

CONNECTICUT INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

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2021 CIAC Boys Tennis Packet

The CIAC Boys Tennis Committee has approved a change in format for the 2021 Class Tournament in order to provide a challenging and fair post-season experience in a safer environment for players, coaches and spectators. For that reason, the Class Tournament will be a team vs team, single elimination event where teams are paired according to their records. Each division will recognize a team champion and runner-up. The divisions are as follows: Class LL (720 and over), Class L (540-719), Class M (373-539), Class S (Up to 372). The second tournament will be the Boys State Tennis Invitational that will be offered to an elite group of singles (24) and doubles (12) teams. The tournament is described later in this document.

Please read and review the rules below and if you have questions, contact the tournament director, Jim Solomon, at (860) 716-7123 or jfsol@sbcglobal.net.

1. **Dates – 2021 Class Tournament**

Friday, May 28	Opening Round
Saturday, May 29	Round of 16
Sunday, May 30	Rain Date
Tuesday, June 1	Quarter-finals
Wednesday, June 2	Semi-finals
Thursday, June 3	Finals
Friday, June 4	Rain Date

Note: If rain cancels matches, two rounds may be scheduled on the same day. In the event of inclement weather for the quarter-finals and later rounds, the affected teams have the option with mutual consent of scheduling the match at an indoor facility. The indoor court surface must be consistent with outdoor hard court surfaces, e.g., HarTru; carpeted and grass surfaces are not permitted. The cost is to be shared by the two competing teams.

2. **Qualification Standards**

- a. Only CIAC member schools may enter these tournaments.
- b. To be eligible for consideration a team must play a minimum of eight (8) matches and have won 40% or more of the total matches scheduled. Exceptions may be appealed to the tournament director.
- c. Only matches played with CIAC member schools or eligible out-of-state schools shall be considered. Out-of-state schools must be members of their state athletic association and must be approved by their state department of education.
- d. Only the first two matches against the same opponent will be counted. No matches played after **Wednesday, May 26, 2021** will be counted. Scores must be submitted via the password-protected online eligibility center.

3. **Pairings Information** – The pairings for each division will be:

<u>Upper Half</u>	<u>Lower Half</u>
1 vs 16	3 vs 14
9 vs 8	11 vs 6
5 vs 12	7 vs 10
13 vs 4	2 vs 15

- a. If more than sixteen teams qualify, pairings will begin with 16 vs 17; 15 vs 18, etc.
 - b. The ranking of teams will be determined by winning percentage. Teams having the same winning percentage will be ranked, in order, by total wins then head-to-head. If a tie still exists, then draw placement will be determined by the seeding committee.
 - c. Announcements of rankings and pairings will be made by 3:00 p.m. on **Thursday, May 27, 2021** via the CIAC web site – www.ciacsports.com.
4. **Sites** – Matches will be located at the site of the higher ranked team (if that school has at least four (4) courts). The Team Tournament Class Open finals will be held at neutral sites, if possible. If not, the higher rated seed will host the final if the facility has at least four (4) courts. Host sites are reminded to have the Site Director greet competing teams at least thirty (30) minutes prior to scheduled match time. Host schools must provide adequate restroom facilities.
5. **Rules of Play** – Players will follow the rules of tennis as outlined by the USTA unless modified by the CIAC. This will include penalties for poor sportsmanship that are also defined by the USTA (see Point Penalties for USTA Junior Tournaments) and in **Friend of the Court**. The penalty for first offense is the loss of point; loss of game for second offense, and default for third offense. A player that receives a default is subject to the CIAC ejection policy which would mean the player cannot participate in the next scheduled contest. Since officials will only be available in later rounds, it is imperative that players, coaches and spectators adhere to the highest standards of sportsmanship as outlined later in this packet.
6. **Formats and Forfeits During Tournament** – A team match will consist of seven (7) points determined by playing four singles and three doubles matches. A team’s lineup must be configured in order of strength, meaning that the #1 singles player must be better than or equal to #2 and so forth. The doubles team must be arranged similarly. Any player having played less than a minimum of six (6) matches at a specific singles or doubles position must have approval from the site and tournament director to play in another position. A team must keep its lineup configured in order of strength for the entire tournament. That means that singles players or doubles teams cannot shift positions in the lineup, unless a player needs a substitution for injury or another approved reason. Any alterations may not be for strategic advantage and must be approved by the site and tournament director. Any player missing any portion of the tournament may not return to tournament play. **Stacking a lineup is unethical and may result in disqualification.** Please consult the site and/or tournament director for clarification of this rule.

