

## **“Tie-Break” Procedure for Tennis**

In ALL girls and boys dual matches and tournament matches the twelve (12) point tie-breaker system of play shall be used

The following system shall be used in a tie-break set.

### **SINGLES:**

A player who first wins seven points shall win the game and the set provided the player leads by a margin of two points. If the score reaches six points all, the game shall be extended until this margin has been achieved. Numerical scoring shall be used throughout the tie-break game.

The player whose turn it is to serve shall be the server for the first point. The opponent shall be the server for the second and third points and thereafter each player shall serve alternately for two consecutive points until the winner of the game and set has been decided.

From the first point, each service shall be delivered alternately from the right and left courts beginning from the right court. If service from a wrong half of the court occurs and it is undetected, all play resulting from such wrong service or services shall stand, but the inaccuracy of station should be corrected immediately.

Players shall change ends after every six points and at the conclusion of the tie break game.

### **DOUBLES:**

In doubles the procedure for singles shall apply. The player whose turn it is to serve shall be the server for the first point. Thereafter each player shall serve in rotation for two points, in the same order as previously in that set, until the winner of the game and set have been decided.

### **ROTATION OF SERVICE**

The player (or pair in the case of doubles) who served first in the tie-break game shall receive service in the first game of the following set. Players also change sides after the last point of the tie-break game.

*USTA Rule 5b*

Coaches, please note that in dual matches where the match outcome has already been determined (3 points scored), in lieu of a third set, students may play a 10 point tiebreaker (the first to win 10 points by a margin of two points) if both coaches mutually agree to do so prior to the start of the match.