

## Article IX - Tennis

900. Competition shall be in accordance with USTA rules (The Friends at Court) and as amended by the Board of Managers.

901. Practice

**"The WBAL will reflect the CCS By-Laws (Article V, Section 3, F-Practices) regarding practices."**

a) Interscholastic practice during the school year is defined as:

- i. Any school team or individual activity organized by the coach that is intended to maintain or improve a student-athlete's skill proficiency in a sport AND/OR
- ii. Any school team or individual activity that includes skill drills, game situation drills, inter- squad scrimmages or games, chalk talks, film review, meetings outside of school time (excluding parent meetings). AND/OR
- iii. Any other coach-directed or supervised school team or individual activity or instruction for a specific sport AND/OR
- iv. Any other team or individual instruction for a specific sport organized or supervised by any team member, or anyone else associated with the team or the school AND/OR tryouts.

b) Any single practice session shall be no longer than 3 hours in length.

c) There shall be a minimum of 3 hours between any two practice sessions in a single day.

d) Double day practices shall not be held on consecutive days.

e) Conditions for Optional, Non-Mandatory Off Season Individual & Small Groups Skill Development: Coaches are allowed to work with their athletes in a designated off season 8 week program individually or in a small group of no more than 4 athletes, no more than one hour a day and no more than twice a week for an athlete.

902. Students may play singles or doubles, but not both in a particular league dual match or the WBAL CCS Post Season Qualifying Tournament.

903. A league match will consist of seven matches; 4 singles and 3 doubles.
- a) Suggested pre-match schedule: 3:00 team warm up, 3:05 coaches exchange lineups, 3:15 ladder introductions, 3:20 match warm up, 3:30 match starts
  - b) Ten minutes prior to introductions, coaches will exchange lineup sheets that will include current lineup and previous match lineup. If a conflict arises, it must be addressed at this time.
  - c) Each individual match will consist of the best 2 out of 3 sets, no ad.
  - d) A set that is tied at 6 games each will use the 12 point tiebreaker as written in the USTA Rule Book.
  - e) For dual matches, home team will provide new USTA approved tennis balls & score cards for each court. A new can of balls should be provided for the third set.
  - f) For league matches, a full 3rd set set will be played unless a school has less than 7 courts or both coaches agree to an alternate format.
904. Team ladders
- a) Definition: a team ladder is the arrangement of a team's players in rank order so as to determine the line-up of a team on any given day for match purposes.
    - i. Team competition involves a format in which players play either singles or doubles, but not both on the same day.
    - ii. The line up must be in descending order of ability (1-10).
    - iii. On a particular match day, the top 3 singles players shall be selected from among the top 6 singles players. #4 singles may be selected from any of the 10 players, playing in the match.
    - iv. Singles players shall be placed on a ladder in order of their strength as determined by head-to-head competition "using at least an 8 game pro set. (The #1 player shall have beaten the #2 player, the #2 player shall have beaten the #3 player, etc.)
  - b) Maintaining the ladder
    - i. Coaches will submit a fixed ladder to the League Commissioner before the first league contest and an updated ladder before the first match of the second round.

- ii. Teams must go with the best available players on that day in proper descending order. Moving players to positions they do not belong in is not permitted.
- iii. In the event a player can not play a match due to illness or injury, the coach must move everyone up one position. When a #1 person is unavailable, she should be replaced by the #2 player, and the rest of the singles ladder must move up one position. The #4 single spot can be forfeited or a JV player can fill in that spot. The doubles team can be kept intact.
- iv. At each match each coach will fill out a line up sheet indicating that day's lineup as well as bringing lineups of the previous match.

905. **BOYS ONLY:** Head to head challenge matches on the ladder - All varsity head to head matches will be a minimum of an 8 game pro set.

- a) Each player or doubles team on the varsity squad may challenge only the player or team that is one spot or ranking ahead on the ladder. Ex #3 can only challenge #2.
- b) During the league season, players shall make no more than one challenge per week.
- c) Any player or team being challenged by the player or team one spot below must accept the challenge.
- d) The challenge must be held during a regularly scheduled weekday practice in the presence of the coach.
- e) Coaches shall have recorded evidence of every challenge match on the team. They shall be prepared to show these records at any time (ex. match, coaches' meeting, etc.)
- f) After a successful challenge, all players shall play at least one match at their new spots prior to challenging or being challenged again.
- g) A new player joining the team after initial season ladder is set:
  - i. is not limited to one challenge per week.
  - ii. shall have at least one win and one loss in team challenges prior to representing the team in a league match. (Exception: the player who challenges at #1 singles and wins.)

906. The round robin league winners will represent the league in the team CCS tournament.

907. General Rulings

- a) Foot faults are common in matches so the following procedure needs to be adopted formally. If a foot fault is spotted by the opposing player or either coach, the player tells the coach on his/her own team and the coach tells the opposing player's coach, who in turn, issues a warning to his/her player. A coach can warn the other coach as well. If the problem is a chronic one, line judges will be called on to officiate.
- b) Each player is required to call out the score before each serve and the set score at the beginning of each game.
- c) Each coach should notify the other coach to verify each match and be sure of the proper location. Practice games with other girls not on the varsity ladder should be played as time and numbers allow.

