

UOVHSAA TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

The sole basis for the very existence of high school sport is the contribution it makes to the general educational experience of those students who participate.

PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. Date:

The UOVHSAA Tennis Championship shall be a one day championship held in October unless extraordinary circumstances dictate a change. Player registration and coaches' meeting will be scheduled the morning prior to the start of championship play.

2. Location:

The location of the Championship shall be held at Mateway Park unless another convenor considers an alternate location.

3. Events and/or Classifications:

The UOVHSAA Tennis Championship shall provide Junior (grades 9 and 10) and Senior (grades 11 and 12) competition in the High School division and one Open division, if required by entries (i.e. no Jr. Sr. divisions in Open.) Classification of divisions is as follows:

(a) An Open Division player must have won a minimum of two rounds in total (one round or more in a tournament and/or at a later date wins a round in another tournament) in a 3 star Ontario Tennis Association (OTA) tournaments or higher or the equivalent (USTA (level 6 or lower), European championship) in the three years prior to the beginning of the school year.

Any player who has ever played in the Canadian Nationals or any player that has ever played in any U-14, U-16 or U-18 provincial championships shall also be considered an open player. A bye, defaulted or retired match in an OTA event does not constitute a win.

(b) High School Division: any player who has not met the above criteria for an Open player.

Events:

The events to be conducted are:

(a) Junior High School Division:

GIRLS' SINGLES, GIRLS' DOUBLES, BOYS' SINGLES, BOYS' DOUBLES, MIXED DOUBLES

(b) Senior High School Division:

GIRLS' SINGLES, GIRLS' DOUBLES, BOYS' SINGLES, BOYS' DOUBLES, MIXED DOUBLES

(c) Open Division:

GIRLS' SINGLES, GIRLS' DOUBLES, BOYS' SINGLES, BOYS' DOUBLES, MIXED DOUBLES

The UOVHSAA convenor/s in consultation with the OTA shall have the right to disqualify players if entered incorrectly. Disqualified athletes will not have entry fees reimbursed.

4. Championship Structure and Procedure:

- (a) The UOVHSAA Junior and Senior tournaments will be run as a double-elimination tournament. All teams are guaranteed 2 matches.
- (b) The UOVHSAA Tennis championship structure of the tournament shall be a six (6) game set, no advantage scoring, with a seven (7) point tiebreaker at five (5) all.
 - (i) **The UOVHSAA Finals will follow the EOSSAA scoring.** The EOSSAA Tennis championship structure shall reflect Next Generation Scoring: Two mini sets – First to Four games. 5 Point tie breaker at 3-3 – If the tie breaker is 4-4, the next point wins. If tied at one set each, a 10-point match tie break will be played – Win by 2 - No Cap on score.
- (c) Finalists in all championship draws will qualify for the EOSSAA Championship. Medals will be awarded to first and second place.
- (d) Upon approval from the UOVHSAA Tennis Sport Advisory Committee, the convenor may modify the structure of the Championship if there is a lack of entries. This modification may range from a six (6) or eight (8) game pro-set to a match consisting of a best two (2) out of three (3) sets or a round robin format.
- (e) Players must be on-site and prepared to play in a reasonable amount of time before their match.
- (f) Due to the possibility of changing weather conditions, the original schedule presented at the coaches' meeting prior to tournament play may be altered. Every attempt will be made to play matches between players on site and as conditions warrant. Players will only be scheduled for a match once on site. If such changes occur, all coaches are to continually check with the convenor on site and/or website for tournament updates regarding match times and locations.

Seeding:

OPEN entries are seeded by the OTA.

High School entries shall be seeded by the previous year's results if players are entered in the same division.

Schools will rank entries as first and second seeds. Players from the same school will be placed on opposite sides of the draw. A school's first seeds will be randomly placed within the draws against another school's second seed if possible. In other words, efforts will be made so one school doesn't always play against the same school. Coaches will also provide a rating from 1 -10 on player performance to help convenor make as fair a draw as possible.

5. Entry:

- (a) Entries shall be accepted from school coaches or designates only.
- (b) Entries of schools must be received by the UOVHSAA Championship Convenor by noon the day prior to the Championship. Late entries will only be accepted if they can be accommodated and shall be subject to a penalty.
- (c) A school may enter a maximum of two (2) competitors in each event of each division.

(d) No competitor may enter more than one event (e.g. singles, doubles, mixed doubles). In a doubles or mixed pairing, if any individual is an Open player, the entire team shall be considered Open.

(e) Any suspension or disciplinary actions in school play shall be carried forward into UOVHSAA Championship competition. The school coach shall be responsible for reporting such players and the nature of the disciplinary action on the UOVHSAA entry form.

(f) For schools withdrawing an individual(s) after the commitment deadline the minimum sanction imposed will be a fine equal to the entry fee. This amount may be adjusted in consultation with UOVHSAA staff depending on the nature of the withdrawal.

6. Expenses:

An Entry Fee shall be charged which shall be sufficient to cover the operating costs of the Championship. Any school that does not meet its entry commitment after it has declared an entry into the Championship will be required to pay the entry fee or entries for the following year's tournament may be forfeited.

