

# TENNIS



## 2023-2024 AACPS Sport Bulletin

*As needed, in consultation with schools and sport commissioners, AACPS Athletics reserves the right to make adjustments to this bulletin.*

### **Coach Responsibilities**

1. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in the AACPS Athletic Handbook.
2. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in this AACPS Bulletin.
3. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations MPSSAA Handbook.
4. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in the MPSSAA Bulletin.  
<https://www.mpssaa.org/information-center/mpssaa-publications-and-content/>
5. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in the appropriate NFHS rule book.
6. Participate in Coaches All- County Selection process. It is the responsibility of the head coaches of each sport to determine the process for their all county selections. It is recommended that a head coach or two from around the county volunteer to take the lead in organizing and facilitating the Coaches All-County. An agreed upon process should be communicated to all schools in writing before the season starts. End of season communications and/or a meeting (in-person or virtual) should be used to implement the agreed upon process.

#### *Notes:*

- a. *AACPS Athletics does not sponsor or provide oversight for the Coaches All-County selection process.*
- b. *Sport Commissioners may help to facilitate the date, time, and location of an end-of-season meeting for this purpose. They may attend for note taking, questions, and general support. However, they will not lead, control, or provide oversight on the process.*

### **Contact Information**

1. Questions should initially be directed to local school athletic directors.
2. Then, questions should be directed to:
  - a. Sport Commissioner - Terry Tucker, South River, [ttucker@aacps.org](mailto:ttucker@aacps.org) 443-822-9569
  - b. District V Representative - Chip Boling, Howard, [charles\\_boling@hcpss.org](mailto:charles_boling@hcpss.org) 443-609-4928
  - c. AACPS Office of Athletics 410-222-5463
3. Regional Tournament Directors:  
<https://www.mpssaa.org/state-championships/tennis/tennis-state-committee-and-regional-directors/>

### **Classifications**

4A	3A	2A
<u>East Region 1</u> North County Old Mill Glen Burnie Meade Mervo Western <u>East Region II</u> Annapolis Broadneck Leonardtown Bowie Suitland	<u>East Region I</u> Arundel Crofton Severna Park South River Chesapeake Northeast	<u>South Region II</u> Southern Crossland Fairmount Heights Frederick Douglas Gwynn Park Potomac

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### Important Dates

#### **February 2024**

- February 15 - Spring Coach Kickoff (North County HS)

#### **March 2024**

- March 1 - Sports start; Academic Assistance Sessions begin
- March 2 - Testing Date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- March 7 - AACPS 1st scrimmage date
- March 9 - Testing Date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- March 19 - 2hr early dismissal - PD Unity Day. With approval from the AD and principal, teams with paid, non-AACPS employee coaches may practice during established teacher work hours.
- March 20 - Academic Assistance Sessions end and Grade Check
- March 21 - MPSSAA First play date and Eligibility Rosters due (ADs)
- Mar 25 - Apr 1 - Spring Break - All Schools & Central Offices closed

#### **April 2024**

- Mar 25 - Apr 1 - Spring Break - All Schools & Central Offices closed
- April 4-5 - 2hr early dismissals - end of 3MP. With approval from the AD and principal, teams with paid, non-AACPS employee coaches may practice during established teacher work hours.
- April 6 - Testing date; Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- April 8 - Beginning of 4th MP
- April 9 - Eid al-Fitr - No Athletics after sundown
- April 10 - Eid al-Fitr Schools closed - No Athletics at all
- April 13 - Testing date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- Week of April 15 - MPSSAA Officials Appreciation
- April 18 - 3rd MP report cards (tentative)

#### **May 2024**

- May 2 - Unified Bocce County Championship (NC)
- May 4 - Testing Date- No mandatory practice or contests before 2pm
- May 6 - Lacrosse County Championship (GB)
- May 7 - Baseball County Championship (Joe Cannon) & Softball County Championship (Bachman)
- May 8-9 - Outdoor Track County Championship (CR)
- May 7-10 - Tennis County Championship (AN)
- May 14 - Primary Election Day (follow AACPS Election Day Guidelines)
- May 23 - Last day for Seniors
- May 27 - Memorial Day

