



355 Harlem Rd. West Seneca, NY 14224  
716-821-7581 716-821-7365  
Fax: 716-821-7352

# 2026 Boys Tennis Handbook

Published: Before 2/23 - 2/27

\*Subject to changes

Link to NYSPHSAA | <https://nysphsaa.org/sports/mten>

Link to Section VI [Boys Tennis Web-Page](#)

Registration is required within UTR- Website [see instructions](#)

[2026 High School Coaches Guide-UTR](#)

Link to Section VI [Boys Tennis Web-Page](#)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page Number

<a href="#">2026 Boys Tennis Calendar</a>	4
<a href="#">Tennis Advisory Committee</a>	4
<a href="#">Seeding Meeting Procedure and Release of Brackets:</a>	4
<a href="#">Coaches Information 2026 Tennis Season</a>	5
<a href="#">2026 High School Coaches Guide-UTR</a>	5
<a href="#">Combining of Schools 2025-26 COS Status Chart</a>	5
<a href="#">Boys Tennis Classification</a>	5
<a href="#">State Safety Policies &amp; Procedures For Outdoor Sports</a>	5
<a href="#">Tornado Policy</a>	5
<a href="#">Thunder and Lightning Policy</a>	5
<a href="#">Heat Index Procedures</a>	5
<a href="#">Wind Chill Procedure Policy</a>	5
<a href="#">NYSPHSAA Jewelry Rule</a>	5
<a href="#">NYSPHSAA Tennis Sports Standard</a>	5
<a href="#">NYSPHSAA Boys Tennis Rules</a>	5
<a href="#">Definition of a Scrimmage</a>	6
<a href="#">Duties of League Chairperson</a>	6
<a href="#">Post-Season Recommendations</a>	6
<a href="#">League Qualifying Process</a>	6
<a href="#">Section VI Tournament Rules</a>	7
<a href="#">New York State Tournament Information and Rules</a>	8
<a href="#">Media Information</a>	8
<a href="#">BOYS TENNIS HISTORY LINK</a>	8
<a href="#">Section VI Policies</a>	9
<a href="#">All-WNY Scholar Athlete</a>	9
<a href="#">Section VI Policy on Travel to State Competition</a>	9
<a href="#">Section VI AED Policy</a>	9
<a href="#">No Shows at Sectionals</a>	9
<a href="#">Contingency Plan for Sectional Competition (weather or illness)</a>	9
<a href="#">Sportsmanship Philosophy and Code of Conduct Philosophy</a>	10
<a href="#">Updated Sportsmanship Pledge</a>	10
<a href="#">BOYS TENNIS HISTORY LINK</a>	10
<a href="#">Boys Tennis Forms</a>	The following forms are found on the <a href="#">Boys Tennis Page</a> on Section6.e1b.org
1. <a href="#">Sectional Entry Form</a>	
2. <a href="#">WNY Scholar Athlete Nomination ONLINE</a>	
3. <a href="#">Commitment to Compete Form (Sectional) Team</a>	
4. <a href="#">Commitment to Compete Form (Sectional) Individual</a> Download the form to fill it out & save	
5. <a href="#">Commitment to Compete Form (State)</a>	
6. <a href="#">Waiver of Minimum Number of Contests for Sectional Participation Form</a>	

## 2026 Boys Tennis Calendar

The Section VI approved Boys Tennis season is March 9 to June 14, 2026

First Practice	March 9, 2026
First Scrimmage / First Contest	after 6 individual practices
Pre-Season Coaches Meeting with your league at 5 - Section VI at 6 p.m. March 4, 2026 (Zoom)	
Spring Scholar Athletes Nomination Deadline	Tuesday, May 26, 2026

