

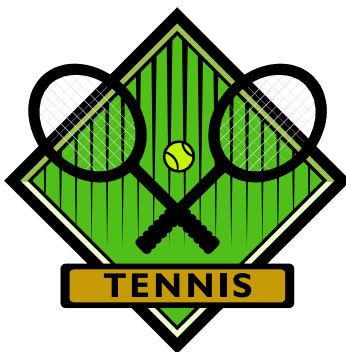


2009

Girl's Tennis

Manual

For Coaches



Ohio High School Athletic Association
4080 Roselea Place
Columbus, Ohio 43214
Ph: 614-267-2502 ~ Fax: 614-267-1677
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Ohio High School Athletic Association
4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214
Telephone: 614.267.2502 Fax: 614.267.1677
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TO: Tennis Coaches-Girls

FROM: Roxanne Price, Assistant Commissioner

RE: OHSAA Tennis Regulations and Related Materials

This tennis manual is intended as a guide to assist with the coaching and administration of interscholastic girl's tennis. Included in this manual are the sports regulations for tennis as adopted by the OHSAA Board of Directors, and a brief summary of the general sports regulations that apply to all recognized sports of the OHSAA. Additional information regarding the OHSAA bylaws and constitution can be found in the current edition of the OHSAA Handbook or on our website at www.ohsaa.org. Please refer to our handbook or website for information regarding scholarship, residency, transfers, recruiting and other issues that may affect a student's eligibility for interscholastic athletics.

As state rules interpretation meetings were held for the 2008-09 school year, there is no mandatory requirement to attend a rules interpretation meeting this school year. In the sport of tennis, rule interpretations meetings are held every other school year.

The USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations will serve as the official rules of tennis. Many of these rules are outlined in the OHSAA tennis regulations. The OHSAA will provide the USTA Handbook as a courtesy to each member school. **The handbook will be mailed separately to each member school.** The "Rules of Tennis" and the "Twelve Point Tie Break Procedures for Tennis" shall be used in all contests without exception. This may not be changed by mutual agreement of the coaches.

A tennis team will consist of three singles and two doubles. Participants may not compete in both singles and doubles. Stacking is not permitted. The requirement is that in a given contest the coach is required to play the singles players and doubles teams in rank order.

Please be reminded that coaching and instruction in girl's tennis begins August 10, 2009. Refer to the tennis regulations regarding scrimmages, previews, and regular season match limitations. Also note that although a girl may play on the boy's tennis team, any girl who plays on the girls' tennis team in the fall of 2009 is ineligible to compete on the boys' team in the spring of 2010. Please also review the change that has been made regarding regular season tournaments. Pro sets are now permitted. **The non-interscholastic date is also two weeks earlier.**

You will also want to note that if a school tennis team violates the out of state travel regulation, the team will not be permitted to participate in the OHSAA state tennis tournament.

Again, these materials have been provided to assist you with the coaching and administration of tennis. Take the time to read and review the materials. If you have any questions, or I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (614) 267-2502, ext. 114 or email me at rprice@ohsaa.org.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ohio High School Athletic Association's mission is to regulate and administer interscholastic athletic competition in a fair and equitable manner while promoting the values of participation in interscholastic athletics as an integral part of a student's educational experience. The OHSAA represents its member schools by recognizing and promoting academics, the safety of participants, good citizenship, and lifelong values as the foundation of interscholastic athletics.

2009 TENNIS RULES INTERPRETATION MEETINGS

By OHSAA Board of Directors regulation, any school sponsoring interscholastic contests in high school tennis must have the head coach, assistant coach or athletic administrator attend a rules interpretation meeting. For the sport of tennis, these meetings are held every other academic year. There are no rules meetings scheduled for the 2009-10 academic year.

If you have any questions regarding the rules of tennis, please contact one of the rules interpreters listed below.

INTERPRETERS	PHONE
Tim Voegeli	C: 937-271-7690
Ed Wolff	H: 216-524-6105

CALENDAR

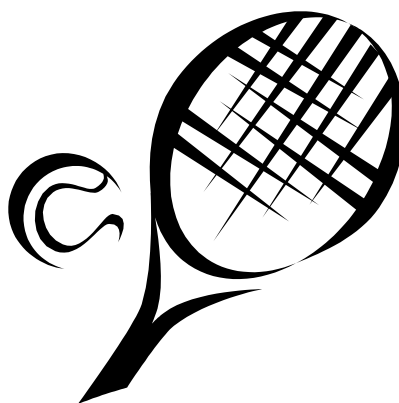
IMPORTANT DATES

2009 OHSAA GIRLS TENNIS CALENDAR	
August 10	First Day of Coaching and Instruction
August 17	First Regulation Season Contest Permitted
September 21	Deadline for Entering or Withdrawing from the OHSAA Tournament
September 7	Non-Interscholastic Competition No Longer Permitted
October 5-October 10	Sectional Tournaments
October 12-October 17	District Tournaments
October 23-24	State Tournament – The Ohio State University, Stickney Tennis Center

