2026 BOYS TENNIS TOURNAMENT MANAGERS MANUAL

Sectional / District / State

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
4080 Roselea Place – Columbus, OH 43214
(614) 267-2502 – (614) 267-1677 (fax)
www.ohsaa.org

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TO: **OHSAA Tennis Tournament Managers**

FROM: **Dr. John Kronour, Sport Administrator**
RE: **Tournament Regulations**

TENNIS TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS – REFER TO WEBSITE AT www.ohsaa.org AND MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION PACKET

This document is to provide all sectional, district and state tournament managers with information related to the OHSAA tennis tournaments. The 2026 Regulations for Boys Sectional-District-State Tournaments were adopted by the OHSAA Board of Directors on June 9, 2025, and should be strictly followed. Pay special attention to the 2026 Boys Tournament Regulations and the information contained therein. Those regulations are included in this manual. It has come to my attention that tournament personnel may permit to participate when no school representative is present at the tournament during the match. Please see Tennis Regulation 1.17 that indicates a school representative (coach, or other person authorized by the Board of Education or similar governing body) must be present throughout the contest.

School administrators enter their school into the tournament through Final Forms. Coaches must send their roster to the appropriate sectional manager using the official process defined by the District Athletic Board. **Please note the draw/seed meeting is to be conducted at 2 p.m. on May 3, 2026.**

Sectional Tournament Managers:

Players/Roster Forms:

A. Participating schools must submit all pertinent information per the instructions of the District Tournament Board. It is the school's responsibility to ensure all submitted documents including rosters of singles and doubles players are accurate.

B. **Immediately** following the competition of the Sectional Tournament, notify the District Tournament manager of the teams/individuals that have qualified for the District tournament. Please double check player's names for the correct spelling. Include the participants grade level.

Eligibility Certificates:

Do **NOT** collect eligibility certificates. It is the responsibility of the athletic administrator at the school to make sure that the students who participate are eligible in all respects. It is not the responsibility of the tournament manager.

OHSAA Tournament Participation Form

Immediately following your sectional tournament, download, complete and email the OHSAA Tournament Participation Form to John Kronour (jkronour@ohsaa.org). **This form must be submitted no later than May 30th. – Thank you!**

Participation Form can be found on the last page of this packet!

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OHSAA tennis rules are based, in part, on USTA rules can be found by clicking: **2025 FRIEND AT COURT**

The Board of Directors Common Draw/Seed date for boy's tennis is **May 3, 2026.**
The meeting must be held at 2 p.m.

The financial reports and instructions for tournament managers are NOT included and should be completed online at http://www.ohsaa.org/financial/reports as instructed. You may also print the forms and fax/mail to the appropriate District Athletic Board Member if that is permitted by the DAB. Best wishes for a successful girl's tennis tournament.

If a school has questions about or problems accessing school entry, they should contact Dr. John Kronour at 614-267-2502 ext. 133.

OHSAA MISSION STATEMENT

To serve our member schools and enrich interscholastic opportunities for students

CALENDAR

2026 OHSAA BOYS TENNIS CALENDAR	
April 19	Deadline for Entering or Withdrawing from the OHSAA Tournament w/o penalty
May 3	Tournament Draw/Seeding Date
May 11-16#	Sectional Tournaments
May 18-23	District Tournaments
May 28-29	**State Tournament – Lindner Family Tennis Center (Mason)**

Unless an earlier date is established by a District Athletic Board (no earlier than two days prior to the established date). *Thus, the sectional tournament could start as early as **May 9, 2026.***

OHSAA CONTACT INFORMATION

OHSAA Office – 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214

Name	Title	Responsibilities	E-mail/Phone
John Kronour	Sport Administrator	Oversees the administrative & regulatory aspects of the sport of Tennis	jkronour@ohsaa.org 614-267-2502 ext. 150
Mike McGee	State Rules Interpreter	Rule Interpretation, Tournament Officials Assignments & Officials evaluations	mmcgee0225@gmail.com 330-606-5287
Scott Long	State Tournament Manager	Oversees the State Tournament site(s) & coordination of the participants	scott.long@centerville.k12.oh.us 937-371-2235
Beau Rugg	OHSAA Director of Officiating and Sports Management	Oversees OHSAA officiating and sport management departments	brugg@ohsaa.org 614-738-3559

TENNIS LINKS

National Federation of State High School Associations	www.nfhs.org
Ohio Tennis Coaches Association	www.otca.us
USTA Handbook	www.usta.com

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214
Telephone: 614-267-2502 Fax: 614-267-1677
Website for Email: www.ohsaa.org

TOURNAMENT _____ DIVISION _____ MANAGER _____

DISTRICT SINGLES QUALIFIERS

Place	Name (First Name/Last)	Grade	School Colors	Coach
1st				
2nd				
3rd				
4th				
5th				
6th				

DISTRICT DOUBLES QUALIFIERS

Place	Name (First Name/Last)	Grade	School Colors	Coach
1st				
2nd				
3rd				
4th				
5th				
6th				

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS – DISTRICT MANAGERS

Tournament Regulations are available at www.ohsaa.org. On the website, under "Sports & Tournaments" select **Tennis – Boys**. The regulations are listed under "Tournament Information" on the left side of the tennis page.

PLEASE NOTE:

The OHSAA wants to emphasize that the tournament regulations and school assignments are published on the OHSAA website (www.ohsaa.org).

Supplementary material and forms are included in the managers' packet to assist managers in the operation of the tournament.

1. Please contact managers of sectional tournaments that have qualifiers for your district tournament and make arrangements to secure the singles and doubles qualifiers.

2. Complete the financial reports, per the direction of the District Athletic Board, and send it to the designated person(s) within 10 days after the tournament.

3. Inclement Weather – Occasionally there may be the necessity to interrupt a tennis tournament due to inclement weather in the area. Do not take chances with lightning, as it is very unpredictable. In case of doubt, the tournament manager should suspend competition until conditions are deemed safe. Protect athletes and spectators. Be sure there is access to a building for shelter if such a suspension of the tournament competition occurs. The OHSAA's Lightning and Inclement Weather Policy is included as part of the Tennis Tournament Regulations.

