



INLAND EMPIRE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
Men's Tennis Supplement (Last updated January 2023)

I. SEASON OF PLAY

A. Season

1. According to CCCAA Rules, the tennis season begins with the start of practice and scrimmages and ends with the State Championship.
2. The season is limited to 26* total dates. Post season contests such as the CCCAA Regional Tournament and State Tournament are not included.
3. The conference season shall consist of a double round robin home and away with team byes each week.

B. Schedule

1. Conference matches are to be scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If the occurrence of weather is to happen on a scheduled match date: Tuesday rained-out matches will be rescheduled on Friday of the same week. Thursday rained-out matches will be played on Monday of the following week. A Friday make-up rainout will be played the following Monday if the previous Thursday's match was not rained out. Allowable exception: if rescheduling affects a previous non- conference match commitment or facility availability, a mutually agreed upon replay date may be initiated and accepted by both coaches and AD's.
2. Matches will be scheduled for 2:00PM.
3. To determine the yearly rotation of the conference tournament, the first host college will be dropped to the bottom of the schedule:

Rotation:

College of the Desert
Victor Valley College
Mt. San Antonio College
San Diego City College
Imperial Valley College
El Camino College
Mt. San Jacinto College

C. RULES

1. U.S.T.A. Rules will govern play.
2. Singles matches shall be the best two out of three sets with a 10-point super tiebreak used as the third set; Doubles will be an 8-game set with a 10 point super tiebreak used if the score is 8-8.
3. Regular scoring will be used in all conference dual matches.
4. A standard tie breaker will be used in the first two sets.
5. Coaching is permitted during the 90-second interval when players change end of the court provided such coaching does not interfere with continuous play. Only one person is allowed to coach a particular player. That person may be the head coach, assistant coach or a member of the tennis team.
6. Matches interrupted by darkness or rain in which neither team has reached five (5) points will be postponed and started at the point of interruption. Rescheduling should be done according to the rainout policy. If one team has scored five or more points, the match shall be considered completed. If lights are available on the courts being used for the match, they are to be used to finish the match.
7. Matches are to consist of six singles and three doubles with one point scored for each match making a total of nine points. All singles and doubles matches must be completed to decide the contest. Exception

- rain, darkness, or consent of both coaches. Failure to complete the contest under the above rule shall result in forfeiture of the entire contest by a college.

8. The match officially starts when the list of players is exchanged between coaches and substitution will take place at this time as well, which will take place at 1:45pm. Once lineups are exchanged, players from both teams will take their respective courts with their opponents and the matches will begin at 2:00. If the match has been clinched, it will be permissible for either team to rearrange its remaining doubles line-up in an upward direction (i.e., 2 becomes 1 or 3 becomes 2).
9. Doubles match play will take place first and followed by singles. The coaches will decide the appropriate amount of time for their players following the conclusion of a doubles match and the start of the singles match for an individual player.
10. Singles and doubles ladders shall be established prior to the beginning of the first and second round of Inland Empire Athletic Conference play. A copy shall be sent to the Athletic Director conference representative for distribution to all conference coaches prior to the first and second rounds of conference play.
11. Each coach will provide their ladder the Monday of first week of conference play. If there is a change in ladder, the Athletic Director conference representative will send the new ladder to the conference coaches.

Ladder procedure:

- **FIRST ROUND**
 1. A singles ladder will be established by ability into two groups, players 1-3, 4-6. Players may move one time per week to one position up or down within their group (1-3, 4-6). In case of injury or absence from a match, the #4 player, based upon ability, will move into group 1-3. New players may be added in group 4-6 only once per week except for absence or removal from the singles ladder. Violations in this ladder procedure will result in forfeiture of the dual match. One week would be considered a Monday through Friday. If a make-up match is played, you must use the ladder from the regular scheduled contest.
 2. Ability is defined in the U.S.T.A. Handbook.
 3. A number one doubles team will be established by ability. This team can only be changed during the first round because of an injury or illness. If a doubles player is absent, he will be replaced by an alternate.
- **SECOND ROUND**
 1. A singles ladder will be established by ability. Players will be listed 1 through 5. Any player may move one position a week, i.e., 3 to 4, 1 to 2. In case of an injury or absence from a match, everyone on the ladder must move up one position. A new player in the ladder must enter at position 5. Violations of this will result in forfeiture of the dual match.
 2. Doubles must operate on a ladder basis. A number one doubles team will be established by ability. The ladder may be changed one time per week. If a player is absent, he must be replaced with an alternate. If a player drops the squad, the coach shall re-establish the doubles ladder.

12. The home coach will need to report final scores to the AD rep for record keeping.

II. Conference

A. Conference Results

1. Results of all conference matches shall be reported to the conference statistician and the Athletic Director conference rep. within 24 hours of completion.
2. Results of all conference matches must also be reported to the ITA match results website within 24 Hours of completion (i.e., www.itatennis.com; see rankings/results.)
 - a. Being a member of the ITA, is highly encouraged.

B. Equipment

1. Tennis balls used in matches and tournament shall meet the CCCAA requirement based upon the current sponsorship agreement. Otherwise, either **Pro Penn** or **Wilson U.S. Open** balls are acceptable.

2. Host College shall furnish three (3) top-grade tennis balls for the first two sets and/or three (3) top-grade balls for the third set. Penn or Wilson U.S.T.A. approved balls are recommended for match play.

C. Uniforms

1. Members of each designated team will be dressed in a standard uniform for all Inland Empire Athletic Conference competitions.

D. Athletic Training

1. The athletic trainer will be available for any services 1 hour prior to match time.

E. Facilities

1. Tennis courts shall conform to U.S.T.A. standards. Courts of the home team shall be clean and free of hazards.
2. Net straps shall be provided for all courts.
3. Scoring devices must be consistent in color and are required on all courts for Inland Empire Conference matches.
4. Singles sticks are required for all singles matches.

F. Cell Phone Use

1. At all times during competition, cell phone use is prohibited within the designated area of play (inside the court fence and/or gate). A point penalty shall apply if violated. Progressive point penalties shall apply for all subsequent violations.

III. ALL-CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

1. The All-Conference Team will be made up of the eight singles players and the four doubles teams in the conference tournament and regular season record.
2. At the conference tournament, voting will be submitted for player of the year and coach of the year and will be determined by most wins in conference. In the case of a tie, the top finishing singles player in the conference tournament shall receive the award.
3. The number one and two singles players in the conference tournament and the one and two doubles teams will receive awards. If they were members of the conference championship team they will receive a strip to be attached to their team championship plaque. If they were not members of the championship team they will receive a plaque.

IV. CONFERENCE CHAMPION

The conference champion shall be decided by who has the most conference wins. In the event of a tie, co-champions will be named. Conference awards will be presented to each team.

A. Conference Tournament

1. The tournament directors will rotate from school to school along with site location. The site coach will be the tournament director.
2. Regular scoring will be used during the conference tournament, but an 8-pro set can be recommended to provide flexibility for two rounds, after that regular scoring will revert back.
3. The coaches and the athletic director can have the discussion of playing out the tournament or faulting at the quarterfinals, which allows protection of the student-athletes from injuries.
4. Conference tournament expenses will be shared equally among the colleges in the tournament.
5. The Conference tournament entries will consist of six (6) singles and three (3) doubles and will be a single elimination tournament.
 - a. Singles: 7 (teams) x 6 (entries)= 42 players
 - b. Doubles: 7 (teams) x 3 (entries)= 21 players
6. Ranking of student-athletes will be as followed:
 - a. The AD rep will keep track of all players individual and doubles records on a google excel sheet
 - b. The AD rep will send out an excel sheet of all players participating in IEAC tournament & records to have the coaches vote for all 42 players
 - c. The AD rep will comply all voting sheets & compile the outcomes & than provide a tournament bracket to the body well before the tournament

7. Officials will be used in the tournament when deemed necessary by the coaches and the athletic director rep.
 - a. Fees will be charged to the colleges to pay for officials if the body decides to utilize this option.
8. In addition, each team must bring 12 cans of conference approved balls.
9. The athletic trainer from the host college will provide necessary aid to all players that are participating in the conference tournament.

V. **CONFERENCE TENNIS COMMITTEE**

1. The tennis committee shall be composed of all the coaches who are currently coaching men's in the Inland Empire Athletic Conference plus the athletic director rep for the conference.
2. Voting membership shall consist of one vote per college. There shall be no voting proxy other than committee members own college staff representatives.
3. The committee will evaluate the tennis supplement annually and make any necessary recommendations.
4. The supplement shall be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any meeting of the tennis committee. Only in an emergency may a poll be taken by phone or letter in which case the decision to be made must carry a two-thirds majority.
5. Conference meetings will be conducted at times and sites to best accommodate the membership, while taking into consideration the athletic director rep's role as it relates to the men's program.