All singles and doubles matches will be decided by two out of three sets, with a 12 point tie break at 6-6 in each set. However, a 10 point tie break in lieu of the 3rd set will occur on days when multiple matches are scheduled, or when a match has been decided and when considered appropriate by the tournament director. A team not having personnel to contest each of the seven points will forfeit a point each time they fail to put a player or players on the court to contest that point. **A team must forfeit #4 singles or #3 doubles first, then move in reverse order if additional forfeits must occur.** Please contact the site and tournament director for clarification.

7. **Breaks Between Sets** – A two (2) minute, on court break shall occur between the first and second set. A ten-minute break must occur if requested by any player between the second and third set. Each player will be entitled to a forty-five (45) minute break between matches. For three (3) set matches the two hour recovery rule will be in effect.
8. **Coaching** – Coaching is allowed on 90 second changeovers (not after the first game of each set), during the two minute on court set break, and during the ten minute break between second and third sets. Only the team's certified coaches or school representative may coach a player on the team. Each team **MUST** be accompanied by the team coach or school faculty member duly appointed by the school principal. Failure to comply with this regulation could result in a team forfeit.
9. **Matches Per Day and Postponements** – Teams will be required to play no more than two team matches in one day. Teams will be required to play on consecutive days unless there is postponement due to weather or other unforeseen emergencies. **If two matches must be played on one day, then the format will be two out of three sets with a 10 point tie break in lieu of a third set.**
10. **Balls** – Each team will be required to bring seven (7) cans of yellow WILSON balls to the first round matches. The winning team will take the unopened cans into the next round. New balls for a third set are allowed if both coaches agree.
11. **Reporting Scores** – The coach of each advancing team must contact the Division Director, the Tournament Director and the CIAC (Matt Fischer) immediately at the conclusion of the match (7 p.m.)
12. **Food and Beverages** – If the host facility permits food and/or beverages, team must provide their own food and beverages at the sites. Don't count on the availability of either food or beverages at the site. Don't count on the availability of either food or beverages at the sites. Carry out what you carry in please – help pick up and do not leave the premises before the site is pristine. See the accompanying document related to health protocol.
13. **Authority and Protest** – The decision of the Tournament Director and the Boys Tennis Committee relative to the operation of the tournament shall be final. **Protest** – Protests involving "Tournament Regulations" and/or match play will be adjudicated by the Tournament Director, the Committee Chair and a CIAC Executive staff member.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CIAC POLICIES

1. **Entry Fee** – There will be a \$100 entry fee for every school that enters a team in the tournament. Checks are to be made payable to CIAC and mailed to 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410.
2. **Entry Form Submission**
 - a. A **Team Roster** can be submitted on the online eligibility center or the submit scores/forms option under the CIAC for coaches menu at ciacsports.com no later than Monday, May 24, 2021. List all matches scheduled to be played throughout the season on the Team Entry / Schedule Form. All scores of matches played shall be completed and entered online on the day of the match as soon as possible following the match's completion.
 - b. Failure to file a roster/entry form by Noon, Monday, **May 24, 2021** may result in disqualification.

