



17 March 2020

NEJTA Statement Regarding the Status of the Autumn 2020 Season

At a meeting held on the 16th of March 2020, the NEJTA Committee convened to discuss matters relating to the status of the NEJTA Competition in the current climate of the coronavirus (CORVID-19) pandemic and have decided on the following.

As guidelines on how to contain the spread of COVID-19 are changing on a near daily basis, it has become increasingly difficult to predict how this issue will affect our lives in the coming weeks. With a four-week break coming up over Easter and the School Holidays, the Committee felt that resuming for only one round before that in this current climate of uncertainty would be imprudent.

As such, *the Committee have decided to not cancel the season*, but rather suspend the season, with no Round 7 matches to be played on the 21st of March. The Round 7 matches will follow the same rules as the cancelled matches in Round 6, i.e. the premiership points will be split evenly among teams, effectively following the same rules as if the matches had been washed out.

The NEJTA Committee will reconvene on Monday the 13th of April to review the commencement of the Autumn 2020 Season subject to the status of the CORVID-19 pandemic. The outcome of this decision will be issued in a statement to all member clubs on Tuesday the 14th of April. The NEJTA will continue to monitor State and Federal announcements during this time.

We thank you all for your patience and understanding. Over the next week we will be adding a 'COVID-19 Updates' area to the NEJTA website and a live status to the front page of TROLS which will provide the most current status of the competition. For all future updates regarding COVID-19 and our competition, please follow our communications and not Tennis Australia's.

The State Government, and other peak sporting bodies recognise that sporting clubs and active recreation organisations have an important role and obligation to reduce the risk of infection and slow the spread of the virus. This is also supported by Tennis Victoria's latest statement release, on the 17th of March, for continued play under health and hygiene guidelines

In summary, *the current season has not been cancelled by the NEJTA at this time*. There will be no matches on the 21st of March. A decision on whether the Autumn 2020 Season will resume or be cancelled will be sent to clubs no later than the 14th of April.

Regards,
Nathan Woods
Honorary Secretary NEJTA