



**SOUTHERN
NORTH CAROLINA**

Western NC USTA 2022 Local League Regulations

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LOCAL LEAGUE REGULATIONS

A. AUTHORITY

Western NC USTA Local League Regulations are subject to the governing bodies of the United States Tennis Association, Southern Tennis Association, North Carolina Tennis Association, and the local Western NC CTA (currently known as Mountain League CTA). Local League Coordinator, in conjunction with the North Carolina Director of Adult League Tennis, has the authority to interpret the Western USTA League Tennis Rules.

a. NTRP Rating: The National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) is the official system of rating levels for USTA leagues. Player with a 2019, 2020 or 2021 computer rating must use that rating or above to participate. Player aged 60 or above with a 2020 or 2021 computer rating must use that rating or above to participate. Players without a valid NTRP rating, or who never received an NTRP rating are required to self-rate per NTRP guidelines shown on TennisLink.

Local League Coordinator **does not** handle NTRP grievances. NTRP grievances should be forwarded to the address shown on www.nctennis.com. **IMPORTANT:** Players who omit information regarding a player's tennis history may SUBJECT the player, the captain and/or others who condoned inaccurate self-rating to sanctions and/or disqualification.

b. Definition of Leagues and Determining Winners

1. League Definition: A local league shall consist of a minimum of two (2) teams at a specific level of competition. Advancement to a state championship is not permitted if this requirement is not met, **except** for the following divisions or age groups are permitted to advance directly to state championships if they are the only local team:

- USTA Adult League 65 & over teams
- USTA League Mixed Doubles: 55 & over and 65 & over teams
- NCTA Singles League: All levels
- Tri-Level: All levels
- Southern Combo Doubles: All levels

Teams that may advance directly to a State Championship must be added to TennisLink with the minimum number of players required to form a team registered no later than the dates in the specific league regulations. If the team is not added prior to the Initial Roster Deadline of the Local League, the LLC must contact the State League Coordinator to notify that a team has been added. Failure to notify the State League Coordinator may result in the team not added to the State Championship schedule.

Teams that are participating in qualifying events must have the minimum number of players registered on TennisLink no later than their league's Initial Roster Deadline. An exception may be made if a team needs to be added to provide competition for a single state team.

Teams that advance directly to a State Championship OR are participating in a qualifying event are required to maintain their roster on TennisLink with majority of players from within the league area that they are representing. For example, a roster of 15 players must have a minimum of 8 players residing within the league boundaries. An exception can be made if a team is formed by the State League Coordinator to qualify a team.

Teams that advance directly to a State Championship OR are participating in a qualifying event are required to maintain their rosters with at least 40% of players at the designated NTRP level of play. Leagues (and levels) that utilize combined ratings, for example Mixed Doubles or Adult League 55 & Over 9.0, and Tri-Level League teams are excluded.

If a level of USTA League Adult 18 & over, 40 & over, or 55 & over consists of only two teams in a level of play, each team must maintain its roster with at least 40 percent of its players at the designated NTRP level of play. This rule does not apply to the Adult 55 & over and 65 & over 9.0 league.

In levels where a team is advancing directly to the state championships additional players may be added to the TennisLink roster no later than the dates in the specific league regulations.

2. Team Names: All USTA and social league teams will be titled in the computer system using the following format: (1st) WNC (for area), (2nd) first initial of name and last name. Example: Joe Jones team would be WNCJ Jones.

3. Winners: The League Champion will be determined by the team with the best record. In the event of ties in the flight championship, the ties will be broken as follows: (1st) winner of the most individual matches; (2nd) head-to-head winner; (3rd) loser of the fewest number of sets; (4th) loser of the fewest number of games; (5th) highest percentage (%) of games won vs. games played and (6th) method TBD.

In local league levels where applicable, playoffs will be played to determine the local champion. The following USTA North Carolina championship procedures will apply to the WNC Local League flight playoffs:

(a) Matches are best of two sets; match tiebreak (1st to 10, win by 2) in lieu of 3rd set).

(b) 12-point set tiebreak (1st to 7, win by 2) will be used at 6 all in each set.

(c) Coman format will be used for all set and match tie-breaks.

(d) Coordinator may alter format, court surface and scoring method, if necessary.

(e) All USTA Official Rules of Play, USTA, Southern and North Carolina Regulations, the USTA Code of Conduct and USTA Point Penalty System for lateness will be enforced.

(f) In the event of inclement weather, a team match is postponed following the exchange of lineups, the original lineups will stand. Only the courts that have begun play (first point played) will stand. Any other court, including defaulted courts and courts in warm-up only, may be changed.

(g) In the event of inclement weather that prevents the completion of the playoff match before the end of the local season and an alternate facility is unavailable, the winner of each individual court will be determined by the total number of games won. Incomplete games will not be included in the total. Should the number of games won by each team in an individual match be equal, the winner will be determined by coin toss.

(h) All players in the playoff match must be current USTA members and listed on the original roster on TennisLink.

(i) All players in the playoff match must have played the minimum number of matches required to be eligible for state championship, prior to local championship.

