



2025 AIA State Individual Tennis

ADMINISTRATOR/COACH TOURNAMENT GUIDE

Schedule, Rules, Regulations, Instructions

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AIA State Individual Tournament Format

Three AIA Divisional State Individual Tennis Tournaments will be held, in accordance with the AIA Executive Board adopted State Tournament Reconfiguration.

- Each school that participates in AIA varsity tennis has been placed in an AIA Executive Board-approved division for the AIA State Individual Tennis Tournament.
- The AIA State Individual Tournament is a varsity competition tournament representing the top 32 singles players and the top 32 doubles teams.

AIA State Individual Tournament Scoring

- Singles and Doubles matches will be the best two (2) out of three (3) sets with a 10 point tie-breaker (instead of a full third set) played in the event players split sets. Players will switch sides every 6 points. Regular scoring will be used (ad scoring).
- A 12 (first to reach 7 ahead by 2) point tiebreaker will be used at 6 all in singles and doubles matches for the first and/or second sets. Players will switch sides every 6 points.

PLAYER SELECTION

- All players must have participated in 50% of the matches (AIA tournaments/invitationals may count towards this participation rule) they were eligible to play.
- (8) AUTOMATIC ENTRIES – Top 8 power ranked teams at the end of the season will enter one singles player and one doubles team for the individual tournament.
- (24) AT LARGE ENTRIES – The remaining 24 players and 24 doubles teams will be selected by the Tennis Advisory committee. All teams may submit up to two singles and two doubles entries for consideration in to the draw.
- Entries can be submitted starting on April 9 but no later than **Noon on Thursday, April 17, 2025.**

TENNIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- The Tennis Advisory Committee will select the 24 (At-Large) strongest singles players and doubles teams to compete for the individual championships. Selections by the Tennis Advisory Committee are final, there are no appeals.

AIA Tennis Advisory Committee will utilize AIA Executive Board approved criteria for selection.

- Coaches completed State Entry form for State Tennis Tournament
- AIA Season Record (AIA 365 results)
- Head to Head Competition
- Previous State Tournament Results
- USTA Rank (WTN)
- UTR

Entry: Must be submitted no later than Noon, Thursday, April 17, 2025.

To make entries for the state individual tennis tournament, use the AIA School log-in page where your rosters are located and click on the blue box at the top labeled “Make Your State Selections”. Players may play singles or doubles but not both. If a coach makes a mistake and enters a player into both singles and doubles, the singles entry will be ignored. Also, you do not need to complete any other form (i.e. player’s record, stats, etc.). The Tennis Advisory Committee will research the player’s information.

SEEDING COMMITTEE

The Seeding Committee will consist of Varsity head coaches, from the divisions their players compete.

Following the selection of all players in the tournament by the Tennis Advisory Committee, the seeding of the players will be done by the Seeding committee. They will seed the top 8 Single players and top 8 Doubles teams according to their rank based on the criteria below. The other participants will be a computer blind draw.

AIA Tennis Advisory Committee and AIA Executive Board approved criteria will be utilized in the selection.

- Coaches completed State Entry form for State Tennis Tournament
- **2025** AIA Season Record (AIA 365 results)
- Head to Head Competition
- Previous State Tournament Results
- USTA Rank (WTN)
- UTR
- Coaches vote determines final seeding
- If any of the Top 8 seeds are from the same school, they must be seeded on opposite sides of the bracket. (seeds 1,4,5,8 are on the same side and 2,3,6,7 are on the same side).
- The entries that a coach submits are expected to compete until they are eliminated through play. Failure of a singles player or doubles team to compete as scheduled, except in an emergency or injury situation, may be considered a school violation of AIA bylaw; article 11.4.2.

A Singles Player or Doubles Team to be Considered for Seeding

The varsity coach presenting a player or doubles team’s seeding credentials needs to provide documentation at the seeding meeting of a match by match record account of that singles player or doubles team’s AIA regular season records.

