



North Central
2012 USTA League Adult, Senior, Mixed Doubles, 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 North Central League Programs. (Note: information included herein should be applied in conjunction with all applicable USTA, Southern, and Mississippi League Regulations)

OFFICIAL TEAM ENTRY

Teams must register in Tennis Link by the registration deadline. The coordinator reserves the right to accept late entries if circumstances allow, upon consultation with the state league coordinator.

Official team entry is satisfied when all of the following requirements are met by the deadline set by the coordinator:

- 1) Completed registration in TennisLink;
- 2) Security Deposit of \$150 per team made payable to MTA and submitted to coordinator; and
- 3) Match scheduling completed and submitted to coordinator.

A team is NOT officially registered and matches will NOT be entered in Tennis Link until all above criteria are met.

OUT OF STATE/AREA PARTICIPATION

The maximum number of out-of-state players on a team shall be two (2) regardless of how many players are on a team. A player may play 2 different NTRP levels in the same local league. If there is no local play offered in a particular league, then a player may play in another area. For example: If there is no 4.5 women's team in the North Central Area then a 4.5 woman from the North 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 match participation.

Lineups should be filled out completely and exchanged 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 on the court ready to play within 15 minutes of the scheduled match time.

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 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.

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 48 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 two days 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.

RESCHEDULING MATCHES

A team match may be rescheduled **ONLY** under the following circumstances: (1) Rain, severe temperatures, or severe weather; (2) if the match conflicts with a sectional event for the players on either team. If neither of these factors are present, the match will be played as originally scheduled. 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. Verbal forfeits offered prior to the original written lineup exchange are nullified when the match is rescheduled due to rain or inclement weather. A match may not be cancelled until three hours prior to the scheduled match due to 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 Local League Coordinator will reschedule the match at a neutral site on a date and time not already scheduled at that level for the teams involved.

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. 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.**
2. Bathroom Breaks may be taken as needed during the match
3. Only new balls that are approved by the USTA for championship play may be used.
4. 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

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE: Frankie Fortier (Chair), Michelle Whitten, Paul Rowlett

GRIEVANCE APPEAL COMMITTEE: Allison Koestler (Chair), William Hamilton, Nancy Hixson

LOCAL LEAGUE COMMITTEE: Lysie Willoughby (Chair), Tracy Morgan, Susan Watson, Jill Pulliam, Jennifer Hart-Strickland