



CHAMPIONSHIPS RULES

www.atlasvilletennis.co.za

1. **Entry**
 - a. To participate in the club championship, full membership is required. It is expected of participants to be an active member of the club.
 - b. Only players who are 50 years of age or who turn 50 this year can enter for Veterans Championships.
 - c. Vets will be permitted to play in all the championships events.
 - d. If required, the Committee will endeavour to find partners for the Doubles matches when a player is unable to do so. Please indicate on entry form "*Partner Required*"
 - e. No late entries will be permitted.
 - f. Full payment with entry required.
2. **Playing Times**
 - a. **Open Championships**

All players are expected to play on Saturdays and the first four⁽¹⁾ Sundays during championships.

Matches will be scheduled at 10h00, 12h00, 14h00 and 16h00 respectively for Saturdays, and 08h30, 10h00, 11h30 and 13h00 respectively for Sundays
 - b. **Veterans Championships**

All players are expected to play on a Saturday afternoon and must be prepared to play a minimum of three (3) matches per afternoon.

Matches will be scheduled at 12h00, 14h00 and 16h00 respectively. Times can differ slightly, depending on schedules and availability.
 - c. Players should be ready to go on court 10 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time to warm up. Matches must start at the scheduled time.
Players who fail to turn up within 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time will be disqualified.
3. **Order of Play**

The Order of Play will be circulated via WhatsApp by Wednesday evening respectively.

 - a. The onus is on each participant to check the the order of play.
4. **Postponements**
 - a. If a scheduled match cannot be played for any reason and a postponement is required, it must be brought to the attention of the Tournament Referee as well as all other players involved, by not later than Friday 18h00 prior to the scheduled match.
 - b. If a postponement is requested, a maximum of 5 days will be granted, within which the defaulter must arrange the match to be played.
 - c. The defaulter must provide the tennis balls.
 - d. The defaulter must inform the Tournament Referee of the outcome of the match by not later than Friday evening 20h00.
 - e. If opponents are not prepared to postpone the match, the defaulter will forfeit the match.
 - f. Once a match has been rescheduled and cannot be played, the defaulter of the rescheduled match will forfeit the match.
 - g. Note: The winner of a postponed match can still be scheduled to play the following Saturday.
5. **Commitment and Availability**

If for any reason you are unable to play on a specific date or time please specify on your entry form at the space provided. During the championships the Tournament Referee must be notified by WhatsApp, **no verbal requests will be accepted.**

 - a. Players advancing to the semi-finals and finals must be available to play on the scheduled dates.
 - b. Players may not make themselves unavailable for two consecutive weekends.
 - c. If the Tournament Referee can't accommodate a specific date requested, the match will be scheduled and Rule 5 will apply.
 - d. Players must be prepared to play a minimum of three (3) matches per Saturday / Sunday if required.
 - 1 x singles and 2 x doubles type matches; or
 - 3 x doubles type matches
6. **Final Matches**
 - a. Final matches will be played on the scheduled Saturday.
 - b. The Tournament Referee will endeavour to appointed umpires for the finals. Participants requiring umpires for other matches must make their own arrangements. Members willing to umpire must please indicate on their entry form.
7. **Format of Play**
 - a. **Open Championships**

Matches will be decided over the best of three (3) tie-break sets.
 - b. **Veterans Championships**
 - Matches will be decided over the best of three (3) tie-break sets on a knock out format.
 - Round robin format matches can consist of 15 games (at seven all a tie-break will apply) or best of 3 tie-break sets. Format will be indicated on the draw.
 - All matches must be played (in case of round robin).
 - If during a Round Robin format a player is injured or for another reason withdraws, all previous match results will be deleted.
 - The player with the most wins in a Round Robin format will be declared the winner.
 - Where two or more players have the same number of wins, the player with the highest game score wins.
 - When wins, losses and total games are equal, a play off will decide the winner.

Note: Format of play may change depending on entries received
8. **Tennis Balls**
 - a. New balls will be provided for all matches in the main draws.
 - b. Plate / back-draw matches will only receive new balls for the finals.
 - c. Round Robin matches will only qualify for new balls should matches consist of best of 3 tie-break sets.
 - d. Members may purchase new balls should they want new balls in other rounds.
9. **Tournament Committee**

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to:

Refuse an entry, cancel any event, change format of play, and disqualify any competitor whose conduct during the championships necessitates such action.

The decision of the Tournament Referee shall be final in all matters.
10. **References**
 - ⁽¹⁾ Scheduled Sunday play depending on size of draw.