

# NORTH EAST HILLS TABLE TENNIS ASSOICATION INC

## MATCH RULES

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# NORTH EAST HILLS TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC.

## MATCH RULES

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**N.E.H.T.T.A. MATCH RULES** - August 1997 - alterations approved 25/3/99, 2/3/2000, Feb. 2001, 28/6/2001, 21/2/2002, 21/3/2002, 18/4/2002, 28/5/2003, 6/10/2005, 7/6/2007, (19.4) 17/2/2011, (Expedite rule 11.3 18/8/2011), 28/2/2013, 13/6/2013, 3/10/2013

### 1. **GENERAL :**

#### 1.1 **Authorisation :**

The match rules are authorised by Clause 12(1) of the NEHTTA Constitution

#### 1.2 **Application :**

The match rules apply to the Winter and Summer Seasons

#### 1.3 **Additional Rules :**

“The Laws of Table Tennis” as determined by the ITTF shall apply to the Winter and Summer Seasons.

#### 1.4 **Interpretation :**

The Management Committee shall interpret the Match Rules when required generally. The President shall Interpret the Match Rules in an emergency except where the President is unavailable the next most senior Officer shall interpret the Match Rules in an emergency.

#### 1.5 **Disciplinary Action :**

The Management Committee may take Disciplinary action against a player behaving in an unsporting manner during a match

#### 1.6 **Protests :**

Protests regarding Disputed Match Rules shall be made in accordance with Clause 13 of the NEHTTA Constitution.

### 2.. **DEFINITIONS :**

#### 2.1 **Permit Committee :**

The Results Steward plus two other Officers (To be listed in the match programme)

#### 2.2 **Grading Committee :**

The Officers

#### 2.3 **Minor Round Team List :**

The list of teams and players for the minor round (approved by the Management Committee)

#### 2.4 **Finals :**

The top four teams at the end of the minor round play to determine the premier grade in each division.

#### 2.5 **Finals Team List :**

The list of teams and players for finals (approved by the Management Committee)

#### 2.6 **Forfeit :**

The penalty imposed for not complying with the Match Rules. When a forfeit occurs the forfeiting player's matches shall not be counted for finals qualifying and the opposing player/team shall be deemed as winning the forfeited rubbers and/or match by the maximum possible amount.

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### 2.. **DEFINITIONS :** (cont'd)

- 2.7 Permit :**  
Permission to compete for a team (from the Permit Committee)
- 2.8 Handicap Graph :**  
The graph used to determine a players starting score for a handicap rubber using each players Individual handicap.
- 2.9 Unfinished Match :**  
A match which is unable to be completed for reasons outside the control of the Players.

### 3. **TEAMS :**

- 3.1 Winter and Summer Season open Grades :**  
A maximum of (5) five players per team may be submitted for grading before the start of the season.
- 3.2 Handicap Grades :**  
A team shall consist of three players in any order. A maximum of four players may be submitted for a team before the start of the season.
- 3.3 Captain :**  
A team shall be under the control of a Captain appointed by the team's club.
- 3.4 Summer Season Handicap Grades :**  
Each team shall consist of three persons placed in any order.

### 4. **RESTRICTIONS :**

- 4.1 Number of Clubs :**  
A player shall only compete for one NEHTTA club during a season. A team playing a player that has competed for another NEHTTA club during the season shall forfeit the match.
- 4.2** A player shall compete in only one match per weekly round. If a player plays in more than one team in the same week the player shall forfeit every rubber played in the additional team or teams. In the event of ambiguity as to the player's primary team, that decision will be made by a majority vote of the Grading Committee.
- 4.3** No new player (known or unknown) will be allowed to play in the last 3 weeks of minor round matches except in the clubs lowest ranked team.

### 5. **GRADING :**

- 5.1 Club Duties : Team Submissions :**  
A club shall submit teams and a list of players for any grade or division to the Grading Committee before the start of the season (by the date set by the Management Committee)

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### 5. **GRADING :** (cont'd)

#### 5.2 **Grading of Players :**

A club shall grade players for their proposed teams using each players winning percentage from the corresponding season of the previous year as a guideline.

WINNING PERCENTAGE	PLAYER GRADING
75% - 100%	up one grade/division from previous year
25 % - 74%	same grade/division as previous year
0 - 24%	down one grade/division from the previous year

A minimum of five matches in one grade/division shall be required to obtain a relevant percentage. (Forfeit matches shall not be used to determine percentages)

#### 5.3 **Committee Duties : Grading of Players :**

The grading of every player shall be subject to the Grading Committee approval based on relevant (data) . Only in special circumstances shall approval be given for a player to compete two or more grades/divisions below their correct grading. When a player competes one or more grades/divisions below their correct grading a handicap may be imposed. Handicaps shall apply to doubles as well as singles.

