

**2024-2025**



**TEAM TENNIS**  
**COACHES' MANUAL**

**Congratulations to our 2023 Team Tennis State Champions!**



**Conference 4A – Wimberly**



**Conference 5A – Frisco Centennial**



**Conference 6A – Round Rock Westwood**

## Team Tennis Calendar | 2024-2025

An officials start date and final team tennis meet have not been set by the Legislative Council. A start date should be set by school administration.

- October 5 – District Certification
- October 7-8 – Bi-district
- October 10-12 – Area
- October 14-15 – Regional Quarterfinals
- October 17-18 – Regional Tournament
- October 23-24 – State Tournament

### Team Tennis Coaches Checklist

## UIL Rules & Guidelines

### **UIL Rule Amendments & Sport Plan**

#### **Section 1310: Team Tennis Plan**

#### **(a) ATHLETIC PURPOSES, CODES, PLAN APPLICABLE.**

Rules in Sections 1200-1209 also apply to the Team Tennis Plan.

#### **(b) DIVISIONS.**

There shall be the following divisions: Conference 6A, 5A and 4A. Conference 3A may compete for full honors in Conference 4A.

#### **(c) REPRESENTATION AND TEAM COMPOSITION.**

(1) Composition. At the district level each school may enter one team consisting of a minimum of six boys and six girls.

(2) Boys', Girls' Team Restrictions. Girls may not qualify for boys' positions on the team and vice versa.

3) Matches. Each team match will consist of 19 matches:

(A) six boys' singles;

(B) six girls' singles;

(C) three boys' doubles;

(D) three girls' doubles; and

(E) mixed doubles.

(4) Singles, Doubles. Players may, but are not required to, play both singles and doubles or mixed doubles.

(5) Singles Ladder Positions. In singles, each player is to play according to ladder position, meaning the best player at #1, the next best at #2, and so on down the lineup to #6.

(6) Doubles Ladder Positions. In doubles, players shall be placed on doubles teams according to a ladder position, meaning the best two doubles players at #1 doubles, the next two doubles players at #2 doubles and so on for #3 doubles.

(7) Mixed Doubles. Mixed doubles can consist of any boy or girl who is not participating in the doubles competition.

**(d) TEAM SCORING AND TIES.**

(1) Scoring. 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.

(2) Point Count. Each match won will count one point for the team.

**(e) FORFEITS AND DEFAULTS.**

(1) Forfeiture. If after an individual match begins, a forfeit occurs due to illness, injury or penalty for misconduct, the games and set won by the forfeiting team shall stand and count.

(2) Default. In all other matches, if a default occurs before the individual match begins, then the tournament director shall record the score as 6-0, 6-0.

**(f) NUMBER OF MATCHES AND TOURNAMENTS.**

(1) Number of Tournaments. No student or team representing a member school shall participate in more than eight tournaments (total for tennis and team tennis combined) during the school year, excluding one district tennis tournament, the regional tournaments and the state tournament. (Note: The team tennis district tournament counts as one of the eight allowable tournaments if school time is lost.) Each tournament a school team enters counts as one tournament for the team and one tournament for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

(2) Exceptions.

(A) Tournaments, which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a tournament for teams or participants, provided there is no loss of school time.

(B) If no more than four teams meet to play predetermined opponent(s), it shall not be counted as one of the eight tournaments allowed the team or the individual if no school time is lost and if no tournament draw is set to determine a champion.

(3) Exception for Rescheduled Matches. District varsity team tennis matches postponed by weather or public disaster (not including illness) shall be rescheduled on the next date, other than Sunday, on which another district match is not scheduled. In the event weather or public disaster forces the makeup match to be rescheduled, it shall be rescheduled on the next date as described earlier. These makeup matches may be played as exceptions to the school week and calendar week limitations. District varsity matches that are postponed by weather or public disaster, and not played on the next available date, shall be rescheduled and played on a date determined by the District Executive Committee.

(4) School Week Limitation. No student or team representing a member school shall participate in more than one invitational meet/tournament, dual or triangular meet per school week (the first instructional day of the week through the last school day). Exceptions: The regional and state tournaments, and district varsity tournaments postponed by weather or public disaster, may also be scheduled during the school week.