The record account should include the following;

- Player or players’ names
- Date of match/ Name of opposition player(s) and team/result
- Team position played in the match (1, 2 or 3 in singles, 1 or 2 in doubles)
- If competition occurred in an invitational, omit team position but record competition

If a varsity coach has a singles player or doubles team that they believe warrants consideration for being seeded as one of eight seeds on a bracket, it is imperative that the coach attend the seeding meeting to present their singles player or doubles team credentials for seeding.

Tennis Advisory Committee State Individual Tournament Selection Meeting:

- Thursday, April 24 @ 6pm by Zoom.

2025 AIA State Individual Tournament Seeding Meetings (Varsity Head Coaches strongly encouraged attend this meeting): If you cannot attend - Join Zoom Meeting:

Girls Coaches -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84122001386?pwd=RW1hV3ZMR1ZYbEl1OWZub1dPT0k0QT09>

Boys Coaches -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86985056924?pwd=NmtYUktkaUIPWWIFR0R5UzB0WXFSZz09>

- Division I coaches seeding meeting : Saturday, **April 26 @ 10am** in AIA Board Room
- Division II coaches seeding meeting : Saturday, **April 26 @ Noon** in AIA Board Room
- Division III coaches seeding meeting : Saturday, **April 26 @ 2pm** in AIA Board Room

AIA State Individual Tournament Brackets (including dates/locations/check in times):

The AIA State Individual Tennis Tournament brackets including sites, player bracket assignment and match check-in times, are available at the following AIA365.com links:

<http://www.azpreps365.com/brackets/tennis-boys>

<http://www.azpreps365.com/brackets/tennis-girls>

Tournament Dates/Sites

May 2 (Rounds 1 & 2) - Div. III at Paseo Racquet Center, Div. II at Mesa Tennis Center, Div. I at Phoenix Tennis Center

May 3 Quarters & Semis) - Div. III, II, I at Paseo Racquet Center

May 5 (Finals) - Div. III, II, I at Paseo Racquet Center

Check in Times:

All entrants are to report to the tournament table fifteen (15) minutes before listed check-in time. USTA default penalties are in effect.

Rules:

AIA Bylaw 30.1.1: The rules in the current edition of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Rules of Tennis & Cases and Decisions will apply in all matches.

o **30.1.1.2 EXCEPTION:** The following exceptions to the USTA Code of Conduct Rules shall apply:

- First offense is point penalty
- Second offense is game penalty
- Third offense is disqualification
- There is no carry over from one match to another.

o **30.1.1.3 EXCEPTION:** The following exceptions to the USTA Injury Rule shall apply:

- 5 minutes to get trainer (or coach) to court
- 2 minutes to diagnose injury or illness
- 3 minutes to treat

- 90 seconds on changeover does not count toward the above minutes □
- Lack of conditioning injuries is included in this rule.
- A player may be treated once for the same injury in that match
- A practice or competition on the site of the AIA State Individual Championship Tournament, except for a regularly scheduled contest, is not permitted for seven (7) calendar days prior to the Region or State championship, except in the case of the host school. This includes no warming up at the site prior to the players taking the court to warm up. All serves will be taken during warm-up period. Play is continuous.

Coaches and Coaching:

- Only the school board approved head coach and one assistant coach will be allowed to coach.
- Coaching is allowed during 90 second changeovers starting with the first official changeover after the third game of each set. No coaching is allowed after the first game of each set; this is simply a changeover.
- Coaching is allowed after each set including the break between the second set and the 10 point tie-breaker.
- Coaching is done outside the court.
- Coaching is not allowed in between points or during a game.
- Coaching is not allowed during a tiebreaker.
- Communication must not interfere with the continuation of play.
- Coaching by other players, parents or spectators during play and in between games or sets during a match is not allowed.
- Any violation shall result in forfeiture of the contest and elimination of the team or individual from that tournament as recommended by the Tournament Director.
- Coaches should provide the Site Director with a cell phone number where they can be reached in case one of their players needs attention or the tournament clerk needs to reach you on site.

Dressing Facilities

- All bathroom/dressing facilities are open to both teams and the general public.

Uniforms

- School identifiable issued uniforms must be worn.
- Participants must wear school administrative approved tennis appropriate clothing.

