

# TENNIS

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# TENNIS

## Boys and Girls

### IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Girls	Day/Week	2024-2025 (Roll Back Year)	2025-2026	2026-2027
<b>First Allowable Practice Date</b>	Monday, Wk. 5	August 5	August 4	August 3
<b>First Allowable Contest Date</b>	Saturday, Wk. 5	August 10	August 9	August 8
<b>Last allowable contest date</b>	Friday, Wk. 13	October 4	October 3	October 2
<b>Class A State Tournament</b>	Monday-Tuesday Wk. 14	October 7-8 Rapid City	October 6-7 Sioux Falls	October 5-6 Rapid City
<b>Class AA State Tournament</b>	Thursday-Friday, Wk. 14	October 10-11 Rapid City	October 9-10 Sioux Falls	October 8-9 Rapid City
<b>Season Ends</b>	Friday, Wk. 14	October 11	October 10	October 9

Boys	Week/Day	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
<b>First Allowable Practice Date</b>	Monday, Wk. 37	March 17	March 16	March 15
<b>First Allowable Contest Date</b>	Saturday Wk. 37	March 22	March 21	March 20
<b>Last allowable contest date</b>	Friday, Wk. 45	May 16	May 15	May 14
<b>Class A State Tournament</b>	Monday-Tuesday Wk. 46	May 19-20 Sioux Falls	May 18-19 Rapid City	May 17-18 Sioux Falls
<b>Class AA State Tournament</b>	Thursday-Friday, Wk. 46	May 22-23 Sioux Falls	May 21-22 Rapid City	May 20-21 Sioux Falls
<b>Season Ends</b>	Friday, Wk. 46	May 23	May 22	May 21

\*Out-of season is defined as that period of time after a team or individual has been eliminated from further competition during the championship series of district-region-state tournaments/meets and continues until the first allowable date that the next regular season may begin.

For sub-varsity levels of competition, out of season begins the day following the last interscholastic competition and continues until the first allowable date that the next regular season may begin.

### STATE MEET SITES

#### Girls' Tennis

2024 – Rapid City  
2025 – Sioux Falls  
2026 – Rapid City

#### Boys' Tennis

2025 – Sioux Falls  
2026 – Rapid City  
2027 – Sioux Falls

Participation in school activities teaches that it is a privilege and an honor to represent one's school. Interscholastic activities constitute a part of the right kind of "growing up" experiences for students. Participants learn to accept success and failures, gain poise and confidence, achieve tolerance and understanding of others and gain the self-satisfaction of accomplishing goals. Under a well-administered school program, students and spectators become better citizens through participation and observation of activities conducted under established rules. Please refer to the **Sportsmanship Section of the SDHSAA Athletic Handbook** for policies and statements concerning the following items:

General Sports Objectives and Coaching Responsibility

Fundamentals of Sportsmanship

Racial Harassment, Violence and Taunting (See General Section)

Athletic Code of Ethics

Code of Sport Ethics for Coaches

## SOUTH DAKOTA CHANGES/REMINDERS

1. **Indoor play policy:** Consolation Round matches when going indoors will play 8 games pro-sets with a 7-point tie break when we reach 8-8..
2. **Lineups:** The athletes shall be placed in the lineup beginning with flight one for singles and working your way down flights without skipping flights. The same format will be used when placing doubles teams.
3. Substitutions may be made after the entries are submitted and prior to his/her first match of the tournament. The substitution must be based on illness, injury or school administration discipline. A written statement must be presented to the meet director prior to competition. If this is not possible, the substitution will be at the discretion of the meet director. The substitute designated to replace his/her teammate will do so in the same position as the person withdrawing from the tournament. Any substitution(s) in singles competition would have to be a player(s) not already seeded or drawn into the singles competition. Likewise, any substitute(s) in doubles competition would have to be a player(s) not already seeded or drawn into doubles competition. Coaches would not be allowed to switch their line-up to accommodate the substitution. There would not be a re-drawing or re-seeding of that flight, unless it can be done in advance of the seed meeting.  
**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.*
4. Substitutions may be made after tournament play has begun for injury or illness. The substitute cannot be a player who has already played in singles/doubles tournament. If a player withdraws, it must be by consent of trainer, meet director and/or SDHSAA meet official. Once a player has withdrawn and been replaced with a substitute, the replaced player is no longer eligible to compete in singles or doubles.
5. Change the match format of the State Tournament to play 2/3 sets with a match tie break in lieu of the final set for all championship round matches.
6. Tennis would be aligned with two classes. Classes will be divided equally by the total number of teams competing, based on ADM, with the odd number moving up to Class AA. BOD will grant permission to any school to participate in a higher classification than their ADM places them.
7. Allow for a substitution for a singles player after the tournament has begun, much like we do in doubles, for injury or illness occurring. This cannot be a player who has already played singles in the tournament. If the player withdraws, it must be by consent of the trainer, meet director and/or SDHSAA meet official. Once that player has withdrawn, they are no longer eligible to compete in singles or doubles.
8. For seed purposes the match begins when the first serve of the match takes place.
9. During regular season, the host school would have the option to play short sets as a match format.
10. Matches may be played using a 10 game pro set with a 7 point tie break when players reach 9 all with no ad scoring.
11. Allow “between point coaching” with the understanding that the coach must be outside the fence on the same side of the court as their players when coaching. Coaching must not disrupt the opponent or the flow of the match. Players may not go to the fence for coaching during this time.
12. Tie-Breaking Procedure:
  - i. Head to head
  - ii. Indirect wins (common opponents with players involved in tie)
  - iii. Quality wins – any player who has a win vs a higher seeded player, if they both do, the seed will be awarded to whomever has the best (highest) quality win.
  - iv. Bad losses – whoever lost to the lowest seeded player would receive the lower seed
  - v. Coin flip
13. Teams must follow the below Heat Acclimatization and Contact Restrictions:

