



**SOUTHERN
KENTUCKY**

2018 USTA LOUISVILLE REGULATIONS

MAJOR REGULATION CHANGES FOR 2018

1. **1.04E: Player Eligibility.**

1.04E(1) Domicile and Residency Requirements. Any individual who competes in the USTA League must be domiciled within the boundaries of a USTA Sectional Association or participate through a USTA Direct Member Club. Residents of foreign countries who meet membership and age requirements may be invited by a USTA Section to participate in the USTA League Program provided that all such matches are played within the Section. Sections may create residency requirement rules to encourage and foster local league play.

Southern will have no residency requirements for local league play. **Exception:** For teams that play a local league at a state championship and/or advance directly to a state championship (if applicable for the Adult 65 & Over league), teams must roster a minimum of 51% of in-state players.

2. **2.01C (2): Team Match (National).**

- A majority of matches must actually be played.
- In the case of invalid matches (less than the minimum number of matches played) if scores are entered in TennisLink they will count only for NTRP ratings and advancement.
- Each Sectional Association shall establish procedures in the event of a team default or double default.

3. **2.01C(5): Team Line-Ups (Southern)**

- **#E:** If a team defaults an entire match (as described in USTA League Regulation 2.03K) in local play, states may decide whether to allow further play by that team and how matches played by that team should be used in determining standings. A state may not authorize a local league to make such determination. If the state does not have a specific rule in place regarding such team defaults, it must follow USTA League Regulation 2.03L.

4. **2.06A: Move Up, Split Up (National).**

- All 2.5 and 5.0 National Championship teams are allowed to retain 3 players who qualified or advanced to National Championships.
- National Championship teams are required to Move Up or Split Up only in the age group from which their team advanced the previous year.
- Sections may restrict crossover between Adult and Mixed Divisions, and also between some or all Age Groups.

5. 3.01A: Grievance Administration (Southern).

- A \$100 filing fee will be required for all General/Sportsmanship, Championship and/or Administrative Grievance and Grievance Appeals that are heard at the Southern level. The filing fee will only be returned to the grieving party if a penalty is imposed.

3.01 Grievance Administration (Kentucky).

- A \$50.00 filing fee will be required for all General/Sportsmanship, Championship and/or Administrative Grievance Appeals that are heard at the State level. The filing fee will only be returned to the grieving party if a penalty is imposed.

Rather than including the charts depicting the Valid NTRP Computer Ratings for 2018 and the NTRP Dynamic Disqualification information in these local regulations, those charts can be found in the combined 2018 USTA National, Southern and Kentucky Regulations.

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
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
RETIRED matches shall count for all players.			
*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.			

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.

APPLICATION

All players participating in the USTA League Tennis Program, as a condition of their participation, agree to abide by the National, Sectional, State and Local USTA League Tennis Regulations and the Standards of Good Conduct, Fair Play and Good Sportsmanship. The Rules and Regulations for the USTA League Tennis Program are administered by the Local League Coordinator (LLC) and the Tennis Association of Louisville Kentucky (TALK) aka the Louisville Adult League Committee.

GENERAL

The Regulations in 1.00 GENERAL shall apply to all USTA Louisville League types.

1.04 USTA LEAGUE

1.04A USTA LEAGUE PROGRAM

1.04A USTA League Program.

The USTA League is a team competition for men, women and mixed genders at specified National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) levels of play. The purpose of the USTA League Program is to provide organized recreational play, emphasizing local competition, with advancement for winning teams from local competition to District/Area, Sectional and/or National Championships to determine annually USTA League National Championship teams in each approved level of competition. The USTA League is approved by USTA without necessity of a sanction application (See FRIEND AT COURT XVII B).

USTA KENTUCKY LEAGUE PROGRAMS			
DIVISION	AGE GROUP	LEAGUE FORMAT	NTRP LEVELS
	18 & Over	1 Singles & 2 Doubles	2.0,2.5,5.0+
ADULT	18 & Over	2 Singles & 3 Doubles	3.0,3.5,4.0,4.5
	40 & Over	2 Singles & 3 Doubles	3.0,3.5,4.0,4.5+
	55 & Over 65 & Over	3 Doubles	6.0,7.0,8.0,9.0 (4.5 combined)
MIXED	18 & Over 40 & Over 55 & Over	3 Doubles	2.5, 6.0, 7.0, 9.0 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0

1.04C(1) Official League Registration. TennisLink is the official system for registering teams and players for USTA leagues.

