**SIMCOE COUNTY SPORTS’ PLAYING REGULATIONS**

###### TENNIS

**1. Simcoe County Guideline Category:** Preparatory Meets

**2. Season:** Fall (Open) and Spring (Junior only)

**3. Location of Finals and Date:**

 Fall (Open) Barrie - last week of September

 Spring (Junior) Barrie - 2nd last week of May

**4. School Classification and Level:** open to all schools

Boys and Girls

 Junior and Senior

 Fall: Open Competition

 Spring: Junior only (under 15 years of age, as of January 1st prior to the start of the school year)

**5. League Structure and Play-offs:** (including tie-breaking procedure)

 Number of dates in schedule per school 1 preparatory county wide meet

 in both the Fall and the Spring

 Number of dates involved for play-offs: 1

(a) **League Structure:** County wide SCAA qualifiers for GBSSA **(1 for Sr in fall and 1 for Jr in spring)**

(b) **League Play:**

 A one-day round robin timed tournament will be held to determine three (3) winners in boys’ singles, boys’ doubles, girls’ singles, girls’ doubles, and in mixed doubles.

 Each school will have the opportunity to participate in one Meet to qualify for GBSSA.

**Warm-up** for Group 1 begins at approximately 9:00 am

Matches for Group 1 begin at approximately 9:30 am

If there are **16 entries in an even**t, they are divided into four groups.  Each team in the group plays every other team in the group - a total of 6 matches (with each team playing 3 matches).

A plays C    B plays D A plays B

A plays D    C plays D B plays C

**Each entrant plays three matches.**

Staggered start times for the different groups would allow some players to arrive later than others at the tournament.

A half hour warm-up will be allowed for Group 2 before their matches begin and also for the 3rd and 4th groups. Players may warm up as courts become available so there will be minimal delay.

Matches for each group will be timed matches of 20 minutes, with no ad scoring. At the end of the prescribed time, a whistle is blown, and players must stop.  A game that is partly won goes to the team that is ahead. This prevents the team that is ahead (in number of games won) from stalling as they wait for the whistle that ends their match).Players report the total number of games won at the end of each match, and their totals, after all six matches have been played, determine their rank within their group of four.

**Semi-finals**

The top team in each group of four moves on to semi-finals. These teams will be permitted a 10-minute warm up time before their semi-final rounds.

**In semi-finals,** the 1st and 4th teams play, and the 2nd and 3rd teams play.  These matches can be full Kramer sets, or they could be timed (30 - 40 mins) matches with no ad scoring.

**The finalists** play a full Kramer set with regular ad scoring. Third place would be determined in a match between the two losing teams from the semis.

**If there are 12 teams in an event,** there would be three groups of four.  The round robin preliminary matches would go as above:

A plays B

A plays C

A plays D

B plays C

B plays D

C plays D

**Each entrant plays 3 matches.**

(c) **Seeding Requirements:**

 (i) Players from the same school must be seeded on opposite sides of the draw.

 (ii) Where possible a first seed from one school should play a second seed from another school.

1. It is the job of the convenor to check the results of the previous years’ Regional and GBSSA tournaments. This will ensure the proper seeding of last year's Regional/GBSSA semi-finalist and finalist.
2. Coaches are asked to identify any club level players. Entries to GBSSA may be separated into high school and open divisions where numbers warrant. Coaches should rank the level of playing ability of their athletes to aid the convenor(s) in the seeding process.

**6. Start Times:**

See the General Guidelines; Secondary School Athletic Activities Operating Parameters, as per the SCDSB, the regional tournament for both juniors and seniors must begin by 9:00am in order to finish under daylight conditions.

**7. Date for Declaring the Number of Teams and Classifications:**

 Two (2) weeks prior to the regional date (early September).

**8. Date for Receiving Entries:** five calendar days prior to the tournament date.

**9. Convenorship Rotation:**

* 1. Convenors are appointed for a two-year term.

The rotation is by volunteer and then by appointment based on school convening roles.

* 1. The convenor of the Regional Tournament(s) is required to submit the top four (4) finishers in each of the divisions. The top three (3) will advance to the GBSSA Final Tournament. The fourth-place finisher(s) is to be given in case one of the top three players/teams is unable to advance or in the event that the “Far North” does not have an entry.

**10. Eligibility:** as per the GBSSA Constitution (By-Law 2, Sections 1 to 13).

1. Schools must file completed, signed OFSAA Hub eligibility lists (containing the level of competition, names, ages, and birth dates of players, and the required signatures) with the regional convenors no later than 24 hours prior to the competition. Any player changes require 24-hour notice prior to that player's first competition in each sport. Note that any events participated in played by players of schools that have not filed eligibility lists will be declared a forfeit and result in disqualification.
2. All competitors must comply with the GBSSA transfer policy and procedure.
3. Players must participate in a minimum of 6 high school practises prior to the Regional Qualifier.
4. No competitor is eligible for the GBSSA Championships if they participate in Jr., Intermediate or Sr. divisions in any National and or International Association.
5. All junior players must be under 15 years of age, as of January 1st prior to the start of the school year.
6. All senior players must be under 19 years of age, as of January 1st prior to the start of the school year.
7. Any junior-aged player, who qualifies for or participates in the Fall GBSSA Tournament, will be deemed a senior player and, **therefore, will be unable to participate in junior-aged tournaments for that school year**.

**11**. **Expenses:**

 Convenors may charge a levy to cover administrative expenses (telephone, fax, postage, photocopying, paper, etc.). This levy is to be shared by all schools in the competition and will be collected as part of the activity competition fee. The total administration levy is not to exceed $50.00.

**12. Rules and Officials:**

1. Ontario Tennis Association rules apply.
2. Competitors referee their own games.
3. Once Regional Tournament play begins, no substitutions or substitute players will be allowed.

**13. Uniforms and Equipment:** as per the GBSSA Constitution, Sport Regulations.

**14.** **Awards**:

Competition awards, in the form of medals, will be presented to first, second, and third place in all categories/divisions. The cost of these medals will be absorbed by all of the participating schools.

**15. Protest Procedure:**

1. Protests will be settled by the Meet director(s).
2. Protests may be lodged on items not under the jurisdiction of the officials or the GBSSA Board of Reference.

 (c) All protests must be made within 24 hours of the incident, by email, to the league convenor and followed by a written report within three (3) school days to the league convenor.

 (d) The SCAA Jury of Appeal will deal with protests.