

# Northern Virginia Junior CYO (NVJCYO) Tennis Rules

09/05/2022

The NVJCYO Tennis league will operate by the following NVJCYO rules and the United States Tennis Association (USTA) rules as applicable, including "The Code". In the event of any inconsistency, the NVJCYO rules shall supersede the USTA rules.

**A. PLAYERS**  
**B. TEAMS**  
**C. MATCHES**  
**D. COACHING**  
**E. STANDINGS/PLAYOFFS**  
**F. MISCELLANEOUS**

## A. PLAYERS

1. **Eligibility:** Each player must be enrolled in and regularly attending the: a) **parish school** or b) **religious education program** of the participating parish, including **home schooled** students.
2. **Forms:** Each player's registration must include the NVJCYO Code of Conduct, CDC Concussion, and Permission/ Medical Release Forms.
3. **Waivers:** Waiver requests must be submitted in writing to the league Commissioner prior to the start of the season. Waivers will typically cover "orphan" players – players whose schools/parishes not fielding teams at their grade/level. Neighboring school teams will be the first option for such players.
4. **Ineligible Players:** Any set that is played by an ineligible player will be forfeited by the team using the ineligible player.

## B. TEAMS

1. **Teams:** Schools may field teams in one or more of the following conferences.

<b>Wimbledon I:</b>	Grades 3/4	Beginner
<b>Wimbledon II:</b>	Grades 4/5	Advanced Beginner
<b>U.S. Open I:</b>	Grades 6/7/8	Beginner/Advanced Beginner
<b>U.S. Open II:</b>	Grades 5/6/7/8	Intermediate/Advanced

Schools may field combined teams (for example, St. Mark's/OLGC).

2. **Rosters:** Team coaches shall retain rosters to be made available to the NVJCYO commissioner upon request. A Team's roster will have a minimum of six (6) players for Wimbledon I and seven (7) players for all other conferences.
3. **Fees:** Each parish will set its own fee schedule to cover its costs. Schools/parishes will be assessed for league trophies.

## C. MATCHES

### 1. Wimbledon I

- a. **Match Format.** Three (3) **doubles** sets. Each team receives one (1) point for each of the three (3) sets played. #1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> doubles based on skill level.
- b. **Game scoring.** No-ad scoring. First team to win 4 points wins the game. If the score in a game is 3-3, the receiving team or player chooses which service box (deuce (right) or ad (left)) the server will serve into.
- c. **Set scoring.** One team must win six games by at least two games to win the set (6-0, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5). If the score is 6-6, then a tiebreak should be played. The player or team to first score seven points, winning by at least two points, wins the tiebreaker and the set which is recorded as 7-6.
- d. **Tiebreaker (7/12 points).** Tiebreak sequence: **Serving must remain in the same order as used throughout the match. The first server serves 1 point. Each server thereafter serves 2 points (ad court (left side) first – then deuce court (right side)). Players or teams switch ends of the court every 6 points. The individual or team that wins 7 points first, by at least two points, wins the tiebreaker and the set 7-6.**
- e. **Serving.** Wimbledon I players may use an overhead or bounce serve from anywhere behind the service line. Wimbledon I is the only division permitted to use a “bounce and hit” serve or an overhand serve from anywhere behind the service line. Wimbledon I matches use the full court.
- f. **Balls.** Quick Start Stage 2 (60) Orange balls. New QuickStart balls are not required for Wimbledon I matches. The team listed first on the schedule is the home team and supplies the balls for the match.
- g. **Exhibition matches.** Additional sets will played as exhibition (not counting in the official match score) if either team has more than 6 players at the match, so every player present on each team has played at least one set.

### 2. Wimbledon II through US Open II

- a. **Match Format. Five (5) sets – 3 singles and 2 doubles.** Each team receives one (1) point for each of the five (5) sets won. Each team’s 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> singles and 1<sup>st</sup> doubles and 2<sup>nd</sup> doubles will play their opponents at the position in their opponent’s line-up. If one team has only 5 or 6 players at the match, that team forfeits 2<sup>nd</sup> doubles. If one team only 4 or 3 players, it forfeits 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> doubles. A team with fewer than 3 players forfeits all 5 sets. Exhibition doubles as needed so all players at the match play.
- b. **Game scoring.** No-ad scoring. First player or team to win 4 points wins the game. If the score in a game is 3-3, the receiving team or player chooses which service box (deuce (right) or ad (left)) the server will serve into.
- c. **Set scoring.** One player or team must win six games by at least two games to win the set (6-0, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5). If the score is 6-6, then a tiebreak should be played. The player or team to first score seven points, winning by at least two points, wins the tiebreaker and the set which is recorded as 7-6.
- d. **Tiebreaker (7/12 points).** Tiebreak sequence: **Serving must remain in the same order as used throughout the match. The first server serves 1 point. Each server thereafter serves 2 points (ad court (left side) first – then deuce court (right side)). Players or teams switch ends of the court every 6 points. The individual or team that wins 7 points first, by at least two points, wins the tiebreaker and the set 7-6.**
- e. **Serving.** Wimbledon II players may use a bounce serve from the baseline. US Open conference use

a regulation serve from the baseline.