4. It is recommended that singles sticks be used in all district tennis tournaments.

REPORTING STATE TOURNAMENT QUALIFIERS

State tournament qualifiers from all district sites *will be reported using the OHSAA website* (ohsaa.org). An online form has been created for you to enter all the required information**. This information will automatically be emailed to the appropriate personnel at the OHSAA office** and will automatically print the state tournament program and brackets. Therefore, **please ensure the accuracy of the qualifier's name, grade, school, coach, and colors**. Please follow the instructions on this page to access and complete the online form.

Step #1: Go to https://ohsaa.org/sports/boystennis

Step #2: After the boy's tennis page appears, click on Tournament Manager Log-In listed under Tournament Information in the left column.

Step #3: The State Qualifiers Form will appear.
Note: Use the tab key to move from field to field. **DO NOT TYPE IN ALL CAPITAL LETTERS!**

- Complete the tournament site information: your name, district and division and indicate that you are reporting girls' qualifiers.

- Proceed to the Single's Qualifiers section.
  Enter the number of single qualifiers from your district site.
  For each state tournament qualifier enter their **(First name (space) Last name)**, *school grade, school colors and head coach's name*. Enter the city name of the school if different from the school's name, this helps us to distinguish schools with the same name, example: Crestview – Ashland? Convoy? Columbiana?
  **** Remember to enter the grade of each qualifier.**

- Proceed to the Double's Qualifiers section.
  Enter the number of doubles qualifiers from your site. This should be the same as the number of singles qualifiers.
  Enter the doubles qualifiers in order of finish, input their school's name, city (if different from the school name), school colors and head coach's name.
  Enter the name **(First name (space) Last name)** and **grade** of both individuals on each doubles team.
  Repeat this process and until all double's qualifier information is entered.

- **Remember the way you keystroke the information is the way it appears on the brackets and in the souvenir program.**

Step #4: Review the form for accuracy and completeness. Click the submit button to transmit the information to the OHSAA. **The information will not be sent unless you CLICK "SUBMIT".**

Thank you for your cooperation with this procedure and have a great tournament!

**** If you require assistance, call John Kronour at 614-267-2502 ext. 150.**

REGULATIONS FOR OHSAA TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

1. ELIGIBILITY

1.1 OHSAA eligibility bylaws apply to all participants.

1.2 OHSAA Sport Regulation 7 – non-interscholastic competition applies.

2. RULES OF PLAY

2.1 Current USTA rules for singles and doubles play apply unless specifically modified by the OHSAA.

2.2 Each individual match is best two out of three sets. The set tiebreaker will be used in each set. Individuals are prohibited from participating in more than three matches per day. If there is inclement weather, Especially extreme heat and/or humidity, tournament personnel may implement "no ad" scoring or a match tiebreaker in lieu of a 3rd set.

2.3 Three balls will be furnished for each match.

2.4 Players and coaches are requested to assist in starting matches on schedule. A 10-minute default rule may be enforced.

2.5 The warm-up period for all matches shall not exceed ten minutes.

2.6 All warm-up serves in both singles and doubles shall be taken prior to the start of play.

2.7 Play shall be continuous as defined by USTA Friend at Court. In case of injury or illness, after evaluation by a coach or trainer, a player will be allowed a maximum of five minutes' treatment after which the player must resume play or forfeit the match. The time allotted for evaluation and treatment should not exceed 15 minutes.

2.8 Singles players must play in order of team rank. The better doubles team must play No.1 doubles. This rule also applies to injury or illness preceding the match. Forfeiting a point for a missing player's position in not allowed. If the No.1 player cannot compete, the regular No.2 player plays at No.1, the regular No.3 player plays at No.2 and the substitute is placed at No.3. "Stacking" is not allowed under any circumstances.

2.9 Either player may call a "let" if interference occurs, but the player calling a "let" must be in control of the ball. A "let" will not be allowed after a player has hit and erred.

2.10 Players are warned not to catch balls before they strike the court.

2.11 In case of foot faults, **the coach** (not players) should notify the tournament manager. The tournament manager will handle the violations and may assign a foot fault judge if necessary.

2.12 Players are requested to record scores on scoreboards as they change courts when scoreboards are provided. **This should NOT be done by the coaches. The players oversee their own score.**

2.13 The winner of each match will report the score to the tournament manager, return used balls and then be notified of the schedule time of his/her next match.

2.14 In tennis, there will be two-minute break between each set. In cases of extreme heat or humidity, tournament personnel may adjust the break period.

2.15 There shall be a minimum of 30 minutes between matches in the sectional tournaments and a minimum of 45 minutes between matches in district tournaments for all competitors, weather permitting. During the state tournament, there will be a minimum of one hour between matches, weather permitting.

3. COACHING

A. The following guidelines apply to Sectional and District Tournament play:

3.1 In addition to at the end of games 3,5,7, etc. and the end of each set, a coach may coach their own player(s) any time during the 25 seconds between points as long as the coach does not interfere with actual play …coaching cannot interrupt the continuous play rule. There can be absolutely no coaching during actual match play.

3.2 Coaching may only take place where facilities permit it. Matches on other courts cannot be interfered with. A coach may sit or stand near the net post and must stay within the area where the players' chairs or benches would be located if not provided. The coach's movement shall be limited so as not to distract the players. A coach may change courts when his/her movement will not interrupt play. It is permissible to coach from outside of a fenced court, on an empty adjacent court where the coach may stand and/or at the doubles sideline on the same side of his/her own player…if the coaching does not interfere with other matches occurring simultaneously or the match in progress. Coaches shall in no way distract an opposing player. Coaches may coach within the lines of the court only during a changeover or set break.

3.3 **A coach shall not initiate a conversation with an opposing player or in any way get involved in an on-court situation, except at the request of the player(s) or opposing coach in accordance with what is already permitted. At no time should a player initiate a conversation with an opposing coach.**

3.4 Coaching is not permitted during an OHSAA match by anyone other than the school's assigned Board approved tennis coaches. All coaches must have the proper ODE/OHSAA credentials. Member schools permitting non-certified coaches to coach may incur a fine and be subject to additional penalties.

3.5 The use of signals, cheering (as opposed to applause), vile suggestions, and the like, during play, is considered unsporting and is not permitted.

