



SunSmart Schools Tennis Classic 2024

EVENT INFORMATION GUIDE





2024 DATES AND VENUES

EVENT (METROPOLITAN)	YEAR LEVEL	DATE
Academy Plate – Boys	Primary: Years 3 - 6	Tuesday 5 th March
Academy Plate – Girls	Primary: Years 3 - 6	Wednesday 6 th March
Herbert Edwards – Boys	Secondary: Years 7 - 9	Thursday 7 th March
Herbert Edwards – Girls	Secondary: Years 7 - 9	Friday 8 th March
Slazenger Cup/Mursell Shield (Traditional)– Boys	Secondary: Years 7 - 12	Thursday 14 th March
Slazenger Cup/Mursell Shield (Traditional)– Girls	Secondary: Years 7 - 12	Friday 15 th March
Slazenger Cup (Premier) – Boys	Secondary: Years 7 - 12	Tuesday 19 th March
Slazenger Cup (Premier) – Girls	Secondary: Years 7 - 12	Wednesday 20 th March



EVENT (COUNTRY)	YEAR LEVEL	DATE	VENUE
Academy Plate – South West	Primary: Years 3 - 6	Thursday 22 nd February	Bunbury TC
Herbert Edwards – South West	Secondary: Years 7 - 9	Friday 23 rd February	Bunbury TC
Slazenger Cup – South West	Secondary: Years 7 - 12	Friday 23 rd February	Bunbury TC
Academy Plate – Upper Great Southern	Primary: Years 3 - 6	Wednesday 28 th February	Narrogin TC
Academy Plate – Central Districts	Primary: Years 3 - 6	Wednesday 21 st February	Beverley TC
Herbert Edwards – Central Districts	Secondary: Years 7 - 9	Friday 1 st March	Cunderdin TC
Slazenger Cup – Central Districts	Secondary: Years 7 - 12	Friday 1 st March	Cunderdin TC
Academy Plate – Eastern Districts	Primary: Years 3 - 6	Wednesday 6 th March	Hyden TC
Academy Plate – Great Southern	Primary: Years 3 - 6	Monday 11 th March	Katanning TC
Country Academy Plate - Final	Primary: Years 3 - 6	Friday 22 nd March	State Tennis Centre
BACKUP DATES	ALL YEARS	Week of 25 th March	TBC

INTRODUCTION

The SunSmart Schools Tennis Classic is the largest participation tennis tournament in Western Australia and has been running since 1935. All schools in Western Australia are encouraged to enter, with participation that spans every corner of the state. The series of inter-school teams events that make up the SunSmart Schools Tennis Classic contribute to three major events:

- Slazenger Cup (Mursell Shield)
- Herbert Edwards Cup
- Academy Plate

Tennis West and School Sport WA partner to deliver this tennis event and is the pinnacle of school teams events in WA.



EVENT INFORMATION

METROPOLITAN EVENTS		
EVENT	INFORMATION	YEAR LEVEL
Academy Plate Separate Boys & Girls Events	Singles and doubles team event for Primary School students, played with modified balls on a full-sized court.	Primary: Years 3 - 6
Herbert Edwards Separate Boys & Girls Events	Singles and doubles team event for Lower Secondary School students, played with yellow tennis balls on a full-sized court.	Secondary: Years 7 - 9
Slazenger Cup & Mursell Shield Separate Boys & Girls Events	<p>Singles and doubles team event for Upper Secondary School students. Played with yellow tennis balls, on a full-sized court.</p> <p><u>Slazenger Cup (PREMIER & PARTICIPATION)</u></p> <p>The winning teams of each pool, compete in a finals event for the <u>Slazenger Cup</u>.</p> <p><u>Mursell Shield:</u></p> <p>The teams that finish 2nd in their pool play-off, compete in a finals event for the <u>Mursell Shield</u>.</p>	Secondary: Years 7 - 12

Country Events - Proudly supported by the D'Arcy Slater Foundation

EVENT	INFORMATION	YEAR LEVEL
Academy Plate <u>Mixed Gendered Event</u>	<p>Singles and doubles team event for Primary School students, played with modified balls on a full-sized court.</p> <p><u>Country Final</u> All winners and runner-up teams of regional Academy Plate play-off events are invited to compete at the Academy Plate Country Finals event in Perth, to be crowned overall Country Champion</p>	Primary: Years 3 - 6
Herbert Edwards Separate Boys & Girls Events	<p>Singles and doubles team event for Lower Secondary School students, played with yellow tennis balls on a full-sized court.</p> <p><u>Metro Event Invitation</u> The winner and runner-up teams from each regional Herbert Edwards Cup events are invited to play in the metropolitan equivalent events in Perth</p>	Secondary: Years 7 - 9
Slazenger Cup & Mursell Shield Separate Boys & Girls Events	<p>Singles and doubles team event for Upper Secondary School students. Played with yellow tennis balls, on a full-sized court.</p> <p><u>Metro Event Invitation</u> The winner and runner-up teams from each regional Slazenger Cup & Herbert Edwards Cup events are invited to play in the metropolitan equivalent events in Perth.</p>	Secondary: Years 7 - 12

MATCH TIMES

Traditional Events

All matches will aim to be finished in school time. The aim is to start 1st round matches at 9:15am and have the event concluded by 2:45pm, which includes Finals. Please arrive by 8:30am on the day to check in at the tournament desk.



