

**NORTHERN LIGHTS CONFERENCE REGION III  
TOURNAMENT BYLAWS  
Tennis (Boys/Girls)**

**Last Revised: August 2024**

**ARTICLE X: BYLAWS**



**Section 1: Governing Rules**

Tennis competitions in Region III will follow the guidelines established by the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Rule Book and all applicable rules and regulations established by Region III and ASAA.

**Section 2: Classification**

There is one Northern Lights Conference Tournament conducted with the following schools being invited: **Colony, Kodiak, Palmer, and Wasilla**

Schools wishing to participate in the Region III tournament must participate in scheduling and Region III Conference competition.

**Section 3: Conference Play**

I. The match format is as follows: 2 boys singles, 2 boys doubles, 2 girls singles, 2 girls doubles, and 2 mixed doubles.

If a team does not have enough eligible players and must forfeit a match, the coach can forfeit the #2 position, but the coach must notify the opposing coach prior to exchanging lineups and must allow that coach time to change his/her lineup.

A team's #1 player or team in a particular division must be as good or better than a team's #2 player or team in that division. Number 1's play number 1 and number 2's play 2, with the exception of both coaches agreeing.

Players may only count one competitive event per conference meet for season records.

II. Each individual varsity match will consist of the best two-out-of-three set format with a 10-point tie-breaker (Super Tie-Breaker) instead of a full third set. Coaches may agree to modify the scoring formats. All matches played between two or more teams will be counted toward the overall region record. The Coman Tiebreak procedure will be used. The Coman System is identical to the regular tiebreak procedure except that the players change ends after the first point and then after every four points until the conclusion of a tiebreak. The Coman

Tiebreak procedure is used for all tiebreaks played during a match. If all coaches agree, the match may be modified, such as playing a Proset instead of a full match.

III. After the team lineups have been exchanged, there may not be changes except for injury during the warm-up. If a match has to be rescheduled because of inclement weather, exchanged lineups remain in effect unless both coaches agree to resubmit lineups.

IV. The home team coach decides the order of play, taking into consideration any requests made by the visiting team.

V. Players are allowed a 10-minute warm-up for outdoor matches, including serves.

VI. In the event of an injury, the coach may assist and treat the player. A maximum of 15 minutes may be taken. However, once treatment begins, play must resume within three minutes (except a total of 15 minutes may be used to stop bleeding). If a player is bleeding, the bleeding must be stopped, the playing area must be properly cleaned, and the contaminated ball must be disposed of before play can continue.

VII. A bathroom break can be taken only between sets. Reasonable time is permitted, depending upon the location of the restrooms.

VIII. There is a 90-second rest period during changeovers within a set except there is no rest period after the first game of a set. There is a 2 minute rest period between the first and second set, and also between the second set and a 10 point tiebreaker. Coaching only may occur in the 2 minute rest period by a school's coach, volunteer, or admin designee. This applies to all conference and tournament play.

IX. If a player requests an official to call lines; his coach must notify the opposing coach. If available, one impartial 'Court Monitor' (or one Court Monitor from each team) will be assigned to that court. The Court Monitor(s) will call foot faults and will overrule any erroneous out calls that they clearly see. Court Monitors will stand on the court at the net post. If there is a court monitor from each team appointed, they must agree to overrule a call.

X. An effort should be made to schedule matches against all schools in the conference. There is to be an agreed upon extended weekend (ie. Thursday-Saturday) in which Kodiak will be able to play all Mat-Su Valley schools. In the event that a school cannot travel due to circumstances beyond their control, there will be an opportunity on the day before the conference tournament to draw for Pro-set matches against other conference schools In each event. Any athlete that does not compete in the event in which they are entered in for the conference tournament during the season will not be considered for seeding.

XI. In order to be eligible for seeding In the conference tournament, players must have played

at least two matches against at least two different schools in that event. Doubles teams, including mixed doubles teams, must play with their conference partner. If a school is unable to provide competition in an event, the school with those players may use out of conference scrimmage matches to be eligible for seeding in the conference tournament.

XII. No electronic devices are allowed on the court, violators will be disqualified.

XIII. Host School Responsibilities:

1. Provide regulation USTA or ITF approved tennis balls for home match play.
2. Collect line ups from coaches.
3. Establish the order of matches.
4. Provide Med Kit and AED.
5. Make an effort to provide Athletic Training.

#### **Section 4: Tournament Entries**

All teams may enter a total of 16 individuals into the conference tournament. Athletes are only able to enter one event. Entries should be received by the tournament director no later than 5 days prior to the tournament. Two male and two female alternates may be brought to the Region Tournament as substitutes in the event of an injury or illness and may be used at any time. The alternates must have played 1 varsity match in any position, to include an exhibition match.

#### **Section 5: Tournament Format**

The host school can choose to hold the coaches meeting either the morning of the tournament or the night before tournament play commences.

There will be 5 divisions with 7 events: Boys Singles (2), Girls Singles (2), Boys Doubles (2), Girls Doubles (2) and Mixed Doubles (2). The tournament will be an 8 person/team bracket, single elimination with consolation. The first round winners move on to the championship bracket and the others to the consolation bracket.

