



# IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## Tennis Memo #1

February 23, 2026

Good afternoon, Head Tennis Coaches & AD's –

We're only a couple weeks out from the official start of practice for the 2026 Iowa high school boys' tennis season. However, we have a few preseason updates below for tennis head coaches and ADs. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you've got further questions as we progress into spring.

### **1. Online Rules Meetings**

The 2026 tennis rules meeting will be live and available online Monday, March 2nd. All IHSAA rules meetings are hosted through our database at Bound (same as previous seasons). All coaches should have accounts and access already. If you are new to your program or district, please have your AD create and assign an account for you.

After logging into Bound, you can find the rules meeting in two ways:

- Click on the "Activity" feed on your dashboard and select "2026 Tennis Rules Meeting Open"
- Click on the IHSAA logo on the left menu, then under Forms select "2026 Tennis Rules Meeting"

Having any Bound issues? Please use the green chat box in the lower right-hand side of your screen to communicate directly with the Varsity Bound staff at: <https://ia.varsitybound.com/>.

Coaches have until Friday, April 3 to view and receive credit for completing this required rules meeting.

### **2. Tennis Host Sites**

AD's & Head Coaches, please ensure you have completed the host availability form within Bound if you are able & willing to be a host site for postseason tennis. If you have adequate tennis facilities, we encourage you to be a host.

### **3. 2026 IHSAA Dates**

If you haven't yet looked ahead, please check out the dates assigned to boys' tennis for the 2026 postseason.

There are a couple different days of the week from past seasons and include one Saturday. Those are available directly through the digital [Calendar - High School Boys' Sports | IHSAA \(iahsaa.org\)](#) and in the calendars on our [Coaches & Administrators page](#). Can also see tennis dates overview on [KEY DATES PAGE](#).

Through our tennis advisory committee, we had made some significant changes to the season calendar, postseason dates, and team tennis structure (mentioned in [2025 fall tennis memo](#)) so be sure you are up to date on these changes.

### **4. Universal Tennis**

Through a motion from our tennis advisory committee and approved by our board of control form last season, Universal Tennis(UTR) will be a requirement again this year for the 2026 season. Requirements are tiered by class & are as follows:

- Class 2A – Required to enter program rosters as well as all contest results throughout the regular season on UTR.
- Class 1A – Required to have full program rosters entered into UTR.
- Must fulfill requirement(s) to be eligible for postseason seeding. This will also be used as one of the metrics for postseason assignments.
- UTR & Bound will be syncing data again this year so results entered in Bound can sync to UTR to eliminate double entry. Ensure roster and data entered in both are accurate to help with this process. I will ask coaches to check things first couple of weeks of matches to ensure results are syncing accurately.

UTR provides singles, doubles, and team ratings. Universal Tennis can also be utilized by players in the offseason to find playing opportunities and for college recruiting. This is all at no cost to our member schools.

All tennis schools need to do the following on UTR:

1. [Click this link to activate your team page](#). If your team is already activated from last season, all you need to do is update your roster at this time.
2. If you are a new coach this year, please contact Jonathan Hicks ([jonathan@universaltennis.com](mailto:jonathan@universaltennis.com)) to get ownership of your High School switched to your name. Before doing so, create your personal UTR login at <https://app.utrsports.net/join>
3. Once your school is activated, please enter your current rosters into UTR. Enter all freshmen, junior varsity, and varsity players.
4. A 4-minute video (1:00-3:05 shows roster configuration and dual match score reporting) is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKUiGOrao9w>

There are full details on UT on our [Tennis page](#). If you need further assistance with your UTR team page, please schedule a time with our UTR High School Specialist, Ty Wolter [HERE](#). You can also reach out to UTR High School Director, Jonathan Hicks. His email is [jonathan@universaltennis.com](mailto:jonathan@universaltennis.com)

### **5. Preliminary Classifications**

Preliminary classifications are now posted on our [Classifications: Tennis \(iahsaa.org\)](#). Please look over this and if you are involved in a co-op, ensure that it is listed on this. I have reached out to schools that hosted co-ops last year that have not entered them for 2026.

### **6. Bound Directory**

AD's, please ensure you have your school's directory up to date with your tennis coaches' contact information on there. We have a few schools that do not have a coach entered in their Bound directory currently.

### **7. Coming Soon**

In the coming weeks, you will see on our [Tennis page](#) and/or receive emails on:

- FINAL Classifications
- 2026 Postseason Manual
- Monthly Memos for AD's and Coaches

Thank you all and looking forward to a great 2026 tennis season!



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