



# **SA Schools Squash**

## **Rules and Regulations**

### **for 2024**

updated after 2023 convention

# RULES PERTAINING TO IPT's

## TEAM ORDER & PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT OF ILLNESS/INJURY AT HIGH SCHOOL IPT's (U14/16/19)

- Provinces/Regions **MUST** play their players in order of strength.
- The order must be announced **BEFORE** the start of the IPT at the first managers' meeting and may not change during the IPT.
- Players cannot be played lower down an order because they are carrying an injury at the start of IPT. Anyone who is in such a position should not be selected to participate in IPT in the first place.
- In the event of either an injury or illness in the A section, a replacement player **MUST** be brought in from the B section and all the A team players **MUST** move up one position with the B section player playing at number 5 in the A team. The B team then plays without a reserve - hence the reason for a 6-man B team!! Provinces may **NOT** send for a replacement player - even if it is the host province. Note that All Under 14 girls IPT teams will be 4-man teams.
- If a player does not complete a match/concedes a match to his opponent, it is accepted that he/she has withdrawn from the team for the remainder of the IPT - unless the injury was inflicted and/or contributed to by an opponent in which case the injured player may return when he/she has recovered.
- Once a player withdraws from a team, he/she may not return to the team for the rest of the IPT - unless the injury was inflicted and/or contributed to by an opponent in which case the injured player may return when he/she has recovered.
- If these rules are broken (whether through ignorance or not) then that region's A and B teams in that gender will both be disqualified and will lose all the points for the match in which they defaulted **AND** all subsequent points in the IPT.
- The injury rule must be listed on the reverse side of the match card.

The order of play will be (6); 3; 4; 5; 2; 1.

## TEAM ORDER & PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT OF ILLNESS OR INJURY OR WITHDRAWAL OR EXPULSION FROM U13 IPT AND U11 FESTIVAL

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS A PLAYER MAY WITHDRAW FROM A TEAM AND RETURN LATER IN THE TOURNAMENT. IN SUCH A CASE THE TEAM CONCERNED SIMPLY FORFEITS THE MATCH IN THAT POSITION. **PLAYERS DO NOT MOVE UP.** THE SAME APPLIES SHOULD A PLAYER BE SUSPENDED AND/OR SENT HOME.

### EXPULSION FROM IPT

In the event of a player being sent home from IPT for disciplinary reasons, that player **MAY NOT** be replaced at all - not even from the team below. His/her team will play short for the rest of the IPT. Players will move up the order within a team. There will be no movement from B team to A team. For example, if the numbers 3 and 4 get sent home, then that team will play two players short and will concede at no 4 and no 5.

### PROCEDURE FOR EVERY IPT MATCH AT HIGH SCHOOL IPT's (U14/16/19)

All players (the whole team including any reserve at B section level and the manager) **MUST** be present at the start of a fixture. No player may leave the courts during the fixture unless he has completed his

match and needs to get to medical treatment. A player(s) may not arrive late at a fixture because he/she is at physio (or any other medical treatment).

Matches will start on time. The start of the afternoon sessions for U19 matches will 14h30.

Only the tournament director may delay the start of a match and then only for extremely unusual reasons - like a flat tyre or an accident etc.). Should the entire team not be present at the start of play (morning and/or afternoon) then the first fixture in the match (the no 3 fixture) will be awarded to the team that is present and after a further 15 minutes the second fixture will be conceded. Should the team not be present half an hour after the scheduled start, the match will be awarded 20-0 to the team that is present and ready to play. The offending team will also be penalized three points on the log but that deduction does not hold for the match. The result of the match will be recorded and the three-point deduction will be handled by the tournament organizer on the overall log.

**The selectors reserve the right to force those players in contention for national rankings to play their individual fixtures even if the match is cancelled.**

If IPT organizers could arrange for a physio(s) to be available at the courts for certain times of the day, that would be fantastic. All treatments would be paid for by the individual and not be the IPT organizer.

## **WITHDRAWAL DURING THE COURSE OF IPT FOR PERSONAL REASONS**

The SA Schools Squash Executive reserves the right to consider each circumstance individually and to make an informed and well-considered decision.

Players making themselves available for participation in IPT teams must understand that they need to be available for the full duration of the event. In highly exceptional circumstances representation may be made to the SA schools Executive by the province concerned no later than 14 days prior to the start of the event for concessions in this regard.

Should a player withdraw in the middle of an IPT for personal reasons (such as selection for a national cricket team or a provincial hockey team etc) then the same rules will apply as those pertaining to a player being sent home. In other words, all the players in that team will move up the order. There will be NO movement from B team to A team. For example, if the numbers 3 and 4 from an A team, get sent home, then that A team will play two players short and will concede at no 4 and no 5.

Should a player(s) withdraw from IPT, all results of that team (both completed and still scheduled) will be declared null and void. The team will complete their schedule without the missing player(s) but all individual results within the team event will stand for national selection.

In the event of a player having to withdraw from IPT due to a personal, unscheduled family crisis (or similar) the decision will rest with the SA Schools executive as to how that team will continue in the IPT.

## **SCORING SYSTEM**

**The senior IPT scoring system will be used at all IPT Events. It works like this:  
The province that wins every match WILL win the event REGARDLESS OF POINTS.**

1 point awarded per game won

5 bonus points for a team win

Provinces tying on points - the province that beat the other will win

Three-way tie - points will decide

## NATIONAL RANKINGS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

See criteria specified annually.

