

**PACQUENAC TENNIS CLUB**  
**2025 FOUNDERS TOURNAMENT RULES**

**There are new tournament rules for 2025. 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

**Women's Singles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles 2025 Founders tournament rules only**

- A. Please send an email to [ptctournament@gmail.com](mailto:ptctournament@gmail.com) if you would like to participate.
- B. The sign up for the Founders Tournament begins now and ends on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. The ladder phase will commence on May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- C. To encourage maximum amount of play, the initial ladder positions will be randomly selected.
- D. All participants must register with the Tournament Committee. Last year's teams and participants should confirm that they are interested in playing this year. In order to participate, you must notify us [ptctournament@gmail.com](mailto:ptctournament@gmail.com) by May 16 of your intent to play. If any changes after May 16, you will be placed at the bottom of ladder
- E. You arrange and play your own matches at your own convenience throughout the ladder phase. However, a match must, without exception, be completed before the next one can be arranged and/or scheduled.
- F. In the ladder phase, you and/or your team can challenge any position on the ladder above your current position,
- G. 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.
- H. A challengee can refuse/reject a challenger's proposed match date only one (1) 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

the challengee, it is considered forfeiture and the challenger will be considered the winner and ladder positions will be changed.

- I. 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.
- J. The challenger has the duty to report scheduled matches to the Tournament Committee via email to [ptctournament@gmail.com](mailto:ptctournament@gmail.com).
- K. The winner has the absolute duty to report results to the Tournament Committee via email [ptctournament@gmail.com](mailto:ptctournament@gmail.com).
- L. You and/or your team must, without exception, 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). Also, you must have completed matches with strict adherence to the below deadlines/dates in order to continue in ladder-phase and be eligible for playoffs.

1st match by June 22

2nd match by July 13

3rd match by August 10

- M. After the ladder-phase, you will be entered in the elimination phase of the playoffs.
- N. For 2025, the elimination phase begins August 11, 2025. Matches will be scheduled and completed by the participants within specified-date ranges as follows:
- O. Elimination-Phase Schedules:
  - a. Women's Singles August 11 – October 14
  - b. Women's Doubles August 11 - October 14
  - c. Mixed Doubles August 11 – October 14
- P. Best of three (3) sets and USTA play and scoring rules apply. During the ladder phase a 10-point tie breaker in lieu of third set is mandatory. In the elimination phase a standard third set may be played if all parties agree prior to start of the match.
- Q. Both participants are to bring a new can of soft-court tennis balls to the match. The winners get the unused new can, and the loser retains the used balls.
- R. 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](mailto: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.
- S. Please do not extend play as social tennis once match is completed if others are waiting for a court.

- T. 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 Kathy Sheldon (973-809-2651) or Joanne Nasto (973-886-8165) immediately.

### **Men's Singles and Doubles 2025 Founders tournament rules only**

**There are new men's tournament rules for 2025. Please understand these rules before signing up for tournament(s). If you have any questions, please contact the tennis committee.**

Both men's tournaments consist of a ladder phase and a single elimination playoff phase.

1. All participants must register with the Tournament Committee in order to play in these tournaments. An e-mail message expressing your desire to participate with name(s) of participant(s) must be sent to the tournament committee – [ptctournament@gmail.com](mailto:ptctournament@gmail.com).
2. The **sign up** for the Men's Founders Doubles and Singles Tournament begins now and ends on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. The ladder phase will commence on May 17<sup>th</sup>. All participants should confirm that they are interested in playing in the tournament. In order to participate, you must notify committee via email by May 16<sup>th</sup> of your intent to play. Any new team that wants to play in the tournament after the deadline will be placed at the bottom of the ladder. If any changes in doubles partners comes after May 16<sup>th</sup>, this will be considered a new team and the team will be placed at the bottom of ladder. Late coming players/teams will also be required to play one match during ladder phase play in order to qualify for elimination phase. Depending on the number of participants we have in these tournaments, please indicate if you/your team would like to participate in a "B" level tournament.

#### **a) Men's Doubles Tournament**

##### **1. Elimination phase**

The first round and second round of Men's elimination phase **men's doubles** tournament will be played over a single weekend on **Saturday, Aug. 2 - Sunday, Aug. 3**. The rain date is August 9-10. Seedings will be based on the final seed positions of the ladder phase described below.

In order for you to participate in the men's doubles elimination phase of the tournament, please make sure your calendar is clear before you sign up, to ensure you are available

to play the aforementioned weekend dates. The final championship match will be played within one week of the last semi-final match. If your team is unable to play in the elimination phase weekend, your team will forfeit their match. Slight flexibility (by +- one day) may be allowed if committee deems it still to be fair to other teams in tournament and your opponent team agrees.

<b>Men's Doubles elimination tournament preliminary dates and times example</b>						
Quarter-final	Semifinal		Final		Semifinal	Quarter-final
<b>Saturday 2-Aug-25</b>	<b>Sunday 3-Aug-25</b>		<b>Saturday 9-Aug-25</b>		<b>Sunday 3-Aug-25</b>	<b>Saturday 2-Aug-25</b>
Team 1						Team 2
<b>10:00 AM Court 2</b>	Winner QF 1				Winner QF 2	<b>4:00 PM Court 3</b>
Team 8						Team 7
	<b>10:00 AM Court 2</b>	Winner SF 1	<b>10:00 AM Court 2</b>	Winner SF 2	<b>4:00 PM Court 3</b>	
Team 4						Team 3
<b>12:00 PM Court 3</b>	Winner QF 4				Winner QF 3	<b>2:00 PM Court 2</b>
Team 5						Team 6

Match times can be adjusted within reason and with agreement of both teams.