(j) Teams are allowed to substitute players once a lineup has been exchanged/turned in only due to injury or illness during the warmup. Substitute players must be on site and read to play. Teams substituting a player may not change their lineup but may only substitute a player in the affected position. Substitutions are not allowed for no-shows. Once a match has begun, substitutions are no longer allowed.

(k) Five minutes warm up, including serves will be observed.

(l) One medical time out is allowed for heat-related conditions and cramping per player.

c. Grievances

Procedures for filing a grievance are outlined in the 2022 USTA League Tennis Regulations. The Western NC USTA League Tennis Grievance Committee and the Grievance Appeal Committee members are selected from the following: (1) Western NC Adult League Committee, board members of the Mountain League CTA and at large members of the Western North Carolina applicable USTA Leagues as selected by the Local League Coordinators. Additional committee members can be selected as needed by the Local League Coordinators.

2022 WNC Grievance Committee: Kathy Wrenn, chair, Michael Eubanks, Patti Griffith.

2022 WNC Grievance Appeal Committee: Judy Eubanks, chair, Betty Hollingsworth, Sharlyn Aamodt.

B. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

a. USTA Membership: All USTA league team players must be current members of the USTA. Refer to the specific league for membership date requirements. Renewals are not allowed during the local league season. If a team progresses to a championship, players are required to have current USTA memberships through the championship.

b. Age Requirement: Players must reach the following ages by 12/31/2022 to compete in the USTA leagues listed as follows: 40 & over - 40 years; 55 & over - 55 years; 65 & over - 65 years, 70 & over - 70 years. As per USTA League Regulation, 1.04E(3) Players must be 18 years of age PRIOR to participating in the USTA League program.

c. Promoted Players: (as per NC Regulations)

(1) A promoted player during local league play may request moving to another team providing a team is available and time permits. If that team is full, the promoted player may request a waiver regarding number of players on a roster. The NC Director of Adult League Tennis must approve this waiver.

(2) Teams losing a player to NTRP promotion may be provided an exception to allow for adding a player to their roster in the following cases: (a) registration has closed; (b) their team had the maximum number of players allowed on the roster; and (c) the player may not be a self-rated player.

C. USTA LEAGUE FEES & REFUND POLICY

Refund Policy Statement: There will be no refunds given due to cancellation or suspension of League or Championship play due to acts of God, war, government regulation or order, pandemic (including, but not limited to, COVID-19), terrorism, natural disaster, or any other emergency beyond USTA NC's control, foreseeable or unforeseeable, which makes it illegal or impossible to offer or continue any USTA Adult League Tennis programming.

a. League Fees: The local league fee is \$25 per player and is paid on TennisLink when registering for a team. Fee includes \$6 NC state tax, \$3 TennisLink user fee and \$16 local league fee.

b. League with Local League Play: Refund requests for Local Fees and State Head Tax charges must be made to the Local League Coordinator prior to the team's first scheduled match. Requests must be made in writing. The TennisLink fee is non-refundable. The Local League Coordinator will hold all requests and submit one list to the State League Coordinator by the refund deadline. One check will be sent to the LLC or CTA, who will issue individual checks to the players. Any team dropping out of a league after **Initial Roster Deadline for that league** will forfeit any registration fees paid and a grievance may be filed.

c. League with direct advancement to State Championships: Refund requests for Local Fees and State Head Tax charges must be made to the Local League Coordinator prior to the Deadline to Add a Team Advancing Directly to State Championship as noted in the chart below. Requests must be made in writing. The TennisLink fee is non-refundable. The Local League Coordinator will hold all requests and submit one list to the State League Coordinator by the refund deadline. One check will be sent to the LLC or CTA, who will issue individual checks to the players.

d. Championships: Refund requests for registrations fees to any USTA North Carolina State Championship must be made in writing prior to the first scheduled match of the tournament, whether the level in question has begun play or not. Requests should be sent to the State League Coordinator. All

refunds will be credited to the credit card used to pay the registration fee. Refunds will be credited the week after the conclusion of the tournament.

D. FACILITY LEAGUE & TEAM POLICY

Players and facilities should be aware that multiple teams in certain flight levels that play on the same day and time may be subject to limited courts at their facility. Teams may or may not have equal home/away matches due to this scheduling issue. **Teams and facilities are required to plan arrangements for use of optional courts or other facilities for more equitable home/away matches if the home facility is not available.**

(1) **CANCELLATION OF COURT REQUIREMENT:** Teams are required to give proper notice to facilities of your cancellation of a scheduled match. It is noted that inclement weather does not fall under this cancellation regulation. Proper Notice is defined as and includes ALL OF THE FOLLOWING: eight (8) hours in advance, a phone call and email notifying the facility of said cancellation and receipt of confirmation from the facility. In the event a team does not give proper notification of cancellation of a match reservation, a facility manager/director/owner may request a grievance be filed against a team or captain by the LLC or Assistant LLC with the WNC USTA Grievance Committee.

E. MATCH PLAY

(1) **REGULATIONS** Match play is governed by USTA League Regulations, Southern Tennis Association Regulations, North Carolina Tennis Association Regulations, "The Code" and the Western NC Local League Regulations.

