

IHSA GIRLS TENNIS 2020

SECTIONAL LEVEL COMPETITION PREVIEW

Considering COVID-19, the philosophy for managing the 2020 IHSA Girls Tennis Sectional will consider the following: Manage the sectional sites to stay within the IDPH guidelines of 50 participants (athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, etc..) 30 feet apart at outdoor events; make efforts to ensure that host managers are prepared and comfortable with the IDPH and IHSA guidance; and provide coaches with all essential information necessary to be informed regarding all circumstances surrounding interscholastic play during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To maintain the low risk status of playing tennis per IDPH guidelines the following considerations will be in place:

School Classification and Entries:

Anticipated Entries - 2A – 155 Teams – 9 Individuals; 1A – 164 Teams – 16 Individuals.

Dates and Sites:

The Class 1A & 2A Girls Tennis Sectionals will be held on Saturday, October 17th. The request for earlier start time form can be completed by the sectional host sites to begin play on Friday, October 16th, 2020. https://www.ihsa.org/documents/tng/2020-21/request_early_start.pdf

Online Entries:

IHSA member school's athletic directors can enter their intent to participate in the Girls Tennis Sectional through the IHSA Schools Center by September 11th. New this year, all entered schools will be charged \$100 to participate in the IHSA Girls Tennis Sectional. September 18th is the last day to withdraw an entry without a penalty. Any request for late entries after September 11th needs to be made directly to the IHSA administrator in charge of that sport.

Eligibility:

All entered member schools can enter up to 2 doubles teams and 2 singles players. Individual entries are also allowed. Students must be academically eligible in order to participate in the sectional.

Line Up:

By October 13th, coaches must submit their line up through their IHSA Schools Center.

Sectional Host:

Based on the number of total entries the IHSA plans to have 32 contest sites – 16 sectional host sites in 1A and 16 sectional host sites in 2A.

Upon completion of the financial report, the sectional host will receive \$300 from the IHSA for contest expenses.

1 case of Wilson Tennis Balls will be shipped to each sectional host site.

Sectional awards will be shipped to the sectional host for distribution. No awards ceremony will be conducted.

Sectional Assignments:

Sectional assignments will be made based on the following considerations:

1. COVID Health Regions
2. Conference Schools
3. Geographical balance to ensure that the total number of participants per site does not exceed 50 (inclusive of participants, coaches, host manager(s), athletic trainers, etc...)
4. Class 1A and class 2A Girls Tennis Sectional Sites will include approximately 10 or less schools (much like past traditional sectionals)

As per the IHSA Girls Tennis Terms and Conditions, each school can enter up to 2 double teams and 2 singles players for a total of 6 participants per school. To maintain the event size number of 50, schools will be directed not to bring any additional participants for viewing.

Assignments will be posted on the IHSA Girls Tennis page after September 18th.

Singles and Doubles can be flighted into a time schedule that will allow time between the tennis courts for each group to complete competition in compliance with IDPH guidelines.

Host managers will follow the COVID-19 guidelines for IHSA tennis. The IHSA sport administrator will prepare information for each sectional manager to use in setting up the seed meeting for the sectional tournament. Managers will continue to receive List of Participants (LOP) information from the IHSA after the LOP deadline, and managers will use that information along with the Players Season Summary Reports (PSR) from tennisreporting.com to determine the seeds before sectional play.

All competing schools will use tennisreporting.com as their online tennis scorebook during the regular season in preparation for submitting the Players Season Summary Reports needed for IHSA sectional seed meetings.

Modifications have been made to allow for sectional seed meetings to be virtual/online on Wednesday October 14th, 2020.

Seeding will be done following the traditional IHSA tennis seeding guidelines as outline in the terms and conditions.

USTA Officials are not used at the sectional level for IHSA Girls Tennis.

There is no advancement of winners. Sectionals will be the only round of competition for the 2020 IHSA Girls Tennis Series.

Sectional Tournament Rules:

All rules and scoring will remain the same (refer to the IHSA Girls Tennis Terms and Conditions – *Sectional play only <https://www.ihsa.org/documents/tng/2020-21/t-and-cs.pdf>

- Regular scoring shall be used in all rounds of sectional play (two out of three tie break sets).
- Two points shall be awarded for wins in each round in both singles and doubles, except that the winners of the third-place matches shall be awarded one team point.

(Refer to IHSA Girls Tennis Terms and Conditions VIII. Tournament Rules A. Sectional Scoring).

Warm up times and times between matches will follow the current IHSA Girls Tennis Terms and Conditions guidelines for sectional level play.

Winners reports will be completed online via the IHSA schools center by each host manager at the conclusion of each sectional.

Miscellaneous:

Unless otherwise specified, the IHSA Girls Tennis Terms and Conditions shall be followed. The accommodation of spectators will be determined by the policies, rules, and regulations of each local host site/school district.

RESOURCES: <https://www.ihsa.org/Resources/COVID-19#3045138-tennis>

- NFHS & USTA COVID-19 PLAYING TENNIS SAFELY PLAYER TIPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812224/usta_covid19_playingtennisafely-players-1.pdf
- NFHS & USTA COVID-19 PLAYING TENNIS SAFELY FACILITY AND PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS: https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812223/usta_covid19_playingtennisafely-facilityandprogramming-1.pdf
- USTA PLAYING TENNIS SAFELY: <https://www.usta.com/en/home/stay-current/national/usta-statement-on-safety-of-playing-tennis-during-the-covid-19-v.html>
- NFHS & USTA FRIENDS AT COURT: <https://www.nfhs.org/media/3609820/2020-friend-at-court.pdf>
- IHSA RETURN TO ACTIVITIES 1.0: <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:33115455-89ef-4f93-bdc7-86bbf7a6fd7d>
- IDPH SPORT SAFETY GUIDANCE: <http://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/sports-safety-guidance>
- IDPH COVID-19 REGION MAPS: <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:37ae0de3-609b-4853-8622-b3b9c6d41781>
- NFHS TENNIS: <https://www.nfhs.org/activities-sports/tennis/>
- IHSA TENNIS: <https://www.ihsa.org/Sports-Activities/Girls-Tennis>