### SPRING POST SEASON CALENDAR LINK Sectional Calendar

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>INDIVIDUAL</u>
Last Date for matches to count for seeding	Fri., 5/1	Last Date for matches to count for seeding	Fri., 5/22
Opt out	Fri., 5/1	Opt out	Sat., 5/23, 9 a.m.
Entry Deadline	Fri., 5/1	Entry Deadline	Sat., 5/23, 9 a.m.
Seeding Meeting	Mon., 5/4	Seeding Meeting	Sat., 5/23, 9 a.m.
1st Round	Sat., 5/9		South Towns Tennis Club
Locations and start times TBD Large & Small school sites TBD		1st/2nd Rounds	Tue., 5/26, 3 p.m. at OPHS
Team Sectional Finals 5/16 at OPHS or Clarence		Semifinals/Finals	Thu., 5/28, 3 p.m. at OPHS
Team Subregionals	Wed., 5/27	Rain Dates	May 29-30
Team Regionals	Sat., 5/30	Regionals	not for individuals
STATES <a href="#">State Website</a>	Fri., June 12, USTA National Tennis Center, Flushing (NYC)	STATES <a href="#">State Website</a>	Fri.-Sun., June 5-7 at USTA National Tennis Center, Flushing (NYC)

### Tennis Advisory Committee

Committee voting privileges:  
 As per the Section VI Constitution item 7.6, "The representative members on each sport committee will be appointed by each league and have only one vote per league. Other non-voting members may be selected by the Sport Chairperson. Federated sport representative members that are appointed by their division, league or school will have only one vote. The Sport Chairs of Federated Sports that have divisions will verify that among division representatives each participating league is represented. The Sport Chair may only vote when the vote is tied. A Sport Chair who also represents a league can serve in both capacities but will have only one vote."  
 The voting members of the committee are indicated below with an asterisk.

#### Chairperson:

**Terry McMahon** [ttennisMcMahon@gmail.com](mailto:ttennisMcMahon@gmail.com) 41 Maple Dr. OP, 14127 H: 662-4843 Fax: 209-6281

**Boys Assistant Chair: Alexander Chambers** [achambers@clarenceschools.org](mailto:achambers@clarenceschools.org) Clarence, C: 861-9136

<u>League Chairperson</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Buffalo Aubrey Lloyd*	Athletic Director	716-570-0866	<a href="mailto:alloyd@buffaloschools.org">alloyd@buffaloschools.org</a>
CCA Ben Wright*	Olean	716-560-9920	<a href="mailto:bwright@ogh.org">bwright@ogh.org</a>
ECIC Brian Koziol*	Sweet Home	716-341-8850	<a href="mailto:bkoziol@sweethomeschools.org">bkoziol@sweethomeschools.org</a>
NFL Dan Krolewski*	Nia.-Wheatfield	716-553-3799	<a href="mailto:dkrolewski@nwcsd.org">dkrolewski@nwcsd.org</a>
NO Jeff Roth*	Wilson	716-751-2000 x 175	<a href="mailto:jroth@wilsoncsd.org">jroth@wilsoncsd.org</a>

#### Seeding Meeting Procedure and Release of Brackets:

Draws will be made available thru the league representative at the conclusion of the seeding meeting

## Coaches Information 2026 Tennis Season

- Use of Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) will be mandatory
- Boys Tennis website is mandatory. Report scores, inform the media and organize the date for seeding. [Policy 212.9 Seeding Website Protocol Page 11](#)
- New Commitment to compete for Sectional Team competitions see forms on pg2
- New coaches, please forward your contact information along to chairs Terry McMahan [ttennisMcMahon@gmail.com](mailto:ttennisMcMahon@gmail.com) & Alex Chambers [achambers@clarenceschools.org](mailto:achambers@clarenceschools.org).

