

MIAA Tennis Committee Meeting Minutes – Oct. 20, 2025

In Attendance: David Bouchard, Joan Cutler, Stephen Fogarty, Ryan Gaebel, Chad Gormly, Kevin Mahoney, Gregory Myers, Nicole Nosek, Richard Pearson, Jameson Pelkey, Nicholas Schlierf, Geoff Swett (two representatives for USTA partnership).

R. Pearson called the meeting was called to order 10:03 and asked for Committee members to introduce themselves.

After approval of the minutes (G. Swett, N. Schlierf) 10-0-0, the committee elected leadership positions:

Chair: Dave Bouchard (N. Schlierf, G. Swett) 10-0-0

Vice Chair: Nick Schlierf (D. Bouchard, G. Swett) 10-0-0

Secretary: Greg Myers (D. Bouchard, G. Swett) 10-0-0

The committee agreed to take meeting agenda item 8 (USTA Partnership) out of order.

USTA Partnership

S. Fors (USTA) and C. Bohmiller (USTA) offered an overview of the High School Platform and World Tennis Number (WTN), a free product for player ratings and team management. In spring of 2025, 4 leagues, 37 schools/coaches tried the platform. They noted that it requires minimal up-front work and results in far more accurate accounting of player performance. A recent pilot of WTN in MA was promising but was hampered because not all schools were using it consistently. J. Cutter commented on her experience with WTN. Joan noted that WTN will not be effective unless there is more widespread use. D. Bouchard and G. Swett affirmed Joan's perspective.

R. Pearson asked the Committee for other ideas for more successfully implementing WTN or something similar. The Committee discussed making the use of WTN mandatory, noting that track, swimming, and wrestling also use similar technology to document individual athlete's performance.

The committee discussed ideas for requiring and helping to gather more widespread usage.

R. Pearson proposed sending official notice to schools that WTN should be used for the Spring 2026 season and schedule multiple webinars to help with training and support. USTA would also provide technical support.

Tournament Review Spring 2025:

R. Pearson noted that the Spring 2025 tournament went very well. The venue at MIT was excellent, aside from a person entering the "bubble" improperly causing deflation. No damage or cost associated with deflation. The tournament earned 10% higher gate receipts than the previous year. D. Bouchard noted that the tournament was very well run and an excellent experience for athletes, communication from the Tournament Director was excellent, no issues with officials. For a future format, to consider outlining the procedure for a match on a four-court

venue: Home 1st, Away 2nd, Home 3rd, Away 4th, one match wait. Will be addressed in 2027 format.

Tournament 2026 – Update/Discussion

- No major update; working for much the same and help from schools for semis
- Semi's sites have been excellent

Format 2027 – Feb. meeting for Approval. Note to committee

Other Member Initiatives/Topics – Update/Discussion

R. Pearson discussed elements of a proposed standardized calendar and noted that he is gathering feedback for the Board of Directors from committees on the following:

- Start the fall season start on the 2nd Monday before Labor Day
- Winter starts Tuesday after Thanksgiving (v. Monday)
- Brackets are not released on weekends
- Spring season ends on the third Sunday in June (current practice)

At 11:08, Chad Gormly motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Nick Schlierf.

Adjournment

Upcoming Committee Meeting Dates

February 5, 2025; 10:00am Virtual