

To: Section IX Athletic Directors, MHAL and OCIAA Coordinators  
From: Selina M. DeCicco, Section IX Girls Tennis Coordinator  
Re: 2011 Section IX Girls Tennis Singles and Doubles Championship  
Date: September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011

Welcome back to the 2011 Girls Varsity Tennis season! Please share the information below with your girls varsity tennis coaches so that preparations may be made for post-season competition.

Earlier this year, the NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis Committee adopted changes in the "Commitment to Compete" document. I ask that coaches review this document as well as the "Code of Conduct" with their athletes to stress that all varsity tennis athletes are expected to uphold the integrity of high school competition by adhering to their content. Any athlete who advances to the 2011 NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis Championship must sign both documents prior to the start of the competition, to commit to play the entire state tournament other than injury or illness *and* to maintain the highest level of sportsmanship throughout competition. Code of Conduct and Commitment to Compete documents must be signed by the athlete, supervising coach, and parent/guardian prior to participating in the NYSPHSAA Championship. These forms will be provided at the Section IX Tournament. (*\*Coaches may download both documents for review on the state website at [www.NYSPHSAA.org](http://www.NYSPHSAA.org)).*)

Proudly, six of nine athletes return from last year's state tournament to compete this season which could bring tremendous depth to the 2011 NYSPHSAA Championship. Of the six returning athletes, three earned NYSPHSAA medals in 2010. As the season begins, I look forward to Section IX interscholastic competition and intend to visit area high school courts within the boundaries of the MHAL and OCIAA Leagues with hopes to admire teams for their achievement. Most of all, I look forward to observe all participants as role models for sportsmanship in Section IX Girls Tennis.

The 2011 Section IX Girls Tennis Championship is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at the Goshen Sports Complex in Goshen, NY. Athletes who finish in the top 8 singles and 8 doubles teams in the MHAL or OCIAA Tournament will qualify to compete in the Section IX Singles and Doubles Championship. The Section IX Girls Tennis Coordinator will hold a brief meeting for singles competition with sectional athletes, coaches and USTA tournament officials at 9:15 AM on Tuesday. A brief meeting for the

doubles competition with all participants, coaches and officials will be held at 11:45 AM. Rules and guidelines for competition will be discussed at this time. The Singles Championship will begin at 9:30 AM on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Doubles Championship will begin at 12:00 noon on Tuesday and at 9:30 AM on Wednesday. (*\*Practice courts will be available at 8AM on each day during the tournament.*)

All rounds up to the semi-finals will be completed on Tuesday. Semis, finals and 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> place playoffs in both singles and doubles will be played on Wednesday. The Sectional Tournament Committee consisting of MHAL and OCIAA coaches, the Section IX Coordinator and USTA Tournament Referee will confer should conflicts require appeal during play. Athletes are expected to wear proper tennis attire which may include a high school uniform, league or section uniform, or white shirt and non-marking tennis shoes. The NYSPHSAA jewelry rule and sportsmanship rule will be enforced. All singles and doubles teams must provide one *USTA Approved* can of tennis balls per match during the tournament. Should an athlete request a new can of tennis balls at the start of a third set, it may be necessary to bring extra cans for competition, so please plan accordingly. One school coach will be permitted to sit at courtside to coach only during “changeovers”. No cheering is permitted during play by anyone in order to avoid interference with other matches. This will be enforced by coaches and officials at the tournament.

Upon completion of the Section IX Tournament, athletes finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> places qualify to compete in the NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis Championship on Saturday through Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at Eastside Racquet Club in Manlius, NY. Accommodations have been made for athletes and coaches at the Best Western Plus (formerly the Holiday Inn Carrier Circle) in East Syracuse, NY for arrival on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Any and all information needed for the 2011 NYSPHSAA State Tennis Tournament will be available and distributed to the athletes and coaches at the conclusion of the 2011 Section IX Tournament.

If you have any questions or concerns in regards to the above, please feel free to contact me by email at [sdecicco@ecs.k12.ny.us](mailto:sdecicco@ecs.k12.ny.us) . I look forward to seeing the best competition and am committed to providing the best opportunity for all high school athletes who participate in Section IX Girls Tennis.

Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Selina M. DeCicco, Section IX Girls Tennis Coordinator