



FAQ: Tennis Uniforms & Contest Delays

(This document includes specific ITA Men's and Women's Tennis Rules references where applicable.)

1. ***What are the tennis attire requirements?***

Whenever possible, all ITA competitors should wear their official team uniform during competition, warm-up and awards ceremonies. If official uniforms are not available, wearing apparel with school emblems or initials is recommended. College players' use of all athletic equipment and clothing from a manufacturer or commercial enterprise shall adhere strictly to NCAA rules. (2020-21 ITA Regulation I.P.2.)

2. ***Are teams permitted to wear patches on their uniforms?***

As authorized by the institution or conference, teams are permitted to wear commemorative/memorial patches (e.g., names, mascots, nicknames, logos, and marks intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other causes). The patch must not exceed 2¼-square inches and must be placed on the front or sleeve of the uniform and may not interfere with any required markings. While not all team members are required to wear the patch, the patch must be identical for those who choose to wear the patch.

3. ***Are teams permitted to wear other names/words on their uniforms besides names of the player or the institution?***

As authorized by the institution or conference, teams are permitted to wear other names/words intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other causes on the back of the jersey/uniform where the player name is traditionally located. The names/words may vary by team member.

4. ***What type of footwear should be worn?***

Non-marking, rubber-soled tennis shoes should be worn by athletes who are competing.

5. ***What if a change of attire is needed during a match?***

Change of attire breaks shall be limited to set breaks, unless it is a clothing malfunction or can be completed on court during changeover time. Reasonable time is allowed for this change of attire break.

6. ***What is the rule regarding refusal to play as a team?***

Dual matches: In a dual match, a team shall not cancel a match due to ill or injured players. Unless the match can be postponed to a later date, it will result in a team default for ITA ranking purposes. (2020-21 ITA regulation I.F.9.)

Team tournaments: Once a team tournament has started, failure to play a team match shall result in a team default. This loss and any subsequent consolation match losses shall count as ranking losses. (2020-21 ITA regulation I.F.10.)

Individual competition: Once a tournament has started, failure to play a match shall result in a default. This loss and any subsequent consolation match losses shall count as losses. (2020-21 ITA regulation II.G.6.)

Unfinished or unplayed matches do not count towards a player's win/loss record. (2020-21 ITA Regulations I.F.8./II.G.5.)

7. ***What is the rule regarding refusal to play as an individual?***

If a player has been directed to play by an official but refuses to resume play, the player is subject to the Point Penalty System for delay of game. (2020-21 ITA Regulation I.L.1.)

8. ***What if an ejected coach refuses to leave the playing area?***

If a coach is ejected, the coach may not remain in view of the playing area. If the coach does not leave the playing area, the Referee may declare a default of all of the ejected coach's players or teams whose matches are still in progress or yet to be played. (2020-21 ITA regulation I.N.2.a.)

9. ***What if a player is defaulted from a match?***

If a player is defaulted, the player may remain in the allowable area with the rest of the team (bench players) for the duration of the match. In egregious cases, bench players may be ejected from the facility and may not remain in view of the playing area. (2020-21 ITA Regulation I.O.2.b.)

10. ***Are there any playing rules that specify protocols for student-athletes and/or coaches during the national anthem?***

No. Participants should be allowed to express their opinions (e.g., kneeling during the national anthem) as long as the action does not delay or disrupt competition.