



USTA Atlanta Junior Team Tennis Registration Information Winter 2017 Season (January 2017 – March 2017)

Winter 2017 League Information

- Age Groups/Levels: 8U (36ft court), 10U (60ft court), 12U, 14U and 18U with Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced play levels available. 8U- Only beginner and intermediate levels offered. 12U- Beginner and Intermediate levels will be playing with the green dot ball.
- Determining Level of Team: The Junior National Tennis Rating Program (Junior NTRP) in TennisLink is the **NEW** official system for determining play levels for Junior Team Tennis programs for 12U, 14U and 18U Intermediate and Advanced divisions. 14U Advanced and 18U Advanced will have Gold and Silver flights. Beginner level eligibility will still be determined by tournament points. 10U level eligibility will still be determined by tournament points/standings. **It is very important that you view the [attached document](#) for specific level eligibility requirements.**
- Team Match Format: 10U/12U/14U/18U- Teams are coed with a minimum of 4 boys and 4 girls per team. 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- 6 player minimum (any combination of boys or girls). Each team match consists of 4 lines of singles (boy v. boy, girl v. girl, or boy v. girl). **Scoring formats: 8U plays 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 short sets; the first to win four games wins a set. If the players split the first two sets, the third set is a 7 point tiebreak. No-ad scoring for 10U. 12U – 14U play best 2 out of 3 short sets with a match tiebreaker for the third set, and 18U play best 2 out of 3 sets with a match tiebreaker for the third set.**
- Registration Dates: Registration is open September 26th, with the deadline for team registration on **October 27th. TennisLink will not allow for late team registrations.** We will reopen for add-ons and post schedules on December 9th. 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. 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. Screenings are good for two years so if you are a returning captain and need to check your expiration date, click here: http://www.usta.com/About-USTA/background_screening_program_results/. You will be completely locked out of TennisLink if you don't renew before your expiration date. Complete the screening here: <http://www.usta.com/safeplay>. **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 not submitted with enough time for clearance and team submission (by October 17th).**
- Schedule Availability: Schedules will be available on TennisLink by December 9th. After schedules are posted, captains will receive an introductory letter from his or her coordinator.
- League Start Date: Play begins Saturday, January 7th 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 February 25 with finals day on March 4. *Divisions with one flight will not advance to playoffs/finals.
- Georgia JTT State Championships: City Champions (and some select City Finalists) will be invited to attend the 2017 Junior Team Tennis State Championships in Macon in July 2017. Levels with local play only will not advance.
- Contacts: Amanda Hunt: Director of Junior Leagues: Amanda@ustatlanta.com; 770.416.4333.

Team Requirements

- Forming a Team: For 10U, 12U, 14U, and 18U, teams need at least 4 boys and 4 girls registered by the deadline. For 8U, teams need at least 6 eligible players (boys and/or girls). Teams need to meet the level and age requirements and should double check eligibility before determining the level of the team.
- 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 Junior Team Tennis program. The following information is required: facility name, address, number of courts. The team cannot 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@ustatlanta.com) with the facility and number of courts available for Junior Team Tennis by October 27th. 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

- Level Eligibility: Players registering for a 12U-18U INT or ADV team must use their junior rating (JNTRP). If a player does not have a rating, they will self-rate by following the prompts when registering for the team. Beginner level eligibility will still be determined by tournament points. 10U level eligibility will still be determined by tournament points/standings. **It is very important that you view the [attached document](#) for specific level eligibility requirements.**
- Age Eligibility: USTA Junior Team Tennis is designed for kids ages 5-18. All players participating in the Winter 2017 season must remain age eligible through August 31st of the 2017 Championship Year (September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017). *8U-eligibility rules are not the same because 8U teams do not advance past the local level. Players on 8U teams must remain 8 or younger through the winter season (through March 4).
- USTA Membership: All players must have a USTA membership that is current through the entire season of play. 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. *New 10 and under players can receive a free 1-year junior membership by using promo code FYF16CNS.
- 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 may 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.**



2017 Championship Year Level Eligibility Requirements

ALL Beginner Levels (10U-18U):

Players with more than 150 points in any age group on the posted Georgia standing list as of the end of July 2016 may not play at the beginner level. 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 Local League Coordinator at time of registration.

10U Intermediate and Advanced Levels:

The 10U division will not use ratings. Players with a 1-100 Southern Section standing in the 10's as of the end of July 2016 and who are playing in the 10's must play Advanced. If a 10U player has played up in the 12s and has a junior NTRP rating of 3.5 or above the player must play Advanced.

To search for a player's standing/points by USTA number go to:

http://www.georgia.usta.com/junior_team_tennis/ and you will see two links – one for Intermediate Level Eligibility (standings) and one for Beginner Level Eligibility (points). To search for tournament standings/points by player name you will need to go to:

<https://tennislink.usta.com/tournaments/rankings/rankinghome.aspx>. Select Southern, 2016, select appropriate division, select All List Types, click "Find It" and go to the last standing list in July.

12U-18U Intermediate and Advanced Levels:

The Junior National Tennis Rating Program (Junior NTRP) in TennisLink is the **NEW** official system for determining play levels for Junior Team Tennis programs for 12U, 14U and 18U Intermediate and Advanced divisions. **Players with a JNTRP rating of 3.5 and above must play Advanced.**

If you have played a minimum of four matches in the last 18 months in 12U-18U divisions of USTA-sanctioned and/or non-sanctioned junior tournaments and/or Junior Team Tennis leagues, then you more than likely have a dynamic rating. If you have not participated in any of these events in the last 18 months then you will need to self-rate.

[Click here](#) to find your rating! You must be logged into your USTA account in order to search for a junior rating level. If you don't have a rating, then you will need to self-rate.

- To get a rating, you will first need a USTA account. [Click here to create an account!](#)
- After you obtain a USTA account, you can then complete the self-rate process. In order to self-rate, you must be logged in to TennisLink. **The self-rate process is only available when you're registering**



for an event that requires a rating. You will go into TennisLink like you are registering for a team and follow the prompts to self-rate.

You can self-rate in one of these simple ways:

1. Select a rating on the self-rate form. On the self-rate form you will be asked to select your rating based on rating descriptions. You will have the opportunity to adjust the suggested rating level before saving it. [Click here](#) to review the Ratings Characteristics.
2. Complete a quick and easy questionnaire. After filling out the simple questionnaire you will receive a suggested rating level. You will have the opportunity to adjust the suggested rating level before saving it. [Click here](#) to preview the questionnaire.



“CREATING A TEAM”

- As a captain, you **MUST** complete the background screening before you will have access to create a team in TennisLink. If you are a returning captain, your screening is good for 2 years. Please check your expiration date as you will be **LOCKED OUT** of TennisLink if you don't renew before the expiration date. 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 appropriate program based on age group. *Please note that the age groups are divided into 3 different programs (8U, 10U, and 12U/14U/18U) for the winter season.
 - **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”

- *Double check the [NEW eligibility guidelines](#) for each level before registering your child to a team. No refunds will be given to ineligible players that register to a team.
- Go to Jr. Team Tennis TennisLink home page - <http://tennislink.usta.com/TeamTennis/Main/Home.aspx>
- Click on “Have a Team ID?”.
- Enter the Team # of the team you are registering your child for.
- Enter in your child’s USTA membership #.
- *Please note: The system will now prompt you to self-rate if you are registering for an INT or ADV team without a rating.
- 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”.
- Don’t see your team? Be sure the championship year is designated as **2017**.
- 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.