(5) Match Limitation. Each player shall play in no more than three dual matches per day.

**(g) CHAMPIONSHIP STRUCTURE.**

**(1) District Tournaments.**

(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.

**(2) Regional Tournaments.**

(A) Regional qualifiers. Regional quarterfinal winners will advance to a regional tournament. Regional tournament entries shall be certified by regional quarterfinal winners to the regional director.

(B) State tournament entries shall be certified by the regional meet director.

**(3) State Tournament.**

(A) The first-place team from each region will advance to the state tournament.

(B) Pairings will be made based on season records.

**(h) SUBSTITUTIONS IN REGIONAL AND STATE TOURNAMENTS.**

(1) Lineup Changes. Between district and regional, or regional and state, the coach may change the lineup to reflect proper ladder position prior to the start of the tournament, following the guidelines below.

(2) Singles Movement on Ladder. After the previous qualifying tournament, the coach may move each player no more than one position up or down in the singles lineup.

(3) Doubles Movement on Ladder. After the previous qualifying tournament, the coach may move each player no more than one position up or down in the doubles lineup.

(4) Doubles Moves. After the previous qualifying tournament, 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.

**(i) TAUNTING PENALTY.**

Refer to taunting penalty, exception to USTA rules in the Team Tennis Manual.

**(j) PRACTICE REGULATIONS OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL YEAR.**

Any team tennis practice conducted by a school outside the school year shall be in accordance with the following regulations:

- (1) Student-athletes shall not engage in more than three hours of practice activities on those days during which one practice is conducted.
- (2) Student-athletes shall not engage in more than five hours of practice activities on those days during which more than one practice is conducted.
- (3) The maximum length of any single practice session shall be three hours.
- (4) On days when more than one practice is conducted, there shall be, at a minimum, two hours of rest/recovery time between the end of one practice and the beginning of the next practice.
- (5) Schools shall not schedule more than one practice on consecutive days and student-athletes shall not participate in multiple practices on consecutive days.

## **2024-2025 UIL Rule Changes and Amendments**

### **UIL Resources for Game Administrators (pdf)**

#### **Ineligible Player and Unattached Participation**

- (c) MINIMUM PENALTY FOR USING INELIGIBLE PLAYER. In the event an ineligible contestant is used in any UIL game or contest, knowingly or unknowingly, the minimum penalty shall be forfeiture of the game, contest or event. Refer to Section 27 (c)(3).
- (d) UNATTACHED PARTICIPATION. In any UIL member school sponsored athletic contest, meet or tournament, UIL member high school students shall not be permitted to enter unattached. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be assessed against the member school(s) in violation. This provision applies to a non-enrolled (home schooled) student participating in accordance with section 33.0832 of the Texas Education Code.

#### **Ejections**

##### **Coach Ejections**

- Section 1208 (i): MINIMUM PENALTY FOR MISCONDUCT
  - Automatic Minimum Penalty. Any coach who is ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, or any football coach who is given two or more 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalties during a contest may accept an automatic penalty for their ejection or appeal the ejection. A coach who appeals their ejection is required to appear before the State Executive Committee. If the coach accepts their automatic penalty or their ejection is not overturned on appeal, the coach will be subject to:
    - an automatic penalty of public reprimand (name will be published once in the Leaguer) and one year's probation in the applicable sport;
    - completing the National Federation of State High School Associations Fundamentals of Coaching Course; and
    - completing the National Federation of State High School Associations Teaching and Modeling Behavior Course.



- Automatic Greater Penalty. If a coach so penalized has no proof of having completed the UIL Coaches Certification Program prior to the sports season, that coach shall also be automatically suspended from the next game/contest.
- Subsequent Violations. Any further ejection or accumulation of two 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalties during a football game while on probation, will require the coach to appear before the State Executive Committee for consideration of penalty.
- Notification. Schools shall notify the UIL within three school days if a coach has been ejected from a game or received two 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalties.

