

Date: 5/7/2012
 Location: Conference Call
 Group: Men's & Women's Tennis

PRESENT

MAC Office: Ken Andrews					
Albright:	Jeremy Speicher M/W	Elizabethtown:	Matt Helsel M/W	Manhattanville:	Albie Collins M/W
Alvernia:	Kelley McElroy W John McCormack M	FDU-Florham:	Scott Veith M/W	Messiah:	Jon Arosell M/W
Arcadia:	Lak Sphabmixay M/W	Hood:	-	Misericordia:	-
Del Val:	-	King's:	Ned McGuire W	Stevenson:	Jason Goldman-Petri M/W
DeSales:	-	Lebanon Valley:	Dave Remsburg M/W	Widener:	-
Eastern:	Mark Spangler M/W	Lycoming:	-	Wilkes:	Chris Leicht M/W

Call to Order: Matt Helsel called the meeting to order at 11:30am.

Extra players at the individual tournament	Proposed by: Ken Andrews
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Discussion: We have allowed for an extra flight of singles and doubles for non-starting players. Ken wanted some organization to this practice. All coaches expressed support for the continued ability to allow extra players to play. Some coaches expressed interest in having certificates or medals for the extra draws and some did not. We agreed that Ken will provide certificates or medals as available.

Motion: Matt Helsel	Seconded by: Scott Veith
Each MASCAC school will get one entry per flight of singles (#1-6) and doubles (#1-3), and may be allowed a second entry in a flight if an opening exists, provided all schools that wanted to enter a player did and the draw has not exceeded 16 total entries. Additionally, each school may enter up to two entries into each of the extra draws, #7 singles and #4 doubles.	

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result
All	None	None	23:0:0

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Moving the team playoffs one week earlier	Proposed by: Chris Leicht
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Discussion: Chris expressed the possibility of moving the team playoffs up one week to help allow for finals and the end of semesters. With last year's weather, some concern was expressed that we may run out of time to get matches done. The coaches agreed to monitor this for another year or two and reassess.

Motion:	Seconded by:

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Lunch breaks and players being “on the clock” at the individual tournament.

Proposed by: Ken Andrews

Discussion: Ken expressed concern that the rules regarding break times were applied inconsistently at the individual tournament. The coaches agreed that players should be entitled to a lunch break if desired, but that it needs to be applied fairly. Similarly, the coaches expressed that time violations may be utilized by officials for players that are late for assigned matches, but that the officials should include a detailed overview of all time-related expectations during the morning introduction on the first day of the tournament.

Ken also noted that the MASCAC will celebrate its centennial this coming season and that extra measures will be taken to honor attending alumni, including announcing of those in attendance and a hospitality area.

Motion: Chris Leicht

Seconded by: Ned McGuire

Players in the individual tournament are entitled up to a one hour lunch break after their second match of any day of the tournament, if desired. The player must notify the tournament desk immediately after their second match of their intention to either take the break or not.

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result
All	None	None	23:0:0

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Teams playing more than the maximum dates of competition shall not be allowed to participate in team playoffs.

Proposed by: Scott Veith

Discussion: It was discussed that we had at least one school that participated in the team playoffs that played 24 dates of competition this year. Further, Scott noted that he asked the ITA if that team would have been allowed to compete in NCAA's had they won an AQ and the ITA said they would not. Therefore, if they can't play in NCAA's, they shouldn't be permitted to play in the conference team playoffs.

Motion: Scott Veith

Seconded by: Chris Leicht

Any team that exceeds the maximum dates of competition shall not be permitted to participate in the conference team playoffs.

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result
All	None	None	23:0:0

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Fact book wording regarding sanctions for the use of an improper lineup.

Proposed by: Matt Helsel

Discussion: Current wording simply says an improper lineup could result in a “forfeit,” but is unclear whether that means the entire dual match or simply the individual singles and/or doubles matches in question. Matt expressed concern that the sport committee would not have sufficient leeway to deliver a just decision if they are only allowed to forfeit the entire match or not. Also, the accused coach must be given an opportunity to provide justification for the lineup used.

