# For USTA League Tennis Adult and Mixed Divisions; USTA Southern Combo Division and Tri Level Division League Year 2025

**1.00 GENERAL** The Regulations in 1.00 GENERAL in conjunction with USTA National and USTA Southern regulations shall apply to all League Divisions (Adult and Mixed); as well as Southern Combo and Tri-Level.

#### 1.02 Governance

**1.02A Waiver of Rules and Procedures Prohibited** Printed below are the **Central Louisiana Legue** Regulations as authorized by the USTA League Tennis Regulations, USTA Southern Section Regulations, and USTA Louisiana Regulations.

**1.02B Amendments** Local League Coordinators may amend these **Central Louisiana Legue** Regulations with approval from the USTA Alexandria League Committee.

**1.02C Written Interpretation** The Local League Coordinators and/or Local League Council shall have the authority to interpret the **Central Louisiana Legue** Regulations.

#### 1.04B Administration.

**1.04B(3)c Local League Coordinators.** The Board of Directors of the local Community Tennis Associations are responsible for promoting the USTA League Programs in their area. Local League Coordinators are responsible for <u>implementing and</u> administering the USTA League Programs in their area.

**1.04B(3)c(i) League Code of Ethics.** All league administrators will adhere to the USTA Southern Section League Tennis Officials Code of Ethics (http://www.southern.usta.com/USA-League-Tennis-Pages/9305\_USTA\_Southern\_Section\_League\_Tennis\_Officials\_Code\_of\_Ethics\_As\_of\_21804/)

**1.04B(3)c(ii)** League Coordinator Responsibilities. Establish procedures and regulations for all aspects of their local league that are not covered by the national, sectional or state regulations. A copy of the local regulations must be submitted to the State/District League Coordinator for review prior to the league's team captain's meeting.

USTA League Tennis Regulations (National, Southern Section, State, Local) are available on louisianatennis.com.

**1.04B(3)c(iii) Captains Meeting.** A mandatory team captain's meeting must be held prior to the start of league play for each local league program. Topics to be covered include local regulations (provide internet links to National, Sectional, State regulations), championships eligibility requirements, and deadlines. Local league coordinators should review all regulations and procedures with new team captains. The captains meeting may be held by any of the following methods: in person, conference call, video call, webinar or email communications

#### 1.04C Official Information System

	Registration	Initial Roster	End Player		
	Start Date	Deadline	Registration	League	League
League	(team	(team	(Last day to add	Season Start	Season End
	registration	registration	players to existing	Date	Date
	opens)	Closes)	teams)		
18 & Over Adult	03/01/2025	03/14/2025	05/10/2025	03/20/2025	05/14/2024
40 & Over Adult	02/01/2025	02/16/2025	04/10/2025	02/21/2025	04/16/2025
55 & Over Adult	01/01/2025	01/12/2025	03/08/2025	01/18/2025	03/12/2025
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	06/01/2025	06/06/2025	08/01/2025	06/12/2025	08/06/2025
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	05/15/2025	05/30/2025	07/25/2025	06/05/2025	07/30/2025
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	05/15/2025	06/06/2025	08/01/2025	06/12/2025	08/06/2025
18 & Over Tri Level	06/01/2025	06/20/2025	08/15/2025	06/26/2025	08/20/2025
40 & Over Tri Level	06/01/2025	06/20/2025	08/15/2025	06/26/2025	08/20/2025
55 & Over Tri Level	06/01/2025	06/20/2025	08/15/2025	06/26/2025	08/20/2025
18 & Over Combo	08/01/2025	08/15/2025	10/10/2025	08/21/2025	10/15/2025
40 & Over Combo	08/15/2025	08/29/2025	10/20/2025	09/05/2025	10/29/2025
55 & Over Combo	08/01/2025	08/15/2025	10/10/2025	08/21/2025	10/15/2025

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**1.04C(1)a Team Registration.** The deadline date must be prior to the start of the local league season and must be no later than one (1) month prior to the state championship with local league schedules published, with times and facilities of local league matches. **Team Registration Dates/Deadlines (list by program or in chart above)** 

Team name format shall be as follows: Captain's LAST NAME/AGE GROUP/LEVEL/LEAGUE/FACILITY (MAX 4 LETTERS). Example: Smith/55/3.5/WD/ST

Failure to register a team in TennisLink by the established deadline date may result in the team being declared ineligible for the USTA League Program. The Local League Coordinator may amend local league team registration deadline dates in order to optimize flights.

