

COOLHURST TENNIS LADDER

Welcome!

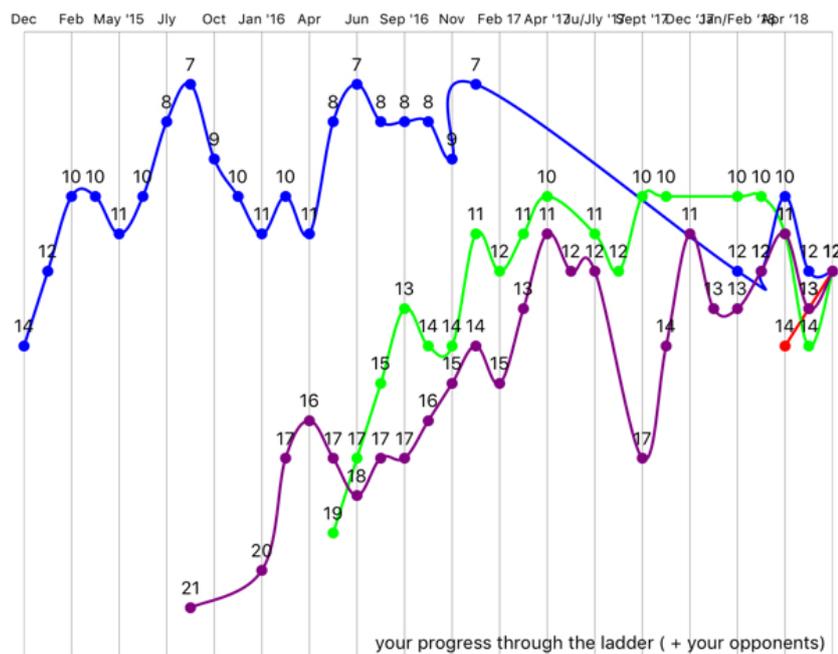
The ladder is a fun way of getting opponents for 4 singles matches arranged each month. As you progress up (or down or sideways!) you'll get to meet different players and hopefully have enjoyable matches.

You should receive an email in the first 2 or 3 days of the month. If you don't, email tennisladdercoolhurst@gmail.com in case the organiser doesn't have your correct email.

Most ladders last one calendar month, but there are four longer ladders (6 or 7 weeks) to cover summer and Christmas:

- June – mid-July (also covers the busy club tournament period)
- mid-July – end August
- December – mid-January
- mid- January – end February

The email will tell you which ladder you're in, and who your opponents for the month are. You'll also see a graph that shows how your opponents (and you) have fared in the ladder over previous months, so you can see who's on the way up, etc.



If you've played people in the ladder before, you'll also see your previous scores (your "head to head")

You are free to get in touch by email, text or phone. Also, to make things easy, there's a "Group Email" button on the email. Tap it to send an email to all your opponents in one go (with the email addresses filled in for you). You can tell them when you're available and/or ask them when they are.

A month can go by quickly, and some people are slow to reply, so please do get started as soon as possible, and please answer ladder emails promptly - your opponents want to play their matches! If you're not sure when you can play: tell them when they can expect to hear from you – don't leave them waiting!

Do start arrangement matches early! If you don't play at least 2 matches you'll be removed from the next ladder (see rules below)

Do answer emails promptly, even just to say when you'll be ready to arrange your game

Do offer specific dates & times as much as possible, otherwise the emails can go on and on.

If the emails fail to get a response, **do** try again / send texts / try calling.

If you know you're going to be busy for a big stretch of the month **do** let your opponents know as soon as possible.

If you've agreed to share the cost of a court booking, **do** repay your share promptly, don't wait to be asked!

If you know you just won't have time to play your matches in the following month, **do** inform the organiser **before the end of the current ladder** so that you can drop out of the ladder temporarily. **You can then return without losing your position.**

Please do this if you are going to be unavailable for more than half the ladder.

Don't just sit back and wait for others to get in touch!

Q & A:

"I won my last ladder and yet this month I'm still in the same league number. How come? Referee!"

This happens when the ladder is **expanding** month by month and can affect everyone:

1. Look at the "**Last ladder**" column. You'll see that for this ladder you are **above** the people you beat last ladder, and **below** those who beat you. For example, if you were first in league 15 last month, it should say "15 (1st)" in that column. All your competitors from the last ladder who are still in the this month should be positioned **below** you this month.

That's the most important thing... it's all relative

2. Take a look for players marked with a § = re-joiner or a ¶ = new to the ladder. Newcomers and returners need to be slotted in at an appropriate level. Should you wish to temporarily leave the ladder due to being busy or injured, *you too* will wish to return at more or less the same place in the ladder as where you left it.

Also, don't just look at your league. There may be many returning players **above you** in this ladder. They all "**push**" you down. That's just the way it works.

But are you getting good games? If so, that's what it's all about (if not, then sorry!)

And finally this is all because the ladder is expanding at the moment. Once winter is upon us, the ladder will start contracting, and you may find you go up more quickly than you expect (and I somehow doubt anyone will be getting in touch to complain about that!)

Above all, enjoy your games!

