



## 2018 Event Rules & Regulations:

The Growthpoint Club Series is a Regional competition, culminating in a National Final, where all 14 Regions will be represented. Each Region (14 TSA Regions) will host a Regional Club Competition, where clubs can enter teams to participate in the event. The winning club from each Regional Qualifying Competition will qualify to compete at the National Finals.

2018 sees the introduction of a “B” Division, meaning that the competition will comprise of both an “A” and “B” Division. Only the “A” Division winners will qualify for the National Final. The Regional “B” Division competition is aimed at enhancing participation at all levels within the club, both competitive and social.

### Prize Money Breakdown:

#### “A” Division:

- |                                  |   |         |
|----------------------------------|---|---------|
| • Regional Club Winner (Club)    | - | R6,000  |
| • National Club Winner (Club)    | - | R30,000 |
| • National Club Winner (Team)    | - | R30,000 |
| • National Club Runner Up (Club) | - | R10,000 |
| • National Club Runner Up (Team) | - | R10,000 |

#### “B” Division:

- |                               |   |        |
|-------------------------------|---|--------|
| • Regional Club Winner (Club) | - | R4,000 |
|-------------------------------|---|--------|

#### “A” Division – General Rules:

- Players must be 16 years old or older at the time of their specific regional competition taking place (first day of competition);
- Players must be affiliated with TSA via their province and be in good standing with any Provincial, Region and/or District memberships, as well as with TSA;
- Players must be a League/Tournament member (Full Member) of an affiliated club within their Region (14 TSA Regions);
- In cases where a player is a member of more than one club in more than one Region, he/she must determine which club/Region he/she is going to represent;
- Players may only compete in one Regional qualifying competition;
- To be eligible to represent a club, a player must have competed in one full league season within the Region in which the specific club is affiliated and competed;
- The club chairperson and Regional Association by submitting and accepting the entry endorses all player eligibility issues and any queries will be resolved by the Regional Association;
- Clubs may enter multiple teams. Entries are not restricted to one (1) entry per club;
- Any player to have a current professional (ATP/WTA) ranking within top 500 may not enter;
- Retired professional players (any player to have formerly held an active ATP/WTA ranking) are eligible to participate;

- Only one (1) tennis player with a current ATP/WTA ranking outside of the top 500 or former professional tennis player is permitted per team (either male or female);
- TSA reserves the right to refuse an entry.

**“A” Division – Composition:**

- The Regional Club Competition is a Team Competition;
- The competition is open to all League/Tournament affiliated players;
- Teams comprise of two (2) men and two (2) women, all being from the same club and subject to being eligible in General above;
- The Provincial Association to determine within the respective league structures which league section (Premier, A Division, etc.) will be considered as part of the “A” Division and must inform TSA of their league structure and the “cut off” for the “A” Division. TSA reserves the right to provide input if deemed necessary.

**“A” Division – Format:**

- Teams will play against one another on a tie basis;
- Ties consist of a men’s doubles, women’s doubles and mixed doubles;
- Each match will be the best of two (2) short sets and a 10-point match tie-breaker if the match reaches one set all (1<sup>st</sup> team to reach 4 games, with a margin of 2 or with a regular 7-point tie-break being played at 4 games all);
- The mixed doubles will allow “free substitution” where a mixed combination may be changed at the end of each set;
- At the start of the tie, the team captains will toss a coin. The winner of the toss may elect the order in which the matches are to be played i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> match – Mixed doubles, 2<sup>nd</sup> match – men’s doubles and 3<sup>rd</sup> match – women’s doubles;
- The “No Let” rule on the serve will be used i.e. if the serve hits the net and falls in the correct service block the point continues, a Let is not played;
- With the “No Let” the intended receiver must still return the serve i.e. the partner at the net may not intercept to return the serve;
- The “No Ad” rule will also be played i.e. when the score reaches Deuce a deciding point is played;
- In men’s and women’s doubles the receiving team may elect which team member is to receive the serve. In mixed doubles the male must receive if the male is serving and the female player must receive when the female player is serving;
- Teams will be divided into Round Robin Pools;
- The number of teams participating will determine the number of pools and play off competition;
- During the round robin competition, all matches (doubles and mixed doubles) must be played;
- Teams will be awarded 1 point per set won, the match tie-breaker will count as a set played, with the team winning the tie being awarded 2 bonus points;
- The final position within the round robin pool will be determined on the number of points and not matches won;
- In the event of a two-way tie, the head to head result between the two teams when they played will determine the outcome;
- In the event of a three-way tie, the following procedures will be used to break the tie:
  - **ALL** the results of the matches played in the group will be used for the calculation method in determining the final positions within the group:
    - Percentage sets won, if a tie still exists;

- Percentage games won, if a tie still exists;
- A shoot out, based on a traditional seven-point tie-breaker between the tied teams comprising of a men's doubles, a women's doubles and a mixed doubles;
- Draw by lot to determine the positions in question;
- If at any stage the three (3) way tie is broken and a two (2) way tie exists, the steps in breaking the three (3) way tie will continue, the head to head result WILL NOT BE REFERRED TOO;

**"A" Division – Regional Qualifying Competition:**

- Each region (14 TSA Regions) to host a Regional competition;
- Regional qualifying events to be held at a club and not at Provincial head-quarters;
- Each Region to advise of club and can determine their own tender/allocation process;
- Total number of entries will determine the number of days required (could vary);
- Two (2) weekends can be identified;
- Condition of entry as per General section above;
- The winner from each Regional competition (14 winners) will qualify for the National final;
- Entry is free

**"A" Division – National Final:**

- 14 Regional winners;
- 2 x TSA wild card teams from historically under-served communities;
- 16 teams in total;
- "A" Division only;
- Same format a Regional competition (best of 2 sets and 10-point match tie-breaker if match reaches one set all);
- 16 Teams = 64 players;
- 4 Pools of 4 Teams;
- 3 days of competition:
  - Day 1 – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> round of round robin;
  - Day 2 – 3<sup>rd</sup> round of round robin and Semi Finals/Play Offs (All No1's in semifinal, followed by No2's, No3's and No4's);
  - Day 3 – Finals and Play Offs
- Final to be best of 3 short sets, with regular 7-point tie breaker to be played at 4 games all in each set

**"B" Division – General Rules:**

- Players must be 16 years old or older at the time of their specific regional competition taking place (first day of competition);
- Players must be affiliated with TSA via their province and be in good standing with any Provincial, Regional and/or District memberships, as well as with TSA;
- Players must at least be a social member of an affiliated club within their Region (14 TSA Regions);
- In cases where a player is a member of more than one club in more than one Region, he/she must determine which club/Region he/she is going to represent;
- Players may only compete in one Regional qualifying competition;
- The club chairperson and Regional Association by submitting and accepting the entry endorses all player eligibility issues and any queries will be resolved by the Regional Association;
- Clubs may enter multiple teams. Entries are not restricted to one (1) entry per club;

- No former or current ATP/WTA Players may be in a team;
- TSA reserves the right to refuse an entry

**“B” Division – Composition:**

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- The competition is open to all players who are affiliated as Social Members;
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**“B” Division – Format:**

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