



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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TO: ATHLETIC DIRECTORS & CLASS 2A BOYS' TENNIS COACHES

RE: STATE INDIVIDUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Dear Athletic Director & Boys' Tennis Coach:

Congratulations on having qualifiers for the IHSAA Boys State Tennis Tournament. The State Tennis Tournament for Class 2A will be held at Veteran's Memorial Tennis Center, 1301 8th Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids on May 25 & 26, 2018. Randy Krejci, Cedar Rapids Community Schools, Mark Fiala, Cedar Rapids and Vance Fuller, Cedar Rapids will be the Meet Managers.

Complete information about the State Tennis Tournament can be found in the current IHSAA Post-Season Tennis Manual on the IHSAA web site under the "Tennis" heading, but I want to point out the following key issues:

HITTING BALLS ON THURSDAY BEFORE THE STATE TOURNAMENT

State tennis qualifiers may hit balls at the State Meet site on the day before the first day of State Meet competition, if the courts are available. *Use of the courts for a school's regular practice, or scheduled community event, shall have precedence.*

PICTURES, COACHES MEETING & SEEDING MEETING

7:45am - Regardless of the weather conditions, all players and coaches should arrive at Veteran's Memorial Tennis Center NO LATER THAN 7:45AM ON FRIDAY and report to the Tournament Manager.

8:00am - State qualifiers will have their pictures taken at the tournament site.

8:00am - The coaches meeting will be held so the tournament manager(s) can discuss state tournament play.

The singles and doubles seeding meetings will immediately follow the coaches meeting. Play will begin immediately following announcements made after the seeding meetings. Players who advance through the championship bracket will play twice on Friday and those advancing through the consolation bracket will play three times on Friday.

INDOOR GEAR

All players should be sure to include indoor shoes as part of their gear for state competition due to the possibility of indoor play.

INTRODUCTION OF SCHOOL-APPROVED COACHES

During the coaches meeting **the school-approved coaches from each school should be introduced so there is no confusion about who will be representing each school.** Players in the tournament and approved by their coach may also talk to their teammates during coaching opportunities. A school's head coach is responsible for the behavior of their players talking to teammate on the court.

CHANGEOVERS

When players change ends after the first game of each set, or during any tie-break, there will be no rest period. The first rest period, and coaching opportunity, occurs when players change ends after the 3rd game of a set.

COACHING OPPORTUNITIES

School coaches have an opportunity to coach their players during each 90-second changeover and during set breaks. Breaks between sets one and two are limited to 2 minutes and breaks between sets two and three are limited to 10 minutes. ***During consolation play, when a 10-Point Match Tie-Break is played in lieu of a 3rd set, the break between the 2nd set and 10-point match tie-break is 3 minutes.*** School coaches, or players in the tournament and approved by their coach, are the only ones permitted to speak to their players from the time they take the court to warm up for their match until the match is over. **It is NOT PERMISSIBLE for club pros, parents, or others, to speak with players during this time.** If there is a violation in the district or state competition of this rule, the player may be disqualified from further competition.

Note #1: Coaches do NOT need to wait for the opposing coach to be present to use a coaching opportunity.

Note #2: The duration of the 90-second changeovers and set breaks are NOT lengthened for coaching opportunities. Players are expected to pick up their drinks and towels at the net post, if they wish to have them, and go immediately to the fence to visit with their coaches.

Note #3: When players change ends at the conclusion of game #1 and during any 7-point set or 10-point match tie-break there is no delay and no coaching opportunities exist during those times.

COACHES' RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENFORCING GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

The responsibility for ensuring that each player practices good sportsmanship lies with each player's coach. Profanity (*including four-letter words*), racket throwing, or other unsportsmanlike acts cannot be tolerated. **A player may be given a warning, or ejected and disqualified, on the first violation depending upon the severity of the acts, as determined by the player's coach or meet management. A SECOND WARNING TO THE SAME INDIVIDUAL IS AN AUTOMATIC EJECTION AND DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE COMPETITION.** If one partner of a doubles team is ejected and disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct during doubles competition, the doubles team forfeits the match and cannot advance in competition due to the ejection.

