

Boys' Tennis General Information

“Without passion, you don't find victory” –Rafa Nadal

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Welcome to Minnetonka Tennis! Our program consists of a Varsity, a Junior Varsity and a B Team. The Varsity and JV teams play the same schedule with one team at home and the other away at the opponent's site.

The Varsity is a competitive team that plays dual matches with other schools in a format of 4 singles and 3 doubles matches totaling a 7 point match. Standing (ranking) on the team, conference and non-conference record affects placement in the sectional tournament. Both team and individual postseason sectional tournaments are used to qualify for the state tournament in which both team and individual tournaments are held. Tennis is a lifetime sport; it is our goal as coaches to teach the fundamentals and accentuate the passion each player brings to the program.

Varsity: The coaches will select the top players in the school system to field a 14-16 player varsity team roster, using direct competition results and coaches observations of players' skill levels, potential, and needs of the team. Some player will play both varsity and JV matches during the season.

Junior Varsity: The Junior Varsity team will consist of approximately 14 to 16 players. Some players may at times practice with the Varsity and play matches with the JV team. The core JV team will practice as a developmental group, and play in as many matches as possible. The JV players will most often play in matches with the same dual match schedule as the Varsity, with an emphasis more on experience and participation.

B Team: The B team will consist of about 16-20 players, and will compete on a separate schedule with other similar teams. Their matches may consist of pro-sets, rather than 2 or 3 sets. The coaches will emphasize development and improvement, along with an introduction to competition. It is the wish of the coaches that each player will have an enjoyable learning experience.

General Information for the Season

In addition to the general letters of information, here are some specifics on the team, and on the season.

1. **Register with the High School Activity Office.** They will let you know if there is a physical on file for your player.

Fees:

Participation Fee = \$75 (paid only once per year)

Tennis Activity Fee = \$85 (paid each season)

Clothing Fee = Approximately \$70-\$120 depending on the team

2. **Complete the Player Questionnaire!** It's the foundation from which we get to know your player and communicate with the family. Here is the link:

<https://forms.gle/PPbkhfrHWWhw4zdm6>

Player/Coaches/Parents Agreement: The agreement is meant for all of us to have an agreed upon approach to the Boys' Spring Season. We want to be transparent with our expectations and partner with you to achieve success.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IDDnIAALxyeFSbp5A0DK_5Xr6CIJ0wdd20NISvvlbJM/edit?usp=sharing

3. **Spring 2025 Try-out Schedule**

The 2025 season MSHSL Boys Tennis start date is Monday, March 24.

We will have try-out practices for the first two weeks of tennis. You will receive an email after you register. Time and location is based on weather and indoor availability.

Spring Break: Players will not be kept off a team if they travel over **Spring Break**, however they do lessen their opportunity to practice and/or play challenge matches to establish their position on one of our 3 teams (Varsity, Junior Varsity, B Teams). Players that anticipate being “on the bubble” between teams are strongly encouraged to attend all practices during spring break.

Try-Out Process: During **Viewing Sessions** multiple coaches observe players to assess in which Round Robin tournament they should participate. We also take in other information, such as USTA tournament records or **UTR scores**. Finally, we are fortunate in tennis to have objective measures, such as Round Robin results, which the coaches utilize in placing players within a team. Seniors must make the Varsity team but do have the opportunity to be managers if they choose to stay involved but not at a competitive level.

Communication throughout the season: Tennis daily schedules are fluid due to weather changes in indoor court availability. Each coach will utilize a separate **GroupMe** (download app for IOS or Android) page to keep **players and parents** up to date. Each team (Varsity, JV, and B Team) will have their own GroupMe. Parents can request to be included in each team's shared communication.

4. Pre-Season Parent/Athlete/Coach Meeting (PAC)
Monday, March 12, 7:00 pm at MHS (Team Room)

5. Practice Schedule: First Two Weeks

(Please see that all teams have a separate season schedule listed below as well):

Monday, March 24

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD weather dependent)

This is a “viewing day” to place all into one of three Round Robin tournaments.

Tuesday, March 25

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)

Round Robin play

Wednesday, March 26

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)
Round Robin play

Thursday, March 27

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)
Round Robin play

Friday, March 28

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)
Round Robin play

Spring Break Practices (highlighted):

Monday, March 31

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)

Tuesday, April 1

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)

Wednesday, April 2

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)

Thursday, April 3

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)

Friday, April 4

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)

Monday, April 7

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)
Round Robin play

Tuesday, April 8

Practice will be scheduled, site TBD (weather dependent)

Completion of Round Robin play

Wednesday, April 9

Practice and **Uniform Hand-out** (High School Boys Locker Room)

Practice focus: Singles players and strategy

Thursday, April 10

Practice and team meeting about **Snap Raise!**

&

Picture Day for ALL teams (3:30pm Varsity, 4pm JV, 4:30pm B Team)

Transportation: JV & B Teams usually take buses to matches.

Captains Expectations: Captains are responsible for the first lines of communication between coaches and players. They will work with the coaches with uniform sizes and design, and they will help organize fundraisers and the team banquet at the end of the season. They will serve as role models for the team and starting 2021 we will put in place a varsity-junior varsity- B Team mentorship program.

Captains Parents Expectations: Captains' parents will help organize the team banquet. Thank you in advance!

Awards: General awards are for All-Conference, Captains, Most Improved, Most Valuable Player(s) (Best Record in singles or doubles), and various special awards that our creative Captains design. All players making the Varsity competition team will receive a Varsity Letter, provided they meet the following expectations:

- a. Adhere to all state MSHSL rules and regulations.
- b. Attend all practices and matches, subject only to illness, with notification to coach.
- c. Demonstrate proper sportsmanship and demeanor on and off the court.
- d. Give their best effort at practices and matches, and display a positive attitude.

10. **Player Rules and Expectations**

- ◆ Arrive at practice 10-15 minutes early to do individual stretching.
- ◆ Wear appropriate attire during practice.
- ◆ Players who will not be at practice due to illness must text the coach the day of absence at 651-402-8211 (please note your name in the text).
- ◆ Players must wear team uniforms at matches and tournaments.

- ◆ Players must at all times treat their coaches and teammates with respect.
- ◆ Players must give a solid effort at all times.
- ◆ Expect that any coach in the Minnetonka Tennis Program can offer you feedback as praise or constructive criticism. We follow a team coaching philosophy.
- ◆ Special Note: Athletic policy states that any captain that violates a chemical usage rule of the State High School League will lose their captain status for the season.
- ◆ Academics will always come first, please consult your coach if there is an issue with practices/matches and team responsibilities.

**Let's work together for an exciting and
a fulfilling tennis season!**