

Milton Tennis Club Junior Ladder (Summer 2020)

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Registration and Schedule

- Any junior member of the club (defined as being 18 years old or below as of December 31, 2020) is eligible to join the ladder at any time in the season provided they have paid for the appropriate membership and have or have had a guardian sign the COVID-19 MTC waiver.
 - New players who wish to register should email Jana at jana.llorin@gmail.com with their full name, email, and phone number.
- The ladder season will run from July 1 to Sept. 30.

Format

- The ranking system is a modified leap-frog format (see following description and example).
- A player can challenge any player up to three spots above them and can be challenged by anybody up to three spots below them.
- If a lower ranked player beats a higher ranked player, they claim the rank of the higher ranked player and every player between the two, including the loser, moves down a rank.
- A player can mark themselves as “Away” or “Injured” using the Google Form linked to the top of the spreadsheet if they know they will not be playing for a significant period of time. In this case, their name will appear in **red** on the ladder and they can be skipped over when considering the five higher ranks above a lower player.
- Any player who registers after July 1st will be placed at the bottom rank.

Example Ladder

1. Raonic
2. Djokovic
3. Nadal
4. Thiem
5. Federer
6. Medvedev
7. Shapovalov
8. Tsitsipas

- Normally, Federer (who is in the #5 spot) can challenge anybody above him up to Djokovic (in the #2 spot), but since Nadal (in the #3 spot) is injured (shown by his name in red), Federer can disregard him and challenge up to Raonic (#1 spot).
- Shapovalov decides to challenge Thiem. If Shapovalov loses, nothing changes, but if he wins, then Shapovalov will take the #4 rank and everyone up to that rank (Medvedev, Federer, and Thiem himself) will move down one rank.

Scoring

- The scoring system that will be used is similar to the FAST4 (<http://www.fast4tennisrules.com/>) set of rules in the interest of time.
- Players will play one match consisting of 3 sets.
 - The first two sets will be up to 4 games each.
 - There is no ad scoring. If the score is deuce, the receiver may choose which side will be played (either deuce or ad side).
 - In the event the score becomes 3-3, a tiebreak to 5 points is played. A Power Point is played should the score reach 4-4 (it is NOT win by 2 and the player receiving may choose the side [either deuce or ad] to play on).
 - Should the players split sets, a tiebreaker to 7 is played.
 - The win by 2 rule is in effect during the 3rd set ONLY.

Setting Up Challenges

- Any challenges must be made by submitting the corresponding Google Form (click [here](#)) linked to the top of the ladder spreadsheet. Challengers must email the player they are challenging with the details of their challenge (specifically the proposed date and time) PRIOR to submitting the Form. Ensure that the information communicated by the challenger to the defendant is the same as what appears on the Form and that the 'Waiting for response' box is checked as well.
- Defendants have **48 HOURS** to respond to a challenge by either accepting it or proposing a different date/time within the next:
 - **21 days** of the challenge date if the initial proposed date was within the next 5 days (i.e. a challenge was made on Monday which was proposed for the upcoming Saturday)
 - **14 days** in all other cases
 - If a player are unable to adhere to these timelines, they should change their status to "Away" until they have more time to complete challenges.
 - If the defendant is unable to complete a challenge within **31 days** of it being issued, the challenger can email the administrator and request to claim a default win. Awarding this win is at the discretion of the administrator and is decided on a situational basis.
- If a different date and time is agreed on, another entry to the Google Form should be completed with the new details and the 'Scheduled' box checked as well.

- In light of the new COVID-19 protocols, players should make sure to coordinate which balls will be used. Each person will bring their own set of balls (marked with their initials) that only they will touch. These can be either brand new or lightly used (used for one match) as agreed on by BOTH players. Try to use the same, good-quality balls (such as ProPenn or Wilson US Open) to ensure even rallies and fair points throughout the match.
- If the ladder administrator receives complaints from three different participants that there has been no timely responses to texts/phone calls/e-mails or that a player is unwilling to play with no valid reason, they reserve the right to remove the player from the program immediately.

Playing a Ladder Match

- MTC COVID protocols (found [here](#)) and the directions of the court monitor must be followed at ALL TIMES. Failure to do so could result in removal from the ladder program.
- Make sure a court is booked through the online booking system for the match.
- Arrive on time and try to limit warmups to 5 minutes to maximize match time.
- If the match is stopped before it is completed (i.e. due to rain or running out of time), players have a few options:
 - Reschedule the match for either later in the day or on another day close to the original match day.
 - If the match is rescheduled for later in the day, the scores of sets and games as well as serve order should be kept unless decided otherwise by BOTH players.
 - Otherwise, matches should be restarted.
 - Declare the winner as the person who is ahead at the time, provided the person has won at least one set
 - If this is the case, the win is recorded with the partial score and “Rained Out/Out of Time” selected in the Comments section of the Results Form

Regardless of choice, all parties should reach a consensus on further action as soon as possible (ideally before leaving the club area) to avoid delays in challenge completion.
- If the administrator receives complaints from three different participants of unsportsmanlike conduct, they reserve the right to remove the player from the program immediately.

After the Match

- The winner of the ladder match should submit the results through the link to Google Forms found at the top of the spreadsheet as soon as possible.
 - This is to avoid ranking conflicts! For example, if John won a match against someone higher than him and it puts him out of Peter’s challenge range, if Peter challenges John before he submit the results, then Peter is still allowed to challenge John for his new rank even if John is now more than 5 spots above Peter.

- If a special circumstance occurs that a player believes warrants a default, results SHOULD NOT be entered into the Form. Instead, an email should be sent to the administrator with the details of the situation and the player's intentions. If granted, the result will be manually inputted online.
- Once a match is completed, those two players cannot play a ladder match against each other for 30 days.
- The rankings are manually adjusted by the administrator. As such, any rank or status changes may take a few hours to be updated.
 - The last update time is seen at the top of the spreadsheet near the links to the Google Forms.
- As such, the timestamps of the Google Form entries (which are accessible to all as tabs on the bottom of the spreadsheet) take precedence over the information in the ranking box itself
 - E.x: In the ranking conflict described above, if John rose to a rank out of the reach of Peter and John submits the match result Form BEFORE Peter challenges John, then John can tell Peter that he is no longer within the challenge range even if the actual rankings have not been updated to reflect this yet.

Playoffs

TBD and TBW