



2023 USTA League National Championships

CHAMPIONSHIP HANDBOOK

USTA 

Adult 40 & Over 4.5 - Tucson



DATES: October 13-October 15, 2023

Match Play begins on October 13, 2023.

It is advisable that all players arrive at their hotel and acclimate to the time change and weather no later than Thursday. All players must be on-site on Friday before the team's first match. Schedules can change right up to the start of play.

Sunday Semifinals and Finals and awards are typically completed by 3pm. We present awards as teams complete their matches in order to help teams in a hurry to catch flights. **We highly recommend that you do not book flights earlier than 6pm.** You want to be sure to play your best and not worry about missing or changing flights while you're playing.

SITE:

All matches will be played at:

[El Conquistador Tennis at Pusch Ridge](#)

10000 N Oracle Rd
Oro Valley, AZ 85704
520-544-1780

[El Conquistador at Oro Valley C&R Center](#)

10555 N La Canada Dr
Oro Valley, AZ 85737
520-544-1900

COURT SURFACE: Hard.

BALL TYPE: Pro Penn Extra Duty



PRACTICE COURTS:

El Conquistador Tennis at Pusch Ridge: Players and captains can call and reserve court time 48 hours in advance at 520-544-1780. Court fees are \$20.00 per hour. **Thursday practice courts are free, first come-first serve.**

El Conquistador Tennis at Oro Valley Community & Recreation Center: Players and captains can jump on any court first come first serve anytime by paying the daily access fee of \$5.00. Please call 520-544-1900 for more information.

During competition, there will be no courts open for practice, as the priority will be to complete all matches.

PLAYER ENTRY FEE:

Please go to usta.com/nationalchampionships for the registration link.

Every player and captain (both playing and non-playing) advancing to the USTA League National Championships is required to register and pay the \$80 individual player entry fee. Non-playing players that wish to receive the player amenities need to register and pay for the event. Captains and players are not able to register their teammates due to the waivers that must be completed and signed during the registration process. All players need to register themselves.

***ALL CAPTAINS** both playing and non-playing need to register and pay for the event. Please go to www.usta.com/nationalchampionships for the registration link.

CAPTAINS:

Please make sure that you have at least **7** eligible players registered by **September 15th**. Please email us at leaguenationals@usta.com for any questions. Captains will be notified of their current roster list before the registration deadline.

A week prior to match play, captains will be notified of their eligible players. All players must meet the eligibility requirements and have updated USTA memberships to compete.

REFUND REQUESTS:

Players may send refund requests to leaguenationals@usta.com, refunds will be granted until the registration deadline which is **September 29th**.

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STANDINGS & RESULTS:

The official standings and results can be found in Tennislink. Guests and spectators can access the standings page by using the [Championship Advanced Search](#) function in Tennislink. You will be taken to the Stats and Standing Advanced Search page where you will select the year (2023), league type, NTRP Level, gender, and level (National Championship), then click the View National Championship button.

TEAM ELIGIBILITY:

- A minimum of seven (7) players who were on the final local roster must be available to compete at nationals. **Waivers will not be granted to teams who are not able to field a full team.**
- All players other than self-rated and computer-rated (down) appealed players are eligible to advance to a National Championship competition if that player has played on the advancing team in at least three (3) matches from local play through the Sectional Championships and one default shall count for advancing in the three (3) match requirement. All self-rated and computer-rated (down) appealed players are eligible to advance to a National Championship competition if that player has played on the advancing team in at least four (4) matches from local play through the Sectional Championships and no defaults shall count for advancing in the four (4) match requirement. Retired matches shall count towards advancing for all players involved. (Per regulation 2.03A(4)). **Waivers will not be granted to players who have not played the required number of matches.**
- All individual team members must be from the appropriate level of play in accordance with the NTRP system.

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PARTICIPANT WEBINAR:

A participant webinar which will be sent out the Monday prior to your National Championship via email. It will be sent out to all players and captains and we encourage everyone to watch it as it has important information about your Championship.

MANDATORY TEAM CHECK-IN:

WHERE: El Conquistador Tennis at Pusch Ridge – 10000 N Oracle Rd Oro Valley, AZ 85704

WHEN: Thursday, October 12th from 5pm-7pm (Mountain Standard Time)

NOTE: Captains need to check in their team and pick up their captain's packets and player gifts. The check in takes about 10-15 minutes. Captains may send a representative to check in their team, please email leaguenationals@usta.com to let us know the name and contact person who will be checking in your team if you are unable to.

