

USTA LEAGUE TENNIS
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE TENNIS ASSOCIATION
ADULT LOCAL LEAGUE REGULATIONS 2017
(Spring Adult, Mixed, Tri-Level, and Combo)

The USTA League Tennis National, Southern and Tennessee regulations have full force and applicability for META's USTA Leagues. The local rules handle only limited amounts of additional information that applies only to META. 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.

MEMBERSHIPS: All participants who compete in the USTA League must be current members of the USTA. The registration fee for USTA is \$44.00 annually. To join or renew your USTA membership go to

<http://tennislink.usta.com/leagues> or <http://membership.usta.com/section/Individual-Family-Memberships/101.uts>

The fee to register a team is \$25.00. An additional fee of \$3.00 will be assessed by TennisLink at the time of registration for a total cost of \$28.00. Captain will be reimbursed \$28 for each team they captain. Captains will register the team in TennisLink with this format: TN/META/Smith or TN/META/Smith18+4.0 if captaining multiple teams.

COMPUTER RATINGS/SELF RATINGS: Each player will use his/her most current Computer Rating. Players who do not have a computer rating in TennisLink shall self-rate in accordance with National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines and complete the self-rating process on TennisLink when registering for a team. Failure to do so or omission of information regarding a players' tennis history will subject the player, the captain and/or others who condoned inaccurate self-rating to sanctions and disqualification.

LEAGUE SEASONS AND REGISTRATION DEADLINES:

Spring Adult 18+ and 40+: Registration opens January 8th. Season begins March 18th and ends May 14th. Deadline to register a legal roster is March 8th. Players may be added to the roster until May 7th. Match schedules will be posted by March 12th.

Spring Adult 55+: Registration opens January 8th. Season begins March 18th and ends April 30th. Deadline to register a legal roster is March 8st. Players may be added to the roster until April 16th. Match schedules will be posted by March 12th.

Spring Adult 65+: Registration opens January 8th. Season begins June 24th and ends July 30th. Deadline to register a legal roster is June 17st. Players may be added to the roster until July 16th. Match schedules will be posted by June 22nd.

Mixed Doubles: Registration opens March 31st. Season begins May 21th and ends July 16rd. Deadline to register a legal roster is May 14st. Players may be added to the roster until July 9th. Match schedules will be posted by May 19th.

TriLevel: Registration opens March 31st. Season begins July 8th and ends August 13th. Deadline to register a legal roster is July 1st. Players may be added to the roster until August 8th. Match schedules will be posted by July 6th.

Combo: Registration opens June 5th. Season begins August 5th and ends September 24th. Deadline to register a legal roster is July 29th. Players may be added to the roster until September 10th. Match schedules will be posted by August 3rd.

The match schedules will be posted to TennisLink. A legal roster consists of 8 players for league type 18 and over and 40 and over and 6 players for league type 55 and over and 65 and over.

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

CAPTAINS DUTIES:

Captains are responsible for all matches and their players, team administrative matters, and representation of their team in league matters.

Keep players informed of match times and any changes that may occur.

Player's name must be listed on team roster as shown in TennisLink prior to participating in any match.

MATCH PLAY: If the local league coordinator is not present, captains will run their league match. Captains are to exchange lineups at match time or before if both captains agree and are ready to play. The home team will provide balls for league matches. Players will report 15 minutes prior to the match.

MATCH LINE UP: If a player is not present when the lineup is to be exchanged, that player or players must be placed in a defaulting position (i.e. #2 singles or #3 doubles). 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. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position will be forfeited. If a player is substituted that player will have a 5 minute warm up. Matches will be placed on the court in order of match play: #1 singles first, #2 singles second, #1 doubles third, #2 doubles fourth, #3 doubles fifth.

MATCHES: All matches will be the best of two sets and a Set Tiebreak (first one to 7 by 2 points) shall be used at 6-All in each of the first two sets. In lieu of a third set. A Match Tiebreak (first one to 10 by 2 points) shall be played. The Coman Tiebreak procedure will be used for all Set Tiebreaks and Match Tiebreaks. There will be a two-minute set break at the end of each set with no coaching. The tiebreaker shall be scored as 1 set and 1 game for tiebreak procedures in the event of a tie. Scoring in the event of a default, forfeit or NTRP dynamic disqualification shall be 6-0, 6-0.

NUMBER OF MATCHES:

1. NTRP levels with 2 teams will play a minimum of 3 matches
2. NTRP levels with 3 teams will play triple round robin
3. NTRP levels with 4, 5, or 6 teams will play a double round robin
4. NTRP levels with 7 or more teams will play a single round robin
5. NTRP levels with 10 or more teams will be divided into two flights. The winner of each flight will enter into a playoff to determine the local league winner

REPORTING SCORES: Captains are responsible for keeping match scores. The team winning the match is responsible for reporting the teams match score into TennisLink within 48 hours of the completion of the match. If not reported, the local league coordinator will contact the captains to remind them to enter the scores. If the scores continue to go unreported, the local league coordinator may forfeit the entire match in TennisLink.

