

Note for 2019: NO HARDCOPY APPLICATIONS. TENNIS APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE ENTERED ONLINE ON THE VPA WEBSITE WITH CODE.

TENNIS GUIDE 2018

Dates

First Practice:	Monday, March 18, 2019
First Date of competition:	Monday, April 1, 2019
Last Date of Play:	Saturday, May 25, 2019
Boys/Girls Individuals:	Thu May 23 – Sat May 25, 2019
Team State Championships:	Tue May 28, - TBA
Championship Sites:	TBA , Neutral Tournament Host Site Preferred If not, Higher Seed will host

Scoring

The tennis guidelines are for tennis team regular season, team championships, and the Individual singles and doubles championships. Vermont schools are to use the 5-2 format for all divisions. Game scoring will use No-Ad, (at 40-40 deuce, one point will be played to decide the game). The receiving player will have the choice of court in which to receive. Set scores will be 2 out of 3. **Adopted 2012:** For the third set, a match breaker (tiebreaker to 10), will be used in determining the winner. All scoring is team scoring. Note – All schools must submit their match line-up cards for every match to Jeanine Hulsén, VPA Tennis Committee Chair

The VPA point index system will be used for determining state championship tournament draw seeding.

Facilities

Regular Season/Tournament- If a coach deems a playing surface to be unsafe at the time of the match, the court will not be used.

Schools must have a minimum of 3 courts in order to host a match.

If during the regular season a school has questions/concerns about the playing surface of a court(s), this should be referred to the Tennis Committee immediately.

Sportsmanship

There will be no tolerance for negative statements or actions between opposing players or spectators and players, especially trash talking, taunting, or baiting of opponents. If such comments are heard, a point penalty will be assessed immediately. In addition, unreasonable delays between points(25 seconds), game changeovers (60 seconds), or disruptive behavior will also result in point penalty.

Player, ball, racquet, or language abuse will not be tolerated. All line calls and scoring will be made by players themselves without interjection by coaches, other players, or spectators. **First offense is point, second offense is match. It is the responsibility of either coach to immediately assess penalties.**

Unsportsmanlike conduct may result in disqualification with a team point awarded to opponent.

The home team coach or designated site supervisor is responsible for event crowd control.

Proper tennis/team attire is required.

All cell phones on court are required to be turned off. Failure to do so will result in a point penalty.

Coaching

Each team must be accompanied during the regular season by the team coach. During tournament season it is recommended that a school administrator or designee also be present. Coaching may occur inside the fence area. **Only one coach may be inside the fence area. New rule adopted 2019.**

Coaching will be allowed during a match at the change of ends for only **60 seconds** by a coach or teammate. **Adopted 2012:** Coaching is allowed on first game in set changeover.

There is an optional two minute break at the completion of a set and coaching is allowed.

Only **ONE** coach or teammate may coach during a changeover (a tiebreaker is not a changeover. There may be one coach per match.

An administrative/logistical correction during a match is not coaching (this does not include call corrections).

On Court Rules

General Team warm up times should be concluded to allow individual match participants to have full 10 minute warm-up.

It is expected that first matches will start at the scheduled time.

It is the coaches' responsibility to keep matches moving along in an expedient manner.

Any "out or let" call must be made instantaneously (i.e. before either an opponent has the return or return has gone out of play). No call keeps the ball considered in play.

The server should announce the set score prior to each service game. The individual game score should be announced prior to each serve.

If players cannot agree on a score, they must go back to the last score agreed upon and resume play from that point.

Wait until players on another court have completed a point before retrieving or returning a ball, or leaving the court area.

All other regular USTA rules apply.

Line Up Rules

Adopted 2012: regular and post season are same

Format of Play is: 5 singles and 2 doubles. Each player may only play once during a match.

Adopted 2012: The order of Line Up must reflect strength in level and ability of play in your singles players, and doubles teams.

Home Team calls the order of individual match play for the Team contest. At least one doubles match must go on in the first round.

Player Substitution: In the event of a missing player, all singles players must move up to maintain the integrity of line up.

Example:

If you are missing a player in the number 1 to 5 singles, you must move up the ladder in order. For Example: if your #2 singles is sick, then your #3 moves to 2, #4 moves to 3, and #5 moves to 4.