## Player Ejections

- Section 1208 (i) (5):
  - Player Ejection. Any player ejected from a contest is subject to an automatic penalty. The automatic penalty for such an ejection is as follows:
    - Team Sports. Ejected player misses the rest of the game in which they were ejected plus all of the following game.
    - Appeals. The UIL Executive Director may develop a process for appealing student ejections. *\*Player ejections cannot be overturned by a game official and/or chapter. If a coach has a question following a contest with a player ejection, the coach should contact UIL.*

## Awards

### Limitation of Awards

#### (a) LIMIT.

(1) Awards Schools May Give. A member school or member school district may give one major award not to exceed \$70 in value to a student during that student's high school enrollment at the same school for participation in UIL interschool competition(s) listed in Section 380. Each year a member school or member school district may give one additional award per student per interschool activity listed in Section 380, not to exceed \$20 each. Schools may give a student the \$20 minor award for an activity during the same school year the \$70 major award is given for that activity. A school may contribute to major awards in honor of winning a UIL State Championship event.

(2) Awards Students May Receive. A student may not accept from any source other than the school attended or the school district, any award in money, product or service for competing in an interschool contest except as follows.

(A) A certificate, medal, trophy, ring, or other symbolic award for participating in any UIL activity which counts on UIL standing, if it is given:

- (i) by the school, or school district in accordance to the limitations in Section 480 (a)(1);
- (ii) the District Executive Committee or the entity that organized the competition (i.e., the regional director or zone director;
- (iii) the UIL or one of the professional, education organizations sanctioned by the UIL; or
- (iv) an outside source approved by the school or school district.

(B) A medal, trophy, patch or other symbolic award for participating in an invitational athletic contest which does not count on UIL standing, in an activity which the UIL sponsors as listed in Section 380, if it is given by the organization conducting the contest or competition (Sports which are not sanctioned by the UIL, such as bowling, motorcycle racing or rodeo do not come under this rule).

(C) Unlimited awards for participating in an invitational academic or fine arts contest which does not count on UIL standing, whether or not it is an activity which the UIL sponsors.

(D) Educational trips sponsored by the school.

(E) Scholarships for college or university enrollment if awarded at or after graduation from high school.

(3) Awards Students May Receive for Intraschool Competition. A student may accept unlimited awards for participating in intraschool competition.

(b) LEAGUE STANDING DEFINED. For purposes of this rule, “counts on UIL standing” means any contest that causes an individual or team to advance toward a UIL district, bi-district, area, zone, regional or state championship.

(c) AMATEUR STATUS. Refer to Section 441 for rules governing amateur athletic status.

(d) INDIRECT AWARD. An award given to a second party to be held for later delivery to the student is considered received by the student when the award is given to the second party. This conduct is a violation by the member school or school district.

#### Gifts or Awards to Sponsor or Coach

Individuals who coach, direct or sponsor UIL activities in grades 9-12 may be suspended if:

(a) they accept more than \$500 in money, product or service from any source, over and above the stipend paid by the school district, in recognition of or appreciation for coaching, directing or sponsorship of UIL activities. (Refer to Section 1202). The \$500 limit is cumulative for a calendar year and is not specific to any one particular gift;

(b) they accept money, product or service for entering their student(s) in a contest or other activity;

(c) this section includes, but is not limited to, money, gifts, use of automobiles, insurance, club privileges and any funds tendered by booster clubs for other services; and

(d) it is a violation if coaches and/or their attorney(s) accept money or other valuable consideration for payment of legal expenses incurred to file suit or take other legal action against a school, school district or the UIL.

(e) EXCEPTIONS:

(1) Scholarships. A sponsor or coach may accept from any source in any amount a postsecondary institution scholarship.

(2) Retirement. Upon retirement from the profession, sponsors or coaches may accept money or other valuable consideration in any amount from any source.

(3) Annual UIL Award for Excellence. A sponsor or coach may accept the Annual UIL Award for Excellence sanctioned by the UIL.



## Charitable Cause Guidelines

The UIL has received numerous requests from member schools to support various charitable causes in conjunction with high school athletic events. The UIL is supportive of these initiatives and has developed guidelines regarding an athletic competition being held in the name of a charitable cause.

