

Ipplepen Tennis Club Ladder

How the ladder works

The object of a tennis ladder is to make your way as close to the top as you can. You do this by challenging players above you to a match; if you win, you will gain enough points to take their place on the ladder and they will fall to the place below you. Both players, however, score points for the individual games they won within the set. A couple of examples might help:

1) You are the lower ranked player B on 5 points and you **lose** to player A (on 10 points). The score in the set was 8 – 0. You will stay on 5 points and your position on the ladder will be unchanged. Player A, however, will collect 17 points for the victory, which is the maximum points available to be awarded in a set ($9+8=17$). Player A's total will be 27 points ($10+17=27$) after the match and may leap-frog people above them.

2) You are the higher ranked player A (on 10 points) and you **lose** to player B who was on 9 points. The score in your match was 8-9 after a tie-break.

Player A gets 8 points for the games they won = leaving them with 18 points altogether.

Player B gets 9 points for the games they won ($17-8=9$), plus the ten points that player A had prior to the match = leaving Player B with 19 points, thus leapfrogging Player A on the ladder.

Although the winning player will always move or stay ahead of the loser, the scoring system does offer the incentive to play matches, as points can be accumulated even with a string of losses. But don't worry too much about all this – the software will work it out!

How to arrange a match

On the ladder page, simply click the green **Challenge** button next to the person's name. This will generate an email to be sent to the challenged player and the match can be arranged through the messaging system on the website, or by phone if that information is provided. Declining a challenge will incur a one-point penalty. If you accept a challenge, we do ask that the match be played within 14 days.

After playing a particular opponent, you must play two intervening matches before the first opponent can be played again.

Match Rules

Matches are to be single Pro-sets, to be played first to eight with a two game advantage. Example scores might be 8 – 0, 8 – 6, 9 – 7, or 9 – 8 (after a tiebreak). Tie-breaks are played at 8 – 8 and are the first to 12 points with a two point advantage.

In every other respect, normal tennis rules apply.

Entering a result

The convention is for the winning player to enter the result after the match, although the software allows for either party to do so. If you need to enter the result of a match that has not been through the challenge process of the website, you can either go through the motions of the challenge after the match, or ask the Administrator **Nick Jordan** to enter the result for you.

If you need a break...

...either for a holiday or because of injury, you can mark yourself as unavailable. Other players will not be able to challenge you during this period. To do this, go to the specific ladder you compete in, and click on 'Dashboard' on the right-hand side of the screen. Scroll down to set the dates of unavailability.

Anything else?

Most of this information is available on the **Details** or **FAQs** sections of the Ladder. If you have any other queries please contact **Nick Jordan**