## 2026 High School Coaches Guide-UTR

SAVE the above DOCUMENT & follow the instructions replaces the previous instructions below in yellow

### QR CODE for High School Players to sign up

### Combining of Schools 2025-26 COS Status Chart

COS 01	Existing	<b>West Seneca West</b>	West Seneca East	1133*	Large	V
COS 02	Existing	<b>Culinary Arts</b>	Emerson	514	Small	V
COS 03	New	<b>Southwestern</b>	Frewsburg	365	Small	V
COS 04	New	<b>Eden</b>	North Collins	350	Small	V

### Boys Tennis Classification

Link to [page with Tennis teams with BEDS or Large/Small School designation](#)

### State Safety Policies & Procedures For Outdoor Sports

<a href="#">Tornado Policy</a>	<a href="https://nysphsaa.org/sports/2024/9/20/TornadoPolicy.aspx">https://nysphsaa.org/sports/2024/9/20/TornadoPolicy.aspx</a>
<a href="#">Thunder and Lightning Policy</a>	State Policy for Thunder & Lightning on p56 handbook <a href="https://s3.amazonaws.com/nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/8/21/NYSPHSAA_Handbook_Aug_2025.pdf#page=56">https://s3.amazonaws.com/nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/8/21/NYSPHSAA_Handbook_Aug_2025.pdf#page=56</a>
<a href="#">Heat Index Procedures</a>	<a href="https://nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/5/5/Heat_Index_Procedure_5_23.pdf?id=3080">https://nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/5/5/Heat_Index_Procedure_5_23.pdf?id=3080</a>
<a href="#">Wind Chill Procedure Policy</a>	<a href="https://nysphsaa.org/documents/2021/8/16/Todd_Wind_Chill_Procedure.pdf?id=1859">https://nysphsaa.org/documents/2021/8/16/Todd_Wind_Chill_Procedure.pdf?id=1859</a>

### NYSPHSAA Jewelry Rule

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/8/21/NYSPHSAA\\_Handbook\\_Aug\\_2025.pdf#page=55](https://s3.amazonaws.com/nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/8/21/NYSPHSAA_Handbook_Aug_2025.pdf#page=55) on page 55

### NYSPHSAA Tennis Sports Standard

21. Tennis 2025 page 96 **Updated 2026**

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/8/21/NYSPHSAA\\_Handbook\\_Aug\\_2025.pdf#page=96](https://s3.amazonaws.com/nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/8/21/NYSPHSAA_Handbook_Aug_2025.pdf#page=96)

### NYSPHSAA Boys Tennis Rules

Link found on Boys Tennis State Website <https://nysphsaa.org/sports/mten>

Friends of the Court 2022 <https://www.usta.com/content/dam/usta/2022-pdfs/2022%20Friend%20at%20Court.pdf>

## Introduction

This tennis handbook has been prepared to provide information and guidelines for Section VI tennis competition. Although dates will change from year to year, most information will remain constant.

All coaches\* and athletic directors are urged to read this handbook. Forms for sectionals are found within. The deadline dates should be noted carefully. Forms should reach the Section VI Chairman or contact person by the date requested. If there are any questions, please contact the Section VI Chairman, listed above

\* All coaches should familiarize themselves with the NYSPHSAA Handbook ([Link](#)) posted on the state website. Pay close attention to the section which deals with eligibility rules, number of practices prior to scrimmages, games, etc.

### **Special Notes**

- 1) The format for Section VI Individual Tournament is subject to change.
- 2) Additional information including changes may be found in the sectional pre-season and post-season reports published by the Section VI athletic council and the tennis chairperson, and is available through those offices and/or your athletic director.

## Definition of a Scrimmage

A scrimmage is a practice that is a **SIMULATED CONTEST**. In scrimmages: (a) both squads use the same field simultaneously with both coaches making corrections and giving instructions, (b) **GAME RULES MUST BE ALTERED – SEE SPORT SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS [NYSPHSAA Handbook](#)** (c) no official score is kept, (d) time period(s) are defined in the Sport Standards section of the NYSPHSAA Handbook, (e) no admission is charged. The use of officials would be permitted and encouraged whenever possible for the purpose of instruction regarding the rules and proper application of rules.

A tennis scrimmage

1. A tennis scrimmage must alter format, so it does not follow the regular competition format for league/sectional play. Suggested formats include, but are not limited to:
2. Teams use tie breaks only.
3. Five (5) game pro-set– first (1st) one to three (3) points.
4. Modified eight (8) game pro-set – first (1st) players to three (3) points completes the scrimmage.