OHSAA CONTACT INFORMATION

OHSAA Office – 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214 ~ 614-267-2502 ~ 614-267-1677 (fax)

Name	Title	Responsibilities	E-Mail
Roxanne Price	Assistant Commissioner	Oversees the sport & coordinates the tournaments	rprice@ohsaa.org
Renee Moore	Administrative Assistant	Assists in the coordination of the sport & tournaments	rmoore@ohsaa.org



The following is a summary of the sports regulations as they apply to match protocol and to the postseason tournaments. Items addressed are warm up periods, rest periods, foot faults, equipment, etc.

Summary of Tennis Regulations and 2009 Tournament Information

I. Eligibility

- 1.1 OHSAA eligibility bylaws apply to all participants.
- 1.2 OHSAA Sport Regulation #4 – Non-Interscholastic Programs.

2. Rules of Play

- 2.1 Current U.S.T.A. rules for singles and doubles play apply unless specifically modified below.
- 2.2 Each individual match is best two out of three sets. The twelve-point tiebreaker will be used in each set. **During invitational or conference tournaments individuals may play a maximum of four pro sets.**
- 2.3 In OHSAA sponsored tennis tournaments, individuals are prohibited from participating in more than three matches per day.
- 2.4 Players and coaches are requested to assist in starting matches on schedule. A ten minute default rule may be enforced.
- 2.5 The warm-up period for all matches shall not exceed ten minutes.
- 2.6 All warm-up serves in both singles and doubles shall be taken prior to the start of play.
- 2.7 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 treatment after which the player must resume play or forfeit the match.
- 2.8 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.
- 2.9 Either player may call a "let" if interference occurs, but the player calling a "let" must be in control of the ball. A "let" will not be allowed after a player has hit and erred.
- 2.10 Players are warned not to catch balls before they strike the court.
- 2.11 In case of foot faults the coach (not players) should notify the tournament manager. The tournament manager will handle the violations and may assign a foot fault judge if necessary.
- 2.12 Players are requested to record scores on scoreboards as they change courts when scoreboards are provided.
- 2.13 The winner of each match will report the score to the tournament manager, return used balls and then be notified of the schedule time of his/her next match.
- 2.14 In tennis there will be no rest period between the second and third sets
- 2.15 There shall be a minimum of thirty minutes between matches in the sectional tournaments and a minimum of forty-five minutes between matches in district tournaments for all competitors.

3. Equipment

- 3.1 Only "championship" quality, "approved by the U.S.T.A." balls shall be used in matches.
- 3.2 The home team will furnish the balls for the matches unless other arrangements have been made between the coaches.
- 3.3 The home team coach shall determine whether new balls will be used for third sets. The decision and announcement to the players should be made in advance of the start of play.
- 3.4 Tennis racquets and strings shall conform to current U.S.T.A. standards.
- 3.5 Singles sticks shall be used in all sectional and district tournaments.

4. Official

- 4.1 The home team coach shall serve as the referee.

- 4.2 All matches should begin at the specified starting time. Individual matches may be delayed a predetermined period of time to accommodate a player late for a legitimate reason.
- 4.3 Either coach may request a foot-fault judge or line judge. It is the home coach's responsibility to make such assignments.
- 4.4 A player may request interpretation of a rule from his/her coach or the host coach during play.

5. **Conduct, Character, Discipline**

- 5.1 Ethical conduct of players and coaches should be observed at all times.
- 5.2 During participation in regular season and OHSAA tournaments any student or coach ejected for unsporting conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played.
The tournament manager shall report individuals ejected for unsporting conduct during an OHSAA tournament to the OHSAA Commissioner. The Commissioner will investigate the situation and may impose additional penalties in accordance with Bylaw 11, if the situation warrants it.
Participation in athletic contests is a privilege. Each individual is expected to conduct him or herself in an exemplary manner while participating.

6. **Coaching**

- 6.1 Coaches may talk to players only when they change ends of court and shall not delay play by doing so.
- 6.2 Coaching may only take place where facilities permit it. Matches on other courts cannot be interfered with. Coaches may not come onto the court.
- 6.3 Coaching is not permitted by anyone other than the school's assigned tennis coaches.
- 6.4 The use of signals, cheering (as opposed to applause), vile suggestions, and the like, during play, is considered unethical and is not permitted.
- 6.5 No coaching from sidelines.