Schools may host a contest in recognition of a charitable cause under the following conditions:

- The contest of competition may be held during any one week of the designated sport season (to be determined by each individual school).
- If NFHS or NCAA rules allow, non-school colors can be worn upon mutual agreement between opponents. (ex: pink uniforms)
- A commemorative ribbon of non-school color may be worn on the jersey or school-issued uniform.
- Officials may be allowed to use a colored whistle or modified uniform in accordance with UIL guidelines.
- Colored game balls will not be allowed, however they may be used during any warm-up period prior to the contest.

## USTA and Rules Information

### Pre-Season Regulations (See Individual Sport General Manual)

- Employment of Coaches
- Texas Education Code Requirements (State Law)
- Coaches Certification Program (CCP)
- UIL Eligibility for Athletic Contests
- Student Participation Required Forms

## Regular Season

### Contest Scheduling and Allowable Contests

The following section combines State Law, State Board of Education regulations, and UIL rules regarding scheduling and participation in a contest.

- **One contest per school week:** According to State Board of Education mandates, students may only participate on one day per activity during the school week. School districts shall ensure no more than one contest or performance per activity is scheduled per student.
- **\*Exception:** Tournaments and post-season competition may be scheduled as an exception to the school week limit. As well, district varsity contests postponed by weather or public disaster, provided that they are rescheduled and played on the next available date, other than Sunday, on which another district match is not scheduled. Junior varsity, freshman and junior high teams may not play postponed matches as an exception.
  - Junior varsity, freshman and junior high teams may not play postponed matches as an exception.

- District varsity games that are postponed by weather or public disaster, and not played on the next available date, shall be rescheduled and played on a date determined by the District Executive Committee, but may not be made up as an exception to the school week limitation.
- **TEA and Participation:** The Texas Education Agency defines participation as being involved with the activity, traveling with the team, or sitting on the bench. Example: On a Tuesday night, the student's name is on the scorebook but she remains on the bench and does not actually enter the game. This counts as participation for TEA but not UIL, this student would not be able to participate again until after school on Friday, per TEA regulations.
- **UIL and Participation:** UIL defines participation if a student athlete actually entered the contest as a player. In the example above, the contest does not count as one of the allowable games as determined by UIL policy.

#### **Definitions:**

- **Calendar week** means 12:01 a.m. on Sunday through midnight on Saturday.
- **School week** means the week beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first instructional day of a calendar week and ends at the close of instruction on the last instructional day of the calendar week, excluding holidays.
- **Post-district play** means competition in UIL playoff series or contests such as bi-district, area, regional, etc.

#### **Scrimmage**

For the purposes of UIL Team Tennis and Individual Tennis there is no such thing as a scrimmage. Any competition between students at different schools is a match and must be counted as such. Therefore, subject to the one match per school week limitation and all eligibility rules.

#### **Allowable Contests**

Number of Tennis Tournaments Allowed (team tennis plus individual tennis)

- No student or team representing a member school shall participate in more than eight tournaments (total for tennis and team tennis combined) during the school year, excluding one district tennis tournament, the regional tournaments and the state tournament. Note: The team tennis district tournament counts as one of the eight allowable tournaments if school time is lost.

*UIL/TEA Side-by-Side.* UIL limits participation in contests per calendar week in some sports. For UIL, participation is defined as a student actually entering a contest. Example: On Tuesday night, the student's name is on the scorebook, but the student remains on the bench and does not actually enter the game. This does not count as participation in a UIL contest according to UIL (but does count according to state law. The student cannot participate again until Friday after school). The Tuesday game does not count as one of the games UIL permits the student to participate in for that calendar week or for the season because the student did not enter the game.

#### **Team Composition**

Participating schools shall be divided into 4A, 5A and 6A conferences according to the UIL spring meet alignment. 3A schools who sign up for participation in Team Tennis will be placed in a 4A district for competition.

- Each team match will consist of 19 individual matches:
  - six boys' singles
  - six girls' singles
  - three boys' doubles
  - three girls' doubles
  - one mixed doubles
- A minimum of six boys and six girls is required for a team
- Players may play both singles, doubles, and mixed doubles; but it is not mandatory. A player cannot play both doubles and mixed doubles in the same tournament.
- In singles, each player is to play according to ladder position, i.e., the best player at #1, the next best at #2, and so on down the lineup to #6. Coaches must put #1 - #6 in their actual rank order. Coaches do not have the option of moving people to make the match interesting.
- In doubles, players shall be placed on doubles' teams according to a ladder position, i.e., the best doubles' team at #1 doubles, the next best doubles' team at #2 doubles and so on for #3 doubles.
- In mixed doubles, any boy or girl who is not participating in doubles competition.