## NATIONAL RANKINGS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

THERE ARE NO NATIONAL RANKINGS FOR U13 OR U11. A SQUAD OF U13 PLAYERS (TOP 3 PLAYERS FROM EACH PROVINCE IN EACH GENDER REGARDLESS OF AGE WITH SOME DISCRETION ALLOWED BY SELECTORS) WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND A TRAINING CAMP AT TUKS HPC (PROBABLY IN SEPTEMBER).

AN U13 (or U12) MUST HAVE PLAYED IN THE U13 IPT TO BE INVITED TO THE TRAINING CAMP - unless there are exceptional circumstances like a cricket tour to the UK or a major injury (or similar). In such cases, provinces must approach the SA Schools Squash Executive for a ruling.

## DISCIPLINE

Players are subject to Article 14 of the Rules and Conditions of SA SCHOOLS SQUASH which states: "All players (regardless of age) attending the tournament shall be subject to school discipline and shall be expected to follow high standards of dress and behaviour both on court and off it. If a school player, while on court, says or does anything that is not strictly within the rules (e.g. emotional outbursts or intentionally dropping of racket), the point shall be awarded against him or her and, for the second offence, the game in progress shall be awarded against him or her. Should this behaviour be repeated, the match shall be awarded to his or her opponent. Please note that this **WILL** be strictly enforced.

No hats, caps or baggies will be allowed on court. Full length compression pants may only be worn if a medical certificate is produced but compression socks are allowed. This is exactly in line with WSF regulations.

Any jewellery that is worn may not be deemed to create any potential safety concerns on court. In such an event, players may be requested to remove such jewellery.

## PROCEDURE FOLLOWING THE ABUSE OF ALCOHOL OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE

All players in this situation will be required to sign a notice of misconduct report. Any player found to have been drinking or using/abusing substance(s) will immediately be sent home from the IPT and/or SACFS and suspended from ALL squash (schools, senior and schools' league, Top Schools and Senior IPT's, etc.) pending a full disciplinary hearing to be conducted by the SA Schools Squash Disputes Committee. At least one lawyer will serve on this Disputes Committee.

The headmaster of the school which the player(s) attend (or his appointed representative) will be notified. The IPT organizers do not have the time or the legal knowledge to conduct these hearings and so we have decided to do it completely by the book. The player(s) will be

asked to write a statement at the IPT before leaving for home and all further investigations will be conducted by the SA Schools Disputes Committee.

Players will sign media release forms and a Code of Conduct form prior to embarking on their high school IPT career and this will be kept on file by a member of the SA Schools Squash Executive for the duration of a player's high school career. This signed declaration(s) will be handed in at the Bloem Open each year as part of the entry requirement.

## **IPT FORMAT**

The IPT will consist entirely of team matches. (The only exception will be where insufficient team entries have been received for a particular section. In this case individual matches may be arranged by the event organizer in consultation with the SA Schools Squash executive.)

The format for each IPT will be decided by the SA Schools Squash Executive in consultation with each IPT organizer.

In the event of a team winning all its matches in a section in a round robin format, it will be declared the winner regardless of whether the team has scored less points than another province/region.

In the event of a two-way tie, the result of the fixture between the two provinces (regions) involved will determine the winner.

In the event of a three-way tie, points between the three teams will be used in a triangular format to decide the winner. Should two teams still end tie, the result of the fixture between the two provinces (regions) involved will determine the winner.

ALL regions (except the host province) are required to stay in the IPT accommodation as organized by the IPT organizer. Failure to fulfill this criterion will lead to automatic disqualification from the IPT concerned. The exception to this is when a tournament is hosted in B & B accommodation when provinces may then choose to make their own plans as long as they give due notice and as long as this does not cause the tournament price to increase for others.

Teams who break the playing rules (knowingly or unknowingly) will lose ALL further points in the IPT.

The double dot ball will be used for U19, U16, U14 and U13  
U11's will use the single dot ball.

Any deviations required, will need to be agreed upon by the Executive.

Protective eyewear is compulsory

4-man teams for the U11 Festival, **5 for all U13 and U14A Boys team.**

**4-man teams for all U14 IPT girls team**

U16 through to U19, 5-man for ALL girls' teams and 5-man teams for all boys' "A" teams and 6-man teams for all boys' "B" teams.

4-man teams for boys' U14B who attend SA Country Festival.

3-man teams for girls' U14B who attend SA Country Festival.

At SACF - ALL boys' teams are 4-man teams in all age groups and ALL girls' teams are 3-man teams.

The PAR scoring system (11 points) will be used at all high school IPT events.

The PAR scoring system (15 points) will be used at both primary school events.

### **MEDALS, AWARDS AND PRIZES**

At each of the IPT's (but **NOT** the U11 Festival) the following awards should be made:  
GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE medals for each team member in the A **and/or** B sections.  
CERTIFICATES FOR THE WINNERS OF EACH SECTION (high schools & U13 only)

#### **B Section Medals**

**PLEASE NOTE** - only those who ENTER the B Section will qualify to receive B-Section medals. Where there are insufficient entries and the A and B Sections are combined, the medals will still be awarded to the B Section teams. (A team that entered in the A Section cannot qualify for B Section medals - even if the "super sixes" system applies and an A section team drops into the lower half of the super sixes.)

Zimbabwe/Botswana will **NOT** be awarded medals at the awards ceremony.  
Their medals will be posted to them.

MARGO MORGAN

**CHAIRPERSON: SA SCHOOLS SQUASH**