



2020 USTA Tennessee State League Regulations

KNOXVILLE

Local League Coordinator:

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☐ Adult 18 & Over ☐ Adult 40 & Over ☐ Adult 55 & Over ☐ Adult 65 & Over ☐ Mixed Leagues ☒ Tri-Level ☐ Combo

Regulations written in BLUE text are specific to the CITY leagues and may not apply in other local areas.

I. Dates

<u>League</u>	<u>Local Registration Opens</u>	<u>Local Team Registration Close (Deadline for legal team roster minimum)</u>	<u>Local Last Day to Add Individual</u>	<u>Local Schedule Released</u>	<u>Local Playoff Dates</u>	<u>State League Play Deadline</u>	<u>State Championship</u>
MEN Tri Level	January 1, 2020	January 8, 2020	February 16, 2020	January 9, 2020	NA	August 14, 2020	Knoxville TN September 11-13

II. League Regulations

- Where not otherwise stated, USTA League National, Southern, and Tennessee Regulations have full force and applicability.
- Knoxville** defines itself as **Morgan, Scott, Campbell, Claiborne, Union, Grainger, Jefferson, Cocke, Blount, Monroe, Loudon, Knox, Roane, Anderson, and Sevier counties.**
- Teams competing in the **Knoxville** Local Leagues must play in facilities that reside within the defined area.
- All participants must be current members of the USTA. Players must be 18 years of age prior to participating in the USTA League program. Each player over the age of 18 shall have reached the required minimum age prior to or during the calendar year in which such player participates in his or her first local league. Each player must pay a **\$30** league fee for each team that he/she is joining and shall be paid at the time of registration. There will also be a \$3 fee paid to TennisLink at the time of registration. Total fee on TennisLink will be **\$33** per registrant per team.



e. USTA **Adult** Leagues in **Knoxville** offered in the following divisions:

<u>Division</u>	<u>League Type</u>	<u>NTRP Levels</u>	<u>League Format</u>	<u>Minimum Number of Players Required For Legal Team</u>	<u>Maximum number of players allowed on team roster</u>
Adult	18 & Over	2.5 women, 5.0+	1 Singles 2 Doubles	5	12
	18 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	2 Singles 3 Doubles	8	18
	40 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+	1 Singles 3 Doubles	7	16
	55 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0 combined	3 Doubles	6	14
	65 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0 combined	3 Doubles	6	14
Men Tri Level	18 & Over	2.5/3.0/3.5 3.0/3.5/4.0 3.5/4.0/4.5 4.0/4.5/5.0	3 Doubles	6	18
Men Tri Level	40 & Over	3.0/3.5/4.0 3.5/4.0/4.5 4.0/4.5/5.0	3 Doubles	6	18

- i. **Men Tri Level** – Team matches will consist of three (3) doubles matches, played in order of NTRP Rating based on the division. For example, for the 3.5/3.0/2.5 division, the maximum NTRP rating for #1 Doubles is 3.5, for #2 Doubles is 3.0, and for #3 Doubles is 2.5. A player may play at their current NTRP level and/or up to one level above the current NTRP level.
- f. Divisions may be divided into two or more flights with a playoff at the end of local play to determine the **Knoxville** champion.
 - i. **No Local playoff is anticipated for men tri level.**
- g. Teams that advance to the USTA Southern Sectional Invitational will be reimbursed 50% of the section registration fee for all players registered if all players on the team are GKTA members by March 1st. Be sure to contact your local league coordinator if your team advances to the sectional invitational.
- h. Balls will be provided if all player on the roster are GKTA members before start of play on Jan 8, 2020



