



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

**Northern Michigan Tennis Association
(NMTA)
2016 Local League Regulations**

(Approved by League Comm. 1-25-16)

2016 USTA League Regulations, USTA/Midwest Section League Standing Orders, and the Friend at Court tennis rules shall be observed. In all matches played without officials, the USTA official publication THE CODE, shall be observed.

The Northern Michigan District (NMTA) USTA League Committee has the authority to establish regulations in some areas. Below are the local NMTA regulations for 2016.

Fees:

Fees for 2016 tennis events are:

The individual player registration fee (paid through Tennis Link) for indoor events is \$21.00

This fee does not include the additional \$3.00 Tennislink Fee.

The individual player match fee for indoor events is \$15.00 per person/ per match

The individual player registration fee (paid through Tennis Link) for outdoor events is \$21.00

This fee does not include the additional \$3.00 Tennislink Fee.

The individual player match fee for outdoor events is \$5.00 per person/ per match

Refunds: Tennis Link fees are nonrefundable unless the refund is approved, for good cause, by a decision of the NMTA League Committee.

Team Registration Deadlines:

For a team to participate in League play a minimum number of team members must be signed up on Tennis Link by 11:59 PM on the Friday four weeks before league play is scheduled to begin. The NMTA League Committee has the authority to add teams after this date.

The minimum number of players required for registration in each Age Group is as follows:

Adult 18 & Over 2.5 W NTRP = 5 players

Adult 18 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 & 4.5 M&W NTRP = 8 players

Adult 40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, & 4.5 M&W NTRP = 8 players

Adult 55 & Over 6.0, 7.0 & 8.0 M&W combined NTRP = 6 players

Adult 65 & Over 6.0, 7.0 & 8.0 M&W combined NTRP = 6 players

Mixed 18 & Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0 & 9.0 combined NTRP = 3 female & 3 male players

Mixed 40 & Over 6.0, 7.0 & 8.0 combined NTRP = 3 female & 3 male players

Mixed 65 & Over 6.0, 7.0 & 8.0 combined NTRP = 3 female & 3 male players

Tri-Level= 2 players of each NTRP level

Combo levels = 6 players of the appropriate NTRP level

Player Registration Deadlines:

USTA League registration must be closed no later than two weeks prior to the end of the local league season in each district. The District League Coordinator has the option to open and/or close the registration for computer ("B" Benchmark or "C" Computer)-rated players only within the last two weeks.

For Multiple weekend events, the minimum number of players must be registered on Tennis Link by 11:59 PM the night before the first day of the event.

The penalty for not being registered is default of that match.

Domicile:

At least 60% of each team's roster and team match lineups (50% of 4.5) must consist of persons domiciled within the boundaries of the Northern Michigan Tennis Association (NMTA) district.

- a. Players from Sault Ste. Marie, Canada and the surrounding area have been invited to play in the Northern Michigan District and are exempt from this rule.
- b. Players from Sault Ste. Marie, Canada and the surrounding area are treated as though they are domiciled within the NMTA District when the numbers for the 60% (50% of Adult 18 & Over 4.5) team roster are being determined.

Local Team Match Format

Team Makeup

The NMTA League Committee shall determine which approved NTRP levels shall be offered for each USTA League Division. The USTA League Divisions for 2016 are Adult and Mixed. The Age Groups for the Adult Division are Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over, and Adult 65 & Over. For the Mixed Division the Age Groups include Mixed 18 & Over and Mixed 40 & Over. There are also Sectional Tri-Level and Combo in the Adult Division.

The NMTA League Committee has chosen to have the Age Groups play the format outlined below. The League Committee may, by a majority vote, change the format for any NTRP level if they feel this benefits League participation.

Adult Division:

18 & Over

2.5 teams will consist of a minimum of five players of the same gender to compete in one individual singles and two individual doubles matches.

3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5 teams will consist of a minimum of eight players of the same gender to compete in two individual singles and three individual doubles matches.

