

**2017-2018**



**TEAM TENNIS**  
**Playoff Information**  
**Handbook**

# UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

## TEAM TENNIS PLAYOFF INFORMATION HANDBOOK

Congratulations on representing your district for the team tennis playoffs. Since your school is advancing to the playoffs, the following points should clarify questions asked by participating schools. If the League office can be of further assistance during your tournament preparation period, please call.

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# IMPORTANT DEADLINES

## Dates and Links:

### Certification Deadlines for Team Tennis Playoffs

**October 14** District Certification deadline, 4A, 5A, 6A

**October 17** Bi-district deadline, 4A, 5A, 6A

**October 21** Area deadline, 4A, 5A, 6A

**October 24** Regional quarterfinals deadline, 4A, 5A, 6A

**October 26-27** Regional semifinals & finals, 4A, 5A, 6A

**November 1-2** Team Tennis State Tournament, 4A, 5A, 6A

### **Brackets. (\*required for each round of playoffs)**

**Submit results and update next round bracket information on the UIL website.** The winning coach must submit next round information and game results.

- **Lineups:** Each team is responsible for completing the Team Tennis Lineup Entry form found on the UIL website (<http://www.uiltexas.org/team-tennis/forms>) prior to each match/tournament (district, bi-district, area, regional quarterfinal, regional, or state) and submitting it to the person in charge of the respective match/tournament before that match/tournament begins. (For example, the regional tournament director will get a form from each advancing regional quarterfinal team prior to the start of the regional tournament.)
- **Certification of District Representatives:** The last date for certifying the district champions to the league office is **Saturday, October 14, 2017** for 4A, 5A, and 6A only. District chairs must certify representatives on the UIL website (<http://www.uiltexas.org/machform/view.php?id=57>).
- **Bi-District, Area, Regional Quarterfinals Representatives:** The last date for certification for bi-district, area, and regional quarterfinals must certify by the winning coach on the UIL website (<http://www.uiltexas.org/team-tennis/forms>).
- **Regional Tournament: October 26-27, 2017.** The Regional Director will certify the State Qualifiers with the UIL. Darryl Beasley, UIL Team Tennis State Tournament Director, will contact the winning coach to verify scores and final season record.

**Program Information for State Tournament: Teams advancing to the regional tournament must submit following materials to the UIL office by Wednesday, October 25. Please include your school name in the subject of your email.** This is an important step in providing you with the best possible program. Your assistance in this effort is appreciated.

- Team Information Form (list of players, coaches, etc. and all matches played) – to be completed online at <https://www.uiltexas.org/forms/team-info-team-tennis>
- Team Picture (5x7 color photo) - email to [pictures@uiltexas.org](mailto:pictures@uiltexas.org)
- Head Coach Picture (head and shoulder shot) - email to [pictures@uiltexas.org](mailto:pictures@uiltexas.org)
- School mascot or school logo – email to [pictures@uiltexas.org](mailto:pictures@uiltexas.org)

Failure to submit this information could result in a range of penalties as described in Section 27 (b) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules or your team not appearing in the State Tournament program.

**Inclement Weather:** If weather conditions make it impossible to determine a winner before certification, **UIL must be contacted for an extension.** The next round opponent(s) or regional site must also be contacted to inform them that the deadline has been extended.

Extreme scheduling difficulties could result in a coin flip, which would determine the representatives to the next round.

## SPORT SPECIFIC INFORMATION

**Number of Team Participants:** The minimum number of participants is six girls and six boys – a maximum has not been set. Players are eligible to play both singles and doubles, but it is not mandatory to play both singles and doubles. Girls' and boys' point totals count on team totals, but boys and girls cannot compete against each other, other than the mixed doubles match.

**Lineup changes:** The advancing teams coach must give his or her complete line-up prior to the start of their next round match. Also, coaches are responsible for exchanging the previous match roster/line-up.

Lineup changes and movement within the players' ladder is outlined in this section and each coach may use the options ONCE in a calendar week during the playoffs. **Exception: No lineup change is allowed between the regional semifinals and the regional finals, and state semifinals and state finals.**

- **Lineup Changes:** The coach may change in the lineup to reflect proper ladder position prior to the start of the match/tournament, based on the following regulations.
- **Singles Movement on Ladder:** After the previous qualifying match/tournament, the coach may move each player no more than one position up or down in the singles lineup
- **Doubles Movement on Ladder:** After the previous qualifying match/tournament, the coach may move each player no more than one position up or down in the doubles lineup. The coach may change a player from one doubles partner to another partner, but no player may move more than one position in the doubles lineup.

If a student has been out of the line-up for a grading period for academic purposes and returns, the line-up should be re-ranked with the "new" player in his/her appropriate position.

Under no circumstances shall the coach change his/her line-up during a tournament. The penalty for doing so will be to forfeit the individual matches involved, with the scores becoming 6-0, 6-0 in each match. Coaches should be aware that a substitution and a line-up change are not the same.

**Substitutions:** A coach may make substitutions between team matches and/or during a team match before the individual match begins. In all instances of substitutions, the coach must use the following procedure.