Players who submit an appeal of their self-rating through the TennisLink System before their Local League deadline for registering players will be permitted to register up to seven days after the notification of their final self-rating.

1.04C(1)a For any team in which a player is deleted in TennisLink from the roster within 60 days after initial registration, the captain must submit the reason for removal in writing to the Local League Coordinator, who will then submit the statement to the SLC. The SLC has the authority to deny reimbursement of registration fees to the Local League in question. ***Refunds will not be issued after the 60 day period has expired.***

1.04C(1)b Players promoted to the next level of play are permitted to join another team. Local League Coordinators will provide assistance in placing promoted players on existing teams.

1.04C(1)c The league fee for 2018 Adult League shall be \$25.00 (\$22.00 for the league plus \$3.00 TennisLink fee.) and \$20.00 for the Mixed Doubles League (\$17.00 for the league plus \$3.00 TennisLink fee.)

1.04C(1)e Upon approval by the SLC and Kentucky Adult League Committee, a \$3.00 fee may be added to the League fee to help the CTA cover costs of court rentals for outdoor leagues.

1.04C(2) Official Score Reporting and Standings System. EITHER CAPTAIN can enter the scores in TennisLink and the scores MUST be entered and confirmed within 48 hours of the completion of a match. Failure to abide by this regulation could result in a double-default.

In the case of a dispute, **click on Dispute in TennisLink, and e-mail the Match ID# with details of the discrepancy immediately to the LLC.**

Scores for the last match of the season must be entered within 4 hours of the completed match in order to confirm winners. Failure to timely enter or confirm the scores could result in a discrepancy that will not be able to be altered and could affect a player's standing.

1.04D LOCAL LEAGUE

1.04D(1) Definition. A local league is a team competition in a specified geographic area that applies specific local league regulations and consists of NTRP level(s) with a minimum of two teams per level. A local league may choose to divide any or all NTRP levels into flights. Where flights are used, a playoff structure may be established to determine a champion for each NTRP level.

All matches for Louisville league tennis shall be played in the Metro Louisville area.

1.04D (2) USTA League Year. The League Year shall be January 1 through December 31, except that the USTA League Committee may authorize the commencement of a local league season prior to January 1, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by the Committee.

1.04D(3) Local League Season

Session One:

Adult 18 & Over League – 2.5, 3.5, 4.5

Adult 40 & Over League – 3.0, 4.0

Adult 55 & Over League – All levels

Initial Roster Deadline (8 players or 5 for 2.5 & 5.0) – December 10, 2017

League Play – January 5, 2018 – March 4, 2018

Last Day to Register a Player – February 16, 2018

Session Two:

Adult 18 & Over – 2.5, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0+

Adult 40 & Over – 3.5, 4.5+

55 & Over – All levels

Registration Opens – February 2, 2018

Initial Roster Deadline (8 players or 5 for 2.5) – February 12, 2018

League Play – March 9, 2018 – June 3, 2018

Last Day to Register a Player – May 18, 2018

Adult 65 & Over Invitational – 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0 (combined 4.5)

Entry Deadline – September 12, 2018

Championship – September 21-23, 2018

Location: Louisville Tennis Club

Championship Entry Fee: \$40.00

Mixed Doubles

18 & Over - 2.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0

40 & Over – 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0,

55 & Over – 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0

Registration Opens – April 13, 2018

Initial Roster Deadline (3 males/3 females) – April 27, 2018

League Play – May 18, 2018 – August 19, 2018

Last Day to Register a Player – August 3, 2018

Combo

Registration Opens – June 8, 2018

Initial Roster Deadline – June 22, 2018

League Play – July 20, 2018 – September 30, 2018

Last Day to Register a Player – September 14, 2018

Championship – October 18-21, 2018 TBD

1.04D(4)Team. The roster limit for all Adult and Mixed Doubles Leagues shall be a maximum of 21 players.

