

September, 2023

Dear Athletic Directors and Tennis Coaches,

The Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association will once again sponsor eight-team tournaments for Division I (girls 9-12 enrollment of 161 and higher) and Division II (girls 9-12 enrollment of 160 and lower) starting on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. This being the second year of a two-year cycle, divisions are based on enrollment numbers submitted in September of 2021.

The quarterfinals will be played on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, the semifinals will be played on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> and the finals will be played on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. All matches will be played at the higher seed at a time agreed upon by the two schools involved in the match. The finals on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> should not be scheduled to start before 12:00 noon. The #1 seeded team will host the #8 seeded team, the #2 seeded team will host the #6 seeded team and the #4 seeded team will host the #5 seeded team in the quarterfinals on November 8<sup>th</sup> and winning teams will advance. If there is a rain out, the match will be played on the next playable day.

Based on the recommendation of the girls' and boys' tennis committees, the format for VISAA championships for 2023-24 will be three (3) doubles and six (6) singles with repeat players in both singles and doubles. All matches will be an 8-game pro set with AD scoring and a 12-point tiebreaker at 8-8. With the change to the tournament format, updated Rules of Play will be posted soon.

To rank the participating teams, a committee has been formed to review all match results and formulate a biweekly ranking. The members of this committee are Pontus Hiort of St. Catherine's School, Sheryl Raulston of Nansemond-Suffolk Academy, Hank Harris of Episcopal High School, and Nathan Witkowski of Chatham Hall. We will publish the rankings every other Tuesday. Our first ranking will be published on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, and the final rankings/tournament seeding will be distributed by Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. The top eight teams in each Division will earn tournament bids.

Weekly team (not individual) results should be emailed each Friday or Saturday after all matches have been played for the week so I can update the database by Monday and send it out to the pollsters. Failure to send in weekly results may result in your team being dropped from the weekly ranking. If you no longer wish to participate in the VISAA Tennis Tournament, please let me know as soon as possible.

I look forward to communicating with anyone who has questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Michael Duquette VISAA Girls Tennis Committee Chair Norfolk Academy Boys and Girls Varsity Tennis 443-480-1341 mduquette@norfolkacademy.org