

CHAPTER 15—MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TENNIS REGULATIONS

1. Playing Season Policies.

a. Championships Determination.

(1) Men’s Team Champion.

The team with the highest won-lost percentage during Conference play shall be the Conference champion. If that percentage is shared by more than one team, a co-championship shall exist. (6/92, 6/93, 6/94, 6/95, 5/97, 2/99, 6/11, 10/11)

(2) Women’s Team Champion.

The team with the highest won-lost percentage during Conference play shall be the Conference champion and represent the Conference in the NCAA Division I Women’s Tennis Championships. If that percentage is shared by more than one team, a co-championship shall exist. (6/92, 6/93, 6/94, 6/95, 5/97, 2/99, 6/11)

(a) Championship Ties.

In the event of a percentage tie between two teams for the Conference championship, the team that was the winner of the Conference match against the other team shall represent the Conference as its automatic qualifier in the NCAA Division I Women’s Tennis Championships. (2/99, 6/11)

In the event of a percentage tie between more than two teams for the Conference championship, the team having the highest ITA national ranking on the latest published list shall be declared the automatic qualifier. (2/99, 6/02, 6/11)

(3) Individual Championships.

Individual men’s and women’s tennis champions shall be determined at a Conference championship tournament. (6/90, 12/91, 6/92, 6/93, 6/95, 6/96, 5/97)

(a) Conference Schedule.

Each team shall schedule one match against each other team in the Conference. Only these matches, which shall be scheduled in the latter portion of the season, shall count in the Conference standings. Except for men’s matches at Arizona and Utah and women’s matches at Colorado and Utah, which shall be played on Friday and Sunday, matches shall be played on Friday and Saturday unless all coaches involved in a weekend series agree to do otherwise. (6/87, 6/92, 6/94, 6/95, 5/97, 6/01, 10/03, 6/09, 10/10)

Travel partners shall be aligned as follows (10/10):

Men	Women
Arizona-Utah	Arizona-Arizona State
California-Stanford	California-Stanford
Oregon-Washington	UCLA-USC
UCLA-USC	Utah-Colorado

In women’s tennis, Oregon, Washington, and Washington State shall alternate each year as the team without a travel partner. Weekend matches hosted by the team without a travel partner shall be played on a Friday-Sunday schedule to provide a rest and travel day. (10/08, 6/09, 10/10)

(1) Rescheduling Policies.

If a match between traditional rivals is rained out or cannot be played due to non-weather related natural causes such as earthquakes or physical facility problems, it shall be rescheduled for the next day. In the event the match cannot be played on the next day, it shall be played on a date agreed upon by the involved institutions. (6/04)

If a Friday Conference match against a team other than the traditional rival is rained out or cannot be played due to non-weather related natural causes such as earthquakes or physical facility problems, it shall be rescheduled for Sunday. If both Friday's and Saturday's matches are not played as scheduled, Saturday's match shall take precedence in being rescheduled and shall be played on Sunday. Matches rescheduled for Sunday shall begin at noon, unless there is mutual agreement by the coaches to play at an earlier time. In the event of problems preventing the normal start of play on Sunday, a decision as to whether the match will be played that day shall be made by noon. Sunday matches which are interrupted (e.g., due to inclement weather) shall be resumed no later than 3:00 p.m., unless the coaches of the competing teams mutually agree to resume at a later time. (6/98, 6/06)

Matches which are rescheduled for Sunday shall be resumed using both lineups and the score in place at the point of interruption. (6/98)

Any match may be rescheduled indoors provided that a minimum of three courts are available. A match may be played indoors if fewer than three courts are available only if both coaches agree to the schedule dictated by the courts available. (6/98)

(Women) If a match is postponed and cannot be played within the aforementioned time frame, it shall be rescheduled for the Wednesday prior to the Conference Individual Championships at Ojai only if the outcome would affect the identification of the Conference champion. This make-up match may be resumed rather than restarted, provided either the singles or the doubles point was decided prior to the original match's postponement. Different line-ups may be used if the match is resumed at that point. (6/98, 6/06, 6/10, 12/13)

2. Match Policies.**a. Format.**

Match format shall be consistent with the format used in the NCAA Championships. (6/98)

b. Host Responsibilities.

In addition to the responsibilities listed in the ITA Rules, the host institution shall provide parking permits; a trainer (may be a student) at the courts during warmup and competition, bathroom and shower facilities, towels during and after the match, a list of key contact numbers including a stringing service, and a basket of the appropriate practice balls (regular or altitude). Host institutions shall also provide a minimum of 60 minutes prior to the start of a match for warm-ups on the competition courts. (6/98, 6/11)

c. Lineups.**(1) Men.**

The dual match lineup rule in effect for the NCAA Championships shall apply, except any team traveling by itself to meet two opponents in one weekend may move individuals in its lineup up or down one spot for the second match of the weekend series. If a player submitted in the lineup for the first match of a weekend series (the master weekend lineup) is unable to play in that match for any reason, he shall be eligible to play in the second match of that weekend series. NCAA Championships doubles rules shall apply. (6/98, 6/00, 6/02, 6/09)

(2) Women.

