



SOUTHERN
TENNESSEE

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2019 USTA Tennessee State League Regulations

MEMPHIS

Local League Coordinator:

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Adult 18& Over Adult 40 & Over Adult 55 & Over Adult 65 & Over Mixed Leagues Tri-Level Combo

Regulations written in BLUE text are specific to the CITY leagues and may not apply in other local areas.

I. Dates

<u>League</u>	<u>Local Registration Opens</u>	<u>Local Team Registration Close (Deadline for legal team roster minimum)</u>	<u>Local Last Day to Add Individual</u>	<u>Local Schedule Released</u>	<u>Local Playoff Dates</u>	<u>State League Play Deadline</u>	<u>State Championship</u>
18 & Over	January 1, 2019	Feb 4	April 21	Mar 1	May 6-19	May 27, 2019	18+Odd/40+ Even - June 14-16, 2019 (Chattanooga)
40 & Over	January 1, 2019	Feb 4	April 21	March 1	May 6-19		18+Even/40+ Odd- June 21-23, 2019 (Murfreesboro)
55 & Over	January 1, 2019	Feb 1	April 14	Feb 15	NA	April 29, 2019	May 17-19, 2019 (Knoxville)
65 & Over	January 1, 2019	April 28	June 24	May 15	NA	tbd	tbd

Days of Play

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
	Overflow matches for facilities that allow play on Tuesday	18+ : 2.5, 3.5, 4.5 40+ : 3.0, 4.0	18+ : 3.0, 4.0, 5.0+ 40+ : 3.5, 4.5+		18+ : 2.5, 3.5, 4.5 40+ : 3.0, 4.0 55+ : 3.5, 9.0	18+ : 3.0, 4.0 40+ : 3.5, 4.5+ 55+ : 3.0, 4.0

Subject To Change

- a. Local play will begin as soon as needed to get all local play completed by the USTA Tennessee State league play deadline.



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- b. It is the Captain's responsibility to ensure that any player added to a team after league play has started will have enough matches to qualify for advancement.
- c. It is the goal of the LLC to avoid play over Spring Break, but if necessary to get the matches completed by the deadline, the matches may be scheduled during those times. It will be avoided if at all possible. It will all depend on the number of teams and matches that have to be scheduled. Spring break will be considered the week that Shelby County and Municipal School Districts have off. Matches will be scheduled and posted on TennisLink by the LLC. Some divisions may be scheduled doubleheader matches so that all matches will be completed by the USTA TN deadlines.
- d. Weekend team matches will be scheduled both Saturdays and Sundays. Saturday play to start no earlier than 8 AM; and no later than 5 PM. The goal on Sundays, is to start no earlier than 12 PM, but if there are not enough weeks of play to get the matches completed by the deadlines, it is possible to have play as early as 8am on Sunday with play as late as 6 pm. Earlier than 12noon play on Sunday will be avoided unless absolutely necessary. On Saturday and Sunday the LLC will make it a priority to have the same NTRP but different age group play on opposing days. For example, if 40+ 3.5 women play on Sunday, then the goal is to have 18+ 3.5 women play on Saturday. When determining a facility be sure to ask the facility director and/or head teaching pro if the facility can handle 2 different age groups of the same NTRP level. The more age groups in the same NTRP that play at a limited court facility, the more likely it is for the age groups and levels to collide and have to play some matches on the same days. If necessary to get all matches played by the deadlines, some/all teams may play both Saturday and Sunday in the same weekend. This will be avoided unless necessary to meet deadlines. If necessary, night matches may be scheduled after daylight savings time begins. This will be avoided unless necessary to meet USTA TN deadlines.
- e. Weekday play will be on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Overflow matches will be scheduled as allowed by facility. See chart for further explanation. Weekday match times: 9 & 11 AM and if needed there could be a 1 PM match to accommodate all matches scheduled. Please be prepared for each team to have several 1 PM matches.
- f. 55+ will most likely begin the third weekend of February. If indoor play, they will be on Saturday and/or Sunday. Memphis Tennis Association will pay indoor costs for 2-3 matches. Indoor play is not guaranteed, but every effort will be made to do this. Away teams will bring balls. Outdoor weekend matches will be scheduled by the LLC once indoor play is completed. During the outdoor season, the matches will most likely be played the opposite weekend day that the same level of 40+ is played. For example, if 3.5 40+ women play on Sunday, then 3.5 55+ women most likely will play on Saturday. This is to avoid conflicts for those 55+ that play 40+ on the weekends. If necessary,



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matches may be scheduled outdoors for 55+ during the weeknight once day light savings time has started.

