

UHSAA Coaching Regulations for Tennis

What is considered coaching?

Coaching is considered instructions or advice intended to change or direct the players' performance. Words of encouragement are NOT coaching.

Who may coach?

Coaching is permitted by the two designated members of the school's coaching staff wearing the identifiable coaching badges and might include the head coach, an assistant coach or a volunteer coach.

At the state tournament, two coaching badges will be issued to each school for use during the tournament by members of the coaching staff including the head coach, an assistant coach or a volunteer coach. Only the two coaches wearing the UHSAA badges are allowed to coach and only one coach is allowed on a court.

When is coaching allowed?

Coaching is only permitted during rest periods between sets and during a changeover (except after first game). **USTA time limitations** regarding rest periods and changeovers are still in effect. USTA penalties for time violations on rest periods and changeovers will be enforced. Players must be ready to play on time. Coaching is NOT PERMITTED during the warm-up period, during a tiebreaker or following the first game of a set.

What is the Coaching Code of Conduct?

A coach is a teacher first and must set the tone for sportsmanship and fair play for all participants and spectators. Coaches must not allow emotions on the part of themselves, their team, parents, spectators or others to influence the outcome of a match. The conduct of coaches before, during and after any competition must be exemplary. A coach shall display proper sportsmanship at all times. He or she shall work with the opposing coaches, tournament personnel and officials to insure fairness and sportsmanship.

What are the penalties for coaches' misconduct?

At the state tournaments, coaches and tournament personnel are expected to handle off-court incidents of unsportsmanlike or inappropriate behavior by spectators or fans. Issuing code violations and penalties to the participating players for off-court incidents is to be avoided. However, the Roving Umpires, Site Referee and Tournament Director have the authority to address coaches' misconduct with the steps listed below.

Steps for Addressing Coach Misconduct

1. The coach shall be given a warning for unsportsmanlike behavior by the Umpire, Referee or Tournament Director.
2. If the coach continues to act inappropriately or if there are reports of additional displays of sporting misconduct, the Umpire, Referee or Tournament Director may bar the coach from coaching the remainder of the day.
3. If the displays of unsportsmanlike conduct continues and/or the misconduct warrants this penalty, the Umpire, Referee or Tournament Director may ask the coach to leave the tournament site for the remainder of the day. In this case, the Umpire or Referee shall fax or email the "Unusual Situation" ejection report to the UHSAA within 24 hours of the ejection.

***Appeal:** The coach has a maximum of 30 minutes from the time of the ejection to provide a written appeal to the Referee and/or Tournament Director.