Central Louisiana Regulations

For USTA League Divisions (Adult and Mixed) as well as USTA Southern Combo and Tri Level League Year 2021

1.00 GENERAL. The Regulations in 1.00 General, 2.00 USTA Leagues Regulations and 3.00 Grievance Procedures in conjunction with USTA National, USTA Southern and USTA Louisiana regulations shall apply to USTA League Divisions (Adult and Mixed) as well as USTA Southern Combo and Tri Level.

Waiver of Rules and Procedures Prohibited. Printed below are the Central Louisiana Regulations as authorized by the USTA National League Regulations, USTA Southern Section Regulations, and USTA Louisiana Regulations.

Amendments. These Central Louisiana Regulations may be amended by the Central Louisiana League Council with approval of the Central Louisiana Community Tennis Association Executive Board.

Written Interpretation. The Local League Coordinators, in conjunction with the Central Louisiana Community Tennis Association shall have the authority to interpret the Central Louisiana Regulations.

USTA League Program (1.04A).

	TEAM COMPOSITION/MATCH FORMAT/TEAM SCORING/NTRP RATING LEVELS FOR ENTRY						
Division	Age Group	Minimum # of Players	Gender	Match Format	Team Point Awarded for	NTRP LEVEL	
	18 & Over: 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	8	Same Gender	2 Singles 3 Doubles	3 Individual wins	A player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level	
	18 & Over: 4.5 Women	8	Same Gender	1 Singles 3 Doubles	3 Individual wins	Current NTRP level and/or up to one level higher than the player's current NTRP	
	18 & Over: 2.5, <u>5.0 and OPEN</u>	5	Same Gender	1 Singles 2 Doubles	2 Individual Wins	40 & Over – 4 court match: If tied 2-2, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following methods to do so: a) least sets lost;	
Adult	40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	7	Same Gender	1 Singles 3 Doubles	3 individual matches won;	then least games lost; then game winning percentage; then winner of 1st court doubles.	
	<u>40 & Over</u> Open	6	Same Gender	3 Doubles	2 Individual Wins	A player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level.	
	55 & Over 65 & Over Straight Levels 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, Combined Levels 9.0	6	Same Gender	3 Doubles	2 Individual Wins	Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level. NTRP difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0. The minimum NTRP Level for Combined Levels is: 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0.	
	18 & Over: 2.5 Straight NTRP levels	3 men and 3 women able to combine and compete	Men and Women	3 Doubles	2 Individual Wins	Limited to 2.0 and 2.5 NTRP rated players	
Mixed	18 & Over: 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0				2 Individual Wins	Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level.	
	40 & Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0					NTRP difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0.	
	55 & Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0					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.	
	18 & Over 2.5 Straight NTRP levels	6 players able to combine and	Same Gender	3 Doubles	2 Individual Wins	When using straight NTRP levels, a player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level.	
Combo	18 & Over 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5					Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level.	
	40 & Over 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5 *55 & Over	compete				The maximum NTRP Level for:	
	6.5, 7.5, 8.5					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	
	18 & Over 2.5, 3.0, 3.5 (W) 3,0, 3.5, 4.0 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 6 players able to		3 Doubles –				
Tri-Level	40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 3.5,4.0,4.5	combine and compete	Same Gender	one doubles court from each level	2 Individual Wins	Current NTRP level and/or up to one level higher than the player's current NTRP level.	
	55 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0						

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1.04B Administration.

Local League Coordinators. Local league administrators who include Local League Coordinators and Board of Directors of the Central Louisiana Tennis Association are responsible for implementing and administering the USTA League Tennis Programs in their area.

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-Tennisages/9305_USTA_Southern_Section_League_Tennis_Officials_Code_of_Ethics

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

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

Official Information System (1.04C).

League	Registration	Initial Roster	End Player Registration	League Season Start	League Season End
	Start Date	Deadline	(Last day to add players to existing	Date	Date
	(team registration opens)	(team registration Closes)	teams)		
18 & Over Adult	1/11/21	2/28/21	3/31/21	2/28/21	4/25/21
40 & Over Adult	01/11/21	2/28/21	3/31/21	2/28/21	4/15/21
55 & Over Adult	01/9/21	3/1/21	3/30/21	3/01/21	3/31/21
65 & Over Adult	TBD	8/24/21	9/17/21	n/a	n/a
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	6/15/21	06/28/21	8/1/21	7/1/21	8/20/21
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	6/15/21	06/28/21	8/1/21	7/1/21	8/20/21
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	06/15/21	06/28/21	8/1/21	7/1/21	8/20/21
18 & Over Tri Level	4/15/21	5/6/21	6/15/21	5/10/21	8/06/21
40 & Over Tri Level	4/15/21	5/6/21	6/15/21	5/10/21	8/06/21
55 & Over Tri Level	4/15/21	5/6/21	6/15/21	5/10/21	8/06/21
18 & Over Combo	9/1/21	9/7/21	10/10/21	9/10/21	10/22/21
40 & Over Combo	9/1/21	9/7/21	10/1/21	9/10/21	10/15/21
55 & Over Combo	9/1/21	9/7/21	10/10/21	<u>9/10/21</u>	10/22/21