II. League Regulations

- a. Where not otherwise stated, USTA League National, Southern, and Tennessee Regulations have full force and applicability.
 - i. **Local rules may be changed or edited upon approval from the Local Rules Committee.**
- b. **MEMPHIS** defines itself as the **Greater Memphis Area in the state of Tennessee**. Teams competing in the **MEMPHIS** Local Leagues must play in facilities that reside within the defined area.
- c. All participants must be current members of the USTA and have reached the minimum age for league type within the calendar year. Each player 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. Each player must pay a **\$26** league fee for each team that he/she is joining. This will be paid at the time of registration. There will also be a \$3 fee paid to TennisLink at the time of registration. Total fee on TennisLink will be **\$29** per registrant per team. **Adult 65+ will pay \$16 plus \$3 tennislink fee for a total of \$19 per registrant per team.**
- d. **USTA Adult Leagues in MEMPHIS offered in the following divisions.**

<u>Division</u>	<u>League Type</u>	<u>NTRP Levels</u>	<u>League Format</u>	<u>Minimum Number of Players Required For Legal Team</u>	<u>Maximum number of players allowed on team roster</u>
Adult	18 & Over	2.5 women, 5.0+	1 Singles 2 Doubles	5	12
	18 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	2 Singles 3 Doubles	8	18
	40 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+ women	1 Singles 4 Doubles	9	20
	40 & Over	4.5+ men	2 Singles 3 Doubles	8	18
	55 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0 combined	3 Doubles	6	14
	65 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0 combined	3 Doubles	6	14

i. 18 & Over –

- 1. Adult 18 & Over 2.5 Men, 5.0+ Men/Women, will play their local league at the USTA Tennessee State League Championship. These levels must meet the State deadline of May 27, 2019 for team and individual registration. No players may be added after May 27, 2019.



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2. Adult 18 & Over 5.0+ - No more than two (2) 5.5 players may be on a team, and only one (1) may play in a team match. The 5.5 player must play either at #1 Singles or #1 Doubles.
- ii. **40 & Over** -
 1. Adult 40 & Over 4.5+ - No more than three (3) 5.0 players may be on a team, and only two (2) may play in a team match. The 5.0 players must play at #1 Singles and/or #1 Doubles.
- iii. **55 & Over** -
 1. Adult 55 & Over 9.0 – the NTRP rating level difference between doubles partners may not exceed 1.0.
 2. Adult 55 & Over 3.0 Men will play their local league at the USTA Tennessee State League Championship. This level must meet the State deadline of April 29, 2019 for team and individual registration. No players may be added after April 29, 2019.
- iv. **65 & Over** -
 1. Adult 65 & Over 9.0 – the NTRP rating level difference between doubles partners may not exceed 1.0.
- e. Divisions may be divided into two or more flights with a playoff at the end of local play to determine the **MEMPHIS** champion.
 - i. **A level that has at least 12 teams might be subdivided into flights/brackets per the LLC's discretion. If a bracket has 5 or less teams it will play each team more than once and have a double round robin. Each bracket is guaranteed at least 5 matches. Brackets with 6 or more teams are guaranteed a single round robin only. An option to add additional matches to a bracket of 6 will be considered if court availability allows. This option could include a random drawing to schedule some of the teams in a flight to play each other twice, but not a full double round robin. Another possible option would be to cross brackets and play teams in the opposite flight based on a random drawing**
- f. If only one team is registered at deadline for any level, an extension of two weeks will be given to meet the National requirement of a minimum of 2 teams.
- g. **There will be a weekday schedule made for any level of play that has a minimum of 2 teams registered by the deadline. If there is only one team in a weekday bracket, that team will be moved to the weekend bracket of the same age group and NTRP level. If there is only one weekend team in a bracket, the weekday teams will play against that one team on a weekend day and that weekend team will be moved to the weekday bracket, but all of their matches will be on the weekend. If there are more matches than the weeks of play, teams may have work in matches, or will have two matches scheduled in one week. These matches will be scheduled on an alternate day, most**