## Duties of League Chairperson

1. Organize and administer all meetings necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of league competition.
2. Be responsible for rules and rule changes governing play within the league.
3. Assist the Section Chairperson in the execution of duties of his office upon request.
4. Determine the best singles players in accordance with the number of representatives allowed for that league and ranked by ability through league records and/or league tournament.
5. Determine the best doubles team in accordance with the number of representatives allowed for that league and ranked by ability through a league doubles tournament.
6. Insure that entry forms are submitted on time and attend, or have a representative attend, the seeding meeting and other meetings called by the Tennis Chairperson.

## Post-Season Recommendations

Please address to the Committee and the Chairperson, any recommendations for revisions of the Rules, Format, Handbook, Coaches Directory, etc.

## League Qualifying Process

1. Each league will determine how to qualify singles and double teams for the Sectional Tournament.
2. **Guidelines** - suggested for qualifying Tournament:
  - a. League will determine the site for the Tournament.
  - b. Players from the same team should be put into opposite sides of the draw.

- c. Depending on the number of players needed, set up a procedure to determine who will represent their league. For example, if two players are needed, then the two finalists will represent their league. If a third player is needed, have a play-off for the two losers of the semi-finals for their spot. The league chairperson will determine how this will be done prior to the tournament.

## **Section VI Tournament Rules**

1. Any player wishing to play Section VI competition must have played at least 6 scheduled contests during the season with a coach present.
2. All **League Chairpersons** should call the Section VI Sport chair on page 3, between 7-10:00 PM to **enter all your representatives** in the Section VI Tournament by the entry due date.
3. Coaches wishing to have players **considered for seeding** must send a record of all important matches. This year's record, previous Sectional Tournament results, head-to-head results, ETA, club matches, as well as, past season records will be taken into consideration. Make sure your league chairperson reports this information when he calls in his entries for the tournament.
4. Any coach or league that will not be sending representatives to the sectionals should notify the tournament director well in advance so a substitute may be found.
5. All matches will be **Best 2 out of 3 sets:**
  - First round and second round will be regular scoring - tie breaker at 6 ALL in games.
  - Semi-finals will be regular scoring with no tie-breakers in the finals. All double matches will use the Coman tie breaker when necessary.
6. **Balls** - Each single player or doubles team must provide a new can of balls for each match. The winner will take the **new can** of balls to the next match and the loser will get the old one.
7. **Placement into the draw** - Consideration, if possible will be made for players playing each other from the same team, same league.
8. Players must choose singles or doubles.
9. All players and their coaches must be at the tournament site on their assigned court within **10 minutes of the starting time** or they will **default** their match.
10. All players **who enter** this tournament must be **willing to play** in the Section VI Tournament and the State Tournament without defaulting for any reason except medical. Each player must sign the **Section VI Commitment to Compete Form** (see forms page 2) **and submit it to his/her tennis coordinator prior to sectionals. Failure to honor your commitment to complete the tournament for reasons other than injury or illness will result in forfeiture from the tournament and ineligibility from next season's Section VI Tournament. This incident will also be reported to the student's school administration.**
11. **Size of Draw** - 16 singles and 16 doubles. **Format:** This will be a single elimination tournament. Losers in the semifinals will play back for the third position on the state team.
12. **U.S.T.A. Code of Conduct:** This code will be used during all play. This will be your only warning. Penalty: 1st offense - loss of point; 2nd offense - loss of game; 3rd offense - loss of match. **THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**
13. **Warm-ups:** A ten minute warm-up will be allowed. It will be timed by the umpires.
14. **Continuous Play:** You are not to leave your court during play except with permission of the umpire or tournament director. In the case of a third set, the players will be allowed to leave the court for 5 minutes. Coaches will not be allowed on the court at any time.
15. **Injury Time Outs:** U.S.T.A. injury time out rules will be used. Three (3) minutes per injury before point penalty system will be used for delay of match. Loss of conditioning (i.e. cramping) is not considered an injury. A player may ask for one time out of three minutes for injury. If the player cannot continue after 3 minutes, a warning, then a point, then a game, then the match will be forfeited. The winning player should report the score immediately after the match. He will also take the left over new can of balls.
16. **Rest breaks during match:** While players change sides - 90 seconds; 2 out of 3 sets - 5 minutes between 2nd and 3rd set only.
17. **Coaching during matches** - Coaching will be allowed on the 90-second change over starting with the third game of each set. Players **are not allowed** to leave the court; coaches **are not allowed** on