- c. Any match score not submitted by **Wednesday, May 26, 2021** may be counted as a loss. Any match played on May 26, 2021 must be reported immediately after the conclusion of the match.
 - d. All matches to be considered for tournament ranking must be listed on the Team Schedule / Entry Form.
 - e. Member schools must make every effort to complete their season as scheduled, including make-up games. Any effort to gain an advantage in tournament play by not playing a game is unacceptable and is subject to action by the CIAC Board of Control. Cancellation of any regular season contest/make-up games to play in a league tournament will not be allowed.
3. **Cancelled Regular Season Matches** – A cancelled game shall not count for tournament qualification or rating unless the principals of the member schools submit a cancelled game/forfeit form found in the CIAC Handbook. Failure to do so will result in the match being declared “no contest”.
 4. **Last Date for Qualifying Matches and Late Entry Policy** – All matches to count toward qualifying must be submitted on the web site by **Wednesday, May 26, 2021**. Matches played after this date and time will not count toward qualifying.
 - a. No tournament entries will be accepted after the established deadline except those approved by the CIAC Board of Control.
 - b. Corrections requested by a school to an entry form that was submitted by the established deadline but prior to seeding/pairing data being published on the web site, will be assessed a fee of \$50 per correction to a maximum of \$250.
 - c. All requests for corrections must be submitted on a support ticket via the online eligibility center. A text, call or email should be made to the Tournament Director also but must be along with the support ticket to the CIAC.
 5. All regular season matches must be entered online on the day of the match as soon as possible following the match’s completion. Scores may be entered via the Online Eligibility Center, the “Submit Scores/Forms” option of the “CIAC for Coaches” menu at ciacsports.com, or the “Submit Scores” button in our ciacmobile.com mobile site. Entering scores at ciacsports.com or ciacmobile.com requires either a coach or scorekeeper’s access code, those codes are managed via the Online Eligibility Center and can be retrieved from a school’s athletic director.
 6. **Tournament Regulations Violations** – If a school fails to comply with tournament regulations and such requires the CIAC tournament sports committee, central office staff, or the CIAC Board of Control to redo any portion of the tournament pairings or such non-compliance adversely impacts the management of the tournament, an administrative violation fee of \$500 will be imposed upon the school before entry into the tournament will be allowed.
 7. **Students with Special Needs** – Coaches are reminded to inform contest officials prior to each competition of any student with special needs who could be competing in the contest when his/her disability could impact the individual’s performance or the conduct of the competition.
 8. **Change of Division Request** – Any school wishing to participate in a higher division must submit via the password protected online eligibility center a change of division request form by April 10, 2021. Once a change of division has been made the school will be required to remain in that division for two (2) years.

9. **Testing Dates** – Coaches should inform players about SAT dates to avoid potential conflicts. All SAT players must be ready to compete at 1:00 p.m. unless granted extended time. Please be advised that because there are many options for student-athletes to take the SAT and ACT tests during the course of the school year, schools should make their teams aware of the CIAC tournament schedule that is posted three years in advance to avoid a conflict. Please plan ahead.

ACT Test Dates

April 10, 2021

June 12, 2021

July 17, 2021

SAT Test Dates

March 13, 2021

May 8, 2021

June 5, 2021

10. **Outside Competition** – Please review the rule about unattached competition. Players are allowed to compete in four outside events as individuals but must adhere to the three match per week rule and obtain advance permission from parents, the coach, the Athletic Director and the school principal. The starting date for this rule is the first day of the team’s schedule, its first match date.
11. **CIAC Tournament Site Media Policy** – The CIAC places tremendous value on the role the media plays in promoting and highlighting high school sports. To that purpose CIAC tournament venues and hosts should make every effort to provide a working environment conducive to all media (print, broadcast and internet based) covering our events. The following are minimum standards, developed in consultation with the CIAC Media Advisory Committee, which should be provided for working media at all CIAC tournament sites:
- 1) A minimum of one hour following the conclusion of post-game interviews to write in the press box, press area or a suitable facility in close proximity to the site of the event (i.e. office, classroom, etc.).
 - 2) Access to electric power (shared power strip, etc.)
 - 3) Access to wireless internet service.

