

**2020**



**TEAM TENNIS**  
**Playoff Information**  
**Handbook**

# UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

## PLAYOFF INFORMATION HANDBOOK

### 2020 TEAM TENNIS

Congratulations on representing your district for the team tennis playoffs. Since your school is advancing to the playoffs, the following points should clarify questions asked by participating schools. If the League office can be of further assistance during your tournament preparation period, please call.

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#### IMPORTANT DEADLINES

##### Certification Deadlines for Team Tennis Playoffs 4A, 5A, 6A

**October 24** District Certification deadline  
**October 26-27** Bi-District  
**October 29-31** Area  
**November 2-3** Regional Quarterfinals  
**November 6-7** Regional Semi-Finals  
**November 9-10** Regional Finals  
**November 13-14** State Semi-Finals  
**November 17** State Finals

# SPORT SPECIFIC PROTOCOLS

## USTA Team Tennis Considerations

- Social distancing of at least 6 feet should be maintained at all times. Avoid touching court gates, fences, benches and wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available
- Clean and wipe down your own equipment and do not share equipment including racquets, hats, towels etc.
- Bring your own balls, water bottles to avoid sharing of equipment

## During Play

- Maintain at least 6 feet of social distancing as feasible during play. Limit physical contact with other players (no shaking hands or high fives)
- Maintain appropriate social distancing from other players while taking a break
- Avoid touching other balls from other courts that enters your court of play (use racquet or foot to send back)
- Avoid changing ends of the court and benches

# SPORT SPECIFIC INFORMATION

## **Brackets.** (\*required for each round of playoffs)

**Submit results and update next round bracket information on the UIL website.** The winning coach must submit next round information and game results.

- **Lineups.** Each team is responsible for completing the Team Tennis Lineup Entry form found on the UIL website (<http://www.uiltexas.org/team-tennis/forms>) prior to each match/tournament (district, bi-district, area, regional quarterfinal, regional, or state) and submitting it to the person in charge of the respective match/tournament before that match/tournament begins. (For example, the regional tournament director will get a form from each advancing regional quarterfinal team prior to the start of the regional tournament.)
- **Certification of District Representatives.** The last date for certifying the district champions to the league office is **Saturday, October 24, 2020** for 4A, 5A, and 6A only. District chairs must certify representatives on the UIL website (<http://www.uiltexas.org/machform/view.php?id=57>).
- **Bi-District, Area, Regional Quarterfinals, Regional Semi-finals, Regional Finals, State Semi-finals Representatives.** The last date for certification for bi-district, area, regional quarterfinals, regional semi-finals, regional finals and State Semi-finals must be certified by the winning coach on the UIL website (<http://www.uiltexas.org/team-tennis/forms>).

**Program Information for State Finals.** Teams advancing to the regional finals must submit following materials to the UIL office by *Sunday, November 8*. Please include your school name in the subject of your email. This is an important step in providing you with the best possible program.

- **Team Information Form** (list of players, coaches, etc. and all matches played) – to be completed online at <https://www.uiltexas.org/forms/team-info-team-tennis>
- **Team Picture** (5x7 color photo)
- **Head Coach Picture** (head and shoulder shot)
- **School mascot or school logo**

Please email team picture, head coach picture, and school mascot/logo to [pictures@uiltexas.org](mailto:pictures@uiltexas.org). **Do not submit photos that have been taken with an iPhone and/or any other smart phone or device.** Photos of photos will also not be accepted. Failure to submit this information could result in a range of penalties as described in Section 27 (b) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

**Inclement Weather.** If weather conditions make it impossible to determine a winner before certification, ***UIL must be contacted for an extension.*** The next round opponent(s) or regional site must also be contacted to inform them that the deadline has been extended.

Extreme scheduling difficulties could result in a coin flip, which would determine the representatives to the next round.

**Number of Team Participants.** The minimum number of participants is six girls and six boys – a maximum has not been set. Players are eligible to play both singles and doubles, but it is not mandatory to play both singles and doubles. Girls' and boys' point totals count on team totals, but boys and girls cannot compete against each other, other than the mixed doubles match.

**Lineup Changes.** The advancing team's coach must give his or her complete lineup prior to the start of their next round match. Also, coaches are responsible for exchanging the previous match roster/lineup.

Lineup changes and movement within the players ladder is outlined in this section and each coach may use the options **ONCE** in a calendar week during the playoffs. **Exception: No lineup change is allowed between the regional semifinals and the regional finals, and state semifinals and state finals.**

- **Lineup Changes.** The coach may change in the lineup to reflect proper ladder position prior to the start of the match/ tournament, based on the following regulations.
- **Singles Movement on Ladder.** After the previous qualifying match/ tournament, the coach may move each player no more than one position up or down in the singles lineup.
- **Doubles Movement on Ladder.** After the previous qualifying match/ tournament, the coach may move each player no more than one position up or down in the doubles lineup. The coach may change a player from one doubles partner to another partner, but no player may move more than one position in the doubles lineup.

