

NORTHEAST LOUISIANA TENNIS ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS
For USTA League Tennis Adult and Mixed Divisions; USTA Southern Combo Division and Tri Level Division
League Year 2021

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 (NELACTA) Regulations as authorized by the USTA League Tennis Regulations, USTA Southern Section Regulations, and USTA Louisiana Regulations.

1.02B Amendments NELA CTA Coordinator may amend these (NELA CTA) Regulations with approval from the (NELA CTA governing body).

1.02C Written Interpretation The Local League Coordinator and/or Local League Council shall have the authority to interpret the (NELA CTA) Regulations.

1.04B Administration.

1.04B(3)c Local League Coordinators. Local league administrators who include Local League Coordinators and Board of Directors of the local Community Tennis Associations are responsible for administering and promoting 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 League Coordinator for review prior to the leagues team captain’s meeting.

USTA League Tennis Regulations (National, Southern Section, State, Local) are available on (NELACTA website or louisianatennis.com prior to the start of local league competition).

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

League	Registration Start Date (team registration opens)	Initial Roster Deadline (team registration Closes)	End Player Registration (Last day to add players to existing teams)	League Season Start Date	League Season End Date
18 & Over Adult	3/1	3/31	5/14	3/31	5/19
40 & Over Adult	1/4	3/1	4/26	3/1	4/28
55 & Over Adult	1/4	2/8	3/29	2/8	3/31
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	6/14	6/14	8/18	6/14	8/18
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	6/14	6/14	8/18	6/14	8/18
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	6/14	6/14	8/18	6/14	8/18
18 & Over Tri Level	6/14	6/14	8/4	6/14	8/4
40 & Over Tri Level	6/14	6/14	8/4	6/14	8/4
55 & Over Tri Level	6/14	6/14	8/4	6/14	8/4
18 & Over Combo	8/14	8/16	10/13	8/16	10/13
40 & Over Combo	8/14	8/16	10/13	8/16	10/13
55 & Over Combo	8/14	8/16	10/13	8/16	10/13

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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 of the state championship with local league schedules published. See chart 1.04C for league specific dates.

1.04C(1)b Player Additions. All player additions to existing registered team rosters must be made no later than 14 days prior to the state championship except for local leagues played during a state championship. See chart 1.04C for league specific dates.

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. A copy of financial statement can be obtain upon request from the NELACTA treasurer.

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 2021 (NELACTA) 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	\$7	\$3.00	\$25
40 & Over Adult	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$25
55 & Over Adult	\$10.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$20
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$25
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$25
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$10.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$20
18 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$25
40 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$25
55 & Over Tri Level	\$10.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$20
18 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$25
40 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$25
55 & Over Combo	\$10.00	\$7	\$3.00	\$20
Flexible Format	\$2	\$7	\$3.00	\$12

1.04C(1)f Local League Refunds.

- Local League player refunds will only be issued for the following: injury, illness, or permanent move from local league area. Refunds only issued if a transfer is impossible in respective league year.
- Player must not have played any matches on team which requesting refund.
- 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.
- 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.
- If player participated in a later league where registration could have been transferred, a refund will not be issued.
- Refunds will be administered once a year in December for all qualifying refunds request **that could not be transferred.**

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1.04C(2) Official Score Reporting and Standings System The initial entry of match scores into TennisLink should take 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.

- 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.

1.04D(4) Team. There is no limit to the number of players that appear on a team roster and no limit to the number of players on that roster that are at a specific NTRP level, with the exception of a two team league. Each team must have the minimum number of players shown in the table in the State Regulations. See 1.04D(5)

1.04D(6): 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.

1.04E Player Eligibility

1.04E(1) 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. Local League matches shall be scheduled the follow locations: Forsythe, Monroe Athletic Club, University of Monroe and Bayou Desiard.

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

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

NTRP RATING LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO LEAGUE PLAY		
DIVISION	Age Group	PLAYER’S NTRP RATING LEVEL
Adult	Straight NTRP levels 18 & Over 40 & Over 55 & Over *65 & Over	Current NTRP rating level and/or up to one level above the player’s current NTRP level.
	Combined NTRP levels 55 & Over *65 & Over	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

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NTRP RATING LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO LEAGUE PLAY		
DIVISION	Age Group	PLAYER'S NTRP RATING LEVEL
Mixed	18 & Over *2.5 Straight NTRP levels	Limited to 2.0 and 2.5 NTRP rated players
	18 & Over 40 & Over **55 & Over Combined NTRP Levels	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
	18 & Over 40 & Over 55 & Over Combined NTRP Levels	Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level. 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 – 2.5,3.0,3.5 (Women) Div II – 3.0, 3.5,4.0 Div III – 3.5,4.0,4.5	Current NTRP rating level and/or up to one level above the player's current NTRP level
	**40 & Over Div I – 2.5,3.0,3.5 Div II – 3.0, 3.5,4.0	When using straight NTRP rating levels, player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the court NTRP level.
	**55 & Over Div II – 3.0, 3.5,4.0	NTRP rating level difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0
<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Southern Notes:</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;"><u>15.0 minimum NTRP & higher to participate in Adult 18 & Over "Open"</u></p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;"><u>24.5 minimum NTRP & higher to participate in Adult 40 & Over "Open"</u></p> <p style="margin: 0;">*Assigned and/or additional Divisions, Age Groups and Levels that USTA Southern will use.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">**Assigned and/or additional Divisions, Age Groups and Levels that USTA Louisiana will use.</p>		

1.04G PLAYER PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY.

