

DIABLO VALLEY ATHLETIC LEAGUE

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CLAYTON VALLEY - COLLEGE PARK - CONCORD HIGH - MT. DIABLO - NORTHGATE - YGNACIO VALLEY -
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GIRLS TENNIS GUIDELINES

1. STARTING DATE

- 1.1 Practice may begin: On the Monday following Thursday fourteen weeks prior to Thanksgiving.

2. CONTEST INFORMATION

- 2.1 Starting Times: 3:30 PM
 - 2.1.1 Host team is to contact visiting team to find out how many players will be playing and approximate arrival time.
 - 2.1.2 Host team is responsible for reporting match results to local newspapers the day of the event.
- 2.2 Days of Play:
 - 2.2.1 Days of play are Tuesday and Thursday. Exceptions may be made to accommodate scheduling needs.
- 2.3 Contest Format: Match format will consist of six singles and three doubles matches, unless two or more schools are unable to field 12 players by the start of the season. In that case, the match format will be 4 singles and three doubles for all schools.
 - 2.3.1 Match will consist of two of three sets for varsity play.
 - 2.3.2 No add scoring shall be used for all matches.
 - 2.3.3 Warm-ups shall not exceed 10 minutes and must include practice serves.
- 2.4 Split Set: A complete third set must be played, unless both coaches and the involved players agree to a super 10 point tie breaker.
- 2.5 Challenge Ladder: Each school will keep a continuous challenge ladder from which participants will be chosen for singles and doubles competition. A current ladder must be available for the other coaches to review prior to the match.
 - 2.5.1 All singles and doubles will be played in the order of strength consistent with rules of NCS, Player Strength Ladder Form.
 - 2.5.2 The lineup must be presented prior to the start of the match.
- 2.6 No Shows: If a player does not show up for the match, the ladder will adjust up to replace that person.
 - 2.6.1 If a default is necessary it will take place in the last position in either singles or doubles.
- 2.7 A player must participate in a minimum of 6 league matches in order to be eligible to participate in league, NCS, and CIF competition at the post season level for both individual and team tennis competition. Exceptions for injuries may be made by a majority vote of the coaches on a case-by-case basis at the post-season seeding meeting.
- 2.8 Rain outs: Non-league play is subject to cancellation. League matches postponed must be made up the first available school day.
 - 2.8.1 Deadline for contact and cancellation of matches with opposing schools shall be 12:00 PM.
 - 2.8.2 Cancellations will be made at the home team site by the coach or Athletic Director.
 - 2.8.3 If a team chooses not to make up a match, it will count as a loss.

3. NUMBER OF CONTESTS

- 3.1 Maximum Number: 24 matches.
- 3.2 Two scrimmages are allowed.
 - 3.2.1 No scores are kept, coaching is permissible.
 - 3.2.2 No publicity or records are given to the press.

4. RULES

- 4.1 USTA rules will govern league and tournament play.
- 4.2 Coaching during team competition is allowed by designated coaches only and will never interfere with continuous play.
 - 4.2.1 Coaching is allowed only during 90-second odd game changeovers and the 10 minute break between splitting sets.
 - 4.2.2 Each team will be allowed two coaches.
 - 4.2.3 At no time during the course of a match, excluding injury, will a coach, parent or other player be allowed within the playing area of the competitors.
- 4.3 Non-players will not be allowed on the courts. Matches will be suspended until non-players are removed from the court (inside the fenced area).
- 4.4 The USTA Point Penalty System will govern all matches with one exception: There will be no warning for Code of Conduct violations.
 - 4.4.1 Warning to be given prior to start of each match to all players. Penalties are as follows: First offense – loss of point. Second offense – loss of game. Third offense – default of match and banned from participation at the next league match.
 - 4.4.2 All other USTA rules governing the game of tennis will be in effect and knowledge of the rules will be the responsibility of each player.
 - 4.4.3 Penalties are the sole responsibility of either coach and can be given to any player, in the best interest of controlling the match yet not interfering. The coach must advise the opposing coach of the infraction.

5. EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

- 5.1 Game balls will be any USTA approved balls. Minimum two balls per match, optional new balls for full third set if requested by players.
- 5.2 Home teams shall supply tennis balls for matches.
- 5.3 Home courts must be maintained in safe, playable condition.
- 5.4 All players must wear team uniforms.

6. OFFICIALS

- 6.1 Players will officiate their own matches. If a controversy occurs they may call for line judges. A judge shall be selected, agreeable to both coaches, to assist in calls made by the players.
- 6.2 Coaches shall mutually resolve officiating problems that develop.

7. DETERMINING LEAGUE CHAMPION

- 7.1 League champion will be the team with the best overall record.
- 7.2 Tie records shall be co-champions.
- 7.3 Tie breaking criteria for first and second place for purpose of NCS seeding:
 - 7.3.1 Head to head play
 - 7.3.2 Winner of the second round match.

8. DVAL LEAGUE TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- 8.1 There will be one DVAL tournament to determine NCS qualifying.
- 8.2 Each school will enter two singles players and two doubles teams. The doubles round of 16 will be filled out by the end of season league standings, with the 1st and 2nd place teams each receiving one additional doubles spot. A player may enter doubles or singles, but not both.

- 8.3 The DVAL Tournament shall be a three day tournament with two rounds the first day, and one round each subsequent day.
 - 8.3.1 First day of competition will begin at 10:30 am. Scoring will be no add through quarterfinals,
 - 8.3.2 Semi-final and final competition will begin 3:30 pm . Semi-finals and finals competition will be add scoring.
- 8.4 DVAL Tournament seeding: Both singles and doubles teams will be seeded by the coaches. #1 and #2 singles seeds will receive first round byes.
- 8.5 The same coaching rules apply during the DVAL Tournament as during the regular season.
- 8.6 Medals: DVAL Singles and Doubles Champion and Finalist medals will be provided by the league and presented at the conclusion of Finals competition.

9. NORTH COAST SECTION QUALIFYING

- 9.1 DVAL Tournament winners in singles and doubles automatically qualify for the NCS Championships. Individual schools may petition for an at-large berth in singles competition as designated by the NCS rules.
- 9.2 In qualifying for NCS Team Tennis the League Champion will receive the automatic bid.
- 9.3 Any DVAL team that meets the NCS qualifications may apply for an at-large berth.