III. Team Regulations

- a. Each team shall appoint a captain to manage team activities and to represent the team in USTA League matters. The Captain is the person who is to communicate with the LLC and serves as the liaison between the players and the LLC, and therefore captains must have a valid email address and phone number listed in TennisLink.
- b. Captains **MUST** use the following format to name teams: TN/City/Captain's Last Name. For example: (TN/Nashville/Ontog).
- c. USTA Tennessee will have no residency requirements for teams that are in leagues with local play.
 - i. For teams that advance directly to the State Championship or play their local league at the State Championships, USTA Tennessee requires that at least 2 players of the team be residents of the local area from which that team is advancing.
- d. USTA Tennessee limits the number of players that may appear on a team roster. Please see the table in Local Regulation II.d for the maximum number of players on a roster in each league. (*Tri Level roster limit is 18*)

IV. Individual Regulations

- a. Each player will use his/her most current NTRP Computer Rating on file in TennisLink. Players who do not have a computer rating on file in TennisLink shall self-rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program. Self-ratings are valid for two years from the date issued or until replaced by a dynamic or computer rating. NTRP computer generated ratings are good for 3 years for those players 59 years old or under, and 2 years for those 60 years of age or older.
- b. Self-rated players who enter the USTA League Tennis Program by misrepresenting their actual skill level are considered to have violated the standards of good conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship and may be subject to a grievance complaint and possible disqualification. A Captain, Local League Coordinator, or member of the State League Committee can file a NTRP grievance. A player with a valid NTRP Computer (C) rating, or granted an Automatic Appeal (A) rating of a Computer (C) rating is not subject to an NTRP Grievance. Any other player is subject to an NTRP Grievance.
- c. A player may play at their current NTRP level and/or up to one level above the current NTRP level.
- d. Players may play on different age levels and NTRP levels as long as they are eligible. Team captains are responsible for making sure that all team members meet eligibility criteria. Players not meeting the above eligibility criteria will be ineligible and any matches they have played will be forfeited. A player who participates in the USTA League in violation of any eligibility provision shall be subject to an Eligibility Grievance.

V. League Play

- a. Lineups are to be exchanged at the scheduled match time, or before, if captains agree and are ready to play. A player may participate in only one individual match within each team match.



- b. 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 on the lineup. The substitute player is entitled to a five minute warm-up. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted in local leagues.
- c. There is no coaching in any form allowed in USTA Adult League matches. Cell phones must be turned off or silenced during play.
- d. USTA Tennessee Adult league matches in Knoxville shall be:
 - i. **2 out of 3 sets with 10 points match tie break at one set all.**
- e. In the event of a tie at the end of the season, in a team match or in league standings, the tie will be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so
 - i. Individual Matches. Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.
 - ii. Head-to-head. Winner of head-to-head match.
 - iii. Sets. Loser of the fewest number of sets.
 - iv. Games. Loser of the fewest number of games
 - v. **Match played between the teams that are tied to determine the champion**
- f. Captains are responsible for entering and/or confirming match scores on Tennis Link. Captains need to verify and confirm the recorded match scores. All recorded scores will be final 48 hours from match time. If a mistake is made when entering scores and you have clicked out of scorecard on TennisLink, you will have to email the LLC with the match number and correction. **Only the LLC can make a change to the scorecard.** Any disputes must be made on TennisLink and the LLC must be notified by email before the 48 hours is up.
 - i. If scores are not entered into Tennislink within 48 hours, both captains may be subject to a local grievance and sanctions imposed by the Local Grievance Committee.
- g. If a team plays a local match without a full lineup, forfeits must be taken according to the following:
 - For leagues playing the 1 Singles/2 Doubles format (or 1 Singles/3 Doubles), forfeits must occur at either #1 singles or #2 doubles (or #3 doubles if applicable).
 - For leagues playing the 2 Singles/3 Doubles formats, forfeits occur beginning with No. 3 doubles and/or No. 2 singles.
 - For leagues playing the 3 Doubles format, forfeits must occur at #3 Doubles.
- h. If a team shows up without the minimum # 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 National regulation 2.01C(5) on team default procedures.
- i. If a match is begun and a player has to retire due to injury or illness, the match score to the point of default will be recorded on the scorecard (i.e.; 6-2, 2-1, 15-15, retired).
- j. If a match must be forfeited, the name(s) of the forfeiting player(s) are not written on the scorecard, only the names of the player(s) receiving the default. The written score shall be 6-0, 6-0; as if the match had been played.

