



Registration: May 1-30, 2009
Captain's Meeting: May 30, 2009
Adult and Senior Leagues Begin: June 1, 2009
Adult League ends: September 1, 2009
Senior League ends: July 27, 2009

2009 USTA LEAGUE TENNIS ADULT AND SENIOR MIXED DOUBLES SOUTHWEST LOCAL LEAGUE RULES

Darla Vincent, Local League Coordinator

www.swmississippi.usta.com

REGULATIONS

All players will abide by the USTA rules of tennis: The Code, Friend at Court, USTA League Regulations and the 2009 USTA League Mississippi Regulations. All USTA, STA and MTA rules apply before any local league rules. These rules may not be waived by agreement of the captains. National and Southern rules are available at www.southerntennis.com. State and local rules are available at www.mstennis.com.

PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

All players must have a current USTA membership through August 2009 or later. Players 59 years and under, with a 2006, 2007, or 2008 computer rating must enter at that rating or higher. Players 60 years and older, with a 2007 or 2008 computer rating, must enter at that rating or higher.

A player may play two different NTRP levels in the same local league in the same USTA League season. 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. In either case, **if both teams advance to the State Championship, the player must choose which team they will advance with.**

The deadline for adding teams via the TennisLink website is May 30, 2009. The deadline for adding team members via the TennisLink website is the last day of the respective league the player is playing in. A player must be registered on the TennisLink team roster prior to match

play.

TEAM MATCH FORMAT

The match format consists of three individual doubles matches per team match. Levels offered in Adults and Seniors are 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0.

- Only 2.0 and 2.5 players may play in the 5.0 level.
- In all other levels, each individual doubles team's combined NTRP rating may not be more than 1.0 apart (i.e., a 3.0 player and a 4.0 player may play 7.0)

All individual matches shall be the best of two 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. If the teams split sets, there is a two minute break prior to the match tiebreak being played; no coaching is allowed.

Captains must contact each other to confirm match date and time prior to the scheduled match.

There is a fifteen minutes default rule in effect for all scheduled matches. A team **may not** forfeit an entire match. This action may result in a grievance being filed by the Local League Coordinator and may constitute a forfeiture of the \$150 security deposit except for good cause shown.

The number of matches played by a level is based on the number of teams in each level:

Two teams- five matches.

Three teams- triple round robin.

Four to five teams- double round robin

Six teams and up- single round robin

RESCHEDULED MATCHES

Match dates may not be changed unless both captains agree. **Exception:** Weather—rain or severe cold (40°F or lower). Cancelled matches must be rescheduled within two weeks of the cancelled date and reported to the LLC; if matches are in progress, rain delays must wait at least thirty minutes unless both captains agree to postpone the match immediately. Write all scores down for use in the make-up match. Points awarded for forfeits during the original lineup exchange will stand. All players involved in such forfeits cannot participate in the re-scheduled match. Verbal forfeits offered prior to the original written lineup exchange are nullified when the match is rescheduled due to rain or inclement weather.

IF RAIN OR SEVERE COLD IS POSSIBLE, CAPTAINS SHOULD CONTACT EACH OTHER TO PREVENT UNNECESSARY TRAVEL.

SCORECARDS

Team captains must exchange scorecards with a completed line-up **prior** to a scheduled match. All scorecards are to be entered and confirmed online with Tennislink within **forty-eight hours**

of a completed match. If confirmation has not been completed within **forty-eight hours**, Tennislink will automatically confirm the scorecard and the scores will stand as entered.

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 on 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 from the bottom. Captains should verify match scores after match completed.

DETERMINATION OF LEAGUE WINNER

The method of scoring shall be: One (1) point is issued to the team winning the most number of individual courts in a match. At the end of the season, the team with the highest point total will be the league champion and advance to the State Championship. In the event of a tie, USTA procedures shall govern as follows:

1. Winner of the most individual matches.
2. Loser of the fewest number of sets.
3. Loser of the fewest number of games.
4. Winner of head-to-head match or matches.
5. If there is a total team forfeit, all matches played or un-played by the forfeited team will be removed for the purposes of determining the winner.

Adult players must play twice during the local league season to advance to the state championship. Senior players only have to play once in order to advance to the senior championship. A forfeit counts towards an adult player's two matches and counts as a senior player's one match. However, a player must actually play two matches in order to generate a computer rating. A retirement counts for all players in either circumstance. A senior team in a one-team district advances directly to state.

CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

The USTA League Team Captain will handle the administrative affairs of the team and represent the team in all USTA League matters. Specific responsibilities include:

- Attend (or send representative) the mandatory local league captain's meeting. **Failure to do so will require team to travel to all matches.**
- Complete and submit team registration to TennisLink by specified deadline. **Failure to do so will require team to travel to all matches.**
- Verify match schedules which are posted online with Tennislink.
- Enter/confirm scorecards online at TennisLink within **forty-eight hours** of completed matches.
- Read and familiarize self with local league and tennis regulations.
- Submit security deposit of \$150.00, made out to MTA. A team may not play any matches until this requirement is met.
- Provide active e-mail address.

GENERAL

- CELL PHONES: If a cell phone, which belongs to a player who is in the process of playing a league match, rings during match play, that player automatically loses the point.
- Self-rated players must register themselves and input their self-rating.
- **The maximum number of out-of-state players on a team shall not exceed 50%. Players from Vidalia and Ferriday are considered in-state players.** 14 players on roster – 4 can be out-of-state; 10-13 players on roster – 3 can be out-of- state; 6-9 players on roster – 2 can be out-of-state. **TEAMS MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS RULE ON THE DATE EACH MATCH IS PLAYED.**

Grievance Committee

Noreen Pyron
Nancy Fisher
Bob Lawrence
Ralph LeMay
Paul Ott

At Large Committee Members

Missy Brown
Jennifer Misner
Hunter Fordice

Grievance Appeal Committee

Marla Beard
Clint Rounsville
Denice Lambert
Bill Woodworth
Leanne Summers

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