1.04C Official Information System

Team Registration.

- See Chart 1.04C for specific League.
- Central Louisiana League Council may authorize an extension to the team registration deadline in order to optimize scheduling.

Player additions Deadlines. See Chart 1.04C above for specific League.

League Fees & Financial Statement).

- The CLTA 2021 League financial statement is included in Captains packet. Additional copies of the financial statement are available from the CTA.
- 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.

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Enrollment Fees.

League	USTA Louisiana Head Tax	(Local League) Head Tax	TennisLink Fee	Enrollment Fee
18 & Over Adult	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$23.00
40 & Over Adult	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$23.00
55 & Over Adult	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$18.00
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$23.00
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$23.00
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$18.00
18 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$23.00
40 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$23.00
55 & Over Tri Level	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$18.00
18 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$23.00
40 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$23.00
55 & Over Combo	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$18.00

Facility Fees.

- All applicable court fees are due by the leagues scheduled captains meeting.
- Late fees may be imposed to teams not paying applicable court fees by the due date.
- It is the team's responsibility to obtain fee amounts pertaining to any facility. Fees must be paid in full to the facility before a team will be allowed to play their first match.
- The team is ineligible for league play until all league fees/court fees have been paid.

Returned Checks.

- Any returned check must be cleared within 7 days of notification.
- The team is ineligible for league play until the fees have been paid.

Official Score Reporting and Standings System.

 If completed match scores are not recorded on TennisLink within 48 hours of the completion of the match, the Local League Coordinator may issue a warning via email to both team captains to enter match scores by a specified date and time. If scores are not entered on TennisLink by the specified date and time, the match may be recorded and confirmed on TennisLink as a double default. Local Area Team Default penalties may be applied.

1.04D Local League

Local League Season. All local matches shall be completed two (2) weeks prior to the state championship

- See chart 1.04C for each Division's league season dates.
- 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.

1.04E Player Eligibility.

Domicile and Residency Requirements.

USTA Louisiana will have no residency requirements for local league play. Exception: Any team playing a local league at a state championship and/or advance directly to a state championship may have players from other areas as long as the majority of players reside in the State of Louisiana.

Players wishing to participate in Central Louisiana Tennis Association USTA League from Rapides Parish, Natchitoches Parish, and Avoyelles Parish may register to play at the following USTA sites: Alexandria Aquatic and Racquet Club, City of Alexandria Tennis facility, or Ward Ten Tennis facility.

1.04E(3) Age. Players must be 18 years of age prior to participating in the USTA League program. Each player over the age of 18 shall have reached the required minimum age prior to or during the calendar year in which such player participates in his or her first local league.

1.04F Official League Rating Program

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1.04F(1) Entry. A player without a valid NTRP rating level in TennisLink, a returning player with an expired NTRP rating level, a Tournament Exclusive (T) rated player or a Mixed Exclusive (M) rated player who does not have a valid computer (C) rating from a previous year and chooses to participate in the Adult Division, must self-rate to be assigned a new rating, reassigned to their last expired rating or a higher rating based on their playing history to enter the USTA League Program as shown in table 1.04A.

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.

Court Conduct.

- Any captain, player or fan verbally or physically abusing an opposing player, player on the same team or any other individual may be asked to leave the facility.
- In cases of extreme unsportsmanlike conduct, the Local League Council may take additional disciplinary action. A grievance may be filed and penalties may include, but are not limited to, suspension from all league play for up to one year. Team captains are responsible for informing their players and spectators of possible consequences for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Electronic Devices.

- A player may not use electronic devices such as cell phones, smart watches, digital messaging systems, radios, mp3 players, or any device capable of receiving communication during USTA League (FAC USTA Comment 30.1.).
- If a cell phone rings during a point, the opponent may stop the point and claim the point based on deliberate hindrance (FAC USTA Comment 26.3).

1.04F Official League Rating Program.

