

If you have never participated in a platform tennis tournament before, or if the annotations on draw sheets have always seemed like Greek to you, take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with them. Once you understand the basic format, things are fairly simple.

Main Draw

In the main draw, as long as you keep winning your matches you will advance to the next bracket. Simple.

Back Draws

Most platform tennis tournaments guarantee a minimum of three matches. To support this format they run a number of “back draws” into which losers move to get their additional matches. Matches on the main draw and the back draws are coded to show how you move from one draw to the other.

It may seem confusing, but this format ensures that as play progresses, you will be playing matches against teams closer to your level, whether that’s by staying in the main draw or moving into back draws.

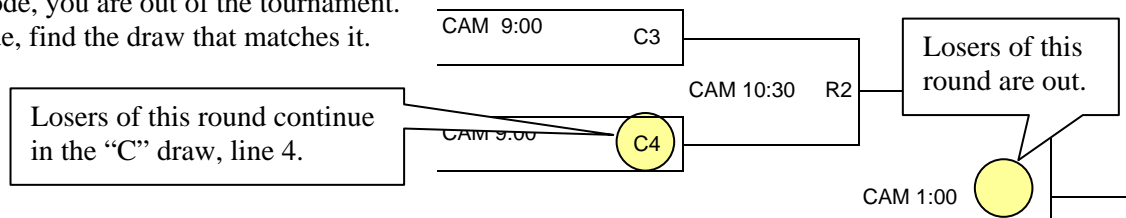
If You Lose a Match

Look for a code that tells you which draw, and which line in that draw, you go to next.

Back draw line numbers include the code for the draw.

If there is no code, you are out of the tournament.

If there is a code, find the draw that matches it.



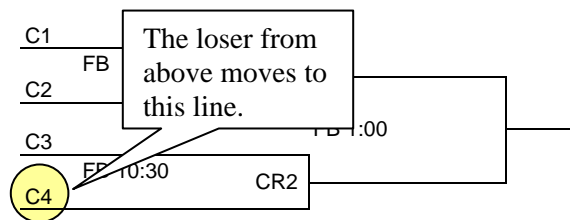
Look at the matching draw.

Find the matching line number.

That’s where you play next.

Example:

If you lose in the first round you will probably go to the Consolation draw and the code will be something like a“C4.” You then look for line C4 on the Consolation draw to see where you go.



Common Back Draw Abbreviations:

C Consolation

R Reprieve

CR Consolation Reprieve

LC Last Chance (another name for the Consolation Reprieve)

QR Quarter Reprieve

CC Second Round Consolation

Most back draws do not feed losers into additional draws, with the exception of the first round Consolation, which will typically feed a Consolation Reprieve or Last Chance draw. If you lose in the first round of the Consolation you may see a code such as “CR6” or “LC1.”

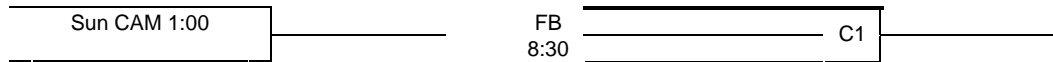


Reading a Platform Tennis Draw Sheet

Times and Locations

The time and location of each bracket is printed with the bracket, usually inside the bracket. On some draws, the time and location of the first match is printed to the left of the first bracket. For multi-day events, the day will be noted for matches on the second day. The draw sheet will include a key for location codes.

Examples:



If you win, you typically stay at the same location, and at many tournaments both winners and losers in the same part of the draw stay put to play their second round matches.

If your next match is at another location, get to that location quickly so the tournament can stay on schedule.

Print Out Your Draws

If you get your draw sheets beforehand, it is very helpful to print them out and look them over to become familiar with how they are structured and where you might move. Not all tournaments use the same notation and draw names.

Double Feed Consolations

Some tournaments are structured with a “double feed” consolation. This means that the losers from two separate rounds feed into the same back draw. This is ordinarily done when there are many Byes in the first round. To avoid having teams play each other twice, the second round losers generally feed into the back draw in the opposite order. For example, the losers in round 1 will feed into the Consolation top down, and the losers in the second round will feed into the Consolation bottom up.

If you have any questions, ask a tournament official or an experienced player. Someone will know the answer.

Annotated Example

