

2026-27 DISTRICT XI GIRLS TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

presented by ST. LUKE'S UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK

DATES, LOCATIONS, TIMES OF DISTRICT XI GIRLS TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- Monday, September 28th** Girls Singles and Doubles Entries emailed to Thomas Moll by 11:00am
- Tuesday, September 29th** Girls Singles Seeding Meetings at **Catasauqua High School**
2A at 7:00pm and 3A at 8:15pm
- Monday, October 5th** 2A and 3A Girls Singles First and Quarterfinal Rounds
2A - Saucon Valley High School at 12:00pm
3A - Freedom High School at 12:00pm
- Wednesday, October 7th** 2A and 3A Girls Semifinals and Finals
12:00pm at Lehigh University
- Wednesday, October 7th** Girls Doubles Seeding Meetings at **Catasauqua High School**
2A at 7:00pm and 3A at 7:45pm
- Tuesday, October 13th** 2A and 3A Girls Doubles First and Quarterfinal Rounds
2A - Saucon Valley High School at 12:00pm
3A - Freedom High School at 12:00pm
- Thursday, October 15th** 2A and 3A Girls Doubles Semifinals and Finals
12:00pm at Lehigh University
- Monday, October 19th** 2A and 3A Girls Team Quarterfinals, **3:00pm at higher seed**
- Tuesday, October 20th** 2A and 3A Girls Team Semifinals, **3:00pm at higher seed**
- Thursday, October 22nd** 2A and 3A Girls Team Finals, **2:00pm at Lehigh University**
- Tuesday, October 27th** PIAA Girls Team Tennis First Round – TBD
2A - District 11-1 at District 2-1; Location TBD
3A – District 1-3 at District 11-1; Location TBD



DISTRICT XI TENNIS COMMITTEE AND TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:

Tournament Director: Thomas Moll, II
Work: (610) 697-0111 ext. 5 Cell: (484) 357-6278 E-mail: mollt@cattysd.org

The District XI Committee, or its representative, is the decision-making authority on any questions or problems that arise during the tournament. A Tournament Director will be selected to conduct the seeding meetings and the tournament. This person is responsible for all tennis-related activities.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SINGLES AND DOUBLES TENNIS:

- **The singles and doubles tournaments will each consist of a 16-person draw.**
- Eight (8) players will be seeded for both the singles and doubles tournament.
- Coaches will be responsible to email their entries to the tournament director by the requested date.
- A #2 entry must have won a minimum of 50% of his/her matches at the #2 position to be eligible for the tournament.
- For a #3 entry to be considered for the tournament, the school's #2 entry must have won a minimum of 50% of his/her matches.
- A tournament seeding meeting will be scheduled prior to the District XI singles and doubles tournament.
- Players will be seeded and selected for the tournament under the guidelines of the District XI Committee. A coach or a school designee is required to attend the seeding meetings.
- Players from the same school cannot play each other in the first round.
- Up to three (3) alternates will be selected for both the singles and doubles tournament.
- A school district coach or representative must accompany each player.

RULES OF PLAY:

1. All matches will consist of the best of three (3) sets.
2. The set tiebreak is a standard 7-point (first to seven by a margin of 2) tiebreak used to decide sets when the set score reaches 6-6.
3. **First round and quarterfinal round matches will be No-Ad scoring. Semifinals and finals will be regular scoring.**
4. Coaches may talk with their players during 90-second changeovers and for two (2) minutes between the first and second set. However, players may not leave the court. Players may leave the court area for a five (5) minute break between the second and third sets if one or both players request the break.
5. Coaching on the Fly is permitted. The guidelines are attached to this handbook.
6. All players shall wear their school-issued team uniform.
7. Both players should report their scores to the Tournament Director immediately following their match. Balls are to be returned to the Tournament Director.
8. Players should check with the Tournament Director for the time of all matches. Any player failing to report a match at the designated time will be subject to the USTA point penalty system.
9. All players are expected to call lines for their matches. A player may request the Tournament Director to designate a person to act as the umpire during a match if problems occur concerning line calls.
10. USTA rules will govern all play. The point penalty system will be in effect for tardiness and unsportsmanlike conduct. The purpose of this system is to deter, not punish, unsportsmanlike conduct, including tardiness.
11. USTA approved tennis balls will be used for all tournament play. A new can will be opened at the beginning of the third set of singles only beginning with the second round.
12. Players will be allowed five (5) minutes for injuries. If the player is unable to resume play after the allotted time, the player shall default the match.

