

NORTHEAST LOUISIANA TENNIS ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS

For USTA League Tennis Adult and Mixed Divisions; and non-advancing leagues if specified in invitational/Section/District rules. League Year 2026

1.00 GENERAL The Regulations in 1.00 GENERAL in conjunction with USTA National, USTA Southern, and USTA Louisiana regulations will apply to all League Divisions (Adult and Mixed). Regulations apply to all National Championships. Regulations shall apply to National Invitationals and non-advancing leagues if specified in invitational/Section/District rules.

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 governing body).

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 CTA Board Members/Local League Coordinator 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_TennisOfficials_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](http://www.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	3/1	3/15	05/10	3/16	5/12
40 & Over Adult	2/5	2/15	04/1	2/16	4/8
55 & Over Adult	1/5	1/12	3/26	1/26	4/3
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	3/15	5/15	7/15	5/16	7/30
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	3/15	5/15	7/15	5/16	7/30
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	3/15	5/15	7/15	5/16	7/30
Tri Level	4/1	5/15	8/15	5/16	8/20
18 & Over Combo	6/1	8/1	10/10	08/15	10/15
40 & Over Combo	6/1	8/1	10/10	08/15	10/15
55 & Over Combo	6/1	8/1	10/10	08/15	10/15

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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 6 weeks prior to the start of state championship. Any league playing over multiple championship weekends, deadline is three (3) weeks prior to the start of the first scheduled championship for that league, with local league schedules published with times and facilities of local league matches. Local teams must be included in the local league schedule if the teams have fulfilled this requirement

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. 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 three (3) weeks prior to the state championship, including local leagues played during a state championship.

Local leagues may set a deadline date that is more than three (3) weeks prior to the state championship for player additions to existing teams.

Player addition deadline date must be prior to the start of any local league playoff.

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 2026 (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	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
40 & Over Adult	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
55 & Over Adult	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$18.15
18 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
40 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
55 & Over Mixed Doubles	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$18.15
18 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
40 & Over Tri Level	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
55 & Over Tri Level	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$18.15
18 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
40 & Over Combo	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$23.15
55 & Over Combo	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$18.15
Flexible Format	\$2	\$5.00	\$3.15	\$10.15

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C(1)f. USTA Louisiana Head Tax Local League Refunds.

1.04D Local League.

D(3) Local League Season. All local matches shall be completed three (3) weeks prior to the state championship. Any league playing over multiple championship weekends, deadline is three (3) weeks prior to the start of the first scheduled championship for that league).

- 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. 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 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)a Players with a Mixed, Tournament or Self-rating who receive a new self-rating that places them at a higher NTRP level at which they are competing must immediately adjust to their new NTRP level. Prior team matches played are valid. Players shall not continue participating at the lower NTRP level.

1.04F(1)b Players who are granted an appeal up must immediately adjust to their new NTRP level. Prior team matches played are valid. Players shall not continue participating at the lower NTRP level.

NTRP RATING LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO LEAGUE PLAY		
DIVISION	Age Group	PLAYER'S NTRP RATING LEVEL
Adult	Straight Levels 18&over 40&over 55&over (2.5,3.0,3.5,4.0) **65 & Over Straight Levels (3.0,3.5,4.0)	Current NTRP rating level and/or up to one level above the player's current NTRP level.

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NTRP RATING LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO LEAGUE PLAY		
DIVISION	Age Group	PLAYER'S NTRP RATING 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	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.
	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
	*40 & Over Div II – 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 Div III – 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	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
**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.

2.00 USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS

2.01 A 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

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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)	(3 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 Combined	(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 following two formats:
 1. 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.
 2. 8-game pro sets.
- 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.

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.

- Local League matches can only be cancelled by the local league coordinator. If match in progress is interrupted by rain, teams must wait 30 minutes before rescheduling. If a rain delayed match can't be started within 30 minutes of scheduled match time, match should be rescheduled. If the temperature at match time falls below 40 degrees (day match) or 45 degrees (night match after 5:00 pm) match may

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be rescheduled. Local League Coordinator MUST be notified prior to any rescheduled match. The Local League Coordinator will reschedule matches that have to be rescheduled due to rain, inclement weather and/or USTA League-related conflicts.

- 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.

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 three (3) 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 2026 USTA Louisiana Championship Procedures for deadline dates and deposit hold requirements for advancing teams to guarantee spot in the state championship draw.

Please refer to the 2026 USTA Louisiana Championship Procedures for full championship details including registration information, dates, location and procedures

2.03B(1) At National Championships, a captain shall not represent more than one team in the same age group and NTRP level. The captain will be required to only represent one team and must identify which team prior to the start of the championship. All captains must be declared prior to the start of the championship.

2.03B(2) For championship play at or below the Sectional level, the Sectional Association may authorize a captain to represent more than one team.

Southern Regulation: Southern does not authorize a captain to represent more than one team during championship competition.

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*.

3.0 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 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 318-512-2894. Email address is : 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.

2026 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.

Beaux Chappell --Men's Adult Spring League , Combo and Tri-level and Mixed

Grievance Committees and Grievance Appeals Committees: The committee shall be the following CTA Board Members: Bob Holladay, Sharon Dollins, Donna McGee and Paul Vingiello.