TOURNAMENT MANAGERS' HAVE FINAL AUTHORITY TO ENFORCE THE SPORTSMANSHIP CODE

The Tournament Manager will select three coaches to serve as the Tournament Committee to help the Tournament Manager enforce good sportsmanship by players and coaches, and make other decisions not specifically covered by the rules. The Tournament Manager's decision will be final related to all aspects of the tournament not specifically covered by the IHSAA. Upon the recommendation of the Tournament Manager, the IHSAA Administrative Staff will send a letter of reprimand to the school administrators of coaches guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct at IHSAA-sponsored post-season tennis tournaments. **Sportsmanship warnings given during district, preliminary sub-state, sub-state, and state competition carry over from match-to-match, round-to-round, and day-to-day of the same tournament. A SECOND WARNING TO THE SAME INDIVIDUAL IS AN AUTOMATIC EJECTION AND DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE COMPETITION.** As per IHSAA policy, any student disqualified from an interscholastic contest for flagrant, violent, or verbal misconduct will be ineligible for the next regularly scheduled game/meet/date at that level of competition and all other games/meets/dates in the interim at any level, including IHSAA postseason tournaments, in addition to any other penalties the IHSAA or the school may assess.

GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING CONTROVERSY ON THE COURT

(Line calls, foot faults, score keeping, etc.)

WHEN A MEET MANAGER, OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE, IS AVAILABLE:

STEP 1: A player's coach is responsible for cautioning his/her player if there is a problem with line calls, foot faults, scorekeeping, etc. If a player's coach fails to meet this responsibility or the player's behavior continues the following procedure should be followed:

STEP 2: The players will have a conference at the net to discuss the issue in question.

STEP 3: The *meet manager, or his/her designee*, will have a conference with the players to discuss the issue in question.

STEP 4: The *meet manager, or his/her designee*, will have a conference with the players **AND** both head coaches to discuss the issue in question.

STEP 5: The *meet manager, or his/her designee*, will appoint an appeal judge to rule on appeals made by a player.

(The Athletic Association should be notified if step #5 of these guidelines is implemented during a meet.)

MATCH SCORING AT THE STATE MEET

All matches will be 2 out of 3 sets. Deuce-add scoring will be used during the championship rounds of competition. No-ad scoring will be used during consolation play. The idea of no-ad scoring is to follow the recommendation of the tennis coaches to speed play so no player will be eliminated until they have lost at least two matches. Please understand play may continue late into the night on Friday to get all consolation matches played.

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The 7-point set tie-break will be used for all rounds when the set score is tied "6-6" to determine a "7-6" set winner. ***As per the Tennis Coaches Advisory State Committee recommendation, for all post-season consolation play, a 10-Point Match Tie-Break will be played in lieu of a 3rd set.*** When a 10-Point Match Tie-Break is used the first individual or doubles team to reach 10 points, and is ahead by two, wins the third set (1-0)(x) (with the x being the number of points won by the losing team).

PLAYERS WHO REFUSE TO PLAY OR CONTINUE PLAYING

When a player refuses to play, or continue playing, for any reason he disqualifies himself from further competition in the tournament. The player's school, or the Athletic Association, may impose further penalties if they deem such penalties appropriate.

NO CELL PHONE OR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT ALLOWED ON THE COURT

No cell phones, or other electronic equipment, may be used by players during a match from the time they begin warm ups until the conclusion of play. USTA rules do allow players to bring onto the court written notes that were prepared before the start of the match and may be referred to during any changeover or set break.

SATURDAY SCHEDULE AT THE STATE TOURNAMENT

Consolation bracket play will begin on Saturday at 9:30am with championship bracket play beginning at 10:00am. Consolation matches will begin at 1:30pm with championship finals at 2:00pm, unless determined otherwise by the tournament manager due to weather concerns.

I wish you and your players the best of luck at the State Tournament. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Alan Beste
Assistant Executive Director
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