

13. TENNIS — BOYS AND GIRLS

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1) Interscholastic Participation

- 1.1) Dual competition consists of three singles matches and two doubles matches using seven different players.
- 1.2) Each individual match is best two out of three sets. The 12 point tie-breaker rule shall be used when necessary.
- 1.3) During invitational and/or conference tournaments, each individual may play three, two of three set matches or up to four eight game pro sets per day.
- 1.4) Prior to a match, coaches may mutually agree to use no advantage scoring during the season.
- 1.5) Maximum number of regular matches per individual per day is three. Maximum number of pro sets per day (eight games each) is four. Each match played in dual competition counts as one match in the season limitation. If a player participates in more than three matches or four pro sets in one day, the player shall forfeit the additional match and, it shall count as two matches for the school in the season limitations.
- 1.6) There will be no rest period between the second and third sets.
- 1.7) If weather or darkness interrupts a match before either team has won three points (and thus the match), incompleted matches shall be resumed at the exact point where terminated. The match shall be rescheduled at the earliest possible date agreeable to both coaches. Players not appearing for a rescheduled match shall forfeit that match. Unfinished matches shall not count in team scoring.
- 1.8) The warmup period for all matches shall not exceed 10 minutes.
- 1.9) All warmup serves in both singles and doubles shall be taken prior to the start of play.
- 1.10) Play shall be continuous as defined by U.S.T.A. regulations. In case of injury or illness, a player will be allowed a maximum of five minutes for treatment after which the player must resume play or forfeit the match.
- 1.11) Singles players must play in order of team rank. The better doubles team must play No. 1 doubles. This rule applies to injury or illness preceding a match. Forfeiting a point for a missing player's position is not allowed. If the No. 1 player cannot compete, the regular No. 2 player plays at No. 1, the regular No. 3 player plays at No. 2, and the substitute is placed at No. 3. "Stacking" is not allowed under any circumstances.

Note: This does not mean that the best player on the team must play first singles. However, if he/she is going to play singles, he/she must play at the No. 1 position.

- 1.12) All team members must wear a school uniform or tennis uniform which is consistent with the school's colors. Any lettering or pictures on clothing and/or headgear must pertain to the school name or emblem. Manufacturer's names or logos are permitted provided they do not exceed one and a half inches in height. Girls have the option of tennis dress or school uniform. "Doubles" team players shall wear like color tops. Any visible undergarments that extend below the uniform shorts or skirt shall be the same color of the shorts or skirt or represent school colors. This dress code shall be enforced by the home coach or tournament director. Failure to comply will result in a player being denied the right to participate.
- 1.13) The home school coach shall serve as the referee, enforcing all OHSAA regulations and USTA rules.
- 1.14) Any girl who has not participated on the girls team in the fall, may participate on the boys team in the spring.

2) Out-of-State Travel

A tennis team may travel out of state to compete in contest scrimmages, previews and games in states or provinces in Canada that are contiguous to Ohio regardless of distance to travel. The states include Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The province includes Ontario. Additionally, a tennis team may travel out of state one time per sport per interscholastic season to compete in states or provinces in Canada that are not contiguous to Ohio provided there is no loss of school time.

“School time” is defined as any time during any day during which the school is in session as stipulated in its Board-adopted school calendar exclusive of contingency days. Penalty for violation: The school shall be ineligible for the OHSAA postseason tournament in the sport in which the out-of-state travel was involved and could be subject to additional penalties as referenced in Bylaw 11.

EXCEPTION: If, because of missed school days due to calamity situations, an otherwise non-school day(s) becomes a school day(s) in order to make-up for the missed school day, the school may compete in a contest(s) outside the state of Ohio provided:

- 1) The school had contracted for/committed to said trip/contest(s) at least three months prior to the contest(s) in question and;
- 2) The school receives written permission from the Commissioner’s office at least one week in advance of the scheduled event.

A tennis team may not travel out of state only to practice. Any contest played in a non-contiguous state is a match.

3) Ejection for Unsporting Conduct

See *Ejection Policies for Players and Coaches* under Section 11 of the General Sports Regulations.

4) Non-Interscholastic Participation

4.1) A member of an interscholastic tennis squad (any student who has played in a scrimmage, preview or regular season/tournament game) sponsored by the Board of Education shall not participate in a non-interscholastic contest as an individual or a member of a team in the sport of tennis during the school’s season (Sports Regulation 4.4).

4.2) Individual Non-Interscholastic Competition Dates:

A tennis athlete who has not participated for the school in tennis that season must cease non-interscholastic tennis competition six weeks (42 days) prior to the Monday of the week of the State Tournament in tennis in order to be eligible for OHSAA Tournament competition.

In addition, an athlete who has participated for the school in tennis who violates this non-interscholastic competition date by participating in a non-interscholastic contest in tennis shall be ineligible for OHSAA tournament competition in tennis in addition to any other penalties that may be prescribed.

Dates: Girls: September 7, 2009; Boys: April 12, 2010.

Interscholastic tennis coaches may coach athletes from the school where employed outside the interscholastic season of the sport. No coach may require participation until the official start of the interscholastic season.

