



USTA Southern Championship Tournament Overview

2017 Adult 55 & Over

USTA Southern would like to welcome each of you to the 2017 USTA Southern League Adult 55 & Over Championship. This weekend, we have more than 800 participants in Asheville, NC who will be competing for a sectional championship, and we look forward to a fun and exciting week of tennis!

This Tournament Overview provides players with all relevant information pertaining to a championship. Players should become well-versed with the Tournament Overview and Championship Procedures prior to arrival to a championship. The Tournament Overview and Championship Procedures can be found at www.southern55.com. Please note that either document may be amended at any time at the discretion of the Championship Committee and will be updated on web site within a reasonable amount of time.

Tournament Dates (Adult 55 & Over)

The tournament dates will be September 15-17, 2017. Please see more information regarding inclement weather on Championship Procedures.

Captain's Registration

The captain's registration will allow for captains to pick up all relevant items prior to championship start. This includes but is not limited to captain packets, most current schedules, captain gift, player gifts and lunch tickets (if applicable). The registration period will also allow captains the chance to ask any questions prior to the championship start and/or register any players that are not yet registered online.

Captain Registration Logistics

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel; 1 Resort Drive; Asheville, NC 28806

Date: Thursday, September 14, 2017 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM (eastern)

In order to give captains more time to arrive to the host city, there will be no captain's meeting. However, captains are expected to read over and relay all information in the captain's packet, Championships Overview and Championship Procedures to their players. For captains that do not attend the captain's registration, he/she may pick up their items prior to the start of their first scheduled match starting at 7:00 AM at the Asheville Racquet Club – Crowne Plaza.

Championship Tournament Staff

- Chris Walling: Southern Director of Adult Tennis and Championship Tournament Director
- Kenny Martin: Referee – Southern Adult 55 & Over (Wilmington, NC)
- Mary Engle: Scorekeeper – Southern Adult 55 & Over (Baton Rouge, LA)
- Helen Martin: Chair, Southern Adult League Committee (Columbus, GA)
- Cookie Guarini: Chair, Southern Championships Subcommittee (Greensboro, NC)
- Anna Martin: Member, Southern Adult League Committee (Wilmington, NC)
- Cheryl Thompson: Member, Southern Adult League Committee (Knoxville, TN)



- Carla Catalano: Member, Southern Championships Subcommittee (New Orleans, LA)
- Marita Edrosa: Southern Manager of NTRP & Championships

Championship Contacts

Marita Edrosa: USTA Southern Manager of NTRP & Championships: edrosa@sta.usta.com; 770-368-8200

*For any questions, captains only may reach out to championship contacts. Players should go to captains with all questions.

Championship Facilities

Championship Headquarters

Asheville Racquet Club – Crowne Plaza; 27 Resort Drive; Asheville, NC 28806

Additional Facilities

- Asheville Racquet Club South; 200 Racquet Club Road; Asheville, NC 28803
- Aston Park Tennis Center; 336 Hilliard Avenue; Asheville, NC 28801

Practice Courts

Players may not warm up at any time on the soft courts. At most tennis sites, players may warm up on the hard courts until 7:30 AM. Since we will be using tennis clubs, hard courts may be used for warm-up after 9:00 AM contingent on availability from the clubhouse front desk. If a club member requests the hard courts, players are to vacate court immediately.

Relevant Rules and Information

- In your captain packets, you will find your MOST RECENT team schedule and championship procedures. Please read over and be familiar with the championship procedures including our rainout policy.
- All teams should arrive to their site 30 minutes prior to match time ready to play.
- Scorecards for each match are in your packet. Print names clearly (both first and last name). Home team is on the left side, and visitor is on the right side. Names must be same as on official roster in TennisLink. We must be able to read your scorecard, as it will be used to enter results into TennisLink. Our staff will be inputting results into TennisLink after each round. DO NOT complete scorecards ahead of time. If you turn in a wrong scorecard, we cannot give it back.
- Site Directors will pre-assign courts for each team match and will introduce each player to their opponents, so it's very important to have all players ready when your team is called.
- Staying on schedule is contingent on getting players on and off the court as quickly as possible. Therefore, one person from each team is to report scores to the tournament desk immediately after each individual match. At the end of the team match, both captains report to site desk, review scores and sign scorecard.
- Do not bring alcohol to sites. If you can drink it there, it will be either provided or sold on site.



