



ADAPTED TENNIS

WHO CAN PLAY

Wheelchair tennis is played as an integrated sport, where individuals with disabilities play alongside individuals without disabilities. Anyone having some mobility in both arms can participate in the sport. There is no restriction on using a power-assisted wheelchair. Tennis is also often divided between players ages, although there is no official restriction preventing mixing of ages in a tennis program.

STANDARD

- Racquet
- Tennis Balls
- Regulation Tennis Court

VS

ADAPTIVE

- Tennis specific wheelchair
- Tire Pump
- Straps or Tape (stabilize to chair)

RULE MODIFICATION EXAMPLES

■ TWO BOUNCE RULE

- The wheelchair tennis player is allowed two bounces of the ball. The player must return the ball before it bounces a third time. The second bounce can be either in or out of the court boundaries.

■ THE WHEELCHAIR

- The wheelchair is considered part of the body and all applicable rules which apply to a player's body shall apply to the wheelchair.

■ THE SERVICE AREA

- Immediately before commencing the service, the server shall be in a stationary position. The server shall then be allowed one push before striking the ball.
- The server shall throughout the delivery of the service not touch with any wheel, any area other than that behind the baseline within the imaginary extension of the center mark and sideline.
- If conventional methods for the service are physically impossible, then the player or another individual may drop the ball for such a player and allow it to bounce before it is struck. If this is the case, the same method of serving must be used for the entire match.

■ PLAYER LOSES POINTS

- If the player fails to return the ball before it has bounced three times.
- If the player uses any part of his feet or lower extremities against the ground or against any wheel while delivering service, striking a ball, turning, or stopping while the ball is in play.
- If the player fails to keep one buttock in contact with his wheelchair seat when contacting the ball.

■ PROPELLING THE CHAIR WITH THE FOOT

- If due to lack of capacity a player is unable to propel the wheelchair via the wheel, then he may propel the wheelchair using one foot. However, no part of the player's foot may be in contact with the ground during the forward motion of the swing (including when the racket strikes the ball) or from the initiation of the service motion until the racket strikes the ball.