



Tennis - Girls

Sport Handbook – Fall of 2026

Section 1: Rules

- A. All contests under the jurisdiction of the RIIL shall be played according to the National Federation of State High School Association Rules, except for any special rulings adopted by the RIIL and listed in this handbook below.
- B. The RIIL strongly recommends head coaches/officials obtain a copy of the most recent NFHS Rulebook.

Section 2: Mandatory Coaches Certification & Continuing Education

- A. ALL Coaches must be appointed by their School Administration and upload their valid certificates to the Coaches' Certification website below. A coach is any adult with access to student-athletes through an education-based athletic program.
 - a. Including, but not limited to: Volunteer Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and Head Coaches.
- B. Coaching Requirements: Article 13
- C. Coaching Out of Season Rules: Article 7, Section 8
- D. Rules on Recruitment: Article 3, Section 11
- E. Sportsmanship Expectations for Coaches: Article 12, Section 3

Section 3: Medical Coverage/Emergency Action Plans

- A. Medical Coverage should be provided by the host school, be in attendance and on duty for the duration of all interscholastic scrimmages and games during the regular season and all tournament round games. The medical personnel must introduce themselves to both coaches and referee prior to the start of the game.
 - a. Pre-Game Safety Checklist
- B. Schools are responsible for providing Medical Coverage for their team throughout the playoffs, including the Semis and Finals/Championships.
- C. Home team medical coverage shall be responsible for both teams unless the visiting school provides its own medical coverage.

D. Levels of Medical Coverage:

<i>Medical Professional Legal Limitations</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. <i>Education/Schooling/Training & Licensure</i> B. <i>Scope of Practice</i> C. <i>Able to Return to Play</i>
Medical Doctors-MD/DO or Advanced Practice Provider-NP/PA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Advanced degree (Medical School/Successfully passed the licensing board, and RI Licensed) B. Preventative Care, On field Evaluation, Immediate Care, Diagnosis C. Can they Return to Play – Yes
Athletic Trainer (RI Licensed)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Minimum Bachelor's Degree (Successfully pass the BOC exam, and RI licensed) B. Preventative Care, On field Evaluation, Immediate Care, Assessment of injury, referral for further diagnosis C. Can they Return to Play during a game/contest? – YES
Physical Therapist (RI Licensed)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Degree varies from BS, MS to DPT (Successfully pass the board exam, and RI licensed.) B. Preventative Care, Rehabilitation, Orthopedic exam evaluation C. Can they Return to Play during a game/contest? – NO
Physical Therapist w/ Orthopedic Clinical Specialist (OCS) credential (RI Licensed)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Advanced Certification (Successfully pass the board exam, successfully complete requirements for and pass the OCS exam, and RI licensed) B. Rehabilitation, Orthopedic exam evaluation. On the field coverage - not qualified, no emergency training incorporated into initial certification or required to be annually updated. C. Can they Return to Play – NO (During a Game/Contest), Yes (In Clinical Setting)
Physical Therapists w/ Sports Certified Specialist (SCS) credential (RI Licensed)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Advanced Certification (Successfully pass the board exam, successfully complete requirements for and pass the SCS exam, and RI licensed) B. Rehabilitation, Orthopedic exam evaluation. On-the-field coverage – Qualified C. Can they Return to Play during a game/contest? – YES
EMT - Basic, Intermediate & Paramedic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Successfully complete the EMT program, pass the board exam, and RI licensed) B. Emergency care C. Can they Return to Play during a game/contest? - NO, per RI EMS laws/regulations/protocols
School Nurse (RN)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Successful completion of a nursing program (Successfully pass the board exam, and RI licensed) B. Emergency care, referral for further treatment/diagnosis C. Can they Return to Play during a game/contest? – NO

- E. The judgment of the medical person will be final with regard to the medical condition of a player. No player may continue to play against the medical person's advice under any circumstance.
- F. An Emergency Action Plan with clearly defined written and practice protocols as required by RI General Laws must be developed and in place at every high school.
 - a. When possible, an athletic trainer should be present at all practices and games. An athletic trainer is a key component in any strategy to minimize injury risk and optimize safety for all participants.
 - b. *Rationale:* An effective emergency action plan (EAP) must be in place as a prompt and appropriate response to any emergency situation that can save a life. The EAP should be designed and practiced to address all teams (freshman, junior varsity, and varsity) and all practice and game sites.

