

Texas Charter School Academic & Athletic League (TCSAAL)
2017-2018 State Tennis Rules

TCSAAL will primarily follow the NFHS guidelines for tennis, found in the USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations, https://www.nfhs.org/media/1016490/2016fac_full.pdf

- Tournament Description
 - TCSAAL will offer Singles and Doubles for both girls and boys in the Middle School (6th-8th Grade) and High School (9th-12th Grade) age groups.
 - For High School Athletes, players are competing in an individual tournament but will also accrue points for their 6 person team throughout the tournament. Each 6-person team will compete against the other teams in their age group and gender division for team awards.
 - For Middle School Athletes, players are competing in an individual tournament against players in their own age grouping and draw.
 - Players are only allowed to compete in one draw.
- Team Awards (High School Only)
 - Players will earn points for their team based on the following scale.
 - +1 for each match won
 - +1 for a Final Four finish
 - +2 for a Second Place finish
 - +3 for a First Place finish
 - Awards will be given to the teams with the top 3 point totals in each age & gender grouping.
- Individual Awards (Middle and High School)
 - Players that finish in the top 4 of their draw will receive a medal.
 - First and Second Place Medals will be awarded after the Championship Match. Players that are eliminated in the semifinals will receive a Final Four Medal.
- Match Length and Scoring
 - All matches will be played with “No-Advantage scoring.”
 - All middle school (6th-8th Grade) matches will play an 8-game Pro Set for each match.
 - All high school (9th-12th Grade) matches in the first round will play an 8-game Pro Set. Main draw matches after the first round will play 6-game Regular Sets (2 out of 3), and consolation round matches will play an 8-game Pro Set.
 - In the event of a third set (in any round other than a Championship Match), a 10-point Super Tiebreaker format will be utilized.
 - In the event of a third set in the Championship Match, the third set will be played out as a 6-game Regular Set.
 - Each player will be guaranteed at least two matches during the tournament.
- Seeding
 - TCSAAL will seed randomly. Participants from the same campus will be placed on opposite sides of the draw to ensure teammates would not play each other until the Championship Match. TCSAAL will make first round matchups from different regions when possible.
- Officiating

- TCSAAL will have a hired official as well as TCSAAL staff on-site to oversee play and act as a line judge if necessary. Students are expected to make their own line calls throughout the tournament. An official can be requested at any time if there is a scoring dispute, or if a player is stalling.
- Continuous Play
 - Warm-Up Time
 - TCSAAL will utilize a 5-minute warm-up period. Warm-up is not a practice time. Players should allot time for each area of their game including serves during this 5-minute period.
 - In-Game Play
 - As a principle, play should be continuous from the time the match starts (when the first service of the match is put in play) until the match finishes at the conclusion of the last point.
 - Between points, a maximum of twenty (20) seconds is allowed. When the players change ends at a changeover, a maximum of ninety (90) seconds are allowed. However, after the first game of each set and during a tie-break game, play shall be continuous and the players shall change ends without a rest.
 - At the end of each set there shall be a break of a maximum of one hundred and twenty (120) seconds. The maximum time starts from the moment one point finishes until the first service is struck on the next point.
- Coaching
 - Coaching is allowed during stoppage in play. However, coaching must take place during the time span discussed above in “in-game play” and they must leave the court area for play to resume.