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likely Tuesday. Some matches may have to be scheduled by the captains. These matches will be treated like a makeup match. If a work in match has not been played by Wednesday, May 1 at 5pm Central Time for 18+ and for 40+ teams, the league coordinator will schedule the match and it will be made up whenever the LLC can secure courts at the home, away or neutral facility. The original home team will be responsible for court costs. Self-scheduled matches & make up matches need to be rescheduled between the captains. Once the date/time are set & confirmed, captains will email the exact match details to the LLC at memphiscombo@gmail.com. Brackets that do not have playoffs do not have to meet this May 1 deadline. Those teams must have matches completed by May 19th at 5pm for 18+ teams and for 40+ teams. Same rules apply for 55+ with a deadline of April 28 at 5 pm. Once the match is set, it is expected to be played at this time unless canceled by weather. This match will then follow the inclement weather policy.

III. Team Regulations

- a. Each team shall appoint a captain to manage team activities and to represent the team in USTA League matters. The Captain is the person who is to communicate with the LLC and serves as the liaison between the players and the LLC, and therefore captains must have a valid email address and phone number listed in TennisLink. Captains must determine a site for their team's home matches, designate home facility in TennisLink, and confirm site usage with the Tennis Director/Facility Coordinator immediately after league schedule has been published.
 - i. **Home courts must be identified at time of registration or Coordinator will assign courts. Captains must communicate with weekly opponent prior to match play to confirm match about a week before the match and to communicate if playing on split courts. If your facility has split courts, put that in team name when register. For example, TN/Memphis/Smith-Split courts.**
 - ii. **If your site is using split court times then it is home captains' responsibility to let the opposing captain know how the matches will be played (4 courts at 9AM and 1 court immediately following the completion of first match or a 3/2 split, etc). The LLC will make every effort to make 4 matches at 9 am and 1 match immediately following the completion of the first match. The schedule will be posted on TennisLink at least one week prior to a level start of match play. It is the captain's responsibility to keep players informed of match times, locations, etc.**
 - iii. **Home teams will pay the court fees for any regularly season matches. Visiting teams will provide new balls for each match. Teams will split the cost of indoor matches if weather conditions make it impossible to play outdoors and both captains have agreed to move indoors. Each team must have access to at least**



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three courts for home matches. If a home court has numerous blackout dates and cannot accommodate half of the scheduled matches as “home matches” for a particular bracket, that team may be scheduled matches at a different site and will be required to pay the court costs as the “home team”, or they may have less than 50% home matches. If a facility does not allow Tuesday play then teams may be required to play some overflow home matches at a different venue and be responsible for the court fees. The LLC will notify captains if this is a possibility before the schedule is made and give said teams an opportunity to change venues. It is best for teams to find an alternate facility if the home courts do not allow Tuesday play.

- iv. Matches may be played on any court surface the home team chooses.
- v. If a team that plays on a clay surface only has 4 courts available but a 5th court is available on an alternate surface they may choose to play the 5 court on that surface. This is at the discretion of the home team and will be declared by Feb 3, 2019. If a team does not declare this by the deadline but they find that a 5th court is available for their match and it can be played to eliminate the need for a split match it will be allowed as long as it is agreed upon by both captains (or team representative if the captain is unavailable). The match to be played on that alternate surface is always 3rd or 4th court doubles unless agreed upon by both captains prior to the exchange of lineups. If a match has begun and is interrupted by the weather, the teams may continue their match on an alternate surface, if both captains agree and if a court is available for play or if the match has to be played at another time.
- b. Captains MUST use the following format to name teams: TN/City/Captain’s Last Name. For example: (TN/Memphis/Ontog).
 - i. If a facility has both hard courts and clay courts available for team play, the captain must designate “clay” if the team is to play their home matches on the clay courts. For example: TN/Memphis/OntogClay
- c. 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. This regulation does not apply to the 65 & Over Age Group.
 - i. All teams in leagues that have three teams or more must maintain its roster with at least 25% of its players at the designated NTRP level of play. For example, if a 4.0 team has a total of 16 players then 4 of those players must be rated 4.0.



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- d. USTA Tennessee will have no residency requirements for teams that are in leagues with local play.
 - i. For teams that advance directly to the State Championship or play their local league at the State Championships, USTA Tennessee requires that at least 2 of the team be residents of the local area that the team is advancing from.
- e. USTA Tennessee limits the number of players that may appear on a team roster. Please see the table in Local Regulation II.d for the maximum number of players on a roster in each league.

