



COACHING ON THE FLY GUIDELINES

Continuous Coaching – “Coaching on the Fly” – New for the 2026-2027 School Year

- Coaching is permitted between points and during the 25-second period between games when there is no changeover rest period, as long as it does not delay play.
- **Players may not:**
 - Sit down during non-changeovers for coaching.
 - Create an additional break, including stopping for a drink, for the purpose of receiving coaching.
 - Meet coaches at the fence between points or games.
- Coaching comments must be brief and cannot interfere with the pace of play or other matches.
- **Coaches must be:**
 - At the court of the player in which the coach is actively coaching.
 - Coaches should position themselves near the court and on the player’s side of the net whenever practical, without entering the playing surface or interfering with play.
 - Off the playing surface or outside the fence unless a league, district, or state administrator grants an exception.
 - Moving between courts only during a natural stoppage in play, such as between points or games, and must not distract players on either court.
- Coaches may not yell instructions across courts or across the net.
- **Coaching is still permitted during:**
 - 90-second changeovers.
 - The 2-minute break between the first and second sets.
 - The 5-minute break when players split sets.
- Only **one coach per school may coach on a court at any one time.**
- Continuous coaching applies only to **designated coaches**—not teammates or spectators.
- Continuous coaching does **NOT** allow teammates or spectators to “coach.” Teammates and spectators are expected to follow proper HS tennis etiquette while observing matches.

Number of Coaches:

Coaches must be approved by the local school-board:

- Only **two coaches per team** are permitted to **Coach on the Fly.**
- A school may have more than two coaches in attendance at matches but only two coaches are permitted to **Coach on the Fly.**
- If varsity and sub-varsity matches are being played simultaneously at the same venue, each level may have up to **two designated “Coaching on the Fly” coaches.**

- Regardless of the total number of coaches present, **only one coach per school may actively coach on a court at any one time.**

Prohibited Actions:

- Coaches may not interfere with play or make line calls, foot fault rulings, or any officiating decisions.
- Coaches may only overrule calls made by their own players when necessary to ensure fair play and sportsmanship.
- Coaches may not interact with opposing players regarding match play, line calls, scoring, or other disputes.