastern Cape | A designated weekend in each province between June 2025 and July 2025. |
| | | Only winning teams in the A section in each province will progress to the national final. |
| Phase 3 | Winners of each province will advance to the national final tournament in Sun City. | National final to be hosted 29 August - 1 September 2025. |



HOW DO I ENTER?

STEP 1:

Enter your team via google form link https://forms.gle/hk6hPKrA9SVyqUTi7

STEP 2:

 Tournament director will communicate confirmation of entry to the team captain and inform you of next steps.

BREAKDOWN OF COMPETITION PRIZE MONEY:

'A' Division:

- Provincial/District Club Winner (Club): R8 500
- National Club Winner (Club): R32 000
- National Club Winner (Team): R32 000
- National Club Finalist (Club): R15 000
- National Club Finalist (Team): R15 000

'B' Division:

Provincial/District Club Winner (Club): R5 000

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

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

TOURNAMENT RULES:

| General Rules | Players must be 16 years or older at the time of their specific district / provincial competition taking place. Players must be affiliated with TSA via SportyHQ and be in good standing with any provincial, or district membership fees. Players must be a league/ tournament player (full TSA member) and be affiliated to a club within their province. 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 district / provincial 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. By submitting and accepting the entry, the club chairperson and provincial / district association, 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. 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 | The district / provincial club competition is a team composition. The competition is open to all Social/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 | 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 With the 'No Let' rule 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 of 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: 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: Percentage sets won, if a tie still exists O Percentage games won, if a tie still exists О A shoot out, based on a traditional seven-point tie-breaker О 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. Ο 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. District / Selected provinces will be allowed to host districts competition. Each province to host a provincial competition. **Provincial** Qualifying Each district / province can determine their own playing venue(s) provided that the venue(s) are in good standing with TSA. Competition Total number of entries will determine the number of days required to complete the district / provincial tournament. Two weekends can be identified and used if necessary (depending on entries). Condition of entry as per general section above. The winning team from each provincial competition (9 winners) will qualify for the National final. **National Final** 9 provincial winners. 3 x TSA wild card teams from historically under-serviced communities. 12 teams in total. 'A' Division only.

- Same format as district / provincial competition (best of 2 sets and 10 point match tie-breaker if match reaches one set all).
- 12 teams = 48 players
- 4 pools of 3 teams
- 3 day competition:
 - o 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).
 - o Day 3 Finals and play-offs.
 - o 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 | Players must be 16 years or older at the time of their specific regional competition taking place. Players must be affiliated with TSA via SportyHQ and be in good standing with any provincial or district membership fees. Players must be at least a social member of an affiliated club within their province. 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 district / provincial qualifying competition. By submitting and accepting the entry, the club chairperson and provincial / district association, 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 | The district / provincial 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 | 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 of 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:

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:

- o Percentage sets won, if a tie still exists
- o Percentage games won, if a tie still exists
- o 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.
- o Draw by lot to determine the positions in question
- o 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.

District / Provincial Qualifying Competition

- Selected provinces will be allowed to host districts competition.
- Each province to host a provincial competition.
- Each district / province can determine their own playing venue(s) provided that the venue(s) are in good standing with TSA.
- Total number of entries will determine the number of days required to complete the district / provincial tournament.
- Two weekends can be identified and used if necessary (depending on entries).
- Condition of entry as per general section above.
- The winning team from each provincial competition (9 winners) will qualify for the National final.

TRANSFORMATION:

Three wildcard teams will be awarded entry into the national finals. The wildcard teams
will be selected by a TSA wildcard committee from the best performing historically
disadvantaged clubs who participated in the provincial A section events.

NATIONAL FINALS:

- The national finals is set to take place at Sun City, North West from 29 August –
 1 September 2025.
- All provincial finals need to be played before the end of July 2025.

ENTRIES:

- Please note that this year entries will take place online via the following link: https://forms.gle/hk6hPKrA9SVyqUTi7
- 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 district / provincial 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: Mpho Makhoba at Amexclubs@tennissa.co.za