



2021 USTA KENTUCKY JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

2021 USTA Kentucky Junior Team Tennis State Championship

July 16-18, 2021 (Lexington, KY)

Championship Entry Fee: \$35 per player (plus sales tax)

Kentucky Junior Team Tennis local leagues and the Kentucky Junior Team Tennis State Championships will abide by the **2021 USTA Junior Team Tennis Regulations**, as well as the Southern Additions, with the following additions and general rules highlighted. The Rules of Tennis and The Code, as found in the 2021 Friend at Court shall govern all matches.

A. Local JTT Leagues

1. All Coordinators and Team Managers entered in Tennis Link must adhere to the USTA Youth Safety Policy, which includes completing the requirements set out by Net Generation in partnership with the Center for Safe Sport.
2. All local JTT matches are unofficiated matches; therefore, players and teams shall abide by The Code (see 2021 Friend at Court).
3. Local League Coordinators and Committees can develop additional rules & procedures, which must not become inconsistent with USTA, USTA Southern, and USTA Kentucky:
 - a) Examples: Cans of balls needed per match, scoring format, etc.
4. A player may participate on one (1) local league team per division. This can include playing on both an intermediate and advanced team in the same age group.

B. Requirements to Advance to State Championship

1. **USTA Membership**
 - a) USTA membership is required to participate in the Kentucky Junior Team Tennis State Championship. This membership must be active through the Southern Junior Team Tennis Championship. If a player's membership is active through local league play but expires before either the State or Southern Championships, that player must renew their membership to be eligible to play in either tournament.

2. Requirements for Team Advancement

- a) A minimum of three boys and three girls must be registered by the registration deadline for a team to be included into the State Championship.
- b) Teams must have completed a minimum of three (3) local league matches to be eligible to register for the state championship. These matches must have a minimum of 3 non-defaulted matches entered.
- c) Should a team roster drop below the minimum requirement to be able to advance to the State Championships, then one (1) qualified substitute may be added from another team in the same local league at the same age and division to meet this requirement.
- d) All substitutions in 2-c must be approved by the State Coordinator and all other player and team eligibility requirements must be met.
- e) All advanced division teams in 10U, 12U, 14U, and 18U may advance to the state championship without playing local matches. Teams must still be registered locally and players may only play on their respective advanced teams at the tournament.

3. Requirements for Player Advancement

- a) A player must have played at least two (2) local dual team matches in the division in which the player intends to advance.
- b) No defaults can count toward the two (2) match minimum requirement to advance.

C. Kentucky JTT State Championship

1. Entering Kentucky JTT State Championship

- a) Registration Link: <https://form.jotform.com/210394540420142>
 - a) Players are allowed to register for only one (1) team total for the state championship.
- b) Registration Opens: February 1st, 2021
- c) Registration Closes: July 11th, 2021
- d) All local league matches must be completed and entered into Tennis Link by July 11th, 2021 at 11:59pm.

2. Captain Conference Calls

- a) Team Managers must take part in 1 of 2 Zoom conference calls to take place before the championships. If a team manager can not attend either call, another parent or player must call-in in place of that manager.
- b) Conference Call Options
 - 1. Wednesday, July 14th @ 8pm (Eastern)
 - 2. Thursday, July 15th @ 8pm (Eastern)
- c) If a team manager or team representative does not attend either conference call, that team will be penalized 3 games in their first state championship match.

3. Tournament Amenities

- a) All players and up to two (2) team managers will receive a championship t-shirt. Players must list their shirt size on the registration form and extra shirts will not be available at the tournament.

4. Tournament Awards

- a) Awards will be given to the winner and runner-up in each division.

