



A department of MPS

Milwaukee Recreation
YOUTH SPORTS
5225 W. Vliet St. Rm. 163
Milwaukee, WI 53208
P: 414.475.8410
mkerec.net

MIDDLE SCHOOL COED TENNIS RULES

Milwaukee Recreation Youth Sports reserves the right to change rules at any time.

Rules are adapted from the USTA Junior Tennis Rule Book.

Last Updated: 5/8/25

Section 1 - General League Rules

SPORTSMANSHIP – Unsportsmanlike conduct may result in ejection from the contest. Officials, coaches, parents, players, and fans should always display leadership and sportsmanship qualities. Any players or coaches ejected from the game by officials/staff for unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended until their case is reviewed by Milwaukee Recreation. The final disposition of the case will then be made. Sports Coordinators are required to check with the Youth Sports Office before allowing the player or coach in question to continue participation in Youth Sports Activities.

SPECTATORS – Spectators are to be seated or standing on the outside of the fenced area, unless spectator seating is provided within the tennis court area. All spectators are asked to show good sportsmanship and character and offer only positive reinforcement.

COACHES (UPDATED) – Only coaches and players listed on the TEAM ROSTER FORM are allowed in the court area. *All coaches in the court area must be completely hired by Milwaukee Recreation (Paid or Volunteer), and have a visible coach's credential.* A maximum of three (3) coaches are allowed in the court area. A hired coach must be present before a match or guided practice may start.

FACILITY REMINDERS – Dogs, alcohol, smoking (including E-cigarettes), weapons, and grilling are prohibited during Milwaukee Recreation Youth Sports activities.

JEWELRY – Head decorations, headwear, and jewelry cannot be worn during competitions. This means that rings, wristwatches, hair curlers, combs, beads, earrings, or barrettes cannot be worn while participating in Youth Sports Leagues.

GAME RE-SCHEDULING/CANCELLATIONS – All school sport coordinators, coaches, or applicable staff will be notified of any rescheduled games or game cancellations via email. Revised schedules will be posted on the Milwaukee Recreation Website: www.mkerec.net/YouthSports.

WEATHER HOTLINE – For inclement weather updates, contact the Weather Hotline at 414-475-8068. The hotline is updated on league play days by 8AM on Saturdays and 1PM on weekdays when inclement weather is expected. The hotline is available in English and Spanish. Coaches are responsible for informing players and their families of the weather hotline number.



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ROSTERS – A copy of the team’s roster must be submitted to the Youth Sports Office using the online submission link prior to the deadline given by the Youth Sports Office at the seasonal Sports Coordinator meeting (Usually one (1) week prior to the team’s first scheduled game). ***Teams may only submit one (1) updated roster prior to the secondary roster deadline given at the seasonal Sports Coordinator meeting. Any additional updated rosters will not be accepted. All Non-Attending Student forms must be submitted prior to the secondary roster deadline, while all Transfer Student forms must be submitted prior to the second to last week of the season.*** There is no roster limit, however only fifteen (15) medals and/or awards will be given. Extra medals and/or awards are available for purchase from the MKE REC Youth Sports Office.

ONE TEAM, PER SPORT, PER SEASON – Athletes are permitted to play multiple sports per season but cannot play on more than one team in the same sports during the same season.

COED LEAGUE RULES – The term “COED” refers to the fact that both boys and girls are eligible to play on the same team. It is possible that teams will have varying numbers of boys or girls, but no special “coed rules” will apply. Teams made of one gender are allowed in the COED league.

FORFEITS – The Youth Sports Office must be notified in advance of all forfeit contests. Notification must be delivered to youthsports@mkerec.net at least 36-hours prior to scheduled game start time. ***Teams that forfeit will be charged a \$50.00 fee per occurrence.*** See the Youth Sports Website and Opportunity Handbook for a list of forfeit situations.

PROTEST – Judgement calls made by the game officials are not eligible for protest and/or appeal. Protest on rule enforcement must be filed in writing with the Youth Sports Office within 48-hours following the incident. Protest on athlete eligibility may be filed any time during the regular season. Submit rules enforcement and athlete eligibility protest via email to youthsports@mkerec.net.

TIE-BREAKER PROCEDURES (TROPHY SPORTS ONLY) – The Youth Sports Office will have full discretion determining the position and placement of all teams. Tie-break procedures are available online at www.mkerec.net/YouthSports.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS (TROPHY SPORTS ONLY) – League Champions will be determined by one of the following two ways on the Final Match Day of the season.

- A. **Position Day (1 Division)** - the number 1 and number 2 teams in the league standings will compete in two (2) singles and four (4) doubles matches at the end of the season to determine the league champion. Division records will not prevail as the determining factor, the single position day match-up will. Additional Position Day games will include 3rd Place v 4th Place, 5th Place v 6th Place, 7th Place v 8th Place, etc.



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- B. **Position Day (2 Divisions)** - the number 1 team in the league standings from the first division, and the number 1 team in the league standings from the second division will compete in two (2) singles and four (4) doubles matches at the end of the season to determine the league champion. Division records will not prevail as the determining factor, the single position day match-up will. Additional Position Day games will include 2nd Place (Div. 1) v 2nd Place (Div. 2), 3rd Place (Div. 1) v 3rd Place (Div. 2), 4th Place (Div. 1) v 4th Place (Div. 2), etc.

AWARDS – Middle School Coed Tennis has two different award possibilities.

