

## PLAY-OFF PROCEDURES and GENERAL INFORMATION

### Who Goes to Play-Off Rounds and Play-Off Format:

**Flights with one (1) Division:** The top four teams compete. The first place team plays the fourth place team and the second and third place teams play. The winners of these two matches play for the Championship.

**Flights with two (2) Divisions:** The top two teams in each division compete (4 teams). The Division 1 winner plays the Division 2 runner-up; the Division 2 winner plays the Division 1 runner-up. The winners of these two matches play for the Championship.

**Flights with three (3) Divisions:** The top two teams in each division automatically make the play-offs (6 teams); the two third place teams with the best win/loss percentage also go to the play-offs to give a total of 8 teams. Pairings are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round:                      Pair 1 - Division 1 winner vs. Division 3 runner-up  
   Pair 2 - Division 2 winner vs. Third place team with best record  
   Pair 3 - Division 3 winner vs. Third place team with second best record  
   Pair 4 - Division 2 runner-up vs. Division 1 runner-up
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Round:                      Pair 1 and Pair 2 winners play each other  
   Pair 3 and Pair 4 winners play each other
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Round:                      Winners compete in finals

**Flights with four (4) Divisions:** The top two teams in each division compete (8 teams)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round:                      Pair 1 - Division 1 winner vs. Division 3 runner-up  
   Pair 2 - Division 2 winner vs. Division 4 runner-up  
   Pair 3 - Division 3 winner vs. Division 1 runner-up  
   Pair 4 - Division 4 winner vs. Division 2 runner-up
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Rounds:              Same as flight with 3 Divisions above

**Flights with five (5) Divisions:** The top two teams in each division compete (10 teams)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round:    Pair 1 - Division 4 runner-up vs. Division 3 runner-up              3<sup>rd</sup> Round:    Pair 3 winner vs. Pair 5 winner  
   Pair 2 - Division 2 runner-up vs. Division 1 runner-up              Pair 4 winner vs. Pair 6 winner
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Round:    Pair 3 - Pair 1 winner vs. Division 2 winner                              4<sup>th</sup> Round:    Winners compete in finals  
   Pair 4 - Pair 2 winner vs. Division 3 winner  
   Pair 5 - Division 1 winner vs. Division 5 winner  
   Pair 6 - Division 4 winner vs. Division 5 runner-up

**Flights with six (6) Divisions:** Coordinators will arrange playoffs as follows::

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#### Section A

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round:    Pair 1 - Div. 1 winner vs. Div. 3 runner-up  
   Pair 2 - Div. 2 winner vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> place team with  
   best record in the entire level/flight  
   Pair 3 - Div. 3 winner vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> place team with  
   3<sup>rd</sup> best record in the entire level/flight  
   Pair 4 - Div. 2 runner-up vs. Div. 1 runner-up
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Round:    Pair 1 and Pair 2 winners play each other  
   Pair 3 and Pair 4 winners play each other
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Round:    Second round winners play
- 4<sup>th</sup> Round:    Section A winner vs. Section B winner

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#### Section B

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round:    Pair 1 - Div. 4 winner vs. Div. 6 runner-up  
   Pair 2 - Div. 5 winner vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> place team with  
   2<sup>nd</sup> best record in the entire level/flight  
   Pair 3 - Div. 6 winner vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> place team with  
   4<sup>th</sup> best record in the entire level/flight  
   Pair 4 - Div. 5 runner-up vs. Div. 4 runner-up
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Round:    Pair 1 and Pair 2 winners play each other  
   Pair 3 and Pair 4 winners play each other
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Round:    Second round winners play
- 4<sup>th</sup> Round:    Section A winner vs. Section B winner

**Flights with seven (7) Divisions:** Coordinators will arrange play-offs as follows:

**Section A**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round: Pair 1 – Div. 1 winner vs. Div. 3 runner-up  
Pair 2 – Div. 2 winner vs. Div. 4 runner-up  
Pair 3 – Div. 3 winner vs. Div. 1 runner-up  
Pair 4 – Div. 4 winner vs. Div. 2 runner-up
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Round: Pair 1 and Pair 2 winners play each other  
Pair 3 and Pair 4 winners play each other
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Round: Second round winners play
- 4<sup>th</sup> Round: Winner of 3<sup>rd</sup> round plays winner of Section B in City Finals

