



10th Annual HRCO Tennis Ball Tournament (2024) - Rules

Player Registration Fee: \$25 (Deadline: 05/20/2024); \$50 (Deadline: 05/31/2024)

\$75 (Deadline: 06/15/2024); \$125 \$125 (06/16/2024 onwards till playoffs)

Champions: \$500

Runners up: \$250

Tournament MVP: \$100

Best Bowler of Tournament: \$75

Best Batsman of Tournament: \$75

MOM Final: \$50

Total Teams: 11 teams (all teams in one group)

11 Players per side, 16 Overs per innings

6 league games per team, 8 teams advance to Playoffs

Dues must be paid in full for the team to be considered qualified for the tournament.

Only teams that pay dues by the posted deadline will be allowed to participate in the tournament.

Once the schedule is posted team that prefer to back out will not be refunded.

Online payment can be made thru PayPal (paypal.hrco@gmail.com). Please use this link to make PayPal payment: <https://www.paypal.me/hrco dues>

Other than the rules mentioned in this document, regular ICC cricket rules will apply.



- **Format**

Eleven players per team, One innings per side, each innings will be limited to a maximum of 16 overs. Each team will play 6 games during the league stage (subject to change due to ground availability). Top 8 teams will advance to next stage of the Tournament.

- **Scheduled hours of play**

	Game Timings			
	1 st innings start time	1 st innings end time	2 nd innings start time	2 nd innings end time
1 st Game	8:30 am	9:55 am	10:05 am	11:30 am
2 nd Game	11:45 am	1:10 pm	1:20 pm	2:45 pm
3 rd Game	3:00 pm	4:25 pm	4:35 pm	6:00 pm

- **Pitch**

TCG: Games will be played on one side of the pitch (batting from parking lot end)

- **Ball**

Hard tennis balls will be provided by HRCO. Teams must collect game balls from HRCO prior to Tournament start date.

- **Umpiring**

Each team will be responsible for umpiring as listed in the schedule.

- **LBW and leg byes**

1. There will be “***No LBW and No Leg Bye***” in this tournament. All other extras except Leg Byes apply
2. A batsman ***cannot be ruled RUN OUT trying to steal a leg bye***, since Leg Bye is not allowed. Batsmen strike cannot be rotated either. However, ***batsman can be stumped out by wicket keeper*** based on ICC stumping rules (ICC Rule 39 Stumped) and the wicket goes to the bowler. After batsman’s body gets in contact with the ball in play, he can be stumped out provided ball is not dead, batsman is out of his crease, not attempted a run, and the wicket is fairly broken by the wicket keeper without the intervention of another fielder. WK is allowed to advance and collect the ball for stumping once the ball makes contact with the batsman (Refer ICC Rule 27.3 Position of WK).

- **Wide ball**

1. Too far out on the off side and anything on the leg side, as ***decided by the umpire***
2. Any ***non-full toss over head*** of the batsman is a wide ball.
3. A call of ***No ball shall over-ride the call of Wide ball*** at any time.



4. Following the new ICC updated rule in 2022: A wide will apply to where the batter is standing, where the batter has stood at any point since the bowler began their run up, and which would also have passed wide of the striker at a normal batting position.
- No ball
 1. **One short-pitched ball** (above the shoulder but not above the head) is allowed per over. The next such ball in the same over will be a NO BALL.
 2. Any full toss ball passes **above the waist height** of the batsman standing upright at popping crease will be a NO BALL
 3. If bowler's back foot (not front foot) touches or crosses the side crease (**return crease, shall be considered to be unlimited in length behind the popping crease**), it will be a NO BALL
 4. Any "**over stepping the popping crease**" will be a NO BALL
 5. Any ball **pitching outside the pitch** before reaching the batting side wicket will be a NO BALL. Pitching outside the pitch includes ball pitching on the edge of the mat/cement pitch or nail
 6. If **bowler breaks non-striker end stumps with any part of his body during delivery stride**, NO BALL will be called
 7. Ball **bounces more than once or rolls along the ground** before it reaches the popping crease, will be a NO BALL
 8. Umpire must call NO BALL, in case bowler delivers with an **illegal action (chucking)**, solely based on on-field umpires' judgement. **Bowler will be ejected** from bowling for rest of the match after bowling a second delivery with illegal action on the same match. If the bowler is ejected from bowling, due to delivering a second ball with illegal action (thus called no ball by umpire), the resulting **follow on free hit shall be delivered by the replacement bowler**.
 9. It is the umpire's duty to ascertain whether the bowler intends to bowl right handed or left handed, over or round the wicket, and shall so inform the striker. It is **NOT a NO BALL**, and shall be considered as umpiring failure, in case the umpire forgets to inquire bowler's mode of delivery and notify the striker regarding bowler's mode of delivery. However, it is unfair if the **bowler fails to notify the umpire of a change in his mode of delivery**. In this case the umpire shall call and signal NO BALL.
 10. A call of **No ball shall over-ride the call of Wide ball** at any time.
 - Free Hit
 1. There will be a free hit for **any kind of NO-Ball**
 2. Fielders **cannot change** their **field positions** for a Free-Hit, if the **same batsman** who faced the NO Ball is also facing the Free-Hit. However, fielders **can change** their positions for a **different batsman** on strike for the Free-Hit