### **Heat-Acclimatization Regulations for SDHSAA Fall Tennis**

1. Days 1 through 5 of the heat-acclimatization period consist of the first 5 days of formal practice. During this time, athletes may not participate in more than 1 practice per day.
2. If a practice is interrupted by inclement weather or heat restrictions, the practice should recommence once conditions are deemed safe. Total practice time should not exceed 3 hours in any 1 day.
3. Beginning no earlier than day 6 and continuing through day 14 or the first varsity contest, double-practice days must be followed by a single-practice day. When a double-practice day is followed by a rest day, another double-practice day is permitted after the rest day.
4. On a double-practice day, neither practice should exceed 3 hours in duration, and student-athletes should not participate in more than 5 total hours of practice. Warm-up, stretching, cool-down, walk-through, conditioning, and weight-room activities are included as part of the practice time. The 2 practices should be separated by at least 3 continuous hours in a cool environment.
5. Because the risk of exertional heat illnesses during the preseason heat-acclimatization period is high, we strongly recommend that an athletic trainer be on site before, during, and after all practices.

**\*NOTES:**

1. Consideration should also be taken for any practices conducted in hot and humid weather in non-air cooled facilities.
2. Consult the Heat Index Lookup for more information at <https://www.sdhsaa.com/heat-index/>.
3. Days are calculated inclusive of Sundays/weekends.

**References:**

National Federation of State High School Associations Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. Heat acclimatization and heat illness prevention position statement. Published 2012. <http://www.nfhs.org>.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP**

It is not permissible for schools to relinquish control of an activity which is school sponsored and recognized by the SDHSAA. Member schools may not delegate their authority to a group of parents or non-school entities who indicate a willingness to provide funding, coaching, transportation, supervision etc. and in exchange the school allows the student to wear school uniforms and compete under the school name.

School sponsorship means the following: (a) The local governing board has taken official action at a regularly scheduled meeting indicating the intent to sponsor a particular sport. (b) The local board must assume total control over activities it is sponsoring. (c) Coaches must meet certification standards as established by the SD Dept. of Education and Cultural Affairs. (d) The local board must assume direct control of all financial obligations related to the sponsorship of tennis, as well as assume total control of those funds. Items such as equipment, coaches' salaries, officials' pay, transportation, meals, lodging, etc. must be under control of the local governing board. (e) The eligibility rules of the SDHSAA will apply as will all rules and regulations set forth in the SDHSAA Constitution and By-Laws.

### **MEET LIMITATIONS**

- A. The maximum tennis schedule is fifteen meets exclusive of the State Tournament. A triangular, quadrangular, invitational, etc. is considered one meet even if the meet covers multiple days.
- B. Tennis rosters and schedules are due on the SDHSAA website by:

	<b>Online Rosters and Schedules Due</b>
<b>Girls</b>	<b>August 10</b>
<b>Boys</b>	<b>March 22</b>

Schedules and rosters may be updated with changes as the season progresses.

### **CLASSIFICATION**

Schools will be aligned with the ADM figures from the most recent classification to divide the total number of teams competing based on ADM equally, with the odd number moving up to Class AA. The Board of Directors will grant permission to any school to participate in a higher classification than their ADM (9-11) places them. If a school requests and is granted permission, they will remain in the higher classification for a two-year alignment period. At the end of the two years, they could exercise their option again if they so desire. If a school requests to move up in one activity, they must move up one classification in all other activities that use the same classification formula. The SDHSAA must be notified by July 1.

### **COACHES RULES MEETING**

- A. **There will be an online rules meeting for tennis in 2024-2025.**

### **COACHES MUST MEET SDHSAA EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

All the athletic coaches in member schools, head or assistant, paid or volunteer, must meet the education requirements set forth by the SDHSAA prior to starting any coaching assignment.

NOTE: See Coaches Education on the SDHSAA website under the Athletics tab for SDHSAA Coaches Education Program.

### **RULES OF COMPETITION**

- A. **The Rules of the United States Tennis Association** shall govern all competition except in cases modified by the SDHSAA regulations.
- B. **In-Season Regulation:** Members of a high school tennis team may not participate in tennis tournaments during the season for their respective classification that are sponsored by non-members of this Association. This does not pertain to tournaments before the season starts or after the season ends. **Individuals may participate in tournaments by non-members of this Association provided they have not become a member of their high school tennis team, however, athletes must become a member of the team no later than the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday from the start date. (See Out-of-Season section of the Athletic Handbook.)**
- C. **Game Contracts.** According to Article VIII, Section 2 of the SDHSAA Constitution, all contests must be sanctioned by the Principal, Superintendent, or Athletic Director of the schools involved. It is recommended that game contracts as furnished by the SDHSAA (located on the SDHSAA website under Forms) be used for all levels of competition

including your regular season games and meets, as well as tournaments, invitational competitions, and double-headers, etc.

