



St George & Sutherland Shire Table Tennis Association

(INAUGURATED 1962)

Changes to the Format of the 2017 Winter Team Pennants

I would like to thank everyone for playing in our Team Pennants and making this one of the best Team Events in Sydney. As a result of the popularity of the Pennants, we have to make some small changes to our format. This is mainly driven by the limitation of space at Hurstville. There are plans to add two more basketball courts to the Centre but, until then, we have to make the best of what we have.

The Committee believes that by making these changes, it will strengthen the standard of play in all grades, improve competition and make the Team Pennants much stronger.

THE NEW FORMAT

Maximum number of teams: 36

Maximum number of teams in each grade: 9

Maximum number of tables: 16

The Committee will be reviewing both Teams' & Players' performances, using individual player's statistics from the recent competition and Ratings Central.

We would then consider moving several teams and a number of lower rated A Grade players down to B Grade. This will in turn cause a flow-on effect down the Grades, with lower performing Teams/Players in B Grade moving to C Grade and lower performing Teams/Players in C Grade moving to D Grade.

In the same way, we would consider moving better performing Teams/Players from lower grades upwards to higher grades. We would also look at moving players around within a Grade, to improve and equalise all teams within that Grade, subject to everyone's approval.

The changes are subject to the number of teams registering for the 2017 Winter Team Pennants.

Everyone is encouraged to enter their teams or enter as individuals as soon as possible.

A few points to think about:-

- Good players enjoy playing against other good players who can test their skills.
- It is always best for all players when players play in teams/grades with players with comparable skills to their own.
- A player can improve their Table Tennis faster if they train and are coached and play with players of skills comparable to their own, so they can implement what they have learnt in training.
- If, on the other hand, a novice (weaker player) is playing in a higher grade, it makes it hard to implement the skills the novice has learnt.

This makes for more enjoyable Table Tennis for everyone.

Kind Regards Our Committee.