

Pennant Hills Tennis Centre

Risk Assessment for Schools Tournament 2017

There appear to be two main types of risk that give rise to injury in tennis – courts, grounds, surrounds related risks and sport related risk.

1. Courts, Grounds, Surrounds Risk

- Venue risk includes anything relating to the location and/or condition of the courts that may pose a threat to the well being of the player. This encompasses weather, temperature, the structure and surface condition of the court, the condition and placement of the nets, the distance from facilities such as washrooms and parking, fencing, proximity to medical services and quality of supervision on the day.
- Most common risks associated with playing surface are anything which makes the court wet and slippery such as rain, spills, puddles, bird droppings, wet leaves or debris. Additionally courts may be littered with objects that could cause a player to fall (such as leaves, debris, twigs etc) or could injure a player (such as glass, stones etc).
- Tennis centre has courts, buildings and carparks on three levels which can pose threats to students who may find themselves alone and in need of assistance and/or vulnerable to the unwanted attention of strangers. E.T.D.T.A. deals with educating participants to the dangers.
- Weather can pose a risk to players Referee determines if play should be cancelled for any reason relating to weather in consultation with complex manager.

2. Sport Related Risk

- Injuries which tend to arise in tennis are those related to slips and falls (eg, cuts, bruising, sprains, broken bones, abrasions) and those relating to being hit by a ball, or, less often, a racquet (eg bumps, swellings, concussion).
- Injury or illness can also result from unprotected exposure to the sun (sunburn, sunstroke), by drinking insufficient water (dehydration), by sharing drink bottles (contagious illnesses such as colds and viruses) and by wearing improper footwear (blisters, bruising).

Risk Summary

Risk	Cause	Prevention	Response to Injury
<i>Slip and fall injuries</i> – cuts, abrasions, sprains, broken bones	Slippery court surface, debris on court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Check court prior to play ● Stop play if playing surface thought to be unsafe 	PHTC Management, School or First Aid.
<i>Contact related injuries</i> – bumps, swelling, concussion	Contact with ball, racquet or player	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No real preventative actions apart from education, care and skill improvement 	PHTC Management, School or First Aid.
<i>Weather related injuries</i> – slip and fall, heat exhaustion, sunburn	Slippery court, excessive heat, unprotected exposure to sun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stop play if weather renders court dangerous (heat or wet) ● Prior to match, encourage girls to wear caps and sunscreen 	PHTC Management, School or First Aid
<i>Dangers relating to location</i> – accidents while crossing busy road, approach by strangers, falling trees	Isolated venue, girls arriving early or leaving late, long walk to car park and/or washrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PHTC to administer safe drop off and pick up from centre ● PHTC to encourage players not to leave grounds alone. ● PHTC to ensure children and parents are aware of possible contact with strangers. ● PHTC to contact local police for patrols of area. ● Possibility of tree falling onto pathway from bushland. 	Council to be advised of fallen tree.