#### D. Regular Season Matches

1. **Lineups:** The athletes shall be placed in the lineup beginning with flight one for singles and working your way down flights without skipping flights. The same format will be used when placing doubles teams.
2. **For seed purposes, a match begins when the first serve takes place.**
3. Schools may determine format of their regular season matches for both the varsity and jr. varsity competition. For varsity match format, it is recommended that two out of three game matches, with match tie-break in lieu of the third set, be played. However, for multi-team matches, 8-game or 10-game proset matches, 10 game proset with 7 point tie breaker when 9 all is reached with no ad scoring, and short sets are acceptable.
4. Tie-Breaks and No-Ad Scoring
  - *Set Tie-Break.* The Set Tie-Break (first to seven by a margin of two) determines the winner of any set in which it is used.
  - *Match Tie-Break.* The Match Tie-Break is the same as the Set Tie-Break except that it is the first to ten by a margin of two in lieu of the deciding final set.
  - *Optional use of a tie-break in lieu of the final deciding set.* The Set Tie-Break or the Match Tie-Break may be used in lieu of the final deciding set to determine the winner of the match. Any event electing to use either the Set Tie-Break or the Match Tie-Break in lieu of a third or final set shall announce the procedure prior to competition.
  - A match tie-break in lieu of the final deciding set will be utilized at the State Tournament for championship round matches.
4. FAC Comments on Tie-Breaks Played in Lieu of Third Set.
  - *Service Order.* The player whose turn it was to serve first if a full set were played starts serving the tie-break that is played in lieu of a third set. Either partner on a doubles team may serve first for their team
  - *Receiving positions.* A doubles team may change receiving positions at the start of the tie-break.
  - *Change of ends.* Players change ends at the start of the tie-break only if an odd-game changeover is due. During the tie-break, players change ends after every six points.
  - *Rest periods.* There is a mandatory 3 minute rest period prior to the start of the **match** tie-break. During this time, coaching will be allowed. Athletes may leave the court area during this time, but no practice may take place during this mandatory rest period. No rest period is permitted during a set tie-break.
  - *Rest Guidelines:* The following guidelines have been developed to assist the court marshals in assigning back to back matches to players. These are only recommendations. Players may wish to play sooner. Court marshals are to make their best judgment, taking into consideration both weather and type of match just played. **For extreme heat and humidity, the time between matches will be extended.** Marshals should write down the time when the match was completed.
    - 15-20 min. rest time following a 'straight-set' match
    - 20-30 min. rest time following a 'split-set' match
    - 10-15 min. rest time following 10-game prosets or short sets
  - *Ball change.* There are no ball changes when a match tie-break is used.
  - *Recording the tie-break score.* The score of the tie-break set will be written 7-6(x) or 6-7(x), with (x) being the number of points won by the loser of the tie-break. For example, 7-6(4) means the tie-break score was 7-4, and 6-7(14) means the tie-break score was 14-16. If a tie-break set is played in lieu of the third set, the tie-break score is recorded 1-0(x) with (x) being the number of points won by the loser of the tie-break.
  - *Changing ends during the tie-break.* Changes of ends during a tie-break game are to be made within the normal time allowed between point. (20 seconds)

- E. **Forfeiture of Matches/Canceling Contests.** All matches are to be played on the day scheduled. Matches which cannot be rescheduled must be a forfeit unless caused by weather conditions.

Chapter II, Part II, Section 12 of the SDHSAA By-Laws states, "No school shall fail to have its team play or participate in a scheduled athletic game or contest without full agreement of the other school concerned or without, in case of failure in mutual agreement, getting the approval of the Executive Director for the cancellation. Except for bad weather or other emergency cause for a request for cancellation of a contest from the Executive Director, such a request shall be made at least one week in advance. Violation of the By-Law forfeits the game or contest for the violating school and that school may be barred, by Board of Directors action, from athletic participation in the Association for one year."

- F. **Coaches' Restriction for Varsity Competition.** When a school's varsity athletes are in competition, their coach may talk/coach them only during the time when the players are changing sides on the court.

**On court coaching** will be allowed during the team and individual competition during the 90 second change over set break or split, except following the first game of each set. In a situation where the tournament manager determines that the coaching is not in the best interests of the participants, the tournament manager may disallow it. The coaching time begins when the game is completed and should not delay the match in any way.

***Between point coaching*** will be allowed with the understanding that the coach must be outside the fence on the same side of the court as their players when coaching. Coaching must not disrupt the opponent or the flow of the match. Players may not go to the fence for coaching during this time.

These coaching rules apply to the head coach as well as designated assistant coaches. Other school personnel, tennis enthusiasts, etc. are not allowed to talk to or coach players at any time during the match. During a team competition, a player may receive coaching from a designated coach only on a change-over or after the completion of a set, but not during a set tie-break. Coaching will be allowed during the mandatory 3 minute rest period, prior to the start of a match tie-break. *A player may receive coaching during an authorized rest period since play is not occurring. However, coaching is not allowed during a toilet visit, an injury time out, or when equipment is being adjusted.* It is the responsibility of each coach to communicate this regulation to those people who may be watching a certain individual play.

#### **Sub-varsity Competition.**

Coaches are allowed to 'coach' players during the match, not just at "change over's" at all sub-varsity matches. The following guidelines will be in place:

1. There shall be no coaching during the point (from the point of the toss until the point has concluded).
2. The coaching will not be used with the intent to distract or interfere with the opposing player(s).
3. Coaching by parents or spectators is still prohibited, just as in the varsity matches.
4. The coaching is not to interfere with the 'flow of the match.'
5. On court and between point coaching will be allowed at this level.

