

EOSSAA TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

The sole basis for the very existence of high school sport is the contribution it makes to the general educational experience of those students who participate.

PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. Date:

The EOSSAA Tennis Championship shall be a one day championship held no later than three days prior to the OFSAA entry deadline, unless extraordinary circumstances dictate a change. Player registration and coaches' meeting will be scheduled the morning prior to the start of championship play.

2. Location:

The location of the Championship shall be decided no later than the EOSSAA AGM of the school year prior to the Championship.

3. Events and/or Classifications:

The EOSSAA Tennis Championship shall provide Junior and Senior competition in the High School divisions and one Open division, if required by entries (i.e. no Jr. Sr. divisions in Open.) Classification of divisions is as follows:

(a) An Open Division player must have won a minimum of two rounds in total (one round or more in a tournament and/or at a later date wins a round in another tournament) in a 3 star Ontario Tennis Association (OTA) tournaments or higher or the equivalent (USTA (level 6 or lower), European championship) in the three years prior to the beginning of the school year.

Any player who has ever played in the Canadian Nationals or any player that has ever played in any U-14, U-16 or U-18 provincial championships shall also be considered an open player. A bye, defaulted or retired match in an OTA event does not constitute a win.

(b) High School Division: any player who has not met the above criteria for an Open player.

Events:

The events to be conducted are:

(a) Junior High School Division:

GIRLS' SINGLES, GIRLS' DOUBLES, BOYS' SINGLES, BOYS' DOUBLES, MIXED DOUBLES

(b) Senior High School Division:

GIRLS' SINGLES, GIRLS' DOUBLES, BOYS' SINGLES, BOYS' DOUBLES, MIXED DOUBLES

(c) Open Division:

GIRLS' SINGLES, GIRLS' DOUBLES, BOYS' SINGLES, BOYS' DOUBLES, MIXED DOUBLES

The EOSSAA convenor/s in consultation with the OTA shall have the right to disqualify players if entered incorrectly. Disqualified athletes will not have entry fees reimbursed.

4. Championship Structure and Procedure:

(a) The EOSSAA Tennis championship structure shall be an eight (8) game pro set, no advantage scoring with a twelve (12) point tiebreaker at seven (7) all. The tournament structure shall follow a single elimination format with a first round loss consolation draw. That is: athletes will be guaranteed two games. Finalists on the championship side shall compete for gold and silver medals. Finalists in all championship draws will qualify for the OFSAA Championship.

(b) The EOSSAA Tennis Trophy will be awarded to the school that receives the most points in the tournament. Points will be awarded as follows; two points will be awarded for each win on the championship side and one point will be awarded for a win on the consolation side. Byes and withdrawals will receive no points in the first round. Forfeited matches in all other rounds will be considered wins.

(c) Upon approval from the EOSSAA Tennis Sport Advisory Committee, the convenor may modify the structure of the Championship if there is a lack of entries or inclement weather. This modification may range from a six (6) game set to a match consisting of a best two (2) out of three (3) sets.

(d) Players must be on site prepared to play at least one (1) hour before the scheduled start of their match.

(e) Due to the possibility of changing weather conditions, the original schedule presented at the coaches' meeting prior to tournament play may be altered. Every attempt will be made to play matches between players on site and as conditions warrant. Players will only be scheduled for a match once on site. If such changes occur, all coaches are to continually check with the convenor on site and/or website for tournament updates regarding match times and locations.

Seeding:

OPEN entries are seeded by the OTA.

High School entries shall be seeded by the previous year's results if players are entered in the same division.

Regions will rank entries as first and second seeds. Players from the same region will be placed on opposite sides of the draw. A regions first seeds will be randomly placed within the draws against another regions second seed if possible. In other words, efforts will be made so one region doesn't always play against the same region.

5. Entry:

(a) Entries shall be accepted from school coaches or designates only.

(b) Entries of schools must be received by the EOSSAA Championship Convenor by Friday of the week prior to the Championship. Late entries will only be accepted if they can be accommodated and shall be subject to a penalty.

(c) A region may enter a maximum of two (2) competitors in each event of each division.

(d) No competitor may enter more than one event (e.g. singles, doubles, mixed doubles). In a doubles or mixed pairing, if any individual is an Open player, the entire team shall be considered Open.

