**Tennis Rules (6/27/17)**

**\*See League Policies for more details\***

**Roster Policy:**

* You Must Pay to Play.
* All players must be at least 21 years old at the start of the season.
* All players must sign the Holy City Sports League Waiver to play.
* League Offerings will be Men’s and Women’s individual circuit.

**Players:**

* Men’s Singles
* Women’s Singles
* Each match is a best of 3 sets (CHAMPIONSHIP Match is best of 5 sets)
* **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PLAYERS/TEAMS SCHEDULED AGAINST EACH OTHER TO COMMUNICATE A TIME AND LOCATION TO COMPLETE THEIR MATCH FOR THAT WEEK. HCSL will assist in Coordination.**

**Forfeits:**

* If you or your team needs to forfeit a game (for whatever reason), please make sure to let us know ASAP.
* If you or your team forfeits a game during the season, the following rules apply:

**First Offense**: Loss of game and warning issued

**Second Offense**: Loss of game and HCSL reserves the right to remove team from league.

**Rules:**

All rules are to be followed by those set forth by the [USTA](http://www.usta.com/Improve-Your-Game/Rules/).

**Equipment:**

* Holy City Sports League will provide each individual with T-shirts at its first match.
* All players must wear the T-Shirt for each match.
* Players who do not wear the Holy City Sports League T-shirt will not be allowed to play (Unless a shirt is on order).
* Each Individual/Team must supply a new (unopened) can of tennis balls each match.
* Each Individual must provide their own tennis racquets.
* Players must wear athletic shoes with non-marking soles while on the court.
* Players may wear glasses or contact lenses, braces, and face protectors at their own risk.

**Beginning of Play:**

* Prior to the start of the 1st set, players will meet at the net for a racquet spin.
* One player/team will spin a racquet upright on the ground while another player calls “up” or “down” (unless you mutually agree otherwise) before it falls.
* The winner of the racquet spin will have the option to serve or receive and the other player/team chooses which side to start on.

**Format:**

* Each match will consist of an individual/team playing against another individual/team in the league.
* Each weekly match is to be communicated by the players/teams playing each other on the time and location. HSCL will assist in coordination.
* **Each match will play a best of 3 sets. (CHAMPIONSHIP Match will be a best of 5 set)**
* The game starts at 0-0 (Love-Love).
* Each game is won by the player/team that first wins four points (15-30-40-Game).
* In the event of a 40-40 game (Deuce), the next point wins the game (No-Ad).
* Each set is won by the player/team that first wins 6 games by a margin of 2. (6-0, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4).
* If the game is 6-5, the player/team can then win the set 7-5.
* If the game is 6-6, you enter into a Tie-Breaker
* Tiebreaker is first to 7 points and 2 point margin over your opponent or it continues until a 2 point margin is met.
* Tiebreak starts with a serve from who would normally be serving after 6-6.
* After the 1st point the serve changes to the opponent, then each player serves two consecutive points for the remainder.
* After every 6 points, the players switch ends.
* IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WINNER TO EMAIL THE RESULTS TO [holycitysportsleague@gmail.com](mailto:holycitysportsleague@gmail.com)

**Schedules/Standings/Playoffs:**

* Schedules will be released no later than a week before the first game of the season.
* **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PLAYERS/TEAMS SCHEDULED AGAINST EACH OTHER TO COMMUNICATE A TIME AND LOCATION TO COMPLETE THEIR MATCH FOR THAT WEEK. HCSL will assist in Coordination.**
* IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WINNER TO EMAIL THE RESULTS TO [holycitysportsleague@gmail.com](mailto:holycitysportsleague@gmail.com)
* The updated standings will be posted weekly.
* Playoff Eligible individuals is determined on a league by league basis.
* Players that have violated the forfeit policy during the regular season may not be eligible for the playoffs. This will be determined by HCSL.
* Playoffs will be a single elimination tournament immediately following the end of the regular season.
* Playoff seeding is based off of winning percentages.
* Tie Breaking Procedures:

Two Players: Head to head then total points for/total points against in those head to head.

* It is all teams’ responsibility to check the league site for scheduled regular season and playoff game times and locations.

**Officials:**All games will be self-officiated.

**Sportsmanship:**

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes the following:

* Arguing with an official, other players, or HCSL representative.
* Abusive or insulting language to a player, official, or HCSL representative.
* Throwing equipment at another player in an unsportsmanlike manner.
* Harassing others
* Acting inappropriately when challenging a refs call
* Not maintaining an attitude that is consistent with Holy City Sports League core values
* Fighting

**In the event of unsportsmanlike conduct the following penalties will be sequentially enforced:**

**1st Offense**-HCSL representative will talk with the individual and issue a warning

**2nd Offense**-HCSL representative will remove individual from the facility and issue a suspension for the next game.

**3rd Offense**-HCSL representative will remove individual from the league entirely.

**Game Cancellation Policy:**

* Games may be cancelled due to existing weather conditions, dangerous or unplayable field conditions, facility constraints, etc. HCSL will make every effort to play all scheduled games, thus we will not cancel games until absolutely necessary. HCSL will send out communication to all captains letting them know if a game is cancelled. It is still the captain’s responsibility to inform all teammates of the cancellation. If a game is cancelled on site, HCSL will attempt to contact those teams still scheduled to play the remainder of the day/night. If we do cancel, check with the league site for the following week’s schedule. In extreme circumstances, HCSL reserves the right to run a shortened season without a refund. HCSL also reserves the right to schedule games on days other than your regularly scheduled leagues day/night if necessary in conjunction with the teams.

**Alcohol/Substance Policy:**

* Alcohol and illegal substance is PROHIBITED at all facilities and during play of all Holy City Sports League events.

**Waivers:**

* In order to participate in Holy City Sports League, each participant must sign and submit to a HCSL representative the player waiver & release form no later than the first night of play. Players not present the first week of pay will still be required to submit a waiver before participating.