

## Regulation 12

# **MEN'S TENNIS**

**12.1 General Rules.** Men's tennis Conference competition shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the NCAA, Intercollegiate Tennis Association, the Mountain West Handbook, the Mountain West Men's Tennis Game Management Handbook and the Mountain West Men's Tennis Championship Handbook.

**12.2 Format.** The Conference regular-season champion shall be determined through a single round-robin schedule. *(Revised February 2013)*

**12.3 Championship Tournament.** A Conference tournament shall be held to determine the automatic representative to the NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championship.

**12.3.1 Regular-Season Tiebreaker.** Conference tournament seeding shall be based on regular-season winning percentage in Conference competition. Additional information regarding tie-breaking procedures can be found in the Mountain West Men's Tennis Championship Handbook.

**12.3.2 Championship Tournament Dates.** The men's tennis championship shall be conducted the Friday – Sunday, two weeks prior to the start of NCAA postseason competition. If no indoor back-up courts are available, the championship shall be held Thursday-Saturday. *(Revised December 2010, August 2013, May 2018)*

**12.3.3 Automatic Qualification.** The winner of the Conference tournament champion shall be the Conference's automatic representative to the NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championship.

**12.3.4 Cancellation of Championship.** In the event the Conference championship cannot be completed, the Conference regular-season champion shall be the Conference's automatic representative to the NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championship. Additional information and exceptions regarding the cancellation of the Championship can be

found in the Mountain West Men's Tennis Championship Handbook. *(Revised April 2004, July 2013)*

**12.3.5 Minimum Number of Participants.** Member institutions that sponsor the sport of men's tennis shall take a minimum of five participants to the Conference Men's Tennis Championship. Institutions that do not meet the minimum number of participants requirement shall be assessed a fine of \$5,000 plus the costs associated with the team traveling to the Championship site. The Conference office shall determine the cost of traveling to the Championship site. If failure of the member institution to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Men's Tennis Championship results in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be used to cover the expenses incurred by the host institution. If failure to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Men's Tennis Championship does not result in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be included in the Conference championships budget. Waivers of the minimum number of participants rule may be granted by the Commissioner.

**12.3.6 Championship Game Ball.** The official game ball for all Championship contests shall be determined by the Conference.

**12.3.7 Pre-Championship Meeting.** A pre-championship conference call shall be held prior to the start of the Championship. The head coaches of all participating institutions are required to participate in the conference call. A head coach who fails to participate in the mandatory pre-championship conference call shall have written notification sent to their director of athletics and institutional sport administrator. If a head coach provides the Conference office advanced notification of their absence from the conference call, the Commissioner (or designee) may approve of a substitute. Conference office staff and an institutional representative also shall participate in the conference call. *(Adopted October 2006; Revised May 2017)*

**12.4 Playing Rules.** All Conference men's tennis contests shall be conducted according to the rules of the NCAA and ITA except as modified by Conference regulations.

**12.5 Squad-Size Limitations.**

**12.5.1 Regular Season.** Traveling squads shall be limited to nine student-athletes for all Conference regular-season competition. If a team exceeds the squad-size limitation, the team shall decrease its travel party size by one full-time coach for the next away-from-home regular-season Conference competition after the violation has been reported. There shall be no squad-size limitation for the home team. *(Revised May 2010, May 2022)*

**12.5.2 Conference Championship.** Squad sizes shall be limited in the Conference championship to nine student-athletes for each institution. If a team exceeds the squad-size limitation, the team shall decrease its travel party size by one full-time coach for the next Conference championship contest after the violation has been reported. *(Revised May 2022)*

**12.6 Awards.** The Conference men's tennis coaches shall select recipients for all men's tennis awards. Coaches shall not vote for themselves or any of their student-athletes for any of the awards. Should a coach fail to complete the entire ballot, the student-athletes from that team shall not be eligible to receive an award. Additional information regarding awards policies and procedures can be found in the Mountain West Men's Tennis Championship Handbook.

**12.6.1 All-Conference Team.** The All-Conference team shall consist of 12 singles student-athletes and six doubles teams selected based on Conference and non-conference results. *(Revised May 2005)*

**12.6.2 Individual Awards.** Individual awards shall be provided to the Coach of the Year, Player of the Year, and the Freshman of the Year.

Only head coaches are viable coach of the year candidates. There may not be a tie for Mountain West Coach of the Year. In the event of a tie, coaches shall re-vote between the two (or more) highest vote receivers. Co-awards for the individual student-athlete awards are permitted, but there must not be more than two. In the event of a three-way tie for an "Of the Year" award, the coaches shall re-vote amongst the three to get to one or two recipients.

To be considered for the Player of the Year, the recipient shall have been a first-team All-Conference selection. To be considered for Freshman of the Year, the recipient shall

have been the highest-ranking freshman on any All-Conference team. *(Clarified August 2017)*

**12.7 Meeting of the Coaches.** There shall be an annual conference call of the men's tennis coaches to be held each year on a date to be determined in consultation with the administrative liaison. Any changes shall be subject to approval by the Joint Council. Any changes shall be subject to approval by the Joint Council. Participation by each head coach is mandatory. *(Revised July 2006, July 2008, July 2012, July 2021)*