



From the OHSAA.....If we want our student-athletes to learn the lifelong lessons and receive the social, emotional and physical benefits that the privilege of participating in education based interscholastic athletics programs provide, we all have to be accountable for following all mandates and requirements. By not following the mandates and requirements, we are putting our student-athletes at risk of not only contracting and/or spreading COVID-19 but also at risk of losing the season for themselves, their families, their teammates, their schools and their communities. Mandates and requirements put into place must be followed in order for the Governor's Office to continue to allow us to participate.

The OHSAA contest day mandates and requirements that are to be strictly enforced, and our administrators, coaches and student-athletes will be held accountable for non-compliance. So as to not cause alarm, these mandates and requirements will be to elevate many of the recommendations that were provided in the OHSAA Return to Play Recommendations document to the level of mandates and requirements and should not require wholesale modifications to your game-day protocol.

**Equipment:**

1. Players should not share racquets, uniforms, towels, tennis balls, clothing, etc. Must have your own equipment. Players are encouraged to have extra rackets as there is no sharing of equipment.
2. Each player will be responsible to bring ample water for each match and practices as schools cannot supply water and use water coolers. Players should NOT be sharing water.
3. If possible, each player should have their own bottle of sanitizer.
4. Avoid team snacks, ask each player to be prepared to bring something for themselves and no sharing.

**Masks**

1. Athletes and coaches will wear a mask before leaving school while being transported to the event.
2. Coaches will wear masks at all times
3. Players will be asked to wear masks at all times. Players should wear a mask until they get to their assigned court.
4. When a player's match ends, they will need to put on a mask.
5. Athletes and coaches will wear a mask when leaving a match while being transported back to school.

**Visiting Team Arrival:**

1. Players & Coaches need to be wearing masks. Players also should be dressed and ready to play when arriving.
2. Designated area should be marked off (with social distancing) for the opposing team to make their camp when they arrive. This area should not be around spectator areas if possible.
3. Visiting team should arrive as close to the start time as possible. Enough time to stretch, bathroom, etc.
4. No pre-match warm-up, only restroom break and stretching. Players will warm up with their opponent after the spin of the racquet. You may go beyond the 10-minute limit.

5. No team introductions will take place. Players will be assigned courts and then start warm-ups.

### **Pre-Match**

1. Players should wear a mask until they get to their assigned court.
2. Players should report directly to their assigned court and meet their opponent.
3. Players and teams should place bags at opposite net posts, or along the fence (the fence posts are 12 ft apart).
4. No shaking hands before the match.
5. Match tennis balls can be used and handled like normal. Anyone can ask to have their own tennis balls labeled
6. Spinning of the racquet will take place like normal (just opponent on opposite sides of the net, social distanced).
7. Warm-up can go beyond the 10-minute limit, but no longer than 15 minutes.

### **Match**

1. During on court play, return balls that come onto your court with your racquet or your foot, if possible.
2. Players are encouraged to use hand sanitizer on each changeover since they will have touched the tennis balls on their court.
3. Players change sides by walking on opposite sides.
4. During the match, home team players should be the only ones changing the scorecards.
5. After the match has ended the player keeping score will sanitize the scorecards.
6. No high fives, or any contact with team members during a match. Racquet touches are ok.
7. Avoid touching net, net posts, fences, benches, etc. if you can.
8. Avoid touching your face after handling a tennis ball, a racquet or other equipment. Wash your hands promptly if you have touched your eyes, nose or mouth.
9. Remain apart (6ft) from other players when taking a break.
10. There can still be continuous coaching, but must be done outside the fence. No coaches on the court during a match unless called out there for a dispute.

### **Post-Match**

1. When match is complete, players come to the net to tap racquets and say good match. They will also confirm the score and home team will report the score to their coach.
2. Wash your hands thoroughly or use hand sanitizer after the completion of the match.
3. No extra-curricular or social activity should take place. No congregation after playing. Leave the court as soon as reasonably possible.
4. Players will bring their own tennis balls off the court and place them in a bucket where they can be sanitized for future use at practice. (this could be an individual school item).
5. Players must have a mask on before exiting the tennis courts.
6. When players are done with their match, they are encouraged to watch their teammates matches, however they need to adhere to the social distancing policies, and wear masks.

### **Spectators**

1. Spectators will be permitted, although they need to maintain social distancing and bring their own chairs.
2. It is highly suggested to have a designated area assigned for spectators to keep all fans clear from the athletes and diminish the number of people around the teams assigned area.
3. Spectators can be in a group of immediate/grandparents' family.
4. Players, fans, and coaches will immediately leave at the conclusion of the completion of the entire team match.
5. Spectators need to adhere to the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) and facemask protocols.
6. Spectators must be 10 feet from the fence at all times. This distance will help with the coaching area as coaches are coaching from a distance.
7. Masks will be required to be worn by spectators due to the Governors' mask mandate.

### **Weather**

1. If it rains during the match, the home team is responsible for turning score into their coach and visiting team will confirm with home coach.
2. If rain, coaches will address to their team where they should go (bus, van, cars, pavilion, etc.) and coaches should go there automatically.

**Sectional / District Tournament Guidelines will be addressed in the tournament packets.**

