

Tournament Preview



By Kristin Daugherty, OHSAA Sports Information Intern

The 2012 OHSAA boys state tennis tournament will be held Friday, May 25 and Saturday, May 26 at the newly renovated Outdoor Varsity Tennis Courts at the Ohio State University in Columbus. Play will begin both days at 9 a.m. with Division II singles players, followed by Division I singles players, followed by doubles teams.

The Division I singles bracket will feature a good mix of experience and first-time qualifiers, as nine of the 16 individual qualifiers are returning from the 2011 state tournament. Liberty Township Lakota East senior Zach Mueck, a two-time Division I singles runner-up, will look to be challenged by 2011 individual qualifiers Colton Buffington (Sr.; Westlake), Hiromi Nakayama (Sr.; Dublin Coffman) and Jacob Dunbar (So.; Lodi Cloverleaf). Five of this year's Division I individual qualifiers also competed in last year's doubles competition including Aaron Sandberg (So.; Cuyahoga Falls Walsh Jesuit), Zach Berry (So., Springboro), Steven Boslet (Jr., Hudson), Jeffery Schorsch (Jr.; Perrysburg) and Stuart Little (Jr.; Upper Arlington). Little won the last year's Division I doubles championship with senior Billy Weldon.

The Division I doubles tournament returns one complete team from the 2011 field in Mason's Miguel Cepeda (Jr.) and Luke Tsai (So.). The duo is looking to bring home Mason's

first state tennis title after finishing as runner-up a year ago. Upper Arlington's William Schmit (Jr.) and Richfield Revere's Peter Harris (Sr.) are the other returning competitors to the Division I bracket. They are both joined by new partners Jeffery Melvin (So.) and Noah Hendrickson (So.), respectively. Bellbrook's Jackson Heinz (Sr.) and Wyatt Heinz (So.) also return to the state tournament after finishing fourth in the Division II doubles tournament a year ago.

The Division II singles bracket is wide open as 2011 third place finisher Patrick Wildman (So.; Cincinnati Country Day) and Andrew Linden (Sr.; Sandusky St. Mary Central Catholic) are the only two returners from last year's state tournament.

The Division II doubles bracket will also feature several new faces as just four of the 16 teams return from last year's state tournament including Gates Mills Gilmour Academy (Mike Riley, Sr./Weston Noall, So.), Lima Central Catholic (John Kidd, Sr./Alex Swick, Jr.), Gates Mills Hawken (Daniel Lubarsky, Sr./Siddarth Ahuja, So.) and Cambridge twins Cody (Jr.) and Connor Engstrom (Jr.). Cincinnati Seven Hills senior Matt Cohen and Gahanna Columbus Academy senior Langston Hughes also return with new partners – Alex Markovits (Jr.) and Abram Schottenstein (Jr.), respectively.



Lodi Cloverleaf's Jacob Dunbar smashes a serve during the 2011 OHSAA Division I singles state tournament. The then-freshman finished fourth in the tournament behind Lexington senior Nick Wong. Dunbar is one of nine individual qualifiers who are returning to the Division I singles tournament from a year ago.



Mason's Miguel Cepeda and Luke Tsai pose with their coach, Linda Kirtley, after finishing as the 2011 Division I doubles runner-up. Cepeda and Tsai are the only returning Division I doubles team from last year's state tournament.

OHSAA Spring State Tournament Schedule

Boys Tennis, May 25-26 OSU Outdoor Varsity Tennis Courts	
Baseball, May 31-June 2 Huntington Park, Columbus	
Softball, May 31-June 2 Akron Firestone Stadium, Akron	
Track & Field, May 31-June 2 Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium, OSU	