Rest Intervals

- There will be rest intervals between sets and between matches. The rest interval between matches will be at least one hour for singles and 30 minutes for doubles per USTA rules. The referee may lengthen the intervals due to weather or other justifiable conditions.
- USTA now specifies that “there shall be” a two-minute break at the end of each set (the time is determined from the last ball struck at the end of the set, to the first ball struck to begin the next set).
- There is no rest on the changeover after the first game of any set. All other changeovers players are entitled (as previously) to 90 seconds rest. (Again, the time is determined from the last ball struck at the end of the game, until the first ball struck to begin the next game).

Awards

Individual Tournament awards will be presented following the completion of the individual singles/double championship. If a player(s) cannot or does not attend the award ceremony, the awards can be picked up at the tournament site during the award ceremony by the player's school coach or at the AIA office.

Inclement weather and Departure from tournament site:

In case of inclement weather, it is the coach's responsibility to:

- Check with the Site Director to determine tournament schedule.
- Review with the Site Director the site and time of a coaches meeting in which possible changes of schedule for tournament play will be determined.
- Advise all participants that they shall not leave the tournament site prior to clearance from the Site Director.
- If a coach or participant fails to comply and a participant fails to appear for a scheduled match, the participant may be disqualified by the site director and/or the tournament director, and the tournament shall continue.

Certified Athletic Trainers:

There will be a certified athletic trainer at any AIA State Tennis Tournament site. Trainers are there for emergency situations only. Trainers do not tape or treat injuries.

Water and Ice:

Water and Gatorade will be provided at the tournament site. The certified athletic trainer will have ice and supplies to treat injuries. Please be sure players clean up any litter before leaving courts.

Officials:

Individual Tournament: AIA certified tennis officials will be employed for all of matches as "roving umpires" for matches. (Officials indicate that player behavior needs to be addressed and encourage coaches to focus on this aspect with their players.)

Tennis Balls:

Tennis balls will be provided for the tournament at Paseo Racquet Center, Mesa Tennis Center and Phoenix Tennis Center.

Programs and Souvenirs:

PepWear is the official supplier for AIA Programs and Souvenirs. *Sale or distribution of AIA State Tournament related game programs, t-shirts or any other souvenirs by any individual or company other than PepWear at any AIA State Tournament playoff site or game is prohibited.*

T-shirts, caps, etc. will be available at as many sites as possible. You may also purchase souvenirs by visiting the website shop.azpreps365.com.

Parents, spectators and participants want to see their school team picture and names included in the souvenir program. School coaches and athletic directors should make every effort to meet the posted AIA State Tennis Tournament program deadlines.

ADMISSION

All spectators need to purchase tickets online through the following links:<https://gofan.co/app/school/AIA>tickets.azpreps365.com

You may purchase tickets prior to the event (strongly encouraged) or onsite at the gate. No cash payments.

Neutral Site State Tournament Games:**\$15.00 Adults****\$7.50 High School Student with ID**

Including: Paseo Racquet Center, Mesa Tennis Center (Gene Autry), Phoenix Tennis Center

FREE ADMISSION

Children five or under

Players entered in the tournament (in identifiable school uniform) entering with their varsity on the day they are competing

All tournament workers

Media with AIA issued media credentials

AIA Lifetime Pass Holder and One Guest

AIA Complimentary Pass and One Guest

Photo ID required for AIA Pass Holder and all AIA Complimentary Passes

Note: If a player is eliminated, and their team is from out of Maricopa County and they have teammates still in the tournament that require the individual to stay in Maricopa County with the coach and teammates, they will be admitted free to the Saturday tournament event once they are identified with a photo ID on the singles or doubles tournament bracket.

Site Director Score Reporting

Scores must be reported in compliance with AIA bylaws.

ADA Compliance information can be found at: <https://aiaonline.org/files/14160/committees-adacompliance.pdf>

AzPreps365.com Video Streaming: Any school wanting to video stream a playoff game in any round must contact Brian Bolitho, bbolitho@aiaonline.org. The exclusive rights for post season tournaments belongs to the NFHS Network; however schools may broadcast a first round through semi-final game through Azpreps365.com/NFHSNetwork.com and not have to pay a rights fee. Any school wishing to broadcast on a third party website will be subject to the rights fee of that sport.