DIVISION	<u>AGE GROUP</u>	PLAYER NTRP RATING LEVEL
Adult	18 & Over 40 & Over 55 & Over 65 & Over Straight NTRP Levels	Current NTRP level and/or up to one level above the player's current NTRP level. The 18 & Over 5.0+ and 40 & Over 4.5+ levels may have up to two players from the next higher NTRP level on a team roster.
	55 & Over, 9.0 Combined NTRP Levels 65 & Over, 9.0 Combined NTRP Levels	Combined NTRP levels of partners shall not exceed team NTRP level. NTRP difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0. <u>The minimum NTRP Level for 9.0 is 4.0</u>
Mixed	18 & Over 2.5 Straight NTRP Levels 18 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0	Limited to 2.0 and 2.5 NTRP rated players Current NTRP level and/or up to one level above the player's current NTRP level.
	18 & Over Combined NTRP Levels 40 & Over Combined NTRP Levels 55 & Over Combined NTRP Levels	Combined NTRP levels of partners shall not exceed team NTRP level. NTRP difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0. <u>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</u>

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 55 & Over Age Group that uses combined NTRP rating levels and will not be required to comply with this Regulation. This will not apply to the Adult 65 & Over Age Group.

1.04E PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1.04E(1) Domicile and Residency Requirements. Any individual who competes in the USTA League must be domiciled within the boundaries of a USTA Sectional Association or participate through a USTA Direct Member Club. Residents of foreign countries who meet membership and age requirements may be invited by a USTA Section to participate in the USTA League Program provided that all such matches are played within the Section. Sections may create residency requirement rules to encourage and foster local league play.

Southern will have no residency requirements for local league play. Exception: For teams that play a local league at a state championship and/or advance directly to a state championship (if applicable for the Adult 65 & Over league), teams must roster a minimum of 51% of in-state players.

There are no residency requirements for local league play.

1.04E(2) All individuals who compete in the USTA Leagues must be a current USTA member in good standing through the local league season.

1.04E(3) Age. 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 league.

1.04E(4) Player Agreement. All players participating in the USTA League, as a condition of said participation, agree to abide and be bound by the USTA Constitution and Bylaws; the USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS; the FRIEND AT COURT – *The USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations* including THE CODE, and the standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship.

1.04E(5) Waiver of Claims. Players participating in the USTA League acknowledge the risks associated with playing competitive tennis, accept those risks voluntarily, and in consideration of their acceptance in the USTA League Program, assume all risks for bodily injury, waive all claims for injury and property damage and release and hold harmless the USTA and the host facility, their officials, employees and agents with respect to any injury or loss caused by negligence or otherwise to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1.04F Official League Rating Program. The National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) is the official system for rating levels of competition for USTA League.

1.04F(1) Entry. All players must use their current NTRP rating when registering for a team. If the player does not have an NTRP rating, he/she must self-rate using the National NTRP guidelines. Individuals who have had a National or Section ranking; played collegiate tennis; taught tennis or played professional tennis must also complete a player history form. The form is available on TennisLink. Upon completion of the player history questionnaire, players will automatically be informed through TennisLink of his/her appropriate level. If you choose to appeal this rating to a lower level, you may do so on the site at the time of your self-rating. If you wish to appeal your rating up, you may do so at the TennisLink site. Appeals pertaining to your NTRP rating will be handled by the Southern Tennis Association. Omission of information will subject the player and/or the captain to sanctions and disqualifications.

Comment: A NTRP self-rate grievance may be filed against a player and/or captain who commits or condones entering at one level when the player's actual skill level is at the top of the next NTRP level or higher.

APPEAL PROCESS – NTRP Appeals for computer rated players are to be submitted on TennisLink under Find NTRP Rating Info. This appeal is granted or denied automatically on this site. This must be submitted prior to playing a team match.

1.04F(1)a Rating levels are derived in accordance with the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System Procedures. Once a player is assigned a valid Computer (C) or Benchmark (B) NTRP rating level, it is valid for the Adult and Mixed Divisions for all players 59 years of age or under for three consecutive years or until another NTRP published rating level is generated. For players 60 years of age or over, a valid Computer (C) or Benchmark (B) NTRP rating level is valid to play in the Adult and Mixed Divisions for two consecutive years or until another NTRP published rating level is generated.

