



2017 - 2018

**FLOWER MOUND
TENNIS HANDBOOK**

JAGUAR TENNIS

Goals & Objectives

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Flower Mound Tennis Program is to develop student-athletes through education and competition, to learn the means of self-discipline, integrity, sportsmanship, leadership and social responsibility, to ensure equal opportunity for all athletes, and to create a sense of pride for students, faculty, and community.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

- I. Support academic and athletic success**
 - a. Provide an academic support system to help an athlete succeed in the classroom. (study-hall, allow student tutoring, collaboration with teachers, communication with parents, etc.)
 - b. Monitor athlete's grades, attendance and behavior in the classroom. Address any concerns, develop a plan for improvement and follow up.
 - c. Encourage staff/faculty, parents and student body to attend matches.

- II. Build a program which consistently competes at the highest level, statewide**
 - a. Retain athletes by carefully creating an improvement plan for each student-athlete. Identify strengths, weaknesses and encourage different on-court strategies.
 - b. Create a positive coaching environment that allows for growth and development.
 - c. Create competitive schedules for both Varsity and JV. Avoid conflicts with USTA events.
 - d. Work with local academies and teaching pros on development of athlete's skills.
 - e. Design practices around team needs and make sure all are engaged and challenged.
 - f. Maintain an open line of communication and consult with parents, pros, and teachers regularly.
 - g. Recruit any tennis players who attend FMHS but are not currently playing for our school.

III. Preserve and enhance facilities

- a. Continuously assess & monitor current facilities to ensure safety of athletes.
- b. Improve facilities to meet the needs of our program through LISD budget, grants, or fundraising.

IV. Improve community relations and participation

- a. Build relations, encourage participation and offer support among local civic groups, area businesses & elementary schools. (Tennis-a-thon, Volunteering Opportunities, USTA Tournaments and Faculty Tournament)
- b. Create a feeling of community between athletes and student body by attendance and support of other groups/sporting events.
- c. Increase public awareness by reporting results of competition to community by means of the local media.
- d. Involve local businesses in fundraising events.

“Success is where preparation and opportunity meet” - Bobby Unser

JAGUAR TENNIS TEAM POLICIES 2016-2017

HEAD COACH: DR. WADE ZIMMERMAN (USPTA)
zimmermanw@lisd.net

ASST COACH: KEELI SUMMERS
summersk@lisd.net

SEASONS

Fall (August-October) - Team Tennis: 6 lines of boys singles, 6 lines of girls singles, 3 boys doubles, 3 girls doubles, 1 mixed doubles

Spring (Jan-May) - Individual Tennis: Singles, Doubles, or Mixed

*note: some days practice may last longer due to ladder matches

PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

Tennis is not a PE class. It is a UIL sanctioned sport. Players are expected to work hard and strive to improve their tennis skills. UIL rules are to be understood and followed:

www.uiltexas.org

TENNIS FACILITY AND LOCKER ROOM

Players are expected to take care of the team locker room and facilities. Our facilities are a source of pride and a great asset to our program. We hold high standards for our players while in our building. All players are expected to maintain locker room order. No responsibility is assumed for lost items. Players are expected to keep backup clothing, socks, shoes, and racquets in their locker. Nothing should be left out or on the floor.

COURTS

We ask that all players wear only "tennis shoes" on the court. No street shoes, running shoes, flip flops, sandals or black-soled shoes.

TRAVEL POLICY

We travel by bus to all away matches and tournaments. If there is an emergency that requires a player to leave with a parent, it must be arranged with the coaches in advance. There is a form that needs to be filled out prior to the match. Convenience is never a reason not to travel with the team.

HOME MATCHES

Players are expected to stay for the duration of the match or tournament. Every player's match is important and warrants the support of teammates.

DAILY PRACTICE

Expect to practice every day regardless of the weather forecast. ALWAYS BE PREPARED. Every day we go over specific skills in practice. Please arrange all doctors' appointments outside of team practices. Players will need to make-up missed practices/workouts the following day before being allowed to play in matches/tournaments.

ACADEMICS

Performance in class is of first and foremost importance. Players are expected to inform teachers in advance when they are going to miss class due to tennis. Players will NOT be permitted to miss practice to make-up work as a result of their own absence. It is the student-athletes responsibility to communicate with teachers about missing class time.

- NO PASS=NO PLAY
- TOLERANCE – If any player is academically ineligible twice during the school year, he/she will be placed on probation. If the player is ineligible a third time, he/she will be dismissed from the team.

PROPER DRESS FOR MATCH PLAY/PRACTICE

Players shall be expected to wear school sponsored practice t-shirts (White, and Navy) for all practices and the required uniform for all school sponsored matches/tournaments. Failure to dress accordingly will result in disciplinary action. Player apparel bundles can be purchased at:

<https://flowermoundhstennis2.itemorder.com/>

(The deadline to order is Sept. 1, 2017)

PLAYER RESPONSIBILITY

- Be prepared. Always have equipment for matches/practices.
- Be on time to practices and matches. We will start practice or leave at designated times. Always try to arrive a few minutes early. Being late will result in loss of playing time and additional disciplinary action.
- Travel with the team. All players are part of this team ALL OF THE TIME.
- Respect your teammates. Belittling a teammate will NOT be a part of our program. Be supportive and unified at all times.
- Respect your opponents. Always act with utmost professionalism on the court, even if it's not reciprocated. We will play with pride and class.
RESPECT ALL, FEAR NONE
- Communicate. Please let coaches know ahead of time when you will be absent from practice. Preparing a practice takes time and everyone has a role. Please keep in mind that when you don't show up, your TEAM's practice is affected.