IV. Individual Regulations

- a. Each player will use his/her most current NTRP Computer Rating on file in TennisLink. Players who do not have a computer rating on file in TennisLink shall self-rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program. Self-ratings are valid for two years from the date issued or until replaced by a dynamic or computer rating. NTRP computer generated ratings are good for 3 years for those players 59 years old or under, and 2 years for those 60 years of age or older.
- b. Self-rated players who enter the USTA League Tennis Program by misrepresenting their actual skill level are considered to have violated the standards of good conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship and may be subject to a grievance complaint and possible disqualification. A Captain, Local League Coordinator, or member of the State League Committee can file a NTRP grievance. A player with a valid NTRP Computer (C) rating, or granted an Automatic Appeal (A) rating of a Computer (C) rating is not subject to an NTRP Grievance. Any other player is subject to an NTRP Grievance.
- c. A player may play at their current NTRP level and/or up to one level above the current NTRP level.
- d. Players may play on different age levels and NTRP levels as long as they are eligible. Team captains are responsible for making sure that all team members meet eligibility criteria. Players not meeting the above eligibility criteria will be ineligible and any matches they have played will be forfeited. A player who participates in the USTA League in violation of any eligibility provision shall be subject to an Eligibility Grievance.
 - i. **For example, a 42 year old 3.5 player can play on an 18+ 3.5 team and 40+ 3.5 team. And he/she can also play on an 18+ 4.0 team and a 40+ 4.0 team. A 22 year old 3.5 player may play on an 18+ 3.5 team and an 18+ 4.0 team.**

V. League Play

- a. Lineups are to be exchanged at the scheduled match time, or before, if captains agree and are ready to play. A player may participate in only one individual match within each team match.
 - i. **When individual matches in a team match do not begin all at the same time, the order of matches shall be as follows, unless both captains agree to change: #1**



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- singles, #2 singles, #1 doubles, #2 doubles, and #3 doubles and #4 doubles for 40+.**
- b. In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no-show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (once the lineup has been exchanged), 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 minute warm-up. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted in local leagues.
 - i. **For city playoffs the USTA lateness rule will be enforced: 5 minutes....loss of one game and loss of toss, 10 minutes....loss of 2 games and loss of toss, 15 minutes....loss of 3 games and loss of toss, greater than 15 minutes... default.**
 - c. There is no coaching in any form allowed in USTA Adult League matches. Cell phones must be turned off or silenced during play.
 - i. **Teammates, spectators, and coaches may not comment on the line calls or scoring while a match is being played. The home team will be responsible for controlling spectator's conduct during match play.**
 - d. USTA Tennessee Adult league matches in **MEMPHIS** shall be:
 - i. **All local league matches will be the best of two sets with a Set Tiebreak (first to 7 by 2) used at 6 all in each set. After each set there is a two minute rest period allowed. There is NO changing of ends, unless it is a change over time. No coaching will be allowed during set breaks. After the first game of each set, players change ends without a rest period (continuous play). All other changeovers within a set will have a 90-second rest period. In lieu of a third set, a Match Tiebreak (first to 10 by 2) shall be played. The Coman Tiebreak Procedure will be used for all Set Tiebreaks and Match Tiebreaks in local league and State Championship matches.**
 - ii. **With the exception of 2.5 and 5.0+ ,a team wins a team match if it wins three or more individual matches (courts). In 2.5 and 5.0+ a team wins the team match if it wins two or more individual matches (courts). Winning teams receive one point for each team match; total points accumulated during the season will determine team standings. Team Standings can be viewed by the level/flight in Tennis Link.**
 - e. In the event of a tie at the end of the season, in a team match or in league standings, the tie will be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so
 - i. Individual Matches. Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.
 - ii. Head-to-head. Winner of head-to-head match.
 - iii. Sets. Loser of the fewest number of sets.
 - iv. Games. Loser of the fewest number of games



