

7.21.1 General Rules/Policies

- A. Classes** - There are three classes in both boys and girls: A-AAA, AAAA and AAAAA, and one mixed classification for small teams.
- B. Practice Date** - Practice is open year round.
- C. Competitive Season** - The competitive season is as follows:

Week #33 through the State Tournament.

NOTE: Participation in matches in other states during the Fall is permissible; however any game/match will be applied to the Spring match limitation. No individual may participate in more than one (1) competitive high school season per year and no more than four seasons, grades 9-12.

- D. Match Limitation** - Each team or individual is limited to twelve (12) matches/tournaments prior to the district tournament.
- E. Rules** - USTA rules are used except as indicated in this Handbook.
- F. NMAA District Clinic** - The head coach from each declared tennis school must complete the district clinic online at www.nmact.org between February 1st and February 28th (February 29th in a leap year). Failure to comply shall result in a \$100 fine to the school which will be assessed on March 1st.
- G. Line-Up** - Member schools will declare their line-up from strongest to weakest by the Sunday of Week # 43.
 - Line-up may consist of 12 singles players and 6 doubles teams, but must have at least 6 singles players and 3 doubles teams.
 - Line-ups must be submitted to the NMAA tennis director via fax or e-mail.
 - Coaches may not change this line-up from Sunday of Week 43 through the State Tournament, unless a player is injured (verified by a doctor) and cannot continue with the season.
 - Line-up must be presented to the opposing coach prior to each match after the Sunday of Week 43.

7.21.2 District Tournament

- A. Dates:** The district tournament is held during Week #44.
- B. Team Champions**
 - 1.** Districts may determine team champions and runner-ups by the following methods:
 - a.** A district tournament in which the seeding is determined specifically by the district in advance of the event.

AAAA and AAAAA, the top eight individuals will be seeded in the Individual/Doubles Tournament, with the seven remaining players drawn to complete the bracket.

C. Team Competition 6-3 Format

1. For all classes, the district shall determine the top two teams in the district, both of which qualify to the state tournament. In class A-AAA, two additional at-large teams will be selected to complete the eight team field.
2. Teams are required to have the full complement of six singles and three doubles to qualify for the team competition at the State Tournament.
3. Participants are permitted to participate in both doubles and singles.
4. Teams qualifying to the state tournament will use the full roster submitted to the NMAA office on the Monday of Week #43 (See 7.20.1 G). A full roster would include at least six singles players, but no more than twelve, and at least three doubles teams, but no more than six. Players and teams must be listed from the strongest to weakest. 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 a line-up to the 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 if a coach deliberately “stacks” their schools line-up. Stacking may result in disqualification of the team in the State Tournament.)
5. A team/match winner is determined by who wins the most singles/doubles matches against the opponent on an aggregate basis; i.e., the best 5 out of 9 singles and doubles matches combined constitutes the winner of that match. All 9 matches will be played out in the first round. Once a both teams have completed their initial round of the tournament (playing all 9 matches out), and have advanced 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. This format will continue for the duration of the tournament.
6. All matches will consist of the best two of three sets, with all games to be played under ad scoring with a seven-point tie-breaker at 6-all in any set.
7. Coaching during team play is permitted. The designated high school coach(es) may communicate with his/her players during change of sides through the fence only. In the case of split sets, a 10-minute break may be awarded at the request of either player, and coaching may occur during this time.
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 and must be a “weaker” player.
9. Awards – State Championship trophies will be awarded to the team champion and runner-up in each classification. The team champion will also receive a banner and bracket representing their accomplishment. Each individual on the championship team will receive a medal.

E. Individual/Doubles Competition Format

1. For the AAAA and AAAAA classes, the district tournament shall determine the top three singles, as well as the top three doubles, all of which qualify to the state tournament. In Class A-AAA, the district tournament shall determine the top four singles, as well as the top four doubles, all of which qualify to the state tournament. Players may compete in only one of these two categories
2. All matches will consist of the best two of three sets, with all games to be played under ad scoring and with a seven-point tie-breaker at 6-all in any set.
3. Coaching during individual play is permitted. The designated high school coach(es) may communicate with his/her players during change of sides through the fence only. In the case of split sets, a 10-minute break may be awarded at the request of either player, and coaching may occur.
4. 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 a doubles competition during the district and state tournaments.
5. Awards – First, Second and Third place medals for singles and doubles competition will be awarded to individuals in all classes.

F. Individuals/Doubles Brackets

Individuals/Doubles Brackets: AAAA and AAAAA