#### 5.4 **Grading for a Handicap Division :**

The Permit Committee shall determine the handicap for every player. A player's handicap shall be continuously reviewed.

#### 5.5 **Grading of Teams :**

The Grading Committee shall form grades/divisions from the teams submitted to give an evenly balanced competition.

#### 5.6 **Minor round team lists :**

**New or unknown players who have not played for over two years can be promoted or relegated between grades/divisions after the first five weeks of the season providing those players have played for five weeks so a percentage can be determined. (Refer rule 5.2). The team listed for the 6<sup>th</sup> week shall be the team to compete for the rest of the season.**

### 6. **PLAYERS ON MINOR ROUND TEAM LIST :**

#### 6.1 **Competing for a higher graded team :**

A player may compete for any team in a higher grade/division than the one in which they are listed. This shall include different teams in the same grade/division.

#### 6.2 **Competing for a lower Graded Team :**

A player shall obtain a Permit before they may compete in a lower grade/division than the one in which they are listed. When a player competes in a lower grade/division without a Permit they shall forfeit all their rubbers for the match.

#### 6.3 **Competing for Different Teams in the Same Grade/Division :**

After five weeks when a club has more than one team in the same grade/division there shall be no interchange of players between teams (from the players in that grade/division). When a player competes for a different team than the one in which they are listed they shall forfeit all their rubbers for the match.

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### 7. PLAYERS NOT ON MINOR ROUND TEAM LIST :

#### 7.1 **Competing in one match :**

A player may compete in one match for a club without having to obtain a permit.

#### 7.2 **Competing in more than one match :**

A club shall obtain a Permit for a player before they may compete in a second match for a club. When a player competes in a second match for a club without a Permit they shall forfeit all their rubbers for the match.

#### 7.3 **Permit Holders :**

A player who has acquired a permit may compete for any team in a higher grade/division than the one in which they acquired the permit. This shall include different teams in the same grade/division. Rule 6.3 shall not apply until a player has competed for a team in three matches (in other words the permit player can play 2 matches in one team without being tied to that team, but once they have played 3 matches they cannot play for another team in the same grade/division).

#### 7.4 “Where it is obvious that this player requires a handicap (refer rule 5.3 last sentence) any one member of the grading committee may issue one. If no member of the grading committee can be located, an automatic handicap of 2 points per grade played below the players recognised winter grading shall apply. Failure to apply either an approved or automatic handicap shall result in the loss of all matches in which such player played”

#### 7.5 When a player plays more matches in a higher grade/division than originally listed, the player cannot play Finals in a lower grade/division without the Grading Committee approval.

### 8. PERMIT APPLICATIONS : (see 2.1)

#### 8.1 **General :**

Permits may be applied for/from the permit committee until 6.00pm. on the night of the match Continuation of Permits shall be subject to Management Committee approval at the next Management Committee meeting.

### 9. MINOR ROUND MATCHES :

#### 9.1 **Starting Time :**

The starting time for a match shall be 7.30pm. When a team is not ready to start by 7.45pm they shall be fined \$2. When a team is not ready to start by 8.00pm. they shall forfeit the match without the fine. When a player is not ready to start by the second round they shall forfeit all their rubbers for the match except by arrangement with the team captains.

#### 9.2 **Practice :**

When a match is in progress other tables shall not be used for practice.

#### 9.3 **Doubles Rubbers :**

Where there is insufficient playing area , two doubles rubbers shall not be played adjacent to each other. To be noted in match programme.

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### 9. **MINOR ROUND MATCHES :** (cont'd)

#### 9.4 **Home Team Duties :**

Venue : The home team shall ensure that the venue is set up prior to the starting time. When the venue is not set up on time, the home team shall be penalised (as stated in 9.1).

Tables : The home team shall provide at least one table for each match.

Balls : The home team shall provide one new or near new ball for each table. Each ball shall be NEHTTA approved and acceptable to each captain. When the home team does not supply an acceptable ball, they shall be penalised as stated in 9.1. When a ball is no longer acceptable for matches it shall be replaced. When a visiting team deliberately breaks a ball they shall provide an acceptable replacement.

### 10. **INSUFFICIENT PLAYERS :**

#### 10.1 **Minimum Number of Players :**

When a team has less than two players they shall forfeit the match.