5. Championship Flight Set-Up

- a) Teams will compete in non-elimination, round robin divisions.
- b) Flights will be determined based on local league results and attempts will be made to split up local teams into different divisions.
- c) Depending on the number of teams in each division, divisions may be split in to 2 or more flights.
- d) If flighted, winning teams will advance to additional, single-elimination round(s) to determine the winner of the division.
- e) All teams are guaranteed a minimum of three (3) team matches at the Championship.
 - i. If only 2 teams make up a flight, they will be scheduled to play 3 head-to-head matches. If one team wins the first 2 matches and obtains a game advantage impossible to overcome in the 3rd match, the 2 teams can agree to forgo the final match.
- f) Including single elimination matches, teams will not be scheduled to play more than 3 team matches in any day.
- g) Winners of the division/flight will be determined by total games won.
- h) If 2 teams are tied in total games won at the end of a division/flight/championship match, the teams will select one (1) mixed doubles team to play a 10 point Match Tiebreak to determine the winner of the division/flight/match. Players for the tiebreaker are selected when the tie occurs. If a championship match ends in a tie, the mixed doubles team must be chosen from players who played in that championship match. If a tiebreaker is needed to determine a division or flight, team managers can choose any player who played in at least one (1) match during pool play.

6. Non-Advancing Flights

- a) All Intermediate divisions will offer a non-advancing division (SILVER DIVISION).
- b) All flight creation, scoring format, and regulation from championship divisions will apply to the non-advancing division.
- c) Teams must be registered in Tennis Link in the correct age division and skill level the team will play at the state championship.
 - a) Teams must have played three (3) qualifying team matches to be eligible to play at state championship.
- d) Teams may accept up to 2 boys and 2 girls as substitutes to produce a team of no more than 4 boys and 4 girls, so long as those subs played the two (2) required matches necessary to be eligible to play in state championship.
 - a) Subs must have played in the same league, age division, and skill level as the team they are subbing for.

7. THE CODE & USTA Rules Govern All Matches

- a) Players must play by THE CODE during all matches.
- b) USTA Rules as found in the 2021 Friend at Court will govern all matches.
- c) A tournament referee will be present or available by phone at all times during the championship.

8. Match Information

- a) Team managers must turn in lineup card to the tournament desk by scheduled match time. Exceptions can be made to this rule if the tournament is running behind schedule. In those cases, the tournament director will determine the time match cards must be turned in.
 - i. If lineup card is turned in after match time, the team will be penalized based on USTA rules.

- b) Each team match will be assigned between 2-5 courts.
- c) 3-4 cans of balls will be given for each team match.
- d) Each team match will consist of 5 matches (Boys Singles, Girls Singles, Boys Doubles, Girls Doubles, Mixed Doubles).
- e) Order of play for all team matches is singles, doubles, mixed doubles unless agreed upon by both team managers based on players doubling up.
- f) Following a team match, both team managers must sign both (2) match cards.
- g) Appeals—Captains have up to 30 minutes following a team match to file an appeal. If no appeal is filed within 30 minutes, the match is final.

9. Scoring Format for 12s (Advanced), 14s, and 18s (Intermediate and Advanced)

- a) All matches will be played with a Championship Yellow Ball.
- b) All matches will be the best of 2 short sets to 4 games with No Ad Scoring and a 10 point match tiebreak in lieu of the 3rd set.
 - i. A 7-point tiebreak is played at 3-games all each set (first to 7 points by 2).
- c) No-Ad Scoring—The first player to win 4 points wins the game. If the score reaches 40-40, or Deuce, the winner of the next point wins the game. At Deuce, the receiver has the choice of which side to receive.
 - i. In singles, the receiver may choose to receive on either the left or right side of the court.
 - ii. In doubles, the receiving team has a choice of who will receive the deciding point. Players must stay on the same receiving side they have played during the entire set.
 - iii. In mixed doubles, the server must serve to the side of the opponent of the same gender. For example, a girl serving must serve to the girl on the deciding point.

10. 12 & Under Division (Intermediate)

- a) All matches will be played with a Championship Green Ball.
- b) All scoring procedures are identical to those listed in C-8 (b and c).

11. 10 & Under Divisions (Advanced and Intermediate)

- a) All 10U Advanced divisions matches will be played with a Championship Green Ball and all 10U Intermediate Division matches will be played with a Championship Orange Ball.
- a) All 10U Intermediate matches will be played using the 10U Play Format as specified in Friend at Court, including:
 - i. *Racket:* The racket shall be no longer than 25 inches.
 - ii. *Scoring:* Best of 2 no-ad short sets, first to 4 games (at 3-3, the winner of the next game wins the set 4-3). For 3rd set, the first player to win 7 points wins the set.

