

Section 4.23 Tennis Men and Women

4.231 **Season of Play**

A. Season

1. The tennis season begins with the start of practice/scrimmages, and ends with the state championships. The (Commission on Athletics) California Community College Athletics Association Season of Sport Chart should be consulted each year for practice, scrimmage and match start dates.
2. The season is limited to **26** dates including the Ojai and the Conference Tournament. Post season contests such as the Regional Tournament and the State Tournament do not enter into this figure.
3. The Conference season shall consist of a double round robin home and away.

B. Schedule

1. All rained out matches will be rescheduled on a date that is mutually agreeable between both coaches and schools, or on the scheduled rain out date. If both coaches cannot mutually agree, then the match must be rescheduled within two weeks.
2. Matches will be scheduled for 2:00 p.m. Team and individual default time is ten (10) minutes past the official starting time for the match. Transportation emergencies in transit are grounds for rescheduling.
3. To determine the yearly schedule rotation, the first bracket will be dropped to the bottom of the schedule and home sites are reversed.

4.232 **Rules**

A. I.T.A. Rules will govern play except for the following Conference Guidelines:

1. All singles matches shall be the best two out of three tie break sets and all doubles matches are 8 game pro set.
2. Regular scoring will be used by both men and women.
3. The twelve point tie break shall be used at 6 games all in regular sets and 8 games all in pro sets.
4. A maximum of ten (10) minutes will be allowed for warm-ups. Warm-ups with opponents shall be started at match time.
5. There will be a warning for a point penalty. This warning is to be given at the introduction of the match. Point penalty will be in effect for any cell phone or beeper that goes off, for any use of a cell phone on the court during match play, and for unsportsmanlike conduct.

6. Coaching of the players is permitted to be continuous throughout the match as long as it does not interfere with play. It is understood that the purpose of such coaching is solely to offer advice to the player and not in any way to distract or annoy the opposing player. Coaching is permitted by the head coach, assistant coach or one (1) player from the team. Only one (1) coach may coach a player/doubles team at a time. Only the coaches are allowed in the playing area. Players must be one half court distance away for both men's and women's matches. Spectators are not allowed on the playing courts.
7. Matches interrupted by darkness or rain in which neither team has reached five (5) points will be postponed and started at the point of interruption. Rescheduling should be done according to rain out policy. If one team scored five or more points, the match shall be considered completed. If lights are available on the courts being used for the match, they are to be used to finish the match.
8. Matches are to consist of six singles and three doubles with one point scored for each match, making a total of nine points. All singles and doubles matches must be completed to decide the contest. Exception – rain or darkness. Failure to complete the contest under the above rule shall result in forfeiture of the entire contest by a college.
9. ~~The match officially starts when the list of players is exchanged between coaches.~~ Lineups should be exchanged 30 minutes prior to the start of the match. If the match has been won or lost, it will be permissible to rearrange the remaining doubles matches. (After the completion of the singles competition, an 8 game pro-set will be played.) All doubles matches will play an 8 game pro set.
10. Singles matches are to be played first. As each doubles team becomes available, matches shall be started within 20 minutes upon completion of their singles match. There shall be a maximum of a 5-minute break between the second and third sets for both the men and the women.
11. Singles and doubles ladders shall be established prior to the beginning of the first and second rounds of Orange Empire Conference play. A copy shall be emailed, sent or faxed to each coach and the conference representative. If your ladder is not emailed, sent, faxed or given by the first conference match, the first match line up becomes your ladder for the first round of conference play. The same applies for the second round of conference play.
12. The singles and doubles ladder will list players 1-4 in rank order, as well as the #1 doubles team, and all additional players. Any player in the top two singles positions may play at the 1st or 2nd singles position. Any player listed at the 3rd or 4th singles position may play at either the 3rd or 4th position. All remaining players may play at either the 5th or 6th singles position. In case of illness or absence at position one or two, the substitute player must play at the number two position and must come from the three or four singles position. If any player is sick or absent from the three or four position, the substitute must come from the list of alternate players and must play at the number four position. The penalty for a line up error is to forfeit the entire match between the colleges.
13. Number one doubles team shall be established prior to the first conference match but may be changed at the beginning of the second round of play. If a number one doubles team member is absent, he/she must be replaced with an alternate. If a number one doubles player is dropped from the squad, the coach

may re-establish the number one doubles team. Once the team match has officially begun, a substitute can only take the place of an injured or otherwise unavailable player. All other doubles teams must remain intact at their position. If both players in a doubles team are injured or otherwise unavailable, then that doubles match must be forfeited. The penalty for a line up error is to forfeit the entire match between the two colleges.

B. Officials

One U.S.T.A. officials may be utilized by either college.

C. Equipment

1. Host colleges shall furnish three new (3) tennis balls for the first two sets and three new (3) tennis balls for the third set. Penn ATP approved balls will be used.
2. Singles sticks are mandatory in men's tennis matches.

D. Facilities

1. Tennis courts should conform to U.S.T.A. standards. Courts of the home team should be clean and free of hazards.
2. Net straps shall be provided for all courts
3. Scoring devices are required on all courts for all Orange Empire Conference matches.

4.233

All Conference and Awards

- A. The All-Conference Team will be made up of the quarter-finalists in singles and the semi-finalists in doubles in the Conference Tournament. Orange Empire Conference Certificates of Achievement will be awarded.
- B. At the Conference Meeting the Monday before the Conference Tournament recommendations will be submitted and voted upon for (the most valuable) conference player of the year award.

4.234

Conference Champion

- A. The Conference Champion shall be decided by the winner of the Conference Dual Team matches. In the event of a tie, Co-Champions will be named.
- B. Conference Tournament
 1. The Conference Tournament draw will be made on the Monday before the Conference Tournament at a select site.

2. The tournament site will rotate alphabetically with the host college serving as tournament director. The tournament committee will be composed of the team coaches of the competing schools.
3. The following is the rotation of the Conference Tournament sites:

<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>
2010 Irvine Valley	2010 Cypress
2011 Cypress	2011 Saddleback
2012 Fullerton	2012 Orange Coast
2013 Orange Coast	2013 Irvine Valley
2014 Riverside	2014 Fullerton
2015 Saddleback	2015 Riverside

4. Two U.S.T.A. officials will be used in the tournament. The tournament director will have the power to appoint and remove umpires and linesmen and provide an official umpire for the finals. This expense is to be borne by the tournament.
5. All singles and doubles matches shall be two out of three sets.
6. The final matches will be played at the tournament site.
7. Conference Tournament expenses will be shared equally among the colleges in the tournament.
8. The Conference Tournament entries will consist of six (6) singles and three (3) doubles and will be a single elimination tournament.
9. The Orange Empire Conference Tournament shall be held prior to the Southern California Tournament. Singles and doubles will be played through the quarterfinals.

4.235 Conference Tennis Committee

- A. The tennis committee shall be composed of all the coaches who are currently coaching men's and women's tennis in the Orange Empire Conference.
- B. Voting membership shall consist of two votes per college (men/women). There shall be no voting proxy other than committee members' own college staff representatives.
- C. The committee will evaluate the tennis supplement annually and make any necessary recommendations.
- D. A quorum must be present for any changes in the supplement. The supplement shall be amended by a majority vote of the members present. Only in emergency may a poll be taken by phone or letter in which case the decision to be made must carry a majority.
- E. There will be a minimum of two tennis meetings each year. The first meeting will take place during the fall semester. The second meeting will take place on the Monday before the Conference tournament.