

May of 2011

Dear Tennis Players and Parents:

As the 2010-2011 school year comes to a close, we look ahead to next year's tennis season. As you may or may not know, the varsity and sub varsity compete in a team format in the fall and as individuals in the spring (singles or doubles). The tennis season last the whole school year.

First and foremost, in order to earn a position on the tennis team, you must tryout. The summer "check-in" meeting before tryouts is scheduled for July 28th at 10:00 a.m. at the Clark Tennis Courts. At this time you must have already gotten a physical if you are a freshman, junior, or new student to Clark High School. All physicals must be done on the Northside Physical Form Packet. Northside does not except any other physical forms. Every player must have this packet for the meeting on July 28th even if you are not a freshman, junior, or new student to Clark High School. There is information besides the physical part that will need to be filled out by every player and parent before tryouts. At this time you will turn back in your physical packets, I will give you more paperwork to fill out and discuss, and inform you on the tryout process and upcoming season. All matches will be played at Anne Marie Tennis Center (Northside Tennis Center) on August 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Please show up at 7:30 a.m. so I have time to make the draws. *Reminder:* Any new athlete to Clark High School, incoming freshmen, and juniors need to have their physical packets by the day of tryouts. Every player needs to have the other information except the physical part filled out by July 28th at 10:00. If Clark or I do not have your physical by that day, it is Northside policy that you will not be able to tryout until that information is turned in to me or the trainer.

The junior varsity practices during 8th period with after school practices on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday until 5:30 p.m. On Tuesday and Friday the junior varsity will practice until 4:05. The varsity practices from 7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. and after school on Tuesday until 5:30. Tuesday morning's varsity tennis will practice from 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Every player is expected to be at practice for the duration of these times. I highly recommend getting involved in an after school clinic or take privates that work around our practice times. The bottom line is you need to make sure that you are getting better as a tennis player.

Please address the following questions with your parents or guardians:

1. Do I have all my physical information filled out on the NISD physical form by July 28th?
2. Have I practiced over the summer to prepare myself for tryouts? For example, am I going to summer clinics and am I playing USTA tournaments around the state. I have attached two summer clinics to this letter. Any clinic where you are playing numerous hours of tennis is great. The summer months is when most players make significant jumps in their game. Much of the USTA tennis incorporates ZAT tournaments, Championship tournaments, and Super Championship tournaments around the state.

There are numerous ZATS in June and July. We hope to make Clark tennis a place full of qualified tennis players and we need to make sure we are getting better as a tennis player.

3. Have I earned passing grades in all my classes and will I set high academic goals this year? Please note: If a player fails a six weeks, then they will not be able to play according to UIL rules. If a player fails two six weeks, they will not be able to play and possibly dismissed from the team. Academics come first!
4. Have I talked with my parents/guardians about the time commitment and other responsibilities associated with being on the tennis team? I will negotiate some USTA tennis tournaments that can be replaced by school tournaments but I do expect for you to be at almost all the matches/tournaments and of course District and Regionals. Please stay away from all USTA tournaments/vacations during the middle of September till the end of October.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the school at (210)397-5150 and leave a message for Coach Byrd. You may also contact me on my cell (309)453-6303