- **Power play**

First **five overs** minimum **9 players** (including bowler and wicket keeper) must be **inside the inner circle**. Power play for shortened games shall be calculated as 30% of total overs. For examples: (1) if game is shortened to 12 overs, Power Play will be $12 * 30\% = 3.6$ (round it up to 4 overs of power play); (2) if game is shortened to 11 overs, Power Play will be $11 * 30\% = 3.3$ (still round it up to 4 overs of power play). Always round up to calculate power play overs.
- **Maximum number of overs per bowler**

16 Over Games: Bowler can bowl a maximum of **3 overs**. **One bowler** is allowed to bowl an extra over (**maximum 4 overs for only one bowler**).
- **Match result**
 1. Team batting second must have faced at least **5 overs to constitute a match**. Otherwise match will be considered “washed out”. If the match was interrupted and called off due to inclement weather after team batting second has played a minimum of 5 overs, then the team with **higher run rate** will be considered winner. Run rate of the team batting second at the time game was called off will be compared against the run rate of the team batting first. If side batting first were all out in less than 16 overs (14 overs, 12 overs, 10 overs, 8 overs, or 5 overs in case of delayed start mentioned in “Para 18” of the section “Game Start Time and Penalties”), their run rate will be calculated on the basis of full quota of overs and not the number of overs they were dismissed. **Points will be split** among both the teams in case the game is washed out, due to rescheduling not allowed during group stage.
 2. If a team abandons the match in progress, which umpires does not agree match is completed, they agree that the match be awarded to the opposition as a Forfeit. Criteria under “Para 4” of this section applies.
 3. In case of a completed match resulting in a **tie**, points will be split, **1 point per team**
 4. If a team **forfeits** the game, then the other team wins with **full points (2 points)** but the NRR will not change
 5. The team that **forfeits** a game will automatically loose toss for all non-playoff matches, Forfeiting team will be charged \$100 fine by HRCO and the payment will be due within 7 days. Captain and Vice Captain of the forfeiting team will be charged with 1 game suspension (suspended from playing next scheduled game of the team).
- **Scorecard**
 1. Scoring must be done digitally using Cricclubs live scoring option.
 2. In case the live scoring app crashes, scoring shall be done by other means.
 3. Game shall not be delayed at any point due to scoring app/scorer shenanigans.



4. Batting team is responsible for scoring the innings, and the team that is batting first is responsible for setting up the live scoring app prior to the scheduled game start time.
5. *Winning team is responsible to ensure that scorecard is updated correctly on the website no later than following Thursday.* Failure to do so will result in a **1 point penalty**

NOTE: Only Captain and Vice-Captain have access to manage their teams and update scorecard on the website.

NOTE: The scorecard on the website must list out the playing 11. A player who didn't bat or bowl must be captured in the website as "DNB". Unless the player name is listed on the website game scorecard, he will not be considered as played that game, and this will affect the player eligibility criteria mentioned in "Player Eligibility" section.

- **Points**

1. Winning team will get **2 points**.
2. Teams will earn **1 point** each for a tie.
3. Teams will earn **1 point** each for a **wash out** game.
4. Losing team: **0 point**.