- A. **Participation Medals** - Participation medals can be ordered during team registration, through an additional cost of \$25.
- B. **League Champions** - The school that wins the position day, which takes place on *the final match day*, will be considered the League Champion. The League Champion will be awarded a Trophy, and the Runner-Up will be awarded a plaque. The League Champion will also be awarded league champion T-shirts.

YOUTH SPORTS OPPORTUNITY HANDBOOK – The current version of the Youth Sports Opportunity Handbook is available at www.mkerec.net/YouthSports. All sports coaches and sports coordinators are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the rules, regulations, procedures, and policies governing the Milwaukee Recreation Youth Sports Programs.

Section 2 – Before the Meet

Article 1 – Rules are adapted from the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Junior Team Tennis and may be changed by the Youth Sports Office at any time to improve the safety and understanding of the game.

Article 2 – Eligibility:

- A. **Age/Grade Limits** – Students may not exceed the age/grade limits as listed below. Age is determined as of September 1 of the current school year. Middle School Coed Tennis is only offered to students enrolled in 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade at the beginning of the spring season. ***Elementary (1st-4th Grade) students are NOT eligible for participation in Middle School Coed Tennis.***

- 11 years old and under/5th grade maximum
- 12 years old and under/6th grade maximum
- 13 years old and under/7th grade maximum
- 15 years old and under/8th grade maximum



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- B. School Suspensions – Any student suspended from school must be reinstated prior to the close of school on the Friday before their next scheduled meet to be eligible.
- C. Grade Point Average (GPA) – Schools using the standards-based report card please use published requirements for eligibility.
 - a. A student must have a minimum 2.0 GPA in their previous mark period report card to participate unless the school standard is higher, in which case the school GPA requirement would prevail.
 - b. Middle School athletic eligibility is determined by report card mark period GPA only; there are no provisions for recertification in the program.
 - c. Once a student is ineligible, they must wait until the next report card is published to regain eligibility.

Article 3 – Athletes: A full team consists of a maximum of ten (10) athletes. No team shall be permitted to start or continue a match with less than four (4) athletes. Teams are permitted to bring up to ten (10) athletes to a match. Any matches beyond the six (6) scored matches, will be considered exhibition matches.

- A. Match Day Format – The Match Day format will consist of two (2) singles and four (4) doubles Matches.
- B. Match Entry Limit – Athletes are permitted to play in no more than one (1) scored singles and one (1) scored doubles match. Athletes can play in any number of exhibition matches.
- C. Match Point System – Each match is worth one (1) point. Each Exhibition match is worth zero (0) points.
- D. Profanity – Profanity of any kind is not permitted at Middle School Coed Tennis. The first offense will **result in a warning**. The second offense will **result in the athlete being removed from practice or their match**. Continual offenses will **result in an athlete being asked not to return for the remainder of the season**.
- E. Fighting – Fighting is not permitted at Middle School Coed Tennis. Fighting of any kind will result in the automatic expulsion of an athlete(s) from the tennis competition, and possibly the remainder of the season.

Article 4 – Equipment:

- A. Tennis Ball Type – Green dot tennis balls will be used for match play.
- B. Racquets – Teams will be provided with racquets for their athletes by the MKE REC Youth Sports Office.
- C. Shoes – Athletes must wear non-marking athletic shoes.



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- D. Uniforms – Athletes are encouraged to wear a similar color team shirt or uniform, but is not required.

Article 5 – Officials:

- A. All MPS/MKE REC Middle School Coed Tennis matches will be officiated by the Youth Sports Office league staff and team coaches.

Article 6 – Coaches:

- A. *Only coaches who have been completely hired by Milwaukee Recreation (Paid or Volunteer), and listed as “Hired – Good To Work” on their schools hiring spreadsheet, are allowed in the court area.*
- B. *Hired coaches will be given a coach’s credential by the Milwaukee Recreation Youth Sports office once they have completed the hiring process. Credentials must be visible while coaches are in the court area.*
- C. A hired coach must be present before a match or guided practice may start.
- D. All league teams are required to have at least one (1) coach or school representative during the scheduled practice and match dates.

Article 5 – Divisions:

- A. In the event that there is a large number of participating teams, the Youth Sports Office (With the assistance off league staff) will divide the teams into separate divisions.

Article 6 – Getting Started:

- A. Prior to the start of each gameday, there will be mandatory **pre-game coaches and athletes meeting** with the Youth Sports league staff. At this meeting, the staff will introduce themselves, go over expectations, and give reminders of select rules.

Section 3 – The Match

Article 1 – Match Play (Updated):

- A. **Each match will consist of two (2) short sets. A set is won by the first player or team to win four (4) games.**
- B. **If sets are tied 1-1, a tiebreaker game will be played. The first player or team to reach five (5) points wins the match.**
- C. **Each team match includes six (6) individual matches: 2 Singles and 4 Doubles.**



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- D. The team that wins the majority of matches through cumulative Points is declared the overall winner.**
- E. Players may take up to 5 minutes of warmup with their opponent before the match, if time permits.**
- F. Overhand and underhand serves are both allowed.**

Article 2 – Scoring (Updated):

- A. Tennis scoring (15-All, 30-15, etc.) will be used.**
- B. All games are played no-ad: if the score reaches deuce (40-40), the next point wins the game.**
- C. Match results are cumulative, and the total number of matches won determines team placement.**
- D. Final placements for the playoffs will be based on the total number of matches won across all rounds.**
- E. All scores will be posted on the Youth Sports Website the following Monday by 5:00 PM.**