13. The warm-up period shall be five (5) minutes in length, including practice serves.
14. A minimum of thirty (30) minutes shall be allowed between matches unless otherwise determined by the Tournament Director.
15. Parents and/or spectators will not be permitted to advise or instruct contestants during competition.

SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT: PIAA requires all registered sports officials to enforce the sportsmanship rules for coaches and contestants. Actions meant to demean opposing contestants, teams, spectators and officials are not in the highest ideals of interscholastic education will not be tolerated. Let all contests reflect mutual respect. Coaches will certify prior to the contest that teams are legally equipped according to the rules of that contest.

AWARDS: Medals will be presented for first, second and third place in each category. (The losers in the semifinal matches will both receive third place medals.)

2026-27 DISTRICT XI GIRLS TEAM TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

presented by ST. LUKE'S UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK

DATES, LOCATIONS, TIMES OF GIRLS TEAM TENNIS DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP:

Quarterfinals	Monday, October 19, 2026	3:00pm
Semifinals	Tuesday, October 20, 2026	3:00pm
Finals	Thursday, October 22, 2026	2:00pm; Lehigh University

METHOD OF SEEDING: The eight (8) teams qualifying for the tournament will be determined by the PIAA District XI Power Rating System that is detailed on the District XI website. Seeding for the tournament will be based on the final Power Rating System ranking, with priority given to preferential seeding of league/conference champions. **The district deadline for matches to count for seeding purposes for the Team Tournament is Thursday, October 15th.** Teams qualifying for the Team Tournament must submit a completed District XI Team Ladder Line-Up to the District XI Tennis Chairman on the night of the Singles Seeding Meeting. The brackets for the tournament will be posted on the District XI website on the Friday prior to the quarterfinal round.

- All team championship matches are regular scoring in all rounds, which include the quarterfinals, semifinals and championship rounds.

SITES: Quarterfinals and semifinals will be played at the site of the higher seeds, and the finals will be played at Lehigh University.

BALLS: The home team is responsible for providing tennis balls for the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds. District XI will provide tennis balls for the finals.

AWARDS: 1 trophy and 10 gold medals for the Team Champions, and 10 silver medals for the runners-up.

STRENGTH LADDER AND LINE UP: The strength ladder and line-up should be submitted electronically directly to the PIAA. An email with the link and tournament rules will be sent to coaches and must be completed by Tuesday, October 6th.

