

OVAC TENNIS FORMAT

Effective 2020 - 2021

OVAC TENNIS DIRECTOR:

George Frazier

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2021 CHAMPIONSHIP DATES:

John Marshall High School
Moundsville, WV

Monday, April 26, 2021

Boys' Doubles - 8:30AM

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

Boys' Singles - 8:30AM

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Girls' Doubles - 8:30AM

Thursday, April 29, 2021

Girls' Singles - 8:30AM

NOTE: ALL coaches and players **MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE EACH DAY** for a meeting at 8:00AM. Failure to be on time could result in the loss of a team point (06.03.12).

FUTURE DATES:

April 25-28, 2022

April 24-27, 2023

April 22-25, 2024

MANDATORY MEETING:

There will be a mandatory meeting of all OVAC tennis coaches on Sunday, February 21, 2021, at the Stone Room in Wheeling Park (adjacent to The Bubble) at 1:00PM. All coaches or a school representative must be in attendance to be eligible for the Conference championship. Any school not in attendance will have to pay a \$100 penalty AND attend a make-up meeting before they will be eligible.

1. FORMAT - BOYS and GIRLS:

For the 2021 championship, an eight (8)-game pro set with a tie breaker at eight-all will be used throughout the entire tournament. This applies to ALL singles and doubles matches. All tournament matches will be pro set [eight (8) games with a seven (7) point tie breaker at eight games all].

2. There will be two girls' champions. A championship trophy will be given to the Girls' Champion in Class 1A-4A and 5A, and a plaque will be given to the Girls' Runner-Up.

3. There will be two boys' champions. A championship trophy will be given to the Boys' Champion in Class 1A-4A and 5A, and a plaque will be given to the Boys' Runner-Up.

4. A team is required to play its players in order of strength. The **order of strength** must be determined and submitted to the OVAC Tennis Director **by APRIL 18, 2021 (runningracquet@aol.com)**.

That order of strength, once submitted, will remain for the rest of the OVAC season (06.03.12)

5. The OVAC will furnish new balls for the tournament. All singles and doubles matches are played with two (2) new balls.

6. **NOTE:** The Director has the option of changing the format due to inclement weather. The following format could be used at the discretion of the Director:

A. Regular eight (8) game pro set with no add scoring. A seven (7) point tie breaker will be used at eight (8) all. (6.12.03)

B. **In the event that the above format is used, ALL FINAL MATCHES MUST BE REGULAR SCORING.** (6.23.05)

7. Participants are required to be in school uniforms for championship play. Doubles teams must be in identical school uniforms.

8. There will be a **MANDATORY seeding meeting on Sunday, April 25, 2021**, at the Tech Center One at Wheeling Park High School at 4:30PM. [NOTE: Seeding will be done each year in the same order as the tournament; therefore, in 2021, the boys' coaches will meet at 4:30 and the girls' coaches at 6:30. **COACHES ARE TO BE AT THE MEETING AT LEAST 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE STARTING TIME TO COMPLETE NEEDED PAPERWORK.**]

Complete line-ups and records are to be sent to George Frazier (runningracquet@aol.com)
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2021.

9. **You must have at least six (6) OVAC matches with four (4) different OVAC schools to be eligible to compete in the tournament championship. (06.05.19)**

Seeding will be based primarily upon an individual's OVAC record (head-to-head, common opponents). However, other records can also be submitted and considered. **After the top eight (8) seeds have been determined, the remaining players will be selected using a random draw as described in the USTA rules.**

In order for seeds to be made for the tournament, the coach or a school representative must be present. If a school is not represented, that school and players will be ineligible for championship play.

10. Schedules are due to George Frazier (RunningRacquet@aol.com) no later than **MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021.**

11. There will be no ties in the tournament. In case of a tie, the champion will be determined according to the following rules:

A. Number of champions;

B. Number of finalists;

C. Number of semi-finalists;

D. Number of quarter-finalists;

E. Furthest advancement of #1 singles or #2 singles, #3 singles, #4 singles, #1 doubles, #2 doubles, #3 doubles;

F. Coin toss (06.06.19)

12. Teams earn one (1) point for each match won. **In the event of a bye, the team will be awarded two (2) points ONLY IF they win their first match.**

EQUIPMENT

1. Only USTA approved balls shall be used in matches.

2. Tennis racquets and strings shall conform to current USTA standards.

PROTESTS AND FORFEITURES

All protests and forfeitures by coaches will be directed and handled by a court monitor and the OVAC tennis director. **ALL OVAC COACHES ARE EXPECTED TO SERVE AS LINE JUDGES FOR OTHER TEAMS WHEN NOT COACHING THEIR PLAYERS.**

CONDUCT, CHARACTER, DISCIPLINE

1. Ethical conduct of players and coaches should be observed at all times.

2. During participation in the OVAC championships, any athlete who fails to abide by the decision of officials, uses profanity, disrespectfully addresses an official, uses obscene gestures, or strikes an official or an opponent, will be denied further participation.

During participation in the OVAC Championships, the USTA Standards of Conduct will be enforced.

3. Athletes responsible for such unsportsmanlike conduct will immediately be reported to the OVAC Tournament Director. The Director shall disqualify the athlete from further participation in that tournament series if the situation warrants it:

- A. Warning (given with pre-tournament instructions);
- B. Loss of point;
- C. Loss of game;
- D. Forfeit and disqualify at once.

[NOTE: If an infraction is deemed severe, the official or meet director can disqualify a player without warning or game loss.]

COACHING

1. Coaches may talk to players only when they change ends of the court, and shall not delay play by doing so.

2. Coaching may only take place where facilities permit it. Matches on other courts cannot be interfered with. Coaches may not come onto the court.

3. Coaching is not permitted by anyone other than the school's assigned coach.

4. The use of signals, cheering (as opposed to applause), veiled suggestions, and the like, during play, is considered unethical and is not permitted.

5. **Coaches CANNOT call lines for their players. All line calls must be handled by PLAYERS ONLY. In the event of a dispute or discrepancy, players must try to solve it on the court. In the event this is unsettled, players should place their racquets against the net, signaling for a referee's assistance.**

REGULAR SEASON

During the regular season, schools will follow the guidelines and rules that are issued by the state where the match is being played.

It is recommended that every team in the OVAC attempt to play as many Conference opponents as possible during the regular season to assist with the seeding of players.

FUTURE DATES

2022

Mandatory Meeting: February 20, 2022

Seeding Meeting: April 24, 2022

Girls:

Doubles: April 25, 2022

Singles: April 26, 2022

Boys:

Doubles: April 27, 2022

Singles: April 28, 2022

2023

Mandatory Meeting: February 19, 2023

Seeding Meeting: April 23, 2023

Boys:

Doubles: April 24, 2023

Singles: April 25, 2023

Girls:

Doubles: April 26, 2023

Singles: April 27, 2023

2024

Mandatory Meeting: February 17, 2024

Seeding Meeting: April 21, 2024

Girls:

Doubles: April 22, 2024

Singles: April 23, 2024

Boys:

Doubles: April 24, 2024

Singles: April 25, 2024

NOTE: DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE SHOULD STATE ASSOCIATIONS ALTER THEIR CALENDARS.

UPDATED: 02.07.21