



## 2019 MADISON LOCAL RULES

January

### A. USTA LEAGUE

1. 2019 USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS, the current USTA/Midwest Section League Regulations as well as the Wisconsin District Rules pertaining to USTA Leagues, and 2019 Madison Local Rules shall apply.
2. Any of the above rules and regulations that are not followed may result in suspension from league play for a period of time to be determined.

### B. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

1. A player may not play on more than one team in an NTRP Level within an Age Group, during local league season. Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over, Adult 65 & Over, Mixed 18 & Over, Mixed 40 & Over, Combo 18 & Over and Tri-Level 18 & Over are separate Age Groups. A player may participate in more than one NTRP level in the same Age Group in the same season. (i.e. 3.0 and 3.5 for a 3.0 rated player). A player may play on more than one team within the District in the same season, (i.e., on an Adult league in Milwaukee and an Adult league in Madison.)

A player who qualifies for Championship level competition within an Age Group on two different NTRP levels may play on both teams but there will be no accommodation in the championship schedule.

2. USTA membership for a 2019 USTA/Wisconsin Madison League must be valid through the end of the local league season.
3. No player may participate in a USTA/Wisconsin league match until they have registered for a team on TennisLink. All team members must have a current NTRP rating. Team members who do not have a current NTRP computer generated rating will declare a self-rating when registering for a team. There will be a Self-Rate Declaration Box on the registration screen. Existing players begin the new season with their end-of-year rating from the last season that they played. Any computer rating generated from the 2017 league year will be good for three years (2016 for players 60 years or older) or until a new computer rating is generated.
4. Players who do not have a computer rating on file in TennisLink will self-rate in accordance with the 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 player's tennis history will subject the player, the captain and/or others who condoned inaccurate self-rating to the grievance process.
5. DISQUALIFICATION - No dynamic disqualification of Year-end Computer (C) players, Reg. 2.04B (see NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Table - inside 2019 USTA League Regulations back cover).

Who can be dynamically disqualified? NTRP published level followed by A (appeal - all), S (self-rated), M (mixed exclusive), T (tournament exclusive), D (dynamic or NTRP complaint disqualified) in the Adult divisions through the Sectional Championships.

6. In the event of an NTRP disqualification for that particular level of play, all matches played at the disqualification level or below and any subsequent match played by the player shall be considered losses and those matches shall be considered wins for the opposing player or doubles team. Players may join a team at their new NTRP level up to two weeks before the end of the season.
7. If a player is NTRP Disqualified at a certain level in an Adult Division, and is also participating in a Mixed Division, the new rating will be used in the combination of the mixed doubles pairing (i.e., player participating in 8.0 Mixed League that was rated a 4.0, was DQ'd at that level, and now is rated a 4.5, needs to pair up with a 3.5 rated player to be a qualified team) but must stay within the 1.0 NTRP difference when combining with another player in order to remain eligible.
8. Each team captain must sign a Team Waiver form on behalf of their team prior to the first match.
9. Local League Coordinators will do their best to place a local NTRP Disqualified player on another team, (at the player's expense, if applicable) unless they are already a member on a team at their new level or there is less than two weeks left in the local season.

### C. TENNISLINK, SCORING & TEAM REGISTRATION

TennisLink is the official system for player registration, reporting scores and providing standings for the USTA League Tennis Program.

1. USTA League Tennis match scores must be reported by team captains, co-captains or designated players within 48 hours of the completion of a match. A representative from **BOTH** teams either enters or confirms (whomever gets into the site first) the scores within 48 hours of match completion. Match reports will be run daily for Dynamic Rating computation. Consequences for failure to report scores by either captain within 48 hours of match completion are as follows:
  - A written warning may be issued to both teams for the first offense.
  - Loss of all matches for all subsequent violations.  
Match results would still be used to generate player dynamic ratings.
2. Scores -- Any discrepancies found after the scores have been entered must be emailed along with the match # to the opposing team captain AND league coordinator of that league. Upon agreement by BOTH captains, discrepancies will be corrected.
3. Scores not confirmed within the 48-hour time line will be considered confirmed
4. FULL TEAM DEFAULTS ARE NOT ALLOWED. If a team defaults an entire team match, the opposing captain will contact the Local League Coordinator immediately about the full team default. (In a 3 court league at least 2 courts must be played; in a 5 court league at least 3 courts must play.)

