2020-2021 Girls Tennis Tournament Series Terms and Conditions

In accordance with Section 1.450 of the IHSA constitution, the IHSA board of directors has approved the terms and conditions governing the 2020-2021 IHSA girls' tennis tournament series.

I. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

Classification in the IHSA Girls Tennis State Series will be determined according to IHSA Policy 17 (Classification System).

Request to play up a class may be made through the IHSA by September 1.

II. DATES AND SITES

A. Sectional Tournament: Class 1A and 2A sectional tournaments will be held on Saturday, October 17th at assigned locations across the state.
   1. There will be 16 sites for Class 1A and 16 sites for Class 2A.
   2. To complete the tournament on Saturday, the local manager may, at their discretion if the number of entries warrant, elect to begin tournament play on Friday afternoon (after school hours). If the local manager wishes to begin the competition on Friday before 4:00 p.m., written consent of the principal from each participating school is required. Sectional managers will send to the principals from participating schools the IHSA Tennis Request for Earlier Start Time Form for their approval. This document can be located online and in the tennis manual.

B. State Final Tournament: The state final tournament will be hosted by Buffalo Grove High School in Buffalo Grove on October 22-24th, 2020.
   1. Tournament central will be located at the Buffalo Grove High School gymnasium. Matches will be played at District 211, 214, and 220 schools.
   2. Buffago Grove High School tennis coach, Kevin Schrammel, has been designated as the state final manager.

III. ONLINE ENTRIES, WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES, ELIGIBILITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND ONLINE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. Policies and Procedures: The IHSA policy for entry deadlines, late entries, and withdrawals shall be the policies and procedures regarding entry for all IHSA sponsored sport/activities included in the 2020-2021 entry policies and procedures which can be found in the schools’ center on the IHSA website.

B. Online Entries: All member schools must enter their school into the state series competition through the IHSA Schools Center on the IHSA website at www.ihsa.org. The deadline for entry is September 11th, 2020.

C. Late Entries: Any attempt to enter a sport online after the established deadlines will be denied. Schools that wish to enter after the deadline will be considered late. To be considered for late entry, the principal/IHSA official representative must contact the IHSA administrator in charge of that sport in writing requesting entry into the state series. The penalty for a school’s late entry shall be a payment of $100.00 for the sport they wish to enter.

D. Breach of Contract By-Law 6.041 (Withdrawal Procedure): To withdraw without penalty, the principal must fax or e-mail notice to Adela Espindola at the IHSA office (aespindola@ihsa.org or 309-663-7479), notifying the IHSA of the school's withdrawal from the girls’ tennis tournament series prior to the online list of participants deadline of October 13th, 2020.
   1. If a school withdraws after the deadline for entering their online list of participants, the school will be charged a $100 penalty.
   2. If a school does not show up for competition, the school will be charged a $100 penalty and, if applicable, the school may be charged for any additional financial loss sustained by the offended school(s) or the association because of such breach.

E. Eligibility: All member schools in good standing may enter an individual(s) (one (1) singles player or one (1) doubles team) or a team under the provisions of IHSA by-law 3.054. Any school with 6 or more players must have participated in six (6) varsity contests prior to the state series. Note: Individual entries do not have a minimum number of contest requirements.

F. Affirmative Action Policy: Only girls shall be permitted to participate in the state series except as provided in the IHSA affirmative action policy.

G. Online List of Participants: Each school must complete the online list of participants by midnight on Tuesday, October 13, 2020. If a school does not submit the online list of participants by the deadline, coaches and/or participants from the school are subject to penalties which could include, but not be limited to, being ruled ineligible to coach or compete in the state series and/or charged $100.00.

IV. HOST FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

A. Sectional Host School Expenses: Sectional host schools shall receive $400.00 for hosting. The host school shall pay all meet expenses.

B. Contestant Expenses: Neither the IHSA or the local tournament management will assume responsibility for any contestant expenses of any kind.

V. TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS AND SEEDING

A. Sectional Assignments: Sectional assignments can be found online at www.ihsa.org on the girls’ tennis page.

B. Sectional Seeding Meeting: The sectional manager will conduct a seeding meeting for each sectional tournament on Wednesday evening, October 14th, 2020. The purpose of this meeting is to determine seeds and draw up the playing schedule for the sectional tournament and make any necessary tournament announcements.
   1. A coach or school representative from each participating school must attend this meeting. Non-attendance at this meeting by a coach or school representative may result in a letter being sent to the school's official IHSA representative. At this meeting, coaches/school representatives will seed the singles and doubles draws for the sectional tournament using the competitor information submitted online at IHSA.org through the School Center and the players season record form(s) from tennisreporting.com by each school. This information will also be used for seeding the IHSA state tournament. Schools are required to submit their online competitor information no later than midnight on the Tuesday, October 13th, 2020. Schools who fail to submit their infor-
mation by the deadline may not be allowed to participate/coach in the state series.

2. The sectional manager shall conduct the seed meeting in accordance to IHSA seeding policies and with the directions as stated on the sample draw sheet which can be found in this manual and on the IHSA girls’ tennis page at IHSA.org. At the sectional tournament, the #3 and #4 seed shall be randomly placed on lines 9 and 24 for a 17 or more entry draw and lines 5 and 12 for a 16 or less entry draw. The #5 and #6 seeds shall be randomly placed on lines 13 and 20 for a 17 or more entry draw and lines 7 and 10 for a 16 or less entry draw.

3. Four, five or six singles players and four, five or six doubles teams shall be seeded at each sectional tournament. There shall be no additional placement of players. A school is eligible to receive more than one seed in each event. If a seeded singles player withdraws or a seeded doubles team substitutes with a student on the original list of participants roster between the time of the seeding meeting and when sectional play begins, the draw shall be redone. If the seeding is not done in accordance to IHSA seeding policy, the draw shall be redone.

4. At the sectional tournaments, the draw for both singles and doubles shall be made so those competitors from the same school are placed in opposite halves of the bracket.

5. For proper point distribution, if a 32 draw is used, it will be used for both the singles and the doubles draw.

C. State Final Seeding Meeting: Members of the IHSA girls’ tennis state final seeding committee selected by the state final manager will seed players for the state final brackets at the IHSA office on Tuesday, October 20 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

1. The committee shall prepare a list of no more than 16 seeded singles players and doubles teams in both 1A and 2A based on information submitted online by coaches prior to the sectional seeding meetings and received by the IHSA office.

2. A draw of 64 will be used for both singles and doubles play. United States Tennis Association (USTA) rules shall be followed in assigning seeded entries in the proper positions in the brackets, except that effort shall be made to place winners and runners-up from the same sectional and players from the same school in opposite halves of the bracket. This may not always hold true for third and fourth place sectional qualifiers.

VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND TIME SCHEDULES

A. Sectionals: Time schedules for the sectionals will be determined at the sectional seed meetings on Wednesday, October 14th.

1. Immediately after sectional competition has been completed, the sectional tennis manager must complete and forward the online winner report to the IHSA office along with any other tournament reports as listed in the girls’ tennis manual.

2. Passwords are now assigned to every coach, but your Athletic Director or Principal will need to activate you as the Tournament Manager. The tournament manager will need to access the Tournament Management section of the Schools Center.

B. Sectional Match Disruption or Postponement:

1. Sectional level competitors should be prepared for any postponement of play due to extenuating circumstances/incipient weather. If weather causes play to be discontinued, the tournament manager shall have the authority to continue play indoors if indoor courts are available.

2. During the sectional, if indoor court fees are assessed to continue sectional play, those schools involved in indoor court competition shall be responsible for payment of fees at the time of play.

3. At the sectional, if a match is disrupted or postponement is necessary during sectionals because of weather, play must be resumed at the complete set, game and point score. In other words, matches will not be replayed from the beginning, and the set, game and point score completed before postponement shall stand. Point in play when a match is called shall be a let.

