

## Calcutta Rules 2021

### **Q. How are flights and pairings for Calcutta determined?**

**A.** Once all of the registrations are turned in, the Directors of Tennis work together with the Tennis Committee to rank all players. Each registered players' ALTA and USTA rankings are used to construct an initial player ranking list. That initial list is further reviewed and adjusted based on the experience and knowledge of the Tennis Committee members and Directors of Tennis. In addition, select experienced players may be invited to consult on the rankings as appropriate.

Once the player ranking list is complete, the Directors of Tennis will review the rankings and determine the size of each flight and potential pairings to ensure, to the best of their ability, fairness and a comparable and consistent level of play amongst the pairings in each flight. Again, this is dependent on the total number of players registered.

The Directors of Tennis will then review the pairings to ensure players are not matched up with the same person as the prior four (4) years and/or no known personality conflicts exist, etc. The final list will then be presented to the Tennis Committee for final approval. (It is important to note that the Tennis Committee and the HOA Board do NOT have direct input into the actual pairing process in order to avoid any conflicts of interest, since many also play in the tournament. The Tennis Committee will, however, provide feedback on the pairings once the Directors of Tennis have established those pairings just as a final check for issues mentioned before such as personality conflicts.)

### **Q. I know that so-and-so plays on an A8 team. Why is he or she in the B flight instead of the A flight?**

**A.** First, it's important to remember that while the letter designations of the flights (A, B, B/C, and C) often coincide with a player's ALTA or USTA rating, there is not necessarily a direct link between the two—it all depends upon the mix of players who happens to sign up that year. The flight designations could easily be 1-4 instead of A-C, since the flight to which a player is assigned is entirely based upon his or her rank as compared to the rest of the field. For example, if all the men who sign up to play are from B-level ALTA teams, for the purposes of Calcutta, some will be A's, some will be B's, and some will be C's. Please be aware that in order to participate in the Senior Division, one must be 55 years old or wiser.

### **Q. What happens if a player gets injured or has to withdraw from the tournament for some other reason after bid night but before the first match?**

**A.** In the event that a player must withdraw ( for any reason) prior to that pairings' first match, every effort will be made to find a comparable player to fill in. A comparable player is someone who, based on the evaluation of the Tennis Committee, would be similarly ranked and of similar skill level, USTA, or ALTA rating.

In the event a comparable player is found and the Tennis Committee judges that person comparable, that player will be allowed to fill-in for the withdrawn player, and that pairing will be eligible to participate in Calcutta without restrictions.

In the event a comparable player is NOT found, a player may be substituted to maintain the integrity of the tournament and continue play. However, that teams points will be awarded in full to opposing teams to maintain scoring integrity.

**Q. What happens if a player gets injured or has to withdraw from the tournament for some other reason once they have begun play?**

A. Every effort will be made to attempt to find a suitable replacement player, so that the player's partner can continue to participate. Even though they will be allowed to play, the resultant new pair will not be eligible for the championship, and all their scores for the tournament (including the scores for matches played with the original partner) will be recorded as 8-0 for the other team. Should an opposing team refuse to play against the new pair, they will be considered to be in default and both teams will receive zero points for that scheduled match.

**Q. I bought a team on Bid Night, but then one of my players was changed. What happens to my bid money?**

A. Bids are at the Team Owner's risk and are considered to be final; If a substitute player is included after Bid Night, the owner will own the new team and there will be no refunds of the Team Owner's bids

**Q. I have a special event during part of Calcutta, but I still want to play. What should I do?**

A. We make every reasonable attempt to work around a player's extenuating circumstances, provided that doing so still allows a player to complete all of their matches between Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. If you know that you have a time restriction (a common one is that some players can't play Friday night due to graduation or work schedules), let the Directors of Tennis know what that restriction is ASAP. If a schedule change may occur due to inclement weather, we might not be able to accommodate your request. ***However, while we do try to accommodate all players, scheduling a tournament of this size is a complex task performed by volunteers during their spare time. Any requests for special considerations received after NOON EASTERN ON MAY 20<sup>th</sup> may not be able to be accommodated.***

**Q. What is the scoring format for each round?**

A. The scoring format will go as follows: Up until the Semi-Finals, the rounds will consist of 8 games total (there can be a potential 4-4 tie). The Semi-Finals round consists of a full set with a 7-point tie breaker if the score reaches to 6-6. The Championship round consists of a full match, best of three full sets, with a tie-breaker if the score reaches to 6-6 in any set.

**Q. How does the “No Ad” scoring work?**

**A.** This rule applies only during Round-Robin play, whenever a game reaches the score of Deuce. When this happens, if the man is serving, then he will serve the game point to his male opponent, and if the woman is serving, then she will serve the game point to her female opponent. The side from which the ball is served is determined by the RECEIVER.

*Example:* Bob and Kris are playing against Jerry and Sue. Bob is serving, and the score has just reached Deuce. Bob must serve to Jerry. If Jerry is playing the Deuce side, then Bob will serve the next point from the Deuce side, and if Jerry is playing the Ad side, then Bob will serve the next point from the Ad side.