3.6 **PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION:** If there is any violation of the above rules (i.e. continuous coaching during match play, distracting an opposing player, coaching where coaching is not permitted, etc.) the offending coach will receive a code of conduct and/or time violation penalty and his/her player, on the court where the violation occurred, will receive a point penalty as a result of the violation. Penalties will be assessed by the opposing coach or tournament manager if applicable. For any subsequent violation, the coach's player shall be assessed a game penalty for a second violation and disqualification for third. Future matches will not be affected, but the violations shall be reported to the offending coach's athletic administrator.

4. AWARDS

Awards will be shipped directly to the District and State tournament managers from Croton Craft Division Giller, Inc., P.O. Box 257, 30 S. High Street, Croton, Ohio 43013**. Please open the shipment immediately and check the awards to see if you have received the correct awards or if there is any damage.**

If an error has been made or there is damage, notify the supplier and the OHSAA office immediately. Contact Mr. Travis Nethers at Croton Craft (614-893-4020).

All awards presented at the site of the Sectional, District, or State Tournaments must be approved by the OHSAA.

A. Sectional Tournaments – Sectional Tournament awards will not be awarded by the OHSAA.

B. District Tournaments – An award will be presented to qualifying State Tournament participants in singles and Doubles.

   1. In a District tournament where there is only a single qualifier, the "runner-up" shall also receive an award.

C. State Tournament – An award will be presented to the winner, runner-up, third and fourth place finisher in singles and doubles.

5. **EQUIPMENT**
   A. Tennis Balls
      Tennis balls shall be of championship quality and USTA approved. Tennis balls will be provided at the State Tournament by the OHSAA. District Athletic Board policy will determine whether tennis balls will be provided for Sectional and District Tournament competitions.
   B. Tennis racquets and strings shall conform to current USTA standards.
   C. Use of Single's sticks
      1) Sectional and District Tournaments: Recommended that "singles sticks" be used where feasible at the beginning of each round of singles play.
      2) State Tournament: "Single Sticks" shall be used at the beginning of each round of singles play.

6. **WARM-UP PERIOD**
   Ten-minute warm-up period shall be provided to players prior to the scheduled start of the match.

7. **USE OF AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER**
   If a student is found to be ineligible during the progress of a tournament, the player shall be eliminated from the tournament and the last player he/she defeated, or the next highest finishing player may take their place in the tournament.
8. **MATCH LIMITATIONS**
   In all OHSAA sponsored tennis tournaments, individuals are prohibited from participating in more than three matches per day.
9. **VOLUNTARILY DEFAULTING MATCHES**
   A player who voluntarily defaults a match, other than for injury or illness, shall be disqualified from further OHSAA tournament participation that year and is not eligible to receive an OHSAA tournament award. NOTE: USTA rules will govern "cramps." See Tournament Regulations regarding "Failure to Appear."
10. **NON-INTERSCHOLASTIC PARTICIPATION**
    A tennis athlete who has not participated for the school in tennis that season must cease non-interscholastic tennis Competition six weeks (42 days) prior to the Tuesday of the week of the State Tournament in tennis in order to be Eligible for OHSAA tournament competition or have been granted a waiver for such non-interscholastic participation By the Executive Directors office.
11. **MANAGER'S FEE**
    A. Sectional and District Tournaments: Fees to be established by the District Athletic Board
    B. State Tournament: Fee is $1000.00.

"TIEBREAKER" PROCEDURE FOR TENNIS

In all girls' and boy's tournaments matches the set tiebreaker (12-point) shall be used. Refer to tournament regulations regarding accommodations made due to inclement weather, which would permit "no ad" scoring or match tiebreaker in lieu of the 3rd set.

The following procedure shall be used in a tiebreaker game:

SINGLES

- A player who first wins seven points shall win the game and the set provided the player leads by a margin of two points. If the score reaches six points in all, the game shall be extended until this margin has been achieved. Numerical scoring shall be used throughout the tiebreaker game.

- The player whose turn it is to serve shall be the server for the first point. The opponent shall be the server for the second and third points and thereafter each player shall serve alternately for two consecutive points until the winner of the game and set has been decided.

- From the first point, each service shall be delivered alternately from the right and left courts beginning from the right court. If service from the wrong half of the court occurs and is undetected, all play resulting from such wrong service or services shall stand, but the inaccuracy of station shall be corrected immediately it is discovered.

- Players shall change ends after every six points and at the conclusion of the tiebreak game. Continuous play is in affect when changing ends.

DOUBLES

- In doubles the procedure for singles shall apply. The player whose turn it is to serve shall be the server for the first point. Thereafter each player shall serve in rotation for two points, in the same order as previously in that set, until the winners of the game and set have been decided.

ROTATION OF SERVICE

- The player (or pair in the case of doubles) who served first in the tiebreaker game shall receive service in the first game of the following set.

2026 REGULATIONS FOR TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

Sectional – District – State

NOTE: The following regulations apply to all levels of tournament competition unless otherwise specified. They have been adopted by the Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors on **June 9, 2025.** It should be noted that, besides these tournaments' regulations, all regulations within the OHSAA Handbook (bylaws, General Sports Regulations and Tennis Regulations) shall be followed in addition to the other requirements listed within the OHSAA/NFHS Rules Considerations and General Requirements.

The Executive Director is authorized to modify these regulations when it is deemed necessary by the Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors.

1. ORGANIZATION OF TOURNAMENTS

The District Athletic Boards organize and conduct Sectional and District Tournaments in their respective Districts, subject to the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors. The State Tournaments are under the control of the **Executive Director's** office. The OHSAA maintains the authority to change the site, date, or time of any state tournament assignment. Completion of the OHSAA Tournament Entry Form is the school's agreement to play at the site, day and time assigned by the District Athletic Board and/or Executive Director's office.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS

All participants must be eligible under the Bylaws and Sports Regulations of the OHSAA.

A student who uses anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs is ineligible for interscholastic competition until such time as medical evidence can be presented that the student's system is free of anabolic steroids.

3. DIVISIONS

There will be two Divisions (I, II) in the Sectional, District and State Tournaments in tennis.

4. TOURNAMENT ENTRY AND PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS

A. Tournament Entry / Withdraw

Member schools wanting to participate in the 2026 OHSAA Boys Tennis Tournaments must indicate their intent to participate through the Tournament Entry link on the school's final forms account.
The boy's tennis tournament entry/withdraw deadline is **Monday, April 20, 2026**. Schools that change their tournament participation after **April 20, 2026** will be subject to a penalty as established and adopted by the OHSAA Board of Directors. The current penalty is $150.

