

2026 MPA TENNIS BULLETIN

3/25/26

TENNIS SEASON DATES:

Monday, March 16, 2026 – Mandatory Coaches Meeting 5:30 p.m.

For those unable to attend the meeting, click the recording link: <https://meet.google.com/fgf-oang-xah>

Please fill out this Google Form once you watch the meeting video or if you attended last night in person or virtually: <https://forms.gle/K8eGbcTGprxwvJL8> The form needs to be completed prior to April 16th, the first day of countable matches. If you are a new coach or have a new coach on staff, the new coach info sheet (with tiebreak info) can be found here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ynx4gFC560Da1JOuXsgFogKi6uZLw2mmPCC5kyhW23w/edit?usp=sharing>

Monday, March 30, 2026 - First Practice

Thursday, April 16, 2026 – Team Schedules Due (\$50.00 Late Fee)

Thursday, April 16, 2026 - First Countable Match

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 - [Singles Entry](#) Due Date (\$50 Late Fee) A **\$20** fee will be assessed for every player substituted for or withdrawn after this date. A player's coach or the school's Athletic Administrator must alert the tournament Qualifying Site Director (for regional qualifying) or the Tournament Director/Chairperson (for the State Championships) in the event of a player withdrawal along with the reason for said withdrawal. Schools will be fined for withdrawals except for injury, illness, a medical emergency, a change in date for the event or other accepted emergency by the MPA. This puts the onus on coaches and Athletic Administrators to ensure they don't enter players without first checking with them. A reminder: **An unacceptable/unannounced player default during the singles qualifying round is now \$75. The unacceptable default fee increases to \$100 on the first day of the MPA Singles Championship, \$125 for the second day and \$150 for the final day.**

Friday, April 24, 2026 – The MPA will have all singles forms in the hands of the regional site Directors.. Be aware of Default Fee! A **\$20** fee will be assessed per player substituted or withdrawn after Friday, April 24.

Tuesday, April 28, 2026 - Singles tournament auto qualifiers are finalized based on singles entries. Regional qualifying tournament directors, auto qualifying players, and coaches/athletic directors of auto qualifying players will be notified.

Wednesday, April 29, 2026 - Singles Regional Qualifying Seeding Meeting – The school coach (only if in attendance) may make a substitution at this seeding meeting. *Once the draw is finalized no substitutions will be allowed. Coaches should not plan to bring substitute singles players to the qualifying site as they will not be allowed to participate.

Saturday, May 2, 2026 – Regional Singles Qualifying Round at regional sites (be aware of SAT Conflict). Student athletes, Athletic Administrators, and team coaches should consult School Administrators and/or Guidance Directors to determine alternate testing options.

Please be aware that Sunday, May 3rd may be used as the make-up date if Saturday's play is postponed.

Saturday, May 9, 2026 – Recommended date for Regional Doubles Qualifying Round at regional sites.

Please be aware that Sunday, May 10th may be used as the make-up date if Saturday's play is postponed.

Thursday, May 14, 2026 – MPA Singles Championships Round of 52 and Round of 32 at Bates College (Wallach Tennis Center) and MPA Doubles Championships Preliminary Round and Round of 16 at Edward Little High School

Friday, May 15, 2026 – Singles Round of 16 and Quarterfinals at Bates College (Wallach Tennis Center) and Doubles Quarterfinals at Edward Little High School.

Saturday, May 16, 2026 – Singles Semifinals/Finals and Doubles Semifinals/Finals at Bates College (Wallach Tennis Center).

Sunday, May 17, 2026 – Date for make-up play in MPA Championship Singles and/or Doubles.

Friday, May 22 – Friday, May 29, 2026 – Online Team Tennis Sportsmanship Voting

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 – Last countable date for regularly scheduled Team Tennis matches. Indoor play may be required if weather intervenes.

Wednesday, May 27, 2026 – Finalize Heal Points and Set Tournament Brackets

Thursday, May 28, 2026 – Regional Team Prelims at Higher Seed. Teams must make every effort to play on the scheduled date. Makeups will be permitted on Friday, May 29, if necessary. Preliminary matches **must be** completed by May 29.

Saturday, May 30, 2026 – Regional Team Quarterfinals at Higher Seed – Matches may be played by mutual agreement on Thursday, May 28 or Friday, May 29 assuming that any necessary prelims have been completed. Monday, June 1 may be used as a rain date. The quarterfinals must be completed by June 1. Indoor options should be planned in advance.

Wednesday, June 3, 2026 – Regional Team Semifinals @ Higher Seed – If both schools agree, matches may be scheduled on Monday, June 1, or Tuesday, June 2. Thursday, June 4 may be used as a rain date. The semifinals must be completed by June 4. Indoor options should be planned in advance.

Saturday, June 6, 2026 – North A (Colby) and Class B, and C Regional Team Finals at (to be announced). Be prepared for possible indoor play on June 6th. **Outdoor or indoor make-up would be Sunday, June 7th.**

Monday, June 8, 2026 – South A, B, C Regional Team Finals at Bates College (Wallach Tennis Center). Be prepared for possible indoor play on June 8th. Outdoor or indoor make-up options will be determined.

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 – State Team Championship at Bates College (Wallach Tennis Center). Indoor or outdoor make-up may be scheduled for Thursday, June 11.

TESTING DATES AND OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS:

There will be testing and numerous other conflicts with spring sports activities. Coaches, athletes, parents, and school administrators should stay informed and make plans as far in

advance as possible to help address conflict. The following information can help provide solutions/alternatives to address these dilemmas:

AP, SAT and ACT TESTING ... PLEASE PLAN AHEAD!!!

***PLEASE NOTE FOR SCHEDULING PURPOSES:**

SAT TESTING DATES: MARCH 14, May 2, June 6 (Note: May 2 and June 6 are in direct conflict with MPA Tennis championship play). The MPA strongly suggests that all spring athletes take the SAT tests on Saturday, March 14, to avoid conflicts with spring sporting events. Coaches and athletes should check with their school administrators to determine if their school will offer **SAT School Day Testing available from March 2 through April 30 as a new option for schools this spring.**

ACT TESTING DATES: February 14, April 11, June 13, July 11 (Note: Saturday, February 14 may be a conflict for student-athletes competing in winter championship competition)

AP TESTING DATES: Weekdays May 4-May 15 Make-up options are available. Student-athletes should check with their school administrators for potential dates and times.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE TEST DATES: Weekdays April 24-May 20. Student-athletes should check with school administrators well in advance to prevent conflicts with the MPA Singles and/or Doubles Championships.

Other possible concerns:

April Vacation – Saturday, April 18 through Sunday, April 26.

Memorial Day – Monday, May 25

Proms and Graduation – Please be aware of conflicts well in advance

2026 MPA TENNIS COMMITTEE

Mr. Ross Burdick (Waynflete School)

Mr. Evan Graves (Caribou High School)

Mr. Larry Gray (Retired Member)

Mr. Dan O’Connell (John Bapst Memorial High School)

2026 MPA TENNIS TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Cooper Higgins (Falmouth), Chairperson

Mr. Don Atkinson (Portland), Tournament Director

2026 MPA COACHES REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Devin Lachapelle (Coach, Waterville High School)

REGULAR SEASON PLAY DATES AND INFORMATION

LAST COUNTABLE DATE: May 26 is the last possible date for countable Heal Point Matches. An indoor option must be available if play is rescheduled to this date. No regular season matches should be prescheduled on this date.