Further, for playoffs, Ken reminded the coaches that lineups need to be submitted at least three days before the start of

the playoffs, even if that means submitting a lineup before the regular season has ended or before a team has qualified for the playoffs. All potential playoff teams should submit their lineups to Ken, and when Ken has all of them, he will disseminate to the playoff teams and sport committee for review.

Motion: Matt Helsel	Seconded by: John McCormack
If a coach uses an improper lineup in a MASCAC match, the sport committee may forfeit the individual singles and/or doubles matches in question.	

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result
All	None	None	23:0:0

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Officials required for all home matches by MASCAC schools, conference or non-conference.	Proposed by: Matt Helsel
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Discussion: Almost all coaches agreed that officials should be used at all matches, as in any other sport.

Motion: Ned McGuire	Seconded by: Matt Helsel
MASCAC schools shall hire an official for all home conference and non-conference matches.	

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result
All but FDU	FDU	None	21:2:0

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Start times for conference matches.	Proposed by: Matt Helsel
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Discussion: Start times currently listed in fact book as 3pm for March and 3:30pm for April with nothing noted for weekend play, particularly men’s and women’s doubleheaders. Matt expressed that most teams play at 3:30 in March and 4pm in April, and Chris noted that with daylight savings arriving earlier in March there is no need for the times to change and suggested that we play all conference weekday matches at 3:30pm. Matt noted that doubleheaders typically add about an hour to the total match time, therefore weekend doubleheaders shouldn’t need to start before 1pm.

Motion: John McCormack	Seconded by: Mark Spangler
Weekday matches shall start at 3:30pm. Weekend doubleheaders shall start at 1pm if played on 6 courts or 12pm if played on fewer than 6 courts, unless both coaches agree otherwise.	

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result
All	None	None	23:0:0

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Change fact book regarding “agreement to play indoors must be included in contracts.”	Proposed by: Matt Helsel
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Discussion: Matt expressed concern that coaches should not be forced to play matches indoors on multi-use courts. Per ITA rules, coaches can only be forced to play inside if the courts meet ITA guidelines. Further, conference matches postponed due to inclement weather need to be made up on the next available day, per general MASCAC guidelines.

Motion: Matt Helsel	Seconded by: Chris Leicht
Remove wording in fact book requiring contracts to include an agreement to play indoors.	

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result
All	None	None	23:0:0

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Change rule alternating the weekends for the men’s and women’s individual tournaments each year.	Proposed by: Matt Helsel
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Discussion: The ITA Atlantic South regional tournaments play the women’s tournament first and the men’s tournament second. This year, that meant that the women played the ITA tournament then the men played the ITA tournament, then the men immediately played the MASCAC tournament and finally the women played the MASCAC tournament. The women played the first weekend and then had to wait several weeks before playing again while the men’s Fall season was essentially played in the span of consecutive weekends. Sequencing the MASCAC tournaments to align with the ITA tournaments will give the Fall season an orderly structure and give each team a two-week break before their second tournament.

Motion: Matt Helsel	Seconded by: Scott Veith
The MASCAC individual tournaments shall be sequenced to match the ITA tournaments. If the ITA women’s tournament is before the men’s ITA tournament, then the women’s MASCAC tournament will also be before the men’s MASCAC tournament.	

For	Opposed	Abstained	Result
All	None	None	23:0:0

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline

Notes:

Additional Notes:

Ken clarified that clay courts may not be used for conference team playoff matches.

MASCAC are required to use the K3 GOLD ball for all home matches. GOLD is K3’s highest grade of tennis balls.

The order of play for doubleheaders or any other match played on less than 6 courts must be in accordance with ITA guidelines, unless agreed upon by both coaches. In other words, #1, 2, and 3 doubles are played first, then #1, 2, and 3 singles, followed by #4, then #5, and finally #6.

Coaches were encouraged to play more and better non-conference matches to increase exposure and quality of the Freedom and Commonwealth Conferences.

Mark Raynes spoke regarding officials and expressed concern about officials at doubleheaders played on less than 6 courts. Eastern and FDU agreed to work with the officials to find a workable solution. Mark also noted that he is working on setting up a system with which coaches can assess and provide feedback regarding the officials that work each match.