5) Penalties

The maximum penalty for violation of Sports Regulation 4.4 (participation with a non-interscholastic tennis squad while a member of the school’s interscholastic tennis squad) or any OHSAA regulations for any member of the school squad EXCEPT a senior is ineligibility for the remainder of the interscholastic tennis season or the ensuing tennis season. For a senior, the maximum penalty shall be ineligibility for the remainder of the school year.

TENNIS 2009-2010

B. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — Grades 9-12

- 1) Coaching and instruction may begin:
 Girls — August 10, 2009.
 EXCEPTION: Classes begin on or before August 21, coaching may begin August 7.
 Boys — March 8, 2010.
- 2) First Match:
 Girls — August 17, 2009.
 Boys — March 29, 2010.
- 3) Deadline date for OHSAA Tournament:
 Girls — September 21, 2009.
 Boys — April 26, 2010.
- 4) Tournament draw/seeding date:
 Girls — September 27, 2009.
 Boys — May 2, 2010.
- 5) Coaching and Season end:
 Girls — Saturday after State Tournament—October 31, 2009.
 Boys — Saturday after State Tournament—June 5, 2010.
 After the conclusion of the sectional tennis tournaments, participants who qualify for further OHSAA tournament competition may practice with tennis players from other schools who have similarly advanced.
- 6) Scrimmages — Maximum of one prior to first match.
- 7) Regular season matches permitted:
 - a. Maximum of 20 contests for team and individual (plus the OTCA team tournament) or the equivalent calculated as follows:

Type of Match		Counts as
Dual		1
League or Conference Tournament	Played in one day	1
League or Conference Tournament	Played in two days	2
Invitational Tournament (Single or Double elimination)	Played in one day	1
Invitational Tournament (Single or Double elimination)	Played in two days	2
Invitational Tournament	Played as round robin	1 for each opponent

- b. A team is limited to three tournaments per season.
 - c. A player is limited to participation in a maximum of three matches per day or four pro sets (tournament only) per day.
 - 8) Rules — United States Tennis Association.
 - 9) Official — No requirements.
- C. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — Grades 7 & 8**
- 1) Coaching and instruction may begin:
 Girls — August 10, 2009.
 EXCEPTION: Classes begin on or before August 21, coaching may begin August 7.
 Boys — March 8, 2010.

- 2) First match:
Girls — August 17, 2009.
Boys — March 29, 2010.
- 3) Coaching and Season end:
Girls — October 31, 2009.
Boys — June 5, 2010.
- 4) Scrimmages — None permitted.
- 5) Regular season matches permitted:
 - a. Maximum of 16 contests for team and individual or the equivalent calculated as follows:

Type of Match		Counts as
Dual		1
League or Conference Tournament	Played in one day	1
League or Conference Tournament	Played in two days	2
Invitational Tournament (Single or Double elimination)	Played in one day	1
Invitational Tournament (Single or Double elimination)	Played in two days	2
Invitational Tournament	Played as round robin	1 for each opponent

- b. A team is limited to three tournaments per season.
 - c. A player is limited to participation in a maximum of three matches or four pro sets (tournaments only) per day.
- 6) Rules — United States Tennis Association.
- 7) Official — No requirements.

Girls Tennis	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Coaching Begins	8/10*	8/9	8/8	8/6	8/5	8/4
Season Begins	8/17	8/16	8/15	8/13	8/12	8/11
Non-Interscholastic Date	9/7	9/6	9/5	9/3	9/2	9/1
Sectional	10/5-10/10#	10/4-10/9#	10/3-10/8#	10/1-10/6#	9/30-10/5#	9/29-10/4#
District	10/12-10/17	10/11-10/16	10/10-10/15	10/8-10/13	10/7-10/12	10/6-10/11
State	10/23-10/24	10/22-10/23	10/21-10/22	10/19-10/20	10/18-10/19	10/17-10/18
Season Ends	10/31	10/30	10/29	10/27	10/26	10/25
Thanksgiving	11/26	11/25	11/24	11/22	11/28	11/27
Rosh Hashanah	9/19-20	9/9-10	9/29-30	9/17-18	9/5-6	9/25-26

*See exception in B1 and C1.

Boys Tennis	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Coaching Begins	3/8	3/7	3/5	3/11	3/10	3/9
Season Begins	3/29	3/28	3/26	4/1	3/31	3/30
Non-Interscholastic Date	4/12	4/11	4/9	4/15	4/14	4/13
Sectional	5/10-5/15#	5/9-5/14#	5/7-5/12#	5/13-5/18#	5/12-5/17#	5/11-5/16#
District	5/17-5/22	5/16-5/21	5/14-5/19	5/20-5/25	5/19-5/24	5/18-5/23
State	5/28-5/29	5/27-5/28	5/25-5/26	5/31-6/1	5/30-5/31	5/29-5/30
Season Ends	6/5	6/4	6/2	6/8	6/7	6/6
Easter	4/4	4/24	4/8	3/31	4/20	4/5

#Unless an earlier date is established by a District Athletic Board (no earlier than two days prior to the established date).