If a student has been out of the lineup for a grading period for academic purposes and returns, the lineup should be re-ranked with the "new" player in his/her appropriate position.

Under no circumstances shall the coach change his/her lineup during a tournament. The penalty for doing so will be to forfeit the individual matches involved, with the scores becoming 6-0, 6-0 in each match. Coaches should be aware that a substitution and a lineup change are not the same.

**Substitutions.** A coach may make substitutions between team matches and/or during a team match before the individual match begins. In all instances of substitutions, the coach must use the following procedure.

- a. **Singles.** The coach removes a player from the lineup. All players lower in the lineup move up to fill the vacant spot in the lineup and the alternate becomes the #6 player. A player removed from the lineup for substitution may return to the lineup for the next team match but only to the position he/she vacated. All other players will return to their original positions.
- b. **Doubles.** If the coach removes one member of a doubles team from the lineup, he/she places the alternate in the vacated spot, and the team remains in the same position. If the coach removes both members of a doubles team, then the lower teams will move up to fill the vacant position, and the alternate pair becomes the #3 team.

**Forfeits and Defaults.** If, after an individual match begins, a forfeit occurs due to illness, injury or penalty for misconduct, the games and/or sets won by the forfeiting team shall stand and count. In all other matches if an injury or illness occurs before the individual match begins, take the player out of the lineup and move everyone else up in the lineup. The substitute then becomes #6.

**Team Scoring and Ties.** The scoring system will be No-Advantage Scoring, best 2-out-of-3 set matches with a 7-point tie breaker at six games all in the first two sets. If a third set is necessary it will be played as a ten-point match tiebreak. Each match won will count one point for the team.

**Tennis Etiquette.** Applauding a good play is always in order. Applauding an error is never in order. Any person who takes it upon oneself to berate the officials or make oneself conspicuous by bad behavior the team should be requested to leave the court area. Coaches are responsible for educating their students and parents about appropriate behavior. Players should shake the hand of their opponent before and after games.

**Point Penalty System.** To ensure consistency in preparation for the state tournament the UIL office has provided a point penalty system for misconduct. The site director will closely enforce the point penalty system to ensure good sportsmanship and should not tolerate unsportsmanlike conduct or taunting. (Example: abuse of officials, abuse of players, abuse of equipment, cursing, screaming, obscene gestures, racket throwing, ball slamming, etc.) The tournament director will warn all players before the tournament starts. Once play begins, the site director will penalize each instance of unsportsmanlike conduct as follows:

First offense in the tournament - deduct 1 point  
Second offense - DEFAULT game  
Third offense - DEFAULT match or tournament

Offenses will be cumulative throughout the tournament. The site director will give the point penalties and will report them to the site director of the next match.

## **POSTSEASON MATCH INFORMATION**

*If you have interruptions in your post season games due to COVID-19, please contact our Team Tennis Director, Joseph Garmon at 361-244-0497.*

**Changes Due to COVID-19.** Due to the pandemic, the regional tournaments have been canceled and the state tournament is a finals-only format for the 2020-21 school year. Teams will negotiate match arrangement for the regional semi-final, regional finals and state semi-final matches like they do with every other play-off match leading up to the regional semi-final round. COVID protocols that have been in place all season will remain in place through the postseason.

**Site Selection.** Sites for all rounds of playoffs prior to the state championship matches are to be selected by the teams involved. See Section 1208 (o)(p) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. If schools cannot agree, they must flip a coin.

- **Neutral Sites:** A site mid-point or near mid-point, or a site agreed on by both schools as neutral, is a neutral site. Unless mutually agreeable, a site cannot be neutral if its distance from either school is more than two-thirds the total distance between the schools.
- **Home Sites:** When two schools flip for two separate sites other than their home field or court, the sites are considered home sites unless both sites are near mid-point.

**Mid-Point Sites:** Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post-district contests in the team sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, team tennis, and volleyball shall be a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

**Championship Structure.** The top 4 teams in Conference 4A, 5A and 6A will advance from district to the playoffs.

### *District Matches.*

- a. **Format.** The District Executive Committee will make arrangements and set format to determine the district representatives.
- b. **Entries.** Each school shall enter the district meet by certifying entries to the district director by the entry deadline set by the District Executive Committee. If a round-robin format is utilized in lieu of a district tournament, the District Executive Committee shall specify entry and team roster regulations prior to the entry deadline.