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

2.01C(2)– Team Match: Each league will have the option to play either an eight game pro set or two sets with a third set tie breaker.

	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)	(5 courts-2 singles, 3 doubles)	(3 individual wins)
	18 & Over 2.5 women, 2.5 men*, 5.0 and Open	2.5, 5.0 and Open	3 courts - 1 single, 2 doubles	(2 individual wins)

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	Age Group	Levels	LEAGUE FORMAT	Points Awarded For
	40 & Over	3.0,3.5,4.0, 4.5	(4 courts - 1 singles, 3 doubles))	(3 individual wins) <u>If tied 2-2, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following methods to do so: least sets lost; then least games lost; then game winning percentage; then winner of 1st court</u>
		<u>Open</u>	<u>(3 courts - 3 double)</u>	<u>(2 individual wins)</u>
	55 & Over	3.0,3.5,4.0	(3 courts - 3 double)	(2 individual wins)
	65 & Over	3.0,3.5,4.0	(local at state)	
Mixed	18 & Over	2.5, 6.0,7.0,8.0,9.0	(3 courts doubles)	(2 individual wins)
	40 & Over	6.0,7.0,8.0	(3 courts doubles)	
	55 & Over	6.0,7.0,8.0	(3 courts doubles)	
Combo	18 & Over	2.5, 5.5,6.5,7.5,8.5,9.5	(3 courts doubles)	(2 individual wins)
	40 & Over	5.5,6.5,7.5,8.5,9.5	(3 courts doubles)	
	55 & Over	6.5,7.5,8.5,9.5	(3 courts doubles)	
Tri Level	18 & Over	2.5, 3.0, 3.5 (W) 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	(3 courts doubles)	(2 individual wins)
	40 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0 3.5,4.0,4.5	(3 courts doubles)	
	55 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0	(3 courts doubles)	

2.01C(2)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. 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(3) Match Scoring and Formats - see chart 2.01C(2)

- Match scoring shall be the best of three tiebreaker sets with a set tiebreaker (7pt) at 6-all. In the event of split sets, a match tiebreak (10pt) shall be played in lieu of a third set.
- The team winning the majority of the individual matches shall be awarded one team point.
- 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 b) least games lost; then c) game winning percentage; then d) winner of 1st court doubles.
- 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.

2.01C(5) Team Lineups.

2.01C(5)c. Local League matches can only be cancelled by the local league coordinator. If match in progress is interrupted by rain, teams must wait one hour before rescheduling. If a rain delayed match can't be started within 60 minutes of scheduled match time, match should be rescheduled. If the temperature at match time fails below 40 degrees (day match) or 45 degrees (night match after 5:00 pm) match may be reschedule. Local League Coordinator MUST be notified prior to any rescheduled match. The Local League Coordinator will reschedule matches that have to be re scheduled due to rain, inclement weather and/or USTA League-related conflicts.

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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 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

2.02A(1) Local Competition All local matches should be completed two (2) weeks prior to the USTA Louisiana State Championship.

- 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.

All local teams will complete scheduled matches for league. A winning team with the most Team Points listed in TennisLink will be declared champion. The winning team at each level will be recognized as the local representative at state. All local matches should be completed two weeks prior to the USTA Louisiana State Championship.

2.02A(2) 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.

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*.

3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

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.

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3.01A(1) Local. Grievance committees will be chosen from the list of NELACTA USTA League Players listed at the 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 NELACTA USTA League Players listed at the end of these regulations. Additional members may be added as need

3.03 Grievance Complaints

3.03B(1) Local League Procedures All local grievances, appeals and NTRP complaints and appeals will be submitted to: (Lorenzo Treadway, 1900 Lamy Lane, Suite H, Monroe, LA 71201, (318) 237-4142) Email address: lorenzo.treadway@gmail.com. See USTA National League Tennis Regulations 3.00 for procedures that must be followed to file local grievances, appeals and NTRP complaints.

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.

2021 USTA NELA CTA League Committees:

(NELA CTA)Administrator: Kathryn Waters

(NELA CTA)Coordinators: Kathryn Waters- Adult League, Combo; Carol Strider-Tri-level; Lorenzo Treadway-Mixed.

Grievance Committees and Grievance Appeals Committees: The committee shall be the CTA Executive Committee consisting of Bob Holladay, Marilyn Landry, Bill Meche, Sue Blackford, Sharon Dollins, Paul Vingiello, and Rhonda Flemister