Section 4: General Regulations for all Sports

- A. Heat Acclimatization: RIIL R&R Article 7, Section 3
- B. Definition of a Game/Scrimmage: RIIL R&R Article 7, Section 2
- C. Coaching Out of Season Rules: RIIL R&R Article 7, Section 8
- D. Use of Equipment During the Summer: RIIL R&R Article 6, Section 13
- E. Sportsmanship Expectations for Coaches, Student-Athletes, & Spectators: RIIL R&R Art. 12, Sect. 3
- F. Loyalty to Home School: RIIL R&R Article 7, Section 7
- G. National Events: RIIL R&R Article 7, Section 11
- H. Penalties for Ejections: RIIL R&R Article 6, Section 7
- I. Protest Procedure: RIIL R&R Article 5

Section 5: Sport Advisory Committee

- A. Each Sport Advisory Committee is comprised of Member School Administrators, Athletic Directors, Coaches, Officials, and other relevant individuals who work with and report to the RIIL on all matters concerning their sport.

Committee Role	Member	School	Position
Sport Director	Frank Laliberte		
Co-Director (RIIAAA)	Geoff Keegan	Davies	Athletic Director
Athletic Director	AJ Kizekai	Moses Brown	Athletic Director
Athletic Director	Erika Paiva	St. Rays	Athletic Director
Coach	Brandon Lahoud	Lincoln HS	Coach Representative
Coach	Tom Martin	LaSalle	Coach Representative
Coach	Tara Marchant	Scituate	Coach Representative

B. The 2026-27 and 2027-28 Alignment received the following endorsements & approvals:

- a. Sport Committee Approval: 01/08/26
- b. Survey of all Member Schools: 01/16/26
- c. RIIAAA Executive Board Endorsement: 03/21/26
- d. Principal’s Committee on Athletics Approval: 03/23/26

Section 6: Regular Season:

A. Important Dates:

School Year	2026-27	2027-28
Season	Fall of 2026	Fall of 2027
Sport	Tennis	Tennis
Gender	Girls	Girls
Start Date	Monday, August 17, 2026	Monday, August 16, 2027
Days in the Preseason	10	10
Games Can Begin	Thursday, August 27, 2026	Thursday, August 26, 2027
Week #1 Begins On	Monday, August 31, 2026	Monday, August 30, 2027
Week #2 Begins On	Monday, September 7, 2026	Monday, September 6, 2027
Week #3 Begins On	Monday, September 14, 2026	Monday, September 13, 2027
Week #4 Begins On	Monday, September 21, 2026	Monday, September 20, 2027
Week #5 Begins On	Monday, September 28, 2026	Monday, September 27, 2027
Week #6 Begins On	Monday, October 5, 2026	Monday, October 4, 2027
Week #7 Begins On	Monday, October 12, 2026	Monday, October 11, 2027
Last Day of the Regular Season	Tuesday, October 20, 2026	Tuesday, October 19, 2027
Playoff Rounds/Events	3	3
RIIL Championships Concluded By	Sunday, November 1, 2026	Sunday, October 31, 2027

Main Draw Singles & Doubles Championship Tournament

Division Qualifying Tournaments are scheduled at the end of the fourth (4th) week of the regular season: Friday, September 25, 2026 – Sunday, September 27, 2026

Main Draw is scheduled on the fifth (5th) weekend of the regular season: Friday, October 2, 2026 – Sunday, October 4, 2026

Team Championships

Round	Date
Quarterfinals	Thursday, October 22 nd – Saturday, October 24 th
Semifinals	Tuesday, October 27 th or Wednesday, October 28 th
Championship	Saturday, October 31, 2026

A. Divisions:

State Championship Division (Div. 1)	Division 2	Division 3
12 Teams	12 Teams	13 Teams
LaSalle	Lincoln School	Cranston East
North Kingstown	Rogers	Coventry
East Greenwich	Mt. Hope	Toll Gate
Barrington	Ponaganset	St. Mary's Bay View
Moses Brown	Portsmouth	Scituate
Prout	North Providence	Woonsocket
Chariho	Smithfield	Pilgrim
Westerly	Lincoln	Central
South Kingstown	PCD/SRA Co-op	Classical
Cranston West	Middletown	Cumberland
Narragansett	North Smithfield	West Warwick
East Providence	Tiverton	Exeter-West Greenwich
		Pawtucket Co-op

A. Game Cap: 18 Regular Season Games prior to the start of the playoffs

- a. Game Cap includes all League and Non-League varsity competitions
- b. Assigned League Games:
 - i. Schools that select an 80% schedule will be assigned 12 league games vs. teams within their division
 - ii. Schools that select an 50% schedule will be assigned 8 league games vs. teams within their division