- G. Change Ends/Side of Court.** The USTA rule calls for a change of ends but continuous play after the first game of each set (20 seconds). However, as per SDHSAA guidelines: Coaches are allowed to coach on the changeover (90 seconds) and after the first game of each set (90 seconds). For all other changeovers, a maximum of 90 seconds is allowed for rest. It also calls for a "set break" of 2 minutes after the completion of the first set, regardless of the score. Players return to the same side of the court if the set score was even (e.g., 6-4) and change ends if the set score is odd (e.g., 6-3). Coaches may talk to their players during a change of end.

#### **H. Injury**

An injury/medical time-out may not exceed 3 minutes. Evaluation prior to treatment is allowed. A player may request another medical time-out for a different medical condition. Only one time-out is permitted for heat related cramping.

- I. Official SDHSAA Tennis Ball.** The Association's Board of Directors has named the Wilson US Open Tournament Select Extra Duty tennis ball as the official state tournament ball. Schools may use a ball of their choosing for their regular season contests.

- J. Tennis Uniforms.** The uniform policy for regular season matches is the same that applies for the State Tournament. **All schools must follow the uniform rule during their regular season meets.**

All tennis uniforms must be school approved and designated as such.

#### **UNIFORMS**

1. The tailored manufactured shirt must be school issued, and can be sleeved or sleeveless.
2. Shirts must be of a school color; however, a white or black shirt with school identification is permitted. No "plain white" or shirts "turned inside out" to circumvent the uniform rule will be allowed.
3. There can be no markings on the shirt other than the school name, player's name, school mascot, normal manufacturer's trim or logo (no more than 2¼ square inches), and/or tennis symbols.
4. When standing, apparel must cover the midriff.
5. Bottoms may be shorts or skirts of a school color, black or white.
6. Visible undergarments worn under the uniform must be unadorned and of a single solid color. A school name or insignia is permitted provided it is no larger than 2¼ inches square and no dimension is larger than 2¼ inches. Visible undergarments worn under both top and bottom do not have to be the same color.

#### **DOUBLES TEAMS**

1. All **doubles teams** must wear the same school colored uniform or shirt. (Black or white are also permitted, but both players must wear the same color.) Doubles team members' shirts or uniforms may vary in some degree in design from each other, but may not vary in color.
2. For **doubles teams**, shorts, skirts, sweatpants need not be the same color.

#### **SWEATSUITS**

1. Sweat outfits, when worn in competition, shall have no markings other than that of the school the contestant is representing.

#### **HEADGEAR**

1. No bandanas used as a full headdress are allowed.
2. Headbands, wrist bands, armbands must be of a solid color, no wider than 2 inches.
3. When caps are worn, the bill must be worn forward.

#### **PENALTIES**

1. If an athlete does not report for competition in a proper uniform, the uniform violation should be corrected immediately. Penalty assessed will be subject to time violation under the USTA rules.

2. Removing the tennis shirt (appearing with a bare upper body) while in the tennis court area shall lead to a penalty and, if repeated, to disqualification from the event.

Note: Players must be in their tennis uniform or proper school issued uniform, such as warm-ups, and must wear proper footwear (no flip-flops or slippers) to accept an award at the State Tournament.

- K. Good Sportsmanship Shall Prevail at all Times.** Use of profanity, obscene gestures, or unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject the offending player to disqualification. Any physical or verbal outburst of a player on one court that could break the concentration of any other player on courts adjacent will also be considered unsportsmanlike conduct.
- L. 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 borne 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 be reviewed by all tennis coaches.

It is the coach's responsibility to check all his/her players for any open wounds. Proper treatment must be administered prior to competition. (See the communicable disease procedures in the General Section of the Handbook.)

**If a tennis player is hurt or injured during the match, the injury must be treated at the earliest possible time (usually at the end of a point, game or match). Clean all blood contaminated surfaces and equipment with a solution made from a proper dilution of household bleach (CDC recommends 1:100). If excessive blood is on the uniform, the player must change the uniform or clean it before continued participation. A player may receive one medical time-out for bleeding. If a player is unable to stop the bleeding at the end of the time-out, the player must retire.**

## TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

- A. School Officials to Accompany Entrants to State Meet.** Each member school having an entrant in the State Tennis Tournament must have a staff representative from their school in attendance. Failure to do so causes the athlete(s) to be disqualified.
- B. Making Entries.** Each tennis coach must be sure all scores for all matches played are entered and submit his/her State Tournament entries on the SDHSAA website. **No printed copies of the entries will be accepted. Entries are due at Noon CT on the day listed below. If playing matches on Friday, updates scores immediately following matches and it will automatically update state entry seed points.**

	Class A	Class AA
Girls	Friday, October 4 – Noon CT	Friday, October 4 – Noon CT
Boys	Friday, May 16 – Noon CT	Friday, May 16 – Noon CT

Each school may enter a maximum of twelve players in the tournament. Each school may be represented by only one player in each flight of singles and by only one pair in each flight of doubles. A player may play both in singles and doubles. A school may enter fewer than twelve players in the tournament.

Only varsity wins and losses of that player while playing at that flight will be displayed on the website, (not class specific). Wins from other flights cannot be used, nor can wins from another player playing at that flight be used. **An entrant in the state tournament must play in the flight in which he/she has been playing the majority of the season.** A player may move up but not down. Exceptions may be granted following a consensus made at the seeding meeting.

