**Choice of Sides and Service**

The choice of sides and the right to be Server or Receiver in the first game shall be decided by a toss. The player winning the toss may choose or require his opponents to choose:

A. The right to be Server or Receiver, in which case the other player shall choose the side or...
B. The side, in which case the other player shall choose the right to be Server or Receiver.

**Serving**

A. The Server shall stand with both feet behind the baseline and within the imaginary continuations of the centerline and the sideline.
B. The Server shall then project the ball by hand into the air in any direction and before it hits the ground strike it with the racket.
C. The Server shall stand alternately behind the right and left courts, beginning from the right in every game.
D. The ball served shall pass over the net and hit the ground within the service court, which is diagonally opposite or upon any line bounding that service court.
E. The Server is allowed two (2) attempts to hit the ball into the correct service court.
F. A player serves the entire game, the next game being served entirely by the opponent.

**Serving Faults**

In the case where the following faults occur, the serve counts as one of the two serves allotted. If a fault occurs on the second attempt, the Receiver wins the point. The second service after a fault is delivered from behind the same half court.

A. **Let Service** - A ball is legally served and hits the top of the net and drops into the correct service court it is a Let Service. This service is replayed.
B. **A Let (Due To Interference)** - The entire point is replayed. Two services are again entitled.
C. **Receiver Must Be Ready** - The server shall not serve until the Receiver is ready. If the Receiver attempts to hit the ball, they are considered ready.
When The Receiver Becomes Server
At the end of the first game, the Receiver shall become Server, and the Server the Receiver; and so on alternately in all subsequent games of the match.

Ball in Play until Point Decided
A ball is in play from the moment at which it is delivered in service. Unless a fault or a let is called, it remains in play until the point is decided.

A Player Loses the Point If:
The ball bounces more than once (1) before it is returned
The ball goes into the net or is returned out of bounds
The ball is touched or hit more than once before returning it.
The ball is volleys before it passes over the net.
A player touches the net, cable, or post with their racket or body.

Server Wins Point
If the Receiver commits any of the above faults
If the Receiver hits a served ball before it touches the ground. Serves must bounce before being returned by the Receiver.

Receiver Wins Point
If the Server serves two consecutive faults
If the Server commits any of the above listed faults
C. A Ball Other Than A Serve, Which Touches The Net And Goes Over The Net Into The Opponent’s Court, Is A Good Return.

A Ball Other Than the Serve May Be Hit On A Fly. This Is Called A Volley. If the ball touches any part of the line it is considered in bounds.

Scoring
Server announces score and service before each serve Example: Love – 15; first service
0 Points – “Love”
1 Point – 15
2 Points – 30
3 Points - 40
4 Points - Game

Deuce
A. If both players have won 3 points, the score is called DEUCE.
B. The next point won by a player is scored ADVANTAGE for that player.
   1. ADVANTAGE IN is scored for the server.
   2. ADVANTAGE OUT is scored for the receiver.
C. The game is over when one player wins two points consecutively immediately following the score of DEUCE.

Set
A. A set is won when a player wins six games, while the opponent cannot have won more than four (4) games.
B. The first player to have won six games and to be ahead by two games is the winner of the SET.
C. When necessary a set shall be extended until the margin of two games is achieved.
D. Any of the following would mean that a player won the set: 6-0, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4. Or it could be 5-5 then going on to be won 7-5, 8-6, 9-7, etc.
**Match**

In women’s tennis the best of three sets constitute a match. In men’s tennis the best of five sets constitute a match.

**Players Change Sides**

The players shall change sides at the end of the first, third, and every odd numbered game following.

**Doubles Games**

The above rules apply to both the Singles and Doubles Game with the following exceptions for doubles:

A. **Dimension of Court**
   1. The outer sidelines are used in doubles as boundaries.
   2. The service court area is the same as in singles.

B. **Order of service and receiving**
   1. The order of service and receiving shall be decided at the beginning of each set and must be followed throughout the set.
   2. Partners receive the serve alternately throughout each game.
   3. As in singles, a server serves for the entire game.
   4. The partner of the player who served in the first game shall serve in the third game; the partner of the player who served in the second game shall serve in the fourth game.

C. **Fault**

   Ball touches the partner of the player returning the ball is no longer in play. The opponents win the point.

**Etiquette**

A. Wear respectable tennis clothes. Most women players wear tennis skirts.
B. Control your temper.
C. Accept decisions of your opponent or officials graciously.
D. Always shake hands after a match.
E. Win or lose pleasantly and without excuses.
F. After a point has been played, return ball directly to the server; do not hit them back carelessly.
G. If your ball goes into the adjoining court, wait until the players on that court finish their point before calling for the ball.
H. Under no circumstance walk across a court while people are playing on it.
I. If a ball from an adjoining court comes into your court return it to the owners as soon as possible. If it interferes with your point, play a let.