



## **2016 USTA LEAGUE ADULT 18 & OVER 5.0+ NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP HANDBOOK**

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>1. Sites, Dates, Player Fee</b>	<b>2 - 3</b>
<b>2. Eligibility</b>	<b>3</b>
Team Eligibility	
Player Eligibility	
<b>3. Rules, Regulations, Scoring and Coaching</b>	<b>3 - 5</b>
Rules and Regulations	
Move Up-Split Up	
Scoring	
Championship Flight Set Up	
Grievance and Appeal Procedures	
Coaching	
Balls	
Hydration Tips	
Inclement Weather	
Cancellation	
<b>4. Player and Tournament Details</b>	<b>6 - 7</b>
Captain Team Registration	
Mandatory Captain's Meeting	
Player Party	
Trainers	
Awards	
Player Gift	
Official Merchandise	
Team Photos	
Website	
Tips for Players and Spectators	
<b>5. Transportation Details</b>	<b>7</b>

<b>SITES AND DATES</b>
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**Adult 18 & Over 5.0+**

September 23-25

Match Play begins on Friday, September 23

Matches and awards will conclude on Sunday by approximately 1 pm – please make flight arrangements accordingly.

**YOUR SECTION WILL SUBMIT YOUR TEAM ROSTER TO THE USTA NATIONAL OFFICE**

**PLAYER ENTRY FEE:**

**EVERY PLAYER AND CAPTAIN advancing to the USTA League National Championships is required to pay a \$55.00 individual player entry fee.**

**The deadline for you to register for this event is September 5**

Go to [www.usta.com/nationalchampionships](http://www.usta.com/nationalchampionships) to your event page for the on line registration link.

**Tennis Facility: Hard Courts**

**All matches will be played at:**

Mobile Tennis Center  
851 Gaillard Rd.  
Mobile, AL 36608

**Practice Courts:**

**Call for practice courts - no charge**

Ph: 251-208-5181

**Host Hotel:**

Mobile Marriott  
3101 Airport Blvd.  
Mobile, AL 36606  
Ph: 251-476-6400

**Room Rate: \$109.00 per night**

**To Book rooms at the Mobile Marriott:** call in for reservations at 800-228-9290 and give the event dates for our rate or please use the hotel reservation link located on this event webpage.

Other hotels in the area:

**Wingate by Windham** –\$79 per night - 516 Springhill Plaza Court / Mobile, AL 36608 – 251-441-1979

**Holiday Inn Express** –\$89 per night - 80 Springdale Boulevard / Mobile, AL 36606 – 251-473-2380

**Courtyard I65** –\$99 per night – 1000 West I-65 Service Road S., Mobile, AL 36609 – 251-344-5200

**Fairfield Inn I65** –\$89 per night – 950 West I-65 Service Road S., Mobile, AL 36609 – 251-316-0029

**Hampton Inn I65** –\$99 per night – 1028 West I-65 Service Road S., Mobile, AL 36609 – 251-343-4007

**Quality Inn I65** –\$75 per night – 150 West I-65 Service Road S., Mobile, AL 36606 – 251-343-4949

## **ELIGIBILITY**

### **Team Eligibility**

- A minimum of five (5) players who were on the final local roster must be available to compete at nationals. Waivers will not be granted to teams who are not able to field a full team.

### **Player Eligibility**

- A player is eligible to advance to a national championship competition if that player has played on that same team in at least three (3) matches through section championships. No defaults received by the player during all league competition shall count for advancing. 2.03A(4). Waivers will not be granted to players who have not played the required number of matches.
- All individual team members must be from the appropriate level of play in accordance with the NTRP system.
- Year-end ratings will be posted on TennisLink in early December.

## **RULES, REGULATIONS, SCORING, AND COACHING**

### **Rules and Regulations**

- USTA Rules and League Regulations will be enforced during championships.
- All match lineups must be submitted to the tournament desk by the team captain at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled match time. Penalties may be enforced at the tournament director's discretion.
- The match schedule can change frequently - please check our website often for updates.

