

WELCOME

February 20, 2021

DIAA Rules Clinic

Tennis

**Presented by Tennis Committee Chair,
John Taylor**



IMPORTANT WEBSITES

DIAA

<http://www.doe.k12.de.us/programs/diaa/>

Websites for Sports

<http://websites4sports.com/>

NHFS Learning Center

<http://www.nfhslearn.com/>



USTA Tennis Association

<http://www.usta.com/>



State Tournament Eligibility

1006.2.4 Participation in State Championship Tournaments and Meets

- Be a DIAA member; pay fees
- Be in compliance with DOE/DIAA and tournament manual
- Sponsor a team in the given sport
- Have been a DIAA member for 2 years



Thunder and/or Lightning Policy

These guidelines provide a default policy to those responsible or sharing duties for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of practices and contests based on the presence of lightning or thunder. The preferred sources from which to request such a policy for your facility would include your state high school activities association and the nearest office of the National Weather Service.

1. **30-minute rule**. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or lightning is witnessed* prior to resuming play.
2. Any subsequent thunder or lightning* after the beginning of the 30-minute count will **reset the clock** and another 30-minute count should begin.
3. **When lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location. However, you should never depend on the reliability of these devices and, thus, hearing thunder or seeing lightning* should always take precedence over information from a mobile app or lightning-detection device.**

* – At night, under certain atmospheric conditions, lightning flashes may be seen from distant storms. In these cases, it may be safe to continue an event. If no thunder can be heard and the flashes are low on the horizon, the storm may not pose a threat. Independently verified lightning detection information would help eliminate any uncertainty.

4. Review the lightning safety policy annually with all administrators, coaches and game personnel and train all personnel.
5. Inform student-athletes and their parents of the lightning policy at start of the season.



Updated Policy [March 2018 in red]

Prohibition of Tobacco Products

No tobacco use in any form can be used on site by participants, coaches, officials or spectators.

- Don't smoke, don't chew, don't dip.
- No e-cigarettes



Use of Insulin Pump

Pump can be utilized during timeouts, between quarters, at half-time, or whenever play is suspended

If a medical condition necessitates wearing the device during competition, written verification from a licensed physician must be presented to the contest officials prior to the event and the device must be padded so as not to be dangerous to the other participant



Rules, Regulations & Procedures for DIAA Matches

- The United States Tennis Association official rules that are used = *Refer to “Friend at Court”
- Team competition will consist of three singles and two doubles matches.
- In all matches, once the team score outcome has been decided, all individual remaining matches must play the ten [10] point tie breaker.
- A match begins with the first serve.
- A singles or doubles match will consist of best out of three sets.



DIAA Matches

- Players may not compete in both a singles and a doubles match in the same team competition.
- The home team will provide a new, pressurized can of top quality tennis balls for each singles and doubles match. If both players request a new can for the third set, it is permitted
- **2021 Recommendation by Committee:** *Each team provides a new can of tennis balls for each match. This is to minimize the contact of tennis balls for each player.*
- If the score reaches six games all, the seven-point tiebreak will be used.



DIAA Matches

- Players will keep their own scores and call the lines but may ask for two line judges if they feel it is warranted.
 - Each coach will be responsible for providing a line judge if requested if he/she feels it is warranted and available. Players should attempt to resolve dispute before asking for line judge.
 - The server will be responsible for announcing the point score and at the beginning of each game, also announcing the game score. If the score is in dispute, the match score will revert to the last score both opponents can agree upon.



DIAA Matches

Score Reporting:

- Coaches must agree who will report the results of the singles and doubles matches and the team score to websites4sports.
- Post results on your site promptly.

Warm-Up:

- The pre-match warm-up is limited to a maximum of 10 minutes and all practice must take place during this 10-minute period.
- No coaching is allowed during pre-match warm-up.



DIAA Matches: Line Up

- Coaches will position their players based on a challenge system, of their own determination so that the team's best player competes against the opponent's best player at singles. This continues through the line-up.



DIAA Matches: Line Up

- The doubles teams will be chosen from the remaining team members with the best doubles team playing in the 1st doubles position and the second best doubles team playing in the 2nd doubles position.
- The results of these challenge matches must be on file with the AD before the season begins and must be available for Tennis Committee review. Results must be updated as changes occur throughout the season.



