

WOMEN'S AND MEN'S TENNIS

12.0 GOVERNING RULES

The U.S.T.A. rules shall govern all play except where modified by the C.I.F. or Sac-Joaquin Section.

12.01 CONTACTS

Contacts may not exceed 27 as determined by the CIF/Sac-Joaquin Section.

12.2 START DATE

Starting/Ending date will be designated by the CIF/Sac-Joaquin Section.

12.3 START TIME

Starting time for league matches is 3:45 p.m. Rainouts are to resume at the point at which play was suspended.

12.4 PLAYER CLASSIFICATION

All competition will be at the varsity level.

12.5 RULES OF THE SPORT

- A. The host team is responsible for reporting the final results to the Sacramento Bee.
- B. U.S.T.A. rules will be followed in league play.
- C. Matches for league play will consist of 6 singles and 3 doubles with no doubling of players. All matches will be two of three sets, including doubles. If both coaches agree, a tiebreaker may be played in lieu of the third set if the outcome of the team match has been determined. No-Ad scoring will be used with the official U.S.T.A. twelve (12) point tie-breaker game played at six (6) all in any set.
- D. The home team will supply a top grade yellow tennis ball for all matches. Teams may warm up together for a total of ten (10) minutes. In the event of a disagreement between players, the decision of the coaches will be final. Only team coaches may coach the players, if it does not interfere with or disrupt play, i.e., during change-overs or between games. There is to be no break during the match, other than the change-over. Players are not allowed to leave the court without seeking permission from a coach (except in cases of an emergency or to bring a coach to the court to resolve an issue).
- E. Simultaneous lineups will be submitted by each coach prior to the start of play.
- F. The player strength ladder must represent both singles and doubles players strength on team roster starting with highest strength player as number one to lowest strength player listed last. This player strength ladder will be enforced for all matches. Schools may not have a separate strength ladder for singles and doubles.

Each team will consist of six (6) singles players and three (3) doubles teams. Players may only play one event (singles or doubles). The number one singles player must be ranked higher on the team individual player strength ladder than the number two player. The number two singles player must be ranked higher than the number three player. The number three singles players must be ranked higher than the number four singles player. Players ranked #1 through #6 on the strength ladder may not be entered in doubles competition.

The ranking of the doubles teams will be determined by the sum of the ladder positions of each team. The #1 doubles team will be the team with the lowest sum, the #2 team with the next lowest sum, and the #3 team with the highest sum. If the sum of any of the ladder positions for two or three of the teams is equal, then the highest ranked individual player shall play on the higher ranked doubles team.

If a player is not available to play within 15 minutes of the time his/her court is ready for play, the coach must move the next best player into that spot and move up the rest of the players accordingly.

12.06 LEAGUE TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

1. The tournament will include all varsity players and will be played on the Monday (singles) and Wednesday (doubles and superdoubles) after the last league match and preceding the section tournament.
2. On Tuesday, there will be an eight (8) space draw for flight #'s 1&2 singles (together), #3 singles, #4 singles, #5 singles and #6 singles. There will be 4 seeds in the #1&2 flight and 2 seeds in the remaining flights with seeding to be discussed and/or voted on by the coaches; while the rest of the slots will be randomly drawn. In the #1&2 flights, a #1 player will play a #2 player in the first round. All first round matches will be an 8 game pro set with a 12 point tiebreaker played at 7 all. Section spots will be granted from the #1&2 flight according to spots allocated for that year. The winner will be the number 1 seed for sections and the finalist will be the number 2 seed.
3. On Thursday, each school will send the number 1, 2, and 3 doubles teams (numbers 7-12) and two super doubles teams from singles players who did not qualify for sections. The same formatting and rules of flight #1&2 will apply. All first round matches will be an 8 game pro set with a 12 point tiebreaker played at 7 all.
4. In the event of rain or other delay, flight #1&2 and super doubles takes precedence over all other matches and flights as they are the only flights that carry section ties.
5. In the event any of the representatives to the section tournament are unable to compete the player or team that lost to them last will take their place.

12.7 ALL-LEAGUE AWARDS AND SELECTION PROCESS

Varsity coaches will meet at the end of the league season to select the Player of the Year. All-League will consist of semifinalists of flight #1&2 and semifinalists of superdoubles. Coaches will vote for 2 other players in case there is an overlap of spots. There will be a total twelve all-league players. One individual per school shall be selected for the Sportsmanship Award (not a member of the all league).

12.8 POST-SEASON QUALIFICATION PROCESS

- Team tie breaking for section spots in the following order (2 or more teams):
- a. Head to head scores
 - b. Highest cumulative team scores regarding teams involved in tie (i.e. 7-2,6-3)
 - c. Another match at a neutral site if 2 teams are tied (site to be agreed upon by coaches; if no agreement then league president talks to both coaches and makes a decision).
 - d. If outcome can still not be determined then a coin toss will break tie.