

CENTRAL DIVISIONAL "B/C" TENNIS TOURNAMENT

May 12th & 13th, 2023

Great Falls, MT MLCC



Welcome to this year's Divisional Tennis Tournament. The Central Divisional Tournament will be held on four courts unless we face inclement weather and then we could utilize the three indoor courts at the Meadowlark Country Club. Pending approval from the GFPS Administration, we may use the CMR Courts Friday the 12th.

Tournament Director - Jamie Stevens Cell # 406-788-4931

Tournament Manage - Brian Scott Cell # 406-788-2350

Our division will qualify FIVE singles and FIVE doubles for boys and SIX singles and SIX doubles for girls for the 2022 State B-C Tennis Tourney in Great Falls on May 25-27, 2023.

- ★ Play will begin at 8:30 am both Friday and Saturday.
- ★ Practice Courts: Courts will be available starting at 7:30 am. and will need to be cleared off by 8:15 am.
- ★ Meet Schedule Information
 - 1st Round begins at 8:30am with Girls Singles
 - 2nd Round follows with Boys Singles
 - 3rd Round follows with Girls Doubles
 - 4th Round follows with Boys Doubles
 - Rounds 5-18 will continue with this format as the tourney progresses.
 - Due to the nature of tennis, matches can NOT be scheduled by time. This is a rolling schedule.
- ★ Programs/Packets will be handed out as teams arrive.
- ★ Concessions will not be available on Friday or Saturday. Food may be brought in or purchased at the Club.

CENTRAL DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT SITE RULES

It is the responsibility of the Coaches to cover all site rule information with their players prior to the start of the tournament. Questions / clarifications can be addressed during the Coaches meeting and the call to play, players gathering.

IV – RULES FOR DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Competition Format – Normal Conditions

See Section III of this manual - Playing Rules for MHSA Tennis - Normal Format – Outside

Competition Format - Inclement Weather Format

Best of 3 sets. Sets 1 & 2 are regular but each set will be shortened by starting at 2 games each. Set 3 - 10 point match tiebreaker - first to 10 points but win by 2. A 120 second set break, if split sets. Once a round has started, the scoring format will be the same whether the round is finished inside or outside. If indoor courts are being used as part of the regular scheduled play (not because of weather issues), scoring will be the same as the outdoor format; Tournament Director can modify it to no add scoring if needed.

The decision of which format to use for shortened matches will be decided by the tournament manager in consultation with the MHSAA

Divisional Manager

Each division is responsible for selecting a site and manager for its divisional tournament. In case of foul weather the tournament will be held on the Monday following the regular scheduled time of the divisional meet, with the approval of the MHSAA Executive Director.

Divisional Scoring

- Scoring in Class AA divisional tournaments will be: 1st-7 points; 2nd-5 points; 3rd-3 points; 4th-1 point.
- Scoring in Class A divisional tournaments will be: 1st-10 points; 2nd-7 points; 3rd-4 points; and 4th-2 points.
- Scoring in the divisional B-C tournaments will be 1st-10 points; 2nd - 7 points; 3rd - 4 points; 4th - 2 points

The four events are boys' singles, boys' doubles, girls' singles and girls' doubles. To determine team champions in all of the divisional tournaments, two (2) advancement points will be given to those players advancing on the winners bracket and one (1) advancement point for those advancing on the consolation brackets, one point also for defaults, forfeits and disqualifications. Byes receive two (2) points on the winners' side of the bracket if the individuals win their next match and one (1) point if the player who receives the bye wins the next round on the consolation side of the bracket.

Qualifiers for the State Tournament

The top four singles players and the top four doubles teams from each divisional tournament in Classes AA and A will advance to the state tournament.