#### 10.2 **Competing with Less than a Full Team :**

After a team competes with less than three players in two matches, for a third and subsequent time the club may be asked to withdraw that team from the competition without team fees being refunded.

### 11. **WINTER SEASON AND SUMMER SEASON :** (Where applicable)

#### 11.1 **Open Grades/Divisions :**

A match shall consist of eleven rubbers (nine singles and two doubles)

The options for competition shall be :

Option 1 - (three players)

Each player in a team shall compete in three singles rubbers and at least one doubles rubber against players in the opposing team. Pair 1 and pair 2 may be formed in any order using the three players in the team.

Option 2 - (four players)

Three players in a team shall compete in three singles rubbers. The fourth player in the team shall not compete in any singles rubbers. The captain may form the two doubles pairs in any order from the four players in the team. (except that pair 1 and pair 2 shall be different)/

Sequence of play -

As per the score sheet subject to variance by agreement of team captains.

#### 11.2 **Handicap Grades :**

A match shall consist of eleven rubbers (nine handicap singles and two handicap doubles).

Each game of a rubber shall be to 11 with no advantage. The start given in each game shall be determined from each player's individual handicap and the current NEHTTA handicap graph.

Handicap grades doubles - half the combined handicap of each pair. (rounded up)

The option for competition shall be as stated in rule 11.1.

#### **EXPEDITE RULE (adopted 18/8/2011)**

- 11.3 If any match reaches 4 all and there are spare tables available, any executive committee member present **may** use their discretion to instruct teams to play on more than one table in order to expedite the matches in progress. Consideration to be given to players who have just finished a lengthy game and require a short break, consideration also to be given to the programmed matches to be played in order.

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### 12. SUMMER SEASON : (when applicable)

#### 12.1 **Open Divisions :**

A match shall consist of nine rubbers. Each player in a team shall compete in three singles rubbers against players in the opposing team.  
The order of play shall be :

First Round (singles)	1 v 1	2 v 2	3 v 3
Second Round	2 v 1	1 v 3	3 v 2
Third Round	2 v 3	3 v 1	1 v 2

#### 12.2 **Handicap Divisions :**

A match shall consist of nine handicap rubbers (each game shall be to 11 with no advantage).  
The start given in each game of a rubber shall be determined from each player's individual handicap and the current NEHTTA handicap graph.  
Each player in a team shall compete in three singles matches against players in the opposing team.  
The sequence of play shall be as stated in rule 12.1  
Each player shall have a handicap.

#### 12.3 **Super League Format :**

A team shall consist of two players who each play a singles against the other two players and one doubles. Each rubber is best of 5 advantage games, A match shall consist of 5 rubbers

### 13. SCORE SHEETS :

A team shall complete a score sheet for every match scheduled (This includes forfeited matches)

#### 13.1 **Before Matches :**

All players shall be listed on the score sheets prior to the start of every match (this shall include the doubles pairs). Replacements may be made before the end of the first round.  
Teams shall exchange score sheets and all players shall then be listed on the opposing team's score sheet.

#### 13.2 **During Match :**

The umpire for a rubber shall ensure that the correct score for the rubber is entered on the score sheet of each team..

#### 13.3 **After Match :**

The Captain shall ensure that the score sheet is completed correctly and then sign it. The Captain shall then check and sign the opposing team's score sheet. Score sheets shall be received by the Results by 5pm on the Monday following the match.

For every late or incomplete score sheet the club shall be fined \$2 (except an incomplete Eonest Simon nomination shall not be penalised the loss of premiership points)  
When a team is penalised for a late/incomplete score sheet, the Results Steward shall notify the team's club as soon as possible.

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### 14. EONEST SIMON BEST TEAM MEMBER AWARD :

#### 14.1 **Scope :**

The Para Vista Modbury Table Tennis Club, upon disbanding donated a perpetual trophy Named in honour of Eonest Simon a former life member. This trophy shall be awarded to the best Team member for the minor round of the winter season.

The criteria shall be good sporting behavior and appropriate dress. (match results may be used to decide between equal players).

#### 14.2 **Voting :**

The captain shall choose the player from the opposing team who best fits the criteria.

The captain shall record the player's name and sign the score sheet in the required section.

(This is a secret vote) When the captain decides that no player from the opposing team fits the criteria. NO VOTE shall be recorded, a reason for not voting may be given and the score sheet will be signed in the required section.

When the captain does not complete this section correctly the team's club shall be fined \$1.00.

