

## **Overview**

Over the past six months EDTA/ NETA have been working closely with both NETA/ EDTA and Tennis SA to develop a Competition Proposal that aims to provide the best possible weekend competition offering for clubs within each Association. The process to engage with clubs has involved two documents circulated prior to this communication along with forums held for clubs within each Association.

Following this process of communication and engagement NETA, EDTA and Tennis SA felt it important to provide clubs the opportunity to deliver formalised feedback on the proposal as well as an opportunity to provide additional input into a newly developed proposal.

Below is the final Competition Proposal which has been refined and updated to ensure feedback received has been taken into consideration where possible.

We thank all clubs involved for your time and effort attending forums, reading communications and in circulating information to members. The process undertaken is delivered with the purpose of creating open communication to ensure an informed decision can be made by each club.

### **Junior Competition Proposal**

Based upon the feedback provided by clubs the proposal to have all junior yellow ball competition merged is not to be part of the updated Competition Proposal. In collating feedback it is clear that clubs from the respective Associations involved are not in favour of changing their current fixturing model (EDTA Centralised venues, NETA H&A venues).

In future the merger of the junior competitions will again be reviewed.

### **Combined NETA/ EDTA Division One Boys and Division One Girls Competition offering**

There is considered to be an opportunity to provide a NETA/ EDTA combined Division One Boys and Division One Girls competition (run as separate competitions) in the 2019/20 season. The details of this competition would be as follows;

- For matches where NETA Clubs are listed as "home" they will be played at the home venue of the NETA Club who has entered the team.
- For matches where the EDTA Clubs are listed as the "home" a centralised venue within the EDTA boundaries will be utilised for all matches.
- The above means each team will play 50% of matches within their Association boundary and 50% outside of their Association boundary
- Where matches are played at a centralised venue within EDTA, there may be times where one match court is used per tie.
- Matches hosted by EDTA will start at 6pm
- Matches hosted by NETA Clubs will start at 6:30pm
- A maximum of eight teams will be accepted into the respective division one competitions

## Senior Competition Proposal

The feedback provided from clubs within each Association has highlighted significant interest in the opportunity to merge the senior competitions offerings. A merger of the current competition offering would provide increased depth, quality and variety in the competitions provided within each Association.

The proposed competition offering in a merged competition are as follows;

Competition Name	Format	Notes
Men's only	Four singles, two doubles 9 games singles, tiebreak at 8 all 9 game doubles, tiebreak at 8 all	This competition is currently provided in EDTA and NETA NETA allow up to eight players in any one team
Women's only	Four singles, two doubles 9 games singles, tiebreak at 8 all 9 game doubles, tiebreak at 8 all	This competition is currently provided in NETA NETA allow up to eight players in any one team
Men doubles	Six doubles sets First two sets played to 9 games, tiebreak at 8 all Sets 3-6 played as 6 game sets, tie break at 5 all	This competition is currently provided in NETA NETA allow up to six players in any one team
Mixed doubles	Eight sets played Two men's – 6 game set Two women's – 6 game set Four mixed doubles - 9 game sets	This competition is currently provided in EDTA EDTA allow up to six players in any one team
Women doubles	Six doubles sets First two sets played to 9 games, tiebreak at 8 all Sets 3-6 played as 6 game sets, tie break at 5 all	This competition is currently provided in NETA NETA allow up to eight players in any one team

In addition to the offerings listed above, the feedback provided highlighted that EDTA clubs value the Composite Competition. Feedback regarding the Composite Competition also highlighted the suggestion for the competition structure to be reviewed. Based upon this feedback EDTA clubs will be able to vote on the option of changing the structure of the Composite Competition to two men and two women.

NETA will provide the option selected by EDTA to their clubs for the 2019/20 season in what is proposed as a combined competition between NETA and EDTA.

### **Match Schedule/ Start time**

- Matches start time are as follows
  - 1pm early matches
  - 3:30pm late matches
- Currently NETA only provide split times upon request, this will continue for NETA clubs.
- EDTA will provide early starts for all matches where possible and will only utilise the 3:30pm start time where requested by the hosting club.
- NETA Clubs will be required to provide a minimum of 1.33 courts per tie. Most NETA clubs will be able to provide a minimum of 1.5 courts per tie however some clubs do require 1.33 courts per tie.
- EDTA clubs will be required to provide a minimum of 2 courts for Men's only (and other like competitions if merged) and 4 courts for composite (if the competition is not changed)
- Season to start on the Saturday of the final weekend of October school holidays
- Grand Final to be completed by the end of March

Outlined in the table below are the specifics in regards to the responsibilities breakdown between EDTA/ NETA and Tennis SA.

The management of any combined competition will be managed by a Competition Advisory Group (CAG). This Competition Advisory Group will be made up of two Tennis SA employees and two representatives from each of the Associations. The responsibilities of this group are outlined in the table below.

### **Grading Management**

Based upon feedback received in regards to grading the following structure has been developed.

For a combined senior competition and a combined division one junior competition a Grading Advisory Group (GAG) will be established. This group will be made up of three representatives from clubs within each Association along with two Tennis SA staff members. The three representatives will be selected by each Association. Tennis SA will provide the GAG with a rating based grading spreadsheet as supporting information to help with the grading process.

The GAG will be the final decision making authority in regards to the grading for NETA/EDTA combined competitions.

For the respective junior competitions Tennis SA will provide each Association Committee with a rating based grading spreadsheet. The final grading of junior teams will be made by the respective Association Grading Committee's.

