

WOMEN'S AND MEN'S TENNIS

9.0 GOVERNING RULES

The U.S.T.A. rules shall govern all play except whereas modified by the CIF or the Sac-Joaquin Section.

9.1 CONTACTS

The Sac-Joaquin Section (Bylaw 505.2) will determine the number of maximum allowable contests (27). Scrimmages for all levels are limited to two per team.

9.2 START DATE

Start and end dates will be designated by the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section.

9.3 PLAYER CLASSIFICATION

All competition will be at the varsity level.

9.4 RULES OF THE SPORT

- A. The host team is responsible for reporting the final results to the Sacramento Bee.
- B. 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. No-Ad scoring will be used with the official U.S.T.A. seven (7) point tiebreaker game played at six (6) all in any set.
- C. Rainouts are to resume at the point play was suspended.
- D. The home team will supply Dunlap, Penn, or Wilson "Championship Extra Dry" yellow tennis balls for all matches. Prior the the start of warm-ups, each coach will submit lineups simultaneously. 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. Coaching of players is allowed if it does not interfere with or disrupt play ie: during change-overs. There will be no break after the first game.
- E. Each team will play its ladder in descending order with the best player in the #1 position. If a player is not available to play the coach must move the next best player into that spot and move up the rest of the players accordingly. The coach may not forfeit the match in order to keep the rest of the team in their normal positions. The coach must move the next best singles player into the #6 position and rearrange the doubles accordingly. A coach may not have two separate ladders, one for doubles and one for singles. If there are better singles players on the doubles ladder, those singles players must be moved into the singles spot if the regular singles player cannot play for any reason.
- F. The player strength ladder must represent both singles and doubles players strength on the team roster starting with the highest strength player as #1 to the lowest strength player listed last. This strength ladder will be enforced for all matches. Players may play only one event (singles or doubles). The #1 singles player must be ranked higher on the team player strength ladder than the #2 player, the #2 higher than #3, #3 higher than #4, #4 higher than #5, and #5 higher than #6. Players ranked #1 through #6 cannot 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 have the lowest sum and the #3 team will have 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.

G. If an injury or illness occurs after line-ups have been submitted, the coach may substitute any available player in the #6 position.

9.5 LEAGUE TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

1. There will be a singles and doubles championship tennis tournament held on separate days at the end of the regular season. Singles will be played on Monday and doubles will be played on Wednesday. The purpose of the Metro League Championship Tournament is to qualify two singles players and two doubles teams for the Sac-Joaquin Section individual tennis playoffs. There will be an 8:00 AM meeting where the seeding will take place for both the singles and doubles tournament. Seeding will be based on how well each individual performed during the regular Metro League season.
2. There will be a draw of 16 players for both the singles and the doubles tournament. The final Metro League standings will determine the number of players each school will bring to the championship tournament. The first and second place teams in the league standings will each bring 3 players, the third through sixth place teams will each bring 2 players, and the seventh and eighth place teams will each bring one player to create the 16 player draw.
 - A. During the draw process for singles, every effort will be made to avoid players from the same school meeting in the first round. The #1's and #2's will not be on the same side of the draw but this will not be possible with the #3's. If a name is randomly drawn that does not meet the criteria for being placed on the next line, the name will be placed back into the "hat" and another name will be drawn. The process will continue until the field of 16 is complete.
 - B. Doubles teams will not be seeded unless unanimously agreed upon by all of the coaches. Each of the top two schools in the league standings will designate who the #1 through #3 teams are and the remaining teams will designate who the #1 and #2 teams are.
 - C. The first three rounds of the singles tennis tournament will be played on the first day and the finals will be played on the same day as the doubles tournament. The same format will apply to the doubles tournament. If doubles teams from the same school are represented in the finals they may choose to play at their home court. The head coaches will determine the length of time between each singles and doubles match.
 - D. Each match will consist of 2 out of 3 sets, no add scoring. If the set is tied at 6-6 the 7 point tie-breaker will be implemented. Coaching may occur only during a change over. Each team must have a coach or designated person to supervise the players but only one person can be designated from each school to coach during the change over.
 - E. In the event of rain or delay, flight #1 and #2 and super doubles will take precedence over all the other matches and flights because they are the flights tied to section playoffs.
 - F. In the event any of the representatives to the section tournament are unable to compete the singles player(s) or doubles team(s) that lost to them last will take their place.

9.6 ALL LEAGUE AWARDS AND SELECTION PROCESS

Coaches will meet at the end of the league season to select a Player of the Year and the All

League team which will consist of the semifinalists from flights #1 and #2 and the semifinalists from superdoubles.

Coaches will vote for 2 other players in case of duplication. There will be a total 12 all league players.

9.7 POSTSEASON QUALIFICATION PROCESS

Team tie breaking procedure for section qualifyng will be 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. A match at a neutral site (site to be agreed upon by coaches; if no agreement then league president makes a decision).
- d. If the outcome can still not be determined then a coin toss will break the tie.