Site directors should communicate these requirements to any staff person who may be responsible for the administration of the event. If for some reason a site will not be able to provide these items for a contest, a site representative should inform the CIAC in advance and work with the media on site before the game and work to provide a reasonable solution to the issue. Members of the media who will be covering events are directed to contact the appropriate site as far in advance as possible to inform them they will be at the event and discuss what arrangements will be made for working media at the site.

12. **Unmanned Aerial Systems at CIAC-Sanctioned Events** – The use of unmanned aerial systems, often referred to as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any person(s) at all CIAC-sanctioned events. This policy includes not only the restricted playing area of the venue(s), but also the physical confines of the entire stadium / field / arena structure. For the purposes of this policy, an unmanned aerial system is any aircraft without a human pilot on board.
13. **Sportsmanship** – Member schools are expected to conduct their relations with each other at all levels of competition in a spirit of good sportsmanship. Everyone involved has the obligation to see clearly his/her influence and act accordingly. The CIAC acknowledges that the school administration is responsible for the athletic program, including the making of broad and specific policies and procedures relating to sportsmanship and the conduct of activities in the school. To that end, the CIAC urges each school principal to adopt the following sportsmanship procedures and standards for their school and to champion the “Class Act” sportsmanship program as these standards will be used in all CIAC post-season contests.

CIAC Sportsmanship Guidelines

- a. The CIAC requests that all school personnel – administrators, faculty, and coaches – give special and specific emphasis about CIAC’s expectations for good sportsmanship during the regular season as well as CIAC tournaments requiring that athletes and members of the student body conduct themselves in a manner that reflects nothing but credit upon your school. Any unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of students and adults is unacceptable and will be addressed with strong and appropriate measures.
- b. The CIAC sportsmanship standards should be as widely disseminated as possible using the student-parent handbook, student-athlete handbook, school newspaper, parent newsletter, school web site and the local media.
 - The CIAC sportsmanship standards for spectators should be read by PA announcers prior to each contest.
 - The CIAC sportsmanship standards of conduct should be prominently posted at all sports venues.
 - When event programs are provided, the CIAC sportsmanship standards must be included.
- c. Member schools require having athletes, parents/guardians, sign an acknowledgement which would show that they have read the student-athlete handbook and understand the CIAC sportsmanship standards. Member schools work with community officials to ensure that levels of the CIAC sportsmanship standards are enforced when contests are held at their school and at non-school facilities.
- d. The CIAC and the CIAC sports committees insist the CIAC sportsmanship standards be rigorously enforced at all regular season contests and at all CIAC tournament contests. This is particularly important when contests are held at non-school sites.
- e. Member schools will conduct a pre-season meeting with student-athletes, coaches and parents to review the CIAC sportsmanship standards.
- f. Member schools should communicate with opposing schools and inform them they are a “Class Act School” and provide them with the CIAC sportsmanship standards which will be strictly adhered to.
- g. Member schools hosting a game should make available to visiting schools necessary game information – includes directions for parking, location of ticket booths, seating arrangement, ticket prices, game time, directions for each site.
- h. Member schools hosting a game should designate specific seating areas for students, bands, adults and visitors. If possible, opposing student bodies should be separated.
- i. Member schools hosting a game should arrange for adequate police supervision.
- j. When possible the member schools hosting a game should assign officials to dressing facilities separated from both teams. Provides escorts for the officials when it appears that disturbances may develop. Member schools should take measures to prevent fans from getting near or on the playing area and around the players benches. After the contest, prevent fans from going onto the playing area.
- k. Member schools should provide for adequate supervision of students and facilities. Supervisors should sit in the stands with the students.
- l. Member schools should support and adhere to ALL the following CIAC standards.

