



Tennis By-Law FAQ's

Sports Season By-laws

When may an IHSA Tennis Team conduct team tryouts?

- Tennis tryouts must be held during the season, on or after Wednesday of Week 6 for Girls Tennis and on or after Monday of Week 35 for Boys Tennis.

Is a two-day conference meet or tournament considered one or two dates?

- A conference meet or tournament conducted over two days is considered to be one date. (Constitution 1.420)

May a boys tennis player be a manager for the girls tennis team?

- Yes. Team managers that are athletes on the opposite genders school team are restricted to non-hitting/practicing activities, such as setting up courts, shagging balls, and feeding balls. Students are only allowed to practice and play on their specific team during their season. If team managers are not on the opposite genders school team, they may physically "hit" with players in addition to other duties.

Non-School Competition

During the season may a student participate in a non-school competition?

- Yes. During the school term, special permission may be granted to permit a student to compete in a non-school event during the school season in competitions which are directly sanctioned by USTA or its official Illinois affiliate. No student may participate in more than three (3) approved non-school competitions during a sports season. Schools must submit the following for approval: 1. A completed copy of the IHSA Non-School Competition Participation Request Form. 2. Written verification from the national governing body for that sport, or its official Illinois affiliate, indicating it is directly sanctioning the event. (Policy 15)

During the season may a student participate in a fundraising tennis tournament sponsored by a local tennis club?

- No. Special permission to participate in non-school competition is only granted for events that are sanctioned by USTA.

May students receive reimbursements of expenses for non-school competitions?

- Yes. Reimbursement of expenses for non-school competition does not constitute an amateur rule violation, provided reimbursement can be documented not to exceed the actual out-of-pocket expenses (By-law 3.083). Acceptable documentation of expenses includes itemized bills, properly receipted by persons alleged to have received the payments (Constitution 1.420).

Coaching School Participants

During the school year may a student receive private instruction from his/her school coach outside of the school season?

- Taking a private lesson from a faculty member or coach at a member school, outside the season, in the sport in which the student participates, is permitted only if the coach gives private lessons to clients other than students from his/her school. If the lesson program is limited to students from the instructor's school, it is viewed as a form of organizing and practicing the school team. (By-law 2.090)

During the school year may three students from an IHSA member school attend a camp or clinic that is conducted by a coach who coaches at their member school?

- No. A coach at a member school may not be involved in any respect with any coaching school, clinic, or camp which provides instruction in the skill of the sport and is attended by more than two (2) persons from the coach's school. (By-law 3.111)

May a coach at a member school coach a non-school team, once the season is over?

- Yes. During the school year, a coach may coach a non-school team if members from his/her school on the non-school team does not exceed three (3).

IHSA By-law 3.107: During the school year, a person who is a coach in any sport at a member school, may be involved in any respect with any non-school team, only if the number of squad members from his/her school which are on the non-school team roster does not exceed one-half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition in that sport. The number of non-school team squad members that are counted only include those that are eligible to play in the next season of that sport.