

## 2019 USTA Arkansas Championships Procedures

USTA Arkansas offers state championships in the following leagues:

Adult 18 & Over	18 & Over Combo	65 & Over Mixed Doubles
Adult 40 & Over	40 & Over Combo	18 & Over Tri-Level
Adult 55 & Over	55 & Over Combo	40 & Over Tri-Level
Adult 65 & Over	18 & Over Mixed Doubles	55 & Over Tri-Level
18 & Over Interim	40 & Over Mixed Doubles	
40 & Over Interim	55 & Over Mixed Doubles	

Teams advancing to Mid-season tournaments or State Championships must play all of their round robin and scheduled semi-final and final matches.

A team's leaving a Mid-season tournament or State Championship prior to the completion of scheduled matches may be cause for a grievance to be filed by the State League Coordinator against the captain and the team. The Grievance Committee may impose penalties and fines up to \$50 per player for the names listed on the entry form, and the players will be unable to participate in any USTA league until the fine is paid.

Any team withdrawing after the draw is made for a Mid-season tournament or the State Championships may be subject to a grievance filed by the State League Coordinator and is subject to the same fines and penalties listed above.

The format for Mid-season tournaments and State Championships may be round robin play or un-flighted matches against randomly selected opponents. Some levels may have a semi-final and or final.

**MID-SEASON TOURNAMENTS**  
**18 & Over, 40 & Over and 55 & Over Leagues Only**

\$ 210 per team – 5-court League

\$ 150 per team – 3-court League

**No refunds to teams after draw is completed**

Three matches minimum, weather permitting

If a team wins both local league and Mid-season tournament, the team must represent the local league first.

Matches played at the Mid-season tournament for all NTRP levels MAY NOT be used as individual qualifying matches for advancement to the State Championship.

In NTRP levels with **seven or fewer** teams statewide, there will be no advancement to the State Championship from the Mid-season tournament at that NTRP level.

Bids to State Championship from Mid-season will be awarded in the following manner:

7 or less teams – 1 spot

8-14 teams – 2 spots

15-21 teams – 3 spots

22 or more teams – 4 spots

In a Mid-season tournament that has a semi-final and a final, the winner of the bid to the State Championship would come from a position no further into the tournament than fourth place. Beyond fourth place in the tournament would not produce a bid to the State Championship. In a Mid-season tournament that does not have advancement beyond a round robin, the bid winner would come from a position no further than second place in round robins with three to five teams and third place in round robins of six teams.

Mid-season Tournament Rules:

- If a team defaults a match at any Mid-season tournament, that team will be ineligible to play at the State Championships.

NO money will be refunded for a default. If a team withdraws from the Mid-season tournament after the draw has been made, the team will be ineligible for State Championships.

## STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS ALL LEAGUES

The following is the minimum number of team members who must be on the final roster of their local league team at the conclusion of local league play for the team to be eligible to compete at the State Championships: These players must be available and eligible to compete.

League	Minimum Number of Players
USTA League 18 & Over, 40 & Over	8
USTA League 55 & Over	6
USTA League 2.0, 2.5, 5.0+	5
USTA League 65 & Over	6
USTA League Mixed Doubles*	6
All Southern Combo Doubles Leagues *	6
All Interim Leagues *	6
All Tri-Level Leagues*	6

The Tournament Committee may reduce the minimum number of players noted in the above table to not less than four players (three for 2.0, 2.5 & 5.0+).

\*These players must be able to combine to form three valid courts.

**STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Adult 18 & Over and 40 & Over, Mixed 18 & Over and 40 & Over**

**ALL LEVELS**

Entry fee is \$30 per player.

**No refunds to individual players or teams after draw is completed**

Three matches minimum, weather permitting

Teams are chosen for the State Championships in the following manner:

1. NTRP Levels with fewer than seven teams statewide will receive four spots.
2. Winners of each local league:  
Local leagues with: 7 or less teams – 1 spot  
8 – 14 teams – 2 spots  
15 – 21 teams – 3 spots  
22 or more teams – 4 spots
3. Winner from Mid-season tournament – if the winner of the Mid-season tournament is already a local league winner, then in a Mid-season tournament that has a semi-final and a final, the winner of the bid to the State Championship would come from the position no further into the tournament than fourth place. Beyond fourth place in the tournament would not produce a bid to the State Championship. In a Mid-season tournament that does not have advancement beyond a round robin, the bid winner would come from the position no further than second place in round robins with three to five teams and third place in round robins of six teams.
4. The State League Coordinator will issue wildcards as necessary to fill the draw. Wildcards will be based on the wildcard spreadsheet for each division. These are posted on [www.arktennis.com](http://www.arktennis.com). Additional wildcards may be extended at the discretion of Tournament Committee.