- **Player eligibility**

1. Player can't play for more than one team during the tournament
2. Player must have played a minimum of **one regular game** to qualify for play-off games

- **Game start time and penalties**

1. The games will start at times as mentioned in page 2 of this document.
2. Playing teams and umpires shall be on ground minimum 20 minutes prior to the scheduled game start time for pre-match conference. Playing 11 needs to be exchanged during that time (minimum 15 minutes before scheduled start time), and Toss must be done at a minimum of 10 min before game start time. Toss winning team must inform umpires their decision on the spot...No additional time shall be permitted. Both teams shall ensure that the playing 11 is entered correctly in Cricclubs live scoring App by the team batting first.
3. Team needs at least **seven (7) players to start the game**
4. Late arriving team (minimum 7 players from the playing 11 on the ground 20 minutes before game start time is required) will lose the toss for the game.
5. The team responsible for late start will face a **penalty of 1 over for every 4 minutes** (if minimum 7 players from the playing 11 not present at game start time). After **30 minutes**, "no show" team will lose the match as a **"forfeit"** and the opposite team will be awarded "2 points" if the opposite team is present to start the game.
6. In the event of playing 11 is not exchanged and posted to captain's WhatsApp group by team captains before the time of toss, which is minimum 10 minutes prior to scheduled



- game time....1 over penalty will be enforced. Toss result also needs to be posted by toss winning team minimum 5 minutes prior to the game time.
7. First ball must be delivered within first one minute of scheduled start time. Umpires must enforce the time rules strictly.
 8. If **umpire(s)** are not present at toss time (minimum of 10 min before game start time), their team will automatically **lose toss** for their next game.
 9. If **umpire(s)** do not show up until **30 minutes** after the start time:
 - a. #8 will be implemented
 - b. **one (1) point** penalty to their team
 - c. **one (1) over** penalty for their next game
 10. If **umpire(s)** do not show up at all:
 - a. #9 will be implemented
 - b. **Additional one (1) point** penalty to their team
 - c. **\$100** fine will apply
 11. Umpires are not allowed to be swapped during the game. **Umpire that starts the game off is required to umpire the entire game**
 12. Teams must start game with their **own umpires**, in case umpires don't show up on time
 13. 10 runs for every five minutes taken extra to complete an innings will be awarded to opponent team in case of any time violations. Umpires must keep track of game time. **16 overs must be completed in 80 minutes**, timeouts are not included in 80 minutes. **Including timeouts 16 overs must be completed in 85 minutes.**
 14. Incoming batsman must enter the field before outgoing batsman crosses the boundary. 3 minutes is the max time allowed from the time of dismissal till the new batsman take guard. If new batsman has not taken guard within 3 minutes of previous batsman being out, 10 runs penalty will be charged to the batting team.
 15. Two, 2.5 minutes strategic timeouts will be allowed for fielding team....First strategic time out will be at 4.6 over. Second strategic timeout shall be taken at 9.6 over.
 16. Innings break shall be 10 minutes maximum.
 17. TIMING SUMMARY:
 - a. Team exchanges - 15 minutes before scheduled start time. Post it in the WhatsApp group minimum 10 minutes prior to game start time.
 - b. TOSS - 10 min before scheduled start time. Post Toss result in the WhatsApp group minimum 5 minutes prior to game start time. Team that don't have 7 players present at the ground 20 minutes before game start time will lose toss.
 - c. 16 overs must be completed in 80 minutes.
 - d. Including timeouts 16 overs must be completed in 85 minutes.
 - e. Two, 2.5 min strategic time outs shall be taken at 4.6 overs & 9.6 overs.
 - f. Innings break shall be 10 minutes maximum.



18. If the game is delayed for the natural causes related to weather or any other unforeseen reason:
- a. 1 over per innings will be reduced for each 5 minutes lost.
 - b. If the game is delayed by **20 mins**, total overs per innings will be **reduced to 14**. (1 over/5min lost. Total 4 overs reduced for 20 minutes lost) (3 overs max for bowlers).
 - c. If the game is delayed by **40 mins**, total overs per innings will be **reduced to 12**. (3 overs max for only 2 bowlers)
 - d. If the game is delayed by **60 mins**, total overs per innings will be **reduced to 10**. (2 overs max for bowlers)
 - e. If the game is delayed by **80 mins**, total overs per innings will be **reduced to 8**. (2 overs max for only 3 bowlers).
 - f. If the game is delayed by **90 mins**, total overs per innings will be **reduced to 5**. (1 over max per bowler).
 - g. If the game is delayed by more than **90 mins**, it will be considered as “**washed out**”, as there won't be enough time to complete 5 overs per side. However, both the teams and umpires have to be on the ground to decide it. If a team does not show up thinking that the game will be washed out, they will lose points; game will be considered a Forfeit. (It may be raining in Virginia Beach or Newport News or anywhere else but may not be at the temple!!)
 - h. If a game in progress is stopped due to bad weather, 1 over per 5 minutes shall be reduced. If enough time is lost to complete a minimum of 5 overs in the second innings by the scheduled match end time (see page 2 for match end time), the match shall be considered washed out.
 - i. Umpires for the game will decide whether playing conditions are suitable for conducting/continuing/stopping a match. Both team captains must follow umpires decision without any questions or concerns.
19. In case Last Game of the day starts late and if there is not enough time to constitute a full match prior to sunset time, umpires shall reduce number of overs per side using ‘Para 18’ of this section (Game Start Time and Penalties) as a guideline, based on that particular day’s sunset time
- **Playing 11 and Substitute**
 1. It is the umpires’ as well as both team captains’ responsibility to get the playing eleven from other team before toss is done.
 2. Once the playing eleven is submitted, it can’t be changed for that game.