**Note: \$50.00 fines imposed for late entries.**

- C. Flights Must be Designated at Time of Entry.** At the time of entry, the coach shall designate which flight each of his/her players is to enter. This includes the entries in the doubles flights.
- D. Substitutions**
  - 1. After Entries - Before Competition.** Substitutions may be made after the seeding meeting and prior to his/her first match of the tournament. The substitution must be based on illness, injury, or school administration discipline. Written statements must be presented to the meet director prior to competition. If this is not possible, the substitution will be at the discretion of the meet director.
  - 2. The substitute designated to replace his/her teammate will do so in the same position as the person withdrawing from the tournament.** Any substitution(s) in singles competition would have to be a player(s) not already seeded or drawn into the singles competition. Likewise any substitute(s) in doubles competition would have to be a player(s) not already seeded or drawn into doubles competition. Coaches would not be allowed to switch their line-up to accommodate the substitution. There would not be a re-drawing or re-seeding of that flight, unless it can be done in advance of the seed meeting.
  - 3. After tournament has begun (singles and doubles).** Substitution may be made after tournament has begun for injury or if illness occurs. The substitute cannot be a player who has already played in singles/doubles tournament. If a player withdraws, it must be by consent of trainer, meet director and/or SDHSAA meet official. Once a player has withdrawn and been replaced with a substitute, the replaced player is no longer eligible to compete in singles or doubles.

- E. Seeding Formula and Seed Meeting.** Seeding will be determined by the seed point system in place to seed players in each flight, regardless of class, based on the seed points acquired throughout the year. There will still be a seed meeting on Sunday evening for Class A and Wednesday evening for Class AA to review brackets and make any necessary changes prior to start of competition. The tournament manager will conduct the seeding meeting.

It is expected that all schools will be represented at the Seed Meeting. However, if a coach cannot attend, he or she has the responsibility of having their player(s) at the designated courts for any first round match. Any player(s) not present at match time will have to default that scheduled match (10 minute default rule applies). It will not be the responsibility of the Meet Manager to attempt to contact the coach of said player(s) or the player(s).

**Seeding formula and guidelines:**

Seed points will be awarded based upon opponent's win percentage as shown in the chart below.

Win percentage = number of varsity wins at that flight divided by the number of varsity contests played.

Opponent's Winning Percentage	Points for Win	Points for Loss
.750 and above	50	39
.500 - .749	47	36
.250 - .499	44	33
.249 and below	41	30

An individual's seed point average will be determined by dividing the total number of seed points earned by the total number of contests played against varsity opponents entered at that flight in which they will be participating at the State Tournament, regardless of class.

- F. Number of Seed:** In singles and doubles competition, each player will be seeded based on the seed points each player has earned throughout the season. All players will be seeded in each flight in singles and doubles.

**G. Tennis Seeding Meeting Procedures**

- At the seeding meeting, coaches will review seeds of the Flight 1-6 singles and Flight 1-3 doubles and make any necessary adjustments based on injury or illness.
- One spokesperson for each team. If a coach is representing more than one school at the seed meeting, the announcement is to be made prior to the seeding process starting.
- Criteria for assistant coaches is as follows:
  - Must be a certified staff member and/or meet the SDHSAA "coach" definition. (A coach includes any person contracted to coach a sport or any volunteer who has been approved to help coach a sport. Includes positions filled on an annual basis.)
  - NOTE: May not be a parent. A parent can be a driver and "settle down" the athletes before and after a match. They can do those same things and not have to be named assistant coach.
- Substitutions (See tournament information previous page, letter D.)
- Seeds will be placed in the bracket according to seed points earned during the season at that flight, regardless of class.
- An entrant in the State Tennis Tournament must play in the flight in which he or she has been playing the majority of the season.** A player may move up, but not down. Exception may be granted following a consensus made at seeding meeting.
- Two ways in which a seeded player(s) may be moved in the seed placement:
  - Seed Clause:** Exceptions to challenge seeds may be granted if the following criteria are met:  
A player may be awarded a higher seed if all of the following criteria have been met:
    - the lower seeded player is undefeated vs. the higher seeded player
    - the lower seeded player is undefeated vs. all players seeded below him/her.
    - The higher seeded player has no wins vs. a player seeded above him/her.
  - Appeals Process:** In a situation where the point system fails to place a player in the seed that they earned, the coach may file an appeal to the appeals committee before the seeding meeting. The appeals committee would consist of the tournament director, a SDHSAA official, advisory coach from alternate class, and a tournament official. The other directly involved coach(es) will also be notified that an appeal has been made that affects their player. Before the seeding meeting all the coaches of players involved in the appeal will meet with the appeals committee and each coach will briefly state their case, after which, the appeals committee will make their binding decision on the placement of the players.
  - Appeals may be made for each flight for the top eight seed placements should a coach feel that the seed system has failed his/her player. The criteria to be considered by the appeals committee will be as follows:
    - Seed system
    - Direct wins
    - Indirect wins
    - Using the top 1-8 seeds, if you have not beaten anyone in the top 8 that player in question moves to the #8 seed.



- v. Committee has the ability to use discretion and common sense in placement of players based on coach's testimony.
8. A singles player/doubles team must have played at least **eight** matches in their flight to be considered for a seed. If, in good faith, a flighted player is there to play a match and no one is there to play, the flighted player will receive credit for the match towards allowable number of matches needed to be seeded.  
Those not meeting the criteria, will be seeded last in the flight in which they are entered based on this criteria:
  - a) highest number of matches played
  - b) head to head competition
  - c) coin flip

#### H. Tournament Bracket

1. Players will be seeded based on the seed points each player has earned throughout regular season play.
2. Those players receiving 1<sup>st</sup> round byes must win their 2<sup>nd</sup> round match before receiving points for the bye.
3. In championship and consolation play, if a player receives a bye, they must win the next match to receive points for the bye.
4. If a seeded player loses his/her first match following a bye, the player moves to the consolation side of the bracket.
5. Players winning the first match and losing the second match will move to the consolation side of the bracket. Cross-bracket the player moving to the consolation side of the bracket.

