

Tennis Regulations Explained

Whether you are a beginner or a professional, the rules for playing tennis are about the same. You need to know the basic rules for playing tennis which include the following:

Server and Receiver

One of the important rules for playing tennis: To determine who serves first, one player will spin the racket and the opponent would choose up or down, up meaning the letters fall upright and down meaning the letters are facing down. The player who wins the call has the option of whether to serve first or which side of the net to be on first. To better understand the rule for playing tennis, let's have an example: If player A wins the call and opts to serve, player B would have the choice of courts. Player A must stand behind the baseline to the right of the center mark, and serve the ball into Player B's right service court. Player A is allowed two serves.

Fault

A fault is any disobedience of the rules of tennis. In addition to that, here are some other ways that can construe a "fault": If the player swings and misses the ball; if the player hits the ball into the net; if the ball bounces in the service court but hits any permanent fixture, such as the net post; and the player must not step on or over the baseline before the racket hits the tennis ball or it is called a foot fault. The player may step on or over the line after the racket contacts with the ball. Just a word of advice, leaning over the line without touching it during a serve is absolutely legal.

Let Service

A let service can be called when a player serves a ball and the ball skims over the top of the net but still goes into the service court of the opponent; or a player serves the ball into the service court of the opponent before the opponent is ready. The let service is not considered a fault and does not count as one of their two serves. If a player tosses the ball and catches it without swinging at it, it doesn't count as a serve and the player may take it over as per the rules for tennis.

After the first point is won, the player serves from the left of the center mark for the second point, and must serve the ball into the opponent's left service court. After the next point, the player moves back to the right again and is the server all through the game, changing the position after each point is played. The receiver or opponent can select any position they want. If the receiver tells the server that they are not ready yet still attempts to return the service and fails, the receiver is considered ready and the server scores a point. It is also a point against the receiver if they strike a service during the server's volley before the ball has had time to bounce. After the service, the server or the receiver can hit the ball either on a volley or following a bounce.

Other rules for playing tennis where a player can lose a point after service include the following: A player's racket or article of clothing touches the net; if the player hits the ball more than once; if the ball touches the player or clothing; if the player plays the ball before it passes over the net; if a player tosses a racket at the ball and hits it.

However, a ball is considered playable if the ball lands on either the baseline or sideline; if a player returns a ball which hits the top of the net and lands on the proper court; or if a returned ball hits the net post but lands in the proper court. The player in whose court the ball lands determines whether the ball is in or out.

The rules for playing tennis are fundamental and concrete, and they may slightly vary in professional tournaments and championships but the basics still apply.