- B. Score Reporting for all Regular Season and Postseason League Games: In accordance with Article 6, Section 14, all contest scores are to be reported on-line on the RIIL Website. Coaches obtain access to the system through their Athletic Director.
- C. It shall be the responsibility of school officials/administrators/supervisors to provide a safe and secure environment for the teams and officials by ensuring the playing field and sidelines are continuously cleared of **everyone** except certified & appointed coaches, team managers/scorers, student-athletes, medical personnel, and school designated personnel. Media are allowed with prior permission of the host school.
- D. Home teams shall set a date/time for all contests.
 - a. If there is a conflict in the date/time of the contest with the visiting team(s) and mutual agreement cannot be reached, the visiting school Principal/Athletic Director shall submit a **written request** to the RIIL to review the circumstances of the disagreement and render a decision. **This must be done prior to the submission of the Home Confirmation Schedule.**
 - b. Once the Home Confirmation Schedule is submitted, changes will not be allowed unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- F. Postponement of Regular Season Varsity Games after the confirmation deadline:
 - a. Where unusual circumstances prevail or where weather conditions are unfavorable, a game may be postponed by mutual consent of the Principals and/or Athletic Directors
 - b. Postponed games shall be rescheduled to the next day when the teams, facility, and officials are available.
 - i. Includes weekends and/or school vacations.
 - ii. League games must take precedent over non-league games or lesser events
 - iii. Rescheduled games must be within all other guidelines contained in this handbook and the RIIL Rules & Regulations.
 - c. Additional Officials Fees for Games Changed within Two Weeks of original date/time:
Article 6, Section 5
- G. Practice Limitations:
 - a. Preseason Practice Limitations are also located in Heat Acclimatization: Article 7, Section 3
 - b. Scrimmages allowed after 5 days of practice
 - c. Games allowed after 10 days of practice

Section 7: Postseason Qualification & Format:

A. League Games Required to be eligible for the Postseason: 14 league games

B. Teams will be ranked according to their RPI in all league games

C. Postseason Qualification:

a. Division 1: Top-8 eligible teams in the division qualify for the playoffs

i. Quarterfinals – Semifinals – Finals

b. Division 2: Top-8 eligible teams in the division qualify for the playoffs

i. Quarterfinals – Semifinals – Finals

c. Division 3: Top-8 eligible teams in the division qualify for the playoffs

i. Quarterfinals – Semifinals – Finals

D. Semifinals in all Divisions will be scheduled at Slater Park unless an alternate, lighted facility is mutually agreed to by both schools.

E. Postseason Tiebreaker

a. Playoff Seeding will be determined by a team's RPI as calculated on the RIIL website.

b. RPI Tiebreaker:

1) Head-to-Head result(s) in League Games between the tied teams

2) Winning Percentage in all League Games vs teams in your division

3) Total Wins in all League Games vs teams in a higher division

4) Highest-rated win in Division (according to the final RPI standings)

5) Next-highest-rated win (exhaust all possibilities)

6) Coin Toss

Section 8: RIIL Rules & Regulations Specific to Girls Tennis – Article 27

A. **Rosters** shall be completed via the RIIL website and made available to the public no later than 10 days after the start of practice. Rosters must be updated when students are added/removed from the team. Rosters must include: full name, grade, and jersey number.

B. **Uniforms:**

c. Schools shall consult the NFHS Rulebook for specific regulations pertaining to uniforms

C. **RI Interscholastic Injury Fund:**

a. The Injury Fund is a non-profit organization separate from the RIIL.

i. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.injuryfund.org/>

b. The purpose of the nonprofit Injury Fund is to establish, raise, maintain and distribute funds to the athletic departments of high schools participating in the Rhode Island Interscholastic League. Distributions will be made to assist athletes, coaches or officials injured in sanctioned interscholastic competitions and practices with their medical expenses that exceed the amount paid by the injured party's primary, required medical insurance. Any and all financial assistance rendered by the RI Injury Fund to RIIL Member Schools shall be given

purely on a voluntary basis and in such amounts and in such manner as the Board of Directors in its sole discretion shall determine.