40 & Over

3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5 teams will consist of a minimum of eight players of the same gender to compete in two individual singles and three individual doubles matches.

55 & Over

Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0 and 8.0 teams will consist of a minimum of six players of the same gender to compete in three individual doubles matches. The NTRP difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0. The minimum NTRP level for 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5.

65 & Over

Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0 and 8.0 teams will consist of a minimum of six players of the same gender to compete in three individual doubles matches. The NTRP difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0. The minimum NTRP level for 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5.

Tri-Level

3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Tri-Level teams will consist of a minimum of six players of the same gender to compete in three individual doubles matches.

Combo

Combined levels of 6.5, 7.5, & 8.5 teams will consist of a minimum of six players of the same gender to compete in three individual doubles matches. There is no limitation on NTRP difference between partners as long as the combination does not exceed the NTRP level they are playing.

Mixed Division:**Mixed 18 & Over**

Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0, and 8.0 mixed doubles teams shall consist of a combination team of a minimum of three women and three men to compete in three individual mixed doubles matches. The NTRP difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0. The minimum NTRP level for 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5.

Mixed 40 & Over

Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0 and 8.0 mixed doubles teams shall consist of a combination team of a minimum of three women and three men to compete in three individual mixed doubles matches. The NTRP difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0. The minimum NTRP level for 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5.

Team Line-ups

Team lineups for each match must be submitted by the captain to the tournament desk 30 minutes prior to the scheduled match. The captain must inform the tournament desk that the entire team is on site and available to play. The tournament desk has the authority to start putting on matches when courts are available no sooner than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled match. If a team lineup is not submitted prior to the match being called, an official will be called. The Point Penalty for Lateness as stated in the USTA Friend of the Court will be used for each court where the player for the court fails to appear. Any player listed in the lineup who is not registered on TennisLink will be defaulted. It is the captain's responsibility to provide proof that the player was signed up on the TennisLink roster prior to turning in the lineup.

Calling Matches

The usual order of putting on matches will be 1S, 2S, 1Db, 2Db, & 3Db. However, the desk staff may, with good cause, change this order.

The tournament desk has the authority to start putting on matches when courts are available, but no sooner than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled match time.

Lateness penalties: Friend at Court (FAC)

If a team lineup is not submitted prior to the match being called the desk personnel or an official, if available, shall explain the lateness rule and start the clock on each individual match when there is a court available and that specific match is called. This is a deviation from the FAC regulation saying scheduled time. The Point Penalty System (PPS) will be used. If a player fails to appear after the lineup has been turned in and a court assignment has been made the PPS will be used for each court where a player for the court being called fails to appear. The desk personnel or an official, if available, shall explain the lateness rule and start the clock.

The Penalties for lateness for a match are as follows:

- 5 minutes or less; loss of toss plus 1 game
- 5:01 - 10 minutes; loss of toss plus 2 games
- 10:01 - 15 minutes; loss of toss plus 3 games - More than 15 minutes; default

A defaulted match may be reinstated by the NMI League Committee for good cause. The reinstated team starts the match down a loss of toss and three games unless the NMI League Committee determines that the default was caused by an error of tournament staff.

No Show

In the event of a no show, a rostered player may not be substituted in the position of a missing player after lineup has been turned in to the desk or the exchange of lineups between two team captains when

there is no desk person. Since the court time has been paid by the teams, the no shows could be replaced by a player or players and this would be called an exhibition match. (The match is recorded as a default 6-0, 6-0.) The team with the no show loses that match.

Scoring of Team Default:

A majority of individual matches must be played (3 of 5, 3 of 4, or 2 of 3) to constitute a team match. If a team does not have enough players available to play this minimum number of matches it results in a total team default.

All matches played in good faith shall stand.

The scoring in the event of a default or disqualification shall be 6-0; 6-0.

If a team defaults an entire match that team will still be eligible to compete in local competition.