### 15. PREMIERSHIP TABLE:

#### 15.1 **Match Winner :**

The team that wins the majority of rubbers shall be the match winner. When both teams win the same number of rubbers the team that wins the majority of games shall be the winner.

#### 15.2 **Drawn Match :**

When both teams win the same number of rubbers and the same number of games the match shall be a draw. An unfinished match shall be a draw except when one team has won more than half the total number of rubbers in the match.

#### 15.3 **Premiership Table :**

A premiership table shall be issued to all clubs (by the Results Steward) at regular intervals during a season. A teams place shall be determined by the number of matches won followed by games and rubbers.

#### 15.4 **Super League** format points are awarded as follows : Win 3.0 - 5 points

Win 3.14 points and 1 point for each opponent.

Win 3.23 points and 2 points for each opponent.

### 16. FINALS - GENERAL:

#### 16.1 **Program :**

The dates and venues for every match shall be listed in the program.

#### 16.2 **Starting Time :**

The starting time for a match to start shall be 7.30pm. When a team is not ready to start by 7.45pm they shall forfeit the match.

#### 16.3 **Home/Visiting Team :**

The higher ranked team (at the end of the minor round) shall be the home team in finals.

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### 16. **FINALS - GENERAL:** (con'td)

#### 16.4 **Balls :**

The home team shall provide one new ball for each table, each ball shall be NEHTTA approved. When a ball is no longer acceptable for matches it shall be replaced.

#### 16.5 **Practice :**

When a match is in progress other tables shall not be used for practice.

#### 16.6 **Doubles Rubbers :**

Where there is insufficient playing area , two doubles rubbers shall not be played adjacent to each other.

### 17. **COMPOSITION OF FINALS :**

#### 17.1 **First Semi Final :**

This final shall be played between the third and fourth placed teams (at the end of the minor round) in each grade/division.

#### 17.2 **Second Semi Final :**

This final shall be played between the first and second placed teams (at the end of the minor round) in each grade/division.

#### 17.3 **Preliminary Final :**

This final shall be played between the winner of the first semi final and the loser of the second semi final in each grade/division.

#### 17.4 **Grand Final :**

This final shall be played between the winner of the second semi final and the winner of the preliminary final in each grade/division.

### 18. **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS - FINALS :**

#### 18.1 **Number of Matches :**

A player shall compete in a Minimum of five minor round matches to qualify for finals matches.

#### 18.2 **Finals Team List :**

The placement of every player shall be subject to Management Committee approval at the next Management Committee meeting (before the start of finals matches).

The team list for the season shall then be issued to each club.

A player who has qualified in the minor round by playing less than five matches as a singles player, shall need a permit (and if necessary, a handicap) to play singles in finals.

### 19. **TEAM OPTIONS - FINALS :**

#### 19.1 **Players listed in a Team :**

A team may compete with any of these players.

#### 19.2 **Players from a Lower Grade/Division :**

A team shall compete with a qualified player from a lower grade/division when they cannot fill the team from their listed players.

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### 19. **TEAM OPTIONS - FINALS :** (con'td)

#### 19.3 **Players from a higher Grade/Division :**

A team shall only compete with players from their grade/division or a lower grade/division.  
When a team competes with a player from a higher grade/division they shall forfeit the match.

#### 19.4 **Players who are Unqualified :**

A team shall only compete with players who have qualified for finals (except a club's lowest Grade team which can apply for a limit of two permits per team should a qualified player not be available to fill the team, a replacement player can be submitted of equal or lower standard of which will be subject to approval by the grading committee).

When a team competes with a player who is unqualified or not approved under this rule then they shall forfeit the match.

### 20. **ORDER OF PLAY - FINALS**

#### 20.1 **Three Player Team :**

The order of play shall be as listed on the score sheet.

### 21. **MATCH RESULTS - FINALS**

#### 21.1 **Match Conclusion :**

When a match winner has been determined, any unplayed rubbers shall not be started and any rubber in progress shall stop.

#### 21.2 **Drawn Match :**

(First /Second semi finals, Preliminary finals) When a match is drawn, the match shall be replayed on the following Friday and if required on the following Monday.

When a Grand Final match is drawn, the match shall be replayed on the following Wednesday, and if required , on the following Friday.

### 22. **SUPER LEAGUE FORMAT FINALS :**

### 23. **AMENDED ITTF REGULATIONS:**

General, Continuity of Play, Match, Scoring, Clothing, Behaviour of Players, Playing, Equipment and Advice to Players.