Peter Baum
Ladder organizer

Version 5 - November 2018

COOLHURST TENNIS LADDER RULES AND SCORING SYSTEM

1. General

- 1.1 Matches are of one set only – the first to 8 games wins with a tie-break at 7-all. To see how to score your match, see the table at the bottom.
- 1.2 Points are to be written on the on the board in the clubhouse. You are responsible for making sure your own points are written up clearly. Only scores written on the board will be counted.
- 1.3 At the end of each league period, the total scores for each player are aggregated and new positions calculated.
- 1.4 In the event of a draw between two players: Promotion will go to the winner of the two; If they have not played, promotion will go to the player with the most wins, or if equal, the least number of games conceded.

2. Scoring

2.2 The following describes the circumstances whereby a player can receive a “walkover” (score of 6–0 in points, not games) when a match is not played. **Do remember though: the ladder is about playing**, it’s always better to play than not to play. And if you play, hopefully you’ll win 10 points!

A score of 6-0 **may** be entered against a player who....

- 2.2.1 fails to turn up or is more than 15 minutes late
- 2.2.2 hasn’t responded to repeated contact via phone/text and email
- 2.2.3 has ruled themselves unavailable for more than half of the duration of the ladder and a game cannot be arranged.
- 2.2.4 Has been uncooperative in suggesting dates / arranging games.
- 2.2.5 cancels within 48 hours of the match (for whatever reason) or the match is due to take place in the last week of the original ladder schedule. All other cancellations must be rescheduled. If the game the game cannot be rescheduled then no score should be entered for that game.

2.3 You are allowed to refuse playing on icy or slippery courts without forfeiting the set but you need to turn up for the match or agree with your opponent to postpone the match.

2.4 If a match has to be stopped due to the weather then it should be finished another time. If it can’t be rescheduled then both players receive their amount of games won in points, plus one.

2.5 If a player forfeits the game during play or the warm up for whatever reason (injury, having to leave, lack of racquet or complete physical and mental breakdown) then the uninjured player wins the match and takes maximum points. The injured player is awarded the number of games they won. E.g. if a player forfeits at 4-4 then the other player wins 8-4 and receives 10 points, the injured player gets 5 points.

3. General Rules

- 3.1 If you play fewer than two games you will be removed from the league.
- 3.2 If you do not play your games, you cannot enter for the next league period. Players can request to stay in the leagues if there is a good reason they cannot play; however, their score will be calculated as 0 and they will be demoted.
- 3.3 The league will be extended only in exceptional circumstances.

3.4 If you consistently fail to play your matches or do not return phone calls, you will not be re-entered.

3.5 If you think you are in a league that is too low for your ability, win it – and then complain!

3.6 Players who win a league cannot always be guaranteed promotion, but their relative position with respect to their previous month's opponents will have changed appropriately. That's because each month some players leave, some new players join, and other players return to the ladder after injury or absence. They all have to be fitted in at an appropriate level which may affect your new position. (see last page of this doc for a graphic explaining this)

3.7. Balls: if there is a dispute over which balls to use, then new or newer balls take precedence.

HOW TO SCORE:

Match score	Ladder points
8 - 0	10 - 1
8 - 1	10 - 2
8 - 2	10 - 3
8 - 3	10 - 4
8 - 4	10 - 5
8 - 5	10 - 6
8 - 6	10 - 7
8 - 7 i.e. tie break	10 - 8

How your position in the next ladder is calculated:

All scores are added up, then players are sorted by total number of points.

League Position	Result
1 st Place	+ 2 leagues
2 nd Place	+ 1 league
3 rd Place	Stay put
4 th Place	- 1 league
5 th Place	- 2 leagues

(there are slightly different rules for the top two leagues)

See next page for a graphic explanation, and why your position in the new ladder might not be what you expect.

LEAGUE 10

John	16
Chris	29
Mike	31
Sarah	38
Andrew	35

1 First, take a single league from last month (league 10), complete with the total scores of each player

LEAGUE 10

Sarah	38
Andrew	35
Mike	31
Chris	29
John	16

2 Now, lets sort them by total score

LEAGUE 10

Sarah	1
Andrew	2
Mike	3
Chris	4
John	5

3 Finally, let's just look at their position in the league

4 Now, we're ready to apply the main rules* about promotion and demotion between leagues, as follows:

- Top player (position 1) - goes UP 2 leagues
- position 2 - goes UP 1 league
- position 3 - STAYS in same league
- position 4 - goes DOWN 1 league
- position 5 - goes DOWN 2 leagues

* for the sharp-eyed among you, yes, there have to be special rules for leagues 1 and 2, since you can't go up 2 from either of these!

The player's positions within their new leagues are staggered, from position '5' for Sarah up in league 8, down to position '1' for John in league 12. This pattern is the same for all the other leagues, so that all positions are filled for all the leagues in the new ladder.

LEAGUE 8

Sarah	5

LEAGUE 9

Andrew	4

LEAGUE 10

Mike	3

LEAGUE 11

Chris	2

LEAGUE 12

John	1

HOWEVER, things are not that simple!

Because each month:

- **new players join**,
- **current players leave** for a variety of reasons including:
 - injury
 - they haven't played at least 2 matches
 - they know they are going to be too busy
- and **other players rejoin** - and need to be slotted in at (roughly) the league they were in previously

Just as a simple example, lets say a **player rejoins in league 7**. This will push down everyone below him or her, to give us this:

LEAGUE 8

LEAGUE 9

Sarah	1

So Sarah has ended up only one league up, and is still in the same league as Andrew, even though she beat him. But she's still shown **above** Andrew (and there will still be 3 players "between them"), **keeping their relative positions correct**.