Reminders when Scheduling:

Singles qualifying is on Saturday, May 2 and the MPA Singles Championships are on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday on May 14, 15 and 16. **Be aware that Sunday, May 3 , May 10, and May 17 are now permissible dates for the make-up of MPA Directed Tournament Events.**

There should be enough dates allowed to complete a 12-match season without going back-to-back before postponements begin! **Do not put off postponed matches until the end of the season! Every year schools experience state tournament date conflict(s) for any number of reasons. The MPA requests that schools plan ahead, well in advance, to keep these conflicts to a minimum.**

TENNIS FEES: Due to the ever-increasing costs of sponsoring our high school tennis tournaments, the MPA now requires each member school to pay a \$100 fee (\$50 if the school sponsors tennis for only one gender) for participation in MPA sponsored team and singles play. This fee covers participation in all MPA sponsored team and singles play, including the entry for up to three male and three female participants in the MPA Singles Qualifying and Championship competition. For schools sponsoring cooperative individuals participating in the State Singles Championships, the fee will be \$25 per player. The tennis season entry fee for schools competing in the MPA Singles and/or Team Tournament Championships will be invoiced by the MPA after the submission of the Singles Tournament Entry Form, which is due on Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

The cost of the State Doubles Championship is not included in the MPA fee. A fee will be assessed to each participating school on a \$25 per-doubles-team basis.

Coaches' Eligibility

*Each coach must complete the NFHS "Concussion in Sport" video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

*Each coach must complete the NFHS "A Guide to Heat Illness" video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

*Each coach must complete the NFHS "Sudden Cardiac Arrest" video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

* First Aid and Safety, and CPR are also requirements.

*****It is required that each coach must complete the NFHS "Protecting Students from Abuse" video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).**

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The safety of athletes (participants), spectators, coaches/directors, school personnel, and all others present at an athletic contest must be the first and foremost concern to the contest officials and building administrators.

1. When an interscholastic contest has been scheduled and dangerous playing conditions exist, or severe weather is anticipated, the following should be considered:

- a. Prior to beginning an athletic contest, when severe weather is anticipated, the head contest official and the principals of each school, or their designees, will meet to review the suspension and/or postponement procedures. This would include any playing rule book coverage.
- b. The host school administrator will be responsible for informing contest officials, visiting school administrators and, if applicable, the individual responsible for public address announcements of designated shelter areas.

- c. When lightning is observed, or thunder is heard in the vicinity of a contest conducted outdoors, play should be suspended.
- d. If any other life-threatening condition occurs, play should be suspended immediately, and predetermined directions to safe locations will be announced.

2. When a suspension of a contest occurs, the following should be considered:

- a. If the suspension is forty-five minutes or greater, resuming later should be considered, unless deemed a countable game (per NFHS rules of the first half of the game being completed).
- b. Play shall not be resumed until 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning or clap of thunder.
- c. When it appears that weather conditions are no longer a threat to the safety of participants, spectators, or contest officials, administrators from all schools involved will meet with the head contest official to determine if play will continue.
- d. If play is to be resumed, contestants will be given at least a fifteen-minute warm-up period prior to competition.

3. If evacuation is necessary, the following should be considered:

- a. If lightning is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators should evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced.
- b. All personnel, athletes and spectators should be clearly informed of available safe structures or shelters in the event a thunderstorm approaches. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced. The person in authority must be aware of the amount of time it takes to get to each structure and the number of persons each structure can safely hold. For large events, the time needed for evacuation is increased and there must be a method (i.e., announcement over loudspeaker) for communicating the need for evacuation and directing both athletes and spectators to the appropriate safe shelters.
- c. The most ideal structure is a fully enclosed, substantial building with plumbing, electrical wiring and telephone service, which aids in grounding the structure. A fully enclosed automobile with a hard metal roof and rolled up windows is also a reasonable choice. School buses are an excellent lightning shelter that can be utilized for large groups of people. However, it is important to avoid contact with any metal while inside the vehicle. Avoid using shower facilities for safe shelter and do not use showers or plumbing facilities during a thunderstorm as the current from a local lightning strike can enter the building via the plumbing pipelines or electrical connections. It is also considered unsafe to stand near utilities, use corded telephones or headsets during a thunderstorm, due to the danger of electrical current traveling through the telephone line. Cellular and cordless telephones are considered reasonably safe and can be used to summon help during a thunderstorm. When caught in a thunderstorm without availability or time to reach safe structures, you can minimize the risk of lightning-related injury by following a few basic guidelines:

* Avoid being the highest object. Seek a thick grove of small trees or bushes surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch.

*Avoid contact with anything that would be attractive to lightning. Stay away from freestanding trees, poles, antennas, towers, bleachers, baseball dugouts, metal fences, standing pools of water, and golf carts.

* Crouch down with legs together, the weight on the balls of the feet, arms wrapped around knees, and head down with ears covered.

MANDATORY COACHES MEETING – MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

On **MONDAY, March 16th at 5:30 pm**, Waterville High School tennis coach and MPA coaches' representative Devin Lachapelle will be hosting a **mandatory** preseason meeting. The MPA Tennis Tournament Committee, consisting of Chairperson Cooper Higgins and Head Tournament Director Don Atkinson, will be at this meeting and will address important issues in the MPA Bulletin.

You may attend the meeting virtually through Google Meet using the link <https://meet.google.com/fgf-oang-xah> or you may attend in person. The in-person portion of the meeting will be held at the MPA Office, 50 Industrial Park, Augusta, 04330.

Attendance is REQUIRED, either in person, virtually, or by viewing the recorded video of the presentation of the **March 16th** meeting. Any viewing of the video must be completed before the start of the tennis season. A \$50 fine will be assessed to the school if the coach does not meet this requirement. Coaches are responsible for all content shared in the meeting.

UNIVERSAL TENNIS RATING (UTR)

Use of UTR is **mandatory** for all teams and all varsity players in the 2026 season.

If a player does not have a UTR Rating, he/she will not be considered for a numerical seeding at the MPA Singles Championship. Please note that a team will never be penalized for cases in which an opposing team has failed to set up its UTR team profile and roster as required.

General requirements:

1. The coach, athletic director, or other assigned team representative must create an individual UTR account and become a provider (admin) of the team's UTR page. Click this link <https://app.universaltennis.com/join> to join UTR. Maine High School teams are available to be claimed on Universal Tennis for FREE. Once your individual UTR account is created, click this link <https://app.utrsports.net/highschool> to claim your team's profile. If you have created an individual account and are struggling to claim your team's account, just email Devin at DeLachapelle@aos92.org.
2. All players must have individual UTR accounts and must be added to the team's UTR roster.
3. Teams must post match scores for all regular season, conference championships, and home/away team playoffs that take place during the current MPA tennis season and it is recommended that teams post-match scores for preseason/exhibition events. Team matches **must** be entered using the "create event" button and selecting "dual match." Team matches must **NOT** be entered using the "add score" button as matches entered this way cannot be easily edited and do not affect player ratings. A team match is

considered “entered into UTR” if individual match scores are correctly listed for all three singles positions and both doubles positions.

4. Scores should be entered within two days of when the match was played.
5. Notable score entry dates:
 - a. All team matches played up to and on **Monday, April 27th** should be fully entered into UTR by end-of-day to provide as much information as possible to regional seeding directors for singles qualifying events and to ensure auto-qualifiers can be objectively determined.
 - b. All team matches played up to and on **Saturday, May 2nd** should be fully entered into UTR by end-of-day to provide as much information as possible for state singles championship seeding purposes.
 - c. All team matches should be fully entered into UTR by end-of-day on **Tuesday, May 26th**, the last day for countable regular season matches to be completed.
 - d. All playoff matches should be entered by end-of-day on match day.