Premier Events

All matches will be played outside of school hours at the State Tennis Centre. The Premier event will be a knockout competition, limited to 8 teams. Teams will be accepted based on the average of the top 4 player UTR. The format will be 2 Fast 4 sets with a MTB at 1 set all Teams will play QF and SF rounds on one day and finals on Monday 25th March.

HOW TO ENTER

To nominate your school please visit the School Sport WA website:

Primary Schools - <http://www.schoolsportwa.com.au/interschool/primary/tennis/>

Secondary Schools - <http://www.schoolsportwa.com.au/interschool/secondary/tennis/>

General Nomination Process for Regional Events and Metro Academy Plate events.

1. Complete School Sport WA expression of interest via 'Nominate' button on website - **by Thursday the 15th February 2024**
2. Teachers to send total teams/students numbers and what competition they are entering to Tennis West through the Airtable link [here](#) **by Thursday the 15th February 2024**
3. Tennis West will create draws and schedules. This will be distributed to schools one week before event.

General Nomination Process for all TRADITIONAL Metro Herbert Edwards and Slazenger Cup events.

1. Complete School Sport WA expression of interest via 'Nominate' button on website - **by 21st February 2024**
2. Teachers to send total teams/ student numbers and what competition they are entering and to Tennis West through the Airtable link [here](#)
3. Tennis West will create draws and schedules. This will be distributed to schools one week before event.

General Nomination Process for PREMIER Slazenger Cup event.

1. Complete School Sport WA expression of interest via 'Nominate' button on website - **by 21st February 2024**
2. Teachers to send all teams with student names, UTR, Tennis ID as well as, what competition they are entering and to Tennis West through the Airtable link [here](#)
3. Tennis West will then enter teams

For further information and inquiries please contact, Tennis West: schoolswa@tennis.com.au

NOMINATIONS CLOSE

All Metropolitan & Country Events: **Thursday 15th February, 12 noon**

A fee of **\$55 (incl. GST)** is payable for each team and each event entered. School Sport WA will invoice all schools following nomination.

**Country Schools are charged \$55 per school, regardless of the number of teams*

TEAM COMPOSITION

In all events, teams must comprise a **minimum of 4 players per team**, with a **maximum of six (6)**.

DRAW & SCHEDULE

The complete draw and schedule for traditional events will be sent to schools the week prior. They're not available online through match center or league manager.

PREMIER events will display the draw online through the Match Centre website, please follow this link to access.

- **Match Centre:** <https://matchcentre.tennis.com.au/organisations/5143>

For enquiries relating to the draw please contact schoolswa@tennis.com.au.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. ENTRY

Schools nominating more than one (1) team in any given event **must rank their teams from strongest ability to lowest ability**.

- *For example: Tennis West School Team 1 will be stronger than Team 2, which is subsequently stronger than Team 3.*
- Schools will upload a player registration and team composition excel template after nominating their teams via Airtable links below

For all Regional events and Metro Academy Plate click [here](#)

For all **TRADITIONAL** Metro Herbert Edwards and Slazenger Cup events click [here](#)

For **PREMIER** Metro Slazenger Cup Event click [here](#)

- Teams must be submitted **by Thursday the 15th of February**.

Players may compete in only one (1) event of the SunSmart Schools Tennis Classic.

- *E.g., a player playing in Herbert Edwards Cup **cannot** compete in the Slazenger Cup/Mursell Shield.*



2. TEAM MAKEUP

Prior to the start of play, Teachers must rank players in order of merit based on ability level (e.g., Player 1 is the strongest, Player 2 is second strongest etc. It is recommended that teams list their players in UTR order where applicable*)

In all events, teams must comprise a **minimum of 4 players per team**, with a **maximum of six (6)**. In the case of a 5-6 player team, players can change mid-round and/or after each round. **In the case of an injury,**

a player may be replaced mid-round, but not mid match.

If a substitute is required for a team this person will enter the team in the order of merit, as approved by the teacher. The rest of the team shall move up/down accordingly. A player playing as a substitute cannot be a player from another SunSmart Schools Tennis Classic event. Once a player has played as a substitute, he or she may not enter any other Schools Tennis Classic event or team. Only those players involved in a match on court are allowed in the court during match play.

- The Slazenger Cup / Mursell Shield, Herbert Edwards Cup and Metropolitan Academy Plate events have a separate boys' and girls' competition, with teams comprising of four (4) to six (6) players.
- The Country Academy Plate is a mixed gender competition. Teams must comprise of a minimum of two boys and two girls*.
- Tennis West recommends/encourages that the singles component of all country academy plate events consisting of two boys and two girls where applicable.
- The Country Academy Plate doubles format is mixed gender comprising of 1 boy and 1 girl. In doubles the top singles players must play against the opposing teams top singles player. Their partner can be any of the other 3 players on the team (including substitutes).

