



Southwest

2012 Adult, Senior, Mixed Doubles, Combo, and TriLevel Local League Regulations

Subject to change based on National/Sectional or State Regulations

Leanne Summers, Local League Coordinator (LLC)

601-757-2317

lasummers@cableone.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.

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

TEAM/PLAYER REQUIREMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

All teams must be represented at the Captains’ Meeting. Captains who do not attend the Captains’ Meeting, or fail to send a representative to schedule matches, will have their matches scheduled by the captains in attendance and may lose home court advantage for matches.

If no local play is offered for a particular NTRP level, then a player may play at that NTRP level in another league area.

The maximum number of out-of-state players on a team roster shall comply with the table below. Players from Vidalia and Ferriday are not considered out-of-state players.

# 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 two out 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

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 (five matches and up).

Captains must exchange completed and accurate scorecards **prior** to the 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) fails to appear properly clothed, equipped and 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 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 scorecard (either singles or doubles) and work upward.

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.

If a facility has fewer than the number of courts needed for a complete match, the match will be played as follow: #1 Singles, #1 Doubles, #2 Singles, #2 Doubles and #3 Doubles, unless both captains agree on a different schedule of play for the team match. Match times may be staggered.

SCORE REPORTING

Captains should confirm scores on scorecards at the completion of play and determine who will enter scores online. Scorecards are to be entered and confirmed on TennisLink within 48 hours of a completed match. For rescheduled matches, the match date shall be the actual date that the match is completed, not the scheduled date. Failure of captains to record and confirm scores within the 48 hour timeframe may result in a grievance being filed against the violating captain(s), which may result in the forfeiture of the \$150 deposit and/or other sanctions.

RESCHEDULING MATCHES

A team match may be rescheduled under the following circumstances: rain, extreme weather conditions, or severe temperatures (below 40°F). In the case of rain or inclement weather, the match should not be cancelled until 3 hours prior to the scheduled match, unless in agreement by 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.

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 completed within two weeks of the scheduled match. Courts may be played individually in order to complete the weather delayed match.

Rescheduling for any other reason must be upon agreement of both captains, or the match stands as scheduled. Captains must agree on a rescheduled date and the match status reported to the LLC by email, within two weeks of the originally scheduled match. If teams cannot agree on a rescheduled date, the LLC will assign a time and date for the match. Failure to notify the LLC, by email, of the postponed match and rescheduled date may result in a grievance being filed against the violating captain(s), which may result in the forfeiture of the \$150 deposit and/or other sanctions.

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 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. 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.

TEAM CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Completing and submitting team registration to TennisLink prior to the captain's meeting.
2. Attending the mandatory local league captain's meeting or appointing a representative to attend.
3. Submitting the security deposit of \$150, made out to Mississippi Tennis Association (MTA).
4. Insuring that all team members meet eligibility requirements.
5. Scheduling match times and locations.
6. Verifying match schedules when posted on TennisLink.
7. Confirming the match time with the opponent on the day prior to the match.
8. Entering/confirming scorecards online within 48 hours of completed matches.
9. Reading and familiarizing self with local league and state regulations.
10. Arranging for new tennis balls, approved by the USTA, for each match (home team providing balls).
11. Ensuring that your team players practice good conduct and sportsmanship (which includes silencing cell phones).
12. Providing accurate email address for correspondence.
13. Keeping the LLC informed of the status of postponed/rescheduled matches.

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

Southwest Advisory Committee: Noreen Pyron, Nancy Fisher, Bob Lawrence, David Misner, Marla Beard, Gus Shelby, Dunbar Watt, Henry Harris, Jon Stitt, Tina Roberts, and Jimmy Johnson.

Local Grievance Committees & Grievance Appeal Committees are formed, as necessary, utilizing members of the Southwest Advisory Committee.