 *BearKat* Tennis Policies and Expectations:

Each Player is expected to:

* Comply and follow all policies of Klein ISD athletics, KISD Code of Conduct, District 15-6A, Texas UIL, and USTA court conduct, policies, and procedures.
* Follow the safety rules of the team
* Respect coaches, team members, opponents, umpires, and parents (Arguing, complaining, etc about a decisions made by captains, coaches, umpires, etc will not be tolerated)
  + In the digital era this respect needs to extend to social media as well. You should be supportive of your team (team mates, coaches, parents) at all times. Each player will be asked to sign a pledge of social media responsibility at the beginning of each year.
* Care for and help maintain the condition of all equipment and uniforms provided by the school. You are responsible for the cost of replacing damaged or lost uniforms and/or equipment.
* Attend all practices, including class periods and after school and always be on time (If you are unable to attend a practice you must alert Coach Cannon **PRIOR** to the absence; by **11 AM on the day of the absence)**. It **IS NOT** acceptable to send a message through another person. ***Missed practices will result in consequences***. You are expected to remain at practice until the end of the scheduled time.
  + Schedule conflicts must be reported to the coach within two school days following distribution of schedules and/or schedule updates
  + Frequent or repeated absences/lack of participation will be reflected in your grade (lack of participation in class) or playing time (lack of participation in practice)
* Come prepared to practice with a ***Klein Tennis Shirt, appropriate shorts/skirts/sweats, tennis court shoes, rackets***, etc. 5th, 6th and 7th period practice will start promptly 5 minutes after the tardy bell for that period; after school practice will begin at 2:40 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. You must be ready to play with ***shoes on and tied*** at these times. Coming unprepared may result in loss of position, participation points, etc.
  + Each class period will be graded on a scale of 10 points – 2 pts dress code, 2 pts equipment, 6 pts participation
  + Regular practices will be as follows
    - Freshman/JV Mon/Thu 4:00 – 5:30; Wed 3:00 – 4:30
    - Varsity team Mon/Tues/Thurs 2:45 – 4:00
* Travel to away matches **AND** from away matches together as a team.
  + Players may at times accompany the team to matches as back-up players – this requires that the player be on time, assist the coaches as necessary and be ready to play if necessary.
  + Under extenuating circumstances – attendance at another school activity, serious family conflict; players ***may***  be allowed to leave early with ***their own parent*** given prior approval by the coach – note must be presented to the coach prior to departure from KHS.
* Attend and remain at all home and away matches until all players have completed their matches.
* Maintain a team environment by cheering, encouraging, and watching your teammates as they play when you have completed your matches
* Wear Klein tennis attire when practicing or playing with the team (for varsity – the uniform of the day); if you look like a team, you play like a team! Failure to dress accordingly will result in consequences.
* Set goals for yourself and the team and strive to achieve them. Carry yourself with integrity on and off the court – you are representing not only yourself, but your team and your school
* Conferences with player and/or with parents will be held by appointment only and must be scheduled at least a day in advance. They will not be held before, during, or after any match and will be used to discuss how the player can improve his/her skills and playing ability (playing position, playing time, etc will not be discussed). The focus will be solely on that particular player and no other players will be discussed.

Failure to comply with the above policies may result in one or more of the following:

* + extra fitness routine to be completed after regularly scheduled class/practice
  + court clean-up
  + match suspension
  + player dropped from team

**Team Placement:**

Teams are determined in a two step process. At the end of each school year, the round robin process determines ladder positioning for each player. The top fifteen girls and top 15 boys are invited to varsity camp along with any incoming USTA qualified players and any incoming freshmen who finished 1st or 2nd in the middle school district tournament. At the conclusion of camp players are placed in 6th or 7th period classes depending on how they finish in the overall scoring. Freshman and new players not invited to varsity camp will participate in a tryout round robin to determine whether they will be placed in the freshman ofrJV class. This should result in everyone being placed in the correct class by opening day of school.

**Challenges:**   
Challenges are an integral part of keeping the entire team in match readiness condition.

* Each player will be assigned a challenge on a periodic basis - nominally each week. At the time of the challenge assignment, the due date will be announced. This information will be communicated in class as well as by email and will be posted on the website.
* It is your responsibility to check for your opponent, set a time and place to play (recorded on the challenge sheet) and report the score at the conclusion of the match.
* Once the match time is set, USTA penalties are in place for compliance. ( Since a 10 -minute warm-up is understood, 10 minutes late will result in forfeiting warm-up and spin; 10 – 15 minutes forfeiture of one game, 15 – 20 minutes forfeiture of 2 games; 20 – 25 minutes forfeiture of three games; at 30 minutes the match will be forfeited). Be considerate of your opponent - if you cannot make the scheduled time call your opponent and let him or her know - your opponent is NOT required to reschedule due to YOUR last minute conflict unless he/she wants to be accommodating. Rainouts must be rescheduled within the set time limit, so don't wait to schedule your match for the last day before it is due.
* Challenge matches will consist of two out of three set matches, regular scoring. Challenge matches MUST be played in their entirety at one time other than for weather related issues. If you have limited time, the match format may be adjusted (no-add scoring, ten point tie-breaker in lieu of a third set, 8 game pro-set etc.) IF BOTH players agree BEFORE the start of the match.

Fund Raising:

We will have three fundraisers as a team this year, two in the fall semester and one in the spring. We have limited funds from the district and need to supplement them if we are to be able to maintain our program at the level we currently enjoy. **Participation by all players is expected**; with the understanding that if we want to travel, have new equipment, etc., we need to raise money.

***Booster Club:***

Parents of players at all levels are expected to become involved in the Tennis Parents Booster Club. The booster club is an integral part of our tennis program without which we could not provide the program that we have here at Klein. The boosters take on a variety of responsibilities during the year, including Meet the BearKats, fundraising and the end of year awards banquet. In addition, the boosters as parents support us by attending matches and providing encouragement during play.

***All of this information will be discussed and you will have an opportunity to ask questions at the Meet the Tennis BearKats night on Monday, August 28th. from 6:30-8 p.m. At that time you will also have the opportunity to join the Booster club, purchase practice shirts and spirit items for you and your player and meet the other parents and players. This meeting is an important part of your participation in Klein tennis and it is necessary that a parent attend.***

***It is exciting to have you as a part of the Klein Tennis family and I look forward to another great year!***

***Coach Cannon***