Important Reminders:

1. A maximum of 12 regular season team matches and a minimum of eight countable matches is required for eligibility in the MPA Team Tournament. All matches are the best two of three tie-break sets unless BOTH COACHES agree to another format before play starts.

2. Matches must be completed - there are NO Provisions for protest. Final rulings rest with the Home Administrator in case of disputes. It is important to follow all rules and regulations provided in the MPA Tennis Bulletin and Rulebook. If match issues arise, please contact the MPA Office, MPA Reps, or MPA Tournament Directors as listed in the MPA bulletin. If a match continues to completion, the final result will stand.

3. It is expected that all players will be dressed in matching school issued uniforms and all coaches are expected to enforce this mandate. Transgressions should be reported to the offending school’s athletic administrator or principal. Players may wear warm-up gear over the required uniform if weather dictates. (see Team Tournament Uniform heading for the description of uniform requirements.

4. Once the coaches swap or introduce their line-ups no substitutions can be made unless the match is already decided. This regulation remains in effect if a match has begun and is postponed or interrupted for any reason.

5. USTA rule books may be purchased from USTA PUBLICATIONS, 70 WEST RED OAK LANE, WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10604.

6. **Regular Season Team Matches may end in a tie only if both teams cannot field the full complement of seven players.** Matches in which both teams have seven players must be played to conclusion with a winner determined. This may entail completing the match on a different date or, for whatever reason, one team forfeiting the match to the opponent..

7. All Team Tournament matches that end in a tie due to insufficient numbers of players must be resolved as follows:

Tie-breaker Format.

- 1.) Total sets won,
- 2.) Total games won,
- 3.) Total sets in the singles matches won.

8. It is suggested that coaches sign each other's scorebooks before leaving matches in order to verify accurate team and individual results.

9. Coaches are strongly encouraged to attend the regional qualifying seeding meetings prior to the start of the State Singles Championships to provide valuable and accurate information to help establish the correct seeding order and draw for all participating players. Coaches who choose not to attend should never be critical of the process or its outcome. It is important to get seedings correct at the regional meeting as that information helps establish player positioning for the entire singles championship. There will not be an additional seeding meeting for the round of 52.

10. Coaches must maintain an accurate ladder for all singles players and doubles teams. **All ladder matches must be posted into UTR the same day they take place, thus allowing them to be readily available to other coaches.**

By a team's first countable match, there must be, at minimum, ladder matches posted on UTR showing the #1 ranked player beating the #2 ranked player, the #2 ranked player beating the #3 ranked player, the #3 ranked player beating the #4 ranked player. A suggested minimum ladder match length is one set, although circumstances may require shorter ladder matches earlier in the season if weather conditions are problematic or if court time is otherwise limited.

Once the top three singles players have been established by head-to-head ladder play, a player may only move up, down, into, or out of the singles lineup based on the result of a new ladder/challenge match. A player's most recent ladder/challenge result solely determines the player's singles position. Coaches' discretion must not be a factor. For example, player A beat player B in an early season ladder match resulting in player A being ranked 3rd and player B being ranked 4th. Player B later challenges and beats player A, making player B now ranked 3rd. Player B now **must play third singles and can only be moved to doubles upon losing another challenge match to a lower ranked player.**

11. Coaches must review all regular season and team tournament match hosting suggestions that are included in the MPA Tennis Bulletin and the MPA Tennis Rule Book.

12. Coaches should also review the Code of Ethics for Secondary School Activities provided in the MPA Tennis Rule Book.

13. There will be no ball striking or unauthorized tennis-type warm-up activities during or immediately upon conclusion of the prescribed break periods. In the event of unforeseen circumstances that serve to significantly extend the prescribed breaks, a short warm-up period may be granted if approved by both opposing coaches.

SPORTSMANSHIP

The responsibilities outlined below recognizing a higher order of sportsmanship are what make high school tennis matches unique and refreshing.

Consequences For Violations of USTA/MPA Established Sportsmanship Rules

Point penalties may be imposed against a player for unsportsmanlike conduct during a regular season match or during tournament play for the following violations.

- A. Unreasonable delays between points and when changing ends as well as any other unreasonable delay tactics.
 - B. Visible or audible obscenity or profanity
 - C. Violently, or with anger hitting, kicking or throwing a tennis ball or other equipment
 - D. Verbal or physical abuse of a person associated with a match by the player or anyone associated with the player
 - E. Retaliatory calls made against an opponent due to some perceived injustice during the match
 - F. Improper or illegal coaching by a team coach, a parent, another player or any onlooker.
 - G. Any other behavior deemed to be unsportsmanlike
1. First offense a conduct warning
 2. Second offense player receives a point penalty
 3. Third offense a player receives a game penalty
 4. Fourth offense the player is defaulted

(A player may be defaulted at any time for egregious misconduct)

It is expected that COACHES of the opposing teams will jointly enforce sportsmanship violations at all matches including at MPA sponsored Tournaments. MPA representatives should not be expected to intervene in problematic matches unless an attempt to resolve the issue has been made by both coaches and no acceptable solution could be determined. Coaches must jointly apprise the MPA representatives of the conflict and be accepting of their final decision.

Disruptive Spectator Behavior

In the event that a player on court feels that the behavior of spectators is disruptive to fair play, the player should:

- A. Stop play immediately and set his/her racket down on the court
- B. Call over his/her coach who will notify the opposing coach of a potential issue
- C. Explain to both coaches the issue at hand and potentially identify the spectator(s) in question.
- D. Wait for the coaches to resolve the matter

IF THE COACHES DETERMINE THAT SPECTATOR RULES HAVE BEEN VIOLATED THEY SHALL REMIND THE OFFENDER(S) OF SPECTATOR SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS. IF FURTHER SPORTSMANSHIP VIOLATIONS CONTINUE THE PERPETRATOR(S) SHOULD BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE PREMISES BEFORE THE MATCH CONTINUES. IF THE OFFENDER(S) ARE TEAM MEMBERS THEY MUST REMAIN SUPERVISED AND STAND WITH THEIR COACH OR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Tennis Match Supervision and Spectator Involvement

Although tennis matches have traditionally been known for exemplary sportsmanship, in recent years there has been concern regarding responsibility for proper supervision of the sport in relation to player and spectator behavior.

High School Tennis in the State of Maine relies heavily on school coaches to administer matches and players to make their own calls during all competitions. Unlike most sporting activities there are no officials involved in high school tennis. This puts extra pressure on the players to make the most accurate and honest calls possible, **and to do so without any outside involvement.**

A school is held responsible, at both home and away matches, for the conduct of its competitors, students, coaches and spectators. During most regular season tennis matches there are few spectators, but as State Tournaments begin spectator involvement increases exponentially.

Players and coaches are often both unfamiliar and uncomfortable with this increased involvement and it may create sportsmanship issues that have not arisen during the regular season. Spectators at playoff tennis matches are often unfamiliar with the so-called "Tennis Code" and attempt to support their players or teams in a manner more suited to other sporting activities that they have attended.

Although providing added excitement, this increased level of cheering and spectator involvement often creates angst amongst coaches, spectators, and players alike. All spectators, including team personnel not currently on court, **must** remain a respectful distance from any fencing and/or netting surrounding the court. Spectators, including other players, **may not** speak to players on court during play beyond comments of general encouragement.

Spectators or other players may never attempt to influence or make line calls or other rulings.