1.04F(1)b Mixed results will not be part of generating a player's year-end rating, except for those players who participate in the Mixed Division exclusively. A player who plays in the Mixed Division exclusively will receive a published Mixed Exclusive (M) NTRP rating level at year-end unless they have a valid computer (C) or benchmark (B) rating from a previous year on file in TennisLink. A published (M) NTRP rating level is valid to play in the Mixed Division exclusively and will be in effect for players 59 years of age and under for three consecutive years and for players 60 years or older for two consecutive years or until another NTRP published level is generated. A player who plays exclusively in the Mixed Division and subsequently chooses to participate in the Adult Division must enter by using a valid computer (C) or benchmark (B) rating from a previous year. If such player does not have a valid (C) or (B) rating from a previous year, he or she must self-rate with the minimum rating being the higher of the self-rating or valid Mixed Exclusive (M) rating.

1.04F(1)d The process of self-rating shall be administered by TennisLink and the Southern Sectional Office. Players who do not have a computer rating on file in TennisLink shall self-rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines and declare their self-rating on TennisLink when registering for a team.

- 1) A complaint may be filed by a Captain or LLC against a player and/or Captain who commits or condones a player entering at one level when their actual skill level is at the top of the next NTRP level or higher.
- 2) The party(ies) that file(s) the Self Rate NTRP grievance must provide documentation to support his/her complaint at the time of the filing. The complaint will then be handled at the Southern level.

1.04G Player Participation Eligibility.

1.04G(3) A player may play on more than one team in an NTRP level within an Age Group in the same season provided it is in separate local leagues.

1.04G(4) A player may play on more than one NTRP level within an Age Group in the same local league during the same season.

1.04G(5) A player may play up to one NTRP level above the player's current NTRP level.

1.04G(6) Kentucky has the authority to regulate advancement on more than one adult team to the State Championships. A player may advance on any team for which he/she is registered and meets the qualifications. There will be no scheduling concessions for those choosing to play multiple divisions.

Players who qualify for Southern Sectional in an Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over and/or Adult 65 & Over teams(s) may advance on more than one team within an age

group only if they are different NTRP levels. Players who qualify for a Mixed Doubles 18 & Over and/or Mixed Doubles 40 & Over team(s) 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 Sectional Championships for teams with players that may be competing on two or more teams during a sectional championship.

1.05 OFFICIAL BALL. In USTA League matches, a standard Type 2 USTA approved ball shall be used. The use of any USTA “transition” ball is prohibited.

2.00 USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS

All USTA League Regulations in 1.00 GENERAL, 3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES and the following Regulations **in this section** shall apply to USTA Kentucky League Adult and Mixed Divisions **except for Reg. 2.04 NTRP DYNAMIC DISQUALIFICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES which shall apply only to the USTA League Adult Division.**

2.01A NTRP Levels of Play.

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 except in the 5.0+ NTRP level of the Adult Division, 18 & Over and in the 4.5+ NTRP level of the Adult Division, 40 & Over. Adult Division, 18 & Over 5.0+ team rosters may include up to two (2) players from the next higher NTRP level. Adult Division, 40 & Over 4.5+ team rosters may include up to three (3) players from the next higher NTRP level.

2.01A(1)a In Plus (+) NTRP levels utilizing three individual matches within a team match, no more than one Plus(+) level player shall be allowed to play in a team match and shall be required to play in the #1 position, either singles or doubles.

2.01A(1)b In Plus (+) NTRP levels utilizing four or more individual matches within a team match, two Plus (+) level players may play in a team match and shall be required to play in the #1 position, either singles or doubles.

2.01A(4) USTA League NTRP levels are in accordance with the table below:

NTRP LEVELS OF PLAY				
DIVISION	AGE GROUP	LOCAL LEAGUES	ALL CHAMPIONSHIPS BELOW NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Adult	18 & Over	2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0+	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0+	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0+
	40 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+
	55 & Over	Straight Levels 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and Combined Level 9.0	Straight Levels 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 And Combined Level 9.0	Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0
	65 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0,	3.0, 3.5, 4.0,	NA

		9.0 combined	9.0 combined	
Mixed	18 & Over	Straight Level 2.5 AND Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0	Straight Level 2.5 AND Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0	Straight Level 2.5 AND Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0
	40 & Over	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0
	55 & Over	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0	Invitational	N/A

It is the captain's responsibility to have each team member thoroughly read and understand the current National, Sectional, State and Local USTA League Regulations prior to the start of league competition. These regulations are available at: www.ustaky.com, and www.talktennis.org. ***It is especially important to have the person designated as acting captain at any match be familiar with these regulations as well.***

All players must use their current published rating at the time of registration on a team. All computer ratings are administered by USTA Kentucky within the stated NTRP guidelines and are published in TennisLink.