**1.04C(1)b Player Additions.** All player additions to existing registered team rosters must be prior to the end of the local league season but no later than 14 days prior to the state championship. Players shall not be added to the team roster during local league flight playoffs or at any local leagues played during a state championship. Player Registration Dates/Deadlines (list by program or in chart above)

#### 1.04C(1)c League Fees & Financial Statement.

**1.04C(1)d.** The local Community Tennis Associations are responsible for making available a financial statement to the local team captains at the conclusion of each league year.

Any fees paid to the local league coordinator, level coordinators, league assistants, and/or league secretary must be itemized on the financial report.

#### 1.04C(1)e Enrollment Fees. The 2025 Central Louisiana Legue league year enrollment fees.

Any increase to Local League head tax must be approved by the USTA Louisiana Adult League Committee prior to the start of the leagues team registration.

League	USTA Louisiana Head Tax	(Local League) Head Tax	TennisLink Fee	Enrollment Fee
18 & Over Adult	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
40 & Over Adult	\$15.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$23.15
55 & Over Adult	\$10.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$18.15
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$23.15
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$23.15
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$10.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$18.15
18 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$23.15
40 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$23.15
55 & Over Tri Level	\$10.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$18.15
18 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$23.15
40 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$23.15
55 & Over Combo	\$10.00	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$18.15
lexible Format	\$2	\$5.00	<u>\$3.15</u>	\$10.15

#### 1.04C(1)f. USTA Louisiana Head Tax\_Local League Refunds.

- Local League player refunds will only be issued for the following: league did not make, injury, illness, or permanent move from local league area.
- If player participated in a later league where registration could have been transferred, a refund will not be issued.
- Refund request must be made prior to the state championship for league in which refund is being requested.
- Refund request must be documented via email to the LLC and that request may be required for refund.

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• Local league coordinators may move player registration to another league/team if player has not played any matches on team which requesting refund. Transfer of player registration can only be between 18/40 age group registrations to 18/40 age group team, 55 age group to 55 age group team.

•Refunds will be administered once a year in December for all qualifying refunds <u>requests</u> that could not be transferred.

• Each local league area has authority to decide how to handle their local league head tax refunds.

**1.04C(2)** Official Score Reporting and Standings System The initial entry of match scores into TennisLink <u>must take</u> place within 48 hours of the completion of the match. After match scores have been entered in TennisLink, they must be confirmed by the opposing team within 48 hours of the initial entry, or the initial score will automatically be considered valid. Failure to comply may subject teams to a grievance and/or double default.

#### 1.04D Local League.

**1.04D(3)** Local League Season. All local league matches should be completed two (2) weeks prior to the state championship.

- All local leagues shall obtain the approval of the State League Coordinator for the dates of the local league season(s).
- Any Local League whose matches are published in TennisLink beyond the Local League deadline date set by USTA Louisiana will be ineligible to advance to the league's USTA Louisiana State Championship unless your local league has been granted approval by USTA Louisiana due to extenuating circumstances.

**1.04D(4). (Local Area decision:** team roster limit and/or the number of players on that roster that are at a specific NTRP level, if applicable)

#### 1.04E Player Eligibility

**1.04E(1) Domicile and Residency Requirements.** Teams that play a local league at a state championship, advance directly to a state championship (if applicable for the Adult 65 & Over league) and/or play in a single-weekend local league tournament may have players from other areas as long as the 51% of players registered on each team, residency as shown in TennisLink is in the state of Louisiana. Players wishing to participate in Central Louisiana Tennis Association USTA league from Rapides Natchitoches, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Winn, and LaSalle Parishes may register to play at the USTA site Alexandria Aquatic and Racquet Club.

#### 1.04F Official League Rating Program

**1.04F(1)** Entry Players who do not have a valid NTRP rating level on file in TennisLink shall self- rate in accordance with the General & Experienced Player Guidelines – Supplement to the NTRP Guidelines and complete the self-rating process on TennisLink when registering for a team. Players who allow someone else to complete the self-rating process for them will be ultimately responsible and held accountable for information submitted or omitted. Failure to self-rate in accordance with the Guidelines, or omission of information regarding a player's tennis history, will subject the player as well as the captain and/or others who completed, assisted, condoned and/or approved an inappropriate self-rating to penalties under the League Suspension Point System. Players whose self-ratings are determined to be inaccurate or inappropriate shall be disqualified. (See Reg. 3.03E(1)a).