B. Tournament Entry Fee

Any member school wishing to enter the sectional (first level) of the OHSAA tournament, whether entering a full team, a partial team, or an "individual participant" no longer must pay a tournament entry fee. Tennis tournament entry fees have been discontinued in lieu of membership dues.

C. Tournament Paperwork Requirements

A member school will submit their tournament entries per the instructions of the respective District Athletic Board. The state tournament souvenir program includes a student's name as well as grade level, thus it is important to collect this information.

D. Tournament Participation Report

The OHSAA Board of Directors semi-annually sets up the representation from each district based upon the number of teams actually participating in the tournaments. Please complete & email the attached **Participation Form** (page 26) to **John Kronour** (jkronour@ohsaa.org) **IMMEDIATELY** following the Sectional Tournament.

5. SUBSTITUTIONS

A. Sectional Tournaments

1. NEW: Format

When entering your players for the OHSAA tournament series (sectionals, districts, state), you can now enter your players in either of two formats:

A: Traditional - 3 singles and 2 doubles (4 substitutions)

B: New - 1 singles and 3 doubles (4 substitutions)

Those schools that do sectional voting placement (Central, NE, and Cincinnati area of the SW) you must place in the comment section what format you will be entering so other teams can make a determination of where to seed your team.

2. Substitutions

Substitutions may be made in the Sectional Tournaments for singles players or players on the doubles teams from the substitute list **prior** to the start of competition. Once a player participates, that same player must continue through the sectional tournament. **All participants must be listed on the entry form or substitute list.**

NOTE: Substitutes shall not include players who entered as singles or doubles participant at the Sectional Tournament Seeding Meeting. **Students entered as participants at the Seed Meeting who do not participate may not subsequently be a 'substitute' at any level of the tournament. These students' names would not have appeared on the substitute list on the entry form**.

B. District Tournaments or State Tournaments

Once a student participates in the District Tournament, that same student must continue through the District Tournament. This same policy applies to participation at the State Tournament.

No substitutes for singles permitted. A substitute for a player on a doubles team that has qualified for the next highest tournament is permitted **prior** to the first match of that respective tournament, but the substitute must be made from the list of substitutes that did not compete in the Sectional or District Tournaments. A singles player or doubles team that is not present at a tournament shall not advance.

6. FAILURE TO APPEAR

When national playing rules do not address failure to appear, the following regulations will apply.

A. If a team or individual participant fails to appear or is not ready to compete at the time of their scheduled competition, the team or individual participant shall be disqualified and removed from the event or tournament competition.

All decisions relating to this regulation shall be made by a member of the respective district athletic board or the OHSAA Executive Director's Office.

B. The OHSAA, in collaboration with the administrative staff, the respective District Athletic Board(s)s and/or Board of Directors, and the tournament manager, may delay or reschedule a tournament contest/competition provided it is **practical** to delay or reschedule such contests/competitions.

7. SEEDING AND DRAWING FOR SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

A. Seeding

Coaches shall be notified when the draw is scheduled so they may be present to help with the seeding in the Sectional Tournaments. The common draw date has currently been established is **May 3, 2026** by the Board of Directors. Each athletic district shall hold the tennis draw on the same date. The draw is to be held at 2pm.

B. Regulations

1. Seeding is mandatory in Sectional Tournaments. No voted seeding is permitted for District or State Tournaments.
2. For seeding purposes, the last matches to be counted will be those played on the date established by the District Athletic Board.
3. The number of singles/doubles to be seeded will be four.
4. Number one and two doubles, from the same team must be in opposite half brackets.
5. The three singles players from the same school must be placed in different quarter brackets.
6. There will be one seeded player in each quarter bracket and number one and two seeds must be in opposite half brackets.
7. Byes shall be placed evenly throughout the brackets.

C. <u>Tournament Seeding Procedure</u>

1. Nomination of Seeds
    a. Each school coach shall have the records compiled for the singles players and double teams to be nominated for a seed and given to the tournament manager at the seed meeting or as directed by the District Athletic Board. All regular season matches played shall be recorded. The records will include the number of wins and losses in the Divisions played, e.g. 22 team match schedule – Division I school.
    12 wins – 2 losses – Division I
    7 wins – 1 loss – Division II

    It is recognized that not all 22 matches may have participated.

    b. Coaches shall nominate singles players and doubles teams to be considered for seeds. Many factors may be considered when seeding students, not just actual regular season records. The quality of competition as well as past OHSAA tournament performance may also be considered. Records of the nominated seeds shall be recorded for all to see.

2. Voting for Seeded – Singles and Doubles
    a. All coaches shall vote verbally selecting their choice for the #1 seed. The player(s) with the greatest number of votes shall be #1 seed.
    b. Once the #1 seed has been determined, the coaches shall vote verbally selecting their choice for #2 seed etc. until the required number of seeds is obtained.
    c. In the case of a tie only the players tied will be revoted on.
    d. If a tie should occur the second time, a flip of a coin shall determine the seeded player.
    e. Once a seed has been determined, it may not be withdrawn.
    f. The tournament manager or a designee shall record the seeds numerically for all to see.

3. Drawing for Unseeded #1 singles:
    a. The unseeded #1 player shall draw so that the alphabetical order of draw will go from **A-Z (2026).**
    b. The unseeded #1 player shall draw according to the name of the school goes by using the OHSAA Directory for the current year as a reference for alphabetical listing, e.g. Delphos St. John's-St.John's.
    c. A representative of each school's unseeded #1 player must draw a numbered pill which indicates the order of choice for placement on the brackets.
    d. The order of draw of unseeded #1 players shall be announced and made public before placement of players on the bracket.

4. Placement of #1 Players on Bracket
    a. The placement of #1 players on the brackets shall take place after the selection of seeded players and the order of draw unseeded players has been announced and made public.
    b. One space must be left on each quarter or half bracket for a seeded player with no more than one seeded player per quarter or half bracket where a bracket calls for a seeded player.
    c. First seed has first choice to go **any place** on the bracket.
    d. If #1 seed passes, #2 seed may go to **any place** on the bracket.
    e. If #2 seed passes, #3 has choice.
    f. If a seeded player passes, the choice then goes to the next seeded player.
    g. If all seeded players pass, then the unseeded #1 player with the No.1 pill shall place itself on the bracket.
    h. Any time a seeded or unseeded player is placed on the bracket, the top seeded player not placed on the bracket shall have next choice. If they pass, the next seeded player would have their choice to pass or be placed on the bracket, etc.
    i. Keep in mind that any time a seeded player places themselves on the bracket, the top seeded player not placed on the bracket shall have the next choice. If all pass or place themselves on the bracket, then the next unseeded #1 player in order of the number of pill shall be placed on the bracket.
    j. This procedure would be followed until all first singles players have been placed on the bracket.