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- v. **If two teams are still tied for first place after games lost tiebreak, then a one team playoff match will be held between the tied teams prior to the end of league deadline.**
- f. Both captains are responsible for entering and/or confirming match scores on Tennis Link. Captains need to verify and confirm the recorded match scores. All recorded scores will be final 48 hours from match time. If a mistake is made when entering scores and you have clicked out of scorecard on TennisLink, you will have to email the LLC with the match number and correction. **Only the LLC can make a change to the scorecard.** Any disputes must be made on TennisLink and the LLC must be notified by email before the 48 hours is up.
- g. If a team plays a local match without a full lineup, forfeits must be taken according to the following:
- For leagues playing the 1 Singles/2 Doubles format, forfeits must occur at either #1 singles or #2 doubles.
 - For leagues playing the 2 Singles/3 Doubles formats, forfeits occur beginning with No. 3 doubles and/or No. 2 singles.
 - For leagues playing the 3 Doubles format, forfeits must occur at #3 Doubles.
 - **For leagues playing the 1 singles/4 doubles format, forfeits occur beginning at #1 Singles or #4 doubles.**
- i. **Any team/captain who has more than 4 forfeits in 18+ and 40+, or 3 forfeits in 55+ during one league season may be subject to a grievance and sanctioned for the next local USTA season. Sanctions will be determined by local rules committee, however, can include up to a local league USTA season suspension.**
- h. If a team shows up without the minimum # of players required for the team match based on the number of players present, or to be present, it will be a full team default in favor of the opponents. Please refer to National regulation 2.01C(5) on team default procedures.
- i. If a match is begun and a player has to retire due to injury or illness, the match score to the point of default will be recorded on the scorecard (i.e.; 6-2, 2-1, 15-15, retired).
- j. If a match must be forfeited, the name(s) of the forfeiting player(s) are not written on the scorecard,. Only the names of the player(s) receiving the default. The written score shall be 6-0,6-0; as if the match had been played.
- k. If a captain knows ahead of time he/she will forfeit an entire team match, he/she must notify the Local League Coordinator and the opposing team captain. If a team forfeits an entire team match and that forfeit affects the outcome of the local league, then all matches played by the forfeiting team will be removed from the standings. If the forfeiting team has no effect on the outcome of the local league, matches played by that team will stand and that team may be eligible to advance.



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- i. **Notifications of full team forfeits must be done in a timely manner. For example, if you know a week ahead of time you will be defaulting an entire match, don't wait until the day before to notify the LLC or opposing captain. Once a captain has forfeited his/her entire team match and has contacted the LLC and/or the opposing team captain, it becomes final. The opposing team captain must contact the LLC at memphiscombo@gmail.com and verify the opposing team default or the team must be present and ready to play at the scheduled match time, or it becomes a double default/forfeit.**
- l. If play is interrupted by weather, darkness or other factors beyond the control of players, completed individual matches will stand as played. In the event that rain or inclement weather forces the cancellation and/or re-scheduling of a local league team match, the line-up would stand only for those positions that had already started (first service attempt) their match. All other positions, even those that were in warm-up may be changed including defaulted courts.
 - i. **An inclement weather reschedule because of rain, snow, ice, darkness or weather below 40 degrees becomes official if courts or conditions are unplayable for more than 40 minutes during the 2 hour block matches are scheduled to be played. The temp needs to be confirmed on weather.com app or website. If colder than 40 degrees play may take place if both captains agree. The supervisor of the courts will determine whether they are playable; if there is no supervisor, the team captains will jointly make that determination. If the captains are not able to reach each other to determine if a match is eligible for inclement weather reschedule, the teams must go to the courts and be ready to play. Teams can play if the temperature is below 40 degrees if both captains agree.**
 - ii. **If match play has already started and the match is rained out or meets the criteria in above regulation, all points, games and sets played at the time the match is rained out will count; make-up matches will begin at the point they are terminated and may be played on an alternate surface if both captains agree. The players on the court should make note of the score, who is serving and all other matters concerning the match.**
 - iii. **If a written line up has been exchanged but play did not start, substitutions from the team roster may be made on any non default court. Forfeits offered verbally prior to the original lineup exchange are nullified when the match is rescheduled due to rain or inclement weather.**
 - iv. **If a makeup match is required, the 2 team captains shall agree on a date for the makeup match. The individual courts do not have to be made up at the same time. Once the captains have agreed on a match date and time, that date and**



