

Tennis Rules Clinic-Unit 5: (State Championship Points of Emphasis)

Dates and Sites:

Individual Singles and Doubles Championships: May 3-4 at Jerry Cline Tennis Complex
Team Championships: May 5-6 at Albuquerque Academy (A-AAA) Sierra Vista Tennis Club (AAAA) and Jerry Cline Tennis Complex (AAAA & AAAAA)

Seeding and Selection: Seeding and selection will take place at the NMAA office on Sunday, April 30, 2017. See NMAA Handbook Section 7.21 in section IV of this rules clinic for state qualifying procedure. The district team championship head coach must complete the “District Placement Form” and have signed by the district coaches. This form must be sent to Joe Butler no later than 8am on Sunday, April 30 via email (joeb@nmact.org) or faxed to 505-923-3114.

New in 2016—Emphasized in 2017 !! Every coach statewide must complete the following forms during district tournament week. Both of these forms are also available on the NMAA Tennis Page.

1. “District Tournament Entry Form”. This will be sent to coaches prior to district tournament week and must be returned to me by Wednesday, April 26 at noon. It is a singles/doubles commitment form for the district individual tournament. This form can also be used to submit entries to your individual district tournament director. The district entries will be posted to the NMAA web site. Coaches can utilize this to determine whether players are playing singles and doubles—a seeding tool for completing the “State Coach Input Form” below.
2. “State Coach Input Form” which is available on the NMAA Tennis web site. This must be completed by all coaches statewide and returned to Joe Butler no later than 8am on Friday, April 28. This input will be used as a seeding criteria point during team and individual seeding for the 2017 tournament. Coaches must study MaxPreps results and make an educated assessment for state tournament seeding for both team and individual brackets.

Individual Competition—qualifying to state tournament: For classes A-AAAA, AAAAA and AAAAAA districts a district individual tournament determines the top four singles players and top four doubles teams, all of which qualify for the state tournament.

Team Competition—qualifying to state tournament. District may determine team champions and runner-ups by either of the following methods: a. District team tournament or b. regular season head-to-head competition. Schools must utilize the 6 singles-3 doubles format in district play for state qualifying purposes. For all classes the district champion will automatically advance to the state tournament. All additional bracket places will be selected based on the seeding criteria in NMAA 7.11.

Roster Declarations—Team Competition. Schools competing in district and state team competition must submit singles and doubles rosters (minimum of 6 and up to 12 singles players and minimum of 3 and up to 6 doubles teams) by Sunday of NMAA week 43 (April 16, 2017). Players in singles and doubles teams must be listed from the strongest

to the weakest. This lineup is effective for all matches (district and state) from the declaration date forward. Lineups, including head and assistant coach names, must be submitted on the NMAA Team Lineup form located on the NMAA Tennis Page.

In each round of team competition a team can select any line-up of singles players and doubles teams from their full roster and submit such line-up to the event director on site before the start of that round of team competition, so long as they remain in order from the strongest to weakest. It is considered unsportsmanlike conduct to deliberately “stack” a lineup. Stacking may result in disqualification of the entire team.

During an event (district or state) a coach may replace a doubles player from the declared NMAA team tennis roster. The replacement player must appear on the Doubles Team Roster as declared to the NMAA on week #43. Replacement of a doubles player is restricted as follows: Option 1—do not replace an individual doubles player and move all lower declared teams forward or Option 2—replace a declared doubles player with a player from the next declared roster team. i.e. a member of the #1 doubles team may be replaced by a member of the teams #2 doubles team only. That #2 doubles team player must be replaced by a member of the #3 doubles team; that #3 doubles team player may be replaced by a member of a lower ranked doubles team. Coaches also have the option of moving all declared teams forward in their line-up(e.g. #2 becomes #1, #3 becomes #2 and #5 becomes #3 etc.)

Match Format. In both individual and team competition all matches will be best 2 of 3 tiebreaker sets using regular scoring and a 7-point tie-breaker at 6-all in each set. Team competition is based on a 6 singles and 3 doubles match format . All first round state team matches will be played to their conclusion (all 9 matches). In first round state matches scoring is modified once a team has reached 5 points. A 10-point match tie-breaker is utilized in lieu of a third set. After a team’s first round, matches will conclude once a team has reached 5 match wins.

Sportsmanship. The NMAA endorses the USTA Code of Conduct and NMAA Compete with Class program for all regular season and tournament competition. It is the responsibility of the member schools and coaches to teach the code to all participants. USTA Officials will be on hand during the state tournament to monitor and enforce the code and all USTA and NMAA rules.

Tennis Districts statewide are encouraged to utilize certified USTA officials during district individual and team tournaments. Please contact our lead USTA official Brian Bingham at 505-856-0963 or bb0514@gmx.com to arrange for a certified official at your event. Brian will provide you with some cost effective opportunities.

Joe Butler, NMAA Director of Tennis 505-923-3275 or 505-917-0618
Alissa Wesbrook, Assistant to the Executive Director 505-923-3266