Entry. A player must enter league play in accordance with the table 1.04A.

1.04G Player Participation Eligibility.

- 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.

2.01 USTA LEAGUES REGULATIONS.

2.01A NTRP Levels of Play. See Chart 1.04A.

2.01C Competition Format.

Team Match. For each team match, a majority of the individual matches must actually be played to constitute a valid team match.

• 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.

Court Surfaces.

- Courts for Local League Play. "Home teams" will have the choice of court surface for which they wish to play their home matches. The use of tennis-related blended lines are permitted on courts used for local league matches. The use of other lines for another sport, such as Pickleball, are not permitted on courts used for local league matches.
- The League Coordinator shall provide court surface details to team captains with the captain's packet/schedule. Each individual court of a team match shall be scheduled on the same court surface (hard, clay) if possible.
- Team captains/representatives of any teams hosting matches where the court surface is undetermined at

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the time the original schedule is published shall contact the opposing team captain/representative one (1) week prior to the match with details on which court will be playing on which surface. No names are required, just court positions. Failure by the host team to inform the visiting team will result in the decision on which court is played on which surface being passed to the visiting team.

Match Scoring and Formats.

- 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 tiebreakers.
- The team winning the majority of the individual matches shall be awarded one team point.
 - 40 & Over 4 court match: If tied 2-2, 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.
- In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so: Winner of the most individual matches (courts); then winner of Head-to-head; then least sets lost; then least games lost; ; then highest game winning percentage; then a coin toss.

Team Lineups. The team captains shall exchange their lineups simultaneously prior to the start of team match.

- No substitution may be made in an individual match after the lineup has been presented, except for illness, injury, disqualification, or no-show of a player prior to the start of an individual match.
- A team may substitute a player in the affected position within the 15 minute default time, using a player not already listed on the lineup.
- The substitute player is entitled to a five (5) minute warm-up.
- Warm-up. Central Louisiana local league shall observe a ten (10) minute warm-up, which includes serves.
- **Default time** is fifteen (15) minutes past scheduled match time when courts are available. If courts are not available at match time, the 15 minute default clock begins when first court for the team match becomes available.

Rescheduling Local League Matches Inclement Weather

- 1. Local league matches may not be postponed till one hour before scheduled match.
- 2. The host captain is responsible for contacting the park/club pro at scheduled site to determine court playability. If park/club pro is unable to determine court conditions, both captains will be required to visit the site to make determination of court playability.
- 3. If match is in progress, teams must wait one-half hour before rescheduling 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 is required, each team is responsible for rolling their ½ of courts being used. If facility deems one side of court playable and 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. Line-ups 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.

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.

Playoff Matches.

- 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.
- USTA Southern permits each local league to continue using the same local league team format through local league playoffs. Said team format for local league playoff structure shall be listed in each applicable local league regulations. All other requirements for "championship" play must be followed for local league playoffs.

Advancing Teams.

A Local League match shall be rescheduled upon request if 50% the minimum required players for the match are

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- Captain of advancing team shall notify opposing captain seven (7) days prior to scheduled match that team is advancing and scheduled match and/or courts may need to be rescheduled. Exception: if team receives late entry into a championship then advancing captain has 24 hours after entry to notify opposing team captain
- Consideration will be given for appropriate travel time to the Championship.
- All scheduled courts not affected should be played as scheduled.
- Team requesting reschedule is responsible for canceling courts not being used for scheduled match. Failure to release courts may result in additional court fees for requesting team.
- It is recommended to reschedule matches prior to the originally schedule date and the two (2) week make up regulation shall apply.

Division	Age Group	Minimum # of Players	# Players = 50% Minimum Required Players	
	18 & Over: 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	8	4	
	18 & Over: 2.5 and 5.0	5	3	
Adult	40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5		3	
	55 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0 combined	6	3	
Mixed	All Age Groups/Levels	3 men and 3 women able to combine and compete	1 man or 1 women	
Combo	All Age Groups/Levels	e Groups/Levels 6 players able to combine and compete		
Tri-Level	All Age Groups/Levels	6 players able to combine and compete	1 player from any NTRP	

Under special circumstances.

• If both captains agree, a match may be rescheduled with the approval of the local league coordinator. Matches scheduled at facilities may incur additional court fees for rescheduling of matches. It is recommended to reschedule the match before the originally scheduled date and the two week make up regulation will apply.

201C(5) Team Defaults.