The dual match lineup rule in effect for the NCAA Championships shall apply, except any team traveling by itself to meet two opponents in one weekend may move individuals in its lineup up or down one spot for the second match of its weekend series. If a player submitted in the lineup for the first match of a weekend series (the master weekend line up) is unable to play in that match for any reason, she shall be eligible to play in the second match of the weekend series. (6/98, 6/01, 6/02, 6/04)

d. Match Time.**(1) Men.**

For non-televised matches, Friday matches shall begin at 1:30 p.m. and Saturday matches shall begin at 1:00 p.m. Match times for non-televised matches may be altered with the consent of all participating coaches. Match times for televised matches shall be established by the Conference office. (6/98, 6/99, 6/02, 6/03, 12/13)

(2) Women.

Dual-match weekends played in the Pacific Northwest (ORE-WASH, ORE-WSU, or WASH-WSU) or in Colorado and Utah shall be played using a Friday-Sunday format. Non-televised Friday matches played indoors at Colorado shall begin at 11:00 a.m. Non-televised Sunday matches shall begin at 10:00 a.m. at Colorado and at 11:00 a.m. at Washington State and Utah. The decision as to whether play will be conducted indoors or outdoors shall be made by 8:00 a.m. on the day of the match. Non-televised dual matches at Oregon and Washington shall begin at noon. All other non-televised dual matches in the Conference schedule shall begin at 1:30 p.m. on Friday and noon on Saturday or Sunday. Match times for non-televised matches may be altered with the consent of all participating coaches. Match times for televised matches will be established by the Conference office. Courts should be available for visiting team warm-up at least one hour prior to the scheduled match time. (6/98, 6/99, 6/01, 6/02, 6/10, 6/11, 6/12, 12/13)

e. Playing Rules.

Matches shall be governed by the ITA rules book except as modified below. (6/98)

(1) Ball Changes.

The ball change policy shall be that used at the NCAA Championships. (6/04)

(2) Communication.

During competition, players and coaches are allowed to communicate with their own team members only. (6/98)

(3) Completion of Matches.

The ITA-approved shortened format (clinch rule) shall be used to complete matches that are already decided unless the coaches of the competing teams agree to play the singles matches out before competition begins. A tie-breaker, if necessary, shall be played to determine the winner of the third doubles match after the doubles point has been clinched. (6/99, 6/03, 6/04, 6/05, 6/09, 6/10, 12/13)

(4) Lineup Submission.

In women's tennis, both singles and doubles lineups shall be submitted simultaneously to the opposing coach 60 minutes prior to the start of the match. Lineup protests shall be made in person to the head coach and head official prior to the match. The protesting coach shall notify the Conference office of the

protest in writing within 24 hours following the match. Decisions made by the Conference office shall be final and binding. (6/98, 6/07, 10/12, 12/13)

In men's tennis, each team shall submit its lineup for the following dual match weekend, via email to the Conference liaison, by noon on Tuesday. All lineups must conform to the ITA's "order of strength" rule. The liaison will send all submitted lineups to the coaches for review by 5:00 PM on Tuesday. If necessary, at noon each Wednesday, there shall be a lineup conference call hosted by the staff liaison. During this call, any team's lineup shall be reviewed by the group upon request of any coach. Any lineup that is challenged must receive a majority vote of the seven other coaches to be approved. A lineup not receiving majority support shall be amended by the coach of that institution until it receives majority support. (10/12)

(5) Official Ball.

The ball used for Conference matches shall be the ball that is used during the NCAA Championships. (6/07)

(6) Protests.

Protests of a referee's decision may be made to the Conference office. Decision made by the Conference office shall be final and binding. (6/98)

(7) Scoring.

The scoring system employed by the NCAA Championships shall be used. (6/98)

f. Scouting Reports.

A coach shall not send film or videotape or give a written or verbal scouting report on a Conference member to any institution outside the Conference. (6/04)

g. Umpires.

A minimum of six USTA certified umpires shall be assigned for each match which counts in the Conference standings. Selection of the umpires shall be at the discretion of the host institution. Payment of umpires is to be made by the host institution. (6/98, 6/04)

3. Women's Individual Championships.

a. Entry Fees.

No entry fee and no USTA membership fee shall be charged to any Conference entrant as part of the Conference competition. (6/88, 6/89, 6/90, 6/91, 6/92)

b. Expense Sharing.

Following the Conference Individual Championships, the cost of Championships mementos, event expenses, and the total travel expenses for each participating institution as obtained from the athletics business offices shall be shared. Participating institutions shall be charged or reimbursed on a per-person travel expense cost. Expense sharing shall be limited to eight individuals (e.g., six players, one coach, and one trainer). (6/89, 6/92, 6/05, 6/08)

c. Format.

The 32-player women's singles draw shall consist of three student-athletes from each of the top ten institutions that sponsor women's tennis, based on the final regular-season standings and two student-athletes from the eleventh-place team. The 16-team women's doubles draw shall consist of one doubles team from

each of the eleven Conference institutions that sponsor women's tennis and five additional teams selected by the draw committee. The draw committee shall include in the singles draw four student-athletes from the last-place team in the Conference standings. (6/90, 6/92, 6/93, 6/95, 6/96, 5/97, 6/11, 10/11)

All singles and doubles brackets shall be filled to completion. No byes shall be permitted. (6/05)

d. Official Ball.

