

**ORANGE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
GIRLS TENNIS
BY-LAWS
Adopted October 4, 2006**

1. Participation shall be governed by the current year NYSPHSAA Rules and Regulations. United States Tennis Association Rules (USTA) will be used where applicable.
2. Competition will consist of four (4) single matches, followed by three (3) doubles matches. A player may not play in both singles and doubles competition during a match. League matches will be played in the following order:
#1 Singles, #2 Singles, #3 Singles, #4 Singles, #1 Doubles,
#2 Doubles, #3 Doubles (Deviation from this order is not acceptable, unless both coaches agree to a change of order.)
3. Singles players shall be ranked number one (1) through four (4) according to ability. Double teams shall be ranked one (1) through (3), also according to ability. If a single player or double team cannot compete in a league match, each successive player or team shall be moved up from within the ranking. (Example, #1 cannot play, therefore, #2 plays in #1's spot, others move up accordingly.) Any player can fill in the #4 singles spot. This By-law is based upon a merit system of assessing player(s) ability and should not be abused by players or coaches.
4. Pre-Game Procedures:
 - a. Matches start at 4:00 p.m. If coaches agree to begin earlier, matches may begin prior to 4:00 p.m.
 - b. Prior to the first match, coaches will exchange line-up cards based upon a merit system, the name of the player and team record to date will also be presented.
 - c. After sides and service have been decided, there shall be a maximum of ten (10) minutes warm-up, including service, prior to the first game for each singles and doubles match.
 - d. The home school should provide at least one can of USTA approved balls for each match. The color of the balls shall be optic yellow. If an individual's tennis match has progressed into the third set, a new can of tennis balls will be made available. The home team shall be responsible for providing this additional can of USTA approved tennis balls.
5. Competition Format (Junior Varsity & Varsity)
 - a. Competition will consist of 2 out of 3 sets with no add scoring. At 6 all, a 12 point tie breaker will be used in all sets. Players will switch sides every six (6) points. Service rotation will remain the same. The team who began serving the tie breaker will receive the serve in the first game of the next set. One point will be awarded for each match winner, seven points per team match.
 - b. Match play is continuous. When 2 out of 3 sets are played, players will be allowed 3 minutes rest at the completion of the first set. A five (5) minute rest period will be allowed players between the end of the second set and the beginning of the third set. A player may leave the court only after the second set. Coach - player conferences may take place during rest periods.

- c. If a match is interrupted by inclement weather, and one team has scored at least four points, the match is official. If a match is interrupted before either team has attained four points, the match will be continued at a later date from the point of interruption. If a player from the original line-up cannot play at the rescheduled time, that match shall be forfeited. A written record of the match to the point of interruption shall be signed by both coaches signifying their agreement with match scores as recorded.
 - d. With the consent of both coaches by-law 13 a 3 can be invoked when available daylight becomes a factor. A 10 point match tie break will be played in lieu of a 3rd set to determine the outcome of the match.
 - e. JV Tennis - Fall
When daylight becomes a factor the 10 game pro-set will be the competition format.
6. Players do not call foot faults. Foot faults must be brought to the attention of the coach. Either coach may request a foot-fault and/or line judge(s). It is the responsibility of the home school to appoint qualified judges.
7. Coaches may talk to players when they change ends of courts. Change overs are limited to ninety (90) seconds.
8. Unsportsmanlike conduct:
- a. When a coach is ejected from a contest please refer to NYSPHSAA Handbook # 27 Sportsmanship.
 - b. When both coaches mutually agree that an unsportsmanlike act has taken place, the player shall be penalized immediately as follows:
 - c. Obscenity and/or profanity (visible or audible)
 - d. Abuse of equipment, profanity, or other unsportsmanlike conduct: The coaches prior to the start of the team match will state a warning and also prior to the start of the OCIAA Tournament. The USTA Point Penalty System (PPS) will be used:
 - 1st offense - 1 point
 - 2nd offense - 1 game
 - 3rd offense - default
 - e. When a player(s) defaults a match for unsportsmanlike conduct, the following action will be taken:
 - (1) First default - that player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next scheduled match.
 - (2) Second ejection - that player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next two scheduled matches.
 - (3) Third ejection - that player(s) cannot attend or participate in any remaining scheduled matches including sectional or any higher level of competition.
 - f. The coach of the player(s) who defaults a match(es) will notify his/her Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will then contact the OCIAA Athletic Coordinator's Office to confirm that the individual(s) will not be allowed to participate in that school's next scheduled match or matches as required above.
 - g. A player(s) that is ejected from a match(es) will not be allowed to be present at the site of any match(es) that individual(s) has been disqualified from participating in (home or away).

- h. For unsportsmanlike violation that occur during the OCIAA season, penalties will carry over into sectional play. NYSPHSAA unsportsmanlike conduct rules will apply after the completion of the league season.
- 9. Proper attire shall be worn during a match. Team uniforms are recommended. Non-court marking tennis shoes/sneakers are required.
- 10. It is the responsibility of the home coach to inform the media of the result of the match.
- 11. There will be three divisions. Only division matches shall count in division standings. Tie-breaker procedure for championship is as follows:
 - (1) Head-to-head between teams that are tied.
 - (2) If teams are still tied co-champions will be declared.
- 12. Division matches scheduled by the OCIAA league office will be used as the criteria for qualifying for the OCIAA Girls Tennis Tournament.
- 13. An OCIAA Open Tournament will be conducted at the conclusion of League play to qualify individuals for the Section IX Tournament.
 - A. Tournament Format
 - 1. Seed up to 8 qualified players (1-4, 2-3).
 - 2. Fill the rest with a draw from top line down.
 - 3. All singles and doubles matches up to Round of 16 will use 2 of 3 sets no-ad scoring, a 10 point Match Tie-Break will be played in lieu of a 3rd set, in other words when the score in a match is 1 set all, one tie-break game shall be played to decide the match.
 - 4. The coaching rule that is followed during the season will be followed at the tournament.
- 14. Schools may enter the individual(s) based on the following:
 - a. A singles player or doubles team position is determined by:
 - (1) The position they played most of their matches at.
 - (2) A singles player or doubles team must have played at least 70 % of their division matches at that position or above.
 - (3) Percentages are to be used as a guideline for number of wins needed, for qualification into the OCIAA Open Tournament.
 - b. Doubles
 - (1) Each team may enter their first doubles team only if they have won 50% or more of their team's division matches.
 - (2) A second doubles team may be entered only if they have won 60% or more of their team's division matches.
 - c. Each school may enter a wild card doubles team (coaches may choose singles or doubles players).
 - d. Singles
 - (2) Each team may enter their first singles player regardless of record.
 - (3) #2 singles - player must have won 50% of her team's division matches.
 - (4) #3 singles – player must have won 70% of her team's division matches.

15. Awards:
 - a. Plaques - 3 Division Champions (Team)
 - b. Awards - 1st through 4th place (single individuals for the Section IX Qualifying Tournament.) 1st through 4th place (doubles teams for the Section IX Qualifying Tournament)
 - c. OCIAA Patches - Each individual school may purchase their own patches if they choose to do so.

16. The OCIAA will qualify 12 singles players and 12 doubles teams for the Section IX Tournament.