- a. **Singles.** The coach removes a player from the lineup. All players lower in the lineup move up to fill the vacant spot in the lineup and the alternate becomes the #6 player. A player removed from the lineup for substitution may return to the lineup for the next team match but only to the position he/she vacated. All other players will return to their original positions.
- b. **Doubles.** If the coach removes one member of a doubles team from the lineup, he/she places the alternate in the vacated spot, and the team remains in the same position. If the coach removes both members of a doubles team, then the lower teams will move up to fill the vacant position, and the alternate pair becomes the #3 team.

**Forfeits and Defaults:** If, after an individual match begins, a forfeit occurs due to illness, injury or penalty for misconduct, the games and/ or sets won by the forfeiting team shall stand and count. In all other matches if an injury or illness occurs before the individual match begins, take the player out of the lineup and move everyone else up in the line-up. The substitute then becomes #6.

**Team Scoring and Ties:** The scoring system will be No Advantage-Scoring, best 2-out-of-3 set matches with a 7-point tie breaker at six games all in the first two sets. If a third set is necessary it will be played as a ten-point match tiebreak. Each match won will count one point for the team.

**Tennis Etiquette:** Applauding a good play is always in order. Applauding an error is never in order. Any person who takes it upon himself to berate the officials or make himself conspicuous by bad behavior the team should be requested to leave the court area. Coaches are responsible for educating their students and parents about appropriate behavior. Players should shake the hand of their opponent before and after games.

**Point Penalty System:** To ensure consistency in preparation for the state tournament the UIL office has provided a point penalty system for misconduct. The site director will closely enforce the point penalty system to ensure good sportsmanship and should not tolerate unsportsmanlike conduct or taunting. (Example: abuse of officials, abuse of players, abuse of equipment, cursing, screaming, obscene gestures, racket throwing, ball slamming, etc.) The tournament director will warn all players before the tournament starts. Once play begins, the site director will penalize each instance of unsportsmanlike conduct as follows:

- A players first offense in the tournament - deduct 1 point
- Second offense - DEFAULT game
- Third offense - DEFAULT match or tournament

Offenses will be cumulative throughout the tournament. The site director will give the point penalties and will report them to the site director of the next match.

## **POSTSEASON MATCH INFORMATION**

**Championship Structure (advancement structure):** The top 4 teams in Conference 4A, 5A and the 6A will advance from district to the playoffs.

### *District Tournaments.*

- a) *Format.* The District Executive Committee will make arrangements and set format to determine the district representatives.
- b) *Entries.* Each school shall enter the district meet by certifying entries to the district director by the entry deadline set by the District Executive Committee. If a round-robin format is utilized in lieu of a district tournament, the District Executive Committee shall specify entry and team roster regulations prior to the entry deadline.

### *Regional Tournaments.*

- a) *Regional qualifiers.* Regional quarterfinal winners will advance to a regional tournament. Regional tournament entries shall be certified by regional quarterfinal winners to the regional director.
- b) The regional meet director shall certify state tournament entries.

### *State Tournament.*

- a) The first-place team from each region will advance to the state tournament.
- b) Pairings will be made based on season records.

**Site Selection:** Sites for all rounds of playoffs prior to regionals are to be selected by the teams involved. See Section 1208 (q) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. If schools cannot agree, they must flip a coin. All playoff arrangements between two schools should be made in writing and signed to protect both parties.

- a. **Mid-Point Sites:** Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post-district shall be at a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.
- b. **Neutral Sites:** A site mid-point or near mid-point, or a site agreed on by both schools as neutral, is a neutral site. Unless mutually agreeable, a site cannot be neutral if its distance from either school is more than two-thirds the total distance between the two schools.
- c. **Home and Home Basis:** Are those sites near home schools selected by the two schools involved OR the actual home playing court. A court selected as the home site, other than the actual home court, should not be an unreasonable distance from the visiting school's home court.

## REGIONAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

**Dates:** Thursday and Friday, October 26-27. Sites for all conferences can be found on the UIL website at <http://www.uiltexas.org/team-tennis/regional-sites>

**Game Time:** The regional director will determine the schedule for the regional tournament.

**Draw:** The brackets online indicate the regional qualifiers and illustrate exact pairings for the regional tournaments.

**Trainers:** It is recommended that a Certified Athletic Trainer should be on duty throughout each tournament.

**Officials:** The district, area and regional directors shall be responsible for securing qualified umpires for the tournament. It is recommended but not required that United States Tennis Association officials be used for district, area, and regional championships.

**Security:** Adequate security or police protection should be provided for all playoff matches, whether the match is played at a neutral site or on the home court of one of the teams.

**Fees:** The tournament director will notify schools concerning entry fees to be paid. The League office suggests that fees be kept to a minimum. There will be no entry fee for the state tournament.

**Balls:** The tournament director will notify the participating schools if they are responsible for supplying the tennis balls.

**Housing:** Each school is responsible for its own housing.

**Awards:** The district executive committee will decide the award for the district champion and runner-up, etc. at the district tournament. At the area tournament, the two competitive district executive committees will decide the award for the area champion and runner-up. Regional trophies will be sent to regional tournament directors. The regional winners and runners-up will receive a trophy from the regional directors.

**Entry Forms:** Each advancing team is responsible for sending team information and official roster/lineup to the director of the next round tournament immediately after the representatives are determined.

**Certification of Regional Champions:** The Regional Director will certify the State Qualifiers with the UIL. Darryl Beasley, UIL Team Tennis State Tournament Director, will contact the winning coach to verify scores and final season record.

**Congratulations on a great season!! If we can be of any assistance, please let us know.**