7. **Please refer to the Tennis Regulations regarding:**

- a. Uniforms- hats/visors are considered part of the uniform and uniform regulations shall apply.
- b. Code of Conduct

2009 Tournament Schedule

Sectional: October 5-October 10, 2009 (Specific dates to be established by District Athletic Boards).

District: October 12-17, 2009 (Specific dates to be established by District Athletic Boards).

State: October 23 and October 24, 2009

OHSAA GENERAL SPORTS REGULATIONS

General Sports regulations for 2009-10 can be found in the OHSAA handbook (available on the website, www.ohsaa.org) These rules pertain to tournament deadlines, instructional programs and open gyms, media regulations (including the filming of athletic contests by schools and spectators), transportation to and from interscholastic contests, forfeitures, interrupted contest, alcohol and illegal drugs, and the OHSAA's inclement weather policy, etc. Please refer to these regulations when you have questions about the items mentioned above. The following have been excerpted from the OHSAA General Sports Regulations for your immediate reference. The numbers reflect the numbers as they appear in the handbook and on the website.

2. Mandatory Attendance at OHSAA Sponsored Rules Interpretation Meetings

2.1) Any school sponsoring a sport recognized by the OHSAA in which a state tournament is held, must have the head varsity coach or assistant varsity coach in that sport or the athletic administrator attend an OHSAA-

sponsored state rules interpretation meeting in that sport if such a meeting is held in order for teams or individuals from that school to be eligible to enter the OHSAA-sponsored tournament.

2.2) Those attending will be responsible to be in attendance within 10 minutes of the start of the meeting and remain until the conclusion of the meeting to receive credit for attendance.

2.3) Those attending may file an appeal if they arrive 10 minutes after the start of the meeting.

2.4) The Commissioner is authorized to consider an appeal for those failing to attend a state rules meeting because of extraordinary circumstances.

3. OHSAA Sponsored Tournaments Entry/Withdraw Procedures and Draw/Seed Meeting Dates

3.1) When schools complete the OHSAA participation form online each spring and indicate they sponsor a varsity sport, they will select "yes" for each sport in which they plan to enter the OHSAA tournaments. Those who select "no" after each sport will be withdrawn from the OHSAA tournament. Instructions for filling out the participation form will be provided to the membership.

3.2) Two weeks prior to each draw/seed meeting date for each sport, schools will be given a one week period to enter or withdraw from an OHSAA tournament should they change their previous decision in that particular sport.

The specific one-week periods for each sport during the 2009-10 school year are listed in the 2009-10 OHSAA Handbook.

3.2.1) Whether a school selected "yes" for an OHSAA tournament on its participation form or changed its previous decision and entered an OHSAA tournament during the designated one-week period for that particular sport, all schools shall complete all tournament and souvenir program forms (roster, pass lists, schedule, submission of team photo, etc.) online during the same designated one-week period for each particular sport. **The specific one-week periods for each sport during the 2009-10 school year are listed in the handbook.** Instructions for filling out the tournament and souvenir program forms will be provided to the membership. Schools that fail to complete all tournament souvenir program forms online during the designated one-week period for each particular sport will be fined \$150 for each missed deadline.

3.3) After the one-week periods end as outlined in 3.2 above, schools that desire to enter or withdraw from an OHSAA tournament may do so by filing a "Petition Letter of Entry or Withdraw" with the OHSAA office (**not the tournament manager or District Athletic Board**) prior to the particular sport's draw/seed meeting. If entry is approved, schools will be provided instructions on how to complete entry online and complete all tournament and souvenir program forms. Schools will be fined \$150 for their late entry or withdrawal.

3.3.1) The Commissioner's office shall have the authority to approve or disapprove such "Petitions." Decisions to disapprove an entry may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

3.4) A school coach or administrator shall attend a mandatory draw/seed meeting for each sport.

The specific dates for each sport's draw/seed meeting during the 2009-10 school year are listed in the general sports regulations.

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

OHSAA Girls Tennis Tournament Regulations are available at www.ohsaa.org. On the web site, under "Sports" select Tennis - Girls. The tournament regulations are listed under "Tournament Information" on the left side.

OHSAA GENERAL SPORTS REGULATIONS

General Sports Regulations are available at www.ohsaa.org. Under "Sports" select Tennis - Girls. The General Sports Regulations are listed under 2009 Tennis Info on left side.

STATE TOURNAMENT

OHSAA Girls State Tennis Tournament Regulations are available at www.ohsaa.org. On the web site, under "Sports" select Tennis - Girls. The tournament regulations are listed under "Tournament Information" on the left side.

Every Moment is a Chance for Greatness

Speak with courtesy

act with dignity

play with pride

**Respect
THE
GAME**

**Have a great
season!**