5. After the first singles players have been placed, draw order for the second singles players is done in the same manner.
   NOTE: Number one and two singles players from the same team must be in different quarter brackets.

6. After the first and second players have been placed, draw order for the third single is then done. Third single players must be in opposite quarter brackets from the first and second single players from the same team.

7. After third single players have been placed on bracket (draw completed), conduct draw for doubles teams. Following the same procedure as outlined for singles, begin with item 2.
   NOTE: If a school fails to have a representative present at the draw and seeding meeting, the manager shall place the player(s) on the open bracket after all other players have been placed on the bracket. If more than one school fails to have a representative at the draw and seeding meeting, the manager shall place the players on the bracket according to the alphabetical order of draw for unseeded players after all others have been placed on the bracket.

8. TIME BETWEEN MATCHES

There shall be a *minimum* of 30 minutes between matches in Sectional Tournaments for all competitors.
There shall be a *minimum* of 45 minutes between matches in District Tournaments for all competitors.
There shall be a *minimum* of ONE HOUR between matches at the state tournament – weather permitting.

If inclement weather (e.g. precipitation) is probable during the state tournament, and participants are agreeable there shall be a minimum of 45 minutes between matches for all competitors. If matches have been moved indoors, there shall be a minimum of 45 minutes at the state tournament for all qualifiers.

NOTE: These are minimum 'rest' requirements. There may be an instance when more rest is recommended, especially when playing in hot and/or humid conditions or when a participant has had an exceptionally long match preceding the match in question. Safety First!

If it is anticipated that matches will be played in extreme heat and/or humidity, the tournament manager may move tournament matches to an indoor facility.

9. QUALIFIERS

A. Sectional to District Tournament: The District Tournaments will be composed of the qualifiers from the Sectional Tournaments. Each sectional Tournament may qualify up to four singles players and four doubles teams to the

Division I – Singles and Doubles			Division II – Singles and Doubles	
District	**Qualifiers**		**District**	**Qualifiers**
C/SE combined	16		C	16
NE/E combined	16		SE	8
NW	16		NE	16
SW	16		NW	16
			SW	16
			E	8

District Tournament. The maximum number of qualifiers to the District Tournament will be:

The number of teams participating at the first level of the tournament may not require that four sectionals be held, thus affecting the number of qualifiers to the district.

B. **District to State Tournament:** The District Athletic Board hosting a District Tournament will inform the manager of the tournament of the number of singles players and doubles teams the tournament shall qualify to the State Tournament. The qualifiers from District to the State Tournament shall be:

Division I – Singles and Doubles			Division II – Singles and Doubles	
District	**Qualifiers**		**District**	**Qualifiers**
C /SE combined	4		CEN	2
NE/E combined	6		SE	1
NW	2		NE	4
SW/SE combined	4		NW	4
			SW	4
			EAST	1

10. DISTRICT TOURNAMENT DRAW

The District Athletic Board hosting a District Tournament shall conduct the District Tournament draw using the following criteria:

A. The four* qualifiers from each sectional will be placed in separate quarter brackets.
B. First and second place qualifiers from a sectional must be placed in opposite half brackets.
C. Third and fourth place qualifiers from a sectional must be placed in opposite half brackets.
D. First round District Tournament matches will pair sectional winners versus fourth place qualifiers from a different sectional, and sectional runner-up versus third place qualifiers from a different sectional.

*There may not be four distinct sectionals, thus there may not be four qualifiers. The number of teams/individuals participating in each athletic district varies.

11. SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE

No team or individual entry will be allowed to compete in the Sectional, District or State Tournaments unless accompanied by a coach or person authorized by the Board of Education or similar governing body for a non-public school. Teams and individual entries unaccompanied by a coach or authorized person will be disqualified. The school representative shall be present during the entire play of their entries. Only an individual who has been authorized by a Board of Education or similar governing body, or a member of the school team, may participate in the interscholastic match/contest activities (e.g. warm-ups).

12. AWARDS

Awards presented at the site of the District or State Tournaments must be approved by the OHSAA.

A. Sectional Tournaments – awards will not be awarded by the OHSAA.

B. District Tournaments – an award will be presented to qualifying State Tournament participants in singles and doubles.

*In a District Tournament where there is only a single qualifier, the 'runner-up' shall also receive an award.

C. State Tournament – an award will be presented to the winner, runner-up, third and fourth place finisher in singles and doubles.

13. TOURNAMENT QUALIFIERS

To enter the District Tournament, a singles player or the doubles team must first qualify from the Sectional Tournament. Substitutions may be made for players on the doubles team qualifying for the District and/or State Tournaments, but they must be made from the substitute list and must be competitors who did not participate in the District Tournaments. Substitutions for a doubles team must also be made **prior** to the start of the respective tournament.

NOTE: See the Substitution Policy (#5) All tournament matches must be played to a winner.

14. VOLUNTARILY DEFAULTING MATCHES

A player who voluntarily defaults a match, other than for injury or illness, shall be disqualified from further OHSAA tournament participation that year and is not eligible to receive an OHSAA tournament award. A singles player and/or a doubles team must be present at a match to advance. Note: See the Substitution Rule (#5) and Failure to Appear (#6)

When reporting scores to any media outlet, posting tournament results, or posting of dual match results, please make sure you are using the correct terminology for matches that are not completed. Here are the definitions of four different ways a match can end without being played out:

Forfeit – fails to turn up or doesn't start the match, other than injury, illness or personal emergency

Default – the referee (tournament manager) does not allow the player to begin or continue a match (not showing up or lateness)

Walkover – when that player is unable to play a subsequent match due to illness or injury or personal emergency.

Retire - a player is unable to continue play during a match for reasons of illness, injury or personal emergency.

