

The Blake School wins fourth Class A title in a row; Edina repeats as Class AA champions

The Blake School of Minneapolis won the Class A championship for the fourth consecutive season, and for the second straight year the top-seeded Edina Hornets won the Class AA championship during the 2018 State Girls' Tennis Tournament. The Blake School recorded a 7-0 victory over Litchfield in the championship match at the Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center in South Minneapolis. It is the second time in Blake girls' tennis history their school has won four consecutive titles. The other time came during a run of four consecutive Class A championships won from 1990-93. It is the Bears' 12th Class A championship since 1984. The Hornets defeated second-seeded Minnetonka, 7-0, at Baseline Tennis Center on the campus of the University of Minnesota on Wednesday evening. With the title, the Hornets earned their 33rd championship in their school's history, with Edina East also winning three titles in the late 1970s.

Class A

The Blake Bears earned their fourth consecutive Class A championship title with a 7-0 victory over the Litchfield Dragons, which won the consolation championship in the 2017 Class A tournament. The Bears had singles victories from junior Arlina Shen (No. 1), sophomore Sonia Baig (No. 2), ninth-grader Bella Suk (No. 3) and eighth-grader Allison Jay (No. 4). Doubles victories were secured by juniors Emily Melin and Caroline Cameron (No. 1), juniors Anna Secor and Natalie Anderson (No. 2) and senior Eesha Nagwani and seventh-grader Nana Vang (No. 3).

The Bears advanced to the championship match for the fourth consecutive season after defeating Rochester Lourdes, 7-0, in the semifinal round and Virginia, 6-1, in the first round of the tournament. Litchfield improved upon last year's fifth place finish defeating Osakis, 7-0, in the first round and St. James, 6-1, in the first semifinal match of the day. Rochester Lourdes rebounded for a 5-2 victory against St. James to earn back-to-back third-place honors. Virginia posted a 4-3 victory over Osakis in the Consolation Championship.

Class AA

To get to the finals, Edina first defeated Wayzata and Mounds View, winning 7-0 against the Trojans and 6-1 over the Mustangs. Minnetonka had an exciting run to meet Edina in the championship, defeating Elk River, 5-2, and Rochester Mayo, 4-3. Against Rochester Mayo, the junior duo of Taylor Kamps and Libby Andraschko came up with the crucial win at No. 1 doubles to propel the Skippers into the finals.

Wins for Edina in the championship came on the singles side from junior Nicole Copeland (No. 1), senior Andrea Jansson (No. 2) and eighth-grader Sami Hankinson (No. 4). Doubles victories came from senior Sam Van Ert and junior Shaylynn Reger (No. 1), sophomore Ingrid Smith and

senior Anna McDonald (No. 2) and the sophomore pair of Paige Greene and Lizzy Van Ert (No. 3 doubles). Junior Jessica Ip sealed the team victory with a win at No. 3 singles.

After falling earlier in the day in a tight 4-3 matchup, No. 3 seed Rochester Mayo bounced back earning their own close 4-3 win in the third-place match against No. 4 seed Mounds View. The Mustangs jumped to an early 3-1 lead, taking wins at No. 2, 3 and 4 singles, but the Spartans rallied to win in No. 1 singles and all three doubles matches to seal the victory.

The Elks of Elk River won the Consolation Championship, defeating Eagan, 5-2. The Elks' wins came from No. 3 and 4 singles, while also winning all three doubles matchups.

Complete results and additional information can be found on the Minnesota High School League Website (www.mshsl.org) under the Girls Tennis tab.