Tennis cheering etiquette requires keeping the volume at a respectful level. Players on court should also keep celebration of a winning point at a reasonable level so as to avoid disrespecting the opponent as well as disrupting play on nearby courts.

Cheering should take place only when a player makes a good shot or has an extended rally, not when an opponent makes an unforced error.

APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS DUE TO PLAYER ABSENCES

Over the years, there have been numerous transgressions of the rules dealing with substitutions due to player absence.

Many, but not all, of these transgressions have been deemed unintentional by opposing coaches and the MPA Tennis Committee.

The following guidelines have been established to help clarify appropriate options to deal with player absence(s):

- 1. Teams that will not have a full seven-player team throughout the entire season:**
 - a. The three most highly ranked players on the singles challenge ladder must play singles throughout the season. The #1 player must be better than the #2 player, and the #2 player must be better than the #3 player.
 - b. If a doubles match can be played, it must be at the #1 doubles position!

2. **When a full complement of seven players is available but a regular player in the top seven is missing on a match day:**
 - a. If the missing team member is a singles player, the coach may (1) break up one or both of the doubles teams and play the eighth ranked player on one of the doubles teams, or (2) play the eighth ranked player as the #3 singles.
 - b. If the missing team member is a doubles player, any doubles adjustment made by the coach is permissible.
 - c. In both 1. and 2. above, the #1 doubles team must be stronger than the #2 team.
3. **When fewer than seven players are available for a specific match:**
 - a. Six players available: Default #2 doubles.
 - b. Five players available: Default #2 doubles.
 - c. Four players available: Default both doubles.
 - d. Three players available: Default both doubles.
 - e. Fewer than three players available: Default the match.
 - *Always allow any unassigned player an opportunity to play an exhibition match of some type when possible.

SINGLES TOURNAMENT

PROCEDURES FOR STATE SINGLES PLAY

The state singles individual player entry forms are due on Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

A late fee of **\$50** will be assessed for forms not received by the due date. All player withdrawals and or substitutions after 3 PM on Friday, April 24, 2026, will result in an extra **\$20** penalty.

At the singles qualifying sites, each entrant must bring one unopened can of yellow USTA sanctioned to the matches. The winner of each individual match keeps the unopened can for his/her next match, while the loser keeps the tennis balls used for their match.

Each school is permitted three girl and three boy representatives in the MPA State Singles Qualifying Tournament. Substitutions will not be permitted once the draw is finalized at the regional qualifying seeding meeting. Fines will only apply to the original scheduled qualifying play date.

FOR SCHOOLS WISHING TO ENTER ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUALS IN THE STATE SINGLES QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

If there are fewer than the maximum number of entries in a given qualifying region, there is now a vehicle in place to enable schools to enter one or two (limit two) additional players in the singles qualifying tournament for that region. This is in addition to alternates. The alternates could be the first additional players, if they are not called upon to replace another player.

Reminder: Once a player qualifies for the State Singles Tournament they will not be allowed to participate in the State Doubles Tournament.

Each regional site director will establish an optimum number of entries his/her region can comfortably accommodate for singles qualifying play.

If the actual number of entries is less than the optimum number, additional entries will be accepted.

The order of acceptance of these applicants will be determined by the number of Heal Points accumulated by the applicant player's team as listed on the MPA Website on the morning of the Regional Seeding Meeting.

There is a place to declare application for the entry of additional players on the Singles Entry Form which is faxed by schools to the Maine Principals' Association.

There will be a \$25 fee for each "additional applicant" who is accepted into the regional qualifying draw. The MPA will invoice this fee.

A second applicant from a given school will not be accepted until the first applicant from each school that posts an application has been accepted.

Schools are reminded that it is not a requirement to enter individuals in the MPA singles tournament. However, once a player is officially drawn to a line on the qualifying and/or state championship singles draw sheet, he or she becomes an official entry. If the tournament is played on the scheduled date, there will be a default fee assessed to the school for each entered player who does not participate in the singles tournament after being assigned to a line on the drawsheet.

Once the draw is finalized, substitutions will not be permitted on the scheduled day of play or on any make-up date. (Teammates are certainly welcome in a support capacity)

The default fee schedule is as follows: The fee for a default in the qualifying round is **\$75**. The fee structure increases to **\$100** for a default on the first day of the MPA Singles Championships and **\$125** for a default on the second day of the championship. The default fee for the final day is **\$150**.

PURPOSE FOR SEEDING

Seeding at the qualifying level is designed to recognize the top tennis players in a given draw, regardless of team, conference, section, or regional affiliation. Coaches should bring seeding documentation, including all match results, and UTR Rating to the Regional Seeding meeting.

It is unethical for a coach to unduly promote his/her player for purposes of seeding. A form entitled "MPA Tennis State Singles Seeding Fact Sheet" is included in the MPA Rulebook to help facilitate the dispensing of player information to be used at the regional seeding meeting and for numerical seeding for the MTA Singles Championships.

Reminder: Players who do not have a UTR Rating will be ineligible for a numerical seeding at the MPA State Singles Tournament.

Seeding Criteria

(Applicable throughout the entire MPA Singles Tournament, including the Qualifying Round and the MPA Singles Championships):

- Results of matches in the current MPA Tennis Season (Heal Point counting), including head-to-head matches between elite players who may be considered for seeding.
- Progression in the previous year's MPA Singles Championships including head-to-head matches that may clarify the seeding of players.

- UTR Rating
- Head-to-head results from previous MPA tennis seasons.
- Local, sectional, and national rankings and documented results of sanctioned matches in non-Heal Point competitions (including exhibition matches and MTA and USTA Tournament play)
- Close losses against highly rated players and comparative results against common opponents.

Automatic Qualification

The top ten singles players as determined by the seeding criteria will automatically qualify for the state singles tournament as long as all eligibility criteria for auto-qualification are met. Auto-qualifying singles players will be determined the day prior to the regional seeding meeting date. Please note that auto-qualification does not guarantee a seed at the state level.

Eligibility criteria for singles auto-qualification in a given season are as follows:

1. Player must have a submitted singles tournament entry form on file by the entry deadline.
2. Player must have the results of **all** of the matches in which he or she participated in from the current MPA tennis season entered into UTR through Monday, April 27th by the end of that day. This deadline is in place to ensure that as many matches as possible are being taken into consideration when automatic qualifiers are determined on Tuesday, April 28th. A player will not be punished if an opposing coach fails to set up a UTR team profile as required.

Construction of the Draw—State Singles Qualifying Tournaments:

A. Players will be seeded numerically, **excluding auto qualifiers as outlined above**, equal to the number of qualifying spots allotted to that region:

Region 1 – **5** qualifiers

Region 2 – **10** qualifiers

Region 3 – **7** qualifiers

Region 4 – **6** qualifiers

Region 5 – **14** qualifiers

B. Play at the qualifying level will end when the designated number of qualifiers in a region have been determined. (Do not play down to a sectional champion)

C. In the construction of the qualifying draws, only these two factors will be considered:

1. Numerically seeded players must not meet
2. Teammates must not meet

D. In constructing the draw, the tournament director/tournament committee must work backward starting with the number of qualifiers from that region.

Example: Region 2 — 57 entries; **10** qualifiers. Work backward from **10** qualifiers to **20** players to **40** players.

Play **17** preliminary round matches to reduce the field to the ideal size of **40**. Then play two complete rounds to determine the **10** qualifiers.

E. Except for the final round of qualifying play, an eight game pro-set (with a twelve-point tiebreaker at eight games) will be used.