The following guidelines shall be used for qualifying into State B-C Tennis:

★ Girls State Meet Qualification Information:

- 32 Player Bracket for both Girls Singles and Girls Doubles
- Qualifying Singles Players = the # of teams in division
- Qualifying Doubles Teams = the # of teams in division
- The additional contestants each year to fill a 32-place bracket will be

rotated among the six divisions. Rotation will be SW, E, SE, C, NW, NE

● If a team is not fielded, then a qualifying spot is taken from the division and a wildcard will be awarded at random draw.

★ Boys State Meet Qualification Information:

- 16 player Bracket for both Boys Singles and Boys Doubles
- Qualifying Singles Players = the # of teams in division
- Qualifying Doubles Teams = the # of teams in division
- The additional contestants each year to fill a 16-place bracket will be

rotated among the six divisions. Rotation will be Southwest, Northwest,

then Central

- If a team is not fielded, then a qualifying spot is taken from the division and a wildcard will be awarded at random draw.

Same School Matchups

Care should be taken to avoid, when possible, early round confrontation of contestants from the same school.

Seeding

Each division will be charged with the responsibility of determining the divisional tournament seeding criteria. Suggested criteria for seeding entries could include the following: past record in previous state high school meets, divisional meets, head to head competition with most recent matches carrying the most weight, and record against common opponents.

Substitutes

Because of injury, illness or other emergency situations, one boy or one girl, who was named as an alternate before the start of competition, may be used as a substitute before or during the divisional meet for doubles play only. This substitute can only be placed at the beginning of a match. This substitute shall not be a qualifier from any other tennis event.

Rest Time Between Matches: When players are involved in back to back matches, the MHSA will allow a minimum of 30 minute rest period and a maximum of 60 minute rest period for both singles and doubles competition. After the 30 minute rest period, the match will be allowed to begin if both the players and coaches involved are ready to start the match. For consistency, the MHSA recommends a minimum of 30 minutes for all matches.

Competitors' conduct

o All tennis players in MHSA sanctioned tournaments shall be penalized one team point (on the first infraction) and removed from further play (on second infraction) for any unsportsmanlike conduct on site after a match or before the next match or at the end the tournament. Any contestant disqualified in an individual tournament competition is not entitled to any points earned in the tournament. All advancement points and placement points are negated. All vacancies created in the tournament pairing shall be scored as forfeits. During the match, players are under the point penalty system of warning, point, game, match. Warnings of this rule shall be written in pre-tournament letters and given to all players at the pre-tournament meeting

o Each tennis court should have a site director and that director should be in charge of administering the penalty system above for violation/abuse of any equipment or facilities, abusive language, abusive gestures, and other obnoxious, offensive behavior.

o Unsportsmanlike conduct on the tournament site includes, but is not limited to, the following examples: throwing rackets or any equipment, swearing, intentionally hitting game balls out of the court, being abusive to tournament officials, and fighting.

Basic Tennis Etiquette and Procedures for Players During Matches

Making Calls

1. A player makes calls on his/her side of the net - promptly.
2. A ball landing on the line is good.
3. Opponents get the benefit of the doubt.
4. If a ball can't be called out with certainty, it is good.
5. The call of a player looking down a line is much more likely to be accurate than that of a player looking across a line. When you are looking across a line, don't call a ball out unless you can clearly see part of the court between where the ball hits and the line. It is difficult for a player who stands on one baseline to question a call on a ball that landed near the other baseline.
6. Partner's disagree on calls. If a player and his/her partner disagree about whether the ball was out, they shall call it good.
7. Audible or visible calls. No matter how obvious it is to a player that his/her opponent's ball is out, the opponent is entitled to prompt audible and/or visible call.
8. Spectators are never to make calls.
9. Lets should be called when balls roll on the court. The server receives 2 serves.

Serving

1. Foot Faults - A player may warn his/her opponent that the opponent has committed a flagrant foot fault.

If the foot faulting continues, the player may attempt to locate the site director.

2. Service calls in doubles - The receiver's partner should call the service line, and the receiver should call the sideline and the center service line. Either partner may call a ball that he/she clearly sees.