- a. Spectators may not aid in line calls or in determining the correct score.
- b. Each team must have a captain or acting captain present at every match. In the event of rescheduled matches where individual player(s) are playing a scheduled make-up match for their respective line only, and the match scorecards have already been exchanged between the captains, these lines may be played without a captain or acting captain present at the match.

(2) FORMAT OF PLAY

Team matches consist of the following:

- a. **Lines of Play** see specific league regulations for line of play information.
- b. **Match Play and Schedule Format**

Each team, in its entirety, must show up ready to play at the time of the match and forfeits will be decided at that time. Forfeits will be from the bottom up, line 3 doubles if a 3-court match or line 2 singles or line 3 doubles if a 5-court match. **If BOTH captains agree in advance to reschedule a match they may do so if the match is completed, and scores are entered in TennisLink BEFORE OR BY THE ORIGINAL MATCH DATE.** Captains are responsible for cancelling the originally scheduled courts and for reserving courts for the rescheduled time. If captains mutually agree to schedule ahead of time and the team agreeing to the matches may only be rescheduled after the original match date due to inclement weather or championship conflict. **Any matches played after the original match date (unless due to inclement weather or championship conflict) will be scored as double defaults. IT IS HEREBY NOTED that in matches not affected by inclement weather issues or championship conflicts, captains DO NOT have to agree to reschedule individual lines or matches ahead of the scheduled match date.**

c. Staggered Match Format

A staggered match scheduled by the Local League Coordinator will have the following format:

5 court matches: Lines #1 and #2 singles and Line #1 doubles play first, then when court(s) become available, the #2 doubles and #3 doubles play.

3 court matches: (3 doubles format) Line #1 doubles and #2 doubles play first, then line #3 doubles when a court becomes available. (Note - 18 & 0 2.5 & 5.0 format) Line #1 singles and #1 doubles play first, then line #2 doubles when a court becomes available.

The entire team must be present before an individual match may begin, EVEN IN STAGGERED MATCHES. The only exception allowed would be mutual joint agreement by both team captains 24 hours in advance in written email form allowing the following formats: 5 court matches would allow #2 and #3 doubles lines to arrive one (1) hour later; 3 court matches would allow #3 line to arrive one (1) hour later.

d. Match Schedules - Travel Distance

Travel distances for teams in the Western NC league may be up to approximately 75 miles, depending on the participating teams in the flight. Captains in flights with team facilities more than 50 miles from each other should report to the league coordinator the status of their team's ability to drive to away matches. Coordinator will check with captains in flights with more than 50 miles to drive for matches and may offer the teams the following options:

Option (1): In flights with a minimum of six (6) teams in the flight, the league coordinator may choose to divide the flight into two sections if the number of teams allows for equitable distribution of teams. However, each section must contain the minimum of three (3) teams to be a valid section. Flights with less than six (6) teams may be offered Option 2 below. Section One shall consist of teams located in Rutherford, Polk, Henderson and Transylvania Counties and Section Two shall consist of teams located in Buncombe, Haywood, and McDowell Counties. If Option 1 is used, a playoff between the champions of each section will determine the flight championship.

Option (2): Captains who have matches scheduled more than 50 miles from each team facility during the week may reschedule said matches to a weekend date of mutual agreement prior to the original match date or to a weekend date of mutual agreement up to two weeks after the original match. Said captains may also agree to play said match at a neutral location if desired. Said neutral location will be obtained and reserved by the captains.

(3) LINE DEFAULTS

Defaults will be "from the bottom up", defaulting the lowest positions first. The chart below shows which courts are to be defaulted first in the different match types.

Match Type	Courts to be Defaulted First
2 Singles, 3 Doubles	#2 Singles or # 3 Doubles
1 Singles, 2 Doubles	#1 Singles or #2 Doubles
3 Doubles	#3 Doubles

A team must be able to field enough courts to win the match (field 3 courts for a 5-court match: field 2 courts for a 3-court match). If a team fails to do so, the entire match (all courts) is deemed defaulted.

If both teams have the minimum number of players available to play, but the combination of individual defaults by the two teams would result in the majority of matches not being played (valid team match), the teams must follow the procedure below:

The first course of action would be for both captains to agree on what individual matches, based on the number of players present, or to be present, can be played to constitute a valid team match. Once that is determined, both captains will re-exchange scorecards.

If both captains cannot come to an agreement on what lines will be played to constitute a valid team match, based on the number of players present, or to be present, then the following individual matches will be assigned in sequential order to be played:

Format	Required Matches in sequential order	Minimum # of Players Required for Each Team in Valid Team Match
2 singles, 3 doubles	#1 and #2 singles, and #1 doubles (priority); #2 doubles if enough players present	4
1 single, 2 doubles	#1 singles and #1 doubles	3
3 doubles	#1 and #2 doubles	4

If these procedures are not followed and the resulting scorecard shows an invalid team match, both teams will be charged a full team default.

If a team shows up without the minimum number of players required for the team match based on the number of players present, or to be present, it will be a full team default in favor of the opponents. Please refer to the National Regulation 2.03L on team default procedures.