12. The "Playing Twice Rule" (also known as "doubling up rule")

- a) One girl and one boy may play two individual matches in each team match. A player may only double up one time until three (3) players of the same gender on that team have had a turn to play twice or 3 team matches overall have occurred. After three players of the same gender have played twice or 3 team matches have occurred, captains can choose any player to play twice in the next match and the 3-player/match rule starts over.
- b) A player who plays twice must play Mixed Doubles and either Singles OR Doubles.
- c) Team Managers must submit a Playing Twice Form to the tournament desk before every match to record players who are doubling-up in a team match.

- d) The “Playing Twice Rule” will start over in Playoffs, such as Semifinals and/or Finals following round robin group play.
- e) A team can “double up” a player on their team following the above regulations even if a team is comprised of more than 3 boys or 3 girls.

12. Coaching

- a. Coaching is only permitted by the designated team coach from outside the fence and only on changeovers and set breaks.
- b. Parents or other observers may not coach players.
- c. Coaching should not be in excess of the time allotted for a changeover.
 - i. 90 seconds for changeover
 - ii. 120 seconds on set break
 - iii. 3 minutes prior to the 3rd Set Match Tiebreak
- d. No one should be on court except players, tournament staff, or other authorized persons.

13. Lack of Players

- a) If an injury occurs after any points have been scored and the player cannot continue then the team will forfeit the remaining games in that match to their opponent. If an injured player is scheduled to “double up”, the team may insert a player into the voided position. The opposing team may also insert a substitute in this scenario in the match where a substitute was made. In all cases every substitution must be reported to the tournament desk prior to the substitute playing points.
- b) If a team is short a player for any reason prior to a match, the team must forfeit the singles position first.
 - i. The opposing team will have the opportunity to change their lineup, but may not see the lineup card of the team forfeiting a position.

14. Rain/Weather

- a) If matches are suspended or postponed due to weather please return immediately to the tournament desk to provide your current match scores and turn your match cards back in.
- b) Do not let players leave the site unless instructed to do so by the tournament director or tournament desk – as soon as courts are playable matches will be sent out. Players and teams who help prepare courts for play get priority.
- c) Format and scoring may change if significant delays have occurred to assure the event concludes.

D. Advancement to Sectional Championship

1. USTA Southern Section JTT Championship

- a) Winners of the State Championships 10U (Advanced), 12U, 14U, and 18U divisions will advance to the USTA Southern Section JTT Championship
- b) In the event that the first place team declines the trip, the runner up will be extended the invitation.
- c) Any wildcards to the Sectional JTT Championships will be offered and determined by the Southern Junior Team Coordinator.
- d) The 18U Advanced State Champion is required to play the 18U Advanced HIGH division at the sectional championship.
 - a. If the 18U Advanced state champion declines the bid to the sectional championship, the runner-up will have the option to play the high or low division at the sectional championship.

E. Advancement to National Championship

1. USTA National JTT Championship

- a) Winners of sectional championships from around the country will advance to the Junior Team Tennis National Championships in October.
- b) Any wildcards to the National JTT Championships will be offered and determined by the National Junior Team Tennis Coordinator and committee.

2021 FALL INTERSCHOLASTIC REGULATIONS

The Fall Interscholastic State Championship follows all championship regulations set forth by the Junior Recreation Committee and can be found at ustaky.com. In addition, the committee sets forth the following additions that will only apply to the Fall Interscholastic leagues and state championship:

1. Teams may take up to 2 substitutes of each gender to get to 4 boys and/or girls on a roster. All substitutes must come from that team's local league.
2. Substitution rules will not apply to the creation of advanced division teams. Advanced teams must be created by players from the same local league and meet the 2 match minimum qualifications.
3. Any player who is rated 3.4 or below at the time of registration or at the time of the championship may play in the intermediate division of the state championship.
4. All local league teams participating in the championship will be seeded by the state coordinator to determine placement in pools. This seeding will be determined by a combination of local league results and rating examination for players participating in the championship. These seeds will be verified by the local league coordinators in each league before pools are determined.