### D. COMPETITION FORMAT:

1. Starting times will be posted on TennisLink or by separate schedule. If all league matches will be played at the same location, a separate schedule may not be provided.
2. SCHEDULED **INDOOR** RULES: Captains should exchange lineups and have players assembled **20 minutes** prior to the posted start time so as not to delay the start of the match. Whenever indoor matches are scheduled back-to-back, the first match should start exactly on time and players should not go on the court before the scheduled time. Upon match completion, clear the court so players from the next scheduled match may have the court earlier if the court is open. A ten-minute warm-up should be taken immediately.

ALLOWED TIME PER MATCH IS DETERMINED BY LLC PRIOR TO START OF LEAGUE SEASON. To accommodate this "tight" schedule, it is recommended to NOT change ends during sets. Change ends after each set when using indoor courts.

MATCH TIE-BREAK (first to 10 by 2) and SET TIE-BREAK (first to 7 by 2) is used for all league matches. When playing a Match tiebreak **indoors**, change ends **before** commencing the tiebreak, but not during the tie-break.

Water: Players may quickly get a drink after odd games. It is expected this will be accomplished within 20 seconds.

**OUTDOOR SCHEDULES**: Line-ups must be exchanged simultaneously no later than the designated start times shown on the team schedules distributed at the beginning of the local league season. The official 10-minute warm-up period begins at the designated start time.

NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED ON SCHOOL GROUNDS—this includes COURTS.

3. SCORING -- **ALL LEAGUES** -- Regular Scoring  
All matches shall be the best of three tiebreak sets with a match tiebreak in lieu of a third set.  
The match tiebreak shall be scored as 1-set and 1-game for tiebreak purposes.  
(Coman format shall be used for both the Set tiebreak and the Match tiebreak)

Final date for registering players in ALL leagues -- two matches prior to the end of each local league season.  
Why? Each player needs a minimum of two matches credited to them in order to be eligible for advancement.

4. Tennis balls shall be provided by the home team for each match. Balls are not provided by WTA.
5. Re-scheduled matches (due to weather) must be completed within two (2) weeks of the original scheduled date.
6. Pre-scheduled matches: If team captains know in advance that they will be short-handed for a particular match, they may by mutual agreement schedule an individual court or entire team match to an earlier date/time. BUT, this match must occur either before or on the scheduled match date. No individual matches (except rainouts) will be allowed beyond the scheduled match date.
7. Warm-up, Injury and Substitution:
  - A Warm-up is not practice. Players should make a special effort to hit shots directly to the opponent. Courtesy dictates that you not practice your service returns when your opponent practices serving. Warm-up time must not exceed ten minutes total. This 10-minute period also serves as the time allotted prior to a no-show or lateness forfeit. Late arrivals are limited to the remainder of the 10 minutes.
  - In un-officiated matches, players may not leave the court except for an injury or personal emergency. Treatment of an injury is to take no longer than three minutes, with a total amount of elapsed time of play stoppage not to exceed 5 minutes or the match is forfeit. (Extra racquets, shoes, knee braces, etc., need to be on the court.)
  - A legitimate restroom visit is permissible and is not regarded as loss of physical condition.
  - If injury occurs during a warm-up, a substitute player may be brought in because the start of the match is defined as the first point played. The substituted player must be on the court immediately and is entitled to a five minute warm-up.

#### 8. DEFAULTS or RETIREMENTS:

Penalties for lateness begin at the scheduled match time. Penalties are described in "Friend at Court".  
Play will not be interrupted on courts where match play has begun.

Lateness for Start of Match

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

DEFAULTS: Refer to 2019 USTA League Reg. 2.03K and District 2.E

**Full Team Default (FTD)** -- when all courts are defaulted .

Contact Local League Coordinator (LLC) immediately.

Consequence --all matches are deleted from TennisLink for that team in the league at the level where the default occurred.

**4-13-17 CAPTAIN VOTE**

If both teams agree, match scores for only the defaulted match will be deleted.

**Majority Team Default (MTD)** -- 2 of 3 courts default (3 court league) or 3 of 5 courts default (5 court league).

Contact LLC immediately.

Consequence-- Players that actually played a position will still get an eligibility point and their scores will be reflected in their dynamic process. The match WILL NOT show up in team standings.

What happens when a captains expects/states that the #1 position will be there shortly, so the opposing captain permits the other positions to start their matches and then the person does not show up and a default is recorded at the #1 position?

Answer: Defaults are to be taken at the lowest position; however, if due to unforeseen circumstances, the captains allow (either by word or failure to prevent) a lower position to start out of sequence and the higher match ends up a default – all matches stand as played. 2019 USTA League Reg. 2.01C(5)

b. A retirement occurs when an individual match has started (points have been played) and a player/team is unable to continue due to injury, loss of condition or an emergency.

