

Update for Parents, Players and Coaches – May 31, 2020

You may have read the recent article in the News-Miner regarding the FNSB school district out-of-season policy and might be wondering what exactly this means for High School Tennis ([link to News-Miner, subscription required to read](#))

Players and Parents: We encourage you to get out on the courts with family and friends and maintain compliance with health mandates, the FNSB Mitigation Plan, USTA guidance, and other health guidance. Tennis can be played safely!

Another way to prepare for the potential upcoming High School season (no final determination at this time) is to participate in the programs offered through FTA's Summer Program. Opportunities for HS players include:

- Drills (Monday & Wednesday 2:00 - 3:30pm; June 1-June 24)
- Junior Match Play (Tuesday & Thursday 1:30 - 3:30; June 2 - June 25)
- High School Tennis Academy (Tuesday, Thursday 12:00 - 2:00; July 2 - July 28)
- High School Match Strategies (Friday 2:00 - 4:00; July 3 - July 24)
- Private lessons with FTA contracted tennis instructors (see below)

To learn more about FTA's summer programs and to register, please go to fairbankstennis.com

Parents and Coaches: Activities with HS Coaches are governed by the ASAA **and** FNSBSD "out-of-season" policies. These apply to tennis summer activities in the following ways:

1. Coaches are NOT allowed to hit with their student athletes **except** during family events, a community event, an event that is sanctioned by FTA Summer Programs, or an approved out-of-season event
2. Any out-of-season team activities involving HS coaches MUST be approved by the FNSBSD and your school
 - a. Out-of-season participation may not be a condition of selection for the in-season team
 - b. You will see a consent form and other requirements for any/all out-of-season activities
3. FTA policies, including FTA's COVID-19 Mitigation Plan, apply to FTA Summer Programming. All participants must register, including private lessons offered through FTA-sanctioned coaches. Currently the following individuals have coaching contracts with FTA:

John McElroy (in Fairbanks June 29-July 31)
Emily Huston
Hailey Messick
Sean Sullivan

Coach contact information and registration for private lessons is available at fairbankstennis.com.

4. Any **individual or group** offering private instruction at the Dan Ramras Community Tennis Courts (DRCTC) must have a contract with FTA or the FNSB that addresses liability for minors participating in the lesson.
 - a. Providing "free instruction" or "just hitting" does not remove the requirement to have a contract with either FTA or FNSB covering liability insurance.
 - b. Please ask any non-FTA instructor for documentation of a contract with FNSB

FTA is here to provide safe and responsible opportunities for the entire tennis community, particularly our High School student athletes. Please contact us at fairbankstennis@gmail.com if you have any questions or comments.

Peter Beardsley (High School Committee Chair) and Sabine Siekmann (Summer Committee Chair)

We are here for you and couldn't do this without you. Please review the many sponsorship and donation opportunities on the **FTA sponsorship form link** to help support tennis programming for all in our Fairbanks community:
<https://www.fairbankstennis.com/Default.aspx?tabid=482192>