### *Regional Matches.*

- a. **Regional qualifiers.** Regional quarterfinal winners will advance to the regional semi-finals, then to the regional final. Reminder there is no regional tournament this season.
- b. Advancing teams must report scores to the team tennis director through email.  
[jgarmon@uiltexas.org](mailto:jgarmon@uiltexas.org).

### *State Matches.*

- a. The first-place team from each region will advance to the state semi-final. Reminder, this round will not be played at the state tournament.
- b. State semi-final match-ups will be Region I vs. Region II and Region III vs. Region IV.

# 2020 Team Tennis Playoff Information (COVID-19)



## All Schools:

October 24	District Certification Deadline
October 26,27	Bi-District
October 29,30,31	Area
November 2,3	Regional Quarterfinal
November 6,7	Regional Semi-Final
November 9,10	Regional Final
November 13,14	State Semi-Final
November 17	<b>State Tennis Championships</b>

<b>District Certification</b>	<p>The district chair must go to the UIL website at <a href="https://www.uil texas.org/machform/view.php?id=57">https://www.uil texas.org/machform/view.php?id=57</a> and fill out District Certification Form before the district certification deadline. The district certification deadline in October 24, 2020. Each district must have a true 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> place finish when submitting this form. In the event one of the designated teams cannot participate due to COVID-19 after October 24<sup>th</sup> deadline, a bye will be placed into the playoff bracket for that spot.</p>
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<b>If One team is unable to play on the scheduled dates due to COVID-19</b>	<p><b><u>Bi-District thru State Semi-Final Rounds:</u></b> If the team that advances to the bi-district round is unable to play due to COVID-19, a bye will be placed on the bracket. For area round through state semi-final rounds if one team can play and the other is unable to play due to COVID-19, the team that can play will advance to the next round. Teams previously eliminated from the postseason will not advance.</p>
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<b>If Both Teams are unable to play on the scheduled playing date due to COVID-19</b>	<p><b><u>For area round through state semi-final:</u></b> If the two teams that advanced in that competitive round are unable to play due to COVID-19, a bye will be placed on the bracket. Teams previously eliminated from the postseason will not advance.</p>
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<b>State Championship</b>	<p><b><u>For the State Final match only:</u></b> If one or both teams are unable to play in the state championship match due to COVID-19, teams will be allowed to re-schedule games at a site determined by both schools. These games will be required to be completed by December 17, 2020.</p>
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**Disruptions in scheduled post season contests due to COVID -19 must be reported to UIL prior to the certification deadline:Contact Joseph Garmon – 361-244-0497**

## General Guidelines

- **All current COVID-19 mitigation protocols are in place during the post-season.**

**All UIL Playoff protocols may be found in the Post Season Packet.**

## **BROADCAST INFORMATION**

Below is information to assist you with questions about telecasts, webcasts or radio broadcasts of UIL postseason events. The UIL has all rights to postseason contests, and has granted rights to its broadcast partners. The rights to contests not selected by UIL broadcast partners may be sublicensed to interested media outlets that meet certain criteria.

**Live Streaming.** Using live streaming sites including Facebook Live, Instagram Live, Twitter Live and YouTube Live to stream the game is strictly prohibited and in direct violation of the UIL's agreement with its broadcast partners. Please notify media, fans and parents of this policy.

**Non-Football Playoff Telecasts.** Media outlets interested in telecasting a playoff contest in any sport except football, must submit the [Non-football Sublicensee Playoff Telecast Request form](#) on the UIL website before noon the business day prior to the event. The media outlet must have permission from the schools involved in the contest and the venue in addition to receiving approval from the UIL. More information about criteria and fees [can be found here](#). If a media outlet is approved, Sports In Action, acting on behalf of the UIL, will send the outlet an approval email.

**UIL Member School Playoff Telecasts (all sports).** A school can request to telecast a postseason event by submitting the [UIL Member School Playoff Telecast Request form](#) on the UIL website before noon the business day prior to the event.

Schools approved for an NFHS Network School Broadcast Program can webcast the event live. Schools approved for an Academic Broadcast, can webcast the event delayed. The UIL defines an Academic Telecast as a broadcast with an educational purpose that is produced solely by a UIL-member school and/or school district primarily using school facilities, equipment, staff and students without any commercial relationship for the financial benefit of another party.

**Radio Playoff Guidelines (all sports).** Radio stations must follow the [Radio Playoff Guidelines](#) found on the UIL website. Radio stations must play two minutes of commercials, read the state championship promotional information, and submit the Radio Playoff Request. The [Radio Playoff Request Form](#) is for tracking purposes only, the UIL will not approve or deny radio broadcasts. The radio station must receive permission from schools involved in the contest and the venue.

**Congratulations on a great season! If we can be of any assistance, please let us know.**