4. If weather does not permit a sectional tournament to be completed on Saturday, the tournament shall be continued on Monday. No sectionals shall be played on Sunday. The sectional must be completed by Monday.

C. State Final: The time schedule for the state final is outlined below and may be subject to change based on weather. Coaches are directed to contact the site manager, tournament central or the IHSA website for any updates or announcements regarding the playing schedule.

1. On Thursday, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd rounds of the main draw and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd rounds of the back draw will be played. On Friday, the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds of the main draw and the 4th, 5th, and 6th rounds of the back draw will be played. On Saturday, the final round of the main draw and the semi and final rounds of the back draw will be played.

2. All singles and doubles entries shall participate in the first round of competition beginning Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Discretion is given to the tournament director to begin earlier if necessary. State final time schedules/rounds may be altered by tournament management pending weather issues.

3. All competitors who lose in championship rounds, beginning with Round 1, will be advanced into a feed-in (back draw) bracket. Rules for feed-in (back draw) play shall be those established by the United States Tennis Association (USTA).

Note: At the state tournament the consolation seed-in (back draw) will be played only if weather and indoor court space permits.

4. At the state final, competitors should be prepared for any postponement of play due to extenuating circumstances/incipient weather. If weather causes play to be discontinued, the tournament manager shall have the authority to continue play indoors. At the state final, if a match is disrupted or postponement is necessary, play must be resum ed at the complete set, game and point score. In other words, matches will not be replayed from the beginning, and the set, game and point score completed before postponement shall stand. Point in play when a match is called shall be a let.

D. State Final School Packets: At the state final tournament, school packets, which include important state final information, updates, state final passes and programs may be picked up Wednesday, October 21st, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Buffalo Grove High School Gymnasium and after 7:00 a.m. on Thursday morning, October 22nd, at tournament central located at the Buffalo Grove High School Gymnasium.

VII. SECTIONAL ADVANCEMENT OF WINNER

A. Sectionals: The first four (4) places in both singles and doubles shall advance from each sectional tournament to the state final tournament.

B. Sectional Match Disruption or Postponement: If circumstances do not permit a sectional tournament to be completed by Monday evening, the top 4 seeded singles players and doubles teams shall advance to the state tournament unless they already have been defeated. If one of these players or double teams has been defeated, the winning singles player or doubles team would advance to the state tournament in place of the seed.
a. Round 1 through Round 5: Two points shall be awarded for each round in both singles and doubles, except that the winners of the third place matches shall be awarded one team point.

b. Losers of semifinal matches in both singles and doubles at all sectional tournament shall play a match to determine third and fourth place.

c. A default will be counted as a win, and the proper number of points will be awarded to the player(s) that win(s) by default.

d. A bye shall be counted as a win, and the proper number of points will be awarded to the player(s) that receive(s) a bye, provided the player(s) win(s) the next match following the bye.

e. The third place championship matches in both singles and doubles shall be played at the tournament even if the competitors are from the same school. Failure to play this match may result in a breach of contract (IHSYA by-law 6.041). Any match not played should be reported to the IHSA.

f. Points scored in the sectional tournament shall not be used in determining winners in the state final tournament.

B. State Final Scoring: State final scoring shall be conducted using the following parameter. For team scoring at the state final, points shall be scored accordingly in all singles and doubles matches.

1. All matches in the state tournament will use regular ad scoring. In rounds 1 and 2 of the main (championship) draw and all consolation/backdraw matches a 3rd set super tie break will be played in lieu of a full third set, including the 5/6 place match. The Championship match and 3/4 place match will play out a full 3rd set.

