

**COLONIAL LEAGUE GIRLS' TENNIS
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. A team match consists of five contests--three singles and two doubles. The winner of a contest is the player or doubles team that wins two of three sets. Each contest shall count one point in score. Singles players are prohibited from playing in the doubles contests.
 - a. Each coach shall establish his/her line-up in writing before the first match begins. The coach is obligated to present his/her line-up, in proper order, at the time and place the match is played. This may necessitate additional challenge matches during the season. This means that the best player scheduled to play at this time must play 1st Singles, the next best 2nd Singles, and the third best 3rd Singles. With the remaining members of the squad, two doubles teams are to be selected with the stronger doubles combination playing 1st Doubles and the weaker playing 2nd Doubles as determined by challenge matches.
 - b. A team may not forfeit 1st or 2nd Singles. If 1st or 2nd Singles players are absent, singles players must be moved up. Third Singles may be forfeited or filled by a lower ranked player selected by the coach in order to keep both doubles teams intact. If a team has seven players, it may not forfeit any position.
3. For each singles contest and each doubles contest the home team shall provide three new pressurized balls that are approved by the USTA.
4. No coaching comments may be made while a game is in progress by coaches or supporting fans. During the playing of a match in a team competition, a player may receive coaching from a coach only when he changes ends at the conclusion of a game, but not when he changes ends during a tie-break game. Time limit on the changeover may not exceed 90 seconds. Coaches may address their players for two (2) minutes at the end of the first set and for a maximum of ten (10) minutes between sets two (2) and three (3). Players may not leave the court following the first (1st) set. No comments may be made at any time to a player of the opposing team reflecting upon play or rules violations.
5. In the event of injury, the player shall be allowed ten minutes cumulative time to resume play. If she is unable to resume play after ten minutes, the player shall default the match.
6. If there is a suspended match due to inclement weather or other issues, school administrators involved in the suspended match will determine if a match is suspended or complete due to inclement weather. If the school administrators cannot agree, the matter will be resolved with the League officers.
7. USTA Rule of Play shall be employed unless adjusted by the Colonial League for League play or to conform to specific rules adopted by PIAA.
8. The warm-up period shall not be more than 10 minutes in length, including practice serves. The home team coach will decide when the warm-up period is over. When teams arrive on site, warm-up will be restricted to that which is standard between opponents.
9. Only players engaged in a match shall be permitted within the court enclosure.
10. In the event of a 6-6 score, a 12-point tie-breaker will decide the winner of the set. The resulting score being 7-6.
11. The juggling of a customary line-up to secure an unfair advantage shall be considered unethical practice and may form the basis of a protest to the league.

12. The ranking of players must be determined exclusively by challenge (move up one position or down by challenge) after the first match of the season. Definition of challenge match – after the first match of the season, any changes in the top three positions of the line-up must be made by the best 2 of 3 sets or any 8 game proset.

Changes in the top three positions for the girls only require challenge matches.

13. No-ad tennis will apply.

14. Names of coaching personnel shall be noted on eligibility sheet and shall be kept on file in office.

15. Colonial League Conduct Rules shall be enforced.

a. Obscene or abusive language or gestures:

1. When not directed at a person or persons: first offense, warning; second offense, one point; third offense, one game; fourth offense, default.

2. When directed at an official, opponent, or spectator(s): first offense, one point; second offense, one game; third offense, one game; fourth offense, default.

b. Abuse of racket, balls, equipment: such as hitting or kicking ball out-of-court: first offense, warning; second offense, one point; third offense, one game; fourth offense, default.

c. Major unsportsmanlike acts, such as hitting a ball at or near an official, ball boy, linesman, or spectator(s), or intentional racquet dropping to disconcert an opponent: first offense, warning; second offense, one point; third offense, one game; fourth offense, default.

16. Schools shall identify an official team uniform and participants must be attired in the officially designated uniform to compete in the matches which award points and decide the overall match outcome. A school may designate a generic bottom such as white shorts if worn with official school top. Allowances will be made for warmups, etc., to respond to climatic conditions as appropriate.

17. The Colonial League prohibits the use of tobacco and/or tobacco products by participating and non-participating team personnel, including coaches, during any interscholastic athletic contest at any level of interscholastic athletic competition.

18. If a question occurs regarding line calls, a player should direct the concern to his/her own coach who shall inform the opposing coach of the concern. If a subsequent concern is expressed to coaches, the coaches may enter the court and serve as line appeal judge--making a determination only on a contested call.

19. If more than four courts are available, second doubles begin simultaneously with singles matches.

Miscellaneous: Saturdays Evenings Afternoons

1. Starting Times 10:00 a.m. *3:45 p.m./4:00 p.m.

*Start times will be at 4:00 p.m. during the first half of the season and a start time of 3:45 p.m. during the second half of the season. All introductions will occur 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start times.

2. Rule - Home team is required to call the game summaries to the Express-Times, Morning Call, and Lehigh Times-News.

3. All-Star Selections:

a. All-star selection shall be made by the head coaches of each member school at the mandatory post-season league tennis meeting.

b. An athlete's selection to the *First Team* and *Second Team* is based solely on her Colonial League match record played in regular season competition.

c. In the case of a tied record for the same spot, head-to-head competition results will be used.

d. In the case of a split in head-to-head competition, each nominee's match record with common ranked opponents within the league will be considered.

e. The *at-large* berth will be awarded when two exceptional players in the same position merit All-Star designation.

A head coach can name any of his own team members to receive "Honorable Mention" status.