(4) MATCH BALLS & HOME COURT

The home team will supply new balls, labeled USTA approved. If a home team has several court surfaces for play, the home and visiting captain **MUST AGREE IN ADVANCE** of the start of the match on the court surfaces to be used (see USTA Southern regulation 1.04D(6)). The home captain must notify the visiting captain, prior to the exchange of lineup, which court surfaces are available, and a mutual decision will be made prior to exchange of scorecards for each line to be played on which court surface. **If indoor courts are used as part of the regularly scheduled courts for a match regardless of weather, it is the responsibility of the home team to pay for the indoor courts.** The home captain should notify the visiting captain in writing, one week in advance of the match, which positions will be played indoors. **IT IS NOTED that facilities, at their discretion, may change the location of matches (example, dual facilities may move a match from one location to the other to provide available courts. Notification of change of location should be made at last eight (8) hours ahead of the scheduled match(es) time. IT IS FURTHER NOTED that facilities, at their discretion, may move matches from clay courts to hard courts or vice versa, as needed.** For age divisions 55 and 65 & over, if a match is moved to hard courts due to facility demand, teams may choose to use an alternate site, or reschedule within two weeks of the originally scheduled match. The reschedules option applies only to matches moved by the facility.

(5) MATCH SCORES

Captains should print and use a TennisLink scorecard for recording scores at USTA league matches. The match point will be awarded to the team winning the most positions within the match.

a. Players should immediately report results of their match to their captains.

b. After completion of the team match, the captains should confirm the player names and scores with each other and sign each other's scorecard to avoid disputed player or score reporting.

c. **Winning captains should enter scores in the TennisLink system within 48 hours after the completion of the match. Losing captains should check the entry of scores and confirm the match in TennisLink. Any disputes and notifications of errors must be made known via email to the Local League Coordinator and the captain of the opposing team no later than two weeks after the match was completed**

or the scores will stand. Note - if scores are not posted/confirmed within 48 hours, the Local League Coordinator may determine a winner of a league, based on the information reported.

d. Name changes and score changes WILL NOT BE corrected after the two-week deadline set out above.

The final league match of the season score must be entered within 24 hours of that match's completion and confirmed.

SETS: All tiebreaks played will use the Coman format where players shall change ends after the first point and thereafter after every four points. 1st and 2nd set tie-breaks will follow the Coman format and are first team to 7 points, win by 2. In lieu of the 3rd set, a first team to 10 points, win by 2 points Coman tie-break will be played.

BREAKS: There will be a two (2) minute break between sets. No coaching is allowed. A restroom break is permissible at any time, but preferably should take place on an odd game changeover, or between sets.

(6) CELL PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phones are not permitted to be turned on during play. As per 2016 Friend at Court, the USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules & Regulations, The Code, page 40, item 36 states: "A ringing cell phone is a deliberate hindrance; if an opponent's cell phone rings during a point, the player may immediately stop and claim the point." There is no penalty stated for a vibrating phone.

(7) SCORECARDS

Prior to Match: Captain or acting captain, should print out a scorecard for use at the match. Captains or acting captains may access the scorecards for matches in their USTA TennisLink program.

On Court Exchange: Scorecards are to be exchanged when all players are on site and ready to play. Captains should mutually agree on the lineup at the time of exchange (scorecards are exchanged and filled in at the same time by the captains) and court assignments for each line of the match should be agreed upon before players are assigned to courts. Once the scorecard is exchanged, **NO PLAYERS** may be changed on the card unless due to injury or sudden illness during the warm-up or per item c. agreement below. It is suggested that captains always bring two (2) copies of the scorecard to the match to be used in the event the opposing captain does not bring a printed scorecard.

At the scheduled match time, if a player is not on site, the captains have 3 options to proceed with the scorecard exchange:

Option 1: Wait until the missing player is on site and ready to play (prior to the 15-minute default time), exchange scorecards and play the match. At the default time, if the player is still not on site and ready to play, the missing player would be moved to a default-able court (see charts, E. Match Play, (3) Line Defaults.), scorecards would then be exchanged, and play would begin. OR

Option 2: Captains can agree to exchange scorecards and begin play with the lineups as-is. Default rules will apply (See National Reg. 2.03 K and Q&A). OR

Option 3: Substitute a missing player with an eligible player that is on site and ready to play but is not listed on the original scorecard. Substitutions must be made prior to the 15-minute default time and can only be exchanged for the missing player in the original lineup.

After completion of the team match, the captains should confirm the player names and scores with each other and sign each other's scorecard to avoid disputed player or score reporting.

Email Scorecard Exchange: The only time scorecards should be exchanged by email is if a scheduled match is rained out and the teams do not have an agreeable date on which the players can meet to compete at the same time. It is allowable for captains to coordinate with their individual lines and

exchange the date, time and location of the match and the number of the match (example: line 1 singles or doubles) to the other captain. Disclosure of players is not required, only the line # of the individual match. Copies of the email lineups should be forwarded to the coordinator to confirm the two-week match makeup requirement as set out in Rescheduling of Matches paragraph below. Upon arrival at the agreed match location, the players would then exchange names for the lineup and the match is started, as per On Court Exchange, items a & b.

