



Texas Charter School Academic & Athletic League (TCSAAL)

Fall Team State Tennis Rules & General Procedures

2026-2027 Season

TCSAAL will primarily follow the NFHS guidelines for Tennis, Rules and Regulations (Friend at Court):
<https://www.nfhs.org/sports/tennis>

Tournament Description

Age Groupings

- Middle School (6th-8th Grade)
- Varsity (9th-12th Grade)

Teams

- Teams are composed of 6 total students (3 Boys and 3 Girls).
- Each student will compete in Singles in each head-to-head matchup with another campus.
- Each student will also compete in either Same-Sex Doubles or Mixed Doubles in each head-to-head matchup with another campus.
- A campus can field more than one team in each bracket.

Format

- A bracket will be constructed with all teams in their respective age grouping. In each head-to-head matchup, there will be a total of 9 matches:
 - 3 Boys Singles Matches
 - 3 Girls Singles Matches
 - 1 Boys Doubles Match
 - 1 Girls Doubles Match
 - 1 Mixed Doubles Match
- Following each 9 match head-to-head matchup, the team with the most wins advances to the next round in the bracket.
- All matches will be played as a 6-game Regular Set, No-Advantage Scoring.
- A 10-point tiebreaker will be played at 6-6 if necessary (and the TCSAAL Tournament Director once notified, will come to supervise the tiebreaker).

Seeding

- TCSAAL will seed randomly. Previous year's results will be utilized when applicable (both Fall and Spring Tennis results).
- If a campus has more than one team in a bracket, those teams will be placed on opposite sides of the bracket.
- TCSAAL will make first round matchups from different regions when possible.

Continuous Play

Warm-Up Time

- TCSAAL will utilize a 5-minute warm-up period. Warm-up is not a practice time. Players should allot time for each area of their game including serves during this 5-minute period.

In-Game Play

- As a principle, play should be continuous from the time the match starts (when the first service of the match is put in play) until the match finishes at the conclusion of the last point.
- Between points, a maximum of twenty (20) seconds is allowed. When the players change ends at a changeover, a maximum of ninety (90) seconds are allowed.
- However, after the first game of each set and during a tiebreak game, play shall be continuous and the players shall change ends without a rest.
- At the end of each set there shall be a break of a maximum of one hundred and twenty (120) seconds. The maximum time starts from the moment one point finishes until the first service is struck on the next point.

Coaching

- Coaching is allowed during stoppage in play.
- However, coaching must take place during the time span discussed above in “in-game play” and they must leave the court area for play to resume.

Awards

- Trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place.
- Medals to all team members who finish in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place.