

**NORTHEAST LOUISIANA TENNIS ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS**  
**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 (NELA CTA) 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

**1.02C Written Interpretation** The Local League Coordinators 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.** Louisiana Regulation Local League Coordinators are responsible for administering the USTA League Programs in their area. The Board of Directors of the local Community Tennis Associations are responsible for promoting and implementing 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/](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 leagues team captain’s meeting.

USTA League Tennis Regulations (National, Southern Section, State, Local) are available on (<http://www.nelouisianatennis.usta.com/> 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 (minimum number of players)	End Player Registration (Last day to add players to existing teams)	League Season Start Date	League Season End Date
18 & Over Adult	1/5	3/15	05/15	3/16	5/16
40 & Over Adult	1/5	2/15	04/17	2/16	4/18
55 & Over Adult	1/5	2/1	3/27	2/1	3/28
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	3/15	5/15	7/31	5/16	8/1
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	3/15	5/15	7/31	5/16	8/1
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	3/15	5/15	7/31	5/16	8/1
Tri Level	3/15	5/15	8/21	5/16	8/22
18 & Over Combo	6/1	8/15	10/16	08/16	10/17
40 & Over Combo	6/1	8/15	10/23	08/16	10/24
55 & Over Combo	6/1	8/15	10/16	08/16	10/17

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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. See chart 1.04C for league specific dates.

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

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 made no later than 14 days prior to the state championship, including local leagues played during a 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. 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 the financial statement can be obtained 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 2025 (NELACTA) league year enrollment fees. (Listed by Program)

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	\$3.15	\$25.15
40 & Over Adult	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$25.15
55 & Over Adult	\$10.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$20.15
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$25.15
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$25.15
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$10.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$20.15
18 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$25.15
40 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$25.15
55 & Over Tri Level	\$10.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$20.15
18 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$25.15
40 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$25.15
55 & Over Combo	\$10.00	\$7	\$3.15	\$20.15
Flexible Format	\$2	\$7	\$3.15	\$12.15

**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. 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.

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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.
- 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 requests 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 **must 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.

- All local leagues shall obtain the approval of the State League Coordinator for the dates of the local league season.
- 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(5) Two Team Leagues.** If any Adult Division Age Group consists of only two teams in a level of play, each team must maintain its roster with at least 40 percent of its players at the designated NTRP level of play. The exception is the Adult Division 55& Over Age Group that uses combined NTRP rating levels and will not be required to comply with this Regulation.

#### 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 (if applicable for the Adult 64 & Over league and/or play in a single weekend local league tournament) may have players from other areas as long as 51% 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.

#### 1.04F 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.

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<b>NTRP RATING LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO LEAGUE PLAY</b>		
<b>DIVISION</b>	<b>Age Group</b>	<b>PLAYER'S NTRP RATING LEVEL</b>
Adult	<b>Straight NTRP levels</b> <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 above 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 <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	Current NTRP rating level and/or up to one level higher than the player's current NTRP level.
	Combined NTRP Levels 18 & Over – 10.0 *55 & Over – 9.0	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 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 – 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	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.
	*40 & Over Div II – 3.0, 3.5,4.0 Div III – 3.5,4.0,4.5	
	**55 & Over Div II – 4.0, 3.5, 3.0	
**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.**

**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.

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**2.00 USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS**

**2.01A NTRP Levels of Play.** – refer to chart 2.01C(3)

**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(3)– Team Match**

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	(5 courts-2 singles, 3 doubles)	(3 individual wins)
	18 & Over 2.5 women, 2.5 men*, 5.0 and	2.5, 5.0	3 courts - 1 single, 2 doubles	(2 individual wins)
	40 & Over	3.0,3.5,4.0, 4.5	(4 courts - 1 singles, 3 doubles)	(2 individual wins) 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
	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	Straight Levels 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Combined Level 10.0	(3 courts doubles)	(2 individual wins)
	40 & Over	Straight Levels 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	(3 courts doubles)	
	55 & Over	Straight Levels 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, Combined Levels 9.0	(3 courts doubles)	
Combo	18 & Over	Straight Level 2.5** Combined Levels 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	(3 courts doubles)	
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	(3 courts doubles)	(2 individual wins)
	40 & Over	Div II – 4.0,3.5,3.0 Div III – 4.5,4.0,3.5	(3 courts doubles)	
	55 & Over	Div II 4.0, 3.5, 3.0	(3 courts doubles)	

**2.01C(3)a.** 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** - see chart 2.01C(2)

- Match scoring shall be the best of three tiebreak tie-break sets with a match tie-break in lieu of a third set. The match tiebreak shall be scored as one set and one game for tiebreak purposes. 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.

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- The team winning the majority of the individual matches shall be awarded one team point. • Procedures in the event of a Match Tie in a 40 & Over 4 court match for local play. If a match is tied 2-2, the tie will be broken by the first of the following procedures: (1) least sets lost, (2) least games lost, (3) highest games won percentage, (4) 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 a coin toss.
- 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(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 and 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)).

#### **2.01C(6) Team Lineups.**

**2.01C(6)c.. Local leagues will decide how to regulate rescheduling of team matches due to rain, inclement weather and/or USTA League-related conflicts. This includes line-up exchanges that include a defaulted court(s). If no local league regulation is in place for defaulted courts, the line-up would stand only for those positions that had started (first service attempt) the match. All other positions, even those that were in warm-up, may be changed, including defaulted courts.**

- 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

**2.01C(6)e Team Defaults** 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.
- **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)).**

#### **2.01 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.

**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.

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Please refer the 2025 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.**

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.

**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 needed

**3.03 Grievance Complaints**

**3.03B(1) Local League Procedures** All local grievances, appeals and NTRP complaints and appeals will be submitted to: Kathryn Waters. 3512 Stowers Drive, Monroe, La. 71201. Phone number 3181-512-2894. Email address is : [waters.chris@comcast.net](mailto:waters.chris@comcast.net). 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.

**2025 USTA NELA CTA League Committees:**

**(NELA CTA)Administrator:** Kathryn Waters

**(NELA CTA)Coordinators:** Kathryn Waters- Adult Women's' Spring League, Combo, Tri-level and Mixed. Email address is [waters.chris@comcast.net](mailto:waters.chris@comcast.net)

Mike McGee-Men's Adult Spring League , Combo and Tri-level. Email address is [MMcGee@LN.bank](mailto:MMcGee@LN.bank)

**Grievance Committee:** The committee shall be the following CTA Board Members: Bob Holladay, Sharon Dollins, DonnaMcGee

**Grievance Appeals Committee:** Paul Vingiello, Ani Gary, Glen Jenkins