



804 N. Euclid / PO Box 1217 - Pierre SD 57501
Telephone: 605-224-9261 – Fax: 224-9262

Jo Auch
Assistant Executive Director

TENNIS ADVISORY MINUTES

Meeting: Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Tennis Advisory Committee Members:

Athletic Director	Cory Aadland, Mitchell
Principal	Open
Girls AA Coach	John Vogel, Aberdeen Central
Boys AA Coach	Trent Kurtz, Aberdeen Central
Girls/Boys A Coach	Kevin Plank, Lennox

1. Call Meeting to Order- Auch called the meeting to order at 10:30 am via Zoom. All were present.
2. Approval of Agenda – motion to approve the agenda by Aadland with a second by Kurtz, motion passed unanimously.
3. Review Duties/Responsibilities/Terms- Auch reviewed the duties and responsibilities of the committee and reminded all that nothing we do at this meeting is binding, that our proposals will move to the AD's conference for a school vote and then depending on their vote what will reach our Board of Directors for two readings.
4. Report on State Event- All thought the state event went well. Tomar Park has been a great addition for the State Tennis Tourney. Although the indoor facilities were under construction, we made the best of it. Discussed the possibility of trying to get from three sites to two sites in the future.
5. Report from Committee Members; Proposal of recommendations for submission to the Athletic Directors/Board of Directors for further consideration
 - a. A Coach Representative
 - i. **Each match played in doubles counts toward seeding regardless of which players play in that flight.** Votes amongst the specific groups were very split. The concern with this being how coaches could potentially manipulate the doubles teams come seeding time and most felt that if there were some guidelines put in place to help with that, this could become a reality. Auch tasked the coaches to put their heads together to see what that might look like in the future.
 - ii. We discussed the **officiating consistencies at the state event**, and what specifically are the roles of officials are at the state event since we do not have officials all year long it can be an intimidating factor for kids when they step onto the courts at state? The consensus was they liked what we did at the Girls State event this year. Guidance to officials is that they potentially stay off the courts and are a resource, if needed. They will go on the court if we have a tiebreak situation, or if requested to be on the court to help in specific matters. We will still chair championship rounds of specific flights of doubles and singles as well. If an official has any conflict of interest, they need to remove themselves from any of those situations. Officials are a great attribute to the tournament and are needed, but the committee felt it best to give guidelines since teams don't see officials all year long until the state event.
 - b. Boys AA Coach Representative

- i. **Play doubles first- eliminates the wait in the schedule and could make the tournament run much smoother with limited open courts.** The committee wants to give it a trial run at the Boys Class A tourney this spring and the Girls A tourney next fall to see if it saves time so the first day is not so long. Most felt that we would not be waiting so long with many so empty courts if we weren't waiting for players to finish at other courts.
- ii. **Play a round of singles and doubles on Wed. night of the tourney for Class AA because of the 14 schools.** Although most see the benefit of this, to play a state event on a Wednesday evening is a stretch. The SDHSAA Calendar Committee just met and stated that we need to try and stay away from Wednesday and Sunday events as that realistically is the only time that some families have together due to all the activities. It was also mentioned that could the AA tourney go on Thursday, Friday and Saturday? Auch stated that we can visit with the AD's about that at the conference and see what their thoughts are. Aadland mentioned that adding another day of cost to indoor facilities on a Saturday, might be tougher sell to have that available.
- iii. **Potentially moving the start time of the coaches meeting up to earlier or possibly making it a Zoom meeting.** Because there was not a clear consensus, we will leave the meeting as is.
- c. Girls AA Coach Representative
 - i. **Making sure contracted matches are played- if a team backs out of a scheduled match matches will count as forfeits against the players entered in the state tourney.** We already have in place that all scheduled matches are to be played it is tough when we have extenuating circumstances to have a "one size fits all" rule in place. The committee felt it best to leave as is and let the AD's decide upon rescheduled matches etc.
 - ii. **Coaches and managers texting players during matches.** – Plank brought up that Friend of Court already has a policy in place for phones that go off during the match or people checking phones while on the court. There is nothing in the Friend at Court about Smart Watches. Most of the committee felt that since coaches can basically coach between points etc. now anyway, this should not be an issue. Plank mentioned that many athletes check their smart watches for number of steps or calories burned as an exercise tracker more than anything. The committee will keep an eye on it and see if it becomes more problematic, but didn't feel there was a need to make any rule change as such.
 - iii. Try to get a schedule adjusted to two locations in SF instead of three when playing outdoors.
- d. Principal Representative- no report
- e. Athletic Directors Representative- Nothing to report other than what was already discussed.
- f. SDHSAA Representative
 - i. **Clarification on Substitution Rule:** If substituted AFTER ENTRIES AND BEFORE COMPETITION, a player will be allowed to play the other matches (singles or doubles) as long as the tourney has not started. The intent is that if a player due to injury or illness is not able to play potentially singles, but may be recovered by doubles, they would be allowed to do that as long as that is done prior to competition beginning.
 - ii. Auch wanted to remind everyone that next year is a roll back year. Final dates for competitions will be October 4th for the girls season and May 16th for the boys season.

6. Submitted proposal Review

- a. **Proposal 1:** No 8 game prossets- submitted by Jason Haskell ABR- The committee had a great discussion about playing 8 or 10 game prossets for indoor competition. The discussion landed along the lines of an 8 game proset, with a tiebreak being played at 7 all, is just too short. The committee understands the length of the day when we go indoors and felt a good compromise would be to play a **full 8 game proset with the 7 point tiebreak at 8-8**, if needed and eliminate the tiebreak to be played at 7 all.

Motion was made by Kurtz, second by Vogel. Motion passed unanimously.

- b. 7th and 8th place matches played- submitted by Jason Haskell ABR. The committee had no interest in playing 7/8th place matches and the rationale is that these players have lost two matches and anyone else that has lost two matches is out of the competition. This failed for lack of a motion.
- c. Another submitted proposal was to start day one of State Tourney with Doubles- submitted by AA coaches- John Vogel. There was a split vote amongst the coaches on this. The committee feels this would be a good thing, what we decided was **we will pilot this with Class A Boys this spring and Class A Girls next fall at the State Tournaments and see if that is something that we felt we saved time with as the tournament went on.** With the potential of having individuals at the site and not have to wait for people to move from one court to another court, we felt it worthy of giving it a try. No motion other than to pilot with the upcoming Class A tournaments.
- d. Last proposed item: Start State Tourney on Wednesday afternoon or night- play first round of double and singles so there are not so many matches on the first day.- submitted by Boys AA tennis coaches- Trent Kurtz. We really feel this will be a tough sell to do this on a Wednesday for reason listed earlier. No motion to move this proposal forward.

7. Recommended proposals from committee.

The only proposal that came out of this committee is:

PROPOSAL: Indoor play policy: Consolation matches when going indoors will play 8 game prossets with a 7 point tiebreak at 8-8.

- 8. Proposed date for next year's meeting will be Wednesday, October 30, 2024.
- 9. Adjourn With no further business, motion by Kurtz, second by Vogel to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 a.m.