PLAYER SOCIALS:

Teams are invited to a Player Social at each site on Thursday from 5pm-7pm (local time zone). Each facility will bring in a local caterer for small plates of food & drinks. Each player who has registered will receive one meal ticket and two drink tickets. Tickets are not for sale. Enjoy complimentary practice courts (pending facility availability), appetizers, music, a prize court and more! Attire: Wear your colors from this year's Color Wars! (see Color War assignment page).

Lookout for player clinics, ran by the teaching pros on Thursday as well! More information to be announced regarding time(s) and sign-ups.

RESTROOMS/LOCKER ROOMS:

If you have matches at the Pusch Ridge location, please note the facility has limited restrooms. Please prepare in advance to alleviate lines and delay of matches.

TRAINERS: There will be a trainer on-site to assist with athletic injuries. They will have access to ice.

WATER, ICE, & FOOD:

Water will be available onsite to refill water bottles as well as free bananas (while supplies last) and onsite small snack options for purchase. We are not able to provide ice for water bottles or coolers but the trainer will have ice for any injuries. We recommend that all players and spectators come prepared with the beverages (water, Gatorade etc.), ice and food that they need to make it through their matches. Bottle fillers are available on the facility grounds and inside the building.

STRINGING: Stringing services are offered at the facility.

EMERGENCIES:

Carbon Health Urgent Care Tangerine Road: 1880 E Tangerine Rd #100, Oro Valley, AZ 85755 / 520-900-7006

Oro Valley Hospital: 1551 E Tangerine Rd, Oro Valley, AZ 85755 / 520-901-3500

TIP FOR PLAYERS & SPECTATORS:

We recommend that spectators bring an umbrella for protection from the sun and a portable chair. Many courts may not have enough covered spectator seating.



AWARDS:

One team award and banners will be presented to the teams that finish 1st-4th. All individual awards for players who have registered/rostered will be shipped to the captain after the championship has concluded. Teams may purchase additional awards please see the onsite National Staff Representative for more information.

SERVING SPORTSMANSHIP INITIATIVE:

Players and captains can nominate opponents at the tournament desk by scanning the digital nomination survey QR code on the scorecard. On Saturday, nominations will be reviewed by the tournament staff. The team from the entire championship, determined by the tournament staff, will win the serving sportsmanship team award. The team will receive a banner, pins for each player and a photo opportunity.

*The Serving Sportsmanship Initiative may change due to unforeseen circumstances, such as weather. The process may be changed by the tournament staff.

PLAYER GIFTS:

All players attending the 2023 National Championships will receive a National Championship shirt, bag tag, and towel. Captains will be given all player gifts when they pick up their captain's packet on Thursday to distribute to their team. Two registered players from each team will be randomly selected for the prize wheel. Captains will be notified at Thursday check-in. The prize wheel is located at the tournament desk.

GIFT EXCHANGE:

Please do not bring gifts to exchange with your opponents.

OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE:

Official USTA League National Championship merchandise will be available for purchase online and on-site (dates may vary). You can access the merchandise link on our homepage- www.usta.com/nationalchampionships Players can place pre orders prior to the start of their Championship as well as during and after their Championships.

TEAM PHOTOS:

Action shots, team photos and award photos will be taken throughout the championship. To schedule your team photo, captains should make an appointment during the team registration for Friday. Photos are **FREE** at www.usta.com/nationalchampionships

WEBSITE: www.usta.com/nationalchampionships

COACHING:

No coaching allowed by captains, teammates, or spectators. Cell phones are not allowed on court. Smart watches must be in airplane mode or removed. If players are not able to work out a dispute, one of them may come to the Tournament desk to request the Referee. (Please note that captains and/or players should not be involved with decision making or requesting an official without a player's consent.)

OFFICIALS:

There will be certified referees and roving officials at all host sites. Players are encouraged to play tennis without the need for umpires to be present for matches. Please click [here](#) to view the officials' roles & responsibilities at League Championships.

