

## One Doubles League Information-2016

One Doubles League is a USTA format designed to offer fun and competitive matches for players of all levels—from beginner to advanced. You'll get all the thrills, excitement and fun of USTA League, but on your own schedule. You play whenever it's convenient for you—weekends, mornings, nights, even on your lunch hour!

The One Doubles format groups players of similar ability together in a seven to ten week league. Any player can take responsibility for setting up a match in any given week. That allows players to compete at a time and a date that's mutually convenient. There will be an opportunity to advance at certain levels. Each area will send a team comprised of the One Doubles champions at each level (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 levels only) to create a Tri-Level team to compete at the Tri-Level Sectional Championships on September 24-25 in Salem, OR.

In lieu of a USTA National Championship, Tri-Level League Section Champions have the opportunity to participate in a privately operated Tri-Level Invitational tournament hosted by the Indian Wells Tennis Garden and Tournament Director Tom Fey, known as the "BNP Paribas Tri-Level Invitational Tournament." The BNP Paribas Tri-Level Invitational invites one Men's and one Women's Tri-Level team consisting of 4.5/4.0/3.5 NTRP levels from each of the USTA Sections to participate in the tournament. It is held during the BNP Paribas Open in March and has become wildly popular among Tri-Level participants.

Note: If your area is offering the Tri-Level League instead of One Doubles this year, please read our "Tri-level Information" sheet instead.

## **Guidelines**

- One individual doubles match at a certain NTRP level makes one team match
- Doubles match-ups are straight level (i.e. 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5)
- Minimum age is 18 years old.
- NTRP based —valid computer or self rating is required (no self-ratings allowed if team advances to BNP Paribas Invitational)
- USTA membership is required.
- Players schedule their own matches. The "home" player is encouraged to select a mutually convenient match location in consultation with the other player.
- Home team provides balls (the team on the left side of the scorecard). If necessary the home team is
  responsible for paying any court costs/guest fees.
- Register and report results through TennisLink.
- Team size is restricted to a minimum of 2 players and a maximum of 6 per level (unless team advances to BNP Paribas Invitational, where only 4 players are allowed to attend at each level).

## **General Overview**

- Team Match Format: A team match consists of 1 individual doubles match
- Scoring Format Used: 2 out of 3 sets with 3<sup>rd</sup> set being a 10 pt. match tiebreak, win by 2. Regular Scoring play out the deuces.
- Min. and Max. # of Players per Level: Each team may consist of a minimum of 2 players and a maximum of 6, unless that team advances to the BNP Paribas Invitational (they limit a maximum of 4 players per level).
- NTRP Rating Requirements: Players may play at their NTRP rating level or one level higher. The NTRP rating of each player may be 0.5 below but must not exceed the level of each Division (e.g. a 3.5 could play on a 4.0 One Doubles team)
- NTRP In-Level Requirements: In any match at least 50% of the One Doubles team must be at the rated level. Example: one 3.5 may play with a 4.0 in a 4.0 One Doubles match. Two 3.5 players could not play the 4.0 match together. If this occurs the match will be DQ'd as an ineligible player in the match. This is non-negotiable and will be recorded as such.
- NTRP Ratings: Match results will be used in year end NTRP rating calculations through Sectionals (Invitational will not count toward ratings).
- **Scheduling:** Teams will schedule their own matches, either inside or outside during the summer. Please check the PNW website: <a href="http://www.pnw.usta.com/USTA-League">http://www.pnw.usta.com/USTA-League</a> for specific dates and information in your area.
- Advancement Opportunities: If you are the Area Champion of the 3.5 or 4.0 One Doubles league in your area, your team will advance to the Tri-Level Sectional Championships. You will have the opportunity to decide if you want to join the 4.0/3.5/3.0 or the 4.5/4.0/3.5 Tri-Level team (only the 4.5/4.0/3.5 Sectional winner advances to BNP Paribas Invitational in Indian Wells).
  - The 3.5 and 4.0 One Doubles Area Finalists will join whichever team was not selected by the Area Champion.
  - o The 3.0 Area Champion will automatically join the 4.0/3.5/3.0 Tri-Level team
  - o The 4.5 Area Champion will automatically join the 4.5/4.0/3.5 Tri-Level team
- Advancement Requirements: Players must play in a minimum of one match to advance to Playoff and Sectional events (a default received will count).
  - o You may add a player with one match remaining.
- Sectionals: Will be September 24-25 in Salem, Oregon.
- **BNP Paribas Invitational:** For the teams that advance to the BNP Paribas Invitational, a maximum of four players per level will be allowed to participate. The National team size is a maximum of 12 players and a minimum of 6.

## **Levels Offered at Local League:**

- Men's 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, and 5.0 leagues
- Women's 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, and 5.0 leagues