



## 2017 Knoxville Local Rules and Regulations for Adult 18 & Over and Adult 40 & Over USTA Leagues

NTRP Levels for 18 & Over League  
Format: 2.5, 5.0+ - 1 Singles 2 Doubles  
3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 and 5.0+ - 2 Singles 3 Doubles

NTRP Levels for 40 & Over League  
Format: 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5+ -  
2 Singles 3 Doubles

The USTA League Tennis National, Southern and Tennessee regulations have full force and applicability for Knoxville's USTA Leagues. The local rules handle only limited amounts of additional information that applies only to Knoxville. If any regulation is not mentioned in the local rules, players will default to the State, Southern or National rule that pertains to the question at hand.

**Player Agreement:** All players participating in the USTA League, as a condition of said participation, agree to abide, and be bound by the USTA Constitution and Bylaws, the Friend at Court and The USTA handbook, The Code. Registered player agrees to use these rules and to use the standards of good conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship.

**Waiver of Claims:** Players participating in the USTA League acknowledge the risks associated with playing competitive tennis, accept those risks voluntarily, and in consideration of their acceptance in the USTA League Program, assume all risks for bodily injury or loss caused by negligence or otherwise to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**Captains:** Each team shall appoint a captain/co-captains to handle and be responsible for administrative affairs. The captain will attend all captains meetings and is key person to communicate with coordinator and opposing captains. The captain/co-captains are the only persons permitted to enter scores or handle grievance paperwork, if necessary.

**Team Name:** Captains will register the team in TennisLink with this format:  
TN/Knoxville/Smith

**Deadline to register a legal team:  
February 10th**

**Last day to register a player: April 23rd**

**Memberships:** All individuals who compete in the USTA League must be a current member of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) and Greater Knoxville Tennis Association (GKTA).

**Fees:** USTA Annual Membership \$44.00 which must be paid on TennisLink as part of league registration.

**GKTA annual membership: Fee is \$16.00 and can now be paid on [gkta.usta.com](http://gkta.usta.com) Click GKTA membership on left column and fill out necessary paperwork. A player is determined to be ineligible for play until all fees are paid.**

Local League fee \$24.00

Tennis Link Fee \$3.00

**Roster Limits:** All 18/40 divisions 16 players except 2.5/5.0+ which have a limit of 10 players.

**Age Requirement:** Each player shall have reached the minimum age prior to or during the calendar year in which that player participates.

**Registration:** Each player must be listed on TennisLink roster before participating in a league match or be in default. (Scores may be reversed to 6-0/6-0) Said player is also subject to default if they have not paid all required memberships.

**TN State Residency Rule:** All teams must have 50% in-state residency.

**Two Team Level of Play:** Each team must maintain its roster with at least 40% of its players at the designated NTRP level of play.

Players will use his/her most current NTRP computer rating. He/she may register on a team at that NTRP level, but also may play "up" one level above their current NTRP rating, but only one level.

**Self-Rating:** Players without a valid computer rating will self-rate in accordance with the General & Experienced Guidelines, and complete the self-rate process on TennisLink.

NTRP ratings are good for 3 years, so players with expired ratings, older than 3 years, must self-rate. This player will not be allowed to self-rate at a lower level than their last valid NTRP rating. However, they will have the chance to file a self-rate appeal of the rating assigned during the registration process.

**\*\*Exception** would be a player who has a valid (M) or (T) rating. He/she will be required to self-rate even if their rating is newer than 3 years. Also, players who are 60 years old or older must self-rate if their NTRP rating is older than 2 years. \* Players who are 65 or older and leveled up at year-end may appeal and be automatically approved.

Who **cannot** be NTRP dynamically disqualified:

(B) Benchmarks can no longer be seen in TennisLink. However, each player that advances to State Championships or beyond may not appeal their rating for 1 year.

(C) Computer rated players

(M) Mixed Exclusive Players

(T) Tournament Players

Who **can** be NTRP dynamically disqualified:

**\*\*Year end** (M) or (T) rated players are required to self-rate to enter the Adult League, and when they self-rate they automatically become (S). Therefore he/she become subject to NTRP dynamic DQ.

A-All granted appeals including Medical

S-Self-rated

D-Dynamic or NTRP Grievance Disqualified

E-Dynamic rated players for Early Start Leagues

If a self-rated or appealed player has been promoted, they must cease play immediately from that NTRP level and graduate to the next NTRP level of play. All prior matches played shall stand in good faith.

**Advancement:** Two matches are required to advance to State or Southern Championships. One default can count. Advancing to National Championship requires 3 matches with **one** default counting toward eligibility.

\*Players shall have played at least one match prior to local league flight play-offs.

\*Retired matches count for all players

\*Adult 65 & Over only require one match

\*Three matches are required to have an updated "year-end rating"

### ***Local Match Play:***

Player Participation: A player may play on only one team per NTRP level, even if that level is divided into two flights. Each player may play on two different NTRP levels per Age Division that he/she qualifies in.