## **2. Men's Doubles Ladder phase**

- a) The ladder phase of the tournament determines seedings of the elimination phase of the tournament mentioned above.
- b) The initial ladder seed positions will be selected by tournament committee.
- c) All players/teams will arrange their own matches at their convenience throughout the ladder phase, however all initial challenge email communication must be registered via email to [ptctournament@gmail.com](mailto:ptctournament@gmail.com). Challengees must respond to

Challengers within two days – ladder match must be set up within **one week** of the initial communication.

- d) Challenge match communications for men's tournaments must copy tournament committee at [ptctournament@gmail.com](mailto:ptctournament@gmail.com) for it to be a valid challenge.
- e) Your team can challenge within **three** positions on the ladder above your current position. Teams in the #1 or #2 seed positions can challenge down if they would like.
- f) An officially scheduled match must be completed before the next one can be arranged and/or scheduled.
- g) A challenger may challenge the same team/player (with subsequent completed match) up to two times, but the challenged team is under no obligation to accept more than two challenges from the same team.
- 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 their original spot.
- i) The team/player being challenged may only refuse/reject a challenger's proposed match date (1) time for whatever reason and must immediately arrange for an alternative date acceptable to both parties within two days. Inaction by the player being challenged will be considered a forfeiture and the challenger will be considered the winner. Ladder positions will then be changed accordingly. Having said that, the challenger must also be willing to accept challengee's proposed alternate date(s) within that week. Tournament committee should be notified of any disputes or impasses.
- j) If one of the players/teams cannot play an officially scheduled match for whatever reason, the player/team who cannot play, forfeits the match and ladder positions will be adjusted appropriately. This information will be registered in the founder's tournament results. The player/team who forfeited the match can then challenge the other team/player at their convenience.
- k) The challenger has the duty to report agreed, scheduled ladder match date/time to the Tournament Committee via email.
- l) The winner has the duty to report results to the Tournament Committee via email as soon as possible, within 24 hours.
- m) Ladder phase of doubles tournament will end on Sunday, July 27. After the ladder-phase, the elimination phase/playoffs will begin as described above.

## **b) Men's Singles Tournament**

### **1. Elimination phase**

- a. Men's Singles Elimination first round begins- **Saturday, June 28**
- b. Men's Singles Elimination Second round / Semi-final - **Saturday, July 5** – all semi-final matches must be played by July 9

In order for you to participate in the men's singles elimination phase of the tournament, please make sure your calendar is clear for those dates before you sign up, to ensure you are available to play. The final championship match will be played within one week of the last semi-final match. If you are unable to play in the elimination phase dates, you will forfeit your match. Slight flexibility (by +- one day) may be allowed if committee deems it still to be fair to other players in tournament and your opponent agrees.

<b>Men's Singles elimination tournament preliminary dates and times example</b>						
Quarter-final	Semifinal		Final		Semifinal	Quarter-final
<b>Saturday 28-June-25</b>	<b>Saturday 5-July-25</b>		<b>Saturday 12-July-25</b>		<b>Saturday 5-July-25</b>	<b>Saturday 28-June-25</b>
Player 1						Player 2
<b>08:00 AM Court 2</b>	Winner QF 1				Winner QF 2	<b>2:00 PM Court 3</b>
Player 8						Player 7
	<b>10:00 AM Court 2</b>	Winner SF 1	<b>10:00 AM Court 2</b>	Winner SF 2	<b>4:00 PM Court 3</b>	
Player 4						Player 3
<b>10:00 AM Court 3</b>	Winner QF 4				Winner QF 3	<b>12:00 PM Court 2</b>
Player 5						Player 6

Match times can be adjusted within reason and with agreement of both players.

## 2. Men's Singles Ladder phase

- a) Same Ladder Phase rules as mentioned above in Men's Doubles tournament.
- b) **Ladder phase of tournament will end on Wednesday, June 25.** After the ladder-phase, the elimination phase/playoffs will begin as described above.

## **General rules of tournament play**

- a) Each match will be best of three (3) sets. USTA play and scoring rules apply. During the ladder phase a 10-point tie breaker in lieu of third set is mandatory. In the elimination phase a standard third set may be played if both parties agree prior to start of the match.
- b) Both participants must bring a new can of [USTA approved](#), soft-court tennis balls to the match. The winners get the unused new can, and the loser retains the used balls.
- c) 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 Tournament committee. Please do not extend play as social tennis once match is completed if others are waiting for a court.
- d) Tournament Committee reserves the right to modify any of the rules above as it deems necessary.
- e) If any questions, concerns, conflicts or disagreements arise during play, please call or text Walter Trog (929-431-2313) for men’s tournaments or Kathy Sheldon (973-809-2651)/Joanne Nasto (973-886-8165) for Women’s tournament and mixed doubles tournaments immediately.

## **Tournament Committee**

Kathy Sheldon

Deepa Mathew

Joanne Nasto

Walter Trog