Competition Entry Fee and Fee structure –

- Senior Teams entry fee - \$80 (Plus GST)
- Junior Teams entry fee (Yellow and Green) - \$60 (Plus GST)
- Orange Ball entry fee – \$30 per term (Plus GST)
- Tennis SA to invoice clubs prior to the start of the competition season
- Tennis SA to pay %10 of total entry fee back to the respective Association's
- Clubs within the EDTA where Junior venues base systems are compensated for the use of lights at their venue will be invoiced by the EDTA as per previous years should TSA be administering the junior competition

## Competition Delivery Plan and Responsibility Breakdown

Key Area	Tennis SA	EDTA/ NETA Competition Advisory Group
Competition Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage aspects of the competition as outlined below</li> <li>Work with a Competition Advisory Group (CAG) made up of two representatives from each Association.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have two representatives from each Association who will make up a Competition Advisory Group (CAG) in collaboration with two Tennis SA staff.</li> </ul>
Competition Communications/ Timelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline to clubs re nomination timelines and nomination process</li> <li>Provide regular update to clubs re key competition issues or requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with Tennis SA on setting key timelines and dates for the 2019/20 season.</li> </ul>
Competition Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate Nomination Process (proposed online nominations through LM)</li> <li>Facilitate Grading Process utilising online grading</li> <li>Create draws and fixtures</li> <li>Manage weekly competition matters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct grading of teams through the Grading Advisory Group</li> <li>Support TSA in fixture creation</li> </ul>
End of Season Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold an end of season presentation at a venue TBD</li> <li>Purchase trophies, Medal, Pennants, provide catering</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support in the delivery of end of season presentations</li> </ul>
Complaints and Disputes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage competition disputes</li> <li>Manage behavioral complaints as outlined in the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour and Member Protection Policy.</li> <li>Provide monthly updates to EDTA MC re any behavioural matters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tennis SA to provide reports back to CAG re any behavioral matters</li> </ul>
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invoice clubs for entry fee prior to season start.</li> <li>Tennis SA to retain entry fee's</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10% of all entry fees to be paid back to the Association.</li> </ul>
Promotion and Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop specific Marketing and Promotional Plan for EDTA/ NETA Competitions</li> <li>Leverage Tennis SA reach</li> <li>Implement specific Marketing and Promotional Plan for EDTA/ NETA Competitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support in development and implementation of Promotion and Marketing Plan</li> </ul>
Rules and Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In collaboration with CAG review the current Rules and Regulations for the 2019/20 Season</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In collaboration with the CAG Review the Current Rules and Regulations for the 2019/20 Season</li> <li>Any Rule changes must be approved by the CAG</li> </ul>
Association Representative Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information to EDTA/ NETA re Association Events (Les Tapp &amp; Compass Draw)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appoint a contact to manage the nomination, selection and communication of EDTA and NETA Teams in Association Events (Teams to remain separate)</li> </ul>
Association Tournament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support EDTA/ NETA through training on Tournament Planner Software and Tournament Scheduling and Planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appoint a contact to manage and deliver the EDTA/ NETA Tournaments</li> </ul>

## **Tennis SA Social Media Planning**

Tennis SA will develop and deliver an Online Platform Engagement and Promotion Plan for the combined competition offering that will aim to increase the profile of the competition and highlight the clubs and players involved.

The Social Media Plan will include;

- 8 x Videos recorded of players/ clubs competing in the respective competitions to promote the competition offering and profile the clubs involved. These videos will be posted on Tennis SA's online platforms and shared on Association and Club platforms
- News Stories prior to the season to promote competitions on offer and how players can get involved
- Feature articles throughout the year on high performing clubs
- Feature articles on high performing players

## **New opportunities and Association Role**

It is generally acknowledged in tennis that one of the major opportunities for growth in the sport is through the delivery of social competitions that meet the needs of a modern day consumer. These needs in summary are;

- Shorter playing time commitment
- Shorter season length
- Open to members and non-members
- Emphasis on social (Food, drinks, music)
- Flexibility regarding weekly attendance
- Ability to participate on week nights to free up weekend time

There are a number of clubs across Adelaide delivering competitions that meet these needs and these clubs should be commended for their vision and proactivity in delivering these competitions.

Tennis SA see a major opportunity to further develop and grow what is provided for players looking for a more modernised competition offering.

One of the major benefits if Tennis SA is to take on the administration of the EDTA/ NETA Competitions is the ability to free up the time of the respective Association volunteers.

Tennis SA along with both NETA and EDTA see great opportunities to provide new competition offerings within each of the Associations. The development of these new offerings will be a collaborative effort between the respective Associations and Tennis SA. The understanding of the local environment and strong relationships with clubs means the Association are well placed to work closely with Tennis SA in the development of these new offerings.

## Timeline and next steps

EDTA will hold a Special General Meeting at 7.30 pm on Monday 29 April 2019 at the Trinity Gardens Tennis Club.

At this SGM the following items will be voted upon;

1. Does your Club support changing our composite teams to be 2 men and 2 women?
2. Does your Club support a combined EDTA/ NETA Senior Competition for the 2019/20 season?
3. Does your club support a combined division one junior boys and junior girl's competitions for the 2019/20 season?
4. Does your club support Tennis SA taking on the administration of a newly combined NETA/ EDTA Senior Competition and a combined Division 1 Junior competition?
5. Does your club support Tennis SA taking on the administration of all other levels of the EDTA Junior Competition?