**RIDGE POINT HIGH SCHOOL PANTHERS**

**TENNIS HANDBOOK 2017-2018**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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| **HEAD TENNIS COACH**  **TIM CALHOUN - [timothy.calhoun@fortbendisd.com](mailto:timothy.calhoun@fortbendisd.com)**  **713-252-7761**  **ASSISTANT TENNIS COACH**  **Jason Meekins - [jason.meekins@fortbendisd.com](mailto:jason.meekins@fortbendisd.com)**  **979-251-4819**  **CAMPUS ATHLETIC COORDINATOR**  **MEN’S ADMINISTRATOR – BRETT SNIFFiN WOMEN’S ADMINISTRATOR – LORI MC LAUGHLIN**  **281-327-5247 281-237-9214**  **DISTRICT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**  **Rodney Chant**  **HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**  **LEN BROAGEN**  **281-327-5200**  **TENNIS PROGRAM**  **High School – Boys and Girls**  **Our high school will have three tennis teams (Varsity, JV, and Freshman). The tennis program and its participants shall comply with the rules and regulations of the UIL, the FORT BEND ISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct, the FORT BEND ISD Athletic Guidelines, the District 20-6A plan, and this handbook.** |
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**EXPECTATIONS**

**PLAYER EXPECTATIONS: Have Fun!!!!!!**

**1. Practice *winning* *every day* and *everywhere*!**

**2. Work hard to improve your game and stay in shape.**

**3. Respect coaches, captains, teammates, opponents, officials, parents, and the game of tennis.**

**4. Win with humility, lose with dignity.**

**5. Be a leader on and off the court.**

**You represent the tennis team, Ridge Point High School, Fort Bend ISD and your family. We expect your best effort and behavior on the court, in the classroom, and in the community.**

**PANTHER TENNIS GOALS**

**A successful tennis program is team-oriented, athlete-centered and performance focused!**

***Ridge Point High School TENNIS GOALS***

**1. Win every match or tournament in which we participate.**

**2. Maintain high standards in academics, attitude, and effort.**

**3. Be a good role model for other student athletes.**

***PROGRAM PRIORITIES***

**1. The number one priority of the Ridge Point High School Tennis program is the TEAM! All decisions will put the TEAM first.**

**2. The second priority of the program is to improve each player’s technique, skill, and strategy, to help them build their competitive skills, and to increase their knowledge of the rules of tennis.**

**3. The third priority is to develop, encourage, foster, and instill these characteristics in its players:**

* **Camaraderie**
* **Leadership**
* **Dependability**
* **Discipline**
* **Responsibility**
* **Integrity**
* **Loyalty**
* **Cooperation**
* **Great Work Ethic**

**4. The fourth priority is creating healthy habits and an active lifestyle.**

**PLAYER GUIDELINES**

**1. Code of Conduct – Drug and alcohol use, profanity, unsportsmanlike conduct, and cheating will not be tolerated.**

**2. Eligibility – The UIL mandates “no pass, no play”. Ineligible players are not excused from practice. They are expected to help prepare the team for upcoming events. If the athlete continues to be ineligible for two consecutive 6 weeks grading periods, he/she will be removed from the team.**

**3. Cell Phones – While cell phone use is prohibited during practice, cell phones remain our most common form of communication. In the event of last minute changes, coaches will notify captains, who will then notify players. Also, at tournaments, players will be asked to communicate information to their captains, who will relay this information to the coaches. Coaches will have all players’ cell numbers and will use them in the event of an emergency. Players and parents are not permitted to use the coaches’ cell phone numbers except for tennis purposes ONLY. Abuse of this personal information will be considered harassment and will be documented with and punished by the administration.**

**4. Practices – All players are expected to be prepared for practice everyday. They must have their practice gear, shoes, racquets, and water jug everyday.**

**5. Competitions – During the school year, each player is able to participate in one event per week. The week is Monday thru Friday from 7:30 am until 2:35 pm. In the fall, these events will be after school. In Spring, players are permitted to play in 7 all day tournaments before District play. The coaches will determine line-ups for each event. A number of factors are used in determining playing status, including but not limited to: conduct, attitude, effort, reliability, ability, and past performance. The Ladder position alone, however, does not entitle the player to any particular team, or position within a team.**

**6. Match Attendance – Players must remain at home matches until ALL matches are complete. In addition, all players will travel to and from away athletic events on the bus with the team. If, under extenuating circumstances, a player must leave the match with a parent, the coach must be notified as soon as possible and the post activity release form must be completed and signed prior to the event.**

**7. Uniforms – Each player will be issued uniforms and equipment, and it is the responsibility of the player to return all items issued by the school at the conclusion of the Spring season in the condition in which they were issued, or they will receive replacement fines. In addition, school issued uniforms may not be worn outside of school matches.**