PLAYER ID:

Tournament staff may conduct random checks of player ID at time of check-in for matches. If a player is without ID when asked for it, he/she will be asked to provide it before they can be sent on court.

RULES & REGULATIONS:

- USTA Rules and League Regulations and Friend at Court will be enforced.
- Match lineups must be submitted to the tournament desk by the team captain, or a representative of the team, 30 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled match. Failure to may result in penalties at the Tournament Director and Referee's discretion.
- Tournament staff have the authority to put matches on our of order as shown on the lineup if circumstances dictate. Known defaults are still implemented.
- All matches will be on a "followed by" basis meaning matches may start prior to the scheduled match time if courts are available.
- If a player elects to play on multiple teams (within the same or a different division) during League play, the player automatically waives the minimum rest period under USTA Regulation III.C.1. and as specified in Table 11 (see Friend at Court). Regardless, if a player elects to play on multiple teams, the Recovery Rule will remain in effect (Reg. 203A(2)a).
- Tentative schedules are posted on the homepage by early September. The final match schedule will be posted at the start of the Captain's Registration.

2.06A MOVE UP/SPLIT UP:

Teams that advance to a National Championship are subject to this regulation. Please see USTA League Regulation 2.06A for details, or contact your Sectional League Coordinator on questions relating to compliance or how this may affect your team in 2024.

2.03J SCORING OF INDIVIDUAL DEFAULTS:

For the purpose of determining standings, individual defaults will be scored as a 6-0, 6-0 win for the player or doubles team receiving the default and a 0-6, 0-6 loss for the player or doubles team that defaulted the match. In the event of a default by both players or doubles teams, both sides will be given a 0-6, 0-6 loss and neither receives credit for a win. If a double default results in a tie, the tiebreak procedure shall be the same as in Reg. 2.03H Procedures In the Event of a Tie in order to determine a winner of that team match.

2.03M RETIREMENTS:

A retirement occurs when an individual match has started and a player/doubles team is unable to continue due to injury, loss of condition, emergency or refusal to play. If a full team retirement or combination of defaults and retirements occurs, the Championship Committee has the authority to file a grievance and to follow 2.03O if authorized. If such penalties include a suspension from League play, they must follow the League Suspension System.

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:

In the event of an impending major weather situation that could impact a USTA League National Championship Event, the USTA has committed to using best efforts to keep the players, captains, volunteers and staff updated prior to the event.

- USTA League national staff will send out an email notice to players and captains to inform players if the Championship will continue as scheduled or will be canceled. Best efforts will be used to make decisions and inform players no later than Wednesday at 12:00 PM noon prior to event start.
- If the championship, or part of the championship is canceled due to rain or unforeseen circumstances, the championship will not be rescheduled.

In the event of rain or suspension of play caused by extreme heat during the tournament, please remain at the tournament site until notified via email and/or text by the tournament staff of the schedule update. There are no guaranteed indoor courts where the championship can be played.

Should any situation occur, which could potentially result in invalid matches or the postponement, rescheduling, or cancellation of a National Championship, a committee composed of the Tournament Director, National staff and National League Committee member(s) will determine the best course of action. This may include, but not limited to, changes in the format, number of matches, and scoring. In certain extreme situations, National Co-Champions may be awarded (Reg. 2.03M).

GRIEVANCE AND APPEAL PROCEDURES:

Section 3.00 Grievance Procedures, in the USTA League Regulations, provides the comprehensive language for all grievance procedures and appeals. The following are guidelines and procedures applicable to this championship. The Tournament Staff will be glad to assist you with the forms and answer any questions on procedures.

1. 3.03A(6) Any grievance against an individual or team may only be filed by (a) the team captain of the team who has competed in the match where the alleged violation occurred, (b) a league coordinator or (c) a member of a Championship Committee, except for Administrative Grievances, Eligibility Grievances and NTRP Grievances, which may be filed as stated in 3.03A(2), 3.03B(3), 3.03C(3), 3.03E(2).
2. 3.03C(1) Any grievance alleging a violation during championship competition shall be in writing and delivered to the duly appointed site director or designee prior to whichever occurs first: (a) within 30 minutes of the completion of the involved team's match or (b) the commencement of the involved team's next match, whether or not the involved player participates except for Administrative Grievances (See Reg. 3.03A(2), Eligibility Grievances (See Reg. 3.03B(3) and NTRP Grievances (See Reg. 3.03E(3)).
3. Per regulation 3.03C(3) any grievance regarding failure to meet eligibility requirements may only be filed by a team captain, league coordinator or member of a Championship Committee at any time.
4. **3.03E(3) NTRP Grievances will not be accepted at National Championships.**
5. 3.04B(1) The Grievance Appeal Committee shall not be required to hold any hearing except as provided in 3.04B(2). Its decision may be based entirely on the findings of fact by the Grievance Committee whose decision is being appealed and on the facts and arguments submitted in writing by the parties to the appeal.