3. Service calls by the serving team - Neither the server nor his/her partner shall make a fault call on the first service even if they think it is out because the receiver may be giving the server the benefit of the Doubt.

4. Receiver readiness - The receiver should make no effort to return a serve when he/she is not ready. If a player attempts to return a serve, it is presumed that he/she is ready.

5. Delays during service - When there is a delay between the first and second serves:

- The server gets one serve if he/she was the cause of the delay.
- The server gets two serves if the delay was caused by the receiver or if there was outside interference.

6. Service let calls. Any player can call a service let.

7. Players are not allowed to stand in the receiving court during service. Additionally, a receiver's partner

shall not:

- Move in or around the receiving box, causing a distraction
- Wave equipment in and out of the receiving box, causing a distraction

8. Rectifying mistakes - The general rule is that errors are rectified as soon as they are discovered but not

during play, and points remain.

- If a server serves from the wrong court, the point stands and he/she serves the next point from

the proper court.

- If in doubles, the wrong person serves, the game stands and his/her partner serves the next game

from his/her side. If discovered during the game, the partner whose turn it is to serve, takes over.

9. Discarding a second ball - The server's discarding of a second ball may constitute a deliberate hindrance. If the receiver asks the server to stop discarding the ball, then the server shall stop the practice.

Grunting

1. A player should avoid grunting and making other loud noises. Grunting and other loud noises may bother not only opponents but also players on adjacent court.

Line Judges

1. If line judges are placed on the court, the players continue to call their own lines. Line judges over-rule only if players ask for help.

SCORING:

1. Scoring Devices - Scoring devices are available to keep score at each court. Players are to use them.
2. To determine divisional champions, each school's team shall be awarded two advancement points for every player advancing on the winner's bracket and one advancement point for those advancing on the consolation brackets, one point also for defaults, forfeits and disqualifications. Byes receive two points on the winner side of the bracket if the player who receives the bye wins the next round and one point if the player who receives the bye wins the next round on the consolation side of the bracket. Other points awarded shall be first place, 10 points; second place, 7 points; third place, 5 points; fourth place, 4 points; fifth place, 3 points and 6' place, 1 point.
3. For brackets with less than five places, coaches will determine if a 10-7-4-2 point system will be used prior to the start of the tournament.
4. Decisions - The decision must be made on each play. There is no replay of a point except in the case of a let. Only coaches and players can ask the site director to put a judge on the court to make calls if a problem arises.

SCHEDULING:

1. If the weather eliminates the possibility of an outdoor tournament, we may use the three (3) indoor courts at the MLCC.
2. All matches will begin at 8:00 am on Friday and at 8:00 am on Saturday. Match times are next-up format. The times provided in your schedule are tentative at best.
3. The Awards Ceremony will immediately follow the championship and consolation matches
4. Coaches - read through these rules and regulations with your players prior to the start of the tournament. Be sure your players understand their responsibilities



SPORTSMANSHIP

Coaches and Participants:

1. Set a good example for spectators to follow.
2. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials, and accept their decisions graciously.
3. Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athletes and coaches.
- 4.. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
5. Show respect for opponents before, during, and after contests.
6. Represent your team, school and community with dignity.

Spectators:

1. Show respect for opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups.
2. Respect the integrity and judgment of officials and accept their decisions graciously.
3. Show respect for members of the coaching staff and team.
4. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
5. Recognize and show appreciation for outstanding plays by either team.
6. Use only cheers that are positive in support of their team.

Acceptable Behavior...

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials.
- Players shake hands with opponents while both sets of fans recognize the player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of game officials.
- Spirit Participants lead fans in positive support.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at the end of contests, regardless of the outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at the end of the contest for performance of all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior...

- Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures.

- Booing or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances
- Blaming the loss of the game on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- Doing their own yells instead of following the lead of spirit participants.