- c. Non-League competitions scheduled to spread awareness of and benefit the Injury Fund are allowed by RIIL Rules in addition to any stated game caps contained herein.
 - d. Students, Coaches, and Officials whose teams participate in an Injury Fund event in a given sport are covered by the Injury Fund
 - e. **Injury Fund Format:** Teams will schedule one regulation Tennis game in the pre-season to provide schools the opportunity to participate.
- E. **Game Ball:** The official game ball is Wilson through the 2027-28 school year.
- F. In the event a “playoff game” must be suspended because of conditions which make it impossible to continue to play, the game will be rescheduled and restarted from the exact point of the suspension of play.
- G. **Playoff Warmup:** Teams must be allowed no less than 20 minutes to warm up on the field prior to the start of any playoff game unless specific warmup procedures are contained elsewhere in this handbook.
- H. An athlete may participate on only one (1) tennis team during a school year.
- I. Match Rules
- a. Team uniforms must be worn for all matches and tournaments. Players will not be allowed to play if this is not followed.
 - b. All teams must have scoring devices, center straps and a minimum of four (4) courts.
 - c. In League matches, each team must supply at least two brand-new tennis balls per match. Each singles player or doubles team must bring a new can of balls to the qualifier and main draw, winner of match gets new can, loser gets used one. In team tournaments, each team must bring seven (7) new cans of balls.
 - d. Home Team representative must read the NFHS/RIIL Rule Card (White Card) before the start of the team match.
- J. Ladder Reporting
- a. Each Team shall declare the ranking of their Singles players and Doubles teams in order of ability for their First RIIL Match.
 - i. Coaches must enter all Match Results to Universal Tennis, establishing their ladder
 - ii. After the first RIIL Match, Coaches must enter all Ladder Challenge Matches which result in a change to Universal Tennis
 - iii. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit.
 - b. Re-ranking of players will be permitted during the season under these conditions:
 - i. Pre-season rankings – To arrive at this Ladder, all returning Players are already ranked based upon the team’s ending ladder from the previous year. New players can challenge at the placement the coach deems appropriate, based on their ability.

- ii. A Single Player or Doubles Team can only move up or down one position on the ladder between League matches said change being based on a challenge match.
- iii. No change of ranking is allowed when back-to-back matches take place.
- c. Each school must submit a ranking list before the start of the playoffs. No change in this line-up will be allowed after the start of the playoffs. RANKINGS WILL BE LOCKED. THERE WILL BE NO MORE CHALLENGES.
- d. Before play starts coaches will exchange a copy of the present team ladder with players arranged according to their known ability in Singles and Doubles.
- e. A coach MUST play the best 4 singles players and the best 3 doubles teams according to their ranked ability. Any combination of players may be used in Doubles, provided that #1 has proven that it beats #2 and #2 beats #3 and #3 beats #4.
- f. In case of illness, injury or absence from a match, the coach must move their players up one rank i.e., two to one, three to two, four to three, five to four. Doubles must be played in the same manner; again the best must play #1.
- g. If a team cannot provide sufficient players for a match, it will forfeit the third doubles match.

K. Regular Season Matches

- a. League Matches will consist of four (4) singles and three (3) double matches. No Singles player may enter Doubles.
- b. All individuals and team match play will be the best of three (3) sets, boys and girls play no ad scoring with a 12 point Coman Tie Break.
 - i. Coman Tie Break Procedure: This requires the tiebreaker to be played with the players changing ends after the 1st point and thereafter every 4 points.
 - ii. Cracks in Courts: Any ball that hits a crack in the playing surface must be played, there are no Lets.
- c. Team scoring – The team winning four (4) of seven (7) matches will be the winner.
- d. EXCEPTION: If a team cannot supply a 3rd doubles team in regular season or playoffs, they will forfeit that match. If both teams do not have a 3rd doubles team, there is a chance that the match could end in a tie. If this should happen then the team that wins the most games will be declared the winner of the match.
- e. All matches must be completed. By mutual agreement, coaches may waive this right.
 - i. Exception: If a Regular Season Match has been decided (a team has won 4 points) and it starts raining or darkness occurs, the match is over. If the Regular Season Match has not been decided (a team has not won 4 points) and rain or darkness occur, the match must be completed at a later date.
- f. Super tie-breaker: If the team match has been decided and remaining matches on court have split sets, a super tie-breaker should be played instead of the 3rd set. If the score in

the 3rd set is 1-1, 2-2, etc., the above should be played. The winner of a super tie-breakers is the player who wins ten points and leads a by a margin of two points. If the match is decided and the players are in the 1st set an 8 game pro-set should be played (tie breaker at 8 all).

