



# M.E.M.R.L.T.A. INC.



Midweek Eastern Metropolitan Region Ladies' Tennis Association Incorporated

President: Hope Stewart

Secretary: Helen Williams  
0413 229 107

## THE 41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF M.E.M.R.L.T.A. INC.

Will be held at 7.30pm on **TUESDAY, JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

It is recommended that you bring your phone with you, to be able to access our website to refer to alterations to existing By-laws.

Each Club should be represented at the A.G.M. by TWO voting delegates. Additional members are most welcome to attend.

**Remember** that a \$25 fine applies to a Club not represented at the A.G.M.

### AGENDA:

- Apologies
- Minutes of the 40<sup>th</sup> AGM 2022 (Please download from our Website)
- Business Arising
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Appointment of Auditor
- Setting of Affiliation Fees & Honouriums
- Amendments to Rules
- Election of Office Bearers
- Condolences
- General Business

Please join us for a tea/coffee after the AGM.

# By-Law Amendments Proposed by the MEMRLTA Committee to be voted on at the 2023 MEMRLTA AGM

red – delete green – add

**By-law 2.a (Courts) and by-law 16.g (Finals): Amend to allow the use of indoor courts by deleting “the use of indoor courts is not permitted”.**

2.a The type, condition and surroundings of the courts of each competing club shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. All courts must be clearly lined. ~~Use of indoor courts is not permitted.~~

16.g. Where teams elect to play at an alternative venue any costs incurred must be met by the teams concerned. ~~The use of indoor courts is not permitted.~~

**Supporting statement:** While historically MEMRLTA has always been an outdoor competition, we want to give teams more options for completing washed-out/heated-out finals.

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**By-law 16.e (Finals): Amend to allow more time to complete finals.**

**Change:** In the event of postponement due to wet weather or heat during Finals series, play shall be continued from where left off at a time and venue mutually agreed to by both teams and shall be completed before the following Tuesday. A team unable to play on any day must forfeit. If players cannot mutually agree on a time to complete an unfinished Grand Final match, no pennants will be awarded.

**To:** In the event of postponement due to wet weather or heat during Finals series, play shall be continued from where left off at a time and venue mutually agreed to by both teams and shall be completed before the following Tuesday **unless otherwise approved by the Executive Committee.** A team unable to play on any day must forfeit. If players cannot mutually agree on a time to complete an unfinished Grand Final match, no pennants will be awarded.

**Supporting statement:** The pandemic has taught us the need and benefits of being flexible. Teams who have made it to the Grand Finals want to play and have a result, but the weather does not always cooperate. If a Grand Final is not completed on that scheduled day, it can be difficult for the teams to find another day to complete the match before the following Tuesday. Teams might, however, be able to do so during the school holidays which often occur a week or two after the originally scheduled Grand Final day. If teams can mutually agree on a time to complete their match, the Committee believes this is the best outcome even if the match is completed after the first round of the next season.

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**By-law 8.a Pool Emergencies: Amend to allow players who don't belong to a Club to become a financial member of MEMRLTA.**

**Change:** A pool emergency player (hereafter referred to as pool emergency) must **be a financial member of a club affiliated with MEMRLTA or Tennis Victoria.**

**To:** A pool emergency player (hereafter referred to as pool emergency) must **either:**  
**(i) be a financial member of a club affiliated with MEMRLTA or Tennis Victoria, or**  
**(ii) pay MEMRLTA's pool emergency player registration fee.**

**Supporting statement:** This will allow players who are not members of any tennis club to still join the MEMRLTA Emergency Pool. Tennis Victoria has confirmed that these players will be covered by the Tennis Australia National Insurance Program, as long as there is a record of the player participating (e.g. their name appears in Match Centre as having played in a MEMRLTA match). These players, while registered with MEMRLTA, are not Members of MEMRLTA Inc and will not have voting rights.

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**By-laws 12.d.iii, 12.d.iv & 12.d.v: Reduce required time to wait before calling a washout from one and a half hours to 1 hour.**

**Change 12.d.iii:** In the case of teams ATTENDING COURTS, teams shall wait ~~one and a half hours~~ after agreed starting time before cancellation of match. The result shall be submitted to the online scoring system by the home team.

**To:** In the case of teams ATTENDING COURTS, teams shall wait **one hour** after agreed starting time before cancellation of match. The result shall be submitted to the online scoring system by the home team.

**Change 12.d.iv:** Any match NOT COMMENCED within ~~one and a half hours~~ of the agreed starting time due to wet weather shall be abandoned and each team shall receive one point.

**To:** Any match NOT COMMENCED within **one hour** of the agreed starting time due to wet weather shall be abandoned and each team shall receive one point.

**Change 12.d.v:** If play HAS COMMENCED and is interrupted by rain, match will be cancelled ~~one and a half hours~~ after all play has ceased unless both captains agree to continue.

**To:** If play HAS COMMENCED and is interrupted by rain, match will be cancelled **one hour** after all play has ceased unless both captains agree to continue.

**Supporting statement:** This change reflects how washouts are handled by the majority of teams at the present time. The Committee also believes that halting play for one hour is sufficient to allow the match to be decided as a washout.