2. Alternate scoring methods at the state final may be used at the discretion of the IHSA administrator and state final manager if circumstances would not permit the tournament to be completed.

a. Two points shall be awarded for each round in both singles and doubles, except that the winners of quarterfinal matches shall receive four points. If the consolation feed-in (back draw) bracket is eliminated, the winners of the quarterfinal matches shall receive two points.

b. One point in singles and one point in doubles shall be awarded to winners of each match in the feed-in (back draw) bracket. If the consolation feed-in (back draw) bracket is eliminated the consolation points will be awarded through the last completed round. One point will be awarded the 3rd/4th place match winner(s) regardless of whether the feed-in (back draw) bracket is eliminated.

c. A default will be counted as a win, and the proper number of points will be awarded to the player(s) that win(s) by default.

d. A bye shall be counted as a win, and the proper number of points will be awarded to the player(s) that receive(s) a bye, provided the player(s) win(s) the next match following the bye.

e. The third place championship match in both singles and doubles shall be played at the tournament even if the competitors are from the same school. Failure to play this match may result in a breach of contract (IHSYA by-law 6.041).

B. Sectional Team Ties: If teams are tied for first place at a sectional tournament, the following procedure shall be followed to break the tie and determine the sectional winner.

1. The team with the greatest number of qualifiers shall be the winner. Each individual singles player shall be defined as one qualifier and each two-player doubles team shall be defined as one qualifier.

2. If still tied, the team with the most sectional champions shall win;

3. If still tied, records of tied teams shall be compared based on matches won per round, beginning with the semifinals and going in reverse with the team first discovered to have had the best record at a given round of those teams tied being the winner;

4. If still tied, the team with the best composite match records in direct competition at the sectional with members of other tied teams shall win;

5. If still tied, the team winning the greatest percentage of games in the sectional, exclusive of games against its own team members, shall win;

6. If still tied, the team whose members won the greatest percentage of games played by its members in the sectional shall win.

C. Tie Breakers: Unless otherwise specifically provided in the IHSA printed instructions, the United States Tennis Association (USTA) rules shall govern play.

1. 12 Point Tie Breaker System: The 12 point tie breaker system as described in USTA rules shall be used for all matches in sectional competition and beginning in the third round in the championship (main draw) brackets at the state final. This system provides that player A serves the first point (right court); player B serves points 2 and 3 (left and right); player A serves points 4 and 5 (left and right); player B serves point 6 (left) and after they change ends, point 7 (right); player A serves points 8 and 9 (left and right); player B serves points 10 and 11 (left and right); and player A serves point 12 (left). If points reach 6, all players change ends and continue as before; player A serves point 13 (right); player B serves points 14 and 15 (left and right) etc., until one player establishes a margin of two points. Players change ends for one game to start the next set, with player B to serve first. Doubles follow the same pattern, with partners preserving the sequence of their serving turns.

2. Consolation Round Championship Rounds 1 and 2 as well as the 5/6 place match Tie Breakers: In rounds 1 and 2 of the main (championship) draw and all consolation/backdraw matches a 3rd set super tie break will be played in lieu of a full third set, including the 5/6 place match. The Championship match and 3/4 place match will play out a full 3rd set.

D. Time Allotments: Competitors must report in person at the assigned time to the site director at the sectional and the state final tournament.

1. Warm-up play at the sectional and state final tournaments shall be 10 minutes in length and shall include both rallies and practice serves.

2. Ninety (90) seconds shall be allowed for a change of courts. This time begins when the final point of a game is completed. The players must be in position to play in the proper court at the end of the 90 second crossover.

3. In all three-set matches at both the sectional and state final level, a break not to exceed ten (10) minutes shall be permitted between the second and third sets.

4. In all 10 point match tie breakers, an on court break not to exceed (3) minutes shall be permitted.

5. Players receive a one-time injury time out not to exceed 15 minutes per injury. The time begins when the athletic trainer or coach (if no trainer is available), arrives on the court to begin assessing or treating the player.

6. A minimum of thirty minutes of rest shall be granted to competitor(s) between matches.

E. Substitutions: Player substitutions and advancements must be made following the steps below:

1. Sectional Tournaments: After the draw has been made for the sectional tournament, substitutions to singles or doubles players may be made only in the case of injury, illness, ineligibility or circumstances considered to be beyond the control of the student-athlete which shall include but not be limited to incapacitating physical or mental circumstances, natural disasters or clearly erroneous advice provided to the student-athlete from a school authority as certified to the IHSA in writing by the principal/IHSA official representative of the player’s school. The substitute’s name shall not have appeared on the original sectional singles or doubles draw sheet. No substitutions shall be made after play has begun in the sectional tournament. If a seeded singles player or...
a seeded doubles team substitutes between the time of the seeding meeting and when sectional play begins, the draw shall be redone.

