

**TENNIS COMMITTEE MEETING
MHSAA OFFICE
JANUARY 10, 2012**

Committee Members

Larry Brown, Parma
Jim Cummins, Battle Creek
Gary Ellis, Allegan
Joe Gentle, North Muskegon
Jim Hanson, Novi
Judy Hehs, Bloomfield Hills
Tom Hunt, East Lansing
Pam Porter, Stevensville

Mark Randolph, Ann Arbor
Alexandra Stamm, Portland
Tiger Teusink, Advisory

Mike McGinnis, Presenter

MHSAA Staff
Gina Mazzolini

The MHSAA Tennis Committee met on Jan. 10, 2012 in the MHSAA Office. The committee was reminded of its responsibility and the process for rule changes. The following action was taken.

PRESENTATION

The MHSTeCA Board of Directors is concerned about the declining participation in Boys Tennis in both the number of schools sponsoring tennis and in the number of participants. The MHSTeCA has established a subcommittee to review the situation and to develop ideas for dealing with it. A representative from that committee reported on MHSAA rules that they would like to see modified in order to help increase participation. This report will be submitted to the MHSTeCA Board of Directors at its next meeting.

PROPOSALS BY MHSTeCA

1. Request that tennis be exempt from the summer "Dead Period" provision of the MHSAA.
2. Request a change for the Enforcement of the Majority of Matches Rule: Add the following: If a player does not meet the requirements of the Majority Rule at the Regional tournament, the team's line-up will be adjusted so that it complies. The Final Seed Committee has the authority to correct a line-up that is deemed in violation with the Majority Match Rule.
3. Request to change policy in Regionals with less than full teams: Once a bona fide team is entered in a Regional tournament, the team will be drawn into every flight. If a team does not have an entry at a flight, the school name will be listed on the draw sheet and the loss will be treated as a default.
4. Request to add the following statement on the limits of the authority of Regional Managers. Add: The Regional Manager does not have the authority to set aside any MHSAA rule without first receiving the approval of the MHSAA.

It was observed that the MHSAA Coaches Manual states: Section 10D: Regional Manager Role: the Regional Manager may not set aside MHSAA rules in procedure regardless of the wishes of the coaches. The committee suggested moving this statement to a prominent place in bold face print in the manual; therefore, no action on the proposal was taken.

SAGINAW VALLEY LEAGUE REQUEST

The Saginaw Valley League has 15 teams. For a conference championship the league would have to use a 16 draw which would mean the champions would have to play 4 matches to finish the tournament.

The current provision allows a league championship (with more than 8 schools) to play a 4th match if the player has not played more than six sets in the first three rounds and the fourth match would complete the tournament.

The committee reviewed the proposal and suggested the league consider two divisions to help promote tennis and allow players to compete with others of their own ability. In addition, the committee was agreeable with the proposal as long as the current rules were not violated.

REQUESTS TO THE MHSAA STAFF FROM MHSTeCA

1. Revise the FAQs for Regional tennis to allow a team to receive a point when there is no opponent in their flight due to the opponent not having a full team.
2. Revise the "Process for Draw of Regionals" to prohibit co-seeding.
3. Add a statement to the "Process for Draw of Regionals" to include how to handle a "double default" situation when multiple schools do not have a complete team.

FINAL SITES FOR 2012-13 TOURNAMENTS

Division 1 – Midland Community Tennis Center

Division 2 – Holly Area

Division 3 – Jenison/Holland

Division 4 – Kalamazoo College

REGIONAL ALIGNMENTS

The committee reviewed the Regional alignments for 2011-12 and made a few changes. The alignments were approved for posting on the MHSAA website.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Request that tennis be exempt from the summer "Dead Period" provision of the MHSAA (10-2).
2. Request a change for the Enforcement of the Majority of Matches rule: Add the following: If a player does not meet the requirements of the Majority Rule at the Regional tournament, the team's line-up will be adjusted so that it complies. The Final Seed Committee has the authority to correct a line-up that is deemed in violation with the Majority Match Rule (12-0).