ARTICLE 30

TENNIS
(BOYS TENNIS)
(GIRLS TENNIS)

30.1 RULES

30.1.1 The rules in the current edition of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Rules of Tennis & Cases and Decisions will apply in all matches.

30.1.1.1 EXCEPTION: USTA age groupings do not apply.

30.1.1.2 EXCEPTION: The following exceptions to the USTA Conduct Rule shall apply:
- First offense is point penalty.
- Second offense is game penalty.
- Third offense is disqualification.
- There is no carry over from one match to another.

30.1.1.3 EXCEPTION: The following exceptions to the USTA Injury Rule shall apply:
- Five minute to get trainer (or coach) to court.
- Two minutes to diagnose injury or illness.
- Three minutes to treat.
- Ninety seconds on changeover does not count towards the above minutes.
- Lack of conditioning injuries are included in this rule.

DETERMINATION: The AIA Executive Board recommends school administrators advise coaches to adhere to USTA regulations during any interscholastic tennis competition. Coaches, through their administrators, should report any violations to the AIA Office. (Ex. Bd. 4/78).

30.1.2 School athletic programs at all levels are subject to disciplinary action when a school team is removed from the floor or field prior to completion of the contest.

30.1.3 See Article 15. Student Eligibility Rules regarding amateur standing.

30.2 SEASON OF SPORT

30.2.1 The AIA Standardized Calendar shall be used to identify the starting week for practice, competition and the conclusion of post-season competition.

30.2.2 The season of competition for a school shall conclude with that school's last AIA sanctioned competition.

30.2.3

Fall Season (Frosh/Soph)	Practice	no sooner than the	6th week
	Season of Competition	begins Monday the	9th week
Spring Season	Practice	no sooner than the	32nd week
	Season of Competition	begins Wednesday of the	34th week
	Championship	to be concluded by the	45th week

30.3 PRE-SEASON INTERSCHOOL VARSITY SCRIMMAGE

30.3.1 One preseason interschool varsity scrimmage may be held; this scrimmage is considered a practice and shall not count toward the allowable number of games.

30.3.1.1 The varsity scrimmage shall be scheduled the week prior to the AIA date of competition; individual players must have participated in at least eight practice sessions.

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30.3.1.2 The following guidelines shall be used:

- Scrimmage is open to the public, charging admission is at the discretion of the host school;
- Scoreboards shall not be used except for timing purposes;
- No official score may be kept (recorded) or reported;
- Game uniforms may be worn; numbered jerseys may be used;
- AIA officials may be used;
- Unlimited substitution and re-entry of players;
- Coaching is permitted during play;
- Timeouts are unlimited;
- Other adjustments mutually agreed upon by coaches and officials before the scrimmage begins; adjustments cannot be less restrictive than the guidelines or sport policy

30.3.1.3 Limits:

30.3.1.3.1 Any individual player is limited to three sets, any combination of singles and doubles play; a pro-set is a set.

30.3.1.3.2 Scrimmage shall not exceed two (2) hours in length.

30.3.1.4 Schools may hold multi-school scrimmages while adhering to Article 30.3.

30.4 SCHEDULES

30.4.1 If scheduling difficulties occur, schedules may be increased by one match. The additional match shall be approved by the AIA Executive Board.

30.5 NUMBER OF MATCHES IN SEASON

30.5.1 No school shall schedule more than 16 varsity matches, including two invitationals, each of which shall count as one match.

30.5.2 No school shall schedule more than 16 junior varsity or 16 freshman matches per team.

30.5.3 No player shall participate in more than 16 matches per season, excluding post-season tournaments. During regular season play vs the same opposing school, a player may participate in one singles match and one doubles match regardless of level and this would be considered one complete match toward the maximum of 16 opportunities.

30.5.3.1 EXCEPTION: Division III schools, because of their limited enrollment, may permit a player to participate in 50% more matches or games than the regularly scheduled matches or games per season, excluding qualifying and post-season tournaments.
Example: If a school scheduled 20 games or matches, each player could participate in 50% more games or matches for a total of 30.