All Spectators (including parents)

- a. Will adhere to the host school's acceptable dress code at all home and away contests commensurate with classroom behavior. For CIAC tournament contests all spectators will be appropriately attired with their torso completely covered and with no visible degrading or demeaning writings/logos.
- b. Any signs displayed must be positive in nature, reference only the school supported by the sign maker, and must be pre-approved by the Athletic Director of the school referenced in the sign.
- c. During outdoor sports, no air horns or horns of any kind or whistles will be used, and any other noisemakers will be allowed with the host athletic director's approval and only be used during "dead ball" situations to celebrate good play. During indoor sports, no noisemakers will be used. Pep bands are allowable at a home contest if the school provides adult supervision and the band only plays during "dead ball" situations.
- d. Spectators will cheer positively to support their team, and will not cheer negatively against the opponent. Spectators will show respect for the game officials and their decisions.
- e. Spectators will show respect for the playing of the National Anthem.

Game Personnel / Announcers

- a. Will explain and consistently enforce host school expectations for spectators.
- b. Will be enthusiastic but not show favoritism while making announcements, and never publicly question or criticize the players, coaches, or officials.
- c. Will encourage respect for the National Anthem and remind spectators to remove caps and stand.

Coaches

- a. Will exemplify high moral character, behavior and leadership, lead by example, and set a standard for players and spectators to follow both on and off the athletic arena.
- b. Will teach players the rules of the game and to respect the game, and will take action when athletes exhibit poor sportsmanship.
- c. Will respect the integrity and judgment of officials and will not publicly criticize or question the decisions of officials.
- d. Will be aware of the competitive balance of contests and will manage the score in a manner that is sportsmanlike and respectful of opponents.

Players

- a. Will accept the responsibility and privilege the student-athlete has in representing their school and community by learning and showing teamwork, sportsmanship and discipline in all aspects of the game.
- b. Will demonstrate respect for self, coach, teammates, opponents, officials and spectators by exhibiting good character and conducting themselves as a positive role model.

- c. Will win and lose graciously.
- d. Will cheer for your team, not against your opponent.
- e. Will congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.

THE FOLLOWING DATES ARE IMPORTANT FOR THE BOYS TEAM TENNIS TOURNAMENT:

1. Saturday, April 10, 2021 – Matches cannot be added after this date.
2. Saturday, April 10, 2021 – Request for Change of Division Form Due via the password-protected online eligibility center – optional.
3. Monday, May 24, 2021 – 12:00 Noon – Team Entry / Roster Form Due via the password-protected online eligibility center
4. Wednesday, May 26, 2021 – Scores of matches not reported may be counted as losses.
5. Thursday, May 27, 2021 - Committee will meet at 8:00 a.m. for tournament pairings.
6. Thursday, May 27, 2021 – 3:00 p.m. – Team pairings and ranking information will be available on the CIAC web site. Information will contain sites, dates and times of matches as well as opponents.
7. Friday, May 28, 2021 – Team tournament opening round.

Tournament Director – James Solomon – jfsol@sbcglobal.net or Jim_Solomon@whps.org -- Cell (860) 716-7123

Site Directors:

LL	Dave Maloney, Manchester
L	Jeff Roets, Wethersfield
M	Steve Jasulavic, Southington
S	Ryan Healey, East Catholic

2021 BOYS STATE TENNIS TOURNAMENT INVITATIONAL

Tournament Director – James Solomon – jfsol@sbcglobal.net or Jim.Solomon@whps.org – Cell (860) 716-7123

In lieu of a State Open for 2021, the CIAC Boys Tennis Committee has approved the 2021 Boys State Tennis Tournament Invitational as its culminating event. This tournament will showcase the top 24 singles players and top 12 doubles teams in the state. Coaches will be able to nominate singles and/or doubles players for consideration. The minimum qualifications are 60% or higher winning percentage at #1 singles / doubles and a 75% or higher winning percentage at #2 singles / doubles in addition to having played in a minimum of 50% of the regular season matches. A coach may appeal to the Tournament Director if extenuating circumstances prevent a player or team from meeting these qualifications. The goal is to select the top participants in the state while trying to balance to some extent, division and league representation. The Boys Committee will make the selection/seedings and draws. In order to assist in the process, all coaches must enter for each nominee, individual scores for all of their regular season matches, check the SAT box if the player is taking SAT's on Saturday, June 5 and confirm the players availability for the entire event.