#### I. State Meet Schedule

GIRLS		BOYS	
<b>CLASS A</b> <b>Oct. 7-8</b>	<b>Monday – 8:00 a.m. (MT) - Rapid City</b> <b>Tuesday – 8:00 a.m. (MT) – Rapid City</b>	<b>Class A</b> <b>May 19-20</b>	<b>Monday – 8:00 a.m. (CT) – Sioux Falls</b> <b>Tuesday – 8:00 a.m. (CT) – Sioux Falls</b>
<b>Class AA</b> <b>Oct. 10-11</b>	<b>Thursday – 8:00 a.m. (MT) – Rapid City</b> <b>Friday – 8:00 a.m. (MT) – Rapid City</b>	<b>Class AA</b> <b>May 22-23</b>	<b>Thursday – 8:00 a.m. (CT) – Sioux Falls</b> <b>Friday – 8:00 a.m. (CT) – Sioux Falls</b>

The State Tournament time schedule will be posted on the SDHSAA website, and an email sent to tennis coaches with all necessary information for the State Tournament prior to the event.

#### J. Scoring for Championship & Consolation Rounds

*NOTE: Match format subject to change due to inclement weather.*

1. All matches in championship rounds will play two out of three sets with a match tie-break in lieu of the deciding set, with no ad scoring. No new balls will be given for tie-breaker.
2. Players in the 3<sup>rd</sup> place match and all matches played to determine 5<sup>th</sup> place will play a 10 game pro-set, with a 7 point tie break when players reach 9 all with no ad scoring,
3. All matches in the consolation rounds will play 10 game pro-sets, with a 7 point tie break when players reach 9 all with no ad scoring.
4. The following system shall be used in a set tie-break game:

##### Singles

- A player who first wins seven points shall win the game and the set provided he/she leads by a margin of two points. If the score reaches six points all, the game shall be extended until this margin has been achieved. Numerical scoring shall be used throughout the tie-break game.
- The player whose turn it is to serve shall be the Server for the first point. His/her 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 the service from a 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 when it is discovered.
- Players shall change ends after every six points and at the conclusion of the tie-break game.

##### 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 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) whose turn it was to serve first in the tie-break game shall receive service in the first game of the following set.

#### K. Cancellation of Matches/Points Due to Inclement Weather

1. If possible, flights will not be eliminated. The final decision will rest with the tournament directors (both site and SDHSAA).
2. If second day rain out, the points accumulated on the first day will stand.
3. Should inclement weather force the cancellation of any remaining rounds of consolation play, all points accumulated by a team in the consolation rounds or third and fifth place matches up to that time shall be included in the determining of total points.

## L. Indoor Play Procedures.

*NOTE: Match format subject to change. Decision rests with Tournament Director and SDHSAA representative.*

The tennis tournament will be played outdoors if at all possible. Indoor facilities will be used only if the weather does not permit the continued play outdoors.

The SDHSAA has reserved the indoor courts at Huether Family Match Pointe, Great Life at Woodlake and Country Club of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls and the Tennis Center of the Black Hills and Arrowhead Tennis Center in Rapid City for both the Girls' and Boys' State Tennis Tournaments.

Exceptions to the schedule will be made as time permits. The intent is to play all matches with a modified format. The final decision will rest with the tournament directors (both site and SDHSAA), taking into consideration the site of the tournament (Rapid City or Sioux Falls).

- Championship round matches played indoors will be 10 game pro-set with a 7 point tie break when 9 all is reached – no ad scoring.
- Consolation round matches played indoors, will be eight game pro-sets with no ad scoring and the use of the set (7 point) tie-break.
- When moving from indoor back to outdoor tennis, the same format as used indoors will be used until the entire round has been completed at a specific flight.

Rain or any other weather conditions (outdoor temperature is to be included as one of the criteria for moving indoors) may cause the tournament to be moved indoors.

In the event of rain and the tournament is moved indoors on **opening day of tournament**, play will continue with doubles flights beginning first.

<b><u>SIoux FALLS</u></b>	<b>HUETHER FAMILY MATCH POINTE</b>	<b>GREAT LIFE AT WOODLAKE</b>	<b>COUNTRY CLUB OF SIoux FALLS</b>
Doubles	FL 1-2	FL 3	as needed
Singles	FL 1-3	FL 4-5	FL 6
<b><u>RAPID CITY</u></b>	<b>TENNIS CENTER OF BLACK HILLS</b>	<b>AAROWHEAD TENNIS CENTER</b>	
Doubles	FL 1-2	FL 3	
Singles	FL 1-4	FL 5-6	

- If the tournament is moved indoors on **second day**, the schedule will be determined by the SDHSAA. When playing matches indoors, doubles teams or singles players may not be on the court more than 10 minutes before their match. **NOTE:** With all indoor matches, players may NOT be on the courts until the match has been called.

**M. Determination of Team Champion.** The school compiling the greatest number of points wins the team championship. Points earned in all flights apply toward the team championship.

**N. Lateness Penalty System.** The USTA rule for a graduated penalty system as listed in the Friend at Court, will apply.