NTRP Disqualification:

In the event of an NTRP disqualification, match scores will be 6-0, 6-0 wins for the opposing team. (2.04E(1) pg 23). All matches played at the disqualified level or below, and any subsequent matches played by the disqualified player shall be considered losses and those matches shall be considered wins for the opposing player or doubles team. Sectional regulations 2.04E (1)

Play Format & Scoring:

A round robin tournament format is being used.

All matches will be the best of two sets, with regular scoring and a set tiebreak (first to seven by a margin of two) at six all in each set. In the event of split sets, a Match Tie-Break shall be played (first to ten by two) in lieu of a third set. During all tiebreaks the Coman Tiebreak Format change of ends pattern will be used.

The third set tiebreak shall be scored as 1-game and 1-set for tiebreak purposes.

A two minute break with no coaching is allowed after each set. The final match score is to be agreed upon by all the players on the court at the completion of the match before vacating the court. Changes to the score made after the court has been vacated must be approved by all players involved in that match. . Both teams are to report scores to the tournament desk at the end of the match.

Either a captain or a designee must sign the scorecard at the completion of the team's matches.

Any un-played matches shall be rescheduled by the DLC within seven days or as soon as possible.

Team Winner:

The method of awarding points in order to determine the winning team of a local league shall be the same as that used in Championship competition (Nat.2.03HPg.20). In the event of a tie the winning team will be determined by the first of the following procedures that does so:

- 1) Individual Matches. Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.
- 2) Head-to-Head. Winner of head-to-head match.
- 3) Sets. Loser of the fewest number of sets.
- 4) Games. Loser of the fewest number of games.
- 5) If needed a final determination will be by a coin toss by the desk staff or his or her designee.

Progression:

Each team that wins a specific level of local league competition shall be entitled to advance to the

next level of competition. If the winning team at any Age Group NTRP Level of competition is unable to compete towards the next level(s) of competition proceeding to the National Championship, then the Local League Coordinator may ask the second place team if they wish to compete in such further competition. Teams will be asked if they wish to advance in the order that they placed in the local league competition.

Advancing teams will be given a stipend of:

\$150- State

\$250- Sectionals and/or Invitational

\$350- Nationals

Team fees must be paid prior to the State and Sectional Championship events. The State and Sectional Stipend will be subtracted from the team fee. The National advancement stipend will be sent to the Team Captain.

Grievances (other than NTRP grievance):

Only a team captain of the disputed match, District League Coordinator or the League Committee Chair may file a Grievance. There are very specific regulations concerning filing a grievance. These include time restrictions on filing. All grievances shall follow Nat. League Regulation 3.03. (pg. 29....).

Grievance alleging a violation of USTA organizational matters, policies or procedure, the rules of tennis, league regulations, local rules, standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship shall be filed in writing and given to the District League Coordinator or designee who will immediately deliver the grievance to the Grievance Committee. Grievance will be heard by the NMTA League Grievance Committee.

Grievance Appeals:

Any party to the complaint may appeal the decision of the Grievance Committee within the time fixed by the Grievance Committee. Upon receipt of an appeal of the decision of the Grievance Committee, the Grievance Appeal Committee shall act promptly to resolve the appeal.

Situations not covered:

Any situations coming to the attention of the USTA Northern Michigan District League Coordinator and/or the Northern Michigan League Committee that are not covered by the 2015 USTA or USTA/ Midwest League Regulations or the Local USTA League Regulations will be sent to the NMI League Committee for an interpretation and decision.

NTRP Grievance:

Only a team captain, league coordinator or the League Committee Chair may file an NTRP Grievance. All NTRP grievances shall follow Nat. League Regulation 3.03E (pg.32).

All NTRP grievances are sent to the USTA/Midwest Section Office, Attention Diane Ansay. There is a \$50.00 filing fee. After July 15 (at championship time) there is a \$100.00 filing fee. If the grievance is approved, the fee is refunded. The filing fee is payable only via credit card.