30.6 CONTEST PARTICIPATION

30.6.1 When a student enters an interscholastic contest, regardless of the length of time, it shall be considered participation in the interscholastic contest.

30.7 INTERSCHOOL COMPETITION

30.7.1 Any school may play any other school in the state which is in good standing.

30.7.2 An interschool match shall consist of six singles matches and three doubles matches. Players may play singles, doubles, or both singles and doubles within each of the various levels (varsity, junior varsity and freshman).

30.7.3 Should a team fail to appear with six players for the individual matches, a default will be granted for each individual match not played.

30.7.4 Tennis players shall compete with players on the opposing team with the same rank. The line-up should always be based on order of ability. When a regular team member is unable to participate in his/her established singles position, that position shall be filled by advancing all team members, whether they be varsity, junior varsity or freshman. When a regular team member is unable to play in his/her established doubles position, that position shall be filled by a direct line substitution, whether they be varsity, junior varsity or freshman.

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30.7.4.1 Player movement, including a doubles team, within the team ladder is restricted to one position up or down from one match to another.

30.7.5 Freshman tennis players may also participate in junior varsity or varsity competition during the school year.

30.7.6 The home team shall furnish two new official USTA balls for each individual varsity match.

30.7.7 Individual varsity matches for boys and girls shall consist of no more than three sets. The match score for JV and freshmen tennis will be the 8 game pro-set. All matches will utilize the no-ad method.

30.8 COACHES / COACHING

30.8.1 The AIA shall not have regulations concerning coaches coaching their own school teams outside of the AIA defined season of sport.

30.8.2 Coaches / Players - Match participation outside the season of sport between coaches and players of a single school for fund raising or entertainment purposes will not jeopardize the eligibility of any high school player.

30.8.3 Attendance shall be voluntary and no student athlete shall be prohibited from participating on the team for failing to attend the out-of-season activity.

30.9 SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

30.9.1 School Transportation - School provided transportation for activities is a local option.

30.9.2 School equipment outside of the season of sport is a local option.

30.10 POST-SEASON TOURNAMENTS

30.10.1 Post-Season Tournaments

NOTE: See Article 12 for additional post-season tournament rules.

30.10.1.1 Dates and Sites

30.10.1.1.1 The AIA Executive Board shall determine the dates and sites of post-season tournaments.

30.10.1.2 There shall be Individual Champions and Team Champions for both boys and girls.

30.10.1.2.1 There shall be individual and/or team post-season tournaments as determined by the Executive Board.

30.10.1.2.2 Team Tennis Champions

30.10.1.2.2.1 The Division I, II, III Team Tennis Championship shall be determined by a post-season team playoff format.

30.10.1.2.2.2 Schools must play a minimum of eight (8) matches in order to qualify for post season play.

30.10.1.2.3 Spectators shall not be permitted inside the fenced area.

30.10.2 Awards - The AIA shall be responsible for the purchase and standardization of all post-season tournament awards. *(See Article 13, Section 1)*.

30.10.3 Practice on Site - A practice or competition on the site of the Post-Season Championship Tournament, except for a regularly scheduled contest, is not permitted for seven calendar days prior to the Post-Season Championship, except in the case of the host school.

DETERMINATION: The host school may participate at the site only if that is their regular practice site.

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30.10.4 Protests

30.10.4.1 In the event of a question or a protest during a qualifying match or post-season tournament, the decision of the Tournament Director and/or Committee shall be final.

30.10.4.2 Regular season protests, if any, will be handled as indicated in the current edition of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Rules of Tennis & Cases and Decisions.

30.10.5 Unmanned aerial systems at AIA post season events

30.10.5.1 The use of unmanned aerial systems, often referred to as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any persons at all AIA post season events. This policy includes not only the restricted playing area of the venue(s), but also the physical confines of the entire stadium/field/arena structure. For the purpose of this policy, an unmanned aerial system is any aircraft without a human pilot on board.