

#### Atlantic Tennis Alliance

**Outdoor Playing Ops** 

Revised: May 4, 2023

## **Outdoor Junior Atlantics Qualifying**

Qualifying for the 2023 Outdoor Junior Atlantics will be based on both the National Bank Rankings and a Provincial Qualifying process to fill maximum draw sizes of 12. The top 8 ranked players in Atlantic Canada in each age group as of July 4, 2023 for each gender will qualify to play in the Outdoor Atlantics regardless of which province they are from. Players who are in the top 8 in their older (secondary) age group, would qualify for both events. However, this is discouraged unless you plan to attend both Nationals, if you qualify for both. If a player in the top 8 is not using their spot, the next player in the rankings would receive the spot until the 8 are filled. For all draws that have 8 filled by rankings, 4 additional spots will also be available - one per province, per gender, for each age group, for a maximum draw size of 12.

The 4 additional spots (1 per province) will be determined by each of the Provincial Tennis Associations (contact your respective Provincial Tennis Association (PTA) for further information). If any of these spots are not filled by a province, they would then be made available to players from other provinces and would be filled based on the National Bank Rankings (i.e. next highest ranked player).

There will be no qualifying events for the Under 10 division at Atlantic's, as this will be open to any player, however, U10s MUST have played in at least one of the 4 circuit events (see below).

# **Outdoor Junior Atlantic Circuit Events**

The Outdoor ATA Circuit will consist of four 4\* Circuit Events, one to be held in each of the four Provinces. These events are open to all players residing inside or outside of Atlantic Canada, and are not a requirement to qualify for the Atlantics for U12 through U18. That is, players who are ranked in the top 8, regardless of whether or not they have played in an Atlantic 4 Star, will qualify for the Atlantics.

## The following is the schedule of Outdoor 4-Star events for 2023:

Event #1: June 9 - 11: Fredericton, New Brunswick (Formerly NL)

Event #2: June 16 - 18: Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

Event #3: June 23 - 25: ATC, Bedford, Nova Scotia

Event #4: June 30- July 2: Moncton (combined with East Coast Open

Atlantic Regional Junior Championships: July 19 - 23, SATC, Bedford NS

Registration for the above events will be conducted through the respective Provincial Tennis Associations. The provinces have all agreed that the format will be consistent for all of the circuit events, standard draws with first round loss match consolation. However, small draws of 4 or less may use round robin format. Players may play in 2 singles divisions if they wish as per the following "Playing UP" rule:

### Playing Up Rule **REVISED 2023**:

For all ATA 4\* events and Outdoor/Indoor Atlantics, players may play in their current (primary) age division, and may also play one age group higher if they wish. Players who are ranked in Atlantic Canada in the TOP 2 of their secondary (higher) category, may play up by two divisions in the 4-Star Circuit events. *This rule does not include the Atlantic Championships*.

\*For example, an Under 12 player may play in the U12 division and also the U14 division if they wish, but they are not permitted to play in the U16 division. However, a U14 player, who is ranked in the top 2 in U16, may play in the U18 category in the regional 4 Star events only.

#### **Outdoor Atlantics:**

The 2023 Outdoor Junior Atlantics will be held at the Sobeys Atlantic Tennis Centre, Nova Scotia from Wednesday, July 19th through Sunday, July 23rd. The event will be a 5 day tournament with play to begin for all participants on Wednesday. Players may qualify in 2 singles events (if in Top 8) and play in 2 singles draws at the Outdoor Atlantics; however, they must be prepared to play up to three singles matches each day as required by the scheduling process.

**Outdoor Atlantics:** 

Divisions:

Under 10 Boys & Girls Singles

Under 12 Boys & Girls Singles

Under 14 Boys & Girls Singles

Under 16 Boys & Girls Singles

Under 18 Boys & Girls Singles

Under 10 Doubles: Combined Boys and Girls unless numbers warrant 2 draws.

Under 14 Boys & Girls Doubles

Under 18 Boys & Girls Doubles

# Match Formats for MAIN DRAW:

All singles divisions, with the exception of Under 10, will be elimination draws with feed-in consolation to the semis. Losers of the semis would feed into the consolation semis and could potentially play off for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> positions. Scoring format for main draw singles, and feed-in consolation, will be best 2 of 3 tiebreaker sets with full 3<sup>rd</sup> sets. Under 10 singles will use a similar format but will play best 2 of 3 short sets to 4 with full 3<sup>rd</sup> sets, Tiebreaks to be played at 3-all. Small draws may use a modified format.

All doubles divisions will play one 8-Game Pro-set, with No-Ads and a regular tiebreak to 7 (winning by a 2 point margin) played at 7-all in games. There are no consolation matches for doubles.

Seeding for Atlantics: seeds will be determined by the National Bank Rankings and as per the Tennis Canada rules of the court. Under 10 seeding will be based on circuit results and historical data. All draws will have 4 seeds, unless the category has a draw size smaller than 8 players.

## **Nationals Wildcards**

On rare occasions, the ATA will accept requests for a wildcard spot from a player who is unable to attend the Atlantic Championships for valid reason (i.e. part of Tennis Canada program, significant injury etc.). A maximum of one (1) wildcard per age group per gender may be awarded to players with valid reason who is deemed to be one of the top players in their division. Any request for a wildcard must be sent to the ATA administrator (Steve Mahar) at least 10 days in advance of the first day of the Atlantic Championship tournament. The awarding of a wildcard will require unanimous consent of the 4 Provincial Tennis Associations and will be communicated to players prior to the start of play of the Atlantics. In the event that a Wildcard is granted, the remaining two nationals spots will be awarded to the 2 main draw finalists of that particular age category. At that point, no Nationals spot will be awarded to the winner of the Consolation Draw.