- f. **Balls. Wimbledon II** teams use Quick Start Stage 1 (78) green balls. New QuickStart balls are not required for Wimbledon II matches. The team listed first on the schedule is the home team and supplies the balls for the match. **US Open I and US Open II** use regular balls. The team listed first on the schedule is the home team and supplies 5 new cans of balls for the match.
- g. **Exhibition matches.** Additional matches will played as exhibition (not counting in the official match score) if either team has more than 7 players at the match, so every player present on each team has played at least one set.

## D. COACHING

1. **Wimbledon I, Wimbledon II, and U.S. Open I.** May be coached and directed on rules *after* each point. Prior to serving, players should call out the scores. Players call their own lines. Repeated "bad" calls should be brought to the attention of the player and/or the coach. This may necessitate additional monitoring of the match.
2. For the **Wimbledon I, II** and **U.S. Open I** conferences, a parent (whose child is not playing on that court) monitor can be stationed at each court to assist with player positioning and to remind the server to announce the score before each point. Only the players may call the ball "in" or "out." Parents should remind players that if the player is not sure if the ball is "in" or "out," then the ball is "in." Every attempt should be made to station a parent unrelated to the players on that particular court.
3. **US Open II:** May be coached ONLY g the odd game change over. No coaching during a tie-break, except in the case of proper tie-break procedures. Only a player may request a line judge. The line judge will be a coach or a non-related adult volunteer. The line judge will not call the lines, but will settle disputes between the players as they occur.

## E. MATCH RESULTS AND STANDINGS

1. Report the set and game score for each team by conference and division by Date/Location/Conference/Division/School/Sets/Games, i.e., Sep. 18, McLean High School, US Open I, East Division, St. A 3 sets/ 26 games – St. B 2 sets 23 games. Both coaches are responsible for reporting the score to the relevant Conference Commissioner and League Commissioner.
2. **Standings.** Determined by the teams' records (number of team points won and lost). If **two teams** have the same number of sets won and lost, the team winning the match between the teams tied will be ranked higher in the standings. If more than **two teams** have the same number of sets won and lost, with no one team has defeated the other tied teams, the standings will be determined by winning percentage for games won and lost.

## F. PLAYOFFS

At the end of the league season, the Conference playoffs will be scheduled by the League Commissioner as follows. Trophies will be awarded to the top four teams in each conference.

1. **Conferences without Divisions.** Conference Semifinals: #1 v. #4; #2 v. #3 to be followed by the Conference Final and Third Place matches.
2. **Conference with two (2) Divisions.** Conference Semifinals: Top two (2) teams in each Division unless schedule and number of teams allows a conference tournament. If only four team play off, the winner of each Division will play the second-place team in the other Division to be followed by the Conference Final and Third Place matches.
3. **Conferences with three (3) Divisions.** Conference Semifinals: Three (3) Division winners and the remaining team with the highest number of points (sets won). The fourth team will play against a

Division winner not from its own Division. Conference Semifinals will be followed by Conference Final and Third Place matches.

4. **Conferences with four (4) Divisions.** Conference Semifinals: Four (4) Division winners. Team with most games won plays the team with the fewest games won (unless from same division) to be followed by the Conference Finals and Third Place matches.
5. Remaining teams in each conference will playoff for rest of conference standings.

## G. MISCELLANEOUS

**Rules:** School coordinators must distribute the current CYO tennis rules (*available on the CYO Website: [www.cyotennis.com](http://www.cyotennis.com)*) to all coaches, players and parents. These rules must be reviewed by the coaches with the players prior to match play and brought by the coaches to every match.

1. **Coaches/Volunteers** must meet Diocese Child Protection requirements.
2. **First Aid.** Coaches should bring a first aid kit and water to matches and practice.
3. **Default Time:** 20 minutes after the scheduled starting time. The non-defaulting team coach may waive a default.
4. **Warm-up:** 5 minutes including practice serves.
5. **Spectators:** It is each team's responsibility to control their own spectators conduct during the match.
  - i. **No one** is allowed on the court after warm-ups except for the players playing the match and coaches.
  - ii. Teammates and spectators **may not** offer advice on line calls, scoring or on the conduct of a player.
  - iii. Players should not walk or stand behind courts while a set is being played.
  - iv. All players, parents, coaches and spectators must comply with the code of conduct rules as stated in the NVJCYO Rules and Regulations. See **Coaching** section below.
  - v. No parents, coaches, or players should make negative comments to players on opposing teams.
6. **Player Behavior.** Upon agreement by both coaches present at the match, a player may be removed from the match and defaulted for unsportsmanlike conduct on the court. Removal from the match will be after one warning has been issued. Any incidents of unsportsmanlike behavior must be reported to the League Commissioner. Repeated unsportsmanlike conduct will be dealt with by the League Commissioner.
7. **Weather.** The coaches of each team should consult in the case of inclement weather. If they decide to postpone the match, they should inform the League and Conference Commissioner and reschedule as soon as possible.
8. Length of the season, the day, time and locations of the matches will be determined by the League Commissioner. All matches must be played as scheduled by the League Commissioner unless the teams mutually agree to reschedule.