- k. If a captain knows ahead of time he/she will forfeit an entire team match, he/she must notify the Local League Coordinator and the opposing team captain. If a team forfeits an entire team match and that forfeit affects 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 stand and that team may be eligible to advance.
- l. If play is interrupted by weather, darkness or other factors beyond the control of players, completed individual matches will stand as played. In the event that rain or inclement weather forces the cancellation and/or re-scheduling of a local league team match, the line-up would stand only for those positions that had already started (first service attempt) their match. All other positions, even those that were in warm-up may be changed including defaulted courts.
 - i. All matches are scheduled indoors and should be played as scheduled. In the event a match is rescheduled for unforeseen circumstances and both captains agree to play on another day, the court fees will be at the expense of the players.
- m. For each team match, a majority of individual matches must actually be played to constitute a valid team match. In a situation where the majority of individual matches would be not played (not a “valid” team match) 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:

<u>Format</u>	<u>Required Matches in Sequential</u>	<u>Minimum Number of Players Required For Each Team In A Valid Team Match</u>
2 Singles/3 Doubles	#1 and #2 singles, and #1 doubles (priority); #2 doubles if enough players present	4
1 Singles/2 Doubles	#1 singles and #1 doubles	3
1 Singles/4 Doubles	#1 singles, #1 doubles, and #2 doubles	5
3 Doubles	#1 and #2 doubles	4

- n. If both teams have enough players to play the match and it's discovered after-the-fact that a majority of the matches were not played to constitute a valid team match, both captains need to come to an agreement of what lines will be played to make the team match valid. If



captains cannot come to an agreement then the individual match(es) to be played will be assigned in sequential order in the above-mentioned table. If a captain does not comply with this regulation, then it may be considered a full team default in favor of the opponents. If a team shows up without the minimum # 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 national regulation 2.01C(5) on team default procedures.

VI. Championships

- a. If there is local play, players must play in at least one (1) match to be eligible to compete at the USTA Tennessee League Tri-Level State Championship. A default may count as one match.
- b. The number of advancing from **Knoxville** is determined by the chart below:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Number of Local Teams At A Specific NTRP Level</u>	<u>Number of Local Teams Advancing to State League Championship</u>
Men Tri Level	1-9	1
	10-19	2
	20+	3

VII. Grievances

- a. Self-rated players who enter the USTA League Tennis Program by misrepresenting their actual skill level are considered to have violated the standards of good conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship and may be subject to a grievance complaint and possible disqualification. A Captain, Local League Coordinator, State League Coordinator or member of the State League Committee can file a NTRP grievance. A player with a valid NTRP Computer (C) rating, or granted an Automatic Appeal (A) rating of a Computer (C) rating is not subject to an NTRP Grievance. Any other player is subject to an NTRP Grievance.
- b. Grievances are filed with the Local League Coordinator. Please submit via email, including a \$25.00 fee. Should the Grievance Committee find in favor of the person filing the grievance, the \$25.00 will be refunded. The LLC will give the grievance to the Local Grievance Committee. Forms for grievances may be obtained from the Local League Coordinator.

VIII. Local Committees

- a. **Rules & Regulations Committee: Deidra Dunn, Mark Haub, Deanne Young**
- b. **Grievance Committee: Jeremy Tanarungsekul, Jennifer Lea, Zac jumper**
- c. **Grievance Appeals Committee: Sandra Long, Sherryl Norris, Noah Rosser**

IX. Other Resources

- a. USTA, USTA Southern, and USTA Tennessee Regulations - http://www.ustatn.com/adults_league/league/?intloc=headernavsub
- b. USTA Tennessee Championship Procedures - http://www.ustatn.com/adults_league/league/?intloc=headernavsub
- c. USTA Tennessee Website - www.ustatn.com
- d. USTA Southern Website - www.sta.usta.com