908. Coaching during a match

- a) A coach may coach a player anytime during the match so long as the coach does not interfere with play.
- b) Coaches may go on the court at an agree location to coach.
- c) A coach determined by any coach listed on the roster, or any school sanctioned personnel. (no teammates, parents, outside coaches, etc.)
- d) A warning will be called on the player/players of a team if parent of another member of the team interferes (coaching, questioning calls, scoring, etc.)

909. Time limits

- a) There is a 90-second time limit when players are switching sides between games, except after game
- b) There is a 20 second time limit between points.
- c) Players have a 10-minute break between sets when they split sets.

910. Dress Code

Same color tops with school representation and same color shorts/skirts shall be worn by all playing team members. There shall be no exposed midriffs. All players not in uniform are not eligible to play.

911. Crowd control

- a) The home school has every right to ask someone from the home or visiting school to leave due to inappropriate behavior.
- b) If an incident does occur, fill out the CCS incident form and send it to the league commissioner.

912. Tiebreaking Procedure (for CCS Advancement/League Standing only):

- a) Head-to-head competition
- b) Final score (between teams in question), e.g. 4-3, 2-5, Team #2 wins TB by score of 8-6
- c) Total number of sets won (between teams in question)
- d) Total number of games won (between teams in question)
- e) Coin flip

WBAL CCS Qualifiers

a) Team Qualifiers

913. WBAL CCS Qualifiers

- a) Team Qualifiers
  - i. The WBAL has two automatic team qualifiers into the CCS Tournament. The Foothill League Champion and the winner of a playoff match between the Foothill 2nd place team and the Skyline 1st place team. The match should be scheduled for the Thursday before the CCS Tennis seeding meeting at the Foothill #2 home site. The skyline 1st place team has the opportunity to forfeit the match if they choose not to play, giving Foothill #2 the automatic bid.
- b) Individual Qualifiers
  - i. Individual Tournament Schedule
    1. Thursday night (immediately after last league contest) Tournament Seeding Meeting and Coaches Postseason Meeting

2. Monday (week after league play) 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Individual Qualifier, beginning at 1:30pm

3. Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Individual Qualifier, beginning at noon

ii. Seeding

1. The individual tournament will be a 16 player/team tournament. League dual match records are used to place the top 12 players.

2. Higher seed will go to the winner of the last head to head match.

3. Players are eligible to compete in the tournament as singles or doubles players, regardless of their standing during the regular season.

4. When filling out the tournament bracket, a coin flip will be used to determine the placement position of seeds #3 and #4.

5. Once the seeding meeting has taken place, lineups cannot be changed unless there is an injury or illness. In an event a seeded player misses the tournament, a substitute may play, but no reseeding attempt will be made and substitute player will not gain the predesignated seed.

6. Teams should arrive ½ hour before the tournament begins.

7. Girl's Tournament

a. 1st place (Foothill) 4 singles      3 doubles teams (entire team)

b. 2<sup>nd</sup> place (Foothill)      3 singles      2 doubles teams

c. 3<sup>rd</sup> place (Foothill)      2 singles      2 doubles teams

d. 4<sup>th</sup> place (Foothill)      1 single      2 doubles teams

e. 5<sup>th</sup> place (Foothill)      1 single      2 doubles teams

f. 6<sup>th</sup> place (Foothill)      1 single      1 doubles team

g. Skyline Division (total) 4 singles      4 doubles teams

i. Skyline Division four players are based on coaches vote, singles and doubles teams can come from any of the Skyline Division teams.

ii. These will be voted on by the Skyline coaches prior to the seeding meeting, or at the Seeding Meeting, and shall be included in any seeding discussion.

8. Byes will be given as needed to top seeded players and the rest will be by blind draw. All other players will also be placed on the ladder using

the blind draw, except, such that players from the same school would not meet each other until the semi-finals (flip-flop).

- iii. The tournament shall be played as scheduled by the WBAL Board of Managers. The WBAL League Representatives shall serve as the Tournament Director, or as designated by the WBAL BOM.
- iv. The penalty point system used by the CCS shall be followed.
- v. The tournament champions will represent the league in the CCS Individual Tournament. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers will be nominated as At Large Qualifiers for CCS. In case of illness or hardship, a replacement shall be the next higher available individual player or next highest available doubles team, and it shall be the responsibility of the replacement school coach to insure the replacement is entered and present at the tournament.
- vi. A player may be given a 40 minute maximum rest period between matches but they may start earlier if both are ready.

#### 914. All League Procedure

- a. Before the all-league teams are picked, coaches from each team need to submit their choices and hopefully objective reasons for their league player of the year.
- b. Each team may submit one nominee for the player of the year but are not mandated to submit a nominee. After the names are posted, the nominating coaches can discuss the merits of their candidates (brief and to the point, please). A silent, written vote will take place to determine these award winners (one vote for each coach present...you may vote for your own player). If there is a tie, there will be a "vote off" with just the two finalists...if a tie remains after the vote off, both will be considered "Co-Players of the Year".
- c. After the players of the year are awarded in each category, the following table will be used to determine all-league selection. Each coach will select his/her players accordingly. These selections are in addition to the player of the year.  
**Teams can/should give up sports that he/she doesn't have a deserving player for the particular all-league team.**

<b>Place</b>	<b># of 1st Team Players</b>	<b># of 2nd Team Players</b>	<b># of Honorable Mention Players</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	4	2	1	7
2	3	2	1	6
3	2	2	1	5
4	1	2	1	4
5	1	2	1	4
6	0	1	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	

- d. By using this table, there will no longer be the need to vote for All League, just the respective position “Players of the Year”.