## **Coaching**

### **Number of Coaches Allowed**

- A maximum of 3 coaches may coach the team during a team match.

### **Appropriate Timing of Coaching**

- Coaches are allowed to coach between points and in breaks of play.

### **Protocols of Coaches On Court**

- Coaches may coach from on court but must be at or around the net post or bench area (specifically between the net post and halfway down the service box). Only one coach may be on any one court at a time.
- Coaches should refrain from moving around during points and distracting players and/or disrupting continuous play.
- Coaches may move from court to court as long as it is between points and does not disrupt continuous play on any court.

### **Protocols of Coaches Off Court**

- No coaching is allowed when inside the court area unless at or around the net post or bench area.
- Coaching is allowed if the coach is outside the court area as long as it is between points, in any breaks of play, and does not interfere with continuous play on any court.
- Coaches may encourage their kids while on court. Coaches are responsible for proper court etiquette.

### **Opposing Players**

- Coaches shall not initiate conversation with an opposing player.
- Coaches shall not inject themselves in any on court problem unless the opposing coach is also present.

- Players shall not initiate conversation with an opposing coach.

### **Team Scoring**

- The scoring system will be No Advantage-Scoring, best 2-out-of-3 set matches with a 7-point tiebreaker 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.
- Mixed Doubles Matches - When a 3 all point occurs in a game; the female player must serve to a female player and male to male.
- Each match won will count one point for the team.

### **Tie Break Procedures**

The 12-point tie-break scoring system will operate when the score reaches six games in the first two sets.

- Procedure for playing the singles tie-break.
  - 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.
  - The player whose turn it is to serve shall be the server for the first point, which is delivered from the right court. His/her opponent shall be the server for the second and third points (delivered from the left court, then the right court), and thereafter each player shall serve alternately for two consecutive points (left court, then right court) until the winner of the game and set has been decided.
- Procedure for playing the doubles tie-break.
  - 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 as previously in that set, until the winners of the game and set have been decided.
  - Players change ends after every six points and at the conclusion of the tiebreaker.
  - The team that served first in the set that ended in a tie-breaker shall receive service in the first game of the following set.
- Procedure for playing the mixed doubles.
  - In mixed 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 as previously in that set, until the winners of the game and set have been decided.
  - Players change ends after every six points and at the conclusion of the tiebreaker.
  - The team that served first in the set that ended in a tie-breaker shall receive service in the first game of the following set.

### **Lineup Changes**

- Coaches must give his or her complete line-up prior to the start of the tournament for singles, doubles, and mixed doubles; in accordance with line-up procedures, to the tournament director.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- If a student has been out of the lineup for a grading period for academic purposes and returns in time for the district tournament, 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.

## **Team Tennis Regulations**

### **Playing Rules**

- The United States Tennis Association playing rules shall be used in all League matches with exceptions as noted in this manual. Coaches should be aware of National Federation taunting rules as well.

### **Rest Periods**

- Players should receive a minimum of 15 minutes’ rest between doubles and singles.
- Players should receive a 3-minute rest between the second set and 10-point match tiebreaker (in lieu of a third set) of split set matches in both boys’ and girls’ singles and doubles.
- A school team should receive a minimum of one hour between dual matches.

### **Warmups**

- The players will have a 10-minute warmup prior to the start of the match. The players must take all their practice serves during this time.

### **Videotaping/Filming Non-Conference and District Contest**

- Videotaping/Filming by Schools: It is a violation to film or videotape a non-conference or district athletic contest in which your school or team is not competing unless prior consent of the two schools involved has been obtained.
- A school does not have to obtain permission to film or tape a NON-CONFERENCE OR DISTRICT contest in which it is competing. However, the film or videotape shall not be utilized until after the contest has been completed.
- Films and videotapes become the property of the school doing the filming unless by district rule or by consent of the schools involved in the contest.