(8) FULL TEAM DEFAULTS

A. 1 Team Default: At the end of the season, standings will be evaluated to see if the full team default influenced the final standings. If the final standings were affected, all the matches of the defaulting team will be removed from the standings (only the effected round, if more than one round robin) and the final standing will be recalculated. If neither team in contention received a full team default, the final standings will stand. The defaulting team may be subject to a grievance.

B. 2 Team Defaults: If a team defaults 2 full team matches, all their matches played or to be played will be null and void. Matches played will count for player NTRP ratings and player advancement purposes but will not be used to determine the final standings. **A grievance may be filed. Teams with 2 team defaults will not be eligible for advancement.**

(9) INCLEMENT WEATHER

a. Prior to start of match: It is the responsibility of the home team captain to **TELEPHONE (not email or text)** the opposing captain when there is an inclement weather issue (rain, snow, sleet, severe storms, extreme heat (defined as heat index of 100 degrees or greater) or extreme cold (defined as 20 degrees or lower) that may cause the courts to be unplayable. If the telephone contact is not made between the home and opposing team captains, **both teams must show up at the match site ready to play. Matches should not be called off until both captains are certain and agree that the courts will be unplayable at match time.**

If teams are present at the match site, scorecards are exchanged and the scheduled match is then completely rained out (play has not started on any court), any defaults on the scorecard are reinstated and may be made up. If however, one line of the match has started play (defined as first point played) and the match is interrupted due to inclement weather, all defaults stand and cannot be made up.

b. Postpone a match: Teams may postpone a match the day of the match if both captains agree that the weather predicted is going to prevent play. If a date, time, and location have been determined for a team match (or individual match line) rescheduled due to inclement weather or another allowable circumstance, i.e., State Championship conflict, the match can only be suspended again due to inclement weather. Any team that cannot make the rescheduled match time will default any affected courts.

c. Matches cancelled due to inclement weather BEFORE any individual matches started: Captains may mutually agree to any of the following ways to play the match:

(1) Set one make-up date for the whole match. If the original match never began, a player who was not on the original scorecard may be substituted into the lineup.

(2) Arrange a location for each line/court without exchanging player names/line-ups. Captains may exchange the line that will play, (example: #1 singles, or #2 doubles), but will not exchange player names, they will be exchanged at the date, time and location of the rescheduled match; OR

(3). Exchange scorecards with player names in good faith and have the players contact each other to arrange their own matches and report results to their respective captains immediately.

d. Once the Match has started: If it begins raining once a team match is underway (defined as any match line started, first point played) and either captain feels that conditions merit stopping play, then

the match should be stopped. Players should remain on site for thirty (30) minutes to confirm the match cannot be restarted due to weather conditions. If conditions allow, the match should be resumed from the point, game, and set score existing when the match was stopped. The players must remain the same on each line for the completion of the match. No substitutions of players may be made. If, due to inclement weather, the match will not be completed as started, for any court that has started play (defined as first point played), the lineups will stand. For any court that did not start play (still in warm-ups), teams may substitute players if the substitutions are not listed on the original scorecard.

(10) RESCHEDULING GUIDELINES FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

a. Un-played or incomplete matches should be made up within two (2) weeks of the originally scheduled match. Within four (4) days from the date of the originally scheduled match, the two captains need to determine a mutually agreeable time within the 2 weeks reschedule timeframe. **IF A RESCHEDULE DATE/TIME CANNOT BE AGREED UPON, then the captains are required** to notify the local league coordinator and the coordinator will then assign a date, time, and location. All lines must be completed within the two-week timeframe and when all lines have been played the winning captain enters the scores.

NOTE - If an inclement weather/rainout occurs at the end of the season (the last two (2) scheduled matches of the league season), the reschedule rule is changed to one week for completion of all the match lines with notification of reschedule agreement due to the coordinator within two (2) days.

In the event the local league coordinator is requested to assign a date, time and location for a reschedule due to inability of team players and captains to agree on a reschedule date, **IT IS NOTED** that this reassignment date is **NON-NEGOTIABLE**. Further, if this assigned individual match is not completed, the match will be entered as a **default for both teams**.

b. It is recommended BUT NOT REQUIRED that both teams share the cost of indoor court rental for makeup matches. Captains and teams **MAY ELECT** to pay the cost without help from the opposing team. If indoor courts are provided, teams **SHOULD** play the matches to allow for timely completion of the season. In the event a team is willing to pay for indoor courts to avoid a reschedule due to an inclement weather issue on the date of the original match date, teams ARE REQUIRED to play the match to avoid the reschedule.

c. In the event teams cannot agree on responsibility of payment of indoor courts and use of said indoor courts for a makeup match, both captains are required to notify the local league coordinator who will then assign a non-negotiable date, time, and location for said match. If said makeup match is not completed, the match in dispute will be entered as a default for both teams.

