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2019 USTA Tennessee Local League Regulations

Memphis Tri Level League Program

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MTA Website: memphista.com

Facebook [@MemphisTennisAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/MemphisTennisAssociation), Instagram [@memphistennisassociation](https://www.instagram.com/memphistennisassociation) & Twitter [@MemTennisAssoc](https://twitter.com/MemTennisAssoc)

(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>Last Day of Local Play</u>	<u>Local Playoff Dates</u>	<u>State League Play Deadline</u>	<u>State Championship</u>
All Tri-Level Leagues	March 29, 2019	May 1, 2019	July 12, 2019	July 25, 2019	July 26-31, 2019	TBA	September 6-8, 2019 Memphis

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 if edited upon approval from the Local Rules Committee.
- b. **Memphis** defines itself as the counties of Shelby, Lauderdale, Tipton and Fayette. Teams competing in the **CITY** 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 **\$24** 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 **\$27** per registrant per team.
- d. USTA Tennessee authorizes Tri-Level leagues for 18 & Over, 40 & Over, and 55 & Over age divisions.



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- i. USTA Tennessee offers three divisions in each age group
 1. 2.5/3.0/3.5
 2. 3.0/3.5/4.0
 3. 3.5/4.0/4.5
- e. Team matches will consist of three (3) doubles matches, played in order of NTRP Rating based on the division. For example, for the 2.5/3.0/3.5 division, the maximum NTRP rating for #1 Doubles is 3.5, for #2 Doubles is 3.0, and for #3 Doubles is 2.5.

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 **by team registration deadline. Each team must have access to three (3) courts for home matches. Teams will split the cost of courts for indoor matches if weather conditions make it impossible to play outdoors and if BOTH captains agree to play indoors. Visiting teams will provide new balls for each match.**
- b. Captains **MUST** use the following format to name teams: TN/City/Captain's Last Name. For example: (TN/Memphis/Huss).
 - 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/HussClay)**
- c. 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 players of the team be residents of the local area that the team is advancing from.
- d. **USTA Tennessee limits the number of players that may appear on a team roster in the Tri-Level leagues to 14 players.**

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



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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. 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.

V. League Play

- a. All matches will be the best of three sets and the set tiebreak shall be used at 6-all in each set. In lieu of a third set, a match tiebreak shall be played. There will be a two minute set break at the end of each set with no coaching. All tiebreaks shall follow the Coman tiebreak procedure.
- b. All scorecards must be entered into TennisLink with 48 hours of the completion of the team match. All scorecards will be FINAL 48 hours after the team match is complete.
- c. If an area has more than one flight within a level, each local area will determine if playoffs will be required.
- d. 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. During 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
 - 15minutes - loss of 3 games and loss of toss
 - Greater than 15 minutes - default
- e. There is no coaching in any form allowed in USTA Tri-Level 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 spectators' conduct during match play. Remember tennis etiquette when watching or playing a match. All players are encouraged to familiarize themselves with *The Code*, which may be found at usta.com (search 2019 Friend at Court). [The Code contains the Players' Guide to Fair Play and the Unwritten Rules of Tennis.](#)



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VI. Championships

- a. If there is local play, players must play in at least one (1) match to be eligible to compete at the USTA Tennessee League Tri-Level State Championship. A default may count as one match.
- b. If there is no local play, a team may advance directly to the USTA Tennessee League Tri-Level State Championship.
- c. The 2019 USTA Tennessee League Tri-Level State Championship will be held September 6-8, 2019 in Memphis, Tennessee.

VII. Grievances

- 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 - Sylvia Poll, Julie Dial, Duncan Howell**
- c. **Grievance Appeals Committee - Kerry Johnson, Keith Latiolais, Marla Goodwin**

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**

**2019 Tennessee Tri Level League Championship September 6-8, 2019 -
Memphis, TN**

**2019 USTA Southern Tri Level Sectional Invitational October 18-20, 2019 -
Louisville Kentucky**