

Tennis Advisory Committee – Meeting Summary**Held on Thursday, November 13, 2025 at MSHSAA Office, Columbia, MO**

1 – Recommend that the topic of adding Team Tennis to allowable team sports for preseason jamborees be taken to area meetings in January of 2026 so that it can be considered on the 2026 MSHSAA Spring Ballot and amend By-Law 3.16.7 accordingly. If passed, update the coinciding MSHSAA Board Policy on Preseason Jamborees – Team Sports to reflect guidelines for Team Tennis.

2 – Recommend that a sub-committee be organized to review, rework, and provide clarity in the MSHSAA Tennis Manual as it relates to developing a Tennis Manual Glossary (for shared understanding of common terms), Post Season Entry, Substitution Guidelines, Allowable Changes to a team's Line-Up once district play has begun through the end of the state tournament, and develop a plan for potential expansion of the State Individual Tennis Tournament. Should the committee be able to meet and formulate additional recommendations prior to the start of the 2026-2027 MSHSAA Tennis Season, those readied and relevant recommendations will be reviewed and voted on by the MSHSAA Board of Directors. Those recommendations and changes not ready will be moved forward and considered in a future Tennis Advisory Committee meeting.

*** 3 – Recommend that the topic of amending By-Law 5.1.2.b and increasing the minimum number of required competitions or contests for an individual player to represent their school in district and state tournaments from one to five barring injury or prolonged illness be taken to AD advisory for discussion. ~~be taken to area meetings in January of 2026.~~ The discussion to include but not be limited to the impact of such a change on all sports and activities whether individual or team. Additionally, ~~amend the language of 5.1.2.b to include a~~ discuss a potential appeal process on how to handle documented issues related to injury and prolonged illness ~~could be appealed to the MSHSAA office~~ allowing for fewer competitions or contests.

4 – Recommend that the MSHSAA Tennis Manual Section 2 Letter S be edited to eliminate the parenthetical statement “see below regarding rest after game 1” that follows “90 seconds on changeovers.” Additionally, eliminate the first bullet point under the heading “MSHSAA policy allows for:” which states, “90 seconds after the first game of each set.”

5 – Recommend that the MSHSAA Tennis Manual Section 4 Letters F, H, and I be edited to include warm up language that is identical to what is expected in the regular season and clarify that team tennis is “Spin and Go,” (Section 2 Letter Q). This change will eliminate the opportunity for a warm-up with an opponent in the postseason.

6 – Recommend that the district auto seeding features being developed for implementation in team tennis only include team duals played in a 6/3 format where each match was played with a minimum of 8 game pro-set.

* 7 – Recommend that as a district auto seeding process for district team tournaments is established this data should also be used to create a statewide ranking of all teams per class and made publicly available for coaches, teams, and the public to view.

*** 8 – Recommend the adoption of a 3rd party data evaluation tool such as, UTR/WTN/My Tennis Reporting, to provide player ratings or skill rankings and collect all regular and postseason scoring data for all matches played for coaching purposes, results reporting, and the establishment of member schools' individual player rank order that could potentially be used for the regular season and the Individual Singles and Doubles District Tournament seeding. The

3rd party tool will only be used in a fashion that continues to honor and reflect geographic representation in state tournament brackets and will not be used to establish a state wide individual player ranking or rank order. This goes well beyond the current MSHSAA reporting system that only collects team duals played and the related wins or losses. This data would be accessible for all coaches and players and would accurately reflect player and team data in a digital format through the 3rd party tool and accessible through the MSHSAA website. Upon formal adoption, tennis coaches would be required to use the approved 3rd party tool along with any current expectations for recording schedules and match results in the MSHSAA system. This 3rd party tool is a digital expansion of what all coaches should be recording during the regular and postseason and must make available to fellow coaches and the MSHSAA Office upon request.

- * **Denied**
- ** **Tabled**
- *** **Approved as Amended**
- **** **No Action**
- All Others Approved**