First round will be the best 2 out of 3 sets, regular scoring, with a 10-point match tie-breaker deciding the third set. Consolation matches will be pro set matches. Competitors will switch sides after every 6 points in all tiebreakers, including the 10-point match tie-breaker. The championship bracket will be the best 2 out of 3 sets with a full third set. When the round robin format is used, the participating schools will play pro-sets on the first day. Upon completion of day one play, the schools will be seeded by the Board of Control. On day two, the teams will play through a single elimination bracket.

## **Section 6: Seeding**

### **Seeding Criteria**

- 1. Conference record.**
  - 2. Head to head competition.**
  - 3. Common in-conference opponents.**
- Seeding will be conducted through the tournament Board of Control based on qualifying information submitted by the coaches.
  - Up to 4 tennis players per division can be seeded.
  - The remaining players will be randomly drawn into the bracket by the board of control members.
  - Seeding will follow ASAA State Tennis Tournament guidelines.
  - In order to be eligible for seeding In the conference tournament, players must have played at least two matches against at least two different schools in that event. Doubles teams, including mixed doubles teams, must play with their conference partner. If a school is unable to provide competition in an event, the school with those players may use out of conference scrimmage matches to be eligible for seeding in the conference tournament.

In the event that 2 players from the same team are drawn for the same bracket, one player will be moved to the opposite side of the bracket. – Remove

## **Section 7: Scoring**

The top five places for each event will be scored. The total points will determine the Region Champion and runner up team.

1st- 35 points

2nd - 25 points

3rd - 15 points

4th - 10 points

5th - 5 points

## **Section 8: Board of Control**

A tournament Board of Control shall be chosen for each Region III sponsored event that shall consist of three individuals who have sufficient knowledge of the sport to make educated and fair decisions when necessary. It Is recommended that one Board of Control member represent the school that will host the tournament during the following year. In the event of a dispute, Coaches may complete the Region III Coach's Appeal Form. The B.O.C. will break all ties.

## **Section 9: Event Personnel**

The tournament director shall arrange to have the following personnel available to run the tournament:

1. Tournament Director: Duties include collecting rosters, ordering awards, running the coaches meeting, creating the brackets, communicating changes or issues to coaches, other duties that ensure the tournament runs smoothly, and sending qualifiers to ASAA.
2. Head Scorekeeper: Verify final match scores and posts results.
3. Scorekeepers: Keep match score.
4. Medical Personal: It is recommended but not required to have medical personnel available.

## **Section 10: Trophies and Awards**

Region III will purchase trophies and awards and the costs will be shared by the teams involved. There will be team plaques for first place teams only. Individual medals are given to the top finisher in each event (Boys and Girls Singles, Boys and Girls Doubles, and Mixed). All-Conference patches will be given to 5 boys and 5 girls. Medals will be given to one boy and one girl from each team for "Good Sport Award." All Conference recipients will be voted on at the coaches' meeting.

All awards will be presented at the conclusion of the tournament.

A "Coach of the Year" award will be voted on by the coaches. Nominations are due by the conclusion of the coaches' meeting. Coaches may not vote for themselves. A plaque will be given to the Coach of the Year.

"All-Conference" selection to the team will be based on the player's performance during conference play.

Prior to the start of the tournament, each head coach will submit names of players they deem worthy of consideration for All-Conference selection. The names will be submitted to the tournament director by a given date. Names will not be added or changed once the meeting starts;

1. At the coaches' meeting, time will be given for each coach to talk about his or her nominations;
2. Each school will have the head coach or a designated voter present at the coaches 'meeting;
3. Once all of the coaches are done discussing their nominations, each coach or designated voter will select what he or she considers to be the top 10 players (5 boys, 5 Girls) from NLC. Ballots will be weighted in reverse order with the top player receiving 5 points, the second best player 4 points, etc.

4. Coaches may not vote for their own players.
5. All coaches or designees will fill out a ballot and then the vote will be taken verbally with all coaches present. Vote tallies will be done with all coaches present and recorded for all to see. If at this time more discussion is needed, the Board of Control will facilitate the discussion and possible re-vote of the All Conference Team.
6. In addition to participating in the verbal voting process, all coaches will be expected to turn in their original, completed voting ballot;
7. The Board of Control will supervise the voting process. Should any discrepancies arise, the Board has the option of nullifying the vote and conducting a re-vote. In this case, the tournament director or member of the Board of Control will send a letter to the Region III President and the principal(s) of the offending schools explaining the situation.
8. The All Conference Team will be the ten athletes receiving the most votes (5 boys, 5 Girls). If there is a tie for the last place on the team, the tie will be broken before the coaches meeting is over. The coaches of the athletes that are tied will have a chance to talk again about their players and then the coaches will vote again on only those athletes involved in the tie.

### **Section 11: Uniforms**

Teams are required to wear matching tops, that include the school name.

### **Section 12: State Tournament Qualifiers**

The Tournament Director is responsible for emailing results to ASAA.

During the coaches meeting, a discussion should be facilitated by the host school regarding any concerns or changes needed to the bylaws. These concerns will then be presented at the next region meeting.