Those schools having entries are responsible for arranging and financing their own travel, meals and accommodation for the event.

7. Eligibility:

To represent a school in any activity coordinated by the Federation a student must:

(i) be eligible for competition under the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules (Playing Regulations) of the Association to which his school belongs;

(ii) be certified as eligible by the Principal of the school;

(iii) meet the following age requirement: the individual's birth certificate indicates that he has not reached his 19th birthday by January 1st prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held;

(iv) be in Grades 9-12; fifth year students considered Gr 12.

(v) be eligible under the OFSAA Transfer Policy (By-Law 5, Section 4(f));

(vi) be eligible for no more than five (5) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9 (By-Law 5, Section 4(g));

(vii) have signed the Rules of Behaviour signature form for the competition;

(viii) have executed the Federation's "Release of Liability" form.

8. Rules and Officials:

Revisions to rulebooks governing play at the UOVHSAA Tennis Championship shall be reviewed by the Sport Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors prior to implementation at any Championship.

The Tennis Canada Rules of the Court shall govern play at the UOVHSAA Tennis Championship unless otherwise indicated by the convenor.

Note: Please refer to the UOVHSAA TENNIS GUIDELINES

9. Uniforms and Equipment:

All competitors are expected to dress in uniforms that are neat, clean and which maintain the integrity of the school's/Association's name, colours and logos.

In order to be allowed to play, competitors must dress in proper tennis attire which covers the midsection.

Student-athletes must remain fully clothed in the appropriate attire in the competition area, AND use the designated locker room or change area to change to and from competition attire.

The Tournament Convenor shall provide game balls for the Championship.

10. Scoring: See UOVHSAA Tennis Rules.

11. Awards:

Championship medals shall be presented to first and second place finishers.

12. Supervision: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 1)

A teacher is defined as a member of the Ontario College of Teachers or a holder of an Ontario Teacher's Certificate or equivalent.

(a) For team sports ("A team consists of all athletes from the same school who qualify for Federation competition as a unit..." {reference By-Law 5, Section 3}), a teacher from the same school, or a retired teacher, as approved by the principal of the school, must accompany and be responsible for the team.

(b) For individual sports (those sports in which athletes from a school qualify for federation competition as individuals), the principal of the school may designate an adult who is not a teacher to accompany the athletes. In addition, a teacher, or a retired teacher **from the county**, must be present and on site and designated by the principal to be responsible for the athlete(s).

(c) For all sports, where the teacher, as indicated in (a) and (b) above, is not of the same sex as the athletes(s), and where the athlete(s) are required or might be required to stay overnight, a supervisory adult, as approved by the principal of the school, of the same sex as the athlete(s), must be present and available at the accommodation site for the duration of their stay in the accommodation.

13. Registration:

Registration materials will only be given to the teacher accompanying the team.

14. Deportment: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 2)

- (a) A team is defined as, "All participants representing the same school at a UOVHSAA Championship event".
- (b) A participant is defined as, "Anyone who has been granted proper authorization to enter a restricted area." "Restricted area" includes "those areas occupied by athletes and to which access by the general public is restricted or prohibited."
- (c) All participants are expected to abide by the, "Rules of Behaviour for Participants to OFSAA Championships".
- (d) Supervising adults are responsible for the behaviour of participants for the duration of the Championships.
- (e) Teams are open to censure for failure of its participants to abide by the "Rules of Behaviour".
- (f) (i) All coaches are expected to adhere to the Code of Ethics for Coaches to OFSAA Championships.
(ii) Spectators are expected to adhere to the Code of Behaviour for Spectators.
(iii) All coaches are expected to adhere to the "Return to Play Guidelines".
- (iv) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Policy on dispensing drugs, medication and food supplements.
- (g) No artificial noisemakers are permitted at UOVHSAA Championship events.

15. Medical:

Provision MUST be made by the Convenor to have a medical doctor in attendance or readily available and to follow appropriate hygiene precautions with regard to bodily fluids and communicable diseases. Qualified first-aid personnel and equipment must be readily available at the Championship site(s). Coaches shall provide all consumable medical supplies (e.g. tape, Band-Aids) for their athletes.

16. Committee of Appeal:

The Committee of Appeal shall consist of three (3) individuals: the chairperson of the UOVHSAA Tennis Sport Advisory Committee or designate, a tournament committee member and one (1) other member appointed by the Championship Convenor. The Committee of Appeal shall handle disputes which fall within the realm of:

- (a) Tournament Structure and Procedure;
- (b) Rules and Officials;
- (c) Uniforms and Equipment;
- (d) Scoring;
- (e) Eligibility;

(f) Deportment;

(g) Supervision and registration;

(h) Medical personnel;

(i) Awards;

Tournament structure and procedure concerns shall be addressed no later than the end of the coaches' meeting

A dispute must be submitted in writing to the Convenor or Designate.

A report of the Committee of Appeal decisions shall be forwarded to the UOVHSAA Coordinator.

The Competition Committee shall be the body empowered to delay/cancel an event(s) due to unforeseen circumstances at the site(s).

All Federation Championships/Festivals are non-smoking events.

This includes the use of all tobacco related products.

Participants must obey the Ministry of Education's Code of Conduct.

January. 2016