



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

OFFICIAL TEAM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Registration on Tennislink by deadline set by local coordinator. If a team requests to be registered after the deadline, a majority of the captains in the affected division must approve adding the team.
2. Security Deposit of \$150 per team made payable to MTA submitted to coordinator. If a team fails to submit the security deposit, the flight schedule for the team will not be published. If the check is not submitted within one week of the Captains' Meeting, the team will be removed from TennisLink and will not be allowed to participate in league play.

OUT OF STATE/AREA PARTICIPATION

The maximum number of out-of-state players on a team roster shall comply with the table below:

| # of players on roster | # from out of state |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 14-16 on the roster | 4 may be from out of state |
| 10-13 on the roster | 3 may be from out of state |
| 6-9 on the roster | 2 may be from out of state |

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 ten by 2) shall be played. The COMAN tiebreak procedure will be used.

MATCH PLAY, LINEUP EXCHANGE, and FORFEITS

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

Team captains should exchange scorecards with a completed line-up **prior** to a scheduled match. In the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play, a team should be advised by its opponent of a known default. If a team cannot field an entire match, the defaulting captain will be able to designate at what position (i.e. 2nd singles, 3rd doubles, etc.) a known default will occur. He/she must forfeit beginning at the bottom of the score card (either singles or doubles) and work upward.

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. 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 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. The home team is responsible for the courts and balls. A team match must be

played on one surface. The surface is the choice of the home team. The surface choice must be announced at least two weeks prior to the scheduled match. If a match is not completed due to inclement weather or loss of court time, it must be completed on the same surface. The **minimum** number of team matches will be four. Each level will play a double round robin. Other alternative play will be determined by the LLC if the double round creates too few or too many matches

If a match is scheduled at a facility that does not have or does not make available the required number of courts to play the entire match, the scheduled match time for the courts that are not played at the regularly scheduled time will be one hour after the scheduled match time. The play will be as follows: #1 Singles, #1 Doubles, and #2 Doubles will be played at the regularly scheduled match time and #2 Singles and #3 Doubles will be played at the later time. A completed scorecard will be exchanged at the regularly scheduled match time; however, those players that are scheduled to play at #2 Singles and #3 Doubles do not have to be present but should be present and ready to play one hour after the regularly scheduled match time.

SCORE REPORTING

It is the responsibility of both captains to ensure that the match scores are entered and confirmed 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

It is recommended that a team match be rescheduled **ONLY** under the following circumstances: rain, severe cold (40°F or lower and wind chill is a factor for severe temperatures), or other severe weather; however, the rescheduling of a match for other reasons is allowed if both captains agree. If a match is rescheduled, both team captains must notify the local league coordinator by e-mail of the rescheduled match within two weeks of the scheduled match.

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 the incomplete matches at an agreed upon date and time. In the event that rain or inclement weather forces the cancellation and rescheduling of a team match prior to play beginning, 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.

If teams cannot agree on a rescheduled date, the Local League Coordinator 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. Attending (or appointing a team member to attend) mandatory Local League Captains' Meeting, which will be held at the Whitehead Advanced Technology Center in Ellisville on February 11, 2012, at 10:00am. If a captain or representative does not attend the Captains' Meeting, the team will have to travel to all matches. It is the responsibility of the captain that did not attend the meeting to arrange for scheduling the matches. When this occurs, the final schedule should be completed and submitted to the LLC within one week of the captains meeting. Failure to do so will result in the team being removed from competition.
2. Completing and submitting team registration to TennisLink by specified deadline.
3. Verifying match schedules which are posted online with TennisLink.
4. Confirming availability of courts prior to match play.
5. Entering/confirming scorecards online at TennisLink within 48 hours of completed match.
6. Reading and familiarizing themselves with all local, state, sectional, and national league and tennis regulations.

GENERAL

1. Coaching is not permitted at any time.
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

Grievance Committee

Ed Assaf
Wendy Carmichael
Eric Walters
Megan Gladwell

Grievance Appeals Committee

Jay Delk
Sherree Maddox
Raymond Hudson