

2011 Boys State Tennis Preview

By Brad Pettiford, OHSAA Sports Information Intern

The 2011 OHSAA boys state tennis tournament will be held Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28 at Hilliard Davidson High School. The change in venue is due to construction that is currently being done on the Stickney Tennis Center at Ohio State University.

There will be several familiar faces competing this year, as 11 of the 16 Division I individual qualifiers also competed in the state tournament last year. Nine of the qualifiers played as individuals – Colton Buffington (Westlake); Nick Wong (Lexington); Adam Reinhart (Cincinnati Sycamore); Zach Mueck (Liberty Township Lakota East); Tommy Marx (Shaker Heights); Hiromi Nakayama (Dublin Coffman); Nolan Marks (Chagrin Falls Kenston); Casey Cempre (Worthington Thomas Worthington) and David Gabriel (Shaker Heights). Evan Bechtel of Toledo St. John's Jesuit and Conner Nagel of Cincinnati Princeton competed in the 2010 doubles tournament.

Eight of the 16 individual qualifiers in Division II are also making repeat appearances – Ian Wagner (Columbus Wellington School); Colin Bernier (Canton Central Catholic); Trevor Bowers (Norwalk); Sam Ubersax (Pepper Pike Orange); Andrew Linden (Sandusky St. Mary Central Catholic); Chris Diaz (Columbus Bishop Watterson) and Michael Fredericka (Warren John F. Kennedy). Gabe Seymour of Chillicothe is making the transition from a 2010 doubles qualifier to an individual qualifier this year.

In Division I, Mueck of Liberty Township Lakota East was the Division I runner-up and Westlake's Buffington was the third place finisher in 2010. The Upper Arlington tandem of Billy Weldon and Stu Little won the 2010 state doubles championship. On the Division II side, Diaz of Columbus Bishop Watterson is back to defend his 2010 individual state championship and Bernier of Canton Central Catholic placed third last year.

Complete results will be posted on OHSAA.org following the finals on Saturday.

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