



2024 Greater Indianapolis

USTA League Local Rules

Revised **9/06/2023**. All USTA League Regulations in 1.00 GENERAL shall apply to all USTA League divisions.

1.02 Governance

The 2024 Indianapolis Local Rules, the current USTA/MIDWEST SECTION USTA LEAGUE STANDING ORDERS, and the 2024 USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS shall apply to the 2024 Greater Indianapolis USTA LEAGUE PROGRAM. The RULES OF TENNIS and TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS as contained in the current USTA Yearbook shall apply to all matches played in the 2024 Indianapolis Local USTA LEAGUE PROGRAM, except as modified herein. In all matches played without officials, the USTA official publication THE CODE shall be observed.

1.04B(1)a USTA League Committees

1. Any USTA League in Central Indiana shall be governed by the Central Indiana Adult League Committee. The chair is appointed by the President of the Central Indiana Tennis Association (USTA CENTRAL INDIANA), and the members are appointed by the chair with the approval of the district President. The Central Indiana Adult League Committee is subject to the control and direction of the USTA CENTRAL INDIANA Board of Directors.
2. The Indianapolis local league shall be governed by the Adult League Committee. The chair is appointed by the President of the USTA CENTRAL INDIANA, and the members are appointed by the chair with the approval of the district President. The Adult League Committee is subject to the control and direction of the USTA CENTRAL INDIANA Board of Directors.

1.04B(4) Team Captain

- a. Each team shall have a designated captain at all matches.
- b. Exchange team match cards simultaneously prior to the beginning of the match.
- c. Report match results within 48 hours of the end of a match.
- d. Court Cancellation Policy
 1. All defaulting teams (whether individual court or whole team) must notify the host club, opponent, and League Coordinator a minimum of 24 hours in advance of a default **by e-mail** or will be required to pay for the court time for the defaulted match. This is true for all clubs with the capability of housing indoor matches REGARDLESS of season (i.e. winter, summer, fall).

2. Teams, regardless of circumstance, that do not satisfy the minimum 24 hour notice requirement will be given 30 days from the scheduled date of the match to remunerate the club or face further penalties at the discretion of the Indianapolis League Committee.

1.04B(6) Eligibility of Clubs and USTA League Divisions

All new and existing USTA organizational members, including both public and private clubs, are eligible to join the USTA League program.

1.04D(3) Local League Season

1. Fees

During the Summer 2024 USTA League season, court time is included in the Registration Fee. During the Fall, Winter and Spring 2024 League seasons, court fees are to be paid to the indoor facility by the individual player prior to the match.

a. Each player is responsible for paying a registration fee when registering for a team in TennisLink at a rate determined by the USTA CENTRAL INDIANA Board of Directors.

b. Each player is responsible for paying any predetermined court fees as directed by the USTA CENTRAL INDIANA Board of Directors

2. Flights

Each local level of competition shall consist of flights, if necessary, in order to complete the number of matches required. A flight must have at least 6 teams before another flight at that same level can be created.

3. Application for Team Entry

a. Application for entry into the USTA League program may be obtained by contacting the local USTA League coordinator.

b. Team Entry applications received after the ENTRY DEADLINE DATE will be accepted at the discretion of the Local League Committee.

4. Refunds

a. If a team does not meet the required minimum number of players, no individual registration fees will be refunded after the minimum player registration deadline has passed.

b. With the exception of teams that withdraw by the minimum player deadline, registrations will only be refunded to 50% of the original price. The following criteria must be met:

1. The refund request is submitted on the USTA CENTRAL INDIANA Refund Request Form.

2. The player did not play on the team during the season for which the refund is being requested.

5. Awards

a. District and State Championship awards are provided by USTA CENTRAL INDIANA for the minimum number of team members plus 2. Additional awards may be purchased at the team's expense. Teams must compete in a championship in order to be eligible for awards.

6. Court Assignments

All individual matches of each team match should be played on the same type of surface. Clubs may assign individual matches of each team match to be played on different types of surfaces ONLY IF it is impossible to do otherwise. In such cases, court assignments shall be made as follows:

- a. Four courts of same surface: All singles, #1 and #2 doubles matches.
- b. Three courts of same surface: all doubles matches.

7. Visiting Team

The visiting team captain may contact the home team captain or home team club to determine the type of surface on which the match will be played. The type of surface may NOT be changed within seven (7) days of the match.

8. Warm-Up Periods

- a. Ten minutes is the designated warm-up time at the scheduled start of the match.
- b. Players arriving (on court ready to play) between five and fifteen minutes after the scheduled start, receive a five minute warm-up.
- c. Players arriving (on court ready to play) later than fifteen minutes from the scheduled start of the match may be defaulted at the discretion of the opposing captain/team.

9. Line-ups

At the start of the scheduled match time, a team may refuse to exchange line-ups until all players are present or the ten minute warm-up period ends. If a player is not present by the end of the warm-up period, line-ups must be exchanged. Any players that are not present must be assigned to courts as expected in accordance with the default guidelines under National rule 2.03K, unless captains agree to waive those default guidelines.

If teams exchange line-ups with players absent, they are doing so in good faith that the missing players will show and play on the courts as listed. In these cases if someone

ultimately does not show, a default may occur outside of the guidelines previously referenced.

10. Defaults

A default is incurred if a player arrives (on court ready to play) later than 15 minutes from the scheduled start of the match.

Defaults shall be determined in accordance with USTA National rule 2.03K.

If courts are incorrectly defaulted, all incorrectly defaulted courts will be scored as defaults for the violating team. For example, if a team defaults the #2 doubles position when they should have defaulted the #3 doubles position, both the #2 and #3 doubles positions will be scored as defaults.

11. Time

The beginning of a match shall be defined as the first point served in the individual match. Indianapolis Local League matches will use a two (2) hour time limit for Fall, Winter & Spring which includes the ten-minute warm-up. Playing time will be one hour and fifty minutes. Summer matches will not have a time limit, unless a match is played indoors, and the facility cannot extend court time beyond the reserved 2 hours. If this is the case, the captains should agree prior to play either to finish the courts at a later time or play the matches as timed. If no agreement is made, the matches will be played as untimed.

12. Calling "Time"

For matches restricted to a two (2) hour time limit, time should be called 15 minutes prior to the scheduled end of play (i.e. Time would be called at 7:45 p.m. for a match that began at 6:00 p.m. and was scheduled to be completed by 8:00 p.m.) In timed matches, if the match has not been completed when "time" is called, the following procedures shall be used:

- a. All completed points stand as played.
- b. The game in progress shall be completed.
- c. If the set is incomplete (but not tied):
 1. The winner of that set shall be determined by the greatest number of games won in that set provided that a two game margin exists.
 2. If a two game margin does not exist, one more game shall be played.
- d. If the score in the set is tied (or becomes tied as in b above), then a set tie-break (first to seven points by a margin of two points) shall be played to determine the winner of the set.
- e. If sets are one all, then a match tie-break (first to 10 by a margin of two points) shall

be played to determine the winner of the individual match.

f. Record the scores in TennisLink as they stand (i.e. Team A defeated Team B 6-2, 5-3 or Team A defeated Team B 3-6, 4-1, 1-0; use "Timed" to designate the match status.)

13. Rescheduling (Weather Related)

- a. Matches shall be rescheduled at the original site whenever possible.
- b. In the event of a delay or postponement due to weather, the scheduled match must be completed before the end of the local league season. Teams will be given two weeks to arrange a reschedule at a time of mutual convenience. If teams fail to come to an agreement, the Adult League Committee will determine the time and location of the reschedule. The league coordinator should be informed by e-mail of the new match time and location.
- c. If matches are not rescheduled, a double default will be recorded in TennisLink.
- d. Captains may only ask an opponent to reschedule a court or courts if their team is unable to field the minimum number of courts required for a valid match. See League Rule 15.

14. Rain/Inclement Weather

- a. Both captains shall agree as to whether existing weather conditions are suitable for play.
- b. If play *has not* begun:
 - 1. The home team captain shall contact the visiting captain to advise him/her of weather conditions.
 - 2. If the visiting captain has not been otherwise notified by the home team Captain, then the former shall arrive at the designated site with his/her team and be prepared to play the match.
 - 3. If both captains agree that weather conditions do not permit the match to be played, the match must be re-scheduled. Both captains must agree on the new match time and place. Rescheduled matches shall be played at the original site whenever possible. However, if an alternate location is available on the scheduled date, teams are encouraged to play at the alternate location as a first option.
- c. If play *has* begun:
 - 1. All completed matches shall stand as played.
 - 2. Matches in progress shall be stopped, the current score recorded.

3. Matches will resume at the point when the delay occurred.

- d. In the event a league match is postponed due to weather AND has to be moved to a new date, as long as the team match has not started, any courts that were defaulted on the original match date should be played on the makeup date as if the defaults were never communicated. However, if the match has begun (i.e., lineup exchanged and warmup complete), then a court default is valid and shall not be played at the makeup date.
- e. Per EPA guidelines, if the air quality index (AQI) at the match sight will be above 200 at the time of the match, the match should be moved indoors when possible or rescheduled to avoid health hazards. When the AQI is between 200-250, both captains need to agree to reschedule the match. If the AQI is above 250 at the time of the match, if the match can't be moved indoors, then only one captain needs to request a reschedule and it would fall under the weather related reschedule rules.
- f. Extreme heat: If the temperature or humidity level at the time of any outdoor match reaches a level that both captains deem is unsafe for play, the match may be rescheduled. All previously noted rescheduling rules apply.

15. Rescheduling (Not Weather Related)

Every effort should be made to play a match at its regularly scheduled time and place as listed on TennisLink. When that cannot take place due to any circumstance other than weather, these are the necessary actions/resulting consequences.

- a. If a team is unable to field the minimum number of courts necessary to constitute a valid match and requests the opposing team's captain to reschedule, the match must be rescheduled. HOWEVER, only the minimum number of courts necessary to constitute a valid match shall be played. The team requesting the reschedule will default the additional courts (2 courts in a 5 court match, 1 court in a 4 court match, 1 court in a 3 court match) to the opposing team. Further, the team that was requested to reschedule will establish the remaining court positions to be played. The league coordinator must be informed of the situation at the time of the reschedule request by e-mail.

Note: In the event of a reschedule request under Rule 15a, both captains can agree to play the full amount of courts. However, the captain being asked to reschedule is under no obligation to do so. If the captains don't agree to play all the courts in writing (email or text), then Rule 15a shall be followed and only the minimum number of courts necessary to constitute a valid match shall be played. This assumