

Timed Match Procedure Q&A

Q. If someone is ahead by 2 points in a tiebreaker at the buzzer, do they win the tiebreak?

A. Yes. However, any point in progress when the buzzer sounds should be played to completion.

Q. If, after following the timed Match procedure, only one set has been played, who wins the Match?

A. The winner of the Match is the Team that won the first set.

Q. If, after following the timed Match procedure, one set has been played and the second set ends in a tie, who wins the Match?

A. The winner of the Match is the Team that won the first set.

Q. If we start a Match tiebreak prior to the final 20 minutes of the Match, what do we do when we reach the last 20 minutes?

A. Continue the Match tiebreak using the remainder of the time available. Follow the procedure in item “d” of the Timed Match Procedure.

Q. If we are in a tiebreak for the second set when the 20 minute rule goes into effect, what do we do?

A. Complete the second set tiebreak and refer to items “c” and “d” of the Timed Match Procedure.

Q. If we conclude our first set with fewer than 20 minutes remaining, what do we do?

A. Refer to item “b” of the timed match procedure and play a tiebreak for the second set (first to 7 by a margin of 2). If the completion of the set tiebreak results in split sets, play a match tiebreak (first to 10 by a margin of 2) to determine the Match winner.

Q. How do we enter scores for an incomplete Match tiebreak for the third set (meaning neither team is ahead by a margin of at least 2 points)?

A. Enter scores as played for the first 2 sets. Do not enter a score for the third set (Match tiebreak).

Q. Does item “d” of the timed match procedure mean that once we are in the final 20 minutes of the match that we stop a tiebreak whenever one Team is ahead by 2 points?

A. No, it does not. Item “d” indicates that if time for the Match runs out and the buzzer sounds, the Team ahead by 2 points will win the set. It does not mean that if a Team is ahead by 2 points with 15 minutes remaining that the match is over. Continue play until the buzzer sounds or the tiebreak has been completed.

Q. How did you determine that the Visiting Team would get the win in the standings in the case of a tie?

A. TennisLink will not allow a tied match to be entered on a score card. For the sake of score entry, the decision was made to award the win to the Visiting Team because the Home Team was not able to provide time for the completion of the Match. However, this “win” will not be binding if it is shown to affect League winners at the end of the season. In such cases, standings will be manually adjusted to reflect a tie.

Q. Do these rules apply to HARD STOP clubs only?

A. Most clubs have a two-hour time limit for Matches; however, depending on time of day of the Match or activity at the facility, a Match may be allowed to go slightly beyond the two-hour time limit in order for the Match to be completed. Visiting Players should be informed by the Home Captain how quickly the Players need to vacate the courts at the end of the Match time. This timing information MUST be the same for ALL courts and cannot change once Players begin their matches.