2. State Final Tournament: After the sectional, advancements and substitutions to singles or doubles players may be made only in the case of injury, illness, ineligibility or circumstances considered to be beyond the control of the student-athlete which shall include but are not limited to incapacitating physical or mental circumstances, natural disasters or clearly erroneous advice provided to the student-athlete from a school authority as certified to the IHSA in writing by the principal/IHSA official representative of the player’s school. All advancing/substituted players must be eligible for state tournament play based on the IHSA by-law requirements.

a. Advancement of the next qualifier will be allowed for singles players who qualify for the state tournament and cannot participate. The player who lost to the injured/ineligible player in the quarterfinals at the sectional will be the player who advances.

b. A substitution for a member of a doubles team qualifying for the state final tournament may be made however, the new player shall not have participated in the sectional tournament and must have been listed on the school’s online list of participants.

F. Coaching: The following provisions for coaching will be employed:

1. Coaching Provisions:
   a. Coaching may occur for a maximum of 90 seconds after all odd numbered games.
   b. Coaching may occur for a maximum of 90 seconds after the first set.
   c. Coaching may occur for a maximum of 10 minutes between the second and third sets.
   d. Coaching may occur for a maximum of 90 seconds prior to the beginning of a tie breaker and when players switch sides during the tie breaker.
   e. Coaches may not enter the court enclosure except for the one (1) allowable coach during the quarterfinals, semifinals and championship matches at the state final tournament.

2. If the tournament is moved indoors, one (1) eligible coach per team may be allowed to sit courtside.

3. Violation of ineligible coaching or contact with the competing high school student athlete during a sectional or state final match will be considered gross misconduct and the team will be penalized a one (1) point team deduction. There will be no warning for this penalty.

4. Coaches may not use electronic communication/coaching devices (i.e., smart phones, smart watches, etc.) while on the court coaching. Electronic devices are prohibited for use by a player or a coach while on the court during a match.

5. At the state final tournament, eligible high school girls’ tennis coaches shall follow the following procedures:
   a. A maximum of four (4) girls’ tennis coaches shall be allowed on the state final roster. Only coaches whose names appear on the online list of participants will be allowed to coach unless written notification from the school’s principal/IHSA official representative verifies the eligibility of a coach. Schools may only submit the names of those coaches who are in compliance with IHSA by law 2.070.
   b. Eligible coaches shall receive a coaching pass in their team packet.
   c. The eligible coach shall wear the coaching pass on the outside of their clothes while coaching.
   d. Only coaches wearing this pass will be allowed to coach.
   e. During the quarterfinals, semifinals and championship matches in the state finals, one coach per school wearing their official coaching pass will be allowed to be seated courtside for coaching purposes for both the singles and doubles competitions.

G. Games Committee: The state final manager shall determine the games committee (site directors/court monitors) for the state final tournament. The games committee shall have discretionary authority to line judge when necessary and to assign point penalties and/or eject players for unsportsmanlike conduct in accordance with the IHSA tennis code of conduct. These member’s names will be published in the state final program.

H. Refusal to Play: If a third place or championship match in either singles or doubles is not played because a player(s) refuses to play, the sectional manager/state final manager shall report the incident to the IHSA office. Failure to play these matches may result in breach of contract per IHSA by-law 6.041.

I. Competitor’s Apparel: All players shall wear only school issued/approved gear and uniforms for competition during the sectional and the state final tournament.

1. All uniforms must have some school designations (i.e. school name, logo, mascot or monograms) visibly printed on the uniform. Only school name, logo, mascot or monograms and/or players’ names may be printed on competitor uniforms.

2. All wearing apparel including head gear shall be devoid of commercial advertising except for the manufacturers’ label/logo that shall not exceed two (2) inches in height and two (2) inches in width. It may appear only once on each piece of wearing apparel. In addition, no visible apparel may be worn under the uniform except for base garments.