2026 PIAA GIRLS' TEAM TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

TEAM TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Each Team shall consist of three (3) Singles Players and two (2) Doubles teams. Players may only play one event (singles or doubles).
2. Each Team, listing students in order of ability, shall establish a strength ladder from 1 to 10. The strength ladder submitted for the Team shall represent the best player at that time at 1st singles, the next best at 2nd singles, and the next at 3rd singles, and so on. The first three (3) student-athletes shall play singles in the order that they are listed on the strength ladder. From the remaining members of the team, two doubles teams are to be selected with the stronger doubles combination playing 1st Doubles. Due to the difference in skill level among doubles players, the singles ladder is not the defining criteria for establishing doubles. No player shall be eligible for singles or doubles team unless they are listed on the team's strength ladder.
3. Each Team shall also establish a lineup (1st, 2nd, & 3rd singles, 1st & 2nd doubles). The strength ladder and lineup shall be submitted at the beginning of their District Team Tennis Tournament to the District Tournament director. A team's strength ladder and lineup **may not be changed** throughout the respective District and Inter-District Team Tennis Tournament.
4. Substitutions may be made only in cases of illness, injury, or severe personal hardship. (As determined appropriate by the Tournament Director). The school's athletic administration and/or Head Tennis Coach shall provide supporting documentation for such substitutions. **A team may elect to substitute or not substitute when the above authorized substitution conditions are present.**
 - a. An ill or injured player may be substituted for and then be reentered in the same position in the team's strength ladder, upon documented authorization from a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine.
 - i. Teams are prohibited from making substitutions that would allow an ill or injured player to be moved from playing singles to doubles, and then back to singles when the ill or injured player has recovered, even with a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine's documented authorization.
 - b. Singles substitution can be made from any of the remaining players on the team's strength ladder, and shall result in the three singles players playing in order of their ability as determined by the strength ladder. A Doubles Team does not have to be disrupted in order to replace a singles player. If a member of the team's Double Team is designated the substitute for the singles position, then the resulting vacant doubles position should be replaced by a player on the team's strength ladder who was not previously assigned to a doubles team.
 - c. Doubles Team substitutions, are direct-line substitutions only. Substitution of both doubles partners is prohibited, if only one of the two players experiences an illness, injury, or severe personal hardship.
 - i. A team may not substitute a player from one of their established Doubles Teams to fill in a spot on the school's other Doubles Team.
 - d. Changing the strength order of the Doubles Teams after any direct-line substitution is prohibited.
5. **Stacking is NOT Permissible.**

Sports such as tennis, have unwritten codes of ethics that are traditional and inherent in the playing rules. Coaches and players have a responsibility to uphold the ethics of tennis as well as the game rules. In an effort to promote fair play and wholesome team competition, coaches shall submit legitimate lineups based on the skill ability of their participating players. Under no circumstances shall a coach stack a lineup. "Stacking" or moving players around with the intent of gaining a competitive advantage is prohibited. Individual matches (singles and/or doubles) will be subject to forfeiture for violation of this rule.

***For a complete listing of the Team Tennis rules please see the Team Championship Memorandum**



COACHING ON THE FLY GUIDELINES

Continuous Coaching – “Coaching on the Fly” – New for the 2026-2027 School Year

- Coaching is permitted between points and during the 25-second period between games when there is no changeover rest period, as long as it does not delay play.
- **Players may not:**
 - Sit down during non-changeovers for coaching.
 - Create an additional break, including stopping for a drink, for the purpose of receiving coaching.
 - Meet coaches at the fence between points or games.
- Coaching comments must be brief and cannot interfere with the pace of play or other matches.
- **Coaches must be:**
 - At the court of the player in which the coach is actively coaching.
 - Coaches should position themselves near the court and on the player’s side of the net whenever practical, without entering the playing surface or interfering with play.
 - Off the playing surface or outside the fence unless a league, district, or state administrator grants an exception.
 - Moving between courts only during a natural stoppage in play, such as between points or games, and must not distract players on either court.
- Coaches may not yell instructions across courts or across the net.
- **Coaching is still permitted during:**
 - 90-second changeovers.
 - The 2-minute break between the first and second sets.
 - The 5-minute break when players split sets.
- Only **one coach per school may coach on a court at any one time.**
- Continuous coaching applies only to **designated coaches**—not teammates or spectators.
- Continuous coaching does **NOT** allow teammates or spectators to “coach.” Teammates and spectators are expected to follow proper HS tennis etiquette while observing matches.

Number of Coaches:

Coaches must be approved by the local school-board:

- Only **two coaches per team** are permitted to **Coach on the Fly.**
- A school may have more than two coaches in attendance at matches but only two coaches are permitted to **Coach on the Fly.**
- If varsity and sub-varsity matches are being played simultaneously at the same venue, each level may have up to **two designated “Coaching on the Fly” coaches.**
- Regardless of the total number of coaches present, **only one coach per school may actively coach on a court at any one time.**

Prohibited Actions:

- Coaches may not interfere with play or make line calls, foot fault rulings, or any officiating decisions.
- Coaches may only overrule calls made by their own players when necessary to ensure fair play and sportsmanship.
- Coaches may not interact with opposing players regarding match play, line calls, scoring, or other disputes.