The ball used for the Conference Championships shall be the ball that is used during the NCAA Championships. (6/88, 6/89, 6/91, 6/07)

e. Officials.

A full complement of officials (i.e., a chair umpire and five linespeople) shall be used for all finals matches in the Championship draw. (6/06)

f. Playing Rules.

Matches shall be governed by the ITA rules book. (6/92)

(1) Ball Changes.

The ball change policy shall be that used at the NCAA Championships. (6/04)

(2) Doubles.

All doubles matches shall be played as eight-game pro sets, except that the doubles final shall be played using a best-of-three sets format. (6/01, 6/06)

g. Seeding.

The draw for the women's individual championship shall be developed by the head official in consultation with two women's coaches selected annually at the September meeting. The chief determining factor in the development of the draw shall be the most recent ITA rankings, with head-to-head Conference results being a secondary consideration. All relevant statistics shall be considered by the draw developers if presented by 9:00 a.m. the day the draw is created. The draw shall be completed by 6:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the Championship. For the championship singles draw, the draw committee shall seed the top eight participants and place the remaining eight slots. For the championship doubles draw, the draw committee shall seed the top four doubles teams and place the remaining four doubles teams. Competitors from the same institution shall not meet earlier than the semi-finals, or until the last round possible, in both the Conference and Invitational draws. (6/95, 5/97, 6/00, 6/01, 6/06, 6/09, 10/11, 12/13)

h. Site.

The Conference Individual Championships shall be played at Ojai, California. (6/92)

4. Men's Post-Season Team Tournament.

a. Date and Site.

The tournament shall be held at Libbey Park in Ojai, California, during the week of the Women's Individual Championships. The first round shall be played on Wednesday, the second round on Thursday, the third round (semifinals) on Friday, and the fourth round (final match) on Saturday. (10/11)

b. Determination of NCAA Automatic Qualifier.

The winner of a double-bye dual match tournament held at the site of the Conference Women's Individual Championships shall represent the Conference in the NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championships. In the event the tournament has not begun and cannot be played, the automatic qualification berth shall be awarded to the No. 1 seed. In the event the tournament has begun, but cannot be played to completion, the automatic qualification berth shall be awarded to the highest seeded team remaining in tournament. (6/11, 10/11)

c. Lineups.

Each of the Conference men's tennis teams shall submit their lineup for the tournament, via email, by 5:00 p.m. on the Sunday prior to the event. All lineups must conform to the ITA's "order of strength" rule. At 10:00 a.m. on Monday, there shall be a seeding and line-up conference call, hosted by the staff liaison to men's tennis. During this call, seedings will be confirmed, details for the tournament shall be finalized, and any team's lineup shall be reviewed by the group upon request by any coach. Any lineup that is questioned must receive a majority vote of the coaches to be approved for the tournament. A lineup not receiving majority support shall be amended by the coach of that institution until it receives majority support. (10/11)

d. Match Completion.

Doubles matches in progress when one team wins the doubles point shall be stopped. Singles matches in progress shall be stopped when one team reaches four points and is declared the overall winner. (10/11)

e. Seeding.

Seeding for the men's post-season tournament shall be based on the won-lost percentages of the teams during Conference play. In the event of a percentage tie between two or more teams, the seeding shall be determined by: (10/11)

(1) The head-to-head results between each of the tied teams against the other team(s) with which it is tied. If a team is eliminated as a result of this procedure, the procedure shall be reapplied to the remaining tied teams. (10/11)

(2) If a tie still exists, the team with the higher ITA national ranking on the most recent published list prior to the final weekend of the regular season shall receive the higher seed. (10/11)

f. Warm-Up Times.

Pre-match warm-up policies used at the NCAA Championship shall be used at the tournament. (10/11)

5. Awards.

The coaches shall select recipients for all awards. Ballots shall be distributed by the Conference office and returned on the Friday following completion of the NCAA individual championships. Coaches may vote for themselves or for their own players for any of the awards. (6/98, 12/13)

a. All-Conference Team.

All-Conference teams shall be selected for both men's and women's tennis. The first team shall consist of six players and each shall be provided an award by the Conference. The second team shall consist of six players and each shall be provided a certificate by the Conference. Players who are nominated for the all-Conference team but are not selected shall be accorded honorable mention in a Conference media release. (6/98, 2/99, 6/99)

b. Individual Awards.

Individual awards from the Conference office shall be provided to the Coach of the Year, the Singles Player of the Year, the Doubles Team of the Year, and the Freshman/Newcomer of the Year in men's and women's tennis. Balloting conducted for individual awards shall use a weighted voting method. (6/98, 2/99, 6/99, 6/11)

6. Meetings of Coaches.

There shall be an annual meeting of the head coaches. The attendance of each head coach is mandatory. (6/88, 6/92, 5/97, 10/11)