

PACQUENAC TENNIS CLUB
2026 FOUNDERS TOURNAMENT RULES

There are new tournament rules for 2026. As a requirement for all participants, it is incumbent on you to familiarize yourself with and understand the rules.

1. The tournaments consist of a ladder phase and a single-elimination (play-off) phase.
2. There will be 5 divisions.

Women's Singles

Women's Doubles

Mixed Doubles

Men's Singles

Men's Doubles

In order to have a ladder phase 6 participants must sign up.

If 6 participants do not sign up, there will only be an elimination phase for that division.

In addition if there is no ladder phase, the elimination phase for that category may start earlier than dates included in this document.

2026 Founders tournament rules

- A. Please send an email to ptctournament@gmail.com if you would like to participate.
- B. The sign up for the Founders Tournament begins now and ends on Sunday, June 7. The ladder phase will commence on June 8. All participants must register with the Tournament Committee. Last year's teams and participants must reconfirm that they are interested in playing this year. In order to participate, you must notify us ptctournament@gmail.com by June 8 of your intent to play. Anyone joining the tournament after June 8 will be placed at the bottom of the ladder.
- C. To encourage maximum amount of play, the initial ladder positions will be assigned by the Tournament Committee. Players are responsible for contacting opponents to schedule and try play matches no later than the recommended dates set forth in paragraph M. Players who do not respond to scheduling requests will be subject to default, so please respond to your opponent promptly by phone, text or email, even if away on vacation. Since our club consists of both working and non-working members, players shall use best efforts to schedule matches at times acceptable to both players within the week of the challenge. If players cannot agree on a date and time, contact your tournament coordinators.

immediately. The tournament committee will do their best to reasonably accommodate both opponents and reserves the right to specify the date and time of the match or default a player/team to maintain the overall tournament schedule.

- D. Players should schedule matches well before deadlines, as summer vacations and rainy weather can cause delays. Be proactive and contact your opponent early. If a scheduled match is canceled because of inclement weather, both players must agree on a new time.
- E. In the ladder phase you and/or your team can challenge player(s) in any position.
- F. A challenger may challenge the same team more than once, but the challenged team is under no obligation to accept more than two challenges from the same team. It is recommended to play three matches against different opponents.
- G. A challengee can refuse/reject a challenger's proposed match date only one time for whatever reason and must arrange for an alternative date acceptable to both parties within a week. Thereafter, if there is such a refusal or rejection by challengee, it is considered forfeiture, and the challenger will be considered the winner and ladder positions will be changed. The challenger should also be available for alternate dates within that week and can only refuse/reject alternate date by challengee once. If an impasse is reached, the appropriate tournament coordinator should be contacted for resolution
- H. If the higher-ranking participant wins the ladder match, there is no change in standings. If the challenger wins the ladder match, he/she moves to the spot previously occupied by challenged participant, and the challenged participant moves down one from its original spot.
- I. The challenger has the duty to report scheduled matches to the Tournament Committee via email to ptctournament@gmail.com.
- J. The winner has the absolute duty to report results to the Tournament Committee via to email ptctournament@gmail.com.
- K. You and/or your team must try to complete 3 matches in the ladder phase for each and every division in which you participate in order to qualify for the elimination-phase (play-offs). Try to adhere to the below deadlines/dates.

1st match by June 28

2nd match by July 26

3rd match by August 19. Any issues complying with required matches and deadlines, contact your Division coordinator.

- L. After the ladder-phase, you will be entered in the elimination phase of the playoffs.
- M. For 2026, the elimination phase begins August 20, 2026. Matches will be

scheduled and completed by the participants within specified-date ranges as follows:

N. Elimination-Phase Schedules:

- a. Women's Singles August 20 – October 11
- b. Women's Doubles August 20 - October 18
- c. Mixed Doubles August 20 – October 18
- d. Men's Singles August 20 – October 11
- e. Men's Doubles August 20 – October 18

Interim deadlines for each round will be posted and participants notified.

- O. Best of three (3) sets and USTA play and scoring rules apply. During both the ladder and elimination phases a 10-point tie breaker in lieu of third set is mandatory.
- P. Both participants are to bring a new can of USTA certified soft-court tennis balls to the match. The winners get the unused new can, and the loser retains the used balls.
- Q. As a matter of courtesy to other players at the Club and to avoid unnecessary court congestion, it is highly advisable that you play your matches during “off-peak” time of the day (from 12:00 pm to 4:00pm). Please send an email to ptctournament@gmail.com when you set up your matches to ensure that no more than 2 courts will be utilized for matches at any given time.
- R. Please do not extend play as social tennis once match is completed if others are waiting for a court.
- S. Tournament Committee reserves the right to modify any of the above as it deems necessary and proper. If any questions, concerns, conflicts or disagreements arise during play, please call or text Deepa Mathew (201-264-444) or Walter Trog (929-431-2313) immediately.

Tournament Committee and coordinators

Women's Singles – Steve Harvey, Cathy Dondiego

Women's Doubles – Cathy Dondiego, Deepa

Mixed Doubles – Deepa Mathew, Jeff Regan

Men's Singles – Jeff Regan, Mark Kass

Men's Doubles – Walter Trog, Steve Harvey

Revisions

06/29/2026 – Remove Rules - A match must, without exception, be completed before the next one can be arranged and/or scheduled & Each participant may challenge any position one time before June 28

06/29/2026 – Modified Rule - “In the ladder phase you and/or your team can challenge up to 3 positions on the ladder above your current position. Exception – Positions 1 and 2 can challenge 1 or 2 positions below their current position” to In the ladder phase you and/or your team can challenge player(s) in any position.

6/10/2026 – Modified Sections C, I, R. Section M added action required if player/team cannot comply with requirements.

6/2/2026 - Modified Section C to handle opponents who do not respond

6/2/2026 - Modified Section D for weather related rescheduling

6/2/2026 - Modified Section H recommending playing against different opponents

6/2/2026 - Modified Section M with suggested deadlines