F. The final round of qualifying play will be **two sets with a 10-point Match Tiebreaker in the event of split sets.**

Expectations of the Regional Qualifying Site Director:

*Provide the opportunity for a reseeding meeting at the conclusion of that day's play using a committee of site coaches as arbitrators.

*Immediately send the following information to the appropriate MPA officials (stamped envelopes will be provided):

1. The individual player information forms as completed by each qualifier and a copy of the qualifying play drawsheet sent to Tournament Director Don Atkinson.

2. A complete listing of withdrawn/defaulting players (and their schools) from your Region. Please send to Mike Bisson at MPA Headquarters.

ROUND OF 52 DRAW PROCEDURE

THERE WILL NOT BE A FORMAL SEEDING MEETING FOR THE ROUND OF 52.

1. The players qualifying for the round of 52 in the singles tournament will be seeded by the MPA Tennis Tournament Committee after consulting with the regional site directors, the MPA coaches' representative, and the MPA Tennis Executive Director. Hopefully this cross-section of opinions will permit us to establish the fairest and most accurate seedings possible.

2. The draw for the boys' and girls' round of 52 championship singles tournament will be developed with the following guidelines:

A. The top twelve players will be seeded numerically by ability.

(1) If two (or more) teammates are seeded, every effort will be made to place them in separate halves (quarters) of the draw unless such placements result in obvious errors in seeding.

(2) Non-seeded teammates must be placed in opposite halves (quarters) of the draw from other seeded/unseeded teammates.

B. The numerically seeded players should be assigned to the 64 player draw sheet as follows:

#1 seed – line 1; #8 seed – line 9; #9 seed – line 13; #4 seed – line #17;

#5 seed – line 25; #12 seed – line 29; #11 seed – line 36; #6 seed – line 40;

#3 seed – line 48; #10 seed – line 52; #7 seed – line 56; and #2 seed – line 64.

C. The four quarters of the draw will then be constructed so that ten non-seeded players are randomly drawn to join the three seeded players in each quarter of the draw.

Attention to [#2, A (1, 2) above] remains in effect.

D. Only the twelve (12) numerical seeds will receive first round byes. All other qualifiers will play a first-round match.

E. In the MPA Singles Championships, all matches in the Round of 52, in the Round of 32, and in the Round of 16, will be two sets with a ten-point match tie-breaker used if the players split sets.

F. Matches beginning with the Quarterfinal Round will be two of three full tie break sets.

COACHING IN MPA SANCTIONED EVENTS

In both the Singles and Team Tournaments, coaches may coach individual players for no more than two minutes on the court at the completion of the first set.

After split sets coaching off-court may take place but play must resume within five minutes. Coaching will not extend the times allowed between sets.

While encouraging a player is certainly within the rules, any form of coaching, whether verbal or through signals, is strictly forbidden at all other times during a match.

Individual conferences may allow for alternative coaching rules during the regular season. Any alternative coaching rules issued by a given conference will not carry over into MPA Sanctioned Tournament play.

MPA REGIONAL SEEDING MEETING SITES

Region 1 - Caribou High School, Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 7 PM

(Evan Graves: Director) W: 493-4260 email: egraves@rsu39.org

Region 2 – Hermon High School, Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 7 PM

(Larry Gray: Director) C: 852-4493 email: ldgtch61@gmail.com

Region 3 – Virtual, Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 8:00 PM (Boys) and 8:45 PM (Girls)

(Devin Lachapelle: Director-Boys) C: 616-1545 email: delachapelle@aos92.org

(Sheila Bohlin: Director-Girls) H: 833-6401 C: 522-2552 email: jsbohlin@myfairpoint.net

Google Meet Link for seeding meetings: <https://meet.google.com/sao-igqi-dvg>

Region 4 – Lewiston High School, Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 7 PM

(Zac Conlogue), Director) C: 779-8452 email: zconlogue@mtbluersd.org

Region 5 - Falmouth High School, Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 7:30 PM

(Cooper Higgins: Chair) C: 650-0390, email: cooperhiggins@hotmail.com

(Jim Crocker: Director Boys) C: 615-9987

(Don Atkinson: Director Girls) C: 712-3956

SINGLES TOURNAMENT CLOTHING

Although team uniforms are not required, it is expected that all singles players will be dressed in tennis appropriate attire. All tops must be free of inappropriate wording or design and must be modest and tucked into or hang below the waistband of the shorts or skirt. The lower body garments must also be appropriate in wording, style, design, trim, and length. Tennis appropriate footwear with non-marking soles must be worn.

TENNIS PROTOCOL AT ALL SINGLES AND TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP SITES

- Glassware must not be taken onto the court.
- Tennis complexes and tennis facilities prohibit gum chewing on all courts.
- All technological devices must be turned off or not taken onto the court by the players.

- Players must use appropriate language at all times.
- Common sense and courtesy should always prevail while playing tennis.

Saturday, May 2, 2026 - Regional Singles Qualifying Round

Postponement Date: In the event of a postponement on this date, the singles qualifying play will be rescheduled for a later date and at a time that best take into consideration the weather forecast, facility availability, and the specific needs of the MPA tennis season. Postponement will surely affect other school sponsored events and create inconveniences. **Please be aware that Sunday, May 3 may be utilized as a make-up date should play be delayed or postponed on May 2.**

Reminder: All players must be checked-in and represented throughout the day by a coach who meets MPA eligibility standards or by a school representative, designated in writing by the principal or athletic administrator. This coaching replacement must meet the MPA coaches' eligibility standards and appear on the school's current coaches' eligibility list.

NO private coach is to be directly involved in a high school seasonal or tournament match unless he / she is on the school's eligibility list for coaches.

MPA STATE SINGLES QUALIFYING SITES AND INFORMATION

Weather permitting, the Qualifying Tournament for the MPA Singles Championship will be played on Saturday, May 2nd, 2026. **Please be aware that Sunday, May 3 may be utilized as a make-up date should play be delayed or postponed on May 2.**

Region 1 - Caribou High School Report: 8:30 a.m. Start: 9:00 a.m.

Director: Evan Graves B: 493-4260 email: egraves@rsu39.org

Region 2 – Bangor High School: 8:00 a.m. Start: 8:30 a.m.

Director: Larry Gray Cell: B: 852-4493 email: ldgtch61@gmail.com

Satellite Sites: Hampden Academy, Hermon, Brewer

Region 3 – Boys Colby College and North Street Recreation, Waterville Report: 8:30 a.m. Start: 9:00 a.m.

Girls at Mt. Ararat, Report: 8:30 a.m. Start: 9:00 a.m.

Boys Director: Devin Lachapelle C: 616-1545 email: delachapelle@aos92.org

Girls Director: Sheila Bohlin H: 833-6401 Cell: 522-2552 email: jsbohlin@myfairpoint.net

Region 4 – Edward Little High School (Girls & Boys) Report: 8:30 a.m. Start: 9:00 a.m.

Director: Zac Conlogue Cell: 779-4852 email: zconlogue@mtbluersd.org

Region 5 Portland Area

Chairman: Cooper Higgins C: 650-0390, email: Cooperhiggins@hotmail.com

Weather Phones for boys & girls: 712-3956 / 650-0390 / 615-9987

(Boys) – South Portland High School Report: 8:30 a.m. Start: 9:00 a.m.

Director: Jim Crocker H: 615-9987

Satellite Site - Waynflete School (Fore River Sports Complex) and Cape Elizabeth High School

(Girls) - Deering High School Report: 8:30 a.m. Start: 9:00 a.m.