What you can do in the #5 singles open spot:

- You can forfeit #5 singles and leave your two doubles teams in tact.
- You can move one of your doubles players up and put 10th player in the doubles spot.
- You can put 10th player in #5 singles spot

Incomplete Line-Up for Season:

- The team must forfeit from the bottom up, i.e. Singles #5, #4..., Doubles #2, Doubles #1.

Protocol for Match in Progress Postponement:

- Individual matches completed stand.
- Individual match in progress must continue with same score and same players. If one of the players is not available to complete the match, the absent player forfeits the individual match and a point is awarded to the other team.
- Individual match not started may allow for substitution only if original player is not available. **However, order of strength must still be maintained.**
- **If match is delayed due to weather for 30 minutes or more, players are allowed a 5 minute warm up to resume.**

Tournament Guidelines

1. The **application** must be electronically filed to the VPA Office no later than 10:00 am on **May 26, 2019**.
2. The seedings will be **May 27** at the VPA Office at 10:00 am.
3. Playdowns may begin on **May 28, 2019** at the courts of the higher seeded teams.
4. In the event of inclement weather during playdowns, quarterfinals, or semi-finals, the match between schools will be held at available indoor sites on the same day, or next day at outdoor facilities.
5. All scoring is the same as regular season.
6. Lineup order and substitution policy is same as regular season.
7. **Player substitutions see previous page for procedures.**
8. The match shall deemed to have begun after the coaches have exchanged lineups and first serve has been made in that individual match.
9. **Order of play in the Finals will be (adopted 2012):** Singles in order 1 – 5, and Doubles in order 1 – 2. 1 doubles must be in the first round of play.
10. **Scoring:** the same as regular season play.
11. Tennis balls are to be furnished by the host team or higher seed throughout the tournament. The official ball will be new, yellow, and unopened.
12. A representative of the VPA will be in attendance at the finals and will make rulings and handle any protests. A roving umpire may be used for the Division I and II Boys and Girls Championships.
13. Awards will be supplied and presented by the Vermont Principals Association.
14. Each coach is responsible for their team player's behavior on and off the court. Host teams should provide or have water available.
15. **During the VPA state tournament each host school will have an administrator or their designee, other than the coach, present at the event.**

Vermont Principals' Association
Boys and Girls Interscholastic Singles/Doubles State Tennis Championships

Purpose: This event is for Vermont's top high school players, giving them an opportunity to compete individually for the **2019** singles and doubles state title. There will be no New England Championships this year.

Dates: May 23 – 25, 2019 (tentative)

Singles and Doubles: Entries must follow the same team roster as presented to the VPA office. Each team throughout Vermont may enter their top 2 singles players and additional players if the draw permits in the singles tournament. Each team throughout Vermont may enter one doubles and additional teams if entry in the draw permits. Team may consist of any players other than the #1 and #2 singles.

Scoring: Same as regular season

Awards: The top four singles players (losing semi-finalists playoff for spots 3 and 4) and top two doubles teams. In addition awards will be given to the school of the singles state champion and the doubles state champion for placement in the schools trophy case.

Entry Deadline: Monday, May 20, 2019 by 10:00 am. \$20 late fee for entries accepted after 10:00 am deadline. Draws available by noon, May 22, 2018.

Cost of Tournament is \$25 single and \$40 team. Note: Contingency plan for indoor court time. A one time payment of \$10 per person fee if inclement weather forces the match indoors.

Sites/Director: Boys: Damon Fitch/Burlington (Leddy Park)
Girls: Errol Natrass (Burlington Tennis Club)

Checks should be made out to Meet Directors. Please Submit Payment directly to:

Damon Fitch (boys) and Errol Natrass (girls)

(Note – Payment required before first match)

Contact Information:

Damon Fitch
701 Dorset St #11
South Burlington, VT 05403
Cell: 802 310 6547
Email: dsfitch@aol.com
Make Checks payable to Damon Fitch
Site: Leddy Park

Errol Natrass
c/o Burlington Tennis Club
12 ½ East Terrace
South Burlington, VT 05403
Work: 802-863-3439
Cell: 802-318-3952
Email errolbtc@gmail.com

Make Checks Payable to Errol Natrass
Site: Burlington Country Club