

Coaches,

The rules clinic will be divided into two sections: the introduction and the tennis section within the NMAA handbook. Please familiarize yourself with both sections.

1. Tennis is a year round sport. The start date of February 6th is for competition only. The practice start date is determined by the local school.
2. Schools must declare lineups to the NMAA office by April 15, 2012. These lineups will be used for the remainder of the season, particularly in district and state matches. New clarification, in particular for doubles, will be forth coming.
3. Stacking is prohibited. Please be sure to uphold the highest standard of sportsmanship throughout the season. See Section 7.21.2 E.
4. Seeding and Selection will take place at the NMAA office on Sunday, April 29, 2012. The District Champion head coach will represent the district in the seeding process. The girls seeding will begin at 9:00 AM while the boys will follow at approximately 10:00 AM.
5. The State Individual Championships will be held on the evening of Wednesday, May 2nd and all day on Thursday, May 3rd. The Team Championships will be on May 4-5, all in Albuquerque. First round matches on May 2nd will begin around 4:00 PM.
6. In State Team Competition, all matches will be played out in the first round. Once both teams have completed their initial round of the tournament (playing all 9 matches out) and advancing to the next round, play will conclude for each round thereafter once a team has won the best 5 out of 9 single/double matches combined. The format will continue for the duration of the tournament. Make sure parents are aware of this rule prior to state. Play will conclude once a team has won 5 matches after their initial round
7. Every match in the state tournament will be regular scoring.
8. An ill or injured player, in doubles only, may be replaced by that school's coach provided appropriate medical notification is submitted to the Director on site in advance and approval is achieved. The replacement player must be on the Full Team Roster, must be a "weaker" player, and cannot have competed in doubles competition during the district and state tournament.
9. The small team tennis division will have a state tournament bracket if at least 6 teams are available to participate.
10. Jerry Cline Tennis facility will be under construction during the State Tournament in an effort to provide a more permanent recreational facility, so parking may be limited during this time. We will provide you with more information in regards to parking as the state event draws nearer.
11. Please ensure all matches start on time throughout the season. Have your athletes use the restroom and be on the court, ready to play at their scheduled time. It is unsportsmanlike when a team "stalls" or takes too much time for warm-up.

We appreciate all of your efforts in helping to keep the sport of tennis growing throughout the state. I commend all of the hard work you put forth into helping your student athletes continue to grow in their skills and become successful individuals. Thank you, as well, for all of your support. Good luck this season and we will see you at the tournament!

Alissa McCarthy, Administrative Assistant
Sally Marquez, Assistant Executive Director