### Contests

- Scrimmages:
  - 3 preseason scrimmages allowed
  - Teams are allowed one postseason scrimmage (in between last game and first playoff game)
- MPSSAA Season Limitations:
  - 18 regular season matches; and

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- No more than three matches per week.
- AACPS Scheduling Scheme:
  - The base county schedule provides all schools with 12 matches - one match against all other county schools.
  - This year there is a scheduled county wide scrimmage on March 16th at Annapolis HS, and "B" tournament.
- AACPS Contest Procedures:  
**2024 Edition of Friend at Court** [Friend at Court 2024 | USTA](#)
- Each school will play a team consisting of (2) boys singles, (2) boys doubles, (2) girls singles, (2) girls doubles, and mixed doubles for a total of 9 matches.
- Matches will be two out of three sets regular scoring with a 10-point match tiebreaker in lieu of a third set. A three-minute break between the second set and the match tie-breaker will be allowed, if requested.
- Coaches may agree to play no add or pro-set for time or extra matches
- Coaching is permissible during the 90-second changeover period as long as it does not interfere with continuous play (USTA Rule-29 regarding Continuous Play). Coaching is limited to the high school coach. A coach will NOT be permitted on the courts except in case of injury.

### County Championship and Awards

- All teams qualify for the county championship
- County seeding Meeting
  - Thursday May 2, at the Board of education
- May 7-10 at Annapolis High School
- 25 medals for the winning team
- 1<sup>st</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> place awarded for each event
- County Championship game plaque/Head Coach Plaque

### MPSSAA Playoffs

*Note - Every MPSSAA school is automatically entered into the region tournament unless the MPSSAA office receives written notification to the contrary. All schools must adhere to the MPSSAA bulletin.*

- **Point of Emphasis: Egregious Ejections:** Any ejection during the state tournament that is classified as egregious now results in a two-game suspension. The MPSSAA has established criteria based on definitions of egregious behavior that will be used during the regional and state tournaments to elevate any ejections under this category to a minimum of two contest disqualification from the current state tournament, next sport season, or the succeeding year's tournament based on the circumstances of the situation (Example of student whose team loses the first round of the next season. Egregious behavior is being defined as:
  - *Fighting*
  - *Physical or verbal personal attacks directed towards an official, coach, student-athlete, spectator, or school personnel*
  - *Use of racial, ethnic, homophobic or other derogatory or discriminatory language, slurs or practices.*

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### **MPSSAA Tournament Information & Region Sites**

<https://www.mpssaa.org/state-championships/tennis/>

#### Dates

- May 6                      Region Tournament entries due
- May 10-18                Region Meets (see below for local sites)
- May 23-24                State Quarter & Semi-final rounds
- May 25                    Finals at Wilde Lake Tennis Club

#### Class 4A East (Region I) at North County HS                *Director - Steve Stielper (North County Coach)*

- Teams: North County, Old Mill, Glen Burnie, Meade, Mervo, Western
- Wednesday, 5/15            4 pm    Quarterfinals and Semis
- Thursday 5/16                4 pm    Finals
- Friday 5/17                    Rain Date

#### Class 4A East (Region II) at Annapolis HS                *Director - Jen Beers (Annapolis Coach)*

- Teams: Annapolis, Broadneck, Leonardtown, Bowie, Suitland
- Wednesday, 5/15            1pm    Quarterfinals and Semis
- Thursday 5/16                1pm    Finals
- Friday 5/17                    Rain Date

#### Class 3A East (Region I) at Crofton HS                *Director - Andrew Little (Crofton coach)*

- Teams: Arundel, Crofton, Severna Park, South River, Chesapeake, Northeast
- Wednesday, 5/15            1pm    quarterfinals and semis
- Thursday, 5/16                1pm    Finals
- Friday, 5/17                    Rain Date

#### 2A South Region II at Cosca Reg. Park & Tennis Bubble                *Director - Kevin Claiborne*

- Teams: Southern AA, Crossland, Fairmont Heights, Frederick Douglass, Gwynn Park, Potomac
- Wednesday, 5/15            10am
- Thursday, 5/16                10am
- Friday, 5/17                    Rain Date