



TENNIS NEW ZEALAND • PO Box 301 346, Albany 0752 • P: 09 528 5428 • E: hotshots@tennis.kiwi

Age, courts, balls and racquets

	RED	ORANGE	GREEN
Age	5-8	8-10	9-12
Court Size/ Net height	10.97m – 12.8m long 4.88m – 6.1m wide 3m or 6m mini net 80cm high net	18m long 6.5m wide Net lowered to 80cm	Full size tennis court
Ball	Red ball 25% compression of yellow ball 8cm diameter	Orange ball 50% compression of yellow ball 6.7cm diameter	Green ball 75% compression of yellow ball 6.7cm diameter
Racquets	19" – 23" length	25" length and shorter	25" or 26" length

Rule adaptations

	RED	ORANGE	GREEN
Serve	Can be underarm with one bounce, no bounce or overarm	First serves must be overarm. Second serves can be underarm with or without a bounce	First serves must be overarm. Second serves can be underarm with or without a bounce
Scoring	Assistance (helpers or clothes pegs/cones) can be used		Players should keep their own score
Calling score	Encourage children to call out score before each point.		
Lines	Helpers can assist with calling the lines	Players are responsible for calling the lines and agreeing to replay point if necessary	Players are responsible for calling the lines and agreeing to replay point if necessary
Etiquette	Children shake hands after each match		



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Formats and rules

	RED	ORANGE	GREEN
Length of match	First to 7 points or up to 5 minute matches	First to 10 points or up to 7 minute matches	First to 4 games or up to 10 minute matches
Type of scoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1,2,3,4 etc. - Sudden death at 6-6 - Finish the point you're on when the 5-minute whistle goes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1,2,3,4 etc. - Sudden death at 9-9 - Finish the point you're on when the 7-minute whistle goes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15-0, 30-0, 40-0 etc. or 1,2,3,4 etc. - Sudden death deuce - Sudden death game at 3-3 (if playing first to 4 games) - Finish the point you're on when the 10 minute whistle goes
Serving format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Serve for 2 points, receive for 2 points - Serve from the left then the right hand side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tiebreak style – serve for 1 point, then 2 points, then 2 points etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Serve for 1 game, receive for 1 game or Tiebreak style if playing single point scoring. - Serve from the correct side of the court for the score
Equipment required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Red nets/tape - Red balls - Marker lines to mark courts - 19",21",23" racquets - Cones or clothes pegs to assist children with scoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Orange balls - Marker lines to mark ¾ court length - 23" and 25" racquets - Cones or clothes pegs to assist children with scoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green balls - 26" racquets