### **Move Up/Split Up Reg 2.06A**

Please see USTA League Regulation 2.06A on [usta.com](http://usta.com) for complete details or contact your Sectional League Coordinator to be sure you are in compliance before forming your teams for 2017.

### **Scoring**

- Best of two tiebreak sets with a Match Tiebreak if required.
- The Coman Tiebreak Procedure will be used for the Set and Match Tiebreak.
- Coman Tiebreak Procedure is the same as the present procedure except that ends are changed after the first point, then after every four points until the conclusion of the tiebreak.
- Two minute rest between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> set and between the 2<sup>nd</sup> set and 3<sup>rd</sup> set match tiebreak.

### **Championship Flight Setup**

- Flighted Round Robin.
- Teams will participate in a non-elimination round-robin format.
- The winner of each flight/division will be determined by team matches won.
- The winner of each flight will then go into a semi final followed by finals and 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> playoff.
- In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken by the first of the following procedures:
  - Winner of the most individual matches in the competition
  - Winner of head to head match
  - Loser of the fewest number of sets
  - Loser of the fewest number of games
  - A method to be determined by the championships committee

### **Grievance and Appeal Procedures**

The following guidelines and procedures will be used during this championship. Please review them carefully. Any staff member on site will be glad to assist you with the forms and answer any questions on procedures.

3.03C(1) Any grievance alleging a violation during championships competition shall be in writing and delivered to the duly appointed site director or designee prior to whichever occurs first: (a) within 30 minutes of the completion of the involved team's match or (b) the commencement of the involved team's next match, whether or not the involved player participates except for Administrative Grievances (See Reg. 3.03A(2), Eligibility Grievances (See Reg. 3.03B(3) and NTRP Grievances (See Reg. 3.03E(3).)

3.03E(3) NTRP Grievances will not be accepted at National Championships.

3.04B(1) The Grievance Appeal Committee shall not be required to hold any hearing except as provided in 3.04B(2). Its decision may be based entirely on the findings of fact by the Grievance Committee whose decision is being appealed and on the facts and arguments submitted in writing by the parties to the appeal.

### **Coaching**

No coaching allowed. No cell phones or electronic devices allowed on court.

### **Balls**

Pro Penn Marathon balls will be provided.

### **Player ID**

Tournament staff will conduct random checks of player ID at time of check-in for matches. If a player is without ID when asked for it, he/she will be asked to provide it before they can be sent on court.

### **Hydration Tips for playing in Warmer Weather**

Drink cool water or sport drinks during play. Sport drinks are especially helpful during long matches, in hot weather and for recovery after play. Use a similar hydration routine before, during and after practice.

### **Before Play**

- Drink 12-16 ounces about 1 hour before play begins.
- Drink fluids throughout the day.

-Prepare at least 2 quarts (64 ounces) to drink during play. Sports drinks are preferable for long matches or during play in hot weather.

#### **During Play**

- Drink 4 to 8 ounces (4 to 8 normal swallows) after the warm-up and during every changeover.
- Many players like to drink a sport drink or water, with an emphasis (e.g.,2:1) on the sport drink.
- For some players the fluid requirements may even be higher in very hot or humid environments.

#### **After Play**

- Weigh yourself before and after play and drink about 20-24 ounces of fluid for every pound of post-play body weight deficit.
- Immediately begin to replace fluid, electrolytes and carbohydrates with water, other fluids (e.g., juice, sport drinks, etc.) and food. Sport drinks are very effective if you are going to play again soon.
- Consider adding salt to your food and/or drinks if sweat losses were extensive.

#### **Inclement Weather**

Please note that the tournament format, number of matches and match length may change due to a team not showing up or circumstances beyond our control such as weather. However, rain or extreme heat could cause delays, modifications to the format, and possible cancellation of the tournament. There are NO back-up courts where the championship can be played in the event of rain.

In the event of rain or suspension of play caused by extreme heat, please remain at the tournament site until the tournament staff informs you of the play schedule. In the event of a long rain delay or heat suspension, it will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee to use an alternative-playing format.

**We will provide you a Hotline 800 number on-site to check for schedule changes or we will blast an email to notify you of any suspension of play.**

#### **Cancellation of the Tournament**

If the championship, or part of the championships is cancelled due to rain or unforeseen circumstances, the championship will not be rescheduled.

<b>Player and Tournament Details</b>
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#### **Mandatory Team Captain's Registration**

**WHERE: Mobile Tennis Center**

**WHEN: Thursday, September 22, from 4:30-5:30 PM**

**NOTE:** Completing the on line registration does not exclude the captain from attending the team registration. You will receive your team packet with line up cards, performance shirts and captain gifts during this time.

#### **Mandatory Captain's Meeting (Captains and Co-Captains Only)**

**WHERE: Mobile Tennis Center**

**WHEN: Thursday, September 22, 5:45-6:30 PM**

#### **SATURDAY EVENING PLAYER PARTY**

**WHERE: Mobile Marriott**

**WHEN: Saturday September 24 at 7:30 PM**

Free tickets for players includes two (2) free drinks....beer, wine or soft drinks.  
Guests pay \$20.00 per person - tickets for guests will be sold only at the Team Captain's Registration on Thursday.

Guest tickets will not be sold after Thursday! CASH ONLY – NO CREDIT CARDS

### **Trainers**

There will be a trainer on-site to assist with athletic injuries. He will have access to ice. For a medical emergency:

### **Emergencies**

Greater Mobile Urgent Care: 4402 Old Shell Road, Mobile, AL 36608 Phone: 251-633-0123  
Providence Hospital: 6801 Airport Blvd, Mobile, AL 36608 Phone: 251-633-1000

### **Awards**

Awards and banners will be presented to the teams that finish first through fourth.

### **Sportsmanship Awards**

Players will be given Sportsmanship Awards during the weekend – details will be provided at the captain's meeting.

### **Player Gift**

All players attending the National Championships will receive a championship shirt and towel.

### **Official Merchandise**

Official USTA League National Championship merchandise will be available for purchase on site and after the championship on our website at [www.usta.com/nationalchampionships](http://www.usta.com/nationalchampionships).

### **Team Photos**

Team photos will be taken throughout the weekend as well as candid shots. To schedule an appointment, team captains should make an appointment during the team registration. Photos are **FREE** at [www.usta.com/nationalchampionships](http://www.usta.com/nationalchampionships)

### **Website**

The USTA League National Championship home page will be updated with stories, photos and scores daily. Be sure your local newspaper sports editor, friends and family have the address so they can check the results at [www.usta.com/nationalchampionships](http://www.usta.com/nationalchampionships)

### **Tips for Players and Spectators**

We recommend that spectators bring an umbrella for protection from the sun and a portable chair – not all courts have adequate seating.

Players and spectators should bring their own water vessel to be sure to continuously hydrate.

Don't forget sunscreen and a visor or hat!!

### Transportation Details

#### **From the Mobile Regional Airport to Mobile Marriott (8 miles or 25 minutes driving time)**

- Go southwest on Airport Blvd/County Hwy 56
- Make a u turn onto Airport Blvd – stay on Airport Blvd for almost 8 miles
- Turn right just past Bel Air Blvd to Mobile Marriott

#### **From Mobile Marriott to Mobile Tennis Center (5 miles)**

- Go north on County Hwy 56/Airport Blvd
- Turn right onto Airport Blvd.
- Merge onto I-65 N toward Montgomery
- Take the Spring Hill Ave. exit 5A
- Turn Left onto Spring Hill Ave
- Spring Hill Ave becomes Zeigler Blvd
- Turn left onto Gaillard Drive
- Tennis center in on the right

