



CCISD Tennis Guidelines/Helpful Tips

Tennis etiquette:

*The server calls the score out loud before every point, saying their score first, and then the opponents. *Scoring: 0-15-30-40-game. 40-40 is also called deuce (and because we play “no-ad scoring” the next point after deuce wins the game. Also on that deuce point, the returner/return team chooses which side the server serves to.)

*A new game is always started by serving the first point to the deuce side of the court. (right side)

*The server should always have 2 balls on them before starting every point. Get help if necessary between the points to round up the balls, not between the first and second serves. Receiving team does not shag the ball if the first serve is out. When the point is over, shag the ball and give all balls back to the serving team.

*Do not walk behind courts while the ball is in play.

*Spin racket to start match. Whichever team wins the spins has the choice of serving first or returning first, the other team gets the choice of which side of the net to start playing from.

*Teach what a “let” means (ball hits the net on a serve; and a ball that rolls on your court during play). Either team can call a let. If a ball hits the net during the point, this is not a let.

*Teach how a “12-point tiebreaker” works-first to 7 points, must win by 2 points. But we always tell the girls to get a coach to help with this, unless both sides have had a lot of experience in tournaments playing tiebreakers. Just because it is called a 12 point tie-breaker, doesn’t mean you go to 12.

*Players change ends of the court whenever the game score adds up to an odd number. This is also the only time when coaching is allowed. Coaching is only allowed from the coaches-NEVER from the parents.

*When making an “out” call, please wait until the ball touches the ground before calling “out”. Might be a windy day, and the ball looks like it’s going out... but drops on the line.

*If a player does not see the ball land CLEARLY outside the line, the ball should be considered to be “In” and they should continue playing the point. If any part of the ball looked like it might have touched the line, that is “In” not “Out”. If a player calls a ball “OUT”, and then realizes quickly that they made a mistake, they can tell the other player of their error and concede the point.

*Remind the doubles teams that when you start your first game returning serve, whichever side a player is returning serve on, (the “Deuce” or the “Ad” side), they will return on that side for the entire set, even after they change to the other end of the court. A common mistake from the newer players is that the same player returns on both the deuce and the ad side.

*During doubles play, the net player on the server’s side switches back and forth across the net before each point. (a way to remember it is “Serve and Switch both start with “S”). The returners will not switch before each point, they just move forward and backward, staying on their same side before the points.

*If a mistake has been made in the playing procedure, once the girls realize there is a mistake, then just correct it moving forward. Since both teams played incorrectly, then they both played “in good faith”, so there is no reason (unless the coaches deem it necessary) to back up and replay anything.



Rules for matches:

- *Home/host team is responsible for providing balls for all matches.
 - *1,2's play a full set, first to 6 games... win by 2, with a tiebreaker at 6-6.
 - *3,4's play a set first to 4... win by 2, with a tiebreaker at 4-4. (Sometimes if darkness is coming, we just play first team to 4 games, don't need to win by 2 and no tiebreaker, especially before daylight saving time)
 - *Warmup: should include ground strokes, volleys, overheads if desired, and serves all in 5 minutes.
 - *Have water available at matches, kids need to bring their water jug with them on court. You are allowed a water break on the 90 second change over.
 - *Change side on odd games. (1-0, 2-1, 4-3, etc.)
- If possible, when a team has more players than your team... allow them to play, and ask your kids to play again. Allow kids as much opportunity to play at least once at every match.
- *If players are absent or not able to play a match, you must move all players up the ladder to fill the opening, in the order of ability, not just default the top slots or randomly take lesser players and put them at the top of the ladder. For example, if your #1 isn't available at the match, then everyone on the team will move up one slot and your #2 is the #1 for the day, and your #3 who would normally play doubles will play #2 single that day. You default slots from the bottom up, not just by removing players who are not there and defaulting wherever their slot was. You should always fill your lines 1 and 2.
 - *Fill out the google drive format prior to each match, and record the scores follow the matches. This is crucial in the helps of seeding for the district tournament.

District tournament format: GIRLS

- Line 1 singles (best player on team)
- Line 2 singles (second best player on team)
- Line 1 doubles (best doubles team)
- Line 2 doubles (second best team)
- Line 3 doubles (third best team)

Each of these will be a separate bracket/tournament by level. (total of 5, per grade level). Single elimination. 1 set to determine the winner. Semis and finals will be a full match (2 out of 3 sets with a match tiebreaker for the 3rd... match tiebreaker is a first to 10 points, win-by-2-points tiebreaker to determine the winner). No Ad scoring will be played for every match (season and tournament).

District tournament format: BOYS

- Singles (top 2 players from your team) 24 bracket
- Line 2 singles (second best player on team)
- Line 1 doubles (best doubles team)