### **Lateness for Match or for Resumption of Suspended Match**

Both players equally late up to 15 minutes:

No Penalty

Both players late but arrive at different times:

The penalty accrues on the arrival of the first player (A). The opponent loses the toss and one, two or three games depending on the time elapsed between A's arrival and B's arrival.

Both players are more than 15 minutes late:

The Referee may default both players, or the Referee may reinstate the match using the principle in effect when both players are late but arrive at different times.

### **Penalties**

- 5:00 min. or less      Loss of toss plus 1 game
- 5:01-10:00 min.      Loss of toss plus 2 games
- 10:01-15:00 min.      Loss of toss plus 3 games
- More than 15:00 min. Default

A player is deemed to have arrived when the player checks in at the place designated for checking in and is properly clothed, equipped, and ready to play. The lateness penalty clock starts when the match is scheduled and called, a court is available, and a player has not arrived. The court marshal is not required to keep a court open while awaiting a player. Except for a Default, an official shall never assess more than a 3-game penalty for lateness.

If, after s/he begins, a player fails to continue as required by the rules through illness or other causes, his/her opponent shall be declared the winner.

## O. Appointment and Duties of Meet Manager

The Board of Directors shall appoint a meet manager for the tournament. S/he, along with the SDHSAA representative, shall decide all points arising out of the competition. It shall be his/her duty to assign courts, and to start

matches. The meet manager may postpone any match or part of any match if, in his/her opinion, the state of the weather, or of light, or of the grounds, or other circumstances render it advisable to do so. S/he also has the authority to move matches indoors.

**P. Use of Tennis Officials**

Tennis Officials will be hired for each of the tennis tournaments with full jurisdiction to make any and all decisions consistent with the rules for the sport of tennis. Part of the official's responsibility is to monitor sportsmanship.

**Q. Good Sportsmanship Code and Violations**

Use of profanity, obscene gestures, or unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject the offending player to disqualification. Any physical or verbal outburst of a player on one court that could break the concentration of any other player on courts adjacent will also be considered unsportsmanlike conduct.

Uniform violations are subject to the time violation under USTA rules.

**THE OBJECTIVE OF THE POINT PENALTY IS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES, NOT TO PUNISH.**

These penalty points may be given by meet officials, the meet manager, tournament director, or any member of the tournament committee working at the State Meet.

**R. Calling Out the Score**

It shall be mandatory for the server, preceding all points of each game, to call out the score verbally. The server shall direct the call to his/her opponent in a sportsmanlike manner, in a voice loud enough to be heard by the opponent, and it shall be done on every occurrence. Failure to do so will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct.

**S. Tennis Uniforms**

**It is emphasized to all coaches to come prepared to the State Meet expecting all types of weather. Be sure your athletes have the proper shirts/sweat outfits/undergarments available to comply with the SDHSAA uniform regulation. BE PREPARED!** (See tennis uniform regulations under General Information in this Tennis Section.)

**T. Awards**

	Trophies	Plaques	Medals
Team:	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> (9 medals to each team)
Individual:			1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>

All individual and team tennis awards will be presented at the conclusion of the tournament. Awards **will not** be presented prior to the completion of the tournament. Those teams wishing to leave early must notify an SDHSAA staff member. It is the responsibility of each school to cover the cost of sending/mailling the medal to the school following the tournament. A \$2.00 fee per medal will be charged.

**Note:** Athletes must be in their tennis uniform or a proper school issued uniform such as their warm-ups to participate in the award ceremony.

**U. Expenses**

The SDHSAA does not reimburse schools for any expenses incurred.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO NOTE FOR THE STATE TOURNAMENT**

1. Warm-up: There will be a 5 minute warm-up for all matches. Practice serves are to be taken before match begins.
2. **Court marshals are asked to use their best judgment when issuing rest time. For extreme heat and humidity, the time between matches will be extended.**
3. For ALL changeovers, a maximum of 90 seconds is allowed for rest. A “set break” of 2 minutes after the completion of the first set, regardless of the score, is called for. Players return to the same side of the court if the set score was even (e.g., 6-4) and change ends if the set score is odd (e.g., 6-3). Coaches may talk to their players during a change of ends.
4. It is the responsibility of all players and coaches to check the playing schedule. All matches will be assigned. If rain alters the schedule, it is the responsibility of the player and coach to check the new schedule.
5. Only players and certified officials will be allowed in the court area.
6. Players are to turn in the tennis balls after completion of each match when reporting scores.
7. Both players must report score and check for next match time and location.
8. An injury/medical time-out may not exceed 3 minutes. Evaluation prior to treatment is allowed. A player may request another medical time-out for a different medical condition. Only one time-out is permitted for heat related cramping.
9. Call out scores – warning may be given for failure to call out scores.

**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT TEAM AWARD**

In an attempt to recognize the academic excellence of the athletic teams and fine arts groups in each school, the SDHSAA created the “Academic Achievement Team Award”. The “Academic Achievement Team Award” is designed to recognize “varsity” level “teams” that achieve a combined GPA of 3.0 or higher.

For additional information about the “Academic Achievement Team Award,” refer to the “Academic Achievement Team Award” section of either the ATHLETIC or FINE ARTS HANDBOOK.

## ***Match Format and Scoring***

### **Outdoors:**

Championship round matches	2 out of 3 sets – with match tie-break in lieu of deciding set – no ad scoring
3 <sup>rd</sup> place through 5 <sup>th</sup> place matches (includes 5 <sup>th</sup> place semis)	10 game pro-set with a 7 point tie break when 9 all is reached – no ad scoring
Consolation matches	10 game pro-set with a 7 point tie break when 9 all is reached – no ad scoring

**Indoors:** Format is subject to change due to weather conditions and will be mutually decided by the Meet Director and SDHSAA.