2.01C(5)e. When a team default (As defined by 2.03K Team Default regulation) occurs in local league play the Local League Coordinator shall submit to the State League Coordinator a recommendation on how the default should be handled. Exception for two team leagues: No team may advance beyond local league play if a team default occurs regardless of the number of team matches scheduled.

The recommendation should support the answer to the following question:

Should the team default stand (scored as a 6-0, 6-0 loss on each individual match forfeited) thus allowing the team to remain eligible to advance beyond local competition?

If the answer is yes:

The default will stand, allowing the team to advance beyond local play.

If the answer is no:

- For leagues playing a single round robin:
 - The team will be removed from standings in round robin play unless all teams with a mathematical chance to advance have already played the defaulting team in good faith, in which case, the matches shall stand as played when determining standings.
- For leagues playing multiple round robins (choose one):
 - The team will be removed from standings in the affected round only, or
 - The team will be removed from standings in all round robins

The defaulting team may be ineligible to advance beyond local league but 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

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requirements for opponents and NTRP calculations for all players involved

The State League Coordinator, upon review of the facts and circumstances presented by the Local League Coordinator shall approve or deny the local league recommendation.

2.02 Progression.

2.02 A Local Competition.

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. **Local Champion.**

Advancing teams are required to register and pay entry fee for at least the leagues minimum number of
players online through the championship website 10 days prior to the start of the state championship to
guarantee spot in the state championship draw. See USTA Louisiana Championship Website for additional
details and deadline dates for player registration.

DISTRICT/AREA, SECTION AND NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Eligibility.

		MATCHES REQU	JIRED TO ADVANCE TO C	HAMPIONSHIPS		
		Sectional Champions	hips and Below	NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP		
Divisions	Age Group	Local Matches Required for <u>Local League Playoffs,</u> State and Section Championship	Default received counting to advance	Minimum Matches through Section Championship	Defaults received counting to advance	
	18 & Over				All players other than self-	
Adult	40 & Over	2	1	All players other than self-rated and computer-rated appealed	rated and computer-rated appealed players:	
	55 & Over			players:	appealed players.	
	18 & Over	2	1	3 matches on the same team.	1 default received shall count	
Mixed	40 & Over	2	1	Self-rated and computer-rated appealed players	Self-rated and computer- rated appealed players	
				4 matches on the same team	No default received shall count	
	Minim	um matches to advance to	Section Championship	s for States with 2 or more team	ns	
Adult	Open Divisions	0	0	Not Part of National Program		
	65 & Over	1	1	Not Part of Nation	nal Program	
	18 & Over					
Combo	40 & Over	1	1	Not Part of National Program		
	55 & Over					
Mixed	55 & Over	1	1	Not Part of Sectional or National Program		
	18 & Over					
Tri Level	40 & Over	1	1	Not Part of National Program		
	55 & Over					

A RETIRED match shall count for all players

Adult 18 & Over "Open" and Adult 40 & Over "Open": State associations have authority to mandate advancement requirements to their applicable state championship. For 2021 only, one "Open" team per state will be permitted to advance directly to the Southern championships if there was no local or state play.

Year-End NTRP Computer Ratings and Appeals Procedures.

Appeal of Year-end Ratings. Year-end NTRP published computer rating levels may be appealed or denied through

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TennisLink except for 2.05D Medical Appeals.

To appeal year end rating: log into TennisLink – USTA Leagues page. Select "Appeal Rating". Player will know instantly if appeal is granted or denied. Players are responsible for appealing their own rating.

3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES.

3.01 ADMINISTRATION

A \$100 filing fee will be required for all General/Sportsmanship, Championship and/or Administrative Grievance and Grievance Appeals that are heard at the USTA Louisiana state level. The filing fee will only be returned to the grieving party if a penalty is imposed. The filing fee will take effect on the date the Louisiana State Regulations are approved by the USTA Louisiana Executive Board.

3.01A(1) Local Grievance 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.

3.01B(1) Local Grievance Appeals Committee. Grievance appeal 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. All local grievances, appeals and NTRP complaints and appeals will be submitted to the Leagues Local League Coordinator. Coordinator contact information is at bottom of these regulations.

2021 Central Louisiana Tennis Association Council:

Central Louisiana Local League Coordinator Cynthia Griffin (kgriffinfam@aol.com)

Central Louisiana Tennis Association President Cindy Hargrove (cindyhargrove@bellsouth.net)

Grievance and Grievance Appeals Committees will be chosen from the following: Molly Sooter, Rosemary Walton, Patti Hargis, Cindy Hargrove, India Reid, Donna Newton, Wendy Steele, Olive Abella, Nita Bowers