(11) NEUTRAL FACILITY POLICY: WNC USTA league neutral facilities agree to work with us to provide courts for league play when home team facilities are not available. Notice to captains and teams: If you have a reservation at a neutral facility for a league match made by the coordinator or assistant coordinator, **PAYMENT IS REQUIRED IN ADVANCE** for use of the neutral facility. Payment is Five Dollars (\$5.00) per court per hour and we reserve for 1 ½ hours and should be paid **ONE WEEK (7 days)** in advance of the match Example: 3 court match – total cost \$22.50 (each team would share ½ the costs, so each team would pay \$11.25 for 3 court matches. Example: 5 court match – total cost \$37.50 (each team would share ½ the costs, so each team would pay \$18.75 each. Payment is by check or cash and should be sent to the local league coordinator or league assistant. List of neutral facilities and addresses for payment receipt will be provided to captains prior to start of league season.

(12) CHAMPIONSHIP CONFLICTS

If a team has 4 or more players on a roster (3 for Singles League matches) who are playing or working at a League Championship at either the North Carolina State, Southern Section or National Levels and have a team match in conflict with these events, then the team can reschedule the match either by playing before the scheduled date or within 2 weeks after the scheduled match (as long as the makeup match occurs within the league season dates). The captain of the team with the conflict must notify the opposing team captain and LLC of the conflict **no later than 1 week** before the scheduled match and work with both parties to reschedule the match within the above-mentioned timeframe.

SPRING ADULT LEAGUE REGULATIONS

All applicable regulations in pages 1 thru 12 apply to the Spring League.

(1) Spring League REGISTRATION DEADLINE & LEVELS OFFERED

Team Creation: All teams must be registered and the minimum required players on TennisLink by Feb. 28, 2022. Minimum team roster requirements: 18 & over - 8 players, 40 & over -7 players, EXCEPT 2.5, 5.0 levels - 5 players; 55 & over and 65 & over - 6 players Maximum team roster for all levels is 15.

Note: 65 & over teams are the only division/age group that may advance directly to a state championship if they are the only team. Teams must be added to TennisLink no later than April 15, 2022, with a minimum roster of players required to form a team. Deadline to add players for 65 & over is April 25, 2022. Captains are required to notify the Local League Coordinator if they qualify for this advancement. Teams that advance directly to a state championship must maintain their roster on TennisLink with majority of players from within the league area represented.

Players: Team members may be added to the team rosters by the dates below:

18 & Over - May 15, 2022

40 & Over - May 15, 2022

55 & Over - April 30, 2022

65 & Over - April 15, 2022

(2) Spring League NTRP INFORMATION AND LEVELS

The following NTRP levels are offered:

DIVISION	LEAGUE TYPE	LOCAL LEAGUES
Adult	18 & over	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0
	40 & over	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0
	55 & over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0
	65 & over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0

(3) Spring League PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

a. A player may play in more than one NTRP level within a division in the same local league during the same season. However, no scheduling provisions will be made for these players.

b. A player may not play on a team that is below their NTRP level. A player may play only one NTRP level above the player's current NTRP rating (example: 3.5 may play on a 4.0, but not a 4.5 level).

c. Straight NTRP level teams may not have a player with an NTRP rating higher than the NTRP level in which the player is competing.

d. 2.5 and 5.0 levels – 18 & 0 format plays 1 single, 2 doubles; 2.5 and 5.0 levels – 40 & 0 format plays 3 doubles lines.

d. In the 9.0 NTRP level in the 55 & over league, the combined level of players on a team cannot be separated by more than 1.0 NTRP point or exceed the 9.0 combined level.

f. North Carolina League Tennis Regulations state "Any player on two or more teams advancing to a North Carolina State Championships may play unless those teams are in the same NTRP level (ex. 2 adult 3.5 teams from different local leagues). *There will be NO special consideration in scheduling. *There is the possibility of several matches in 1 day. *The player is considered a different player for each team or teams which requires separate championship fees for each team."

(4) Spring League CHAMPIONSHIP ELIGIBILITY:

Players must play in a minimum number of matches as follows to be eligible to advance to the State Championships (excepting players on teams advancing directly to the State Championships, as provided for in the 2022 USTA North Carolina League Tennis Regulations):

18 & over, 40 & over, 55 & over - minimum matches required - two (2). One (1) default may count as part of the required matches if the player was present to accept the forfeit and will not count for the forfeiting player.

65 & over - minimum match required- one (1) if local league play. One (1) default may count as part of the required matches if the player was present to accept the forfeit and will not count for the forfeiting player

(5) Spring League LEVELS, LINES OF PLAY & FORMAT OF PLAY

18 & over

18 & over - 2.5 - 1 single, 2 doubles

18 & over - 3.0 - 2 singles, 3 doubles

18 & over - 3.5 - 2 singles, 3 doubles

18 & over - 4.0 - 2 singles, 3 doubles

18 & over - 4.5 - 2 singles, 3 doubles

18 & over - 5.0 - 1 singles, 2 doubles

18 & over - 5.5 - 1 singles, 2 doubles

40 & over

2.5*, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0* - 3 doubles - Western NC local level play format

(Teams at State Championship will play 1 single, 3 doubles in 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 levels. 2.5* and 5.0* levels play 3 doubles at State Championship)

55 & over - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0 - 3 doubles

9.0 level team that uses combined NTRP rating is exempted from 40% Rule for two team leagues. The highest-level player allowed on a 9.0 level team is 5.0 NTRP and the minimum allowed NTRP rating is 4.0. Doubles team cannot exceed 9.0 level combined and players may not be separated by more than 1.0 NTRP point.