Any player who has been dynamically disqualified, or whose published rating is above the disqualification level is no longer protected through the championships and must immediately cease participation at that level.

A disqualified player may join a team at their new level. No refund will be given to a disqualified player, however, the LLC can place a disqualified player on another team at their higher level without having to incur another league fee. **All match scores played by disqualified player will stand as played in TennisLink.**

Captains must have a current e-mail address and phone contact information in TennisLink in order to receive league information throughout the season. **It is the captain's responsibility to know what is going on during the league season.** Check the websites listed in these regulations routinely for updates of league information. Updates to your personal information can be made via TennisLink or Membership Services at 1-800-990-USTA.

2.01C Competition Format

2.01C (1) Round Robin. Each NTRP level shall play a round robin format in which each team will play every other team a minimum of one time (except in levels that are flighted). When divisions have less than 11 teams, each NTRP level shall play a round robin format in which each team will play every other team a minimum of one time, as follows:

# teams	# round robins
7-10 teams	single round robin
5-6 teams	double round robin
3-4 teams	triple round robin
2 teams	minimum triple round robin

2.01C (1)a. Flighting. Divisions with 11 or more teams will be divided into 2 or more Flights. In levels where there are two Flights, the top finishing teams in each Flight will advance to the 2018 Kentucky Championship. If there are 11-15 teams total, the top two teams in each flight (if there are two flights) will advance. In levels where there are three Flights, the top finishing team in each Flight will advance. If additional teams are needed, the team with the highest percentage of wins will advance. The Flight winner will be the team having won the most team matches in its Flight competition.

Teams will advance to the 2018 Kentucky Championship in accordance with the provisions of section 2.02 (B).

When there are an uneven number of teams in the Flights within a Division, matches versus the last place finisher in a Flight will not be counted for teams in the larger Flights, for purposes of determining advancement. This normalizes the number matches so that teams in the smaller Flights (with less matches) are not penalized.

The 2.5 level where there are two sessions, the top finishing team in each session will advance to the State Championship. In the event the same team finishes first in each session they must choose which team will advance. Additional team(s) needed to advance will be determined by the highest percentage of wins in Tennislink.

2.01C(2) Team Match. Each team match shall consist of five individual matches: two singles and three doubles matches. (For the 2.0, 2.5 and 5.0 levels each team match shall consist of three individual matches: one singles and two doubles matches.) In order for a team match to be counted in the standings, teams must play three (3) or more individual courts, (two for the 2.0, 2.5 and 5.0 levels). **ALL MATCHES SCHEDULED DURING THE LEAGUE SEASON ARE EXPECTED TO BE PLAYED.**

In the Mixed Doubles division each team match shall consist of three doubles matches. In order for a team match to be counted in the standings, teams must play two (2) or more individual courts. A doubles team combined rating cannot exceed the level of the team and each individual player's rating may be no more than 1.0 apart.

At NO time are CELL PHONES, SMART WATCHES or any other electronic device allowed to be used on the tennis court during a match. **ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING THE MATCH.** If a phone on your court rings once, request that the phone be turned off and replay the point. If the phone rings again you may claim the point in the game based on a deliberate hindrance.

All matches must be played to completion without interruption. Unfinished matches must be played if a court is available at the host club within a half-hour of the interrupted match, or within a reasonable time as long as both teams agree on the delay. Additional court fees may be charged, but that is at the discretion of the host club. If a court is not available within a reasonable time frame, rescheduling should be arranged immediately by the players. If it is necessary to reschedule the match, the Captains **must** notify the LLC. The rescheduled match must be played within **one week** at the host facility if possible.

The "Home" captain shall designate placement of courts in an indoor facility. In each match, the Home team shall provide a new can of USTA approved balls.