How to post on a draw or for the media:

Forfeit: clearly written as "forfeit"

Default: clearly written as "default"

Walkover: "WO, ill or inj" or "walkover, ill or inj" use this if the match has not begun and the players reported it to the referee or manager.

Retire: if match has games already played then the score (6-4, 0-3, ret.ill or inj.)

15. RULES

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) rules, unless modified by the OHSAA, shall prevail for all tournaments sponsored by the OHSAA unless otherwise noted.

All matches shall be the best of three sets. WHEN A TOURNAMENT IS PLAYED IN EXTREME CONDITIONS, SUCH AS EXTREMELY HIGH HEAT OR HUMIDITY, THE TOURNAMENT MANAGER, IN CONSULATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OFFICE, MAY PLAY A MATCH TIEBREAKER IN LIEU OF A THIRD SET. THE TOURNAMENT MANAGER MAY ALSO DECIDE TO PLAY A MATCH WITH "NO AD" SCORING. THE DECISION TO PLAY A MATCH TIEBREAKER IN LIEU OF THE THIRD SET OR MATCH WITH NO AD SCORING SHOULD BE MADE PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MATCH.

16. LIGHTNING AND INCLEMENT WEATHER

Recognition and Management

Coaches, athletic trainers, athletes, administrators and contest officials should be educated regarding the signs indicating thunderstorm development. Since the average distance between successive lightning flashes is approximately two to three miles, ANYTIME that lightning can be seen or heard, the risk is already present.
Weather can be monitored using the following methods:

- **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. A 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 20% chance) event organizers should be at a heightened level of awareness to the potential danger of lightning.*

Management:

- **Evacuation** – *If lightning 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 **required** 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**.*

17. INTERRUPTED TOURNAMENT

- Any OHSAA tournament interrupted due to events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be resumed from the point of interruption.

18. UNIFORM

- Players must wear an appropriate school uniform or proper tennis attire, preferably in school colors, in all tournament matches.
- Appropriate tennis attire is defined as clothing specifically manufactured for tennis wear. **Any lettering or pictures on clothing and/or headgear must pertain to the school's name or emblem, the student's name, a tennis racquet and/or tennis ball, or be patriotic in nature (e.g. United States flag).**
    - Exception – Manufacturer's names or logos are permitted on all tennis uniforms provided they do not exceed one and one-half inches in height.
- "Doubles" teams players shall wear colored tops that are of school color(s). Any visible undergarments that extend below the uniform shorts shall be the same color of the shorts or represent school colors or be all white or all black, or all gray. The dress code is to be enforced by the tournament manager. Failure to comply will result in a player being denied the right to participate.
- **Any clothing deemed to be "reflective" or "distractive" in nature by the tournament manager will not be permitted.**
- Slogans or phrases, such as "state bound", "we slam", etc. are not permitted on uniforms at any levels of the tournament. Participants may wear apparel sold by the OHSAA apparel vendor. See complete text of uniform requirements in the tennis sports regulations.

19. UNSPORTING CONDUCT PENALTY

- During participation in OHSAA Tournaments any student or coach ejected for unsporting conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played. Thus, a student and/or coach that gets ejected at the first level of the tournament will not be able to further participate in the OHSAA tournament.
- Individuals ejected for unsporting conduct shall be reported to the OHSAA Executive Director by the tournament manager. The Executive Director will investigate the situation and may impose additional penalties in accordance with Bylaw 11 if the situation warrants it.
- **Participation in an athletic contest is a privilege**. Each individual is expected to conduct herself in an exemplary manner while participating.

20. PROPERTY DAMAGE

- There is no insurance covering property damage. If property is damaged at a tournament site by competing school teams, student body or spectators, the school from which the students and/or spectators come shall be liable and pay the cost of repair or replacement. The tournament manager is authorized to deduct from the school's share the cost of any damages caused by competing schools. Other damages to facilities not attributed to a competing school could be a legitimate tournament expense and may be deducted from tournament receipts. If damage is extensive, the District Board or Board of Directors will become involved. Student crowd control at the state-sponsored tournaments is the responsibility of the principals of the competing schools.

21. SPONSORSHIP AND RIGHTS

- The Ohio High School Athletic Association is the sponsoring association for the Sectional, District and State tennis tournaments. The OHSAA reserves all rights regarding the management of these tournaments and the sale of any items or any audio-visual reproductions. Any sale of food, clothing, souvenirs or any other items is strictly prohibited without permission of the respective District Athletic Boards for Sectional or District Tournaments and the OHSAA Commissioner for the State Tournaments.

22. PROHIBITED ADVERTISING

- There shall be no advertising through printed media, signs, billboards, radio or television that includes beer, wine, liquor, tobacco, political parties or candidates or any other advertising contrary to the philosophy of the high school athletic program. The OHSAA "contracts" its tournament venues, as much as possible, inappropriate signs (e.g. beer advertising) should be covered. It is understood that because of the placement of some signage it may not be possible to cover the signage.

23. RAFFLES PROHIBITED

- There shall be no raffles or any type of games of chance permitted at the site of OHSAA tennis tournament contests during the period beginning one hour prior to the tournaments and ending with the conclusion of the final match.

24. PROHIBITED SALES

- The sale of, the distribution of, or the consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs is not permitted at the site of any contest involving OHSAA member schools.

25. ADMISSION (Sectional & Districts)

- The tickets will be sold online at https://www.ohsaa.org/tickets.
- The ticket prices for the sectional & district tournaments shall be:
  STUDENT: $5.00
  GENERAL ADMISSION: $10.00
- Note: Children under the age of five (5) are provided complimentary admission.
- 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.

THE 106th ANNUAL BOYS STATE TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

LINDNER FAMILY TENNIS CENTER, May 28-29

Scott Long, Manager

1. REGULATIONS

The regulations for Sectional and District Tennis Tournaments shall apply to the State Tennis Tournament in addition to those listed below.

2. STATE TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT STAFF

The State Tennis Tournaments are under the supervision and sponsorship of The Ohio High School Athletic Association with the cooperation of the College of Wooster.

