

# 2020 KSHSAA POSTSEASON GIRLS TENNIS

## PROTOCOL / BEST PRACTICES

**FOR AS LONG AS GROUP SIZE RESTRICTIONS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING ARE IN PLACE, THE FOLLOWING BEST PRACTICES WILL BE FOLLOWED .**

### **PLAYERS**

- Players will practice social distancing and wear a mask when unable to keep a distance of 6.
- Players should disinfect their racket handles after each match and wash their hands
- Players should bring their own water containers and towels and avoid sharing with others.
- Players may, but are not required, to wear a mask while playing.
- Players will have a temperature check each day.
- In absence of scoring devices, players will announce the set score at the beginning of each game and set.
- Team tents allowed – only state qualifiers allowed. Practice social distance, wear masks.

### **COACHES**

- Coaches will practice social distancing and wear a mask when unable to keep a distance of 6'
- Coaches will wear a mask when talking to players on a change-over and between sets
- Coaches will have a temperature check each day.
- One player = 1 coach; 2-6 players = 2 coaches max. Coach must wear wrist band. Good for both days.

### **SPECTATORS**

- Spectators will practice social distancing of 6 ' and will wear a mask.
- Spectators must provide their own chairs/seats or may sit in designated areas only.
- Spectators are asked to leave the area when their player is not playing.
- County Health Departments at each site will dictate the number of spectator allowed. This information will be located and updated on the KSHSAA tennis page.

### **OFFICIAL/ROVING UMPIRE:**

- There will be no USTA Officials at the state tournaments.
- Arbitration Committees will be in place as usual. Members must stay through the conclusion of the tournament.

### **ATHLETIC TRAINERS**

- Practice social distancing, wear masks, avoid contact with players unless injured. Wear gloves.

### **EVENT STAFF/FACILITIES:**

- When reporting results after a match, practice social distancing at score table.
- Scoring devices on each court will be allowed. Identify 1 player to touch/change score. Clean/disinfect after each match.
- Provide a player seat on each side of the court near net pole. Player(s) will use the same chair(s) during the match. Clean after each match.
- Provide signage about social distancing and wearing masks by all spectators, coaches, players not playing, etc. (KSHSAA will provide).
- Provide hand sanitizer and wipes at score table for players to use after reporting match score.

- Score table, sales tables, gates, common areas that are touched frequently should be wiped down on a set schedule. This should also include restrooms.
- Drinking fountains should be marked “OFF LIMITS”.
- Hospitality for coaches, tournament workers – packaged food, box lunches, bottled/can drinks, etc.
- If permanent seating, mark off every other row and space on rows used.
- Place t-shirt sales and program sales in same area but not at same table. Use square for t-shirt sales.
- Consider not having concession stand unless products are individually wrapped, etc.

### **TENNIS BALLS (REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS)**

#### **□ USE FOUR BALLS OR SIX BALLS**

Although unlikely, it’s possible that a tennis ball can transmit the COVID-19 virus, as virtually any hard surface can transmit the disease. So here is an extra precaution you can take to keep safe when playing tennis:

- Open two cans of tennis balls that do not share the same number on the ball.
- Take one set of numbered balls and have your playing partner take a set of balls from the other can.
- Proceed with play, making sure to pick up your set of numbered balls only.
- Should a ball with the other number wind up on your side of the court, do not touch the ball with your hands. Use racquet head or feet to advance the ball to the other side of the court.

### **TENNIS BALLS (STATE TOURNAMENTS)**

- There will be 56 matches (28 singles/28 doubles). New tennis balls will be used for all state matches following the above procedure.

### **WARM UP, COMPETITION (AS ALLOWED BY USTA & KSHSAA MODIFICATIONS):**

- Practice social distancing by staying on player side of the net
- Continue to use racket spin method for determining side of court, first serve. Maintain social distancing.
- Avoid touching gates, fence, etc. if possible.
- Play match as intended – players switch ends (go to opposite sides of the court), use “their chair” throughout the match (see equipment).
- When/if players split sets, coaches may approach players but must maintain at least 6 feet.
- If a ball from another court comes on court, send it back with a kick or with your racket.
- In absence of scoring devices, players will announce the set score at the beginning of each game and set.

### **END OF MATCH:**

- In lieu of handshakes, please develop and utilize an appropriate sign of respect and sportsmanship that does not include handshake or other physical contact; suggestions include head nod, chest thump, salute, racket clap, etc.