If the team prior to your match is in a third set tiebreak, please be courteous to players on the court by allowing them to finish their match. Do not go out to warm up for your match prior to your scheduled time if there is a match in progress on any of your courts. **[No longer are we allowing players to go out if there is a court in between a match being completed. It is too disruptive. BE COURTEOUS!]**

Play shall be continuous from the first service until the match is completed in accordance with the following provisions:

- a) If the first service is a fault, the second service must be struck by the server without delay.
- b) The receiver must play to the reasonable pace of the server and must be ready to receive when the server is ready to serve. The server cannot take longer than 20 seconds in between points. When changing ends, a maximum time of 90 seconds shall elapse from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the game to the time the ball is struck for the first point of the next game.
- c) **After the first game of each set and during the tie-break, play shall be continuous and the players shall change ends without a rest period. [Please note: There is no break after the first game of any set.]**
- d) At the conclusion of each set, there shall be a set break of a maximum of 2 minutes from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the game to the time the ball is struck for the first point of the next game, or on a changeover. A 10 minute break WILL NOT be allowed between the 2nd set and the Super Tie-Break game. A BONA FIDE bathroom break can be taken at any time during the match, though it is courteous to leave the court at the end of a game or on a “designated change-over”.

Coaching is not allowed in USTA matches. Coaching is considered to be communication, advice or any instruction that is audible or visible to a player. Communication between spectators and players should be in a language understood by all players present, or it may be considered coaching.

Visible or audible profanity will NOT be tolerated on the courts during any match. Abuse of racquet, balls or equipment will also NOT be tolerated. Players are responsible for adhering to the Code. **Unsportsmanlike conduct will NOT be tolerated.**

2.01C (2)a MATCH FEES

Captains must collect court fees prior to the start of the scheduled team match. **Court fees will be \$18.00 per player for the 18 & Over and 40 & Over leagues and \$17.00 for the 55 league. Court fees for the Mixed Doubles League & Combo League - TBD.**

2.01C(3) MATCH SCORING AND FORMATS

2.01C(3)a The warm-up **must** be accomplished in a maximum of 10 minutes, **including serves. Do not practice your return of serve during warm-up. Also, do not go out onto the courts before your scheduled match time if there is a match in progress on any of the courts.** All Matches will be the best 2 out of 3 sets, with the Set Tie-Break to be used at

6 all in each set. In lieu of the third set, a Match tiebreak (Super Tie-Break) shall be played (the first to 10 winning by 2). There will be a 2 minute set break at the end of each set with no coaching. The Match tiebreak shall be scored as 1 game for tiebreak procedures. All tiebreaks will be played using the Coman Format.

2.01C(3)b The team winning the majority of individual matches shall be awarded one team point.

2.01C(3)c Defaults (forfeits) and disqualifications shall be scored according to USTA League Tennis Regulations. When entering the scores for a defaulted court (forfeit), enter the name/s of the non-forfeiting team **ONLY** and click on default. Do not put in a score or name(s) under the forfeiting team. If a team knowingly begins a team match without a full complement of players for the lineup (e.g. 6 players rather than 8) said team **must** forfeit from the bottom. For example, a team with 6 players could either forfeit #3 doubles or both singles courts.

2.01C(3)d If a team knows 24 hours in advance of their scheduled match that they intend to forfeit a court, the captain **must** contact the facility and the opposing captain to cancel the court.

Note: A facility may charge a fee unless notice is given 24 hours in advance. The forfeiting captain shall be responsible for full payment of that court unless the facility has been notified in advance of the cancellation.

SCORECARDS. Captains should print a scorecard from TennisLink before each match which shall be used for lineup exchange. All eligible players will be listed at the bottom of each scorecard. Please verify all players listed are registered on the team. Please note that a player may be added on the day of the match in accordance with the regulations. Printing the scorecard in advance of the day of the match could result in a discrepancy of eligible players. It is a good idea to print the scorecard on the day of the match. Captains **must confirm** the scores with the opposing Captain at the completion of the match and keep a hard copy of each of their scorecards.

2.01C(5) TEAM LINE UPS. The team captain for each team shall exchange their team lineup cards simultaneously prior to the beginning of the scheduled match. If the captain will not be there at the start time, he/she should send the lineup with a designated captain. The default time is 15 minutes after the scheduled start time of the league match. **Cell phones are the official time for the start of the match.** *However, since not all cell phone times may be the same, the benefit of the time goes to the earliest time on a cell phone. If one cell phone says 12:14 p.m. and another says 12:16 p.m. for the players on the court, the time shall be 12:14 p.m.* **Comment:** This means all players must be on the court, and not merely at the facility, going to the bathroom, stretching, etc., no later than 15 minutes after the scheduled start time. Courtesy requires a prompt start time and a brief warm-up (10 minutes). **League rules support** a default of the individual match if players are not on court.

2.01C(5)a In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no show of 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 a 15 minute default time, using a player not already

listed on the lineup. If the substitution is made during the warm-up, 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.