65 & over - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0 - 3 doubles

MIXED DOUBLES LEAGUE REGULATIONS

All applicable regulations in pages 1 thru 12 apply to the Mixed Doubles League.

(1) Mixed Doubles League REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Team Creation: All teams must be registered and the minimum required players on TennisLink by May 15, 2022. Maximum of 15 players allowed on team roster.

Note: 55 & over and 65 & over teams that are the only teams in their division/age may advance directly to the state championship. Teams must be added to TennisLink with a minimum roster of players required to form a team by July 15, 2022. 55 & over and 65 & over direct advance teams may add players until August 14, 2022. Captains are required to notify the Local League Coordinator if they qualify for this advancement. Teams that advance directly to a state championship must maintain their roster on TennisLink with a majority of players from within the league area represented.

Players: Players may be added to team rosters for all age levels by July 30, 2021.

(2) Mixed Doubles League NTRP INFORMATION AND LEVELS

NTRP Levels Offered:

18 & over - 2.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0

40 & over - 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0

55 & over - 6.0, 7.0, 8.0

65 & over - 6.0, 7.0, 8.0

a. A player may play in more than one NTRP level within a division in the same local league during the same season. However, no scheduling provisions will be made for these players.

b. The individual team level of partners may not be separated by more than 1.0 NTRP point (example: 8.0 team allows a 4.5 and 3.5 to play together, but a 5.0 and 3.0 may not play together). The combined levels of each doubles pair cannot exceed the team level.

Adult & Mixed Combined Level	Minimum Rating a Player May Have
5.0	2.5
6.0	2.5
7.0	3.0
8.0	3.5
9.0	4.0
10.0	4.5

c. North Carolina League Tennis Regulations state "Any player on two or more teams advancing to a North Carolina State Championships may play unless those teams are in the same NTRP level (ex. 2 adult 18 & over 7.0 teams from different local leagues). *There will be NO special consideration in scheduling. *There is the possibility of several matches in 1 day. *The player is considered a different player for each team or teams which requires separate championship fees for each team."

d. Players may compete on more than one team except if the teams are on the same level, the same age division and in the same local league.

(3) Mixed Doubles League PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Championship Play: As provided in the USTA North Carolina League Tennis Regulations, players are eligible to advance to the State Championship competition if that player has played on the same team in at least two matches (one match for 65 & over). One default received by the player during local league or championship competition shall count for advancing if the player was present to accept the forfeit and will not count for the forfeiting player. Retired matches shall count toward advancing for all players involved.

Teams Advancing Directly - if they are the only local team, 55 & over and 65 & over teams are exempt, and players are not required to play any qualifying matches to advance directly to state championships.

TRI-LEVEL LEAGUE REGULATIONS

All applicable regulations in pages 1 thru 12 apply to the Tri-Level League

(1) Tri-Level League REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Team Creation: All teams must be registered and have at least 6 players on TennisLink by May 15, 2022. Maximum of 15 players allowed on team roster.

Note: All Tri-Level Teams may advance directly to the State Championship if they are the only team in their flight. Direct Advance teams must be added to TennisLink with an initial roster by July 15, 2022. The majority of the roster must be made of players from within the league area represented. Rosters in TennisLink must be complete by August 28, 2022, after which no changes may be made.

Players: Team members may be added to the team rosters until July 30, 2022.

(2) Tri-Level League NTRP INFORMATION AND LEVELS

NTRP Levels Offered:

18 & over - Men - 3.0/3.5/4.0
18 & over - Men - 3.5/4.0/4.5
18 & over - Men - 4.0/4.5/5.0
18 & over - Women - 2.5/3.0/3.5
18 & over - Women - 3.0/3.5/4.0
18 & over - Women - 3.5/4.0/4.5
18 & over - Women - 4.0/4.5/5.0

55 & over - Men - 3.0/3.5/4.0
55 & over - Men - 3.5/4.0/4.5
55 & over - Women - 3.0/3.5/4.0
55 & over - Women - 3.5/4.0/4.5

a. A player may play in more than one NTRP level within a division in the same local league during the same season. However, no scheduling provisions will be made for these players.

b. A player may not play on a team that is below their NTRP level. A player may play only one NTRP level above the player's current NTRP rating (example: 3.5 may play up on a 4.0 level, but not a 4.5 level).

c. North Carolina League Tennis Regulations state "Any player on two or more teams advancing to a North Carolina State Championships may play unless those teams are in the same NTRP level (ex. Two 18 & Over 3.5./3.0/2.5 teams from different local leagues). *There will be NO special consideration in scheduling. *There is the possibility of several matches in 1 day. *The player is considered a different player for each team or teams which requires separate championship fees for each team."

(3) Tri-Level League PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Championship Play: As provided in the USTA North Carolina League Tennis Regulations, players are eligible to advance to the State Championship competition if that player has played on the same team in at least one match. One default received by the player during local league or championship competition shall count for advancing if the player was present to accept the forfeit and will not count for the forfeiting player. Retired matches shall count toward advancing for all players involved.

