

# SUIPA INTERCLUBS RULES 2021

1. BI-PYRAMIDAL SYSTEM, one pyramid for Swiss-German area and one for Swiss-French area.
2. Teams are linked to CLUBS, not to players. Captains are responsible for communication with their respective clubs.
3. SUIPA Team fee: 50 CHF. *No team fee asked in 2021, due to Covid situation!*
4. All players need to have an ACTIVE SUIPA LICENSE when they play.
5. FINAL ROUND mid-November (indoor) for the 2 best teams of each pyramid. Winner will be Swiss Champion of the year and is qualified for an European Championship the following year. *(If champion does not want to take part, then vice-champion, then 3rd!)*
6. In order to qualify for the final round, a team will have to play a minimum of 2 encounters during the season, among which an encounter between teams ranked 1-4 and 2-3 of each pyramid during the last 6 weeks of interclubs season.
7. Each team can CHALLENGE ANY OF THE 4 TEAMS AHEAD of itself on the pyramid's ranking.
8. Only 1 challenge at a time can be sent. Challenges are sent to another captain by email with COPY at [manuel@suiipa.ch](mailto:manuel@suiipa.ch). A team cannot accept nor send any additional challenge until the current one has been played.
9. Both teams must agree on a date to play that encounter. The challenged team must propose dates & schedules and has the advantage of playing on its own courts (SUIPA competition approved courts), but can let this advantage to the challenging team if wished or needed.
10. Encounters can take place until Sunday November 7<sup>th</sup> included and at any day/schedule during the week *(let's be flexible!)*
11. A challenged team which does not succeed in organizing an encounter during the following 4 weeks (28 days) after receiving a challenge (date of e-mail) will automatically have its position taken by the challenger in the pyramid. Captains are responsible to check those deadlines.
12. FORMAT is officially 3 doubles for 1 encounter and those doubles must be ranked 1 - 2 - 3 according to level of players. *(Let's stay honest about it!)* Men & women allowed, best of 3 sets. But captains are free to agree on a different format if wished, such as 6 doubles (also best of 3 sets.) Please watch out that the hosting club agrees! *(Example with 6 doubles: 1st doubles ranked on level basis, 2nd doubles played in a free order, but teams must all change partners. If encounter ends 3-3, the winner is the team with the best set-average and if necessary the winner of double number 1 of the 1st doubles would be decisive.)*
13. TEAMS COMPOSITION: no need for a list, the 1<sup>st</sup> match played in a team qualifies the player in that specific team for the whole current year. No transfer possible from one team to another, even in the same club.
14. Order of play is also free between the 3 doubles, but if teams cannot agree, the order will be doubles number 3 first, then doubles number 2 and finally doubles number 1.
15. BALLS: the challenger team is responsible for bringing balls when visiting.
16. Receiving team ensures that there is no rental fee for the visiting team *(but the hosting team may have a personal arrangement with its own club)* and ensures that buying food and drinks on site is feasible *(providing snacks when receiving a team is welcomed!)*

17. RESULTS of any encounter must be sent as soon as possible with the official result form to [manuel@suipa.ch](mailto:manuel@suipa.ch) (*The form is sent to captains by email and can be seen here underneath.*)
18. A team with no encounter played during the whole year will automatically be placed at the last position of its pyramid for the following season.
19. NEW TEAMS may be added during the current season in a pyramid, should new clubs wish to take part, but those new teams will be added at the last position of the pyramid.
20. Please consider the possibility for 3 or 4 teams following themselves in a pyramid to organize a round-robin on one specific day, if all captains agree and if a club is ready to host such an exciting interclubs day. Those 3 or 4 teams would then be ranked accordingly to the results of that specific multi-teams day.

## **RANKING POINTS**

Once a year, after the final round around mid-November, the underneath points will be given by SUIPA to the players who fulfill the criteria.

Those points are bonus points (not included in the “best 8 results” limit), they are Open ranking points and they will stay valid for 1 year, until the end of the following interclubs season.

*Please note that should more than 3 doubles be played in an encounter, only the first set of 3 doubles will be considered for points allocation, as those 3 doubles must be played according to the levels of the pairs.*

Points allocation:

- Any 2 matches won during the pyramid season: 1 point (*1 match = 1 double*)
- 3 matches won: 5 % of individual points (1 point minimum).  
*Note: “Individual points” = Open ranking points of each player at the time of points allocation.*
- 4 matches won: 7 % of individual points (2 points minimum)
- Final round (*2 matches/player*): 5% of individual points for each match won.
- *Players may not cumulate final round bonus points AND pyramid matches bonus points: SUIPA will allocate the highest amount to the players concerned.*