

Challenger events

=====



A challenger event match allows a lower ranked player to challenge a higher ranked player (within their category) to a singles match. If the challenger wins the encounter, they earn fixed and bonus points. Challenger matches are always singles matches.

Who can request a challenge?

=====

Any paid member that has a listed ranking (see <https://www.rinellatennisclub.com/ranking>) can challenge another ranked member any time during the year. When contacting the challenged player kindly make sure that the opponent is a paid-up member.

Who can I challenge?

=====

Challenges are allowed against a higher ranked member within your ranking group (Ladies ranking group or Gentlemen ranking group)

Within the Gentlemen ranking group challenges are allowed within the following subgroups:

- Ranking position 25 to 1 can challenge each other
- Ranking position 50 to 26 can challenge each other
- Ranking position lowest rank to 51 can challenge each other

Within the Ladies ranking group challenges are allowed within the following subgroups:

- Ranking position 10 to 1 can challenge each other
- Ranking position lowest rank to 11 can challenge each other

A player must challenge someone else before re-challenging the same player again.

Playing a challenge?

=====

A challenge can be initiated only by a lower ranked member in an encounter. To initiate and play a challenge event, please follow this procedure:

1. Communicate with your opponent via the Openresa (court booking system) chat. The challenged player may select the time and location of the match; however, the time and location should be mutually agreeable to both players. Once settled, fill-in the **Submit Challenge Form** found on the Club's website <https://www.rinellatennisclub.com/challenge> with all the relevant information.
2. Unless the challenge cannot be accepted due to extenuating circumstances such as injury, illness, quarantine, travel, etc. the challenged player must accept the challenge within 15 days from the challenger's first contact. Failure to accept a challenge without a valid reason results in a default i.e. the challenger gets the points for a win. In such case, the challenger informs the Ranking Challenger's Subcommittee on rtrankingchallenge@gmail.com
3. A challenge match is played up to 15 games. The player winning 8 games (or more) wins the challenge. Die-point is played after the first deuce.
4. The challenge match must be played at Rinella Tennis Club. The cost for the court booking and lights is to be incurred by the challenger.
5. The challenger must provide a good set of balls.
6. After the match is played, the challenger must fill-in the **Insert Score Form** found on the Club's website <https://www.rinellatennisclub.com/challenge> informing the Subcommittee with the result. If the score is not sent via the mentioned form, the result will not count for the purposes of the rankings.
7. The challenged player will be automatically notified of the score via email, and unless an objection is raised within 48 hours the score is inputted in the ranking system. A score cannot be contested after 48 hours have elapsed.

8. At the end of the year, a trophy will be awarded to the player winning the highest number of challenges. This applies to both the Gentleman and Ladies category. For the trophy to be awarded, the player must have played a minimum of 4 challenges during the calendar year.