The Championship Committee has the authority to file a grievance and recommend the actions to take when multiple match default(s) given by one team result in a situation that may materially impact the championship's standings. Team penalties may include but are not limited to, non-advancement, disqualification or suspension. (Reg. 3.03A(7)).

CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT:

Teams will compete in 4 unflighted matches against randomly selected opponents. Teams can expect to play 2 matches on Friday and 2 matches on Saturday. On Sunday, the top 4 teams, based on TennisLink standings, will advance to the semi-finals, followed by the finals and the 3rd/4th match.

In the event of a team match tie, the tie will be broken by the first of these procedures:

- Winner of the most individual matches in the competition.
- Winner of head to head match **(only if all tied teams have played each other and one team defeated all the teams that are tied)**.
- Loser of the fewest number of sets.
- Loser of the fewest number of games.
- Game Winning Percentage: Total games won divided by total games played
**Calculation of game-winning percentage does not include defaulted matches.*
- A Method to be determined by the Championships Committee. Procedure to be announced prior to commencement of championship competition.

*Format and schedule are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

SCORING:

1. Best of two tiebreak sets with a 10-point Match Tiebreak in lieu of a 3rd set.
2. Match Tiebreak (10 Points, Win by 2): When the score in an individual match is one set all, a Match Tiebreak shall be played in lieu of a 3rd set. This tie-break game replaces the deciding final set. The player/team who first wins ten points (win by two) shall win this match tie-break and the match. If the score goes to 9-9 and beyond, players continue to play until there is a winning margin of 2 points (i.e. 11-9, 12-10, 15-13, etc).
3. Two min. rest between 1st & 2nd set and between 2nd & 3rd set match tiebreak.
4. Coman Tiebreak procedures apply to all tiebreak sets including the Match Tiebreaker. First team serves one time, followed by two serves for each team thereafter. Change sides after the first serve and then after every four points thereafter. (Note: Easy way to remember in doubles is that each player will serve from the same side).

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LOCAL INTERESTS: Visit [City of Tucson](#) for more on local attractions.

RECOMMENDED AIRPORT: [Tucson Int. Airport \(TUS\)](#) / [Phoenix Sky Harbor \(PHX\)](#)

SHUTTLE SERVICE: We recommend Uber for transportation

RECOMMENDED HOTELS: Once hotel room blocks have been filled we are not able to add additional rooms.

El Conquistador Hilton Resort: (520) 544-5000

10000 N Oracle Rd, Tucson, AZ 85704

Please use [this link](#) to book your room.

Fairfield Inn & Suites Tucson North / Oro Valley: (520) 225-0541

10150 N Oracle Road, Oro Valley, AZ 85737

Please use [this link](#) to book your room by **Thursday, September 21st**

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Oro Valley Tucson North: (520) 225-0541

11075 N Oracle Road, Oro Valley, AZ 85737

Please use [this link](#) to book your room.