FORFEITS: A team must have 4 players available for all matches or it becomes a team default. If you only have 4 players for a match (18 and over and 40 and over), you must play #1 singles, #2 singles, and #1 doubles positions. If you only have 4 players for a 55 and over match, you must play #1 doubles and #2 doubles. If a captain knows ahead of time he/she will forfeit an entire team match or any individual court(s), they must notify the opposing team captain and the local league coordinator. Once a captain has forfeited his/her entire team match or any individual court(s), and has contacted the local league coordinator and the opposing team captain, it becomes final. 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. However, the matches stand as played if all teams in contention for the championship have already played the forfeiting in good faith.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: If it is raining or the temperature is below 45 degrees, captains may agree to reschedule their match. The league coordinator should be contacted if a match is postponed. The makeup match must be completed within 10 days of the original match date and no later than one week after league play has ended. In the event that inclement weather forces the cancellation and rescheduling of a team match, substitutions may be made in any individual matches which had not begun. Points awarded for forfeits during the original written lineup exchanged will stand. All players involved in such forfeits cannot participate in the rescheduled match. Forfeits offered verbally prior to the original written lineup exchange are nullified when the match is rescheduled due to weather.

PLAYER LIMIT: The limit of players on a team will be 16 players for league type 18 and over and 40 and over, 12 for league type 55 and over and 65 and over, 10 for 2.5 and 5.0. Teams must be able to qualify all players on the team roster (at least two matches with only one default counting).

PLAYERS PLAYING ABOVE NTRP RATING: Players may only play one NTRP level above their current NTRP rating. Team advancing to state must maintain a roster with 40 percent of players at designated NTRP level of play. Players who are 65 or older and leveled up at year-end may appeal and be automatically approved.

OTHER NTRP RULES:

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

Adult 40+ Age group 4.5+ may include up to three 5.0 players on the team roster with the restriction of only two 5.0 players in each match per team.

Adult 18+ Age group 5.0+ may include up to two 5.5 players on the team roster with the restriction of only one 5.5 player in the #1 position in singles or doubles per match

The following NTRP levels will play their local league at the TN State League Championship: Adult 18&over 2.5 men, 5.0+ men, 5.0+ women, 5.5 men, and 5.5 women. These levels must meet the TN State League deadline of May 9, 2017, for team registration. Teams may add players up to 2 weeks before championship (May 26, 2017).

TWO TEAM RULE: Players will be allowed to play on two teams of different NTRP levels within a league type in META local league and must qualify separately for each team he/she plays on to advance with that team. In the event that both teams win the local league, players can advance to the TN State Championships on both teams; however, players must qualify separately for each team he/she plays on to advance with that team.

PLAYERS WHO PLAY ON TWO TEAMS: Players who play on two different Adult level teams may advance to the Tennessee State League Championship on both teams, but must qualify separately for each team he/she plays on to advance with that team. Adult players must play in two matches to qualify for advancement with only one default counting. A retired match counts for all players.

ONLY ONE TEAM: If there is only one team registered at the local league deadline of, that deadline will be extended two weeks in order to find another team to play in order to meet the minimum of two teams.

RESIDENCY RULE: At least 50% of each roster must live in the state of Tennessee

TN STATE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS: For a player to qualify for league championships, they must play in 2 matches with only one coming from a forfeited match. For 65 and up and all combo leagues they only have to play one match to qualify; If the winning team at any level of local league competition is unable to advance to the State Championship, the local league coordinator may select the second place team to participate. All players advancing to the 2016 Tennessee State League Championships will be charged \$30 per person. Players must be registered in TennisLink and registered for the State Championship via Reg Online in order to participate. There will be NO REFUNDS. Each advancing team must send a \$250 deposit check (payable to USTA Tennessee) to the state league coordinator immediately following the end of the local season. Deposit checks will be returned at the end of the Championship matches. Any team defaulting a court at the Tennessee State League Championship without approval from the Championship Committee will be fined fifty dollars (\$50) per court.

ADULT STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

League	Registration Deadline	Date and Place
Adult 55 & over	5/5	May 19-May 21 KNOXVILLE
Adult 18 & over ODD/40 & over EVEN	5/26	June 9-June 11 KNOXVILLE
Adult 18 & over EVEN/40 & over ODD	5/26	June 23-June 25 MURFREESBORO
Mixed Doubles	8/11	August 25-August 27 CHATTANOOGA
Adult 65 & over and Tri-Level	8/25	September 8-10 MEMPHIS
Combo Doubles 18 & over, 55 & over	10/6	October 21-23 KNOXVILLE
Combo Doubles 40 & over, 65 & over	10/6	November 4-6 MURFREESBORO

GRIEVANCES: Grievances will be submitted in writing to the local league coordinator

LOCAL LEAGUE COORDINATOR:

Alice Zhang

Email: xfielitz@hotmail.com

Cell: (423) 451-6812

META BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The Board of Directors will also serve as the Grievance Committee

President: Jan Goodsell

Vice President: Jim Flannagan

Secretary: David Poole

Treasurers: TBD