**1.04F(1)c.** Match results from Southern NTRP Tournaments in TennisLink and/or Serve Tennis and Southern Tri Level will be included in the 2025 year-end ratings.

# For USTA League Tennis Adult and Mixed Divisions; USTA Southern Combo Division and Tri Level Division League Year 2025

NTRP RATING LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO LEAGUE PLAY				
DIVISION	Age Group	PLAYER'S NTRP RATING LEVEL		
Adult	Straight NTRP levels <u>18 &amp; Over</u> 2.5, 3.0, 3.5,4.0,4.5 <u>40 &amp; Over</u> 3.0.3.5,4.0,4.5 <u>55 &amp; Over</u> 3.0.3.5,4.0 <u>**65 &amp; Over</u> 3.0,3.5,4.0	Current NTRP rating level and/or up to one level higher than_the player's current NTRP level.		
	Combined NTRP levels 55 & Over (9.0 Level) **65 & Over (9.0 Level)	Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP Level. NTRP rating level difference between partners may not exceed 1.0 The minimum NTRP Level for: 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0		
Mixed	Straight NTRP levels 18 & Over *2.5, 3.0, 3.5,4.0,4.5 40 & Over 3.0.3.5,4.0,4.5 **55 & Over 3.0.3.5,4.0 Combined NTRP Levels	Limited to 2.0 and 2.5 NTRP rated players Current NTRP rating level and/or up to one level higher than the player's current NTRP level.		
	18 & Over – <u>10.0</u> *55 & Over <u>– 9.0</u>	Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level. NTRP rating level difference between partners may not exceed 1.0 The minimum NTRP Level for: 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0; 10.0 is 4.5		
*Combo	18 & Over **2.5 Straight NTRP level	Limited to 2.0 and 2.5 NTRP rated players		
	Combined NTRP Levels 18 & Over 40 & Over 55 & Over	Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP The maximum NTRP Level for: 5.5 is 3.0; 6.5 is 3.5; 7.5 is 4.0; 8.5 is 5.0; 9.5 is 5.5; 10.5 is 6.0		
Tri Level	*18 & Over Div I –3.5, 3.0, 2.5, Div II – 4.0, 3.5, 3.0 Div III – 4.5, 4,0, 3.5 Div IV – 5.0, 4.5, 4.0 *40 & Over Div II – 4.0, 3.5, 3.0 Div III – 4.5, 4,0, 3.5 *55 & Over Div II – 4.0, 3.5, 3.0	Current NTRP rating level and/or up to one level above the player's current NTRP level. When using straight NTRP rating levels, player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the court NTRP level.		

\*\*Assigned and/or additional Divisions, Age Groups and Levels that USTA Louisiana will use.

**Self-ratings** are valid for two years from the date issued or until replaced by a dynamic or computer rating. If there is a change in their playing experience the player may appeal their rating up at that time or they may be promoted by the Sectional coordinator.

#### **1.04G PLAYER PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY.**

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**1.04G(6).** Any player who qualifies to advance to the USTA Louisiana State Championship in the Adult, Mixed, Southern Combo or Tri Level division may advance on more than one team within an age group only if they are different NTRP Levels. No accommodations for scheduling will be made at the USTA Louisiana Championships for teams with players that may be competing on two or more teams during a state championship.

#### 2.00 USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS

#### 2.01A NTRP Levels of Play

**2.01A(1)** When using straight NTRP levels, a player cannot have an NTRP rating higher than the NTRP level in which the player is competing.

DIVISION	Age Group	Levels	LEAGUE FORMAT	Points Awarded For	
Adult	18 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5	3.0, 3.5,4.0,4.5	2 singles and 3 doubles	3 individual wins	
	40 & Over	3.0, 3.5,4.0,4.5	1 singles and 3 Doubles	2 individual Wins	
	55 & Over	3.0, 3.5,4.0,4.5	3 Doubles	2 individual Wins	
Mixed	18 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	3 Doubles		
	40 & Over	3.0, 3.5,4.0,4.5	3 Doubles	2 individual Wins	
	55 & Over	55 & Over 3.0, 3.5,4.0,4.5 3 Doubles			
Combo	18 & Over	5.5,6.0,6.5,7.0,7.5,8.0	3 Doubles	2 individual Wins	
	40 & Over	5.5,6.0,6.5,7.0,7.5,8.0	3 Doubles		
	55 & Over	55 & Over 5.5,6.0,6.5,7.0,7.5,8.0 3 Double			
Tri Level	18 & Over	2.5,3.0,3.5 3.0,3.5,4.0 3.5,4.0,4.5	3 Doubles		
	40 & Over	2.5,3.0,3.5 3.0,3.5,4.0 3.5,4.0,4.5	2 individual Wins 3 Doubles		
	55 & Over	2.5,3.0,3.5 3 Doubles			