Teams Advancing Directly - if they are the only local team, teams are exempt and players are not required to play any qualifying matches to advance directly to state championships.

(4) Tri-Level League Specific Regulations

a. Defaults

Defaults are not required from the bottom up as per general league regulations. Tri-Level teams play the highest level available at court 1, the next level at court 2, and the lowest level at court 3. (Example - line 1 players and line 3 players are available, but no line 2, then line 2 is defaulted).

SINGLES LEAGUE REGULATIONS

All applicable regulations in pages 1 thru 12 apply to the Singles League.

(1) Singles League REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Team Creation: All teams must be registered and have at least 3 players on TennisLink by June 15, 2022. Maximum of 9 players allowed on team rosters.

Singles teams may advance directly to the State Championship, if they are the only team in their flight, and the team must be added to TennisLink no later than September 11, 2022. Teams that advance directly to a state championship must maintain their roster on TennisLink with majority of players from within the league area represented

Players: Team members may be added to the team rosters until August 15, 2022.

(2) Singles League NTRP INFORMATION AND LEVELS

NTRP Levels Offered:

- 18 & over - Men - 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0
- 18 & over - Women - 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0
- 40 & over - Men - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5
- 40 & over - Women - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5
- 55 & over - Women - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0
- 55 & over - Men - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0

a. A player may play in more than one NTRP level within a division in the same local league during the same season. However, no scheduling provisions will be made for these players.

b. A player may not play on a team that is below their NTRP level. A player may play only one NTRP level above the player's current NTRP rating (example: 3.5 may play up on a 4.0 level, but not a 4.5 level).

c. North Carolina League Tennis Regulations state "Any player on two or more teams advancing to a North Carolina State Championships may play unless those teams are in the same NTRP level (ex. Two 18 & over 3.5 teams from different local leagues). *There will be NO special consideration in scheduling. *There is the possibility of several matches in 1 day. *The player is considered a different player for each team or teams which requires separate championship fees for each team."

(3) Singles League PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Championship Play: Players must play in a minimum number of matches as follows to be eligible to advance to the State Championships (excepting players on teams advancing directly to the State Championships, as provided for in Rule II, E, of the 2020 USTA North Carolina League Tennis Regulations):

18 & over, 40 & over - minimum matches - 1 (one) if local league play. One (1) default may count as part of the required matches if the player was present to accept the forfeit and will not count for the forfeiting player.

SOUTHERN COMBO DOUBLES LEAGUE REGULATIONS

All applicable regulations in pages 1 thru 12 apply to the Southern Combo Doubles League

(1) Combo Doubles League REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Team Creation: All teams must be registered and have at least 6 players on TennisLink by July 30, 2022. Maximum of 15 players allowed on team rosters.

Note: Teams permitted to advance to the State Championship if they are the only local team are as follows: 18 & over 5.5, 9.5 and 10.5 teams; 40 & over 5.5 and 9.5 teams; and all 55 & over and 65 & over team. Teams that may advance directly to a State Championship must be registered on TennisLink with an

initial roster by September 15, 2022, and a completed roster by the following dates: Combo Doubles Week (1) – levels 5.0, 6.5, 8.5 – October 13, 2022; Combo Doubles Week (2) – levels 5.5, 7.5, 9.5 – October 24, 2022. Teams qualifying for this direct advancement are required to notify the Local League Coordinator if they qualify for this advancement. Teams that advance directly to a state championship must maintain their roster on TennisLink with majority of players from within the league area represented.

Players: Team members may be added to the team rosters until September 30, 2022.

(2) Combo Doubles League NTRP INFORMATION AND LEVELS

NTRP COMBO Levels Offered in Western NC:

- 18 & over – 5.0, 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5
- 40 & over – 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5
- 55 & over - 6.5, 7.5, 8.5
- 65 & over – 6.5, 7.5, 8.5

a. A player may play in more than one NTRP level within a division in the same local league during the same season. However, no scheduling provisions will be made for these players.

b. The combined levels of each doubles pair in Combo Doubles **CANNOT** exceed the team level. **The 1.0 NTRP point difference does not apply in Combo doubles.** The highest rating a player may have to play on a Combo combined level is as follows:

Combo Combined Level	Highest Rating a Player May Have
5.0	2.5
5.5	3.0
6.5	3.5
7.5	4.0
8.5	5.0
9.5	5.5

c. North Carolina League Tennis Regulations state “Any player on two or more teams advancing to a North Carolina State Championships may play unless those teams are in the same NTRP level (ex. Two 18 & Over 6.5 teams from different local leagues). *There will be NO special consideration in scheduling. *There is the possibility of several matches in 1 day. *The player is considered a different player for each team or teams which requires separate championship fees for each team.”

(3) Combo Doubles League PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Championship Play: Players must play in a minimum number of matches as follows to be eligible to advance to the State Championships (excepting players on teams advancing directly to the State Championships, as provided by 2022 USTA North Carolina League Tennis Regulations.

All age flights - minimum required match play - one (1). One (1) default may count as part of the required matches if the player was present to accept the forfeit and will not count for the forfeiting player

Match Format of Play: Team matches for all age divisions consist of 3 doubles.