Director: Don Atkinson © 712-3956 H: 772-7350

Satellite Sites – Cheverus High School courts, Falmouth

M.P.A. SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR GIRLS AND BOYS

The website for the MPA Singles Championship **which contains matchups and report times is:**
<https://sites.google.com/maine.edu/mpa-tennis>

Weather and Site Phones: 712-3956 or 650-0390

Chairman: Cooper Higgins: Cell: 650-0390

Tournament Director: Don Atkinson H: 772-7350 Cell: 712-3956

Reminder: As in qualifying play, all players must be checked-in and represented throughout the day by a coach who meets MPA eligibility standards or by a school representative, designated in writing by the principal or athletic administrator.

Weather – It is always possible that inclement weather will impact play in the MPA Singles Championship. Postponements and resulting make-up plans will be dictated by facility availability, the long-range weather forecast and the status of regular season team tennis. Specific plans will be released as soon as they are available. **Please be aware that play for the make-up of any delayed or postponed matches may be scheduled on Sunday, May 17.**

SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP SITE: Bates College – Wallach Tennis Center

*Bates College will be in session and parking will be limited each day, especially street parking. All participants, spectators, and staff need to park in the Merrill Gym Lot at 141 Russell St, Lewiston, ME 04240. The Russell Street address should be used as the tournament's GPS address.

Thursday, May 14, 2026 – State Championship Round of 52 and Round of 32 at Bates College – Wallach Tennis Center

Tournament play will begin at 8:00 AM. Individual report and start times will be posted on the tournament website well in advance of the beginning of the tournament.

<https://sites.google.com/maine.edu/mpa-tennis>

Matches in the Round of 52 and in the Round of 32 in the MPA Singles Championships will be two sets with a ten-point match tiebreaker should the players split sets.

Friday, May 15, 2026 – State Championship Round of 16 and Quarterfinals at Bates College – Wallach Tennis Center

Tournament play will begin at 9:00 AM. Each player who advances will be individually informed of his/her report and match time upon qualification.

Matches in the Round of 16 will also be two sets with a Match-tiebreaker in the event of split sets. All matches beginning with the Quarterfinal Round will be full two out of three sets with a seven-point tiebreaker in all sets reaching 6-all.

Saturday, May 16, 2026 - Singles State Championship Semifinals and Finals at Bates College – Wallach Tennis Center

All matches will be full two out of three sets with a seven-point tiebreaker in all sets reaching 6-all.

SEMI-FINALS REPORT TIME: 9:15 AM. MATCH TIME: 9:30 AM.

FINALS REPORT TIME: 12:45 PM, MATCH TIME: 1:00 PM.

At the MPA Singles semifinal and championship matches, the school's approved coach **and each school's Athletic Administrator/designee** are required to attend. Further, they must be prepared to help oversee their player's participation and to help supervise player/parent/spectator's conduct in conjunction with the MPA Tournament Directors. The school administrator/designee must make his/her presence known to the MPA Tournament Directors and must remain onsite throughout the entirety of the event while their player(s) remain involved.

MPA DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

***Players that qualify for the State Singles Round of 52 are not eligible to participate in the State Doubles Qualifying Round. In 2026 players may not participate in the Singles and Doubles tournament.**

The state doubles championships will be held on **Thursday, May 14th and Friday, May 15th at Edward Little High School, Auburn, and on Saturday, May 16th at Bates College, Lewiston. Sunday, May 17th will be used as a make up date should any postponements occur in prior rounds.**

Twenty teams will qualify to play for the state championship based on results at qualifying doubles events held across the state or based on intraconference regular season results.

State qualifiers per conference

State doubles qualifiers are assigned based on the number and size of the schools within a qualifying region. The number of qualifiers for each conference is listed below. At the state level, there will be 4 seeded teams and 8 teams with preliminary matches.

- SMAA: 5 qualifying teams
- KVAC: 5 qualifying teams
- PVC (East): 3 qualifying teams
- PVC (North): 2 qualifying teams
- WMC: 3 qualifying teams
- MVC: 2 qualifying teams

Player eligibility

In order to be eligible for the state doubles championship, each player must:

- 1. Have been ranked at #4 or below in the team singles ladder for more than 50% of matches up to the doubles entry deadline.**
- 2. Have been ranked at #4 or below in the team singles ladder for the week directly prior to the doubles tournament entry deadline.**

Qualifying tournament directors and coordinators should keep the above criteria in mind when accepting entries to their conference championship events and/or when submitting their lists of qualified teams for the state tournament.

Team qualifying

Teams may qualify for the tournament based on the results at a qualifying tournament (if offered).

If a qualifying Doubles Tournament is not offered (or is rained out) prior to the seeding for the State Doubles Tournament, a **qualifying region** may send doubles teams to the state tournament. In this case, teams should be selected for state play based on head-to-head results, **UTR rating**, conference record, and overall record, with extremely strong 2nd doubles teams also in consideration. The **qualifying tournament director or** coordinator will be ultimately responsible for the final selection of the teams.

State doubles tournament format

There will not be a formal seeding meeting for the state doubles championships. Teams from the same qualifying region will not play one another in their first match. Teams from the same school will be placed in opposite sections of the draw. The tournament director will review head-to-head results and UTR ratings in an effort to maintain draw balance. Directors/Coordinators of Qualifying Tournaments should submit the records and head-to-head results of their qualifying teams to delachapelle@aos92.org.

Preliminary round and round of 16 matches in both the girls' and the boys' MPA Doubles Championships will be two set matches with a 10-point match tiebreaker utilized if the teams split sets. In the quarterfinal, semifinal, championship rounds a full two-of three sets will be played.

State Doubles Tournament schedule:

Preliminary round and round of 16 matches will be held on Thursday, May 14 at Edward Little. Quarterfinal matches will be held on Friday, May 15 at Edward Little. Semifinal and final matches will be held on Saturday, May 16 at Bates College.

Note: The makeup of postponements may be held on Sunday, May 17.

State tournament entry form

By end-of-day Saturday, May 9, conference tournament directors and/or conference coordinators must send the following information to Devin Lachapelle at DeLachapelle@aos92.org.

1. A list of all participating teams with player names (if a qualifying tournament was held)
2. Your filled out conference tournament bracket(s) (if a qualifying tournament was held)
3. Your qualifying teams in rank order with player names and emails along with school name and position played (1, 2, or exhibition doubles)
4. A team that narrowly missed qualifying willing to act as an alternate in case of withdrawal with player names and emails along with school name and position played (1, 2, or exhibition doubles)
5. Coach names, emails, and phone numbers for your qualifying teams and alternate team
6. Any preseason or regular season match wins your qualifying teams have against teams who play in a conference doubles tournament other than your own (ex. if your teams qualify in the WMC tournament, list any wins they have against teams in the SMAA, KVAC, PVC, and MVC)

Cost

A **\$25** fee will be assessed to each participating school on a per-doubles-team basis.

Qualifying tournament assignments can be found below.