Due to scheduling constraints and court availability, it will be impossible to accommodate more than 16 teams at any one level.

Round Robin Seeding – first-place winners from each local league will be placed in separate round robins to the extent possible. In some cases, round robins will have more than one first-place winner. All others spots will be drawn randomly, except that teams from the same local league will be placed in separate groups to the extent possible.

Un-Flighted matches – There will be no seeding. Teams will be randomly selected.

**STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Interim, Combo, Adult 55 & Over, Mixed 55 & Over, Mixed 65 & Over**

**ALL LEVELS**

Entry fee \$30 per player

**No refunds to individual players or teams after draw is completed**

Three matches minimum, weather permitting

Teams are chosen for the State Championships in the following manner:

1. NTRP Levels with fewer than seven teams statewide will receive four spots.
2. Local leagues will send the top 40% from each division. For example, if local league has eight teams – the top three teams will automatically come to state. If a division has an odd number, total will be rounded down. For example, if a local league has seven teams, the top two teams will automatically come to state.
3. Winner from Mid-season tournament (55 & Over only) – if the winner of the Mid-season tournament is already a local league winner, then in a Mid-season tournament that has a semi-final and a final, the winner of the bid to the State Championship would come from a position no further into the tournament than fourth place. Beyond fourth place in the tournament would not produce a bid to the State Championship. In a Mid-season tournament that does not have advancement beyond a round robin, the bid winner would come from the position no further than second place in round robins with three to five teams and third place in round robins of six teams.
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Un-Flighted matches – There will be no seeding. Teams will be randomly selected.

## **MID-SEASON AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – ALL LEAGUES**

- The captain is responsible for checking his/her team in at the site of the match. When all players are present and ready to play, the captain will turn in his/her lineup at the site desk. Captains should turn in scorecards 30 minutes prior to the start of their scheduled match.
- If a team has a known default, the opposing team will have the opportunity to revise its scorecard once both scorecards are turned in and the default has been announced by the site director.
- No substitution may be made in an individual match after the line-up has been presented, except for injury to, illness of, or disqualification of a player prior to the start of such match, and except other circumstances as permitted by the Tournament Committee. If substitution is made during warm-up, the substitute player is entitled to a five-minute warm-up. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted.
- If a captain duplicates a name in error on a scorecard, a team may be allowed to substitute a player for the duplicate name in the lower position (at the discretion of the Tournament Committee), using a player not already listed on the lineup. A substitution may only be made in the lower position if the error is discovered before the match begins. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted.
- Penalties for lateness, which includes the 15-minute default time rule, will be strictly enforced. Court monitors may be used to time warm-ups and changeovers.
- Winners of individual matches will take the balls and report the score immediately to the site desk.
- Captains are expected to sign each scorecard after each scheduled match is completed before leaving the tennis facility. Failure to sign the scorecard may result in scores posted online only confirmed by opposing captain.
- If a team match is postponed following the exchange of line-ups, the original line-up will stand for the make-up match UNLESS teams are released from the tournament by the Tournament Director and/or Referee. If teams are released, the line-up would stand only for those positions that have already started (first service attempt). All other positions, including defaulted courts and even those that were in warm-up, may be changed.
- Tournament referees will not be used to make line calls or call foot faults.
- In the event of significant weather challenges, the Tournament Committee may use an alternate scoring match format to complete the tournament.

### **Administration**

- Tournament Committee will use proper and fair judgment with regard to all state or mid-season tournament-related issues. This includes, but is not limited to, procedures and information not listed in the Championship Procedures or National/Sectional/State regulations.
- Tournament Committee will consist of the Tournament Director, Tournament Referee and the Arkansas Adult League Committee Chairman.
- Championship Grievance Committee: To be appointed as necessary.
- Championship Procedures may be amended at Tournament Committee's discretion.
- The Tournament Committee may release a team from the state championship.