# 2.01C(3) – Team Match

**2.01C(3)a.** Each local league shall establish a procedure for ensuring the minimum required # of courts are played when the combination of individual match defaults given by the two teams in the team match results, or would result, in a situation where the majority of the individual matches would not be played, captains shall notify the Local League Coordinator who will reschedule the remaining un-played individual matches.

# 2.01C(4) Match Scoring and Formats

Local League format is defined in the Chart above 2.01C(3).

Points are awarded based on the format listed in chart 2.01C(3).

- Match scoring shall be the best of three tiebreak sets with a set tiebreak at 6-all. In the event of split sets, a match tie-break (10-point) shall be played in lieu of a third set. There will be a two minute set break at the end of each set with no coaching. Coman tiebreak procedure will be used in set tie-breakers and match tie-breakers.
- 40 & Over 4 court match: If tied 2-2, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following methods to do so: the tie shall be broken by the first of the following methods to do so: a) least sets lost; then least games lost; then game winning percentage; then winner of 1st court doubles.
- The team winning the majority of the individual matches shall be awarded one team point.
- If a Local League has a playoff, championship procedures must be used in the event of a tie. Please refer to national regulation 2.03H.

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# 2.01C(4)a Scoring of Retirements Below Championship Play.

A retirement occurs when an individual match has started and a player/doubles team is unable to continue due to injury, loss of condition, emergency, or refusal to play. If a full team retirement or combination of defaults and retirements occurs, a grievance may be filed. If the grievance is upheld, the match may be declared invalid and shall be scored following the local/sectional regulations. The Section below may impose further penalties on the defaulting and/or retiring team. Such penalties must follow the League Suspension System (See Regulation 3.03A(7) and 3.03D(4)).

• If a Local League has a playoff, championship procedures must be used in the event of a tie. Please refer to national regulation 2.03H.

# 2.01C(6) Team Lineups.

**2.01C(6)c.** Each local league will decide how to regulate rescheduling of team matches due to rules for making up matches rescheduled due to rain, inclement weather and/or USTA League-related conflicts.

- 1. Local league matches may be postponed on the day of the match based on weather predictions. Should rain occur prior to the match see #2
- 2. The host captain is responsible for contacting the park/club pro at the scheduled site to determine court playability. If park/club pro is unable to determine court conditions, home captains will be required to visit the site to make determination of court playability.
- 3. If a match is in progress, teams must wait one-half hour before rescheduling the match.
- 4. If rain delays the start of a match and match cannot be started within 30 minutes of scheduled match time, the match should be rescheduled.
- 5. When rolling courts are required, each team is responsible for rolling their ½ of courts being used. If a facility deems one side of the court playable and the opposing team refused to roll their ½ of courts, default principles shall be applicable.
- 6. When rain or inclement weather forces the cancellation and rescheduling of a team's match. Lineups would stand only for those individual matches that have already started (first serve attempt) their match. All other individual matches, even those that were in warm-up may be changed including defaulted courts.
- Rescheduled matches should be made up within two (2) weeks of originally scheduled match unless the state deadline date for the league is prior to the two (2) weeks, then matches need to be completed prior to the state deadline date.
- 8. Both Captains are responsible for ensuring matches are completed within the (2) week period.
- 9. If a match is not made up within the two week period or prior to state deadline dates, a league administrator may schedule the match.
- **10.** Host captain is responsible for reserving courts at the facility where the match was originally scheduled.
- It is recommended that details for all rescheduled courts be documented in writing/email (i.e.: date/time) between the two captains. Once both captains agree to a rescheduled date and time of a match, it is considered a scheduled match and default principles shall be applicable.
- **12.** If Conflict due to other USTA events the League Coordinator will meet with each captain and determine the appropriate time to reschedule.
- **13. Temperature** Local league matches will be canceled when the temperature (including wind chill) is below 40 degrees Fahrenheit at the start of the scheduled match unless both team captains agree to play.