**E. WEATHER POLICY (outdoor courts only):**

In the event of inclement weather that prevents the start of a league match at its scheduled time, the match is postponed and should be completed within the following two weeks of the scheduled match date to the mutual agreement of the team captains.

If a team captain knows she or he will be unavailable for a particular match date, they should contact the other team captain before the match and advise of an alternate team player to contact in their absence in the event of a rainout problem.

In the event the scheduled team match was started and in progress when interrupted by inclement weather, all points stand as played. All players agree on the score prior to leaving the court. The match shall be completed within a two week period. If neither captain can agree on a rescheduled date, they must contact the Local League Coordinator to determine play schedule.

If one or more of the team matches has started, the rescheduled match must be played with the same players for all matches, even though some matches may not have started. Any defaults must stand.

If no matches have started, the line-up may be changed for the rematch and prior defaults are not binding.

All rescheduled and/or unfinished matches MUST be reported to the local league coordinator.

**F. LOCAL LEAGUE CHAMPION:**

1. The team with the most Team Wins accumulated during the season will be the local league winner and will advance to the 2019 USTA/Wisconsin State Championships.
2. If an NTRP level is divided into flights, a playoff will be held where only the winner of each flight plays the other. The winner of this playoff will be the local league winner and will advance to the 2019 USTA/Wisconsin State Championship.
3. Half Round/Mini Round Robins (if applicable): After a full round robin, total teams in a flight may be divided into two or more tiers to play a mini-round. Only teams who are in the top tier at the end of the full round will be eligible to advance, and the NTRP level winner will be determined by the team with most

TEAM wins on TennisLink. Results from the mini-round robins are cumulative with the results from the full round robin.

#### **G. CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

1. Players who are disqualified while participating in another Age Group after qualifying for Adult or Mixed National Championships will not be allowed to advance to the National Championship unless participating at the higher level.
2. **ADVANCING TEAMS:** Local League winners must confirm within 48 hours of the end of their league season, their ability to field a team to advance to the next level, i.e., either the State or Sectional Championships. If the first place team cannot field a team, the second place team will be invited.

#### **H. GRIEVANCE & GRIEVANCE APPEAL PROCEDURES and NTRP GRIEVANCES**

A grievance is an allegation that the opponent violated a local, USTA/Midwest Section Standing Order for USTA League and/or USTA League Regulation. An NTRP Grievance: A grievance contending that player's NTRP level is lower than the actual skill level. 3.02E

A player with a valid NTRP Computer (C) rating or granted Automatic Appeal rating of a Computer (C) rating is not subject to a NTRP grievance. Any other player may be subject to a NTRP grievance.

All grievances shall be directed to the Local League Grievance Committee. Contact your Local League Coordinator for the appropriate forms and instructions. There is a \$50 filing fee. If your grievance is upheld, the \$50 fee will be returned.

All NTRP Grievances shall be forwarded to Steve Wise at [steve@midwest.usta.com](mailto:steve@midwest.usta.com). There is a \$50 filing fee. If the grievance is upheld, the \$50 fee will be returned.

As of July 15, 2019 all NTRP Grievances fees increase to \$100.00 due to time restraints on determining winners of the local league, or progression of teams to championships

All complaints shall be filed in writing with the appropriate committee. Each committee shall consist of no less than three persons including the chair.

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#### **GRIEVANCE AND GRIEVANCE APPEALS COMMITTEES - ALL LEAGUES**

Grievance Committee: Margie Moeller-Chair, Paul Schmidt, Debbie Woods, Sandy Tarver (alternate)

Grievance Appeals Committee: Brian Potts-Chair, Jane Breun, Jeremy Parrish, Nancy Gagnon (alternate)

LEAGUE CONTACT for the following leagues is Lynn Guse – [LynnGuse@gmail.com](mailto:LynnGuse@gmail.com)

Adult 55 & Over

Adult 65 & Over

TRI-LEVEL 18 & Over Women's Singles and/or Doubles (Delta 3.0, 3.5, 4.0)

TRI-LEVEL 18 & Over Women's Doubles (Omega 3.5, 4.0, 4.5)

TRI-LEVEL 18 & Over Men's Single/Doubles (Delta and Omega)

TRI-LEVEL Mixed Doubles

LEAGUE CONTACT for the following leagues is Jan Westemeier – [madmixmiss@gmail.com](mailto:madmixmiss@gmail.com)

18&Over Mixed Doubles

40&Over Adult and 40&Over Mixed Doubles

Combo 18&Over and Combo Mixed 18&Over

LEAGUE CONTACT for the following league is Kim Rufenacht – [krufenacht@gmail.com](mailto:krufenacht@gmail.com)

18&Over Adult