Players should be on a team roster in TennisLink, and have all fees paid before they participate in their first match.

Schedules are in round robin format. Sections have given local leagues the option to allow additional matches within a flight, additional randomly selected matches across flights, and additional play-off round robins within a flight. Each team "might" not play each other team the same amount of times in the round robin.

It is sometimes necessary to divide a level. The Championship Committee reserves the right to decide how the flights are divided. If a division is divided, a playoff may be played to determine a winner.

#### **NTRP +(Plus)Levels of Play:**

Adult 40's Age Group 4.5+: Each team may include up to three 5.0 players on the roster. Each match can have up to two 5.0 players, but only in the #1 position, either singles or doubles.

Adult 18's Age Group 5.0+: Each team may include up to two 5.5 players. Each match line-up can use one 5.5 level player in the #1 position, either singles or doubles.

The NTRP difference between members of any individual doubles team may not exceed 1.0.

***Schedules will be posted on February 20<sup>th</sup>***

***Team Line-Ups:*** The team captains shall exchange team line-ups simultaneously prior to scheduled match time. No substitutions may be made to original line up, except in the

event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (once lineup has been exchanged). If a player is available, a substitution may be made in that 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 only will be defaulted in local leagues. Substituted player receives a 5-minute warm-up.

One of the captains' duties is to make sure courts get out on time. Courts go on in order, #1 Singles, #2 Singles, #1 Doubles, #2 Doubles, #3 Doubles.

No coaching allowed at any time after match play has begun.

"Retirement" is entered if play has begun and one of the players is injured. Enter all games played up to injury, then click "retirement".

Score to be entered into TennisLink by "winning" captain within **48 hours** of completed match. Opposing captain should go into TennisLink and "confirm" those scores within 48 hours as well. If no score has been entered after 48 hours, "opposing" captain should enter scores. \*\*Once you go out of screen the program won't let a captain alter a score. If an error has been made, contact the coordinator, and give match ID# and changes that need to be made.

Matches consist of best two out of three sets, and the 10 point Coman Tie-break is used in lieu of third set if match is tied at one set each.

The team with the most wins will be declared the winner of that level, and levels that were divided will require a local play off to determine the winner. First place teams will receive an award and receive an invitation to the TN State Championships. Divisions with 12 or more teams will offer two teams an invitation to the TN State Championships.

**Re-schedule Policy:** Do not re-schedule. Play matches as they are scheduled. Captains...Do not ask opponents to re-schedule. Opponents...Do not agree to reschedule.

**\*\*Teams that have conflict because of advancement to State/Sectional/National USTA events will notify coordinator of conflict and a new play date will be issued.**

**Forfeits:**

If a captain does not notify opposing captain of a forfeit before line-ups are exchanged, the opposing captain has the opportunity to re-submit their line-up. Forfeits are taken on #2 Singles/#3 Doubles.

If a captain knows ahead of time he/she will forfeit an entire team match, he/she must notify Local League Coordinator and the opposing team captain. If a team forfeits an entire team match, and that forfeit effects the outcome of the local league, then all matches played by the forfeiting team will be removed from the standings. If the forfeiting team has no effect on the outcome of the local league, matches played by that team will remain in the standings.

**\*Rain or Cold Weather Procedure:** If it is raining or temperature is below 40 degrees.

1. Both captains agree to find indoor courts and split court fees.
2. Use open date including night time and reschedule match within a two-week period.

Once the make-up date is agreed upon, that then becomes the new "official" match date/time and cannot be altered. *If play had not begun line ups may be altered.*

***\*\*Prior approval from Committee is required to make up match after two-week grace period. If matches have not been played within this period, a committee member will assign a date for match to be played. Teams are***

***required to send players at that time/location or forfeits may be issued.***

**How winner of each level is determined:**

Individual Matches - Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.

Head-to-Head – Winner of head to head match

Sets – Loser of the Fewest Number of Sets

Games – Loser of the fewest number of games

Winner take all- Additional match scheduled and played to break tie.

Knoxville may have local playoffs for any Divisions that were "split or divided".

**Play Off Dates Women 18/40 & Over: TBD**

**Area Leagues:** The 2.5 Men and 5.0 M/W levels will play their local league at State Championship. Teams must have a legal roster by May 9<sup>th</sup>, but may add players up to two weeks before championships.

**\*\*Championship Committee reserves the right to amend local rules when necessary to improve local play.**

Adult 18 & Over and Adult 40 & Over  
Local League Coordinator: Cheryl Thompson  
Cell: 865.607.4070  
Email [chula138@comcast.net](mailto:chula138@comcast.net)

2017 Championship Committee  
Chair: Jeremy Tanarungsekul  
Members: Jennifer Miracle, Terryann Nelson, Zach Jumper

2017 Grievance Committee:  
Chair: Jennifer Miracle  
Members: Sherrie Norris, Jason Brown, Randall Dabbs

2017 Grievance Appeals Committee:  
Chair: Isabelle Snyder  
Members: Kyle Blackburn, Tiffany Saunders,