COMMUNICATION

In case the coaches need to send out immediate information we will use the Remind text messaging service (information on how to sign-up can be found on our team website). For all other written correspondence, we will use email. Also, pay attention to our Flower Mound Tennis webpage for further info.

PLAYER POSITIONING

The coaching staff will utilize several forms of assessments (Universal Tennis Rating, USTA player rankings, high school match statistics) to determine player positioning. Each varsity player will receive a Universal Tennis Rating this fall and spring season, as we are part of a pilot program with the Universal Tennis Rating program. The coaching staff may also utilize challenge matches if deemed necessary.

ANNUAL TRYOUT

We are limited on the number of athletes we can carry on a team. Due to the number of graduating seniors and incoming talent, there is a chance that at the conclusion of the year, if an athlete is near the bottom of the team ladder, they may be required to retry-out over the summer. We will communicate this to the athlete at the conclusion of the spring season.

FORMS

In an effort to stream line athletic paper work, Lewisville ISD is offering online forms. At the beginning of each school year it is mandatory that all student-athletes fill out the appropriate UIL and LISD paper work before they will be allowed to practice or try-out in athletics.

All players will need to go to the following address below to fill out each of the following participation forms online (UIL Concussion, UIL Steroid Form, Extracurricular Code of Conduct, UIL Cardiac Awareness Form, Emergency Travel Card, Medical Info Release, and UIL Acknowledgment of Rules. All players will also need to <https://lewisvillesports.rankonesport.com>

* UIL Physicals are required for all athletes and will be collected as a hard copy.

MANDATORY ITEMS - Deadline to order is September 1

<https://flowermoundstennis2.itemorder.com/>

1. Varsity & JV will have 2 practice t-shirts (White & Navy) along with the uniform.
2. Middle School will have 2 practice t-shirts and sweats.

POSITIVE SPORTS PARENTING

remembering it's just a game

- ✓ Make sure your son/daughter knows that win or lose, **you love and care for them**, you appreciate their efforts and you are NOT disappointed in them.
- ✓ Try your best to be completely honest about your child's athletic ability, competitive attitude, sportsmanship and actual skill level.
- ✓ Encourage them to enjoy the thrills of competition and improving their skills and attitudes.
- ✓ Try not to put pressure on your son or daughter. Remember, we all have made mistakes and have experienced losing in one way or another.
- ✓ Don't compare your child's skill level to another athlete in front of them.
- ✓ Remember that teenagers often tend to exaggerate both when praised and when criticized. Temper your reactions to the tales of woe or heroics they bring home.
- ✓ Please don't approach the coaches on days we have a match. We'll be happy to talk to you at any other time. The team needs our undivided focus and attention.
- ✓ Please respect our coaching decisions. As coaches we will do what we see is best for the entire TEAM. You may or may not always agree. Please respect our decisions.
- ✓ If you have a disagreement with a coaching decision or strategy, please don't show displeasure in front of your child. Please call us and we'll be happy to set up a time to meet.

PLEASE REMEMBER, IT'S NOT ALWAYS ABOUT WINNING & LOSING.

As coaches, it is our goal to work with you, in order to teach your child life lessons. I can assure you, Coach Summers and I will do whatever it takes to positively impact the life of your child.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and understand the policies, procedures and expectations outlined by this handbook. I also understand that non-compliance with these policies may result in disciplinary action taken against the athlete. This may include removal from the team.

Student Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date : _____

Parent Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date : _____

Flower Mound High School Tennis (2015-2016)

Student-Athlete Behavior Contract

Athlete's Name: _____

As student-athletes, you are bound by a stricter moral and behavioral code than non student- athletes. As such, you will be responsible for conducting yourself in a manner above and beyond non student-athletes. If you choose to accept this responsibility, you and your guardian must sign this contract, and in doing so, you agree to abide by the consequences set forth below:

Every member of the Flower Mound High School Tennis Team has a duty to represent him or her, the team and the school in the best manner possible. This applies to your behavior both in school and out of school. You are expected to avoid situations where you might be accused of wrongdoing. Being in the "wrong place at the wrong time" is not an excuse if you chose to be there in the first place.

In-school discipline problems resulting in ISS, OSS, DAEP may result in dismissal from the team. The following violations may also result in suspension or dismissal from the team:

1. Using illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco at any time.
2. Allowing yourself to be in a situation, in school or away from school, where you are accused of/arrested for an illegal activity.
3. Missing practice (unless excused by the Coach).
4. Skipping class or school.
5. Poor sportsmanship
6. Hazing (any act directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student)
7. Harassment (verbal/physical/sexual/etc.) of another student or team member.
8. Any act (either in school or away from school) which in the opinion of the coaching and/or school administration, reflects in a negative manner on the tennis team.
9. Electronic communication (text, Facebook, Twitter) should be positive and should never negatively reflect on other teammates or coaching staff. If it is not positive don't post it.

By signing below, you affirm that you have read this and fully understand the rules set forth by this contract. You are also stating that you understand that violations of the tennis team behavior policies could result in your being dismissed from the team.

Player's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____