DIAA Matches: Challenge Matches

- A record of each challenge match should be kept on file in the athletic director's office.
- If a question arises regarding the legitimacy of a particular team's line-up, the DIAA Office should be notified.
- The DIAA Office may request the records of that team's challenge matches. Failure on the part of that school to provide the proper documentation will result in forfeiture of the match(es) in question.



DIAA Matches: Absent Players

If a player is absent, his/her substitute may be selected from one of the following options:

- A. Any player ranked below the absent player on the Challenge System may be moved up, then all needed substitutions can be enacted to move players into any vacated slot(s) by moving other lower ranked players up into a vacated slot.

- B. The player ranked 8th on the Challenge System may be moved into the absent player's slot.



DIAA Matches: Absent Players

- If a player is absent for more than 2 weeks (5 consecutive matches), due to INJURY or ILLNESS, the other players must move up and the substitute player may compete no higher than the 3RD singles position.
- If a doubles player is absent for more than 2 weeks (5 consecutive matches), his/her substitute may be any player below him/her on the challenge ladder. The strongest doubles team must compete in the #1 doubles position.



DIAA Matches: Absent Players

- The absent player may regain his/her position through challenge matches.
- In this instance, challenge matches must consist of a minimum of a pro set (8 games).



DIAA Matches: Absent Players

- In the case of a player who
 - QUILTS,
 - HAS A SEASON ENDING INJURY,
 - IS ACADEMICALLY INELIGIBLE,
 - OR DISMISSED FROM THE TEAM,the substitute player will be considered the 7th ranked player on the team and everyone else must move up by the next match.



DIAA Matches: Absent Players

- After season, before tourney, if player is dismissed, a substitute can be entered. The remainder of line-up can remain the same.



DIAA Matches: Coaches

A list of approved coaches for each school, signed off by the school, must be carried by the coach and on file with the DIAA Office.



DIAA Matches: Coaching

A brief instructional period (maximum of 90 seconds) will be allowed during one change over per set and between the 1st and 2nd sets of a match. (maximum of 2 minutes)

2021 Recommendation by Committee: *180 seconds (3 mins.) for mask breaks*

- Players must remain on the court, must not interfere with the match on an adjacent court.
- Only the local school board approved coach(es) who have been identified at the start of the match may instruct a player and he/she will, when feasible, remain outside the playing area
- If two or more players finish at the same time, the coach must determine which player (except when the players are on adjacent courts) to advise during the 2 minute instructional period.



DIAA Matches: Coaching

- If the coach (approved person) is not available during the 2-minute (2021: 3 minutes) instructional period to advise his/her players, then the opportunity is forfeited. No coaching by parents, other players, or spectators will be permitted.
- Non-participants must remain off the playing courts and out of the coaching area immediately surrounding the playing courts.
- No coaching is allowed by anyone during the seven [7] point and ten [10] point tie breakers. However, in the 2 minute period before the ten [10] point tie break coaching is allowed.



DIAA Matches: Rest Periods

- A rest period of not more than 10 minutes will be allowed between the 2nd and 3rd sets of a match during which time players may leave the court.



DIAA Matches: Incomplete Match

- Any match which is not completed and is postponed to a later date must be finished by the same player/s that originally started the match.
- Failure to do so would result in a forfeit of that court.
- Coaches need to record all match data at the time of suspension/postponement (lineup, score, sides, serve).



DIAA Matches: Attire

- Players should be dressed in proper tennis attire so as to present a neat appearance.
- Teams are required to have a school-approved uniform consisting of at least matching tennis shirts, shorts or skirts.
- Midriffs must be covered and no lettering or logos other than the school logo and a manufacturer's original logo will be permitted.



DIAA Matches

TIE-BREAKERS:

- The 7 Point Tie-break (Tie-break Game)
- The 10 Point Tie-break (Match Tie-break)

Details found on DIAA website.

ADJUSTED POINT PENALTY SYSTEM

- Refer to the table of violations and penalties in manual & on DIAA website.
- Discuss at the start of each match throughout the season.



QUESTIONS?

Thank you for your support
of Interscholastic Athletics!