Note – Additional matches (3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, consolation) may be played indoors if time permits and courts are available.

Championship round matches	10 game pro-set with a 7 point tie break when 9 all is reached – no ad scoring
Consolation matches	8 game pro-set with 7 point tie break when 7 all is reached – no ad scoring

\*Set tie-break (1<sup>st</sup> to 7, win by 2)

\*\*Match tie-break (1<sup>st</sup> to 10, win by 2)

When moving from indoor back to outdoor tennis, the same format as used indoors will be used until the entire round has been completed at a specific flight.

### **State Meet Tennis Scoring**

<b>Flight</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Rd./Champ. Win</b>	<b>Conso. Win</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Place</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>
Flight 1 Singles	20	5.5	11	6	4
Flight 2 Singles	18	5	10	5.5	3.5
Flight 3 Singles	16	4.5	9	5	3
Flight 4 Singles	14	4	8	4.5	2.5
Flight 5 Singles	12	3.5	7	4	2
Flight 6 Singles	10	3	6	3.5	1.5
Flight 1 Doubles	24	7	14	8	5
Flight 2 Doubles	20	5.5	11	6	4
Flight 3 Doubles	16	4.5	9	5	3

- For all place matches, points are awarded for each match played and won.
- Players receiving first round byes must win their 2<sup>nd</sup> round championship match or 5<sup>th</sup> place semi-final match before receiving points for the bye(s).
- Players receiving a bye in the second round of consolation must win their 3<sup>rd</sup> round consolation match before receiving points for the consolation bye and the first round championship bye.

## GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP CODE

### Good Sportsmanship Should Prevail at all Times

#### CODE VIOLATIONS

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense: Point
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: Game
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense: Match Default
- 4<sup>th</sup> offense: Disqualification from the tournament

#### AUTOMATIC VIOLATIONS:

1. Unsportsmanlike use of racket.
  - a. Striking court, fence or net. (each time)
  - b. Deliberately dropping or kicking a racket when on the court area.
  - c. Throwing racket in any way.
  - d. Damaging the court. (This could result in immediate disqualification.)
2. Hitting the ball back to opponents or at the net or fence in an unsportsmanlike manner.
3. Using audible profanity. (Anything that sounds like an obscenity or profanity will be treated as such.)
4. Any verbal outburst that could be upsetting to the concentration of other players or offensive to spectators in the area.
5. Repeated failure to call out the score.
6. Coaches talking to players during the match other than when the players change sides.

#### UNIFORM VIOLATIONS

1. Not reporting to the match in a proper uniform. Penalty assessed will be subject to the time violation under the USTA rules.
2. Removing the tennis shirt (appearing with a bare upper body except to change shirt) while in the tennis court area shall lead to a penalty and, if repeated, to disqualification from the event.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT (COACHES AND PLAYERS) is behavior which is unethical or dishonorable. It includes, but is not limited to, disrespectfully addressing an opponent or official, any flagrant behavior, intentional contact, taunting, criticizing an opponent or an official, or the use of a loud outburst of profanity directed at someone or themselves. This shall apply to all coaches, contestants and other team/school personnel.

*Unsportsmanlike conduct will subject the offending player (person) to disqualification. Disqualification may take place on a first offense. (If the behavior is cited on other team members or school personnel- the penalty will be applied to the contestant or highest flight singles/doubles team on the court.)*

#### Interpretation

- The Penalty Points given to tennis players during a match are cumulative throughout the entire State Tennis Tournament. A point in the first match becomes game in the next match, etc. The penalties are carried over from the first day to the second and third days of competition.
- A point penalty is scored as though the player had played and lost what would have been the next point.
- A game penalty is scored as though the player had played and lost the game regardless of the score of that particular game at the time of the violation.
- A match penalty imposed during any game of the match means the loss of the match in progress.
- Doubles partners: Penalty points will be assessed individually. The “team” would suffer the consequences of loss of point, game, match or disqualification depending on where the players were in the match, however, only the violating player would receive a code violation, not the non-violating player.
- A penalty imposed between games or prior to the start of a match will apply to the next point or game scheduled to be played.
- The tournament director records all penalty points for all players on an accumulation sheet

**Reminder to Spectators:** Parents and fans are prohibited from coaching athletes during the State Tournament. Only a school- designated coach is allowed to give advice during State Tournament.

Sportsmanship and code violations will be recorded on the official’s code violation form.

## State Tennis Tournament Deadlines

<b>Girls</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class AA</b>
Entries Due on SDHSAA website	Saturday, October 5 – 10:00 a.m. (CT)	Saturday, October 5 – 10:00 a.m. (CT)
Seed Meeting/Coaches Advisory to follow	Sunday, October 6 – 5:00 p.m. (MT)	Wednesday, October 9 – 5:00 p.m. (MT)
Draw sheets listed	Sunday, October 6 – After seed meeting	Wednesday, October 9 – After seed meeting

<b>Boys</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class AA</b>
Entries Due on SDHSAA website	Saturday, May 17 – 10:00 a.m.(CT)	Saturday, May 17 – 10:00 a.m. (CT)
Seed Meeting/Coaches Advisory to follow	Sunday, May 18 – 6:00 p.m. (CT)	Wednesday, May 21 – 6:00 p.m. (CT)
Draw sheets listed	Sunday, May 18 – After seed meeting	Wednesday, May 21 – After seed meeting