Westward Look Wyndham Grand Resort & Spa: (520) 297-1151

245 E. Ina Road, Tucson, Arizona 85704

Please use [this link](#) to book your room by **Monday, September 4th**

Loews Ventana Canyon Resort: (877) 879-9979

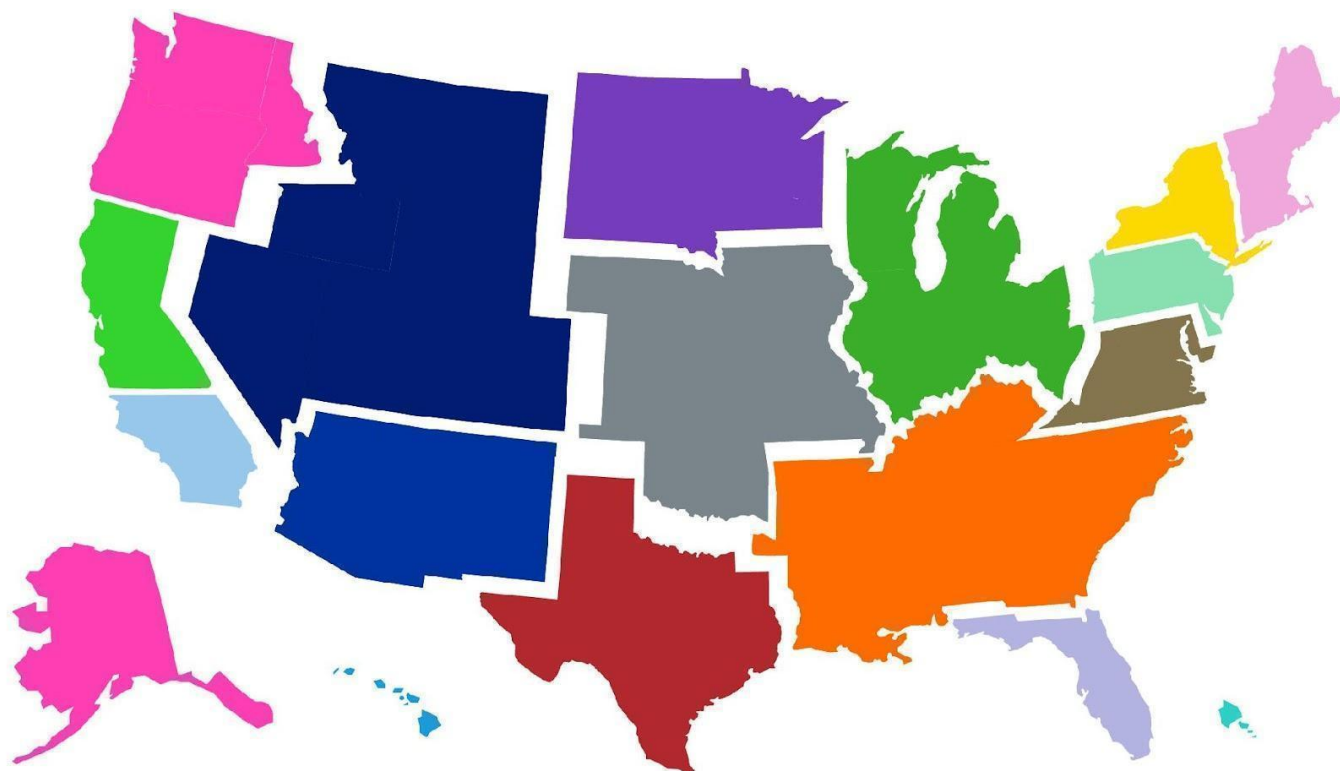
7000 N. Resort Drive, Tucson, Arizona, 85750

Please use [this link](#) to book your room by **Monday, August 11th**

USTA League

2023 COLOR WARS AT USTA LEAGUE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Show your section pride by representing
your section's designated color!



Caribbean
Eastern
Florida
Hawaii Pacific
Intermountain
Mid-Atlantic
Middle States
Midwest
Missouri Valley



New England
Northern
Northern California
Pacific Northwest
Southern
Southern California
Southwest
Texas



USTA League

2023 COLOR WARS

Caribbean	Pantone 3255	Aqua
Eastern	Pantone 108	Yellow
Florida	Pantone 270	Lavendar
Hawaii	Pantone 2925	Sky Blue
Intermountain	Pantone 662	Navy Blue
Mid Atlantic	Pantone 871	Gold
Middle States	Pantone 352	Mint Green
Midwest	Pantone 361	Green
Missouri Valley	Pantone 430	Silver
New England	Pantone 236	Light Pink
Northern	Pantone 266	Purple
Northern California	Pantone 802	Neon Green
Pacific Northwest	Pantone 806	Neon Pink
Southern	Pantone 1505	Orange
Southern California	Pantone 291	Carolina Blue
Southwest	Pantone 286	Royal Blue
Texas	Pantone 1805	Red