



North East

2012 Adult, Senior, Mixed, and Combo Local League Regulations  
*Subject to change based on National/Sectional or State Regulations*

Nancy Palmer  
662-287-1751

[palm5008@bellsouth.net](mailto:palm5008@bellsouth.net)

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](http://www.mstennis.com).

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

#### **OUT OF STATE/AREA PARTICIPATION**

A player may play the same NTRP level in two different local leagues as long as that player is playing on a team in their Local League Area. If there is no local play offered then a player may play in another area. For example: If there is no 4.5 women's team in the North East Area, then a 4.5 woman from the North East Area may play outside her area.

#### **TEAM MATCH FORMAT**

Matches shall be best of three sets with regular scoring and a Coman set tie-break at six-all.

#### **MATCH PLAY, LINEUP EXCHANGE, and FORFEITS**

Unless agreed upon differently by the LLC and captains involved, the number of matches to be played will be based on the number of teams in each level: two teams - best of five matches; three teams - triple round robin (six matches); four to five teams - double round robin (six - eight matches); six teams and up - single round robin (six matches and up).

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

Captains must simultaneously exchange completed and accurate scorecards by match time. Matches should begin promptly as scheduled with a five minute warm-up allowed. This includes 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> singles or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 furnish the courts and **new** balls. Court surfaces should be the same for all team matches **unless the home teams courts are a different surface**. The Home Team Captain must notify the Visiting Team Captain for **mutual** agreement if a different surface is to be used. If the court surface is agreeable, the Home Team Captain must let the Visiting Team captain know 24 hours in advance which position(s) will be played on what type of surface(s). If only four courts are to be used for the team match, the match will be played as follow: #1 Singles, #2 Singles, #1 Doubles, and #2 Doubles to be played first with the #3 Doubles to follow on the first available court or unless both captains agree on a different schedule of play for the team match. **The Home Team Captain should confirm the match date and time by contacting the Visiting Team Captain at least one day prior to the match.**

### **SCORE REPORTING**

All scorecards *should* be entered by the Home Team Captain and *should* be confirmed by the Visiting Team Captain online with TennisLink within **48 hours** of a completed match. If confirmation has not been completed within the aforesaid **48 hours**, TennisLink will automatically confirm the scorecard and the scores will stand as entered. Completed scorecards are to be verified and by both captains upon completion of match play.

### **RESCHEDULING MATCHES**

A team match may be rescheduled only under the following circumstances: rain or severe temperatures (40°F or lower) or upon agreement of both captains. In the case of rain or inclement weather, the match should not be cancelled until 2 hours prior to the scheduled match, unless in agreement by both captains.

In the event that inclement weather occurs during match play, completed individual matches will stand as played. For individual matches in progress, the same players at the exact set, game and point must resume play at an agreed upon date and time. Substitutions may only be made in individual matches that had not begun. Any forfeit during the original lineup exchange will stand and players involved in such forfeits may not participate in the rescheduled match. These incomplete matches should be made up within 2 weeks. Matches may be made up individually, if agreeable to both captains.

In the event that rain or inclement weather forces the postponement of a match before play begins, the match will be treated normally and scorecards will be exchanged at the new match time. Verbal forfeits offered prior to the original written lineup exchange are nullified when the match is rescheduled due to rain or inclement weather.

Rescheduled or postponed matches must be reported to the LLC and then rescheduled in a timely manner, within two weeks, if at all possible. The time period may be extended depending on extreme weather situations at the discretion of the LLC. If teams cannot agree on a rescheduled date, the LLC will assign a time and date for the match. Failure to agree on a time or failure to make up a match in the allotted time may result in a double forfeit for both teams.

### **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.

### **GENERAL**

1. Coaching: Coaching will only be permitted if a team splits sets—prior to starting the 3<sup>rd</sup> set.
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 Procedures*

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:** Jonathan McCoy, Becky Demeo, Dale Wing

**\*Local League Grievance Appeal Committee:** Lynda Bullard, Melissa Ewing, Mike Pittman

\*Committee members may be replaced as needed