(e) Any suspension or disciplinary actions in school play shall be carried forward into EOSSAA Championship competition. The school coach shall be responsible for reporting such players and the nature of the disciplinary action on the EOSSAA entry form.

(f) For schools withdrawing an individual(s) after the commitment deadline the minimum sanction imposed will be a fine equal to the entry fee. This amount may be adjusted in consultation with EOSSAA staff depending on the nature of the withdrawal.

6. Expenses:

An Entry Fee shall be charged which shall be sufficient to cover the operating costs of the Championship. Any school that does not meet its entry commitment after it has declared an entry into the Championship will be required to pay the entry fee or entries for the following year's tournament may be forfeited.

Those schools having entries are responsible for arranging and financing their own travel, meals and accommodation for the event.

7. Eligibility:

Please refer to EOSSAA regulations with the following addition

(ix) Any athlete participating in an EOSSAA Championship must have participated in a minimum of six (6) practices with school team as a member of a bona fide high school program during the current season under the supervision of a teacher-coach as certified by the school principal.

8. Rules and Officials:

Revisions to rulebooks governing play at the EOSSAA Tennis Championship shall be reviewed by the Sport Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors prior to implementation at any Championship.

The Tennis Canada Rules of the Court shall govern play at the EOSSAA Tennis Championship with the exception that: the structure of the championship shall be an eight (8) game pro-set, no advantage scoring with a twelve (12) point tie breaker at seven (7) all; unless otherwise indicated by the convenor.

Note: Please refer to the EOSSAA TENNIS GUIDELINES in Appendix 1

9. Uniforms and Equipment:

All competitors are expected to dress in uniforms that are neat, clean and which maintain the integrity of the school's/Association's name, colours and logos. No sport club insignia on uniforms shall be permitted. A sport club is defined as a community, provincially or nationally based organization whose primary purpose is participation in organized competition in single or multi-sport programs. Sponsorship recognition is permitted to be visible but must conform with the placement guidelines outlined in By-Law 6, Section 2(h).

In order to be allowed to play, competitors must dress in proper tennis attire which covers the midsection.

Student-athletes must remain fully clothed in the appropriate attire in the competition area, AND use the designated locker room or change area to change to and from competition attire.

The Tournament Convenor shall provide game balls for the Championship.

10. Scoring: N/A

11. Awards:

Championship medals shall be presented to first and second place finishers.

The EOSSAA Tennis Trophy will be awarded to the school that receives the most points at the end of the tournament (see Section 4b.)

12. Supervision: (Reference OFSAA By-Law 6, Section 1)

13. Registration:

Registration materials will only be given to the teacher accompanying the team.

14. Department: (Reference OFSAA By-Law 6, Section 2)

15. Medical:

Provision MUST be made by the Convenor to have a medical doctor in attendance or readily available and to follow appropriate hygienic precautions with regard to bodily fluids and communicable diseases. Qualified first-aid personnel and equipment must be readily available at the Championship site(s). Coaches shall provide all consumable medical supplies (e.g. tape, Band-Aids) for their athletes.

16. Committee of Appeal:

The Committee of Appeal shall consist of three (3) individuals: the chairperson of the EOSSAA Tennis Sport Advisory Committee or designate, a tournament committee member and one (1) other member appointed by the Championship Convenor. The Committee of Appeal shall handle disputes which fall within the realm of:

(a) Tournament Structure and Procedure;

(b) Rules and Officials;

(c) Uniforms and Equipment;

(d) Scoring;

(e) Eligibility;

(f) Department;

(g) Supervision and registration;

(h) Medical personnel;

(i) Awards;

Tournament structure and procedure concerns shall be addressed no later than the end of the coaches' meeting

A dispute must be submitted in writing to the Convenor or Designate together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within thirty (30) minutes, except as provided within specific sport governing regulations, of the conclusion of the game in which the incident under dispute occurred. Decisions of the Committee of Appeal shall be final.

A report of the Committee of Appeal decisions shall be forwarded to the EOSSAA Coordinator.

The Competition Committee shall be the body empowered to delay/cancel an event(s) due to unforeseen circumstances at the site(s).

All Federation Championships/Festivals are non-smoking events.

This includes the use of all tobacco related products.

Participants must obey the Ministry of Education's Code of Conduct.

January, 2016