3. Members of doubles teams shall wear school uniforms that are of similar color and/or marking.

4. Provisions for adjustments in apparel may be allowed due to weather.

5. Participants will not be permitted to compete in illegal attire.

6. Sectional and/or state final site managers shall have authority to assess penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct, under the point penalty system, for failure to comply with the uniform requirements.

J. Tennis Balls: The IHSA will provide Wilson WRT 106200 tennis balls at the sectional and state final tournament. This ball will be the official ball and must be used.

K. Point Penalty System: The IHSA point penalty system shall be followed at all sectional and state final tournaments.

IX. TOURNAMENT POLICIES

A. Damage to Property or Equipment: If representatives from any school entered in a state series are found guilty of carelessness or maliciously breaking, damaging or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school, such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in replacing or repairing such property or equipment.

B. Media Requirements: Media passes and school media passes are available by contacting Matt Troha at the IHSA office at 309-663-6377.

1. Rights fees for TV and Radio:
   a. Television rights fees to be charged by local managers and/or the IHSA are contained in the IHSA television policy.
   b. Radio Fees: Sectional Contest = No charge
   State Final = No charge
   c. Policy regarding media requirements for each local manager is contained in the current IHSA Handbook.

2. Media Provisions:
   a. Provide space: Space shall be set aside to provide for news media representatives covering the state series whether they are from newspapers, radio stations, commercial television stations, and/or cable television stations.
   b. Radio and TV originators: It is the responsibility of the local manager to accept applications, approve requests to originate and make cancellation refunds for television, according to the IHSA TV policy.

3. Media Personnel Requirements: Photographers or television personnel with cameras may enter the tennis courts to take pictures provided that:
a. The individual is wearing the IHSA photographers pass;
b. The individual reports to the site manager and shows the pass;
c. The individual stays on an empty court if one is available;
d. The individual remains seated at the net post or against the fence when taking pictures;
e. The individual only walks behind the court when the competitors are changing ends and;
f. The individual refrains from speaking to the competitor(s).

C. Use of Inhalers: A student with asthma may possess and use his/her medication during an IHSA competition, while under the supervision of school personnel, provided the school meets the outlined procedures of self-administration in the Illinois school code.

D. Automated External Defibrillators (AED): Host schools must have an AED available and on site at all IHSA post season contests.

E. Tobacco/Liquid Nicotine Products: The use of tobacco or liquid nicotine products in any competition area, either during a practice or while a contest is in progress, or affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest by any coach, player, any other person connected with a team, or fan shall be prohibited. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, alcohol free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Violation of this policy by an event host will subject the host to a penalty for violation of IHSA by-law 2.020. Such penalty may include but not necessarily be limited to prohibition against subsequent event hosting assignments. Violation of this policy by a non-hosting member school will subject the school to penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Patrons of any IHSA state series contest determined to be in violation of this policy will be removed from the premise, and law enforcement officials will be called as warranted.

G. Prayer at IHSA State Series Contest: Prayer at an IHSA state series contest that takes place over the public address system is prohibited.

X. AWARDS

A. Sectional Awards: Award will be presented at each individual sectional.
1. The winning school in each sectional will receive a sectional plaque.
2. Four individual medals will be awarded for the top four singles players and the top four doubles players.
3. The school winner will be determined in accordance with the point system described in VIII.

B. State Final Awards: An awards ceremony will be held at the conclusion of the state final.
1. At the state final tournament, first, second and third place team awards will be presented to the winning schools
2. Individual medals will be awarded to the qualifying state players of the top three teams.
3. Medallions for the individual competition will be presented to the first six finishers in both the singles and doubles.
4. The school winners will be determined in accordance with the point system previously described in VIII.
5. Duplicate awards will be presented in the case of ties.

XI. OFFICIALS

At the state final tournament, provisions will be made for licensed officials to call matches from the quarterfinals through the finals in both singles and doubles.