



USTA Atlanta Jr. Team Tennis Registration Information Winter 2014 Season Presented by DICK's Sporting Goods (January 2014 – March 2014)

Winter 2014 League Information and Dates

- Division Levels: Age groups offered by USTA Atlanta are 8U (36ft court play), 10U (60ft court play), 12U, 14U and 18U with Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced play levels available. 8U- Only beginner level offered. 12U- Beginner and Intermediate levels will be playing with the green dot ball.
- Team Match Format: Teams are co-ed with a minimum of 4 boys and 4 girls per team. 8U- 6 player minimum (boys or girls). Each team match consists of 1 line of boys singles, 1 line of girls singles, 1 line of boys doubles, 1 line of girls doubles, and 1 line of mixed doubles in a round robin format. 8U- Each team match consists of 4 lines of singles (boy v. boy, girl v. girl, or boy v. girl). **Age groups: 8U play best two-out-of-three games; each game is a 7 point tiebreak. The first to win two games wins the match. 10U play the best-of-three sets; the first to win four games wins a set. If one player wins the first two sets, he or she wins the match. If the players split the first two sets, the third set is a 7 point tiebreak. No-ad scoring for 10U. 12U – 14U play 8-game pro-sets, and 18U play best 2 out of 3 sets.**
- *******Teams registering to play in the 10U division acknowledge that they will be playing in the 60ft Quickstart Format.*****Please see ustaatlanta.com for additional information – 10U Tennis.**
- Registration Dates: Registration is open October 1st, with the deadline for team registration on **November 4th. TennisLink will not allow for late team registrations.** We will reopen for add-ons on **December 13th.** Players can then be added to teams through midnight the night before the last match of the local round robin season.
- League Registration Fee (per player): The league fee is \$24 per player. All registration is done online. To create a team, visit www.ustaatlanta.com and under "Juniors" on the left hand side of the screen, click "TennisLink". (Step by step TennisLink instructions are included in this packet.) TennisLink will show the \$20.00 local league fee and a \$4.00 TennisLink fee. **USTA Atlanta only receives the local fee portion. USTA Atlanta does not issue refunds.**
- Background Check: Captains **MUST** complete the mandatory background screening **PRIOR** to registering their team in TennisLink. You must complete this even if you have been a previous captain. This is a requirement through USTA National and the system will **NOT** allow you to create a team if you have not been approved through the background screening. Complete the screening here: <http://www.usta.com/safeplay>. **Remember that the mandatory background screening should have been submitted by October 21st in order to allow enough time for approval before the registration deadline. You must be approved before you can create a team in TennisLink and the screening approval can take up to 10 business days. If you are hoping to have a team play this winter and have not submitted your screening you should complete the screening ASAP. We cannot guarantee team entry if the screening is submitted after October 21st.**
- Schedule Availability: Schedules will be available on TennisLink by December 13th. After schedules are posted, captains will receive an introductory letter from his or her Program Coordinator.
- League Start Date: Play begins Saturday, January 11th at 1:00 pm. For most divisions, teams will be scheduled to have 6 or 7 team matches during the local round robin season.
- Playoffs and Local City Finals: Top teams in each flight will qualify for the playoff bracket in their respective division level. The first round of playoffs will be held March 1 with semis and finals on March 8-9.
- Georgia State Jr. Team Tennis Tournament: City Champions (and some select City Finalists) in all levels will be invited to attend the 2014 State Jr. Team Tennis Tournament (July 25-27).



- Contacts:
 - Karen Zuidema: Director of Junior Leagues: Karen@ustaatlanta.com; 770.416.4333.
 - Amanda Barnes: Junior League Program Coordinator: Amanda@ustaatlanta.com; 770.416.4333.

Team Requirements

- Forming a Team: For 10U, 12U, 14U, and 18U, teams need at least 8 eligible players registered by the deadline (4 boys and 4 girls). For 8U, teams need at least 6 eligible players (boys and/or girls). Teams need to register at the level of their highest-rated player. *For example, if your highest-rated player is Intermediate, then your team needs to register for the Intermediate division level.*
- Home Facility Requirements: Teams are required to provide two courts of the same surface at their location. All facilities must be located in Cobb, Dekalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, or Forsyth County. Captains at a new facility should contact USTA Atlanta (770-416-4333) to verify your facility is eligible for the USTA Jr. Team Tennis program. The following information is required: facility name, address, number of courts and directions from I-285. The team can not register until the facility is processed. Lights are **required** if a make-up match takes place during the evening. Home teams hosting 10U play must have courts prepared for 60ft play (tape, chalk, painter's tape and permanent lines are permissible). *If you would like to update your JTT court availability, please email Amanda (Amanda@ustaatlanta.com) with the facility and number of courts available for Jr. Team Tennis by October 28th. This will help when scheduling numerous teams at a facility.*
- Captain Information: Captains must have a current email address in order to receive league information throughout the season. As captain, you are responsible to get all USTA Atlanta information to players. Please ENSURE that your e-mail and phone number are correct on TennisLink.