2.01C(5)b – *This is a Southern and National Rule:* In the event that a team match must be re-scheduled and starting times are staggered, where opponents are not available and ready to play, defaults will be awarded in the affected position only.

2.01C(5)c The policy of the Louisville League is that there will be **NO RESCHEDULING** of matches during the season. However, there may be an occasion where a match **or just a court or two** needs to be rescheduled. Both Captains must agree and the **match must be played within two weeks at the originally scheduled facility. If a court or more is rescheduled, do not enter the scores until the match is completed.** The LLC **MUST** be notified via e-mail when an agreement has been reached. In addition if any team has 50% or more of their roster involved in a USTA League Tennis State, Sectional or National event, regardless of the league, they may request from their opponent consideration in **rescheduling** their league match. A team with this concern **must** notify the affected opponents **at least 2 weeks prior to the scheduled match** to reschedule individual matches. The team affected should contact the LLC in this situation. *[Note: Please be courteous in working with your opponent when rescheduling is requested.]*

Inclement weather is defined as unsuitable driving conditions in regards to snow and ice for indoor matches and precipitation due to rain for outdoor matches.

In the event of inclement weather, the LLC and the Louisville Adult League Committee will make a decision to play or cancel matches. This decision will be posted on the local league website at www.talktennis.org. In the case of potential rain or scattered showers, all players must report to the scheduled site at the time of the match as it may be raining on one end of town but not the other. If there is a threat of rain you **MUST** contact the facility to see if they are open before contacting the opposing Captain to see about rescheduling or moving indoors. Both Captains must agree to cancellation of the match. **DO NOT PLAY ON WET HARD COURTS.** If the weather does not allow the match to be played, the match must be rescheduled by the Captains within two weeks. The original line-up from the suspended match does not have to be followed if the match was suspended BEFORE PLAY BEGAN. (Play begins as soon as the ball is struck including warm up). No alterations from the original line-up will be permitted if the match had started and was interrupted due to weather. All players must be in agreement to move the match to an indoor facility. Non-member fees may apply. Court costs vary from club to club. If the heat index is projected to be 100 degrees or above you may request rescheduling with opposing team.

2.01C(5)f If a team forfeits an entire team match (3 courts or more)(2 courts for the, 2.5 and 5.0 levels), (2 or more for Mixed Doubles)a grievance **WILL** be filed by the LLC against the team, which may result in removal from competition. If removed, then all matches that team has played or matches to be played shall be null and void. If all teams in contention for the playoffs have already played the forfeiting team in good faith, the matches stand as played. The forfeiting team may be placed on a probationary watch the following season, and the Grievance Committee will determine any penalty to the team and/or Captain.

If a team forfeits 25% of the courts scheduled for matches in the season, a grievance WILL be filed by the LLC against the team, and the team may be removed from competition. The League is designed to PROMOTE PLAY.

2.02 PROGRESSION

2.02B Championships

The division winner shall be the team having won the most team matches in its division competition. In the event of a tie for division winner and/or second and third place positions, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following methods:

- a) Winner of the most individual matches.
- b) Head to Head Winner
- c) Loser of the fewest sets.
- d) Loser of the fewest games.

2.02B(1) District/Area Championships.

Teams will advance to USTA Kentucky State Championship based on the below listed number of teams participating at the local level. Teams should expect to play on any USTA approved surface.

Adult 18 & Over 40 & Over		Adult 55 & Over		Mixed Doubles	
2 teams	1 team	2-5 teams	2 teams	2-5 teams	2 teams
3-5 teams	2 teams	6-10 teams	3 teams	6-10 teams	3 teams
6-10 teams	3 teams	11+ teams	4 teams	11+ teams	4 teams
11-15 teams	4 teams				
16+ teams	5 teams				

2.03 DISTRICT/AREA, SECTIONAL AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

2.03A Eligibility In order to advance to State Championship, an individual player must have participated in 2 matches on that specific team, with no more than 1 default counting. To generate a computer rating, a player must have played three times during the league year. Forfeits do not count toward computer ratings.

2.03A(1)a A team cannot advance to Championship level without playing a local league. Local leagues that enroll less than the required two teams per NTRP level may compete in the regular USTA league tennis program by joining another existing local league. The assigned team must abide by the local league regulations and deadlines of the local league in which the team is assigned or the State Regulations dates and deadlines for the new "Combined Area."