the court. During the 5 minutes between the second and third set, players are allowed to leave the court; coaches are not allowed on the court. (**Girls Season only – Coaches ARE allowed to sit courtside during matches.**)

18. **Minimum times allowed between matches** (a player may choose to play before that time):
- 10 game pro set - 15 minutes
  - 2 out of 3 set matches:
    - 1st round match 15 minutes
    - 2nd round match 30 minutes
    - 3rd round match 30 minutes
    - before final match 45 minutes
19. Tournament Advisory Committee will help enforce the rules and to take care of any unforeseen situations.
20. Proper tennis attire is required. Players must wear the following to participate:
- **SHIRTS** -Tennis or athletic type with the name of the school that the player is representing must be worn. No shirts with anti-health pictures or names may be worn.
  - **SHORTS** -Athletic or tennis type shorts/skirts should be worn. No cut-offs or boxer type shorts will be allowed to be worn during play. (In case of warm weather, a player may change his shirt; in case of cold weather, a player may wear warm-ups).
- THIS RULE WILL BE ENFORCED BY THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE.

## **New York State Tournament Information and Rules**

### **RULES**

1. Top 3 single players and top 3 double teams from State Qualifying Tournament will represent Section VI.
2. Players and parents must sign a “Code of Conduct” before leaving.
3. **Transportation** must be provided by the district for the players. [Please refer to Section VI Travel to State Competition Policy.](#) (Policy #310 in the Section VI Policy Manual) & [Travel information in this document](#)
4. Additional information will be provided at the State Qualifying Tournament.
5. Please note: Updated Failure to Section Commitment to play form (see “Forms”, page 2). [State Commitment to Play Form](#)

### **Media Information**

A complete Media listing is posted on the Section 6 website: [MEDIA LINK](#) I need to put list up

### **BOYS TENNIS HISTORY LINK**

[historical state link](#)

[Section VI History](#)

[STATE Team Website](#)

[STATE Individual Website](#)

## Section VI Policies

### All-WNY Scholar Athlete

Coaches and Athletic Directors are encouraged to [and the Nomination Form](#), before Tuesday **May 26** nominate athletes for selection as an All-WNY Scholar Athlete. [Complete on-line form](#) [The criteria for selection](#) VI and the Buffalo News

### Section VI Policy on Travel to State Competition

For the complete policy click on #310 in the [Policy Manual](#)

### Section VI AED Policy

(Effective Feb. 2003)

The game site-chairperson will be responsible for securing an AED for the certified trainer's use at all sectional contests, and at all regional and state contests that are hosted by Section VI.

The certified trainer will be provided by an orthopedic group as contracted by Section VI, at all postseason contests held at **NEUTRAL SITES**. Note: If a school suffers loss or damage to an AED that is being used for postseason contests, the Section will be financially responsible.

### No Shows at Sectionals

A school team that does not show or refuses to play in a Sectional contest after the seeding meeting spoils the integrity of the tournament. The Section VI Athletic Council approved the following policy 11/98:

- a. Schools shall declare their intent to play or not play prior to sectional seeding, as per the sport specific sectional handbook. Schools failing to fulfill their pre-tournament commitment shall be subject to the following sanction:

*One year ineligibility for sectional play in that sport with the ability to appeal to the Athletic Council. Appeal must occur within 60 days of the completion of sectional play.*

- b. The Section Chairperson must notify the Executive Director of the occurrence and the Section office will notify the Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Director of the sanction.

