

HERONS GLEN TENNIS ASSOCIATION (HGTA)

RULES AND GUIDELINES

FOR INTER-COMMUNITY TEAM FORMATION & MEMBERSHIP

INTRODUCTION

The Herons Glen Tennis Association (HGTA) promotes competitive and social tennis among its members. The Association encourages team participation in local leagues. The following rules and guidelines address the formation and maintenance of such teams.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A team player, regular or substitute must be at least 50 years of age and must be a property owner of Herons Glen or a renter for a minimum of three (3) months.

Team players are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship and to comply with the USTA, HGTA, HGRD and their respective League rules. Inappropriate behavior and/or rude conduct may result in the player(s) dismissal from the team and cancellation of HGTA membership. The team captain will request an HGTA Board meeting for a review and disposition of an incident of inappropriate behavior and/or rude conduct. The accused player(s) will be given the opportunity to appear on his/her own behalf.

TEAM DEFINITION

A team consists of regular players and substitute players. A regular player agrees to play for a full season of home and away matches and team practices. A substitute player agrees to play in place of a regular player when the regular player is unable to play due to injury or occasional absence due to personal commitments. Each team may have its own separate set of substitute players. Teams will operate within the rules of their respective leagues and may write their own team rules.

CAPTAIN SELECTION

At the end of the season, team captains will be selected and voted for by the regular team players for the following season. Captains must be willing to run their team properly and fairly, maintain team records, schedule practices and exhibit good sportsmanship.

PLAYER SELECTION

Teams that are already organized will have their players unless there is a need to form a new team at that level. See formation of new teams below. A player who cannot play at his/her league level may be asked to move to a more comfortable level. Players may compete at or above their level but not below during the

season. Under no circumstances may a captain from one team approach a player from another team to request a transfer. In addition, a captain may not “recruit” a player new to the community. All new players, regardless of level, must be treated in accordance with the New Player regulations below.

NEW PLAYERS

The addition of new players into existing teams must be shared among the existing teams. Unless an opening exists the new players will be added as substitutes until the end of the season. The HGTA Board will decide team assignments of new players.

PLAYER TRANSFERS

Players may request a transfer from one team to another. Such request must be submitted in writing to the HGTA Board. In evaluating such a request the Board must consider not only the players’ request, but also team and player morale and compatibility.

FORMATION OF NEW TEAMS AT THE SAME LEVEL FOR MEN

At the end of the season, whenever there are a sufficient number of regular players to form a new team or there is an infusion of players at a particular level, a new team shall be formed. To determine if a new team is warranted the number of **regular players**, excluding substitutes, are counted and divided by a minimum unit of 6. Each minimum unit of 6 would be the basis for a team. When the number of interested players indicates that a new team or teams can be formed at a particular level, all the current teams at that level are dissolved. A random selection process as determined by the HGTA Board of Directors will choose new teams. Substitutes for each for each team will be chosen in the same manner. After the selection of team members is completed, the regulars for each new team will select the respective captains. After the teams and captains are selected, individual players may apply for player transfers. See player transfers above.

REBALANCING OF TEAMS FOR MEN

If Herons Glen fields more than one men’s team at the same level in any league or division, those teams will be dissolved at the end of the season and be redrawn for the next season of competitive play. The rebalancing will be accomplished on the date of the Herons Glen Tennis Association annual meeting or earlier if practical. The pool of players who have signed up to play at the level in question will select the applicable number of team captains from the pool using a selection process approved by a majority of those in the pool. Volunteers to serve as captain are acceptable. If more players than needed volunteer to serve as captain, the applicable number will be selected by majority vote. Once selected, the captain will then select their team members using an alternating process. A minimum of six and a maximum of eight players will be selected as regulars. Any players remaining in the pool after the specified number of team members has been selected will have the option of accepting assignment to the substitute list or of joining a team at another level.

FORMATION OF NEW TEAMS AT THE SAME LEVEL FOR WOMEN

At the end of the season, whenever there are a sufficient number of regular players at a particular level, a new team shall be formed. A team must have a minimum of 8 players and a maximum of 10 players.

The captains of the existing women's teams will form the new teams so that their number is as even as possible keeping in mind the player's level of play, compatibility and availability. Organized teams may keep their existing players or have the option to rearrange players to the degree deemed most fair.

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