



BUFFALO USTA LEAGUE PLAY REGULATIONS

“BUFFALO FRIEND AT THE COURT” 2016 (revised-January 14, 2016)

Mixed Doubles

CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Must be familiar with the structure, procedures, and the rules of the Local, Section, and National League regulations and the general Rules of Tennis, including the Code of Conduct.
- Be in compliance with the schedule posted on TennisLink.
- Recruit enough players and alternates necessary to field complete teams.
- All scheduled team matches are the captains' responsibility to field a full team. If you cannot field a full team ahead of time, call the club 72 hours in advance to cancel court. (Or you will have to pay for the entire defaulted court(s).) Call other captain as a courtesy on the forfeit.
- Check with individual clubs for their alcoholic beverages policy.
- Regular matches will be scheduled and played according to the league schedule. Rescheduling of play due to extreme weather conditions must be mutually agreed upon by both captains with the full understanding of financial responsibility of court fees to said club. The responsibility to reschedule is that of the captains. Rescheduled date shall be submitted to the Local League Coordinator within seven (7) days of the scheduled match or a date will be assigned.

REGISTRATION/TEAM ROSTER:

- Maximum number of players on a mixed team is unlimited. Refunds will not be given to those who do not play a match unless there are extenuating circumstances such as an injury.
- Registration will be closed on **March 18, 2016**. Players will not be allowed to register after that date, with the *exception of 40 & Over Mixed and 9.0 18 & Over Mixed*. Only registered players can play, as only they will show up on the scorecard reporting process.
- Local Play Off matches are considered part of the local/regular season.

COMPETITION FORMAT:

- Home Team (listed first) provides refreshments and reports scores within 48 hours through TennisLink; away team provides tennis balls and confirms scores in 48 hours or results will be closed out.
- A match may be protested by checking "Dispute" on the scorecard on Tennis Link and must be followed up by a contact with the Local League Coordinator regarding the problem. All matches confirmed may not be disputed at a later date.
- Print blank line-up scorecards from TennisLink.
- Court fees must be collected before the match and paid to the club desk.
Mixed: \$15 per person or \$90 per team.
- Line-ups must be exchanged simultaneously prior to the start of the first match, with a 15-minute default rule (inclusive of warm up). Line-ups cannot be changed except for substitution for an injury during the warm-up or for rearranging player positions due to a default (see below).
- Warm-ups may take no longer than 10 minutes inclusive of service practice.
- If you must default a court, you must default the lower position courts first (third doubles). If someone does not arrive in time to play, the line-up may need to be changed to reflect taking the default at the lower position.
(Example: if a second doubles player is defaulted, a second doubles team will need to be put together, with default taken at third doubles.)
- A no-show cannot be substituted for. If it appears that someone may arrive after the default time, the captain can replace that player only at the start time, when the line-ups are exchanged.

ADMINISTRATION:

- Coordinator has overriding authority in situations deemed appropriate for matches to be played out on the court rather than scored as defaults.
- Clerical error should not determine the outcome of a league: Coordinator has authority to determine how an affected match will be corrected.
- In the cases of extenuating circumstances a Local League Coordinator or Captain's (from each team) may mutually agree to extend the default time beyond the 15-minute limit. These circumstances would include but not limited to, extreme weather or travel conditions to include snowstorms, bridge or skyway closings, and major street closings.

MATCH PLAY:

- All matches will be two out of three sets with the exception that the 10-point Super Tiebreaker (Match Tiebreak) will be used in lieu of a normal third set.
- 10-Point Super Tiebreaker is first team to ten points by a margin of at least two. Team service order may change, as this is the "third set." First server plays one point, then the serve moves to the opposing team for two consecutive points and so play continues. Players shall use the Coman Rotation for all tie breaks.
- Time factors: 20 seconds between end of a point and the next serve; 90 seconds for odd game changeover (note only 20 seconds following the first game of a set); a two minute break, if necessary, can be taken between the second set and the match tiebreak.
- Injury timeout: Players allotted 3 minutes following diagnosis unless bleeding occurs; an emergency break (bathroom, other considered emergency) take a "reasonable amount of time". The other team should watch time for excessive use.
- Players should not leave the court unless an emergency has been declared to both sides.
- Cell phone use on the court is considered a potential hindrance. Please turn off phones.
- Spectators do not participate in any decision on a point/score in a match and are expected to show good sportsmanship while viewing.
- A ball must be called "good" if there is doubt (not sure of the call), disagreement between partners, or the ball was not seen.
- All points made prior to discovery of an error in the play still stand.
- The point is lost when a player touches the net, is touched by the ball, or crosses the net before the ball is struck.
- An "out" or let cannot be called after a play is made on the ball. The call must be prompt with no attempt to play out the point.
- A delay between the first and second serves not caused by the server will allow a let first serve. A quick delay may not be grounds for another serve, with the receiver as the judge of the delay time.
- If a racquet breaks, the player has only the time allowed between points (20 seconds) or at the changeover (90 seconds) to correct the problem.

(MATCH PLAY: con't)

- A let may be claimed for a hindrance (motions or sounds from the opponent interfering at the time the player is getting ready to hit the ball).
- To prevent score confusions, give line calls and scores out loud at each occasion. If score confusion occurs, the players work back to the last point agreed upon if it cannot be totally reconstructed by both sides, and then play proceeds from there. If there is no agreement, the racquet shall be spun to settle the disputed score.
- Footfaults can be called against an opponent but should be preceded by a warning.
- An on-court problem or unsportsmanlike behavior that cannot be resolved by the players themselves can be handled by requesting an on-court observer from each team when they become available, stopping the match until that time. The observers stationed at each end post do not intrude on the match unless asked for their observation of an incident, which is then treated as a ruling if both agree.

2016 MIXED USTA EASTERN AGE GROUPS:

- Mixed 18 & Over-3 Courts (6.0, 7.0, 8.0 9.0, 10.0) National Program
- Mixed 40 & Over-3 Courts (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0) National Program

LEAGUE WINNERS:

The win loss team record determines league winners. In case of a two way tie, a head to head sudden death playoff is scheduled by the Local League Coordinator. If a three-way tie occurs the two teams will be determined by Tennis Link order.

If a team's complete match default affects the outcome of the league, the Buffalo Local League Team will penalize that team's actions to the extent that all matches played during that season will be considered null and void. In addition the team captain that elicited the complete match default will not be allowed to captain the following season.

**The BNCTA proudly oversees Buffalo League Tennis.
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