

## **PLAYING REGULATION – GHAC TENNIS**

**1. Ages:** All competitors must meet the current OFSAA age requirements as per the OFSAA Age Classification Policy.

**2. Events:** The events to be conducted are:

- Junior High School Division: Boys Singles, Boys Doubles, Girls Singles, Girls Doubles, Mixed
- Senior High School Division: Boys Singles, Boys Doubles, Girls Singles, Girls Doubles, Mixed
- Open (Ranked) Division: Boys Singles, Boys Doubles, Girls Singles, Girls Doubles, Mixed

**3. Eligibility:** All competitors must meet the eligibility requirements as per the Article XI, Section I of the GHAC Constitution.

The GHAC Tennis Championships shall provide competition in Open and High School divisions. Classification of divisions is as follows:

- Open Division: player must have won a minimum of two rounds in total (one round or more in a tournament and/or at a later date wins a round in another tournament) in 3 star Ontario Tennis Association (OTA) tournaments or higher or the equivalent (USTA, European championship) in the three years prior to the beginning of the school year. Any player who has ever played in the Canadian Nationals or any player that has ever played in any U-14, U-16 or U-18 provincial championships shall also be considered an open player. A bye, defaulted or retired match in an OTA event does not constitute a win.
- High School Division: any player who has not met the above criteria for an Open player.

**\* Note that a player is deemed “Open” regardless of age. If a player is deemed to be Open he/she must play in the Open event and cannot play in the High School division.**

**\* It is the coach’s responsibility to ensure an Open player does not play in the High School Division.**

**4. Entries:** Entering players into events.

- No player may compete in more than one event at one tournament. A junior player may play at the senior tournament.

- Each school may enter one team/competitor per event in the High School Division.
- Each school may enter multiple teams/competitors into each event in the Open (Ranked) Division. This is under the discretion of the convenor due to court availability on the day of the Open tournament.
- Each coach shall provide the convenor with event entries (player names and skill levels) one week prior to a tournament.
- In a doubles or mixed pairing, if any individual is an Open player, the entire team shall be considered Open.

**5. Tournament Structure:** Each event in each tournament will be run as a Single Elimination tournament. Each match will consist of a 6 game pro-set (no ad scoring) where the winner must win by two games. A first to 7 point tie-break will occur at 6-6. Depending on the number of entries into each event and number of court hours available, the convenor may increase this to an 8 game pro set (7-7 tie-break)

**6. Seeding:** Coaches will classify each player's skill level.

**7. Expenses:** An Entry Fee shall be charged which shall be sufficient to cover the operating costs of the tournament. Any school that does not meet its entry commitment after it has declared an entry into the tournament will be required to submit the entry fee and a report will be made to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

Those schools having entries are responsible for arranging and financing their own travel, meals and accommodation for the event.

**8. OFSAA Berths:** GHAC is permitted to send two entries per event at OFSAA. This applies only to the Senior and Open (Ranked) tournaments.

- OFSAA events are High School Boys Singles, High School Girls Singles, High School Boys Doubles, High School Girls Doubles, High School Mixed Doubles, Open Boys Singles, Open Girls Singles, Open Boys Doubles, Open Girls Doubles, and Open Mixed Doubles.
- The GHAC finalist and winner in each of the above events will receive a berth to OFSAA in that same event.

**9. Rule Book:** The Tennis Canada Rules of the Court will govern play unless specified differently in the General Regulations.

**10. Officials:** At each tournament:

- Officials will not be provided.
- Players must make their own calls on the court, and must agree to the score.
- Each team will call balls in or out on their own side of the court.
- The other team (opponent(s)) may not challenge calls.
- Coaches may not call balls in or out for their players, and may not keep score.
- Coaches may not coach during the match, verbally or otherwise.
- In the event that players cannot come to an agreement the convenor will make the final call.

**11. Uniforms:** Proper Tennis apparel is required. OFSAA rules will apply.

**12. General Regulations:**

- A school may enter a partial team.
- The convenor has discretion to modify tournament conditions, e.g. length of matches.
- Balls shall be supplied by the Convenor.
- The Convenor or his/her designate shall act as Chief Umpire and his/her decision shall be final.
- Operating expenses for the meet will be met by entry fees from the participating schools. Fees are to be charged per competitor, per event as determined by the Convenor.
- A school missing deadlines listed will NOT be permitted to enter a team
- In the event of a disqualification of a player after a tournament, the convenor shall determine a reasonable replacement for that player taking into consideration past and present tournament results.

**13. Dates:** Each year there is a Junior Tournament, a Senior Tournament, and an Open (Ranked) Tournament.

- The Senior and Open (Ranked) tournaments will take place on the same day. These tournaments will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> last Wednesday in May. This is to ensure coaches and the convenor have suitable time to enter team information to OFSAA.
- The Junior tournament will take place on the last Wednesday of May.

While the convenor will do all he/she can to ensure the tournaments are on the second last and last Wednesdays of May, court booking and other factors may force a date change. This will be communicated to all coaches