Location: TBA; Wesleyan University

Dates and Times:

Saturday, June 5	Opening Round, singles and doubles, TBA (SAT day)
Sunday, June 6	Rain day – 12:30 p.m.
Monday, June 7	Round of 16 – 10:00 a.m.; Quarter-finals – 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 8	Semi-finals – 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 9	Finals – 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 10	Rain day

BOYS / GIRLS TENNIS GUIDELINES

General Guidelines

1. Hand sanitizer and wipes available at the courts.
2. The host should disinfect benches or seats at the site.
3. Everyone must wear masks when entering the court areas.
4. Host team will provide the tennis balls.
5. Athletic directors / school medical personnel should evaluate all pre-existing and current health conditions.
6. Refuse containers should be available on site.

Guidelines for Coaches

1. Coaches must wear masks upon entering the court area, which includes the areas surrounding the courts.
2. Coaches must maintain social distance from all others.
3. No handshakes at any time.
4. No gum chewing, spitting or other unsanitary practices are permitted.
5. No pre- or post-game team meetings at the site.
6. Check with the host site ahead of time for any protocols that may apply to that facility.
7. Arrive at the assigned time and leave immediately upon the conclusion of your student-athletes competition.
8. Take individual water bottles, towels, etc.

Guidelines for Players

1. No gum chewing, spitting or other unsanitary practices.
2. Clean and sanitize racquets before and after each match.
3. Clearly verbalize the score before each point.
4. Maintain social distancing if changing ends of the court and when taking a break. Crossover in a clockwise direction.
5. Do not shake hands after a match. Offer a verbal “good match” or a racquet tap at the end of a match.
6. Wear a mask at all times except when active on the court.
7. Do not share water bottles, towels or other items.
8. Be on time for matches and depart the court immediately after the match concludes.
9. Headbands, wristbands and caps are recommended to avoid contact with the face.
10. Hand sanitizer is to be used after a match concludes.
11. When playing doubles, coordinate with partners to maintain physical distancing.
12. Players should remain positive and refrain from any outbursts, and loud exclamations.

Certifications / Coaching Certifications

Required Coaching Certifications

- Required coaching certifications, including medical certifications, can be found at this link: <http://www.ctcoachinged.org/>
- Temporary coaching permit application can be found at this link: http://ctcoachinged.org/ed_186.pdf
- 5 Year coaching permit application can be found at this link: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Certification/Forms/ed_185.pdf
- Information on concussion training and certification can be found at this link: <http://www.ctcoachinged.org/concussionpage.html>
- Information on Coaching Permit Renewal for the State of Connecticut can be found at: <https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Certification/Coaching-Permit-Renewal>
- Concussion training for coaches: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Certification/Coaching/student_and_parent_concussion_informed_consent_form.pdf?la=en
- Connecticut Coaching Education Program: <http://www.ctcoachinged.org/concussionpage.html>
- Coaching Education Overview: <http://www.ctcoachinged.org/>
- Coaching Course Registration: <http://ctcoachinged.org/Permit.html>
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest Renewal: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Certification/Coaching/coaches_sudden_cardiac_arrest_awareness_annual_review.pdf?la=en
- Concussion Renewal Form: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Certification/Coaching/Concussion_and_Head_Injury_Annual_Review_for_Coaches_2019-20.pdf?la=en
- Mandated Reporter Training: <https://portal.ct.gov/DCF/Mandated-Reporter-Training/Home>
- EpiPen Training: <https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/preview-kits-anaphylaxis-epinephrine-auto-injector>
- Coaches Guide to Dehydration and Other Heat Illnesses: <https://www.nata.org/sites/default/files/heat-illness-parent-coach-guide.pdf>

Volunteer Coaches – The state of Connecticut Department of Education does not distinguish between volunteer or paid coaches when considering certifications or responsibilities. All coaches who are responsible for, or instruct students in any way must follow Connecticut State Law for certifications and responsibilities. Therefore, volunteer coaches are required to obtain the same certifications as all other coaches.