

OAK HARBOR HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS TEAM POLICY

TEAM RULES/EXPECTATIONS: As a player on the Oak Harbor High School Tennis Team, you are expected to portray yourself with the highest standards of dignity and character that have been established by those players who have come before you. This is NOT limited to matches or other school and team functions. It means ALWAYS! Furthermore, as a member of a TEAM, you have a responsibility to take care of yourself both academically and physically. You also have an expectation to help teammates maintain these high expectations. When a player makes an error in personal judgment that leads to absence or inability to perform to their fullest potential, it undermines the success that the TEAM might have otherwise experienced. To that end, the followed team rules have been established.

- 1) All school rules, athletic rules, and bus rules adopted by the Oak Harbor Schools Board of Education are in effect and will be STRICTLY ENFORCED.
- 2) During match play you are expected to follow the commonly held USTA Code of Conduct guidelines. These will be taught and emphasized during practice sessions.
- 3) You are expected to be on time to all scheduled practices, be on the courts and ready to play at 2:45 pm for all home matches, and be in the stadium's parking lot at least 5 minutes before the bus schedule departure time for away matches.
- 4) Practices runs from 2 – 4 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays through Fridays from 3 – 5 pm and on the first two Saturdays of the season from 10 am to 12 noon, unless announced differently.
All members must participate until the end of practice unless:
 - a) A doctor's excuse is present.
 - b) An educational class conflict exists and a note is presented from the teacher.
 - c) A coach dismissal.
 - d) An extraordinary circumstance such as family emergency.
- 5) All members will excel in the practice of sportsmanship and honesty.
 - a) Players are strongly encourage to shake the opposing player(s) and coach(s) hand(s) during introductions and upon the completion of their matches.
 - b) Each member will call lines calls honestly to the best of their ability.
 - c) Under no circumstances will any player goad, insult, or badger an opponent.
 - d) Profanity will not be tolerated. Any violation could lead to match default and or suspension from the next scheduled match.
 - e) Team members will be unbiased during challenge matches.
 - f) Players will not appeal to observers for line calls during match play.
 - g) Players will immediately retrieve all tennis balls they hit outside the courts

- 6) A team captain will be voted on before the first league match and has the following duties:
 - a) Report the team morale at various points during the season to the coach.
 - b) Encourage team members when needed.
 - c) Set a positive example for team members.
 - d) Align team members according to their order of play, introduce players and give a motivational speech to all team members at the beginning of each match.
 - e) Coordinate food stops with players on away matches prior to departure from contest sites.
 - f) Coordinate the end of season banquet.

- 7) All players will devote enough time to complete their scholastic duties and not fall behind.
 - a) All players will contact their teachers and pick up homework assignments before class when an away match is scheduled.
 - b) All players will be enrolled in a minimum of five classes and must be passing all subjects. (Per WIAA Rule 18.7.0)
 - c) All players must attend a minimum of three consecutive classes in order to practice or compete in a match on that day.

- 8) The coach will provide a ladder after varsity tryouts have been completed.
 - a) All those interested in becoming members of the tennis team must attend all tryouts unless the individual trying out is ill and presents a parent note upon return (no more than 2 days) or is involved in a conflicting school activity (no more than 2 days).
 - 1) The team may carry a maximum of 40 players.
 - 2) If the maximum is exceeded, seniors and exchange student not making varsity will be the first to be cut.
 - 3) From the varsity tryout results, the top 14 or 16, determined by coach, will be varsity players. The next top eight will be on the JV team with all other competing for the remaining 16 or 18 spots through a cutting process consisting of a 10 questions quiz on general tennis knowledge, pushups, sit ups, a mile run, and coaches evaluation on team longevity, skills potentials, achievements in other sports, and work ethics.
 - b) Ladders will be created with the strongest player at the top and the members in need of most improvement at the bottom.
 - c) After the initial ladder creation by the coach after tryouts, members may challenge within one spots of their current position at mid-season only, to be announced by coach.
 - d) At mid-season the top ranked JV singles player may challenge the bottom ranked varsity player. If a JV player challenge a varsity player, the winner moves to varsity and the loser moves to JV.
 - e) There are no refusals of challenge matches.
 - f) The winners of a challenge match must have an opportunity to challenge up before being challenged by another player.

- g) The top four ladder positions will make up the top four singles positions in a 4-3 lineup.
 - h) The fifth through tenth spot will make up the three doubles teams unless the following extenuating circumstances occur:
 - 1) One of the top four players declares that he/she would like to play doubles for the entire season in which case the #5 position on the ladder becomes a singles player.
 - 2) One of the members in the fifth through tenth spots cannot coexist or cooperate with others in the fifth through tenth spots.
 - 3) The coach may change the double pairing based on styles of play, consistency and levels of aggressiveness.
 - i) The eleventh through fourteen or sixteen spots will be extra varsity to play exhibition doubles matches consisting of an eight games pro-set. The fifteen or sixteen through twenty four or twenty six spots will make up the starting JV team which will consist of four singles and three doubles teams. The remaining spots to forty will be extra JVs and will play doubles in an eight games pro-sets
- 9) An awards banquet will be held at the end of the season to recognize players for their accomplishments during the season.
- a) **Varsity Letters** –
 - 1) The player must be on the varsity team and remain in good standing throughout the entire season. Players who do not complete the entire season will not be awarded varsity status.
 - 2) The player must also have participated in at least 2/3 of the varsity matches during the regular season (not to include regional and state tournaments).
 - 3) The player must obey the Tennis Code of Ethics.
 - 4) The player must attend and actively participate in all practice sessions, except for authorized absences.
 - 5) The player must demonstrate a strong desire to win all practice and game matches.
 - 6) The player must be aware of the Competitor's Creeds and demonstrate the ability to implement some of those traits during match play.
 - 7) The player must be able to accept constructed criticism as a positive entity.
 - 8) The player must wear proper tennis attire/team uniform during all games.
 - 9) The player must be within the acceptable area on the commitment continuum scale.
 - 10) The player must implement the 10 mental makings of champions during match play.
 - 11) The Player must implement the three “P” of proper focus during match play.
 - 12) Furthermore, the coach maintains the right to award or deny varsity status to any player.
 - 13) The player must know the six priorities of tennis.

- b) **Certificate of Participation** – The player must remain in good standing throughout the entire season. Players who do not complete the entire season will not be awarded a Certificate of Participation. Otherwise, all players who do not obtain varsity status will be awarded a Certificate of Participation. As above, the coach maintains the right to award or deny JV status to any player.
- 10) Suspension will occur only when rules of the school or guidelines of the team have been violated. In addition, a suspension can be issued for conduct detrimental to the team.
The coach decides the suspension period.
Minimum suspensions will be one day.
Maximum suspensions will be two weeks.
Anything longer or a combination of suspensions adding up to two weeks will be considered an expulsion from the team.
- 11) The policy will be reviewed at the end of each season and adjusted / amended accordingly. Any issue that arises and is not covered by the current policy will be decided and acted upon at the coach's discretion. An appeal can be made to the athletic director if unsatisfied.