

AMERICAN MIDWEST CONFERENCE

Men's and Women's Tennis (Unaffiliated)

ACADEMIC YEAR:	Spring 2012
CONFERENCE LIAISON:	Deb Duren – Athletic Director, Stephens College
UNAFFILIATED SPORT CHAIRS:	Lexie Pain (WOMEN) TBA (MEN)
UNAFFILIATED RATERS:	TBA
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES:	TBA
UNAFFILIATED TOURNAMENT DATES:	TBA
UNAFFILIATED CHAMPIONSHIP SITE:	TBA
TIME:	TBA
NAIA UNAFFILIATED– TOURNAMENT DATE(S):	TBA
UNAFFILIATED TOURNAMENT SITE: (MEN GROUPED WITH HEART OF AMERICA ATHLETIC CONFERENCE, WOMEN GROUPED WITH MIDWEST COLLEGIATE AND WOLVERINE- HOOSIER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE)	TBA
TIME(S):	TBA
NAIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP -- NAIA NATIONAL TOURNAMENT:	Monday-Friday, May 15-19, 2012 Mobile Tennis Center – Mobile, Ala.
TIME:	TBA

AMC TENNIS POLICIES -- I. SCHEDULING POLICIES

- A) USTA/ITA rules shall be used for all conference and non-conference matches hosted by AMC schools.
- B) Maximum 24 matches (tournament counts one).
- C) Single round schedule.
- D) The Wilson/NAIA tennis ball shall be the official conference ball.
- E) Conference matches postponed by inclement weather or other extenuating circumstances shall be made up on or prior to the final date of scheduled

games on the schedule.

II. GUIDELINES FOR PLAY

- A.) Played under ITA rules.
- B) Darkness (called by both coaches) moves matches to lighted courts ASAP the same day.
- C) The line-ups are to follow the ITA rules as defined below:
 - ITA Rule II.K.5 (p. 255-256).* Before the start of the dual-meet match, the coach must submit the doubles and singles lineup, with their top six singles players who are available to play listed in order of ability. Once the match has begun and a coach removes a player from the singles lineup, all players then must move up one spot and the No. 7 player, or any players below No. 7 in the lineup, must be inserted into the No. 6 position.
 - ITA Rule II.K.6 (p. 256).* A coach may remove any player from the doubles lineup by making a direct line substitution. The doubles lineup must still be played in order of ability. Players removed from the doubles lineup may play in singles. Once the match has officially begun, two players may be substituted for any doubles team (only if the match begins with singles). The lineup must remain in order of ability.
- D) Each team will provide their own towels and athletic tape.
- E) Protocol for matches;
 - 1. Men's and women's dual matches - 9 point format.
 - 2. Begin matches with pro set for doubles - tiebreaker at 8-8.
 - 3. Then play singles matches.
 - 4. Exceptions to the 3-6 format can be made by coaches' agreement.

III. DUTIES OF THE HOST SCHOOL

- A) Provide six competition-level tennis courts.
- B) Provide tennis balls, net sticks, score cards, and an alternative lighted facility if needed.
- C) Report results to newspapers and the AMC Information Director.
- D) Visiting team will provide a media fax list to home team coach at the conclusion of the match.
- E) Provide athletic trainer.

IV. PRE-GAME PROTOCOL

- A) At least two courts available for visiting team warm-up.
- B) Line-up exchange prior to player introductions. Line up with strongest player from 1 through 6.
- C) Introductions, instructions and prayer (optional).
- D) 10-minute warm-up.

V. RAIN-OUT POLICY

- A) Rain outs will be made up on the next available date provided that no team has three previous scheduled matches. Any permissible line-up may be used. Coaches should be in contact if weather is threatening to the match and a contingency plan should be formulated.
- B) Rain delays or cancellations must be continued at next available date with accurate documentation as to line-up, score, and court placement. In case of injury or illness AMC substitution rules will apply.

VI. AMC PLAYOFF PLAN

- A) To be recommended by tennis coaches and approved by the AMC Executive Committee.
- B) The post-season tournament shall follow this format:
 - 1. Quarterfinals - #8 seed vs. #1 seed; #5 vs. #4; #6 vs. #3; #7 vs. #2
 - 2. Semi-finals - #8/#1 winner vs. #5/#4 winner; #6/#3 winner vs. #7/#2 winner

3. Finals – winners of semi-final matches
- C) The AMC host will fund a neutral official to work tournament. This person would be in charge of regulation and oversight of the matches during the tournament.

VII. AWARDS

- A) The sport chair and his/her sports information director will compile a ballot inclusive of all nominating information. The ballot shall be distributed among head coaches (or at a meeting of head coaches). Coaches will vote for players who are not on their own team using a descending point scoring system for each singles spot and a descending point scoring system for each doubles spot (based on the number of selections needed at that spot). Completed ballots will be submitted to the conference information director for tabulation. The top scoring individuals and the top scoring doubles teams will be named all-conference first team. Other singles players and doubles teams receiving votes will be given honorable mention. No second team will be named.
- B) Coaches will also vote for a Coach-of-the-Year and a Player-of-the-Year. They may not vote for themselves or their own players
- C) The tennis sport chair will present awards immediately at the conclusion of the tournament.
- D) PLAQUES
 1. Conference Champions (Men and Women)
 2. Coach of the Year (Men and Women)
(Coach of the Year given when AMC team requirement is met)
- E) CERTIFICATES
 1. Top two finishers in each bracket
 2. Academic All-Conference

VIII. CONFERENCE MEETINGS

The men and women tennis coaches will meet at the annual coaches meeting in August as well as at the Conference tournament to determine seeding for the tournament.

IX. SPORT CHAIR

The sports chair selection will be determined by a vote of member coaches. The term shall be two years beginning in August 2010.