Player Requirements

- New USTA Players and Ability Level: New players that do not know where they should be placed should view the rules for Jr. Team Tennis at www.ustaatlanta.com. (USTA Jr. team Tennis > Rules > 3). The USTA Jr. Team Tennis play levels are defined as Beginner (NTRP 2.0 & below), Intermediate (NTRP 2.5 & 3.0) and Advanced (NTRP 3.5 & above). Players cannot have a rating higher than the team tennis level at which they are playing. The USTA Jr. Team Tennis Program uses the JNTRP Guidelines as a tool for assessing player skills in order to level teams. Please see the rules to view the JNTRP Guidelines.
- **1.05 Official Rating Program: Players with more than 150 points in any age group on the posted Georgia standing list as of the end of July 2013 may not play Beginner level (NTRP 2.0 and below). Point totals shall include both singles and doubles divisions from which points were acquired. Points earned due to defaults will not be considered and may be deducted if noted in writing to the State League Coordinator at time of Championship registration.**
- Age Eligibility: USTA Jr. Team Tennis is designed for kids ages 5-18. Age requirements are based on possible team advancement to the Georgia State Championships, Southern Championships and National Championships. All players participating in the Winter 2014 season must remain age eligible through August 31st of the 2014 Championship Year (September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014).
- USTA Membership: All players must have a USTA membership that is current through August 31, 2014. To join or renew a membership, go to www.usta.com or call 1-800-990-USTA. Current members can change contact information by calling Membership Services (number above) or emailing at memberservices@usta.com. Junior membership for one year is \$20.
- Captains should check with all players before registering them for the team. **Once payment has been made no refunds will be issued.** We recommend that each parent be responsible for registering their child on a team.



- If you need additional players for your team, email Amanda (Amanda@ustaatlanta.com). We maintain a database of players looking for teams to join.

Other Important Information

- Teams that are formed outside of the USTA Atlanta boundaries (outside of Dekalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, and Forsyth) are welcome to participate in USTA Atlanta Jr. Team Tennis (if approved). However, teams outside USTA Atlanta boundaries will be required to travel to more (if not all) matches, and will be grouped with the teams in closest proximities as possible.
- USTA Atlanta will make every effort to group teams within the closest proximities possible. Just because your team is closer to one facility does not necessarily mean you will be grouped in that sub-flight.
- TennisLink allows captains to view the “work in progress” that USTA Atlanta has done when putting together schedules. In most cases, teams are shifted around in order to finalize other divisions. **PLEASE NO PHONE CALLS prior to schedules being posted.**



NEW Instructions for Registering a Team

All team requirements must be met prior to starting registration.

“CREATING A TEAM”

- **NEW:** As a captain, you **MUST** complete the background screening before you will have access to create a team in TennisLink. Visit <http://www.usta.com/safeplay>.
- In order to “Create a Team”, you will need to become a coach/manager in Tennislink.
- Go to www.ustaatlanta.com and on the left hand side under “Juniors” click on “TennisLink”. Then scroll to the bottom of the page and click on “Become a Coach/Manager”, if you are not already set up as one.
- If you have a USTA membership number, enter and click “Get”. If you do not have a USTA membership, enter your contact information.
- Create a password, and insert a password hint to remember if you ever forget your password.
- Complete all requested information. **This is how other captains will contact you.**
- Click “Submit”. You will be assigned a Team Tennis # if you do not have a USTA membership number. **Make a note of this # and password.** This is what you will use to log in to the system (Unless you have a USTA Membership #).
- **All Captains must create a new team number each season.** This step creates a team number *and* registers the team.
 - Log in to TennisLink as captain (<http://tennislink.usta.com/TEAMTENNIS/Secure/logon.aspx?Caller=Login>)
 - Click on “Register for a Team”, and then click “Click here to create a new team”
 - Select Type of Program (**Jr**)



- Select Section (**Southern**)
- Select District (**Georgia**)
- Select Area (**Atlanta - Juniors**)
- Click "Go"
- Select your correct age level (8U – 18U)
- **Make a note of your new team number.**
- Create team name (Facility name – Captain's last name)
- Select your Home Court Facility.
- Select Division and check affiliations
- Enter Co-captain Information, if applicable.
- **Click on "Save"! The system will not create the team unless you hit save.**

"REGISTERING A PLAYER"

- Go to Jr. Team Tennis TennisLink home page.
- Click on "Register to Play".
- Enter the Team # of the team you are registering your child for.
- Enter in your child's USTA membership #.
- Complete payment information.
- Check the information carefully. If you register your child incorrectly you will forfeit the TennisLink fee.
- Click "Submit".

"CHECKING YOUR TEAM ROSTER"

- Go to www.ustaatlanta.com and click on the "TennisLink" under "Juniors" on the left hand side of the page.
- Sign in as a Coach/Coordinator with your USTA # or Team Tennis #.
- Under "My Options", click on "Teams".
- Click on the notebook icon to the right of your team.
- Select "Player Roster."
- This is also where you will view match schedule, get scorecards, etc.