SMAA 5 teams qualify	KVAC 5 teams qualify	PVC (East) 3 teams qualify	PVC (North) 2 teams qualify	WMC 3 teams qualify	MVC 2 teams qualify
A Thornton	A Camden	A Bangor	B Caribou	B Greely	C Maranacook
A Bonny Eagle	A Messalonskee	A Hampden	B Presque Isle	B Freeport	C Carrabec
A Sanford	A Brunswick	A Brewer	C Houlton	B Lake Region	C Dirigo
A Scarborough	A Mt. Ararat	B John Bapst	C Fort Kent (n-m)	B Cape Elizabeth	C Hall-Dale
A Windham	A Lewiston	B MDI	C Madawaska (n-m)	B Yarmouth	C Madison
A South Portland	A Ed. Little	B Hermon	C Van Buren / Wisdom (n-m)	B York	C Mountain Valley
A Massabesic	A Mt. Blue	B Old Town	C Woodland	C Waynflete	C Oak Hill
A Portland	A Oxford Hills	B Ellsworth	C Schenck / Stearns	C North Yarmouth	C Spruce Mountain
A Gorham	A Skowhegan	C Foxcroft	C Mattanawcook	C Saint Dominic Academy	C Winthrop
A Deering	B Cony	C Orono			C Boothbay
A Biddeford	B Belfast	C Washington			
A Kennebunk	B Waterville	C George Stevens			
A Marshwood	B Lincoln	C Dexter			
A Westbrook	B Medomak	C Calais			
A Falmouth	B Oceanside	C Piscataquis			
A Cheverus	B Morse	C Penobscot Valley			
	B Erskine Academy	C Deer-Isle			
	C MCI	Stonington			
	C Winslow				

MPA TEAM TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

Some schools may have both Boys and Girls teams in Preliminary or Tournament matches. We ask that opponents of these schools extend every courtesy to facilitate scheduling of potentially conflicting matches.

Sequential tournament play must be adhered to. Do not set and/or play a subsequent round match play date based on a projected outcome in a previous round.

Thursday, May 28, 2026 – State Team Tournament Preliminary Round (for Regions with more than eight qualifying teams).

Site: Higher Seed

Time: 3:30 PM unless another time is mutually agreed upon by **BOTH** competing teams.

Make-up matches may be played on Friday, May 29, if necessary. This round must be completed by Friday, May 29. Indoor play may be necessitated!

Saturday, May 30, 2026 – State Team Tournament Regional Quarterfinals.

Site: Higher Seed

Time: 3:30 PM unless another time or date is mutually agreed upon by BOTH teams.

Quarterfinal Round Matches may be played by mutual agreement on Thursday, May 28 or Friday, May 29 providing they do not conflict with any necessary preliminary round competitions. Monday, June 1 may be used as a rain date. The quarterfinals must be completed by June 1 so indoor options should be planned for in advance.

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

State Team Tournament Regional Semi-finals.

Site: Higher Seed.

If opposing schools agree, the semifinal matches may be scheduled on Monday, June 1, or Tuesday, June 2. Thursday, June 4th may be used as a rain date. This will ensure they will be completed no later than the final possible play date Thursday, June 4.

REGIONAL & STATE TEAM TOURNAMENT FINALS

Regional Championships:

Saturday, June 6, 2026 – North Classes A, B, & C Regional Championships

Site: Bangor High School, Brewer High School or Colby College (Indoor play possible)

Please be aware that Sunday, June 7, may be used as a makeup date. These regional championships must be played by June 7th.

C North Championships REPORT: 7:45 A.M. MATCHES START: 8:00 A.M.

A North Championships REPORT: 11:30 A.M. MATCHES START: 11:45 A.M.

B North Championships REPORT: 3:15 P.M. MATCHES START: 3:30 P.M

Indoor play may significantly impact these times, both on the regularly schedule date and the Sunday makeup date.

Monday, June 8, 2026 – South Classes A, B, & C

SITE: Bates College (Wallach Tennis Center).

Every effort will be made to play these Regionals on the scheduled day (Indoor play to be strongly considered). June 9 will be considered as a makeup date only if absolutely necessary.

C South Championships REPORT: 7:45 A.M. MATCHES START: 8:00 A.M.

A South Championships REPORT: 11:30 A.M. MATCHES START: 11:45 A.M.

B South Championships REPORT: 3:15 P.M. MATCHES START: 3:30 P.M.

State Team Championships:

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

SITE: Bates College (Wallach Tennis Center), Lewiston

Indoor / Outdoor makeup may be scheduled for June 11.

Weather and Site Phone: 712-3956

Chairman: Cooper Higgins C: 650-0390

Director: Don Atkinson C: 712-3956

C Championships REPORT: 8:15 A.M. MATCHES START: 8:30 A.M.

A Championships REPORT: 12:15 P.M. MATCHES START: 12:30 P.M.

B Championships REPORT: 4:15 P.M. MATCHES START: 4:30 P.M.

***All matches in the Regional and State Team Tennis Championships will be a full best two of three sets, unless an individual match should split sets after the team match has already been decided. In this case, a 10-point Match Tiebreaker will be played in lieu of a full third set.**

PROCEDURES FOR TEAM TOURNAMENT

HEAL POINT REPORTING SYSTEM

The seeding for the tournament will be determined by using the Heal Point System. Athletic Directors are responsible for the reporting of home matches ASAP following the match's completion. Coaches/athletic administrators are asked to enter results through the link on the MPA website. Please report all scheduled matches to the site as soon as matches are completed.

TEAM TOURNAMENT QUALIFYING MATCHES

The maximum number of countable matches is 12, the minimum number of countable matches is 8. If less than 8 matches are played the team is ineligible for tournament seeding.

TEAM TOURNAMENT QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

Two-thirds of the schools in each geographical region (**but no fewer than eight**) in each class will qualify for the regional tournament. The Heal point system will be used for seeding.

If two or more teams finish with identical heal point tournament ratings, the following tie-breaking system will be in effect:

If the tying teams are both (all) qualifiers for the tournament field, the numerical seeding will be defined by:

- 1) Head-to-head play,
- 2) A coin flip.

If two teams are tied for the final playoff spot, and the tie is not resolved by head-to-head play, a one match playoff will be held with the home team determined by a coin flip.

NOTE: In the event of a three- (or more) way tie for the final qualifying position(s), byes and pairings to determine the tournament qualifier(s), will be decided by a coin flip(s). All coin flips will take place at the MPA office.

SINGLES, DOUBLES AND TEAM TOURNAMENT BALL

The ball for the team and singles tennis conducted by the MPA Tournament Committee will be the **Diadem Extra Duty Hard Court Tennis Ball**. The MPA will provide the balls for the MPA Singles and Doubles Championship Tournaments as well as for the Regional and State Team Championships.

TEAM TOURNAMENT UNIFORMS

It is a requirement for all team members to be dressed in matching school issued uniforms (within reason: fading, dye lots, and sizing issues) throughout the entire match. In cold weather situations discretion should be used to allow for sweatpants and sweatshirts/jackets. All tops must be free of inappropriate wording or design and must be modest and tucked into or hang below the waistband of the shorts or skirt. The lower body garments must also be of the same color and appropriate length. During the regular season matches the coaches and ultimately the host Athletic Administrator are responsible for enforcing this requirement. All violations should be reported to the appropriate athletic administrator or principal.

TEAM TOURNAMENT AWARDS

At the Team Regional and State Team Tournaments, twelve (12) medals will be awarded.

Schools may order additional medals on their own. Schools needing additional awards may contact Dinn Brothers at mkdinn@dinntrophy.com or 1-800-628-9657.

REGULAR SEASON AND TEAM TOURNAMENT HOSTING SUGGESTIONS

It is a privilege to host a Regional Team Tennis tournament match. However, it takes a significant amount of planning to conduct such an event well.

The following suggestions may aid the match director, local administrator, or coach in providing an outstanding experience for all involved!

- Set the time and date for the match as soon as possible.
- Notify the local press.
- Research indoor options if weather is predicted to be a problem.
- Clean the courts and verify that they are well marked, safe and all posts and nets are in good condition and at the proper height.
- Have Roll-Dri's available in case of rain.
- Provide score cards if possible.
- Provide for a water source for all players.
- Bring a copy of the MPA Bulletin and Rule Book to the courts.
- Provide new USTA Approved tennis balls for each match.
- to significantly extend the prescribed breaks, a short warm-up period may be granted if approved by both opposing coaches.