1. The LLC shall assign a team to a local league and move the team to the appropriate league within TennisLink.

2. The assigned team will be required to travel to all matches within the existing local league they are assigned, unless the other teams within that local league agree to share the traveling.
3. The assigned team must abide by the local league regulations and deadlines of the local league in which the team is assigned.
4. In the case that two one team leagues join together, both teams will be required to travel equally.
5. Local Leagues with a single team at NTRP levels within the same age division; Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over or Adult 55 & Over may join the “Combined Area” as a team and play a local league. All teams must abide by all regulations for local league play, meeting all state deadlines for registration and last date for match play, as well as playing the required number of matches to qualify to advance to the Kentucky State Championships. Each team will advance to represent their local league area in the appropriate age division at their NTRP level.
6. Local League prior to State Championships will be played if there are two or more teams from different local areas that were not able to join another local league. Teams must have all players registered following the local league registration deadlines to be eligible for local prior to state. Teams would arrive one day prior to the State Championships to play the required number of round robins to ensure that all players are qualified to advance to the State Championships.

2.03A(1)b The Tournament Committee will determine the number of teams needed to complete the draw. If it is determined that additional teams are needed to complete the draw in any level, a blind draw will be made to determine which local league area will receive the wildcard. However, the “Host City” for any tournament will be given first consideration for providing a wildcard for any level if they have a team available in that level, and assuming a wildcard is needed.

2018 KENTUCKY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP DATES:

All dates and locations are subject to change by the Tournament Committee.

ADULT 18 & OVER

Date: **June 22-24, 2018 – Lexington, KY**

Entry Deadline: **June 13, 2018**

Entry Fee: \$33.00 per player

ADULT 40 & OVER

Date: **June 29 – July 1, 2018 – Louisville, KY**

Entry Deadline: **June 20, 2018**

Entry Fee: \$33.00 per player

ADULT 55 & OVER

Date: **June 1-3, 2018 – Owensboro, KY**

Entry Deadline: **May 23, 2018**

Entry Fee: \$33.00 per player

MIXED DOUBLES

Date: **September 6-9, 2018 – Bowling Green, KY**

Entry Deadline: **August 31, 2018**

Entry Fee: \$33.00 per player

ADULT 65 & OVER INVITATIONAL

Date: **September 21-23, 2018 – Louisville Tennis Club**

Entry Deadline: **September 12, 2018**

Championship Entry Fee: \$40.00

COMBO

Date: **October 18-21, 2018 (4 days) - TBD**

Entry Deadline: **October 10, 2018**

Entry Fee: \$33.00 per player

3.0 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The Regulations in 3.0 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES shall apply to all USTA League Divisions. All complaints alleging a violation of USTA League Tennis Regulations or standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship shall be filed in writing with the LLC.

3.01 Grievances must be filed by a team captain prior to the next team match during the local league season and within 24 hours after the last regular match or playoff match. Grievances shall be sent to the LLC who will then forward them on to the Grievance Committee. A copy of each complaint shall be sent to the party(ies) against whom the complaint has been made by the LLC.

3.01A: Grievance Administration (Southern).

- A \$100 filing fee will be required for all General/Sportsmanship, Championship and/or Administrative Grievance and Grievance Appeals that are heard at the Southern level. The filing fee will only be returned to the grieving party if a penalty is imposed.

3.01 Grievance Administration (Kentucky).

- A \$50.00 filing fee will be required for all General/Sportsmanship, Championship and/or Administrative Grievance Appeals that are heard at the State level. The filing fee will only be returned to the grieving party if a penalty is imposed.

For full Grievance Procedures refer to Section 3.0 of the 2018 USTA League Tennis Regulations. These USTA Louisville Rules & Regulations may be found at:

www.talktennis.org

2018 TALK Board and Members

Daniel Kalef – President

Lynn Harris – Vice President

Vacant – Secretary

John Gottbrath – Treasurer

Karen Kutz, Immediate Past President

Beth McCulley

John Riddick

Vicki Noel

Jennifer McMahan

Stephanie Mason

Stacey Rice – League Coordinator

2018 Louisville Adult League Committee

Daniel Kalef

Lynn Harris

John Gottbrath

Karen Kutz

2018 Grievance Committee

TBD

2018 Grievance Appeal Committee

TBD