



# **TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## ***St Lucia National Independence Tennis Tournament 2026***

### **1. Eligibility**

- 1.1 Players must meet the age, category, and eligibility requirements for their division.
- 1.2 Proof of age, identity, or eligibility may be requested at any time.
- 1.3 Completion of the official online entry form and acceptance of the mandatory athlete declaration are required for participation.

### **2. Entries, Withdrawals & Attendance**

- 2.1 All entries must be submitted by the published deadline. Late entries may not be accepted.
- 2.2 Withdrawals after the draw has been published may result in forfeiture of entry fees unless supported by valid medical documentation.
- 2.3 Players are responsible for checking match schedules and arriving on time for all matches.

### **3. Match Format & Scoring**

- 3.1 Match formats, scoring systems, and draw sizes will be determined by the tournament committee and may vary by category.
- 3.2 Standard tennis rules and scoring apply unless otherwise stated.
- 3.3 The tournament committee reserves the right to modify match formats due to weather, scheduling constraints, or other unforeseen circumstances.

### **4. Code of Conduct & Sportsmanship**

- 4.1 Players must demonstrate good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect at all times.
- 4.2 Disrespectful behavior, abusive language, racket abuse, intimidation, or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.
- 4.3 Violations may result in warnings, penalties, default, disqualification, or further disciplinary action.

### **5. Dress Code**

- 5.1 Proper tennis attire must be worn at all times during match play.
- 5.2 Clothing must be clean, appropriate, and non-offensive.
- 5.3 Tournament officials reserve the right to prohibit attire deemed unsuitable.



## **6. Warm-Up & Match Start**

- 6.1 Players are entitled to a maximum warm-up period of five (5) minutes.
- 6.2 Matches will be called according to the official schedule.
- 6.3 Failure to be present when a match is called may result in default.

## **7. Continuous Play & Time Violations**

- 7.1 Matches must be played continuously without unnecessary delay.
- 7.2 Players must adhere to time limits between points, games, and sets.
- 7.3 Bathroom and medical breaks require approval from the referee.

## **8. Coaching (Permitted with Discretion)**

- 8.1 Coaching is permitted **only at the discretion of the tournament referee or officials.**
- 8.2 Coaching must be brief, non-disruptive, and respectful, and must not interfere with match play.
- 8.3 The referee or tournament committee may restrict, limit, or withdraw coaching privileges at any time.
- 8.4 Any coaching deemed excessive, disruptive, or unsportsmanlike may result in penalties to the player, coach, or both.
- 8.5 All decisions regarding coaching are final.

## **9. Medical & Player Safety**

- 9.1 Players participate at their own risk and must be medically fit to compete.
- 9.2 Injuries must be reported immediately to tournament officials.
- 9.3 Officials reserve the right to suspend or terminate a match if a player's safety is at risk.

## **10. Equipment**

- 10.1 Players are responsible for their own rackets and personal equipment.
- 10.2 All rackets must comply with standard tennis regulations.
- 10.3 Official tournament balls will be provided.

## **11. Weather, Courts & Scheduling**

- 11.1 Matches may be delayed, suspended, relocated, or rescheduled due to weather or court conditions.
- 11.2 Scheduling decisions made by the tournament committee are final.

## **12. Defaults, Walkovers & Retirements**

- 12.1 Failure to appear on time may result in a default.
- 12.2 A player who retires due to injury must notify the referee immediately.
- 12.3 Walkovers and retirements are subject to tournament committee approval.



### **13. Protests & Appeals**

- 13.1 Any protest must be made to the referee immediately following the match.
- 13.2 Decisions of the referee and tournament committee are final and binding.

### **14. Media, Photography & Promotion**

- 14.1 By entering the tournament, players consent to the use of photographs and video recordings for promotional, media, and reporting purposes.
- 14.2 No compensation will be provided for such use.

### **15. Disciplinary Authority**

- 15.1 The tournament organizers reserve the right to impose disciplinary measures for any breach of these rules.
- 15.2 Serious misconduct may result in removal from the tournament and referral to the relevant governing body.