



2022 USTA Georgia Tri-Level League Regulations

Play is governed by the RULES OF TENNIS; "The Code" as contained in the 2022 Friend at Court. The USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations, and the following Georgia Tri-Level Regulations.

LOCAL COMPETITION

- I. All players participating in USTA Tri-Level League Tennis must be a current member of the USTA for the entire league season.
- II. Players must be 18 years of age at the time of registration for the USTA Tri-Level League program.
- III. All teams in a local league must play a minimum of three matches. All teams must participate in the same number of round robins as every team in the flight.
- IV. All teams participating in the 2022 USTA Tri-Level League Tennis season must be registered in TennisLink by their local league registration deadline. A team shall consist of a minimum of 6 players of the same gender to be eligible to compete at a specific level of competition.
- V. Team members shall not have a higher NTRP rating than the maximum NTRP rating of the division in which they are competing, however players may play up one NTRP level. Example: a 3.5 player may play in the 4.0 position, but a 3.0 player may not play in the 2.5 position. The following divisions are available for the 2022 Championship Year.

a. 18 & Over Division, <u>Women Only</u>	2.5, 3.0, 3.5
b. 18 & Over Division, Men and Women	3.0, 3.5, 4.0
c. 18 & Over Division, Men and Women	3.5, 4.0, 4.5
d. 40 & Over Division, Men and Women	3.0, 3.5, 4.0
e. 40 & Over Division, Men and Women	3.5, 4.0, 4.5
f. 55 & Over Division, Men and Women	3.0, 3.5, 4.0
g. 55 & Over Division, Men and Women	3.5, 4.0, 4.5 (NO STATE ADVANCEMENT)
- VI. Local leagues shall determine the procedure and/or penalties if a team forfeits an entire team match during local league play.
- VII. Each local league may determine how to proceed when there is a default that is not at the lowest position.

- VIII. Local leagues shall determine the procedures for rescheduling of team matches including inclement weather procedures.
- IX. A player may play on multiple teams as long as they are in different division. Example: A 3.5 player can play on an 18 & Over Division 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, and an 18 & Over Division 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 40 & Over Division 3.0, 3.5, 4.0. Players who qualify for advancement to Georgia State Championships may advance on 2 (two) 18 & Over teams and 2 (two) 40 & Over teams, but at different levels. There will be no concessions made for scheduling.
- X. USTA Tri-Level League will not have any effect on NTRP rating.

PROGRESSION

- I. Local leagues with the following number of teams per local season may qualify to advance to the Georgia State Championship.

<u>18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over</u>	
2 teams	1 berth
3-5 teams	2 berths
6-10 teams	3 teams
11+ teams	4 teams

If a local league holds two seasons at a specific level, they must have a minimum of three teams participating in one of the two seasons at that level to receive two berths to the State Championships. Two team leagues in both seasons will only receive one berth to the State Championships. The local league will determine which team receives the berth.

- II. Any local league divided into flights must establish playoff regulations and the format for determination of local league winners.
- III. In the 18 & Over division, no individual is eligible to progress to the State Championship unless he/she has played on that same team in at least one match and no team is eligible to progress unless they have played at least three team matches during the local league season. A defaulted match shall count for the player(s) who received the default. A retired match shall count for all players involved.
- IV. In the 40 & Over division and 55 & Over division, the same regulation applies as above, unless there is no local competition from a CTA during the championship year. If this occurs, a team may advance directly to the Tri-Level State Championship.

USTA GEORGIA TRI-LEVEL LEAGUE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- I. Last day for local league match play for USTA Georgia Tri-Level league is **July 10, 2022**. The league must also have at least two teams registered with the minimum number of players at least 30 days prior to this date.
- II. Participants competing in the USTA Georgia Tri-Level State Championships are required to have a current USTA membership throughout the entire event.
- III. Teams progressing to the USTA Georgia Tri-Level State Championship are determined by placement after local league play. Local leagues are expected to send their top finishers. A local league may send the next team in their local standings to represent their local league.
- IV. A \$250 deposit will be required of all teams at USTA Georgia Tri-Level State Championship.
- V. Any team that withdraws from the tournament after the schedule is published shall forfeit their deposit and registration fees and a grievance may be filed against the entire team. Any team defaulting an entire team match will be removed from the draw, they will forfeit their deposit, and a grievance will be filed against the team.
- VI. All matches at the USTA Georgia Tri-Level State Championship will be the best of two sets and the Set Tiebreak shall be used at 6 all in each set. In lieu of a third set, a Match Tiebreak shall be played (the first to 10 winning by 2). There will be a 2-minute set break at the end of each set with no coaching. The Match Tiebreak shall be scored as 1 set plus 1 game for tiebreak procedures.
- VII. All tie breaks will be played using the Coman Tiebreak Procedure.
- VIII. A team match format shall be three individual doubles matches. The team winning the majority of those three individual matches shall be awarded one point.
- IX. State Championship play shall consist of round robin(s), single elimination or un-flighted matches against randomly selected opponents. The use of multiple round robins, or the use of un-flighted matches, will require a playoff structure to establish a champion. Please refer to championship procedures for full details.
- X. Defaults are not required to be "from the bottom up".
- XI. **Individual Defaults.** Any team defaulting a court for any reason will be fined \$100 per court defaulted (if paying by credit card there will be a \$4 processing fee). The fine must be paid in the tournament room prior to the team's next match. If it's the team's last match of the tournament, they must pay prior to leaving. If a team does not pay the fine, a grievance will be filed against all members listed on the team information sheet, which could result in suspension from any USTA League play until the fine is paid. Any matches played during that time will be reverted to losses. The reason for this regulation is to make sure teams have their players on every court at each match during a state championship. When a team defaults a line, it not only can affect the outcome of the tournament, but more importantly, it affects those players who showed up ready to play, only to find their opponents did not show.

XII. Match winners shall be determined by the winner of most courts and shall receive 1 point for each match win. In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so:

Individual Matches. Winner of the most matches in the entire competition.

Head to Head. Winner of the head-to-head match.

Sets. Loser of the fewest number of sets.

Games. Loser of the fewest number of games.

A method to be determined by the championship committee. Procedures to be announced prior to commencement of championship competition.