- Continuous play requirements must be adhered to:
 - 20 seconds between points (as timed from the point that necessary tennis balls have been collected)

- 90 seconds on odd game changeovers
 - 2 minutes (with on court coaching) after one set
 - 5 minutes (with on or off court coaching) should there be split sets
- There will be no ball striking or unauthorized tennis type warm-up activities during or immediately upon conclusion of the prescribed break periods. In the event of unforeseen circumstances that serve to significantly extend the prescribed breaks, a short warm-up period may be granted if approved by both opposing coaches.
 - In conjunction with the visiting coach, establish the match order of play, match length, verify and announce match line-ups, establish any special ground rules, enforce the uniform rule, supervise matches, control spectators and establish viewing areas, record the score of the match and report it to the MPA Office and to appropriate media services.

REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS FOR SINGLES QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

<p>Region 1 Evan Graves W: 493-4260 Caribou Fort Kent Houlton Madawaska Presque Isle Van Buren</p>	<p>Region 2 Larry Gray Cell: 852-4493 Bangor Belfast Brewer Calais Deer Isle-Ston. Dexter Ellsworth Foxcroft George Stevens Hampden Hermon John Bapst Lee Academy Maine Central Mattanawcook Mt. Desert Nokomis Old Town Orono Penobscot Piscataquis Shed Schenck/ Stearns Sumner Washington</p>	<p>Region 3 Devin Lachapelle (Boys) Cell: 616-1545 Sheila Bohlin (Girls) H: 833-6401 Cell: 522-2552 Brunswick Camden Hills Cony Erskine Gardiner Islesboro Lawrence (B) Lincoln Medomak Messalonskee Morse Mt. Ararat Oceanside Skowhegan Waterville Winslow Wiscasset</p>	<p>Region 4 Zac Conlogue Cell: 779-8452 Boothbay Carrabec Dirigo Edward Little Hall-Dale Lewiston Lisbon Madison Maranacook Mt. Blue Mountain Valley Oak Hill (G) Oxford Hills (G) Spruce Mtn. St. Dominic Winthrop</p>	<p>Region 5 Cooper Higgins H: 797-3337 Cell: 650-0390 Berwick Biddeford Bonny Eagle Cape Elizabeth Cheverus Deering Falmouth Freeport Fryeburg Gorham Greely Kennebunk Lake Region Marshwood Massabesic North Yarmouth Portland Sanford Scarborough South Portland Thornton Waynflete Westbrook Windham Yarmouth York</p>
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TEAM TENNIS CLASSIFICATION

CLASS A 665+	CLASS B 420-664	CLASS C 0-419
NORTH	NORTH	NORTH
1. Lewiston, 1,655 2. Edward Little, 1,136 3. Bangor, 1,069 4. Oxford Hills (G), 1,021 5. Hampden, 749 6. Mt. Ararat, 738 7. Camden Hills, 737 8. Brunswick, 717 9. Messalonskee, 713 10. Skowhegan, 696 11. Mt. Blue, 694 12. Brewer, 693	1. Hermon, 556 2. Old Town, 536 3. Ellsworth, 522 4. John Bapst, 508 5. Oceanside, 498 6. Waterville, 484 7. MDI, 476 8. Belfast, 471 9. Presque Isle, 456 10. Foxcroft, 431 11. Caribou, 445, 422	1. Houlton/GHCA/S. Aroostook, 382/23/107 2. Orono, 365 3. Washington, 306 4. Mattanawcook, 294 5. Dexter, 273 6. Maine Central, 268 7. George Stevens, 254 8. Fort Kent, 251 9. Calais, 228 10. Piscataquis, 143 11. Woodland, 140 12. Penobscot Valley, 129 13. Madawaska, 115 14. Schenck/Stearns, (B/G), 102/132 15. Van Buren, 52
SOUTH	SOUTH	SOUTH
1. Thornton, 1,287 2. Portland, 1,146 3. Sanford, 1,075 4. Bonny Eagle, 1,034 5. Deering, 1,033 6. South Portland, 990 7. Windham, 935 8. Scarborough, 911 9. Gorham, 813 10. Westbrook, 704 11. Kennebunk, 701 12. Falmouth, 695 13. Biddeford, 689 14. Massabesic, 870 15. Marshwood, 665 16. Cheverus^, 388	1. Cony, 647 2. Freeport, 629 3. Greely, 613 4. Morse, 629 5. Gardiner, 583 6. Yarmouth, 562 7. Lincoln, 555 8. Medomak Valley, 552 9. Erskine, 533 10. Cape Elizabeth, 511 11. York, 503 12. Lake Region, , 500	1. Mountain Valley, 415 2. Spruce Mountain, 407 3. Oak Hill (G), 389 4. Winslow (G), 367 5. Maranacook (G), 369 6. Waynflete, 254 7. Hall-Dale, 251 8. Dirigo, 228 9. Winthrop, 226 10. Carrabec, 196 11. Madison, 167 12. Boothbay, 163 13. North Yarmouth, 140

^Applied to Higher Classification

M.P.A. TENNIS STATE SINGLES SEEDING FACT SHEET

Tennis coaches should complete this document and bring the information to all seeding meetings! Every tennis coach's input is very important to help determine fair and equitable seeding for the M.P.A. Singles Tennis Championships. This form may be sent to Regional Site Directors in advance of the Regional Seeding Meeting.

School _____ Telephone # _____

Coach: _____ Telephone #'s Home: _____ School: _____

Business: _____ Cell: _____ Email address: _____

Athletic Director: _____

Telephone #: Home: _____ School: _____ Cell: _____

Email address: _____

PLAYER'S NAME: _____ Year in School _____ UTR
Ranking _____

Current regular season record W _____ L _____ Ladder Rank: (circle one) #1 #2 #3 Other: _____

A. Regular season significant match results:

	Match Result (W or L)	Opponent's Name	School	Scores
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____	_____

B. Progression and results from previous M.P.A. Tournaments and Tennis Seasons

State singles qualifying results: Year: _____

	Round	Result (W or L)	Opponent's Name	School	Scores
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____

Progression and results from previous M.P.A. Tournaments and Tennis Seasons

State singles qualifying results: Year: _____

Round	Result (W or L)	Opponent's Name	School	Scores
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Progression and results from previous M.P.A. Tournaments and Tennis Seasons

State singles qualifying results: Year: _____

Round	Result (W or L)	Opponent's Name	School	Scores
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

C. UTR Rating: _____

D. Past regular season singles results: Ladder Rank: _____

W____ L____ Year_____ #1 #2 #3
 W____ L____ Year_____ #1 #2 #3
 W____ L____ Year_____ #1 #2 #3

E. Significant results from past seasons in M.P.A. Heal Point countable matches:

Match	Result	Opponent	School	Year	Scores
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

F. Significant results in non-countable high school Heal Point matches during the current tennis season:

Match	Result	Opponent	School	Year	Scores
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

G.. Close losses against quality opponents during the current tennis season:

Match	Result	Opponent	School	Year	Scores
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

H.. Documented local, sectional, and national rankings:

Year	Rank	Organization	Governing Official
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Documented head to head results in Non-M.P.A. junior and adult tournaments:

Match	Result	Opponent	Tournament	Year	Scores
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Coach's signature serves to verify the correctness of all information given above!

Coach's Signature: _____ Date: _____