

# TENNIS - HOW TO SCORE

A serve initiates the start of the game and the player serving must serve that entire game. In order to win the game, a player must win a set number of points. Each game consists of a series of points and a player must accumulate at least four points to win the game. The servers score is always announced first for the entire game with the following scoring system used as below;

- Points Won 0 = 00 (Love)
- Points Won 1 = 15
- Points Won 2 = 30
- Points Won 3 = 40
- Points Won 4 = Game (2 Point Advantage Required)

**Deuce** is the term expressed when the score in the game is at 40-40. In order to win the game a player must gain a two point advantage over his or her opponent. To win the game when the score is on deuce, a player must score two consecutive points (one immediately after the other) otherwise the score will revert back to deuce.

**Advantage** is called to the team that wins the first point after the score is on deuce (40-40). If your grade plays a one point deuce rule then the advantage system is not played in that set.

**Game point** can be announced when a team or player is on 40 and is ahead by either one to three points and only needs one more point to win that game.

## Did you know that...

...the **first point** of every game starts on the right side of the tennis court (called the deuce court). The next point is on the left side (called the Ad Court). Points then alternate from right to left until the game is completed.

...any player that hits a serve before it bounces loses that point automatically, therefore the serve must always bounce.

...any player that touches the net at any time during a point whilst the ball is in play also loses that point automatically.

... a **let** is called when a service ball touches the net and lands in the service box area. **That serve** is then replayed.

## Doubles Tennis Serving Rotation

In doubles the serve rotates from team to team, but instead of a two player rotation (singles) a four player rotation (doubles) is noted and maintained throughout the whole set. The order of serving is as follows:

**Game 1** - Team 1, player **A** serves. Game ends, teams change ends.

**Game 2** - Team 2, player **A** serves. Game ends, teams **do not** change.

**Game 3** - Team 1, player **B** serves. Game ends, teams change ends.

**Game 4** - Team 2, player **B** serves. Game ends, teams **do not** change.

**Tip 1** - Once the first **four** games are played, the match will continue in the **same serving order**.

**Tip 2** - At the end of each game call out the set score. This is how many games each team has won.

In the set or sets that follow, teams can decide which player will serve first for their respective team and establish a new rotation. In doubles the server can start anywhere in the area behind the baseline between the doubles line and the centre service mark.

## Option To Receive: Deuce Court or Advantage Court

Prior to game play, team mates must opt to receive serves in the right service court (deuce court) or left service court (advantage court). Once this is decided, each player on that team can only return serves from his or her designated service court for that entire set. Switching service courts to receive serves is not an option until the next set. Team mates can stand anywhere on their end of the court providing that the player expected to return the serve actually attempts or executes the return and not the other player. Typically, the receiver positions themselves on the baseline to receive serves and the team mate is positioned inside or along the service line.