3. TOURNAMENT LOCATION

Lindner Family Tennis Center
5460 Courseview Drive
Mason, OH 45040

Name	Title	Responsibilities	E-mail/Phone
John Kronour	Sport Administrator	Oversees the administrative & regulatory aspects of the sport of Tennis	jkronour@ohsaa.org 614-267-2502 ext. 150
Mike McGee	State Rules Interpreter	Rule Interpretation, Tournament Officials Assignments & Officials evaluations	mmcgee0225@gmail.com 330-606-5287
Scott Long	State Tournament Manager	Oversees the State Tournament site(s) & coordination of the participants	scott.long@centerville.k12.oh.us 937-371-2235

4. OFFICIALS & COACHES MEETING

- Both coaches' meetings will take place on **Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 8am** at the Pavillion.
- All semi-final qualifying participants and coaches shall assemble at **8:30 am, Friday, May 29, 2026** at the Pavillion.
- Information will be made available on the OHSAA website if inclement weather interferes with the tournament.

5. SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE

- No team or individual entry will be allowed to compete in the Sectional, District or State Tournaments unless accompanied by a coach or person authorized by the Board of Education or similar governing body for a non-public school. Teams and individual entries unaccompanied by a coach or authorized person will be disqualified. The school representative shall be present during play of their entries. Only an individual who has been authorized by a member school's Board of Education or similar governing body, or member of the school team, may participate in interscholastic match/contest activities (e.g. warm-ups).

6. ENTRIES

- Singles and Doubles players that qualify from a District Tournament are automatically entered in a State Tournament. No additional information is necessary.

7. SEEDING: STATE**

Placement on Brackets in Division I singles and doubles shall be conducted in the Association Headquarters with the following criteria to be followed:

A. The Qualifiers from each of the District Tournaments shall be placed in brackets as follows:
   1. First and second place qualifiers from each district will be placed in opposite half brackets.
   2. Third and fourth place qualifiers will be placed in opposite half brackets.
   3. Fifth and sixth place qualifiers will be placed in different quarter brackets.
   4. Qualifiers from the same District Tournament shall not meet in the first round of play.

B. A play-off shall be held for third and fourth place in the State Tournament for both singles and doubles. The sequence of play, whether prior to the state finals or concurrent with the final matches, will be left to the discretion of the tournament manager

** Division II will have six (6) #1 seeds, reflective of the six District tournaments. As a result of six #1 seeds, a #1 seed **may** play a #3 seed in the first round. Number two seeds **may** also face each other in the first round. Also, because there are six #1 seeds, and representation varies between athletic districts, #1 seeds may face each other during the 2nd round of play. **In addition to having six (6) #1 seeds in DII, two districts will have only one state representative in singles and doubles, while other districts will have two (2) or four (4) representatives. This makes it difficult when seeding to keep individuals from the same district from participating against each other in early rounds**.

8. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **Thursday, May 28, 2026 – Lindner Family Tennis Center**
  First and second round competitions in Division I & II singles and doubles. Play begins at 9am for Division II singles players followed by Division I singles players followed by doubles teams.

- **Friday, May 29, 2026 – Lindner Family Tennis Center**
  Semi-final and finals competition in Division I and II singles and doubles. **Play begins at 9am for all semi-finalists**. Please check the OHSAA website, www.ohsaa.org for updates when there are inclement weather conditions.

9. ADMISSION & PASSES

- The tickets will be sold online at http://www.ohsaa.org/tickets.
- The ticket prices for the State Tournament shall be:
  a. The tickets for the State Opening Rounds (Thursday, May 28) shall be $10.00 for Students & $16.00 General Admission.
  b. The tickets for the State Semi-finals & Finals (Friday, May 29) shall be $10.00 for Students & $16.00 General Admission.
     - Note: General Admission ticket price includes parking.
     - Note: Children under the age of five (5) are provided complimentary admission.

* Each participating school will receive complimentary admission for three (3) 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.

* For each *separate* school entry (one single entry, one single and one double entry, two singles entries, etc.) a Board of Education (or similar governing body) approved coach is permitted ***complimentary admission***. Any other Board Approved coach wishing to coach from courtside will need to purchase a General Admission ticket. Once inside the facility, they can check in at the Manager Tent to receive their "Court Pass". **There will be a limit to additional court pass per team entry.**

10. RESPONSIBILITY

- Transportation, meals and lodging shall be the responsibility of the school or the participants.

11. NEWS MEDIA CREDENTIALS

- No reservations are required. Media members must show company identification (company i.d. card or letter from superior on company letterhead) for complimentary admittance.

Ohio Tennis Coaches' Association / OHSAA Code of Contact

The following Code of Contact has been adopted by the Ohio Tennis Coaches' Association and the OHSAA and is used for all OHSAA tournaments and school matches. In some cases, it supersedes USTA regulations. Players can incur Code Violation Penalties for actions not only during the match, but also before and after the match. In dual matches, even though the home coach is the referee, both coaches MAY and SHALL enforce these regulations. It is suggested that, before each tournament or match, each participant be advised that the OHSAA point penalty will be enforced. Penalties for code violations are accumulative and follow the listed progressions.

Time Violations

1. In OHSAA sponsored tournaments where there is a meeting of the manager and coaches – The penalties for time violations in No.1 are:
   15 minutes late for meeting: Loss of coin toss plus one game
   Each additional 5 minutes late: Loss of game; up to three games.
2. Not starting play within 25 seconds after a 10-minute warm-up.
3. The receiver must play at the reasonable pace of the server and must be ready to receive when the server is ready to serve.
4. 90-second rule on game changeover.
5. Violations of continuous coaching guidelines – The penalties for violations in No.2, No.3, No.4 and No.5 are;
   1st Offense: Warning
   Each Subsequent Offense: Point
6. **ANY** unsporting conduct including but not limited to:
   - **6.1** Prolonging an argument after being directed to play.
   - **6.2** Visible or audible profanity
   - **6.3** Abuse of racquet, balls or equipment
   - **6.4** Abusive conduct by a player or a person associated with a player
   - **6.5** Taunting or baiting an opponent (any attempt to embarrass, ridicule, or demean another person)
   - **6.6** In an officiated match, excessive overrules by an official, or excessive appeals by a player can be deemed unsporting conduct and penalized as such.