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time is official and cannot be changed without the consent of the LLC. The new match date, time and location should be emailed to memphiscombo@gmail.com by both team captains. The match must be made up by the 14th day after the match was originally scheduled. If captains cannot agree on a date, the match will automatically be scheduled for 5 pm on the 14th day from the originally scheduled date. If the home team facility cannot accommodate a match on this 14th day at 5 PM, an alternate site will be used and the home court IS responsible for court cost; no exceptions. Not paying for court cost will be considered a default by the home team. The LLC reserves the right to book the match at another facility if the home courts are not available on that 14th day. If that make-up time is rained out, the match will be played the next day at 5 pm. If that make-up is rained out, the match will be played on the next day and so on until the match is played. NO EXCEPTIONS! Therefore, rain outs that occur the last weekend of league play will be scheduled immediately by the LLC. NO EXCEPTIONS! It is highly recommended that make-up matches get scheduled by the two captains at a time and date agreeable to both. Captains are asked to be proactive and if it looks like inclement weather for the last weekend of play, then play the match early or get an indoor court to play this match on the scheduled day.

- v. Play may be necessary during Southern Combo Sectionals or any other USTA event. A team that has at least 6 players that are playing in a USTA championship including Combo Sectionals may reschedule their match. The 6 players must register, go and attend the championships for the team to be eligible to reschedule their match. The captain of the team that needs to reschedule, must notify the opposing team captain at least 7 days prior to the scheduled match. Once both captains agree to a reschedule date, the captains must notify the LLC by email at memphiscombo@gmail.com that the match is rescheduled, with the exact date/time.. The same rules that apply to rainout reschedules will apply to this type of reschedule: see # 21. NO EXCEPTIONS! Keep in mind all matches must be completed by local deadlines. Therefore, rain outs that occur the last weekend of league play will be scheduled immediately by the LLC. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- vi. If your team's match is not finished by the time the next scheduled match starts, your players will have to vacate the courts and finish per inclement weather policy if one or both of the next scheduled match captains so desire.
- m. For each team match, a majority of individual matches must actually be played to constitute a valid team match. In a situation where the majority of individual matches would be not played (not a "valid" team match) the first course of action would be for both captains to



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agree on what individual matches, based on the number of players present, or to be present, can be played to constitute a valid team match. Once that is determined, both captains will re-exchange scorecards. If both captains cannot come to an agreement on what lines will be played to constitute a valid team match, based on the number of players present, or to be present, then the following individual matches will be assigned in sequential order to be played.

<u>Format</u>	<u>Required Matches In Sequential</u>	<u>Minimum Number Of Players Required For Each Team In A Valid Team Match</u>
2 Singles/3 Doubles	#1 and #2 singles, and #1 doubles (priority); #2 doubles if enough players present	4
1 Singles/2 Doubles	#1 singles and #1 doubles	3
1 Singles/4 Doubles	#1 singles, #1 doubles, and #2 doubles	5
3 Doubles	#1 and #2 doubles	4

- n. If both teams have enough players to play the match and it's discovered after-the-fact that a majority of the matches were not played to constitute a valid team match, both captains need to come to an agreement of what lines will be played to make the team match valid. If captains cannot come to an agreement then the individual match(es) to be played will be assigned in sequential order in the above-mentioned table. If a captain does not comply with this regulation, then it may be considered a full team default in favor of the opponents. If a team shows up without the minimum # of players required for the team match based on the number of players present, or to be present, it will be a full team default in favor of the opponents. Please refer to national regulation 2.01C(5) on team default procedures.
- o. **In USTA League matches, a standard Type 2 USTA approved ball shall be used. The use of any USTA "transition" ball is prohibited.**

VI. Championships

- a. Players who qualify for an Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over and/or Adult 65 & Over team(s) may advance on more than one team within an age group only if they are different NTRP levels and have qualified separately for each team. **No accommodations for scheduling will be made at any Championship for teams with players that may be competing on two or more teams during a championship.** If a player advances to a Championship on more than one team in the same age group and same NTRP level, the



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individual must declare which team he or she will represent. In the absence of a declaration, the first match played will determine which team he or she will represent.

