

MOUNTAIN VALLEY CONFERENCE
TENNIS BY-LAWS
(Revised 11/22/2011)

1. Rules

- A. The National Federation Rule Book (as adopted by PIAA) governs.
- B. All members of the conference shall be governed by rules and interpretations adopted by the P.I.A.A.
- C. United States Tennis Association Rules apply except for no-adding scoring.

2. Levels of Competition

- A. Boys and Girls Varsity
- B. Girls Junior Varsity

3. Contest Rules

- A. Starting time for all MVC matches will be 3:30 pm, warm-up starting at 3:20 p.m.
- B. A team match shall consist of seven contests, three singles, and four doubles. The winner of a contest shall be the player who wins two of three sets. Each contest shall count one point in the score. No player may play in more than one contest. Exception- singles players are permitted at #1 doubles, only.
- C. The coaches shall exchange lineups in the following manner:
 - a. Coaches shall exchange official singles lineups and 2, 3, 4 doubles lineups simultaneously during the verbal introduction just before the start of the match. In case of postponement, lineups will be re-exchanged if no points have been played
 - b. The number 1 doubles should be exchanged simultaneously no later than 5 minutes after the completion of the last singles match. In case of postponement, lineups will be re-exchanged of number 1 doubles providing no points have been played.
 - c. Singles players may only play number 1 doubles. Exception: If a team has less than nine players, this by-law may be waived for both teams.
 - d. Doubles matches must start as soon as a court is available.
- D. A missing player in singles can forfeit/substitute that position if the player is not missing for more than seven consecutive days prior to the contest. After seven days, all players must play according to their rank. If for any reason a ranking player is not able to participate, ranking player two becomes one, three becomes two, four becomes three.
- E. In event of interrupted play, any match not previously started can be altered to include players not present at the "start of play". (Definition of start of play: first serve in competition).
- F. Any interrupted match that cannot be continued because of the absence of player(s) will count as default.
- G. In the event of injury or illness, the player will be allowed ten minutes of cumulative time to resume play. If the player is unable to resume play after the ten minutes, he/she will default the match.

- H. The juggling of a customary line-up to secure an unfair advantage shall be considered unethical practice and may form the basis of protest to the conference.
 - I. If any ranking player does not play singles for any reason, he/she may only participate in first doubles.
 - J. The ranking of players must be determined exclusively by challenge.
 - K. Any team that fails to show up for scheduled match and does not notify the opposing team will forfeit that match.
- 4. Warm-ups**
- A. The warm-up period shall not be more than 10 minutes in length, including practice serves. The home team coach will decide when the warm-up period is over.
 - B. A maximum of 15 minutes between singles and doubles shall be permitted, including warm-up.
- 5. Ball**
- A. For each singles contest and each doubles contest, the home team will provide three new balls that approved by the United States Tennis Association.
- 6. Score**
- A. No-add scoring will be used in all matches.
 - B. In the event of a 6-6 score, a 12 point tiebreaker will decide the winner of the set. The result scoring being 7-6.
- 7. Bench/Sideline Protocol**
- A. Coaching comments will be permitted during off game switchovers with no stop in action, not to exceed one minute and continuous play is encouraged
 - B. A 90 second coaching period will be allowed between the first and second set. Players must remain on the court. There will be a ten-minute break between the second and third sets in singles and doubles if either player or doubles team requests it. At that time, the player(s) may leave the court if they choose.
 - C. Only players engaged in a match shall be permitted within the court enclosures.
- 8. Postponement**
- A. Postponement of games is up to the home team.
 - B. The home team is responsible to notify all parties involved.
 - C. The rescheduling of a game must be by mutual consent of the teams involved on the next available playing date, including Saturdays.
 - D. If a contest is postponed after it has begun, it will be resumed with the score at which it stopped, on a date convenient to both schools.

9. End of Season Meeting

- A. The meeting will occur at the MVC Tennis Tournament Seeding meeting.
- B. Coaches must attend any meeting called by the sport chairman and must complete any forms requested. Forms include All Star nominations, officials' ratings, etc.
- C. Each team **MUST** be represented by the head coach or the head coach's designee (to be approved by the school's athletic director or principal). If a school is not represented a fine of \$50 will be assessed to the school.
- D. "Most Valuable Player" voting:
 - a. Coaches may nominate one of their own players to be considered for the "Most Valuable Player" Award.
 - b. Voting will occur via email approximately 1 week before the end of the season.
 - c. Coaches can NOT vote for their own players.
 - d. In case of a tie, coaches will re-vote once, voting for one of the athletes that were tied during the initial vote (coaches cannot vote for their own players).
 - e. If a tie still occurs after the second vote, "Co-MVPs" will be named.
 - f. A plaque will be awarded to the MVP(s).

10. Play-offs/Championship

- A. MVC League Tournament
 - a. Format
 - All Rounds— 8 game Pro-Set
 - No-ad scoring
 - 12 Point tiebreak at 7 All
 - b. Tennis Balls
 - Each school needs to supply six cans of new tennis balls the day of the match. Players report to head table to pick up balls prior to reporting to their assigned court.
 - c. General Information
 - Each position (1st, 2nd, and 3rd singles and 2nd doubles, 3rd doubles, and 4th doubles) has its own draw. Seeds will be determined by present records at their positions only.
 - We will seed the top 2 players, all other players' names will be drawn to complete the bracket.
 - As a court becomes available, another match will be assigned immediately.
 - The winner of each match is responsible to report the score to the tournament director immediately following the match.
 - The losers of the semi-finals will play a consolation round to determine 3rd & 4th places.
 - The Host School will provide the following:
 - Access to lavatory
 - Athletic Trainer

d. Awards

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd place medals at each position
- Team League Tournament Champion will be determined by the following criteria:
 - 1st place – 5 points
 - 2nd place – 4 points
 - 3rd place – 3 points
 - 4th place – 2 points

B. Regular Season Championship

- a. The conference champion shall be determined by the won-lost record at the conclusion of the season. In case of a tie, playoff regulation will be held. Site and dates will be determined by conference officials.
- b. For the purpose of determining a conference championship, any scheduled contest not played shall be treated as a loss by the striking school.

11. Reporting Game results

- A. The home team will report game results to the following media:

The Morning Call

1-800-999-5625

(610) 820-6558

Fax: (610) 820-8654

Pocono Record

1-800-756-4237

(570) 421-3000

Fax: (570) 421-6284

The Express Times

1-800-360-3601

(610) 258-7171

Fax: (610) 258-7130

Times News of Lehigh

1-800-443-0377

(610) 377-2051

Fax: (610) 826-9608

MVC League Statistician

Email: bross@stroudsburg.k12.pa.us

Fax: (570) 424-0789