### Contingency Plan for Sectional Competition (weather or illness)

1. Contests will be postponed only if a participating school is officially closed due to weather or illness.
2. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director (or designee) to notify the Sport Chairperson that the school has been closed due to weather conditions (or illness) as soon as he/she becomes aware of such action. Officials and the media will be notified by the Chairperson (or designee).
3. In the event that a school is closed on the day its playoff contest is scheduled, the decision to play shall rest with the District Superintendent.
4. In the event that weather conditions reverse themselves prior to game time, the game may be played with the mutual consent of the participating Athletic Directors and the approval of the Sport Chairperson.
5. When a contest is at a non-school site: If the competition facility and the roads to that destination are open, then the competition will go on as scheduled. If either the roads or the facility are closed, then the competition will be canceled. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES is a site contracted by Section VI available for practice when a competition is canceled.
6. The Sport Chairperson will notify the Executive Director of any postponements.
7. PLEASE NOTE: It is up to the individual leagues to recognize the potential for snow days, power outages, etc. that may cause cancellations and problems. The individual leagues should schedule their last league contest at least one or two days prior to the seeding meeting, allowing for a make-up league contest(s) prior to the seeding meeting if necessary. The storm in Feb. 2006 that closed schools the day before the seeding meeting bears this point out.
8. Any health and/or safety threat, confirmed or unconfirmed will supersede any existing policy and will be up to the discretion of the involved member school approved 11/13/19 AC Mt

## Section VI - NYSPHSAA

### Sportsmanship Philosophy and Code of Conduct Philosophy

1. We believe that interscholastic athletics is an important part of education and support the ideals and values embodied in good sportsmanship.
2. We believe that sportsmanlike behavior is essential if interscholastic competition is to contribute usefully and constructively to the broad goals of education and to the quality of life of those involved.
3. We pledge ourselves individually and collectively to encourage and support the development and maintenance of a sportsmanlike atmosphere for athletic competition.

### Code of Conduct

1. A genuine interest in and enjoyment of interscholastic competition requires conduct that reflects the understanding that contests as a part of an overall school program are intended to be enjoyed. Behavior that reflects a winning at all cost attitude violates this standard.
2. Interscholastic competition provides valuable lessons and learning experiences that are not possible in the regular classroom setting. All involved must support the need to develop the ability to compete with enthusiasm and to accept winning with grace and losing with dignity.
3. Coaches, players, and fans should know that participation is an honor and privilege which requires them to conduct themselves in a manner that brings honor and pride to their school and community.
4. Respect for the cultural and ethnic diversity of one's opponents, their school, and community is a fundamental tenet of wholesome athletic competition. This standard suggests that planned activity is needed to demonstrate a warm and friendly welcome, mutual respect, and a genuine readiness to participate in a sportsmanlike manner.
5. Players should demonstrate both knowledge of the rules and respect for game officials and their decisions. Coaches and school officials have the responsibility to teach and encourage these attributes.

#### \*\*\*\*\* Sportsmanship Statement Reminder \*\*\*\*\*

The following statement will be read over the public address system just prior to the pledge to the flag. If there is no public address system, the statement will be read to both teams by the site chairperson or his representative:

**“Welcome to Section VI     (name of sport)    . Athletic competition can provide everyone with a sense of accomplishment and pride, if all of us - players, coaches and spectators - abide by the rules of good conduct. We ask that you enjoy the performance of our outstanding athletes in a spirit of sportsmanship and appreciation of competition.” ”**

### Updated Sportsmanship Pledge

[https://nysphsaa.sharepoint.com/:w/g/EVgJngEDr6VPqWsm20yF\\_rMBqv35ehAHbGm5Kcbk6zMiPA?e=Nc3xw](https://nysphsaa.sharepoint.com/:w/g/EVgJngEDr6VPqWsm20yF_rMBqv35ehAHbGm5Kcbk6zMiPA?e=Nc3xw)

**Page 40 in above link which is the Sports Coordinator Manual for 2025-26**



### BOYS TENNIS HISTORY LINK

[Section VI History](#)