   The penalties for violations of No.6 above are:
   1st Offense: Point
   2nd Offense: Game
   3rd Offense: Disqualification

7. Code violations resulting in Immediate Disqualification:
   - **7.1** Verbal or physical abuse or player or official
   - **7.2** Extreme unsporting behavior
   - **7.3** Not resuming play after 5 minutes following a treatment of an injury or illness
   - **7.4** Being late for a tournament match (10 minutes) after the match has been called to start. (This is after the coach has reported to the tournament manager that they are present. A team still has 30-minutes to report to the tournament at the sectional and district tournament level.)

NOTE: These are minimum regulations, and depending upon the severity of the situation, a coach or official may issue a penalty more severe than is listed.

NOTE TO FANS: Fans are also encouraged to practice good sporting behavior. Please do not approach officials, tournament managers or OHSAA staff. Let the coaches coach, let the players play, let the officials officiate.

MEDICAL & SAFETY

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURES

While risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to non-existent, there is a remote risk that other bloodborne infectious diseases can be transmitted. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing the potential for transmission of these infectious agents should include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
2. Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous-membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
3. Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
4. Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.
5. Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices.
6. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available.
7. Athletic trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic care until the condition resolves.
8. Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.
9. Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling bloody dressings, mouthguards and other articles containing body fluids.

SERVICE ANIMAL INFORMATION

It is the position of the Ohio High School Athletic Association that all individuals, including those with disabilities, shall have access to OHSAA tournaments and regular season contests conducted by the member schools. This statement is designed to apprise all OHSAA member schools and tournament managers of the law relating to these accommodations for persons with disabilities and to remind the membership of obligations as it relates to this law.

According to the federal law known as the Americans with Disabilities Act, see complete reference here https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm, **only dogs** are recognized as service animals and are defined as "dogs which are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities." Under this law, as an organization which serves the public, the OHSAA and its member schools, shall allow these service animals to accompany people with disabilities in all areas of facilities where the public is normally allowed to go. The dog should be wearing a service vest that easily identifies the animal as a "service animal".

The service dog must be harnessed, leashed or tethered unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices. In that case, the individual must maintain control of the animal.

When it is not obvious what service the dog provides, only limited inquiries are allowed. Staff members may ask two questions: 1) **Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability?** and 2) **What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?** Staff shall not ask about the person's disability, require medical documentation, require a special identification card or training documentation for the dog, or ask the dog to demonstrate its ability to perform the work or task.

We thank you in advance for making these accommodations for people who have disabilities so that they may fully enjoy the events that are sponsored by the Ohio High School Athletic Association and its member schools. If you have questions, as always, please contact a representative of your District Athletic Board for a sectional or district tournament or the sport administrator on our staff for all other inquiries.

SPORTING CONDUCT

Respect THE GAME℠

The OHSAA challenges everyone to take positive steps toward positive sporting behavior. It is the responsibility of each of us to serve as a positive role model and set high expectations for others.

ADMINISTRATORS

Athletic departments are comprehensive, pre-eminent teaching departments with a subject matter all their own: self-confidence, leadership, teamwork, discipline, perseverance, respect for others, strategic thinking, dedication, the importance of rules, and sportsmanship. These are true-life lessons, and participation in athletics provides another forum for learning.

Coaches and officials are responsible for promoting sportsmanship and positive behavior on the field. Administrators, we need your continued assistance in promoting sportsmanship and controlling fan behavior in the stands! Let the parents and fans know what you expect!

COACHES

Your athletes will demonstrate the attitudes and behaviors they have learned from you, either through direct instruction or through observation of your actions. ***Never underestimate the influence you have on your players!*** You must:

- Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Set a good example for players and spectators to follow.
- Respect and integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will serve to create a positive impression of you and your team.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- Develop a program that rewards participants and spectators for displaying proper sportsmanship and enforces penalties on those who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.

It is difficult to develop a great setter, a great hitter or a great defensive player. However, your greatest challenge is to develop mature young adults who will become great citizens and role models in your community.

OFFICIALS

Your job is not an easy one, but officials must be aware that they are an important component in the educational development of students. To carry out this responsibility, you must:

- Know the rules and mechanics of our sport and the philosophy behind them.
- Get fit and stay fit. An official with complete rules and mechanics knowledge and people skills in the world does no good if he or she cannot physically keep up with play.
- Maintain professional and ethical relationships with athletic administrators, especially in the area of fulfilling game contracts.
- Work cooperatively with fellow officials during games and within the officials' association to improve members' performances.
- Maintain at all times and when interacting with all participants, an attitude of civility and professionalism.
- Practice effective preventive officiating as much as possible before, during, and after a match. The quiet word, proper signals, timely verbal instructions, a simple thank-you to a player for avoiding an unsporting act, and well-thought-out pre-game conferences with the teams and other game officials will result in an improvement of sporting conduct by eliminating the chance for things to go wrong.

STUDENT-ATHLETES

You serve as a role model for your younger siblings, young fans in the stands, your teammates, and your classmates. Set high expectations for everyone and help them follow through! You must:

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and the community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with others. This will assist everyone in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- Treat opponents as you would like to be treated…..with respect.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will serve to create a positive impression of you and your team.

CONCLUSION

Good sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility. It is the essence of interscholastic athletics. Remember….some may question an official's call or a coach's substitution, but no one can question the value of good sportsmanship.

ONLINE RESOURCES

On our website www.ohsaa.org – click on "Respect the Game" on the right side of the screen you will find Fair Play Codes of athletes, coaches, and fans, as well as additional information regarding parents' role in interscholastic athletics. The Respect the Game site also includes information about the Harold A. Meyer Sportsmanship Award and the Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award. Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions. A direct link can be found by clicking on http://www.ohsaa.org/Respect-the-Game

HAVE A GREAT TOURNAMENT!

2026 OHSAA BOYS TENNIS TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION FORM

The OHSAA Board of Directors semi-annually sets up the representation from each district based upon the number of teams actually participating in the tournaments. Please list the school and the number of participants that actually participated in the tournament. Use additional sheets if necessary.

TOURNAMENT DATE: _____ DISTRICT: _____

TOURNAMENT LOCATION: _____

TOURNAMENT MANAGER: _____ DIVISION: _____

Schools Represented by Singles and Doubles

	SCHOOLS (alphabetical order)	NO. OF SINGLES PLAYERS	NO. OF DOUBLES TEAMS
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			
23.			
24.			

Schools that did not participate as registered

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Please complete and *EMAIL* to
John Kronour at jkronour@ohsaa.org
no later than **May 30, 2026.**