

# **SOUTHWEST SUBURBAN CONFERENCE: Boys' Tennis: Sport Guidelines**

## **I. Season Limitations**

- A. Practice may begin on Monday, February 27, 2017.
- B. First contest may be held on Monday, March 13, 2017.
- C. Season ends on Saturday, May 27, 2017.

## **II. Contest Limitations (Exclusive of the IHSA State Series)**

20 dates

## **III. Levels of Competition**

- A. Varsity
- B. Junior Varsity

## **IV. Coaches Meeting**

- A. There will be no pre-season meeting.
- B. Post-season meeting will be hosted by Stagg on Tuesday, May 29 at a location and time to be determined.

## **V. Championships and Awards**

- A. Division Team Championships
  1. A championship trophy shall be awarded to the winner at the Varsity level of each Division Championship Tournament.
  2. An engraved plate will be awarded to the winner at the junior varsity level of each Division Championship Tournament.
- B. Individual Awards
  1. The top (3) places will be awarded medals in each flight in the 6-team division (top four (4) places in the 7-team division) at the Varsity level in the Divisional Championship Tournament. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishers at the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> flights will be declared All-Conference.
  2. The top (3) places will receive awards in the 6-team division (top four (4) places in the 7-team division) for each flight at the JV level
  3. Point System for SWSC Conference Championship Tournament shall be as follows:
    - a. Two (2) points for each match won
    - b. Two (2) points for each received default, forfeit, or bye
    - c. One (1) point for winning the third place match
    - d. If a school doesn't enter a singles player or a doubles team, it will be treated as a "Forfeit". If possible, a forfeit or a bye shall not be drawn to the same first round bracket.

## **VI. Terms of Contests**

- A. Dual Meets
  1. Division Format: That play consists of matches between three (3) singles players and four (4) doubles teams. Both levels will use this format. The best two (2) out of three (3) (tiebreak) sets will be played at the Varsity and JV levels. The Varsity

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and JV levels will play at opposite sites if necessary. Exhibition matches may be played.

2. The match line-up must be filled from each team's number one player to their number three player (fourth doubles). In the case of injury, the team must adjust their line-up upward and if need to be forfeit from the lowest position.
  3. Host school responsibility
    - a. The home school will provide new balls for all matches. It is recommended that extra duty yellow balls are used. New balls must be used if the sets are split.
    - b. The home school will inform the visiting school of any meet cancellation. If the match is to be canceled, the visiting school should be notified as soon as the determination has been made.
  4. Determining the winner dual meets
    - a. Competition shall consist of three (3) singles and four (4) doubles at both the Varsity and the JV levels. The best two (2) out of three (3) (tiebreak) sets will be played at the Varsity and JV levels. Either level with the coaches' concurrence, have the option to play "No add", "Pro Sets" or "Super Tiebreaker" for the third set (10 points – win by 2) if court space or light is limited.
    - b. When the set is tied at six-six (6-6), the twelve (12) point tiebreaker shall be used and 8-8 in a "Pro Set".
    - c. If a player fails to play or complete the match, the opponent will win by a forfeit. If a player fails to complete a match once started, because of health or accident, the score will be posted (example: 6-1, 3-1 retired). If a player is removed from the match for any other reason other than injury or health, the player will be defaulted.
    - d. A match may be called due to inclement weather by the host school. All matches, in progress, will be suspended simultaneously by mutual agreement of the coaches. All suspended matches at the Varsity level will be played the first mutually agreed date (prior to the Division Tournament) from the exact point when the match was suspended. Either coach has the option of a forfeit. When lower level matches are canceled, the player(s) ahead at the time of cancellation will be declared the winner.
    - e. The winning team will be awarded one team point to be added to their total in their team score at the SWSC divisional tourney
- B. Conference Division Championship Meet Information
1. A seeding meeting shall be held no later than Wednesday of the conference tournament week by the host school to seed players and make the draw.
  2. Varsity and JV tournaments shall consist of 7 individual flights; first, second, and third singles, and first, second, third and fourth doubles. Each school shall list their three (3) singles players and four (4) doubles teams in rank order before the seeding meeting begins. The order of single players and /or doubles teams of any school may be vetoed by the majority vote of the other coaches or representatives attending the seeding meeting. The school receiving the veto shall then submit another team line-up.

