

**OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
SOUTHWEST DISTRICT**

2023 GIRLS SECTIONAL & DISTRICT TENNIS RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Teams that compete at either the Lindner Family Tennis Center or Mason sites will be involved in an open draw. Each school will receive voting instructions no later than September 15, 2023. The coach will make comments pertinent to his/her team online from Sunday, September 17, to Wednesday, September 20. Online voting will begin on Thursday, September 21, 2023 and conclude at NOON on Saturday, September 23, 2023. The manager will distribute voting results at the mandatory coaches draw meeting on Sunday, September 24, 2023 – Division 1 – 1:00 pm & Division 2 - 2:30 p.m. All ties will be broken prior to the placement of teams on the brackets. By board action, starting with the 2021-22 tournaments, ties will be broken as follows:
 - 10.a.1.) The team that receives the most individual votes at the tied position or above shall receive the higher seed.
 - 10.a.2.) If the results are still tied, the tie shall be broken by a coin toss. The school that calls the toss shall be the first one to appear in the alphabet (official school name without the respective city name ahead of it unless the city name is part of the official school name), going from A to Z in even-numbered years and Z to A in odd-numbered years

Once seeds have been determined for each team in the tournament, the seeds will place themselves at a site until the site is filled (Division 1, Mason, 13, and LFTC, 14; Division II, Mason, 13 and LFTC, 14).

By board action, starting with the 2022-23 tournaments, Passing shall be permitted as follows:

- The number of schools advancing to the district tournament may pass
- All others must place themselves on the bracket when their seed is called

Per action of the State Board of Directors, the following fine structure is in place:

- a) Failure to submit seeding information when prescribed by OHSAA guidelines. Fine of \$50.00.
- b) Failure for coach, administrator, or authorized team representative to attend the tournament draw meeting. The tournament manager shall attempt to call the head coach and/or athletic administrator from the school(s) not present in order for a representative from the missing school(s) to participate in the tournament draw/seed meeting electronically/virtually. If no one attends - Fine is \$150.00.
- c) Failure to show-up for tournament contest / refusal to finish contest which has been started and suspended for any reason is a fine of \$150.00 plus cost of officials, site expenses, and team expenses incurred by opposing team, except pre-sale ticket revenue.

Teams in the north will compete where they are assigned. Tournament instructions will be mailed no later than September 15, 2023, and the draw meeting will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

2. Each high school may enter a maximum of three (3) singles players, two (2) doubles teams, and three (3) alternates. No participant is permitted to take part in both singles and doubles competition.
3. Each team must be accompanied by its coach or faculty representative whose name must be listed on the entry form. If failing to have either, team will be ineligible for tournament.
4. Players must appear at the scheduled time for matches unless they have word from the Tournament Manager that the matches have been postponed. Players must be in proper tennis attire.
5. A single contestant or doubles team more than fifteen (15) minutes late will forfeit the match.
6. **Weather Policy.**

Monitor Weather Patterns – Be aware of potential thunderstorms by monitoring local weather forecasts the day before and morning of the competition, and by scanning the sky for signs of potential thunderstorm activity.

National Weather Service – Weather can also be monitored using small, portable weather radios from the NWS. The NWS uses a system of severe storm watches and warnings watch indicates conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a warning indicates severe weather has been reported in an area, and everyone should take proper precautions. Any thunderstorm poses a risk of injury or death even if it does not meet the criteria for severe weather. Therefore, anytime thunderstorms are in the forecast (even if it is only a 20 percent chance), event organizers should be at a heightened level of awareness to the potential danger of lightning.

Management.

Evacuation - If lightening is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators **shall** evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.

Thirty-minute rule - Competition or practice shall be suspended once lightning has been recognized or thunder is heard. It is **mandatory** to wait at least **30 minutes** after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard prior to resuming practice or competition. Given the average rates of thunderstorm travel, the storm should move 10-12 miles away from the area. This significantly reduces the risk of local lightning flashes.

Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count shall reset the clock, and another count shall begin.

7. Changes in schedules after the drawing will be done at the discretion of the Tournament Manager.
8. There will be no substitutions made by a school after a singles player or doubles team has started play in the tournament. Any substitutions at District level must be made from substitution list.
9. The Manager shall seed four (4) singles and four (4) doubles and coaches shall be notified when this draw is to be made.
10. Qualifications from the Sectional to the District Tournament will be four (4) singles and four (4) doubles in both Division I and II. Qualifiers in Division I to State meet will be four (4) singles and four (4) doubles. Qualifiers in Division II to State meet will be four (4) singles and four (4) doubles.
 - a. All qualifiers must participate in the seeding rounds. Failure to participate will mean disqualification.
11. All reports must be emailed to Joe Roberts, Treasurer, SWDAB-treas@ohsaa.org.
12. Tickets for all sectional and district tournament games will be sold online through HomeTown Ticketing at www.ohsaa.org/tickets. Gate sales are permitted but will be done electronically via HomeTown Ticketing provided the event is not sold out. No cash sales are permitted per OHSAA rules. Ticket prices will be:
 - a. Admission for all sectional and district tournaments are:
 1. Student (6 years old +) - **\$5.00**
 2. Adults - **\$8.00**
 3. Children under the age of five (5) are provided complimentary admission
 4. A **\$10.00** Cash Only option will be offered at High School sites only.
 - b. School Administrators Passes: Each participating school will receive complimentary admission for three school administrators, digitally, through HomeTown Ticketing. One digital code will be provided to each school. Each code will have three tickets attached to the code. The same code will be utilized, as a school advances in the tournament. **There is no admittance without a QR code from HTT.**