- Videotaping/Filming by Individuals: Any individual (other than the officially designated school camera) taping or filming must have prior permission from the schools involved in the contest and may not obstruct the view of other spectators of the contest.
- Commercial Uses: Use of the films or tapes for commercial purposes must be approved by all schools involved in the contest.

## Post Season

### **Playoff Information**

#### **Certification of District Representatives**

- District Chairmen will certify representatives. The last day for reporting the district certification is October 5, 2024 online [here](#).

#### **Representation**

- The winners of first, second, third and fourth place in each district shall advance to the post-season.
- Each qualifying school may enter one team consisting of a minimum of six boys and six girls. Girls' and boys' point totals count on team totals, but boys and girls cannot compete against each other, other than the mixed doubles match.

#### **Team Information and Pictures**

- Teams advancing to regionals must submit the following materials to the UIL no later than Wednesday, October 16, 2024:
  - [Team Information Form](#)
  - [Team Photo Form](#)

### **Playoff Reporting – Teams Advancing**

Coaches are required to submit playoff results immediately following their contest. The winning school should submit playoff game results and next round information to the UIL office via this [form](#).

### **Sites.**

Sites for all rounds of playoffs prior to the regional tournament 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.

**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.

**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 two schools.

**Mid-point Sites:** Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post-district contests shall be at mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

### **Lineups**

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 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.

### **Police Protection**

Adequate police protection should be provided for all playoff games, whether the game is played at a neutral site or on the home court of one of the teams.

### **Substitutions**

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

- **Singles:** The coach removes a player from the lineup. All players lower in the lineup move up the fill the vacant spot in the lineup and the alternate becomes the #6 player.
- **Doubles:** If the coach removes a member of a doubles team from the line-up, 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.

### **District Tournaments**

- Each district may choose a tournament format to determine representatives (i.e., single-elimination, round-robin or a combination).
- A district team tennis tournament will count as one of that school's seven tournaments if there is a loss of school time.
- The winners of first, second, third, and fourth place in each district shall advance to the post-season. The district chairman will certify representatives.

### **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.
  - If your program gains a new student or if a student loses/gains academic eligibility, we suggest you re-rank to reflect proper ladder position.



- A team tennis district that plays a round-robin district schedule should specify in the district minutes the rules and procedures for stating the line-up at the district tournament. Specifically, districts need to determine how to re-rank lineups when injuries occur or students become eligible/ineligible in district competition, etc. At no time during a round-robin district tournament can a line-up change occur, unless the District Executive Committee has specified line-up changes prior to the start of district play.
- Each District must decide on line-up procedures, weather postponed matches, and procedures for the entire district competition. The minutes of the District Executive Committee should outline all of this.
- Because of the increase in alleged line-up stacking—each district needs to clearly state that it is a violation and assess a penalty. Specifically, each district must decide:
  - Whether to replay an entire weather postponed match or to continue at the point of suspension.
  - Decide to play a round-robin, a district tournament or a combination.
  - Set line-up regulations. Can you change the line-up during the district season? Is the initial line-up turned in set for the entire district? If you play a district tournament at the end of your season, how are line-ups set?
  - Procedure to investigate/penalize a coach who is stacking the line-up.

### **State Tournament**

State tournament entries shall be certified by the regional tournament director.

- Coaches must submit the team information form and team photo form to the UIL once they reach post-district competition.
- Coaches should send their line-up as well.

### **Format**

- The state tournament, in each conference (4A, 5A, and 6A), will be a single-elimination tournament held in College Station for the four schools qualifying at the four regional tournaments. Conference 3A may compete for full honors in Conference 4A.

### **Pairings**

- The League office will determine the draw for the tournament. Pairings will be released on Monday morning prior to the tournament. The two teams with the best records will be placed in opposite brackets. The team with the third-best record will be placed up or down according to a coin flip. The remaining team will be placed in the empty bracket. The actual win/loss percentage will determine the ranking of the teams - not the strength or weakness of the playing schedule.

### **Off-Season Regulations (see Individual Sport General Manual)**

- Summer Strength & Conditioning & Sport Specific Instruction
- Off-Season Strength & Conditioning (during the school year)
- School Sponsored Camps
- Non-school Leagues, Camps & Clinics