**Section B**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round: Pair 1 – Div. 5 winner vs. Div. 7 runner-up  
Pair 2 – Div. 6 winner vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> place team with best record in the entire level/flight  
Pair 3 – Div. 7 winner vs 3<sup>rd</sup> place team with 2<sup>nd</sup> best record in the entire level/flight  
Pair 4 – Div. 6 runner-up vs. Div. 5 runner-up
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Round: Pair 1 and Pair 2 winners play each other  
Pair 3 and Pair 4 winners play each other
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Round: Second round winners play
- 4<sup>th</sup> Round: Winner of 3<sup>rd</sup> round plays winner of Section A in City Finals

**Flights with eight (8) Divisions:**

**Divisions 1, 2, 3, & 4**

**1<sup>st</sup> Round:**

- Pair 1 Division 1 winner vs. Division 3 runner-up  
Pair 2 Division 2 winner vs. Division 4 runner-up  
Pair 3 Division 3 winner vs. Division 1 runner-up  
Pair 4 Division 4 winner vs. Division 2 runner-up

**2<sup>nd</sup> Round:**

- Pair 1 winner vs. Pair 2 winner  
Pair 3 winner vs. Pair 4 winner

**Semi-Finals:**

- Round 2 winners meet: winner advancing to the finals vs.  
Division 5, 6, 7, & 8 semi-final winner

**Divisions 5, 6, 7, & 8**

**1<sup>st</sup> Round:**

- Pair 1 Division 5 winner vs. Division 7 runner-up  
Pair 2 Division 6 winner vs. Division 8 runner-up  
Pair 3 Division 7 winner vs. Division 5 runner-up  
Pair 4 Division 8 winner vs. Division 6 runner-up

**2<sup>nd</sup> Round:**

- Pair 1 winner vs. Pair 2 winner  
Pair 3 winner vs. Pair 4 winner

**Semi-Finals:**

- Round 2 winners meet: winner advancing to the finals vs.  
Division 1, 2, 3, & 4 semi-final winner

**For all Play-Off Rounds:**

The Division Winner will have home court advantage over a second place team; a second place team will have home court advantage over a third place team. In the event two division winners are playing, the team with the best regular season record is the home team. The same procedure holds for two second place teams, or two third place teams playing - the team with the best regular season record will have home court advantage.

**Ties:**

Ties will be broken in the following manner in determining which team(s) make the play-offs:

- A. In the event of a two-way tie, the team winning the regular season dual meet is the winner and goes to the play-offs.
- B. In the event of a multiple tie, ALTA will determine play-off teams as follows:
1. Head to head competition will be considered first. If one team has beaten the others during the regular season it will be declared the winner and go to the play-offs.
  2. If the tied teams have split regular season meets, ALTA will determine, for each team, the percentage of sets won to sets played for the regular season. These percentages taken to three decimal places will be used to determine position. The higher percentage will determine 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, etc. to break the tie.
  3. In the event teams are still tied after exercising option #2 above, ALTA will determine for each team the percentage of games won to games played for the regular season. These percentages, taken to three decimal places, will be used to determine positions. The higher percentage will determine 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, etc. to break the tie.
  4. In the unlikely event that there is still a tie, the system will randomly decide positions.
- Each successive tiebreak will be used only if the preceding one(s) fail to break the tie.

**Note:** The preceding tiebreak procedure will also be used to break any ties encountered during the play-offs except for Senior 4-line leagues—Playoff rules for Senior Leagues are listed in the General Rules Adult Leagues.

**Other Play-Off Information:**

For all play-off rounds, the flight level coordinator must approve line-ups before the match is played.  
City Finals **must** be played in normal rotation, positions 1-5—see Senior League Rules for exceptions.

For Flights of 3 or 6 Divisions, third place teams should **NOT** play teams from their own division in the first round. If this situation occurs, exchange positioning of the third place teams.

For Flights of 6 or 7 Divisions, a third place team from one half of the draw may qualify to be included in the draw for the other half of the draw. Check with that coordinator to determine 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams with the best records for the entire level/flight.