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3. Four (4) singles players and four (4) doubles teams may be seeded in each level of competition. If a 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> seed cannot be determine, coaches may seed only two (2) players, or two (2) doubles teams in each level of competition.
4. The seeds shall be placed as follows:
  - a. The #1 sees shall be placed at line #1 of the tournament bracket
  - b. The #2 seed shall be placed at line #8 of the tournament bracket
  - c. The #3 seed shall be placed at line #5 of the tournament bracket
  - d. The #4 seed shall be placed at line #4 of the tournament bracket.
  - e. The #1 seed should receive the first BYE
  - f. The #2 seed should receive the second BYE
  - g. The #3 seed should receive the third BYE
  - h. The #4 seed should receive the fourth BYE
  - i. If the #3 and /or #4 seeds cannot be determined, and there are BYES remaining, the third BYE will be placed on line #6 and drawn for.
5. Substitutions prior to match play are permitted with a note from the Principal or designate and re-seeding at this level shall then occur if a seed has been substituted. There shall be no line-up alterations between flights because of this substitution.
6. Prior to determining the seeds, each coach should pass out records and information to each coach about each player that will be entered in the tournament to assist in properly seeding the meet.
7. **Ethically, the purpose of seeding is to place the best players at positions on the bracket so they will not compete against each other in the early round of the tournament.** After the players /teams have been nominated for seeding, the coaches shall vote on positions one, two, and three and four based upon the following criteria (in no particular order):
  - a. Head to head competition
  - b. Common opponents – use wins vs. loses, not match scores
  - c. Total record at position in question
  - d. USTA ranking
  - e. Majority consensus of coaches present of the players/team's ability.
  - f. Random selection
8. The draw shall consist of three (3) rounds for each individual division.
9. Competition shall be single elimination and each match shall be best two out of three sets with 12 – point tiebreaker at 6-6. Advantage scoring will not be used in the first round matches.
10. The starting time for the conference championship meet shall be no earlier than 4:00 pm on a school day.
11. The conference meet will be conducted on Thursday and Saturday with Friday being used as a rain date for Thursday and/or Friday if Saturday's weather is questionable. If the tournament cannot be complete on Saturday, the tournament /site director will determine when play will continue. Monday will be used if necessary to complete the tournament.
12. Each of the three (3) singles players and each of the four (4) doubles teams shall bring one can of new heavy-duty balls to the first round match. The winner of each match takes the can of new balls and proceeds to the next match.

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13. Point System for the SWSC Conference Championship Tournament shall be as follows:
  - a. Two (2) points for each match won
  - b. Two (2) points for each match received default, forfeit, or bye.
  - c. One (1) point for winning the third place match
  - d. If a school doesn't enter a singles player or a double team, it will be treated as a "Forfeit". If possible, a forfeit or bye shall not be drawn to the same first round bracket.
  - e. Each dual win during the season will earn one point toward the team championship final standings.
14. The athletic director and/or designated person shall be the tournament director responsible for directing the seeding meeting, starting and running the tournament. This includes establishing times for matches and court assignments, and arranging for indoor facilities if needed.
15. The Division Championship Tournament should be conducted at one site per level.

### **VII. Officials**

No officials are authorized for SouthWest Suburban Conference contests. However, questions of procedures or inquiry are legitimate reasons for mutual direction by coaches

### **VIII. Reporting Results**

- A. Each varsity and JV coach (or their designee) will record their conference home game scores on the SWSC conference website at <http://swsc.8to18.com>.
- B. Each host school is responsible to report results of the division tournament immediately after the event to all local newspapers and forward the results to the Historian.
- C. The resource AD is responsible to enter conference team champions and all-conference players on the SWSC website.

### **IX. Miscellaneous Information**

#### Playing Sites

- Andrew- 8 courts on campus
- Bradley – Bourbonnais 8 courts on campus – Possible 10 at ONU
- Bolingbrook – 10 courts on campus and 7 courts off campus
- Homewood-Flossmoor – 12 courts on campus
- Lincoln-Way Central – 10 courts on campus
- Lincoln-Way East – 10 courts on campus
- Lincoln-Way West – 10 courts on campus
- Lockport – 12 courts on the East campus
- Sandburg – 8 courts on campus
- Stagg – 7 courts on campus