*Applications may be made to Tennis West for dispensation to enter a mixed team in the Academy Plate Event with a team makeup outside of that stated above.





3. ORDER OF PLAY (ALL TRADITIONAL EVENTS)

*The order of play shall be no.1 and no.2 singles followed by no.3 and no.4 singles. Doubles **matches will follow at the completion of singles matches, with the double's pairings being as follows:***

- **TRADITIONAL** events- The no. 1 doubles pair to consist of the no. 1 singles player and his/her partner. The nominated top ranked singles player must remain the number 1 throughout the tournament (unless substituted out)
- **PREMER** event- The no. 1 Doubles pair consists of the no. 1 highest Rank (UTR) doubles player and his/her partner
- The no. 2 doubles pair to consist of the other two players (including substitutes)
- **The Country Academy Plate** is mixed gender doubles, with the number 1 players for each school playing in the number 1 doubles pair, and no. 2 doubles pair to consist of the other two players (this can include substitutes)

In all competitions the team singles order must remain the same throughout the entire competition as those listed by the team captain on the first fixture card.

Teams must have all players ready to commence at the appointed time. Teams short at that time shall forfeit the relevant match after 15 minutes if there is a court available to start their match.

4. TOURNAMENT FORMAT (ALL TRADITIONAL EVENTS)

Matches will be played on a **timed basis with 10-minute matches** (may change at the discretion of the tournament director) and players shall finish the point when time is called. If the game score is a tied, players will play a sudden death point to determine a winner.

Within the **Round Robin Phase** of the competition, students will play:

- First to 21-point match
- Players serve for 2 points then change
- Change of ends occurs every 10 points
- If scores are tied at 20-all, players will alternate serve every point until a two-point advantage is achieved or the match time runs out (in which case a sudden death point is played if scores are tied).

If the competition has a finals / elimination round, scoring will be first to 21-point format, not timed.

Due to time constraints or delays, the scoring format for finals may change at the discretion of the tournament director and agreed upon by both school / team managers.

ACADEMY PLATE (ALL REGIONS)

This event will be played using Tennis HotShots LOW COMPRESSION **Green Balls**. A drop or bounce serve will be allowed for a student's second serve if they require.



TOURNAMENT FORMAT (PERFORMANCE)

The tournament is held at the State Tennis Centre, with the QF and SF rounds to be played on one afternoon on week 8 after school. The draw will be a knockout draw with a maximum of 8 teams. Matches will be played in a format of 2 Fast 4 sets with a MTB at 1 set all. Team acceptance is based on average UTR of top 4 players.

5. DETERMINING A MATCH WINNER

ROUND ROBIN & FINALS (ALL EVENTS)

The winning team will be determined in the following way:

- A round shall be decided by the number of rubbers won. If the rounds are tied at 3 rubbers each, points from all matches will be added together, and the winner will be the team with the highest ratio of points-won to points-lost.
- In the event of a tie, the last doubles pair will play a Fast 4 Tie-Breaker (first to 5) to determine the winner

TEAM POINTS CALCULATION (ALL EVENTS)

Points will be award on the following basis:

- 1 point per Rubber won
- 4 points for the Overall Winner of the Round
- 1 point for the Loser of the Round
- There is a Total of 11 points on offer per Round.

FINALS QUALIFICATIONS (TRADITIONAL EVENTS)

Following the Round Robin Pool matches, the winner of each pool will be entered into elimination finals draw.

Slazenger Cup and Herbert Edwards

The winning teams of each pool will be drawn together and compete in an elimination finals event for the Slazenger Cup.

Mursell Shield and Herbert Edwards Div 2

The teams that finish 2nd in their pool play-off, will be drawn together to compete in an elimination finals event for the Mursell Shield/Herbert Edwards Div 2.

INJURED PLAYERS & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- If a team is unable to field a team of 4 players but has enough to field 3 eligible players, the tie will still take place. The fourth singles rubber and the second doubles rubber will be awarded to the opposing team 21-0 (4-0 in Championship Match).



- Therefore, it remains possible for a team of three to win if all three players win their respective singles and doubles: for example (4 rubbers to 2).
- The team must have commenced the day with four eligible players.
- If in the Country Academy Plate, a team does not meet the minimum player requirement, any additional players will be regarded as an ineligible player.

6. SCHOOL RESONSIBILITY

Schools are responsible for ensuring:

- A teacher / supervisor is provided, as specified, for each event.
- They obtain the most up to date information from Tennis West and School Sport WA.
- Communication of the rules, dates and any important information to players and parents.
- Students are informed of the alternative dates of play, should rain or some other unforeseen circumstance disrupt play.

7. TENNIS AUSTRALIA PRIVACY POLICIES

All competitions and matches must be conducted in accordance with the Tennis Australia Privacy Policy, which can be found <https://www.tennis.com.au/privacy>