- i. **All players must play in two (2) matches locally to qualify for advancement to City Playoffs and State League Championships with only one (1) default counting. City playoffs are NOT considered local league play.**
 - ii. **If a level has more than one flight/bracket, a playoff will be played to determine which team/teams advance to the TN State Championships. If a bracket/flight has 7 or more teams, the top 2 teams will advance to the local playoffs. If a bracket/flight has 6 or less teams, the top team only in that bracket/flight will advance to local playoffs. All players must have played two local league matches to participate in local playoffs and beyond. See chart below.**
 - iii. **In good sportsmanship and in fairness to other teams in a flight/bracket, if your team knows before playoffs start that your team cannot advance to the State Championships, then please let the LLC know ahead of time so that your team's spot in the playoffs can be offered to the next team in line. Playoff teams may be asked to commit to State Championships by email if the LLC requests. If a team enters the playoffs and knows they can't play a minimum of the courts for playoff matches, to have valid matches, or the team knows they will not advance to the state championships if given the opportunity a grievance will be filed on the captain and possibly team members.**
 - iv. **All teams playing in city playoffs will be required to submit a \$250 security deposit (payable to MTA), which will be destroyed upon completion of the city playoffs if team has played all of it's scheduled play off matches. Teams that win the city playoffs will have their check destroyed once they have committed to the state championships. If you know your team will not be going to the state championships, please do not play in the city playoffs.**
- b. In order to be eligible to compete in a USTA Tennessee League State Championship, players must play in the number of matches listed in the table below:

MATCHES REQUIRED TO ADVANCE TO CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR ADULT AND MIXED DIVISIONS			
SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND BELOW		NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	
LOCAL MATCHES REQUIRED	DEFAULTS THAT COUNT	TOTAL MATCHES REQUIRED THROUGH SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	DEFAULTS THAT COUNT



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To advance to any championship level through Sectional Championship	To advance to any championship level through Sectional Championship	To advance to National Championship	To advance to National Championship
2 matches on the same team	1 default <u>received</u> shall count	3 matches on the same team	1 default <u>received</u> shall count

A retirement counts as a match played for all players involved.

- c. If a Mixed 55 & Over/Mixed 65 & Over team has no local competition offered at that specific combined level, a team may advance directly to the State Championship.
- d. Adult 65 & Over requires 1 local or state match to advance to sectional championship play with 1 default counting. For teams that are advancing to the sectional championships through local or state play, the one match requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Tournament Committee for up to a maximum of two players per team.
- e. If there is no local and/or state competition offered for Adult 65 & Over, one team per state per NTRP level may advance directly to the sectional championships.
- f. Any local league having two (2) or more teams at any 65 & Over level must play a local league. If there is only one (1) team signed up at a level, that team may advance directly to the State Championship.

g. The number of advancing from **MEMPHIS** is determined by the chart below:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Number Of Local Teams At A Specific NTRP Level</u>	<u>Number Of Local Teams Advancing to State League Championship</u>
Spring Adult 18 & Over/40 & Over	2 - 13	1
Spring Adult 18 & Over/40 & Over	14 - 23	2
Spring Adult 18 & Over/40 & Over	24+	3
ESL Adult 18 & Over	2+	1

VII. Grievances



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- a. Self-rated players who enter the USTA League Tennis Program by misrepresenting their actual skill level are considered to have violated the standards of good conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship and may be subject to a grievance complaint and possible disqualification. A Captain, Local League Coordinator, State League Coordinator or member of the State League Committee can file a NTRP grievance. A player with a valid NTRP Computer (C) rating, or granted an Automatic Appeal (A) rating of a Computer (C) rating is not subject to an NTRP Grievance. Any other player is subject to an NTRP Grievance.
- b. Grievances are filed with the Local League Coordinator. Please submit via email, including a \$25.00 fee. Should the Grievance Committee find in favor of the person filing the grievance, the \$25.00 will be refunded. The LLC will give the grievance to the Local Grievance Committee. Forms for grievances may be obtained from the Local League Coordinator.

VIII. Local Committees

- a. **Rules & Regulations Committee – Jackie Mills; Kim Laschober; Laura Huss**
- b. **Grievance Committee - Angie Tyner; Phil Chamberlain; Laura Suzanne**
- c. **Grievance Appeals Committee - Susan Parker; Marla Goodwin; MJ Garrett**

IX. Other Resources

- a. **USTA, USTA Southern, and USTA Tennessee Regulations –**
- b. **USTA Tennessee Championship Procedures -**
- c. **USTA Tennessee Website – www.ustatn.com**
- d. **USTA Southern Website – www.sta.usta.com**
- e. **Facebook – Memphis USTA 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, and Early Start League**