3. Team bowling first can start the game with substitute players (SUB, here after) if players from playing eleven (P11 PLAYER, here after) are not there yet. However, the following conditions will be applied:
 - a. If P11 PLAYER shows up during first six (6) overs:
P11 PLAYER can replace SUB without any issue.
 - b. If P11 PLAYER doesn't show up before seventh (7th) over starts:
Option 1: SUB can continue fielding for rest of the innings as SUB. He can NOT be "converted" into P11PLAYER. Also, if P11 PLAYER shows up later on, he will not be allowed to be a part of the game, not even as SUB.
Option 2: SUB can be off the field (i. e. playing with one player short) from beginning of the seventh over. Now, P11 PLAYER can come anytime during the game (even after first innings is completed) and join his team as P11 PLAYER.
 4. Substitute player may not bowl, bat, or act as captain
 5. Player being substituted is required to spend a period back on the field at least equal to the number of overs that he was absent before resuming bowling
 6. Player being substituted is required to field/restricted from batting if second innings commence/comboination of both, for at least equal number of overs that he was absent, or until the 3rd wicket is down, whichever comes first, before the player can bat.
 7. A batsman can only **retire hurt for an injury** that he picks up during the game. Otherwise batsman will be considered retired out. Being tired is not considered an injury.
 8. A retired hurt batsman cannot come back to bat until the 6th wicket is down. A batsman can only retire hurt once. Second time batsman will be considered retired out.
 9. **Runner for a batsman is not allowed**
- Play offs
 1. **Top 8 teams** (with most points) on the Points Table will advance to the **Quarter Final**
 2. **Teams ranked 1 to 8** will play "**Quarterfinal**" as follows:
 - a. **QF#1: #1 Team vs #8 Team (#2 Team & #7 Team)**
 - b. **QF#2: #2 Team vs #7 Team (#1 Team & #8 Team)**
 - c. **QF#3: #3 Team vs #6 Team (#4 Team & #5 Team)**
 - d. **QF#4: #4 Team vs #5 Team (#3 Team & #6 Team)**
 3. Semi Finals will be played as follows:
 - a. **SF#1: Winner of QF#1 vs Winner of QF4 (SF#2 Teams)**
 - b. **SF#2: Winner of QF#2 vs Winner of QF3 (SF#1 Teams)**
 4. Super over(s) will be played, in case of a tie in play offs (maximum 2 super overs; See Super Over section for additional details).



- Super Over

1. Team batting second in the match will **bat first** in super over
2. One over to bowl and **only 3 batsmen** allowed (i.e. 2 wickets)
3. Each team will give the match officials their bowler and 3 batsmen names before the start of super over.
4. The bowler of the super over **is allowed** to bat in the super over.
5. A bowler cannot repeat if a second super over is to be played.
6. A batsman cannot repeat if he was out in the first super over. If the batsman stays not out in the first super over, he is allowed to bat in second super over as well.
7. In the event teams tie in the Super Over, another Super Over will follow. Maximum 2 super overs can be played.
8. If umpires decide playing Super Overs cannot be continued due to bad light or inclement weather conditions, or both 1st and 2nd super overs end up in a tie, winner will be decided as listed below based on result of first Super Over played (Note: Below criteria will be used to decide winner for the case in which even playing the first Super Over was not possible or if the first super over was not scored properly):
 - a. the team that has scored most boundaries (fours and sixes) in the match (main match + super over) will be considered winner.
 - b. if the above is still a tie, the team that has scored most boundaries (fours and sixes) in the match (main match only) will be considered winner.
 - c. If still equal, a count-back from the final ball of the one over eliminator(s) shall be conducted. The team with the higher scoring delivery shall be the winner. If a team loses two wickets during its over, then any unbowled deliveries will be counted as dot balls. Note that for this purpose, the runs scored from a delivery is defined as the total team runs scored since the completion of the previous legitimate ball, i.e including any runs resulting from wides, no ball or penalty runs.
 - i. Example: Assuming that the game has ended in a tie and goes to a super over. Both teams end up on 15 runs in the super over. If the first and second super over tie breakers (steps a & b above) also ends up in a tie, then the third tie-breaker can be applied as follows:

	TEAM 1	TEAM 2
Ball 6	1	1
Ball 5	2	2
Ball 4	6	4
Ball 3	4	6
Ball 2	1	W
Ball 1	1	2



- ii. In this example both teams scored an equal number of runs from the 6th and 5th ball of their innings. However, team 1 scored 6 runs from its 4th ball while team 2 scored only 4 runs, so *team 1 is the winner*.

- **Players Code of Conduct**

1. Captains should make sure that their team plays with good conduct and help maintain sportive environment on the field.
2. Captains are required to manage their respective teams and avoid any arguments /discussions, Abusing umpires and fellow players on the ground during play.
3. Any unethical behavior and conduct breach could lead to team's disqualification.
4. Player's conduct, In the event of a player failing to comply with instructions by an umpire, or criticizing by word or action the decisions of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, and instruct the latter to take action.
5. Any abusive language used against HRCO or HRCO appointed umpires, could lead to the player's suspension from participating in any future HRCO activities.

- **Miscellaneous**

1. In case of incidents that occur during the game that is not mentioned in this document, on-field umpires of that particular game have authorization to enforce the rule for that GAME ONLY.
2. 5 penalty runs will be awarded to the batting side, in case of ball touching personal gear/drink bottles/any other external removable unusual/unnatural object that is not part of the ground or not supposed to be inside the boundary line. Fielding side is responsible for keeping the ground debris free.
3. Schedule is subject to change, depending on MACC games and ground availability.
4. Umpires can overturn their decision if realized faulty. In a situation the umpire has given a decision without knowing some new rule or what really happened, the umpire can recall the decision after discussion with the second umpire on field. Umpires decision is final.
5. When a batter is out caught, new batter shall come in at the end striker was, to face the next ball, regardless of whether batters crossed or not.
6. HRCO holds the authority to reschedule games if necessary.
7. Disposable plastic water bottles are banned at Temple ground.

- **Rescheduling of games**

No rescheduling allowed during group stage. In case of wash outs points will be split.



Code of Conduct & Spirit of Cricket

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of the Game.

HRCO will enforce this code of conduct for all players and participants.

Teams and Players violating the code of conduct will be subject to be terminated from the Tournament or the season based on the review after hearing concerns from all parties.

All participating members (Captains, Vice Captains, Team supporters) must always comply with below defined code of conduct:

1. Avoid any abusive action which that can cause harm to the game itself.
2. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the captains and team managers.
3. There are two Laws which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the captain.

Responsibility of captains:

- a. The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.
- b. Player's conduct, In the event of a player failing to comply with instructions by an umpire, or criticizing by word or action the decisions of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, and instruct the latter to take action.

Fair and unfair play:

- a. According to the Laws the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the captain to take action where required.
- b. The umpires are authorized to intervene in cases of:
 - ♣ Time wasting
 - ♣ Tampering with the ball
 - ♣ Any other action that they consider to be unfair
4. The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:
 - a. Your opponents, your own captain and team
 - b. The role of the umpires
 - c. The game's traditional values
5. It is against the Spirit of Game:
 - a. To dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture



- b. To direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire
- c. To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance:
 - ♣ To appeal knowing that the batsman is not out
 - ♣ To advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing
 - ♣ To distract an opponent by harassment.
- 6. **Violence:** There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.
- 7. **Safety:** All participating members must take care and handle their personal situations (physical & mental) and take outmost care on the field.
- 8. Any intentional damage/loss caused by any willful act of participant(s) will be addressed with necessary law enforcement intervention.
- 9. Players must carry their health insurance in event of personal injuries/sports injuries. Captains must ensure that all their players are well covered. HRCO will not verify the proof of insurance of players.
- 10. Players Captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.



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NOTE:

The captains are responsible to make sure that umpire's decision is respected and no foul behavior is displayed by any player towards umpires or other players.

Also, please keep the ground clean. Both teams playing the last game of the day are responsible to empty the trash cans.

Dumpsters are located by kids park.

Thank you.

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