**8. Appearance – Student Athletes MUST keep a neat appearance. They are always expected to be in the correct uniform. They must have clean clothes and good personal hygiene. Boys’ hair must remain cut at a reasonable length and faces must remain clean-shaven. Girls’ hair must always be pulled back. Tattoos and body piercings should not be visible when representing Ridge Point High School Tennis.**

**9. Locker Rooms – All players provided with lockers that can be secured. The player is responsible for ensuring that all of their belongings are locked in their locker. Anyone caught stealing will be reported to the campus SRO. You are responsible for keeping your area clean, and as a team, keep the room clean.**

**10. Parent guidelines – The Ridge Point Panther Tennis Program encourages parent participation. We do, however, have to place some restrictions. All practices are closed to parents and private coaches. Give the school coach the opportunity to work with the players. PRIVATE LESSONS AND HIGH LEVEL DRILLS PRACTICES are not to be scheduled during regularly scheduled practices (UIL RULE). Breaking that rule will result in UIL ineligibility for player and matches being forfeited by player and TEAM. During tournaments, parents should consider themselves spectators and fans. During play, parents are not allowed to give food, drinks, or equipment to any player at any time, speak to their child or the opponent, give any advice, make any rulings, or give advice on a ruling. The only people that can approach a player during the match are the school coaches. Conferences with parents will not be held before, during, or after practices or matches; they will be held by appointment only. In addition, conferences will be used to discuss how the player can improve his/her game, solely on that particular player, and no other players will be discussed.**

**PROCEDURES WHEN INJURED**

**Without a trainer or physician note, players will be expected to practice (parent notes does not count as excuse). Injuries must be reported to the high school athletic trainer as soon as possible. All student athletes are expected to adhere to treatment recommendations when recovering from injuries and will not be allowed to participate without approval of the trainer or physician. Practice should not be missed for treatments. Injured players are still required to dress out and attend practices.**

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

**Each player is expected to attend ALL practices and matches. A calendar will be distributed for the season. The calendar is subject to change; however, coaches will inform parents of these changes by e-mail. Only a coach can determine whether or not an absence is excused. Excused absences include illness with doctor’s note, death in the family, religious holidays, and other UIL events. Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to SAC/ISS, vacation, appointments, or work. Extenuating circumstances will be determined on a case-by-case basis, however, players must inform their coach in writing at least one week in advance if they will be unable to attend any practice or event. In an emergency, the player must call their coach and /or captain. In addition, the coach must be contacted by a parent within 24 hours, preferably by e-mail. If policy is followed, players will be assigned make-up work hours that must be completed within one week of the absence.**

**CONSEQUENCES**

**Failure to meet expectations will result in disciplinary action taken at the coach’s discretion. All athletic discipline will be in accordance with the Fort Bend ISD Athletic guidelines. There are two types of offenses, strikes and infractions. Strikes are greater offenses that include, but are not limited to, unexcused absences, insubordination, and unsportsmanlike conduct. Infractions are lesser offenses that include, but are not limited to, tardiness, lacking proper attire and/or equipment, and unauthorized use of cell phones during practice.**

**The Panther Tennis Program will operate under a three strike policy. If a player receives a strike, parents will be notified.**

**Strike 1: player benched for next match: parent notified by e-mail**

**Strike 2: player benched for second match; parent notified by phone**

**Strike 3: player dismissed from team; parent conference**

**Benched players will be expected to attend matches but they will not be permitted to play. While benched players are not allowed to play, they must still be in team uniform for matches.**

**AWARDS AND LETTERING**

**The decision concerning the selection of the student and the presentation of the award must be made during the academic year in which the student qualified for the award.**

**In order to Letter in VARSITY tennis, a player must:**

**1. Be a member of the tennis program throughout the Fall and Spring seasons, compete in at least Three Fourths of all Varsity Team Tennis matches and Three Fourths of spring Varsity tournaments as well as the District tournament.**

**2. Remain in good standing with the Ridge Point High School Tennis team.**

**3. Remain eligible during the fall and spring seasons according to the UIL and Fort Bend ISD standards**

**Managers must work for two years in order to letter in the sport.**

**\*\*A player can Letter at the coach’s discretion. The coach can award a letter to a deserving player. In addition, the coach can deny a letter to a player with poor conduct.**

**Ridge Point High School Tennis Handbook**

**Parent and Player Contract of Agreement**

**I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the expectations of the Ridge Point High School Tennis Handbook. I agree to abide by the rules and expectations set before me by my coach. I understand that any violation of these guidelines and expectations will not be tolerated.**

**STUDENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PARENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**FORT BEND ISD Athletic Guidelines:**

**1. General Athletic Guidelines**

**2. Consequences for Disciplinary Violations for Student-Athletes**

**I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand all sections of the Fort Bend ISD Athletic Guidelines. I have retained a copy for my records. As a Fort Bend ISD student-athlete and parent, we will abide by stated policies and rules.**

**STUDENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PARENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(This page is to be turned in on the first day of practice in the fall)**