



East Central
2012 Adult, Senior, Mixed, and Combo Local League Regulations
Subject to change based on National/Sectional or State Regulations
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USTA League Tennis National, Southern, and Mississippi Regulations have full force and applicability at all levels of play in USTA League Tennis in Mississippi and there is no authorization to modify, amplify or change them by local or State League Coordinators, or Grievance or Grievance Appeals Committees. Any violation of these regulations shall be subject to such sanctions as may be imposed by League Grievance or Grievance Appeal Committee procedures outlined in the USTA League Regulations. USTA Southern is the final authority on such actions unless otherwise specified in Bylaws of the USTA or USTA Southern. The State League Coordinator, in conjunction with USTA Mississippi Adult League Committee Chairman, shall have the authority to interpret the USTA League Tennis Mississippi Regulations. USTA League Tennis Regulations (National, Southern and Mississippi) are available on the Mississippi Tennis Association website: www.mstennis.com.

All USTA, Southern, and Mississippi Regulations with the modifications listed below, shall apply to the East Central League Programs. (Note: information included herein should be applied in conjunction with all applicable USTA, Southern, and Mississippi League Regulations)

OUT OF AREA PARTICIPATION

If there is no local play offered in a particular level, then a player may play in another area. For example: If there is no 4.5 women's team in the East Central Area, then a 4.5 woman from the East Central Area may play outside her area.

TEAM MATCH FORMAT

All individual matches shall be the best of three sets, regular scoring, with a **set tiebreak** (first to 7 by 2) at six all in each set. In lieu of a third set, a **match tiebreak** (first to 10 by 2) shall be played. **All tiebreaks shall follow the Coman tiebreak procedure.** There will be a two minute set break at the end of each set **with no coaching.**

MATCH PLAY, LINEUP EXCHANGE, and FORFEITS

Players participating in a league match must be registered in Tennis Link prior to participation.

Team captains shall exchange scorecards simultaneously with a completed line-up prior to the beginning of a scheduled match.

Matches should begin promptly as scheduled with a ten minute warm-up allowed, including serves. There is a fifteen minute default rule in effect for all scheduled matches.

An individual default occurs when a player(s) fail to appear properly clothed, equipped and ready to play within 15 minutes of the scheduled match time.

In the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play, a team should be advised by its opponent of a known default. The defaulting captain will be able to designate at what position (2nd Singles or 3rd doubles) a known default will occur.

Teams may not forfeit an entire match. For a five court match, a maximum of two courts may be defaulted; for a 3 court match, only one court may be defaulted. Please see state regulations for further information concerning penalty for match forfeits.

In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no-show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (once the lineup has been exchanged) a team may substitute a player in the affected position within the 15 minute default time, using a player not already listed in the lineup. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position will be forfeited. If a team cannot field an entire match, they must forfeit beginning at the bottom of the score card (either singles or doubles) and work upward.

The home team will be responsible for determining whether the match will be played on hard court or clay court surfaces and will be responsible for providing balls for the match. Captains are responsible for notifying their players of court surface on which a match is to be played and that they must wear proper shoes for the specified surface.

In the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play, a team should be advised by its opponent of a known default. The defaulting captain will be able to designate at what position (2nd Singles or 3rd Doubles) a known default will occur.

SCORE REPORTING

Captains should confirm scores on the scorecards at the completion of play and then all scorecards should be entered by the home team and confirmed by the visiting team online with Tennis Link within 48 hours of a completed match. If confirmation has not been completed within 48 hours, Tennis Link will automatically confirm the scorecard and scores will stand as entered.

RESCHEDULING MATCHES

A team match may be rescheduled ONLY under the following circumstances: rain, tornado (not gusty winds), hurricane, or severe temperatures (40 or below), wind chill is a factor for severe temperatures. In the event that inclement weather occurs during play, completed matches will stand as played. The same players at the exact set, game and point that existed when play was halted must resume incomplete matches upon an agreed date and time. In the event that rain or inclement weather forces the cancellation and rescheduling of a team match, substitutions may be made in any individual matches that had not begun. Points awarded for forfeits during the original lineup exchange will stand. All players involved in such forfeits cannot participate in the re-scheduled match. Matches should be rescheduled within two weeks of the scheduled match date and the rescheduled date should be reported to the LLC. If teams cannot agree on a rescheduled date, the LLC will reschedule the match on a date and time not already scheduled at that level for the teams involved at a neutral site. Neither team will have home court advantage.

DETERMINATION OF LEAGUE WINNER

The team with the most team wins will be the league champion and advance to the State Championship. In the event of a tie, USTA procedures shall govern as follows:

1. Team with most individual match wins.
2. Team with fewest sets lost.
3. Team with the fewest number of games lost.
4. Winner of the head to head match.
5. A method to be determined by the Local League Coordinator

TEAM CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attend (or a team member) local league captains' meeting;
2. Submit the team \$150.00 security deposit made out to MTA;
3. Register team with TennisLink by specified deadline;
4. Insuring that all team players meet eligibility requirements;
5. Verifying match schedules which are posted online with TennisLink;
6. Confirm reservations of courts prior to match play/Confirm with the Visiting Captain;
7. Entering/confirming scorecards online with TennisLink within 48 hours of completed matches;
8. Familiarize themselves with all tennis regulations;
9. Ensure conduct of players while on the court

GENERAL

1. Coaching: No coaching will be permitted.
2. Cell Phones: If a player's cell phone rings during match play, that player automatically loses the point. A player may not use or talk on the cell phone while on the court
3. Bathroom Breaks may be taken as needed during the match
4. Only new balls that are approved by the USTA for championship play may be used.
5. There will be no refund for players who register on the wrong team. In some cases, the LLC can move players from one team to another. If a player makes an error, call the LLC before re-registering.

GRIEVANCES

Please refer to National Regulations 3.00 for full details on Grievance Procedure

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1. All complaints alleging a violation by an individual or team during local league competition shall be filed in writing with the Local Coordinator. The complaint must be filed prior to the commencement of the next team match in that flight involving such individual or team, or within twenty-four hours after the end of local league play, whichever occurs first.
2. A complaint against an individual or team may only be filed by (a) the team captain of the team who has competed in the match where the alleged violation occurred, (b) a league coordinator, or (c) a member of a Championships Committee.
3. NTRP grievances shall be filed in writing with the State League Coordinator. NTRP grievances may be filed at any time up to forty-eight hours after the conclusion of a player's Section Championships. NTRP grievances shall be handled by a Section committee

COMMITTEES

Local League Grievance Committee: Martha Watkins, Cindy Sullivan and Jason Ebert

Local League Grievance Appeal Committee: Vana Brislin, Tammy Gavin, Joey Golson and Robert Cadenhead