L. Main Draw & Qualifying Tournaments:

- a. The entire Individual Tournament will be conducted under the direction of the Director.
- b. The coach or a representative of the team MUST be present at the seeding meeting in order for their players to be placed in the draw. If extenuating circumstances prevent the coach from being present at the meeting, they must contact the Director of Tennis ahead of time and provide a list of players they wish to be entered into the draw. If the above is not followed, their player(s) will not be placed in the draw.
- c. In order to qualify for the individual tennis tournament, each student must participate in a minimum of three (3) League Matches prior to the individual tournament seeding meeting.
 - i. Note: If an extenuating circumstance exists, the school Principal may request a waiver of the three (3) League match requirement through the RIIL office.
- d. Coaches who want to have a singles player or doubles team seeded MUST submit their names at the seeding meeting. The names of all seeded players will be listed on draw sheets. Seeded players must play or they will be defaulted. Seeded players may not substitute for other seeded players or unseeded players. Unseeded players may not substitute for seeded players, but may substitute for other unseeded players provided they are of lower ability.
- e. There will be a Division 1, 2 and 3 Qualifying Tournament.
- f. No coaching in the Division 1 Singles and Doubles Qualifying Tourney. No coaching until the round of 16 in the Division 2 and 3 singles. In regard to Doubles, no coaching until the Quarterfinals of Division 2 and 3.
- g. A coach or a bona fide representative must be present at the Qualifier/and Main Draw for the players from their school to compete.
- h. Qualification from the Division Qualifying Tournament into the Sate Individual Championship:
 - i. Division 1 will send the final 16 singles and 8 doubles to the Main Draw
 - ii. Division 2 and 3 will send the final 8 singles and 4 doubles to the Main Draw
- i. Lucky Loser – If a player or team is unable to go to the main draw, the player or team they beat will take their place.
- j. Reseeding – Players who upset seeds will be reseeded according to where the coaches originally placed them prior to the main draw. In singles Division 1 will have 16 slots; Division 2 – 8 slots; Division 3 and 4 – 8 slots. In Doubles: Division 1 (8) – Division 2 (4) – and Division 3 (4).

- k. Time between matches should be up to 30 minutes after a 2-set victory and up to 60 minutes for a 3-set victory. This should be at the discretion of the Director ONLY.
- l. All Divisions may use an 8 game pro-set leading up to the Qualifying Round. In the qualifying round, the format will be 2 of 3 sets. In Division I, the qualifying round will consist of 32 singles players and 16 doubles teams. In Division II and Division III, the qualifying round will consist of 16 singles players and 8 doubles teams.
- m. Individuals in the absence of a team are not allowed to participate in the individual tournament.
- n. Seeding in the Main Draw from the Division Qualifying Tournaments shall follow the chart below.
 - i. Exception: Returning Main Draw State Champion(s) earn the #1 Seed if they are undefeated throughout the current season's division qualifier.

RIIL Tennis Main Draw Seeding

Singles				Doubles			
Seed	Division Qualifier Slot	Opponent Seed	Opponent Slot	Seed	Division Qualifier Slot	Opponent Seed	Opponent Slot
1	A-1	32	C-8	1	A-1	16	C-4
2	A-2	31	C-7	2	A-2	15	B-4
3	A-3	30	B-8	3	A-3	14	C-3
4	A-4	29	B-7	4	A-4	13	B-3
5	A-5	28	C-6	5	B-1	12	A-8
6	A-6	27	C-5	6	C-1	11	A-7
7	A-7	26	B-6	7	B-2	10	A-6
8	A-8	25	B-5	8	C-2	9	A-5
9	B-1	24	A-16				
10	B-2	23	A-15				
11	C-1	22	A-14				
12	C-2	21	A-13				
13	B-3	20	A-12				
14	B-4	19	A-11				
15	C-3	18	A-10				
16	C-4	17	A-9				

M. Team State Championships:

- a. There shall be a Champion in each Division during the regular season.
- b. The Postseason and State Team Championship will be conducted under the direction of the Director of Tennis.
- c. Playoffs - All Playoff Matches should be played only until a Decision (Winner) then matches in progress are abandoned.
- d. All Playoff Matches scheduled during the week (M-F) after daylight savings time must be scheduled at a lighted tennis facility.

