
The Coman Tiebreak Procedure

Effective in 2006 all USTA New England League Championships will use the Coman Tiebreak procedure.

What is the Coman tiebreak procedure?

The Coman tiebreak allows all players to serve on the same side of the net as they did throughout the entire set. Therefore, a player doesn't suddenly find him/herself serving in a condition that they were not accustomed to during the critical set or match tie- break. It provides for a fairer outcome to a match.

When is the Coman tiebreak procedure used?

In a set tiebreak (1st to 7 by 2) at 6-6 in a set and in a match tie break (1st to 10 by 2).

How does it work? When do the players change sides during a tiebreak?

The Coman tiebreak procedure is identical to the regular procedure except that the players change ends after the first point, then after every four points, and at the conclusion of the tiebreak.

In a set tie-break if you played to a 7-5 score, players would change one time more than before and in a match tie-break if you played to a 10-8 score, players would change two times more. If the score was not as close, it could be just one extra change.

Is it easy to implement?

It is Important to emphasize continuous play and after doing it one time, players get used to it. Also players find themselves serving in a strange situation (into the sun) then they can correct the mistake right away.

Where can I find more information about the Coman tiebreak procedure?

The Coman tiebreak is an approved method as described in Friend at Court.
(USCom 10.2 pg.12, Reg I.V.I.c.pg 128)