



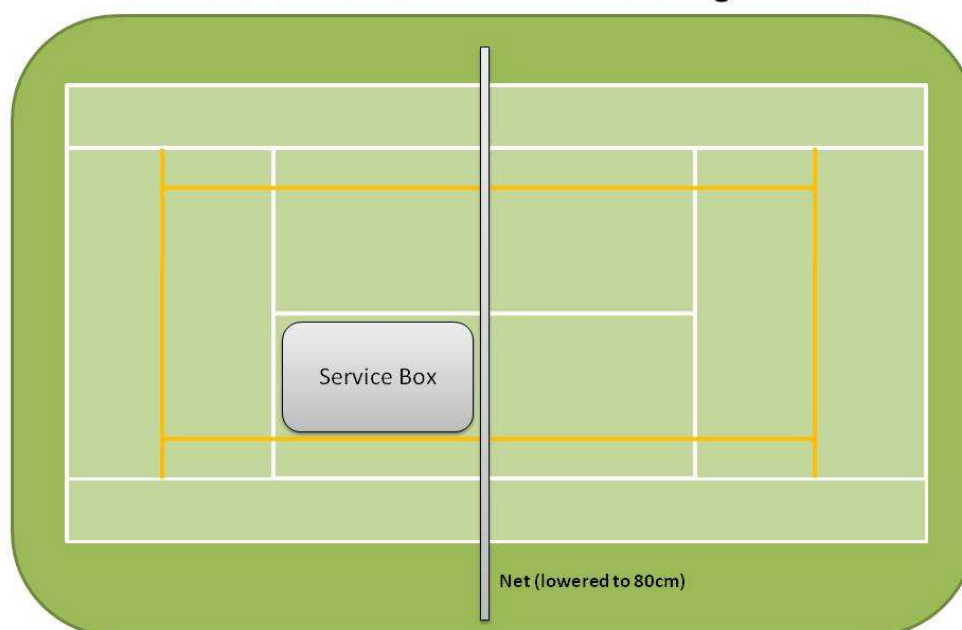
Mini Tennis Orange Guide

Thank you for volunteering to score matches at an upcoming tournament. This guide is created for parents and supporters to understand how to score matches. This helps Mini Orange players increase their enjoyment of competitive tennis as well as learning the rules of tennis.

Parents / helpers scoring Mini Tennis matches should try and create a relaxed and encouraging environment. There are many rules in tennis and Mini Tennis is a great way for players to learn the rules and the spirit of the game. As a scorer you should apply these rules in an encouraging but more strict way than in Mini Red. By Mini Green we expect children to score themselves.

This guide is for use when playing Mini Tennis Orange matches. Additional lines should have been added at for base lines exactly half way between the back line and the service line. Also lines should be used to narrow the court by 0.8m on each side (actual singles court size is 18m x 6.5m). This creates a new 'tramline' between the Mini Orange line and the normal sideline which is used only in doubles matches (actual doubles court is 18m x 8.23m)

Tennis Court Modified for Mini Tennis Orange Matches



The Court should have the net lowered so as to be 80cm in the centre (about 12cm lower). The lines move a little when players step on them and so the scorer should keep an eye on this and if the movement is excessive, put the lines back in place before the start of a new point.

Players should warm up before a game by hitting to each other and practicing their serve. For a first match, 5 minutes warm is appropriate, thereafter 2 minutes would be fine. After spin, player can choose ends, or to serve, or to receive

Players should start serve from behind the Mini Orange base line. Serves must be hit diagonally and hit into the service box (see diagram). Serves can be over-arm or under-arm. At this stage we don't allow 'bounce and hit' serves, but if a player does do this type of service, we just ask them to serve again if the serve went in.

Players have a first serve and a second serve. Encroachment into the court on serve should be discouraged but not penalised (replay if encroachment excessive, call referee in encroachment persistent and gaining advantage). After serve, play in the full orange court (including side tramlines for doubles)

As mentioned, the court for singles play is slightly different than that for doubles play, as the tramlines are in play once the serve has been made into the normal service box.

The score-sheets provided are a memory aid and do not have the complexity of the adult score-cards, but also don't provide added information about current server etc. If you don't have a score-sheet, using a bit of paper or just remembering the score is also fine.

Ideally the first server serves for one point to the right court. Thereafter each player serves for two points, one to each side of the court. Players should change ends every set, and if the match reaches a third set, then players should change every 6 points (or when you remember!) In doubles, remembering who is serving next gets quite complicated, so we usually ask more experienced scorers for these matches, or adults who are used to playing doubles tie-breaks themselves.

Scorers should help children with positions on court to serve and receive and call the lines. REMEMBER MINI TENNIS IS ABOUT ENCOURAGING PLAYERS. Please be strong enough to stop children from calling balls out which are in, and from arguing with each other, or you the scorer. If this occurs, please contact the referee straight away. There can be a tendency for children to call themselves and sometimes call balls out which hit the line. We hope the scorers will correct incorrect calls in a way not to disadvantage the player who hit the correct shot. If you are unsure please ask the referee straight away.

Matches are best of three sets, each to 7 points, but players need to win by two clear points. So scores could be for example 7/1, 7/5, 8/6, 12/10 etc.

At the end of the match, please make sure the children shake hands.

Please hand in score sheets (or tell the referee the result)