N. Late Arrival to Regular Season Matches, Postseason Matches, and Tournaments

- a. League Matches: Per RIIL Rules and Regulations, all RIIL League scheduled matches are to be played – no forfeits are allowed (see Article 6, Section 10).
 - b. Individual Tourney:
 - i. The coach and player(s) are responsible for knowing the site and times of tournament matches.
 - ii. The Coach and player(s) must be present 15 minutes prior to the posted start time as stated on the Interscholastic League website. If the player is running late, the coach must call the Director/Designee as well as to the Coach/Athletic Director of the school to be played.
 - iii. Lateness for match penalties (page 3, FAC)
 - 1. 5:00 minutes or less: Loss of Toss, plus one game
 - 2. 5:01-10:00 minutes: Loss of Toss, 2 games
 - 3. 10:00-15:00 minutes: Loss of Toss, 3 games
 - 4. More than 15 minutes: Default
 - iv. This rule will be enforced by the Tournament Director and/or Director of Tennis. All communications will be to the Director of Tennis via the coaches.
 - c. Team Tournaments
 - i. A coach is responsible for knowing the site and times of all-tournament team matches.
 - ii. Coach and players should be present fifteen (15) minutes prior to the posted start time as stated on the RI Interscholastic League website.
 - iii. If a team is running late, the coach must call the Director/Designee as well as the coach and/or athletic director of the school to be played.
 - iv. All team tournament team matches are to be played.
- O. Coaching: When coaches may talk to players:
- a. Guidelines from USTA Rules - (coaching is considered to be communication, advice or instruction of any kind, audible or visible to a player.)
 - b. A coach may coach a player at any time during the match so long as they do not interfere with play, and also after the third game and any subsequent change over (rest period) they may coach for 1 minute. At the end of each set they may coach for 1 minute and thirty seconds.
 - c. Coaches allowed on Court – All Divisions
 - d. Where coaches may coach: A coach must site (or stand if the facilities dictate) near the net post. A coach may change courts when his movements will not interrupt play. Coaching is permitted outside the fence perimeter. On an empty adjacent court, the coach may stand at the doubles sideline on the same side as his own player. On the

opponent's side, he must remain at mid-court. Coaches may coach within the lines of the Court only during a changeover or set break.

- e. This is to clarify the above Rule: Use Common Sense. Coaches must not change courts between 1st and 2nd serve, or between points and should do so only at the end of the game or a change-over, so as not to interrupt play. In addition to the below mentioned places, coaches may stand in the space between courts inside the fence perimeter.
- f. If a coach cannot be at a match, an assistant coach, athletic director or principal are the only authorized personnel allowed to coach. Spectator parents and players not on the court for their match – may not coach at any time.
- g. If a coach and assistant coach are present, they both may coach players, but not the same player at the same time.
- h. Head coaches should introduce their assistant at matches to avoid any problems that may occur with other coaches during the match.
- i. Guidelines for Spectators: It is the coaches' responsibility to remind spectators of the guidelines.

Section 9: Officials

- A. Officials – RIIIL assigned officials shall have supervision of the playing court from the start of the match until finish. In the absence of the Director of Tennis or an RIIIL appointed supervisor, the coaches of the respective teams shall act as the officials of the RIIIL tennis match and shall supervise said matches in accordance with these rules. A coach must observe all their matches and should not wander from the immediate court area.
- B. Sportsmanship/Point Penalty System
 - a. Point penalties will be imposed against a player for unsportsmanlike conduct during a RIIIL match and/or tournament such as:
 - 1. Unreasonable delays after the warm-up period between points and when changing ends and otherwise unreasonably delaying a match
 - 2. Audible obscenity
 - 3. Visible obscenity
 - 4. Violently or with anger hitting (i.e., hitting the racket against any type of surface), kicking or throwing a tennis ball, racket or other equipment
 - 5. Verbal or physical abuse of any official, opponent, spectator or other person
 - 6. Disruptive behavior
 - b. Following are the penalties for the above violations:
 - 1. First offense – point
 - 2. Second offense – game
 - 3. Third offense – default

- c. The imposition of penalties during a League match is primarily a function of the coaches, although the Director of Tennis or his/her delegate may impose penalties on the basis of his/her observations. A penalty to be imposed by a coach against an opposing player should be preceded by a courtside conference of the coach involved. If no mutual agreement can be reached, a report must be made to the Director of Tennis or his/her delegate. If the Director of Tennis or his/her delegate deems it necessary, a penalty may be imposed on a future match.
- C. While normally the imposition of penalties will be in accordance with the basic table, a flagrantly unsportsmanlike act may result in the imposition of an immediate penalty, even a default for a first offense.