

## **REGULATIONS FOR TEAM TENNIS**

1. District III will qualify three entries from AAA and AA to the PIAA State Team Tournament.
2. The dates for the PIAA State Team tournament are May 15, 18, 19, 2012.
3. The first round (Tuesday, May 15) will be played in the District of the champion and those eight winners will then play at the Hershey Racquet Club in Hershey, PA.
  - a. In the first round, the District III AA Champion will play the second entry from District IV (at Hershey Racquet club 12:00) and the District III runner-up will travel District IV to play their champion. The third place team will travel to District VI to play their champion.
  - b. In the first round, the District III AAA champion will play the fourth entry from District I (at Hershey Racquet Club 1:15) and the District III runner-up will go to District II or IV to play their champion. The third place team will travel to District I to play their champion.
4. The format for the District Team Tournament and the PIAA State Team Tournament will be three singles matches and two doubles matches with no student allowed to compete in both singles and doubles.
  - a. Each team shall consist of three singles players and two doubles teams. Players may only play one event (singles or doubles). Each team, listing students in descending order of ability, shall establish a strength ladder lineup from 1 – 10. The ladder submitted for the team shall represent the strongest line-up for that team. The first three students shall play singles in the order that they are listed on the strength ladder line-up. Beginning with the fourth student listed on the strength ladder line-up, any four of the remaining seven students may comprise the doubles teams. The doubles team having the highest level of ability shall occupy the number one position and the doubles team having the second highest level of ability shall occupy the number two position. No player shall be eligible for a doubles team unless they are listed on the team's strength ladder line-up. Teams shall submit their strength ladder line-ups, which shall specify singles player #1, singles player #2, singles player #3, doubles team #1, doubles team #2, at the beginning of the district team tennis tournament. With the exception of other extenuating circumstances (as determined by the appropriate tournament director), a team's strength ladder line-up may not be changed throughout the respective district and inter-district team tennis tournaments.
  - b. Substitutions may be made only in case of illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstances (as determined appropriate by the tournament director). The school's athletic administration and/or head tennis coach shall provide supporting documentation for such substitutions. An ill or injured player may be substituted for and then be reentered in the same position in the team's strength ladder lineup, upon documented authorization from a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine. Teams are prohibited from making substitutions that would

allow an ill or injured player to move from playing singles to doubles and then back to singles when an ill or injured player has recovered, even with a licensed physician of medicine's or osteopathic medicine's documented authorization. Substitutions shall be made by utilizing direct-line substitution ONLY. Substitution of a singles player shall be made from any of the remaining seven students on the strength ladder line-up and shall result in the three singles players playing in order of their ability, in accordance with the team's strength ladder line-up. Doubles teams do not have to be disrupted in order to replace a singles player when a singles player substitution is necessary, and a member of one of the school's established doubles teams is designated as that substitute, the resulting vacant doubles position shall be filled by a player from the teams strength ladder line-up who was not previously assigned to a doubles team. Substitution of both doubles partners is prohibited if only one of the two players experiences an illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstances (as determined appropriate by the tournament director). Furthermore, a team may not substitute a player from one of the school's established doubles teams to fill the spot of an ill/injured player on that school's other doubles team. Finally, changing the strength order of the school's doubles teams following any appropriate direct-line substitution is prohibited. Moving players around with the intent of gaining a competitive advantage is prohibited and shall subject to the team to default from the tournament.

5. All matches will consist of the best of three, 12-point tiebreak sets. Coaching will be permitted at the edge of the court for two (2) minutes between set one and set two. Five (5) minutes will be permitted after split sets. The tournament director reserves the right to stop a match, if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the administration of the tournament.
6. Teams are to begin play after a ten-minute warm-up period.
7. The USTA point penalty system (PIAA modified) will be used. In the event of an injury, a player will be given five minutes to resume play, after which a default will be declared. Coaching will be permitted at the edge of the court for two (2) minutes between set one and two. Five (5) minutes will be permitted after split sets.
8. Contestants are reminded that the same rules for contestant attire used in the District Competition are in effect for the State Competition.
9. Teams must be accompanied by their high school coach or an adult designated by the principal as the coach. In the event it is not the regular coach, the principal shall designate the replacement via letter to be given to the site manager.
10. Players/teams are not permitted to practice on the competition surface during the same day of competition.