

USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS
2019 Championship Year



Tennis Association of Louisville, KY (TALK)

USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS
2019 Championship Year
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Louisville Addendum

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(3) Local League Season

Local League Registration Fee for ALL leagues is \$22
Courts Fees are \$18 for indoor matches and \$8 for outdoor matches
Note: all fees in Kentucky require applicable sales tax applied

All league dates are dependent on the number of teams; some levels may begin later or end sooner.

Session One: *Adult 18 and over League (2.5, 3.5, 4.5) AND Adult 40 and over League (3.0, 4.0)*

Registration Opens: December 1, 2018 (pending ratings release)

Initial Roster Deadline (minimum needed for a match): December 10, 2018

League Play: January 4 – March 10, 2019

Session Two: *Adult 18 and over (2.5, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0+) AND Adult 40 and over (3.5, 4.5+)*

Registration Opens: January 30, 2019

Initial Roster Deadline (minimum needed for a match): February 12, 2019

League Play: March 15 – June 2, 2019 (18 & over)

March 15 – June 9, 2019 (40 & over)

Adult 55 & Over: *All Levels*

Registration Opens: December 1, 2018 (pending ratings release)

Initial Roster Deadline (5 players): December 10, 2018

Last Day for Match Play: May 12, 2019

Mixed Doubles : *All Levels - 18 and over, 40 and over, 55 and over*

Registration Opens: TBD

Initial Roster Deadline (3 males/3 females): +10 days

Last Day for Match Play: August 25, 2019

Combo: *All Levels - 18 and over, 40 and over, 55 and over*

Registration Opens: TBD

Initial Roster Deadline (6 players): +10 days

Last Date for Match Play: September 22, 2019

1.04D(4)Team. A team shall consist of players eligible to compete at a specific NTRP level of competition in accordance with the following table. A Section may limit the number of players on a team who have an individual NTRP level below the team NTRP level

The roster limit for all Leagues shall be a maximum of 21 players.

2.01C Competition Format.

2.01C(1) Round Robin. Each NTRP level within a local league shall play at least one round robin competition wherein every team plays every other team. When any NTRP level consists of only two teams, each team is required to play a minimum of three team matches, which is a triple round robin. When any NTRP level consists of only three teams, each team is required to play a minimum of four team matches, which is a double round robin. Any NTRP level may be divided into flights and each team shall play every other team in its flight. The flight winners may enter a playoff structure to establish a local league champion for that NTRP level.

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 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	# 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

Note: TALK reserves the option to conduct additional round robins for small flights if the calendar permits and courts are available.

2.01C(2) Team Match. Each team match in a local league shall consist of such number of individual matches of singles, doubles, or any combination thereof as determined by the local league. Each team must have the minimum number of players available to play the majority of individual matches. If one team does not have the minimum number of players, the opposing team will be credited with a total team default, and will win each individual match 6-0 6-0. If neither team has the required minimum number of players, the match shall be scored as a double team default, and neither team will receive credit for a win. In the case of a team default or double team default any individual matches actually played will count only for NTRP ratings and eligibility for advancement and cannot count for determining standings.

- In order for a team match to be counted in the standings, teams must play three (3) or more individual courts. For the 2.5 and 5.0 levels, Mixed and Combo Doubles, teams must play two (2) or more individual courts. *All matches scheduled during the league season are expected to be played.*
- For Mixed Doubles, a doubles team combined rating cannot exceed the level of the team and each individual's rating within the doubles team 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 or set to silent. 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 during the scheduled match time allotted. 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 each match, the Home team shall provide a new can of USTA approved balls for each court.
- 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 unless all courts are available.**
- Play shall be continuous from the first service until the match is completed in accordance with the following provisions:
 - If the first service is a fault, the second service must be struck by the server without delay.
 - 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.
 - 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. There is no break after the first game of any set.
 - 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 tiebreak 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.
- 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.***

2.01C(3) MATCH SCORING AND FORMATS

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 tiebreak to be used at 6 all in each set. In lieu of the third set, a Match tiebreak (Super tiebreak) 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(5) Team Line-Ups. The team captain for each team shall exchange their team line-up simultaneously prior to the beginning of the team match. No substitution may be made in an individual match after the line-up has been presented, except for injury to, illness of, or disqualification of a player prior to the start of such match and except under such further circumstances as a Sectional Association may authorize. If the substitution is made during the warm-up, the substitute player is entitled to a five minute warm-up. The default principles in Reg. 2.03K Team Defaults and 2.03L Scoring of Team Defaults shall be applicable.

- 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. Note: 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 within the 15-minute time limit.
- 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 and the facility MUST be notified via e-mail when an agreement has been reached.
- 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 should notify their opponents and the LLC (srice@talktennis.org) at least 2 weeks prior to the scheduled match to reschedule the match. This communication should be via email. [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 Committee will make a decision to play or cancel matches. This decision will be posted on the TALK social media accounts.
 - Cancellation due to inclement weather: You MUST contact the facility to see if they are open before contacting the opposing captain to see about rescheduling. Both captains must agree to the cancellation of the match. *If the weather does not allow the match to be played, the match must be rescheduled by the captains within two weeks at the original facility.*

- Suspended match due to rain: *All players must be in agreement to move the match to an indoor facility.* Suspended match is defined as play has begun (play begins as soon as the ball is struck including warm up) and must be halted due to conditions. No alterations from the original line-up will be permitted if the match has started and was interrupted due to weather.
 - If the heat index is projected to be 100 degrees or above, you may request rescheduling with opposing team.
- If a team forfeits an entire team match 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.

3.01 Administration 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.

- Grievance Administration (Southern): \$100 filing fee
- Grievance Administration (Kentucky): \$50 filing fee

3.01A Grievance Committees.

3.01A(1) Local. Each local league shall appoint a Local League Grievance Committee.

2019 TALK Grievance Committee

Vicki Noel (Chairperson)
 Stephanie Mason
 Beth McCulley
 John Riddick