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#### **By-law 12a: Allow Tie-break for Section 1.**

**Change:** Sets shall be eight (8) game sets with no advantage.

**To:** Sets shall be eight (8) game sets with no advantage, **except in Section 1 where sets shall be eight (8) game sets with a 12-point tie-break played at 7 games all.**

**Supporting statement:** At the 2022 MEMRLTA AGM, Donvale TC proposed an amendment to introduce a tie-break, but the amendment did not pass. It seemed that Section 1 teams were keen to have a tie-break but lower section teams were not. In October last year, the Committee held a Zoom meeting with representatives from the Section 1 teams to better gauge their support for having a tie-break. The majority were strongly in favour and a few didn't mind one way or the other.

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**Proposed amendments to the following four by-laws (11.a, 13.a.iii and 13.a.iv). To be voted on as a block.**

**By-law 11.a Forfeit: delete the last sentence: "Penalty for each forfeit will be \$5.00."**

That is, we will no longer fine a team for forfeiting.

**11a:** A club unable to arrange a team for any match must notify the opposing captain or Club contact either before or on the day the match is scheduled to be played. The home team (whether they are giving the forfeit or receiving it) must enter the forfeit into the online scoring system by 8pm the Wednesday following the match. ~~Penalty for each forfeit will be \$5.00.~~

**Supporting statement:** The Committee feels that teams are punished enough for forfeiting (no points and lowering of percentage) so also issuing a fine is generally unfair, particularly given forfeits stem from situations beyond a team's control, such as illness or injury.

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### **By-law 13.a.iii: Failure to enter results on time – escalate the fine \$10 + \$15 + \$20**

**Change:** Failure to have results submitted by the designated time will mean a fine of \$10.00 per match. If results are not received within 24 hours of the designated time, the home team will be fined a further \$10 and the results will be sought from the away team.

**To:** Failure to have results submitted by the designated time will mean a fine of \$10.00 per match **for a first offence during a season, \$15 per match for the second offence during a season, and \$20 per match for the third and each subsequent offence during a season.** If results are not received within 24 hours of the designated time, the home team will be fined a further \$10 and the results will be sought from the away team.

**Supporting statement:** All MEMRLTA fines have not been reviewed or increased for over twenty years, so a slight increase in this fine was deemed completely acceptable by the Committee. A failure to enter scores on time is avoidable, hence the escalation of fines for repeat offences.

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### **By-law 13.a.iv: Increase fine for incorrect/incomplete entry from \$5 to \$10.**

**Change:** Failure of either captain to correctly complete the paper score sheet will result in a fine of ~~\$5.00~~ to the offending team. Failure to enter the written information correctly and completely into the online scoring system will mean a fine of ~~\$5.00~~ to the home team.

**To:** Failure of either captain to correctly complete the paper score sheet will result in a fine of **\$10.00** to the offending team. Failure to enter the written information correctly and completely into the online scoring system will mean a fine of **\$10.00** to the home team.

**Supporting statement:** As above, all MEMRLTA fines have not been reviewed or increased for over twenty years so a \$5 increase in this fine was deemed completely acceptable by the Committee and remains very favourable compared to other Associations. Additionally, incorrect/incomplete entries add a significant workload to the volunteer record secretary, so any deterrent to this is helpful.

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### **By-law 11.b: The winning team to receive no change in their percentage (score of 0-0) and the team giving the forfeit has a score 12-48 recorded against them.**

**Change:** The team not forfeiting will be awarded premiership points and ~~a score of 48-24, with no points and a corresponding loss to the team forfeiting.~~

**To:** The team not forfeiting will be awarded premiership points and **no score (0-0). The team forfeiting will be awarded 0 premiership points and a score of 12-48 recorded against them.**

(Note that by-law 11.c regarding a complete Association washout or heat-out will still apply.)

**Supporting statement:** This by-law concerning forfeits has been discussed at length over many years at AGM's and Committee level. The Committee believes that the team *receiving* the forfeit rightly benefits by receiving the two match points for a 'win', but that they should not have a further benefit of an unearned boost to their percentage for games that they have not played. The team *giving* the forfeit rightly receives no match points but should be penalised further by having a 12-48 lose recorded against them for forfeiting the match.

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**NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2023/24**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Nominee</u></b>	<b><u>Club</u></b>	<b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Nominator</u></b>	<b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Nominator</u></b>
President:	Hope Stewart	East Camberwell	Helen Bell	Lorraine Holtschke
Vice President:	Helen Williams	Camberwell Utd	Karyn Hannant	Anne Sewell
Secretary:	Fiona Dwyer	Koonung Park	Jan Christie	Jenny Brown
Treasurer:	Christine Shearer	Gardiner	Kaylene Ellis	Eileen Johnson
Record Secretaries:	Jackie Aslett Christine Youings	Legend Park Gardiner	Margot Reeve Eileen Johnson	Diane Turnbull Kaylene Ellis
General Committee:	Skye Berman	Kooyong	Tim Baddock	Lisa Boothby
	Ros Brereton	Parker Reserve	Lynette Whiteley	Barb Catto
	Noelene Duckett	East Malvern	Christine Shearer	Christine Youings
	Jessica Fary	Burwood	Sue Dalglish	Anne Teese