SOUTHERN



- For teams that advance to the USTA League **Adult 55 & Over** National Championship, each player must play 3 matches to qualify. The 3 matches can include your local play, state championship and sectional championship matches. One default is allowed in the 3 match requirement.
- Teams are expected to complete all individual courts/matches scheduled. A grievance may be filed against any team defaulting individual courts and/or an entire team match.
- Rain Delay #: CAPTAINS ONLY: **888-434-0998**. There may be some threats of rain throughout the tournament, and we will make sure we update the hotline as soon as possible. Captains should check this hotline an hour prior to their scheduled matches for all updates. Even if it's not raining at the hotel, I would encourage you to still call the rain hotline number, as it may be raining at the tennis center. Captains will also be given a "text" option where players can get immediate updates for the tournament.
- Awards presentations will be on site for both winning and finalist teams.
- Use our web page information. www.southern55.com. We will post all results, stories, updates and changes during the event on that site.
- Merchandise will be available at the facility headquarters. Cash, check or credit card.
- Lunches will be provided on **Friday** at facility headquarters for players.

Reminders from the Referee

- Cell Phone/Pager warning: This is your official warning. Please make sure all players have their cell phone and pager off or on vibrate. If a cell phone or pager goes off in the middle of a point, the opponent may claim the point.
- Scoring Format: All matches will be the best 2-out-of 3 sets with a 10-point match tiebreak in lieu of a full 3rd set. The Coman Tiebreak Procedure will be used for all tiebreaks (including the 10-point match tiebreak).
- Changeovers: The rest time for all changeovers is 90 seconds, except between sets which is limited to 2 minutes.
- Warm-Ups: Players are limited to a 10-minute warm-up prior to match play. If players exceed the 10 minutes, the players may be told to play regardless of where they are in warm-up, so it's important to stay within time on your warm-up.
- Medical Time-Outs: The player in need of the medical time-out should not leave the court. Immediately send someone not involved in the match to get a referee. All medical time-outs will be addressed in compliance with "Friend at Court."
- Bathroom Breaks: A player can take a bathroom break at any time but players should try to take breaks during changeovers or between sets.
- Rain Procedures: If there is a rain delay, players are not permitted to leave the tennis center unless otherwise released by the Tournament Director and/or Tournament Referee. If pulled from the courts due to rain, players must report their match scores in progress to the site coordinator.
- Point Penalty System (PPS): The PPS will be enforced. If a player is :01 to 5:00 minutes late, it is a loss of toss and 1 game for that player. If a player is 5:01 to 10:00 minutes late, it is a loss of toss and 2 games for that player. If a player is 10:01 to 15:00 minutes late, it is a loss



of toss and 3 games for that player. If a player is 15:01 minutes late, it is a default. The Championship Referee is responsible for issuing defaults for failure to arrive on time.

- Note: Matches are un-officiated and all issues should be resolved on the court by the players involved. The Championship Referee should only be requested if all players on court cannot resolve the problem on their own and if requested by the players on court. Spectators are not permitted to request a Referee unless the players on court request it.

Social Media & Marketing

- Like us on FaceBook! During the championship, we will be announcing prize winners. www.facebook.com/USTASouthern
- Team photos for both finalist teams will be taken prior to the final.
- Candid action shots will be taken periodically throughout the day.
- Penn has been a fantastic sponsor for the USTA League 55 & Over program. USTA Southern would like to give a shout out to Penn for the tremendous support given from them over the years.

USTA Southern would like to thank each and every captain for their volunteerism and dedication to our league program. There is a lot of work in captaining and your work and commitment is much appreciated. This championship event would not be possible without each of you, so thank you.

Please be nice to the site coordinators and other volunteers. They are giving up their time to provide you with an outstanding championship experience. Players who display inappropriate behavior to any of the site coordinators, volunteers and/or tournament staff may be subject to a sportsmanship grievance.