**2.01C(6)e Team Defaults** .\_Louisiana Regulation: USTA Louisiana adopts the following regarding teams defaulting an entire team match during local league competition:

- Team remains obligated to play the remainder of all local league matches. These matches will be recorded in TennisLink for the purposes of satisfying match play requirements for opponents and NTRP calculations.
- All matches of a defaulting team may be removed from the stats and standings in TennisLink (if multiple round robins, the defaulting team may be removed from that round of play) UNLESS:
  - All teams with a mathematical chance to advance have already played the defaulting team in good faith, the matches shall stand as played when determining standings.
  - Extenuating circumstances presented by the Local League Coordinator may be considered by the USTA Louisiana Adult League Council prior to the team being removed from standings.

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 In addition, the USTA Louisiana Adult League Committee may file a grievance and impose further penalties on the defaulting team. Such penalties will follow the League Suspension System (See Regulation 3.03A(7) and 3.03D(4)).

#### 2.02 Progression

**2.02A(1)** Local Competition All local matches should be completed two (2) weeks prior to the USTA Louisiana State Championship. At the conclusion of the local league competition and/or local playoff, the Local League Coordinator shall notify the State League Coordinator of teams advancing to the state championships.

Advancing teams will be determined by the following:

**Levels with single flight**. Will be based on order of finish in final local league standings as reported on TennisLink.

**Levels with two flights.** Schedules included in the captain's packet shall include format for determining champions. Either single elimination finals between both first-place teams; single elimination between both first place teams and between both second place teams; round robin playoff between first and second place teams in each flight.

**Levels with three flights.** Schedules included in the captain's packet shall include format for determining champions. Round robin playoff between first place teams in each flight and team with next best record recorded in TennisLink.

**Team Replacement for Playoffs.** If a team elects not to advance to local league playoffs that team may be replaced by team with the next best record as recorded in TennisLink from the same flight.

#### 2.02A(2) Local Champion

See the 2025 USTA Louisiana Championship Procedures for deadline dates and deposit hold requirements for advancing teams to guarantee spot in the state championship draw.

Please refer the <u>2025</u> USTA Louisiana Championship Procedures for full championship details including registration information, dates, location and procedures.

**2.04B NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Procedures.** Dynamic ratings will be calculated for all Adult **and Mixed National Championship Advancing League Division** players during local league competition and at every level of championship competition including National Championships to determine if any players have reached the NTRP Dynamic Disqualification criteria stated in the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System Procedures. Players subject to NTRP Dynamic Disqualification, as described in the *NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Table* will be dynamically disqualified if they reach the disqualification level three times based on all matches except retirements received.

#### 2.05C Appeal of Year-End Ratings.

Year-end NTRP valid computer rating levels may be appealed or denied through TennisLink except for 2.05D *Medical Appeals.* 

**2.05D Medical Appeals.** A \$100 filing fee will be required for all Medical Appeal submissions. The filing fee will only be returned to the filing party if the medical appeal is submitted to the USTA National Medical Appeals Committee.

# **3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

#### 3.01 ADMINISTRATION

# 3.01 ADMINISTRATION.

All local league regulations will include the names of grievance and grievance appeal committee members and will be distributed to captains prior to the beginning of the local league season. Grievance decisions that impose sanctions will be upheld throughout the USTA Southern Section.

# For USTA League Tennis Adult and Mixed Divisions; USTA Southern Combo Division and Tri Level Division

League Year 2025

**3.01A(1) Local.** Each local league shall appoint a Local League Grievance Committee. Additional members may be added as needed.

**3.01B(1)** Local Grievance Appeals Committee Grievance committees will be chosen from the list of CLTA USTA League Players listed at end of these regulations. Additional members may be added as needed.

#### **3.03 Grievance Complaints**

**3.03B(1)** Local League Procedures Grievance committees will be chosen from the list of CLTA USTA League Players listed at end of these regulations. Additional members may be added as needed.

**3.03E(4)** NTRP Grievance Complaint. NTRP Grievances shall be filed in writing with the Local/District/Area League Coordinator or designee having jurisdiction. NTRP Grievances shall be administered by the USTA Southern Grievance Committee.

#### 2025 USTA (Local League) League Committees:

Administrator: Cindy Hargrove <u>Cindyhargrove@bellsouth.net</u> 318-308-3538 Coordinators: Cynthia Griffin <u>ccnadnangriffin@gmail.com</u> 318-623-2970

Grievance Committees: Molly Sooter, Rosemary Walton, Kirstan Hebert, Cindy Hargrove, Francisco Accuna, Sara Edwards