

2019 PIAA BOYS' TEAM TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

TEAM TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Each Team shall consist of three (3) Singles Players and two (2) Doubles teams. Players may only play one event (singles or doubles).
2. Each Team, listing students in order of ability, shall establish a strength ladder from 1 to 10. The strength ladder submitted for the Team shall represent the best player at that time at 1st singles, the next best at 2nd singles, and the next at 3rd singles, and so on. The first three (3) student-athletes shall play singles in the order that they are listed on the strength ladder. From the remaining members of the team, two doubles teams are to be selected with the stronger doubles combination playing 1st Doubles. Due to the difference in skill level among doubles players, the singles ladder is not the defining criteria for establishing doubles. No player shall be eligible for singles or doubles team unless they are listed on the team's strength ladder.
3. Each Team shall also establish a lineup (1st, 2nd, & 3rd singles, 1st & 2nd doubles). The strength ladder and lineup shall be submitted at the beginning of their District Team Tennis Tournament to the District Tournament director. A team's strength ladder and lineup **may not be changed** throughout the respective District and Inter-District Team Tennis Tournament.
4. Substitutions may be made only in cases of illness, injury, or severe personal hardship. (As determined appropriate by the Tournament Director). The school's athletic administration and/or Head Tennis Coach shall provide supporting documentation for such substitutions. **A team may elect to substitute or not substitute when the above authorized substitution conditions are present.**
 - a. An ill or injured player may be substituted for and then be reentered in the same position in the team's strength ladder, upon documented authorization from a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine.
 - i. Teams are prohibited from making substitutions that would allow an ill or injured player to be moved from playing singles to doubles, and then back to singles when the ill or injured player has recovered, even with a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine's documented authorization.
 - b. Singles substitution can be made from any of the remaining players on the team's strength ladder, and shall result in the three singles players playing in order of their ability as determined by the strength ladder. A Doubles Team does not have to be disrupted in order to replace a singles player. If a member of the team's Double Team is designated the substitute for the singles position, then the resulting vacant doubles position should be replaced by a player on the team's strength ladder who was not previously assigned to a doubles team.
 - c. Doubles Team substitutions, are direct-line substitutions only. Substitution of both doubles partners is prohibited, if only one of the two players experiences an illness, injury, or severe personal hardship.
 - i. A team may not substitute a player from one of their established Doubles Teams to fill in a spot on the school's other Doubles Team.
 - d. Changing the strength order of the Doubles Teams after any direct-line substitution is prohibited.
5. **Stacking is NOT Permissible.**

Sports such as tennis, have unwritten codes of ethics that are traditional and inherent in the playing rules. Coaches and players have a responsibility to uphold the ethics of tennis as well as the game rules. In an effort to promote fair play and wholesome team competition, coaches shall submit legitimate lineups based on the skill ability of their participating players. Under no circumstances shall a coach stack a lineup. "Stacking" or moving players around with the intent of gaining a competitive advantage is prohibited. Individual matches (singles and/or doubles) will be subject to forfeiture for violation of this rule.

***For a complete listing of the Team Tennis rules please see the Team Championship Memorandum**

On the next page you will find the Strength Ladder and Lineup that needs to be filled out by each coach. This form must be E-MAILED TO (jgrassel@piaa.org) NO LATER THAN 12 PM ON MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019 from those teams qualifying to the PIAA Team Tennis Championships. This form must also be presented to the PIAA Tournament Director at the Site for each PIAA Inter-District Team Tennis Championship Match.

STRENGTH LADDER & LINE-UP FORM

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to complete this form in full may subject the Team to disqualification from the PIAA Team Tournament. Accuracy and completeness in individual player and Doubles Team strength is mandatory. A team's strength ladder and lineup **may not be changed** throughout the respective District and Inter-District Team Tennis Tournament.

SCHOOL NAME: _____ **PIAA DISTRICT:** _____ **CLASS:** _____

STRENGTH LADDER	
NAME	GRADE
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

TEAM LINE-UP	
POSITION	NAME
First Singles:	
Second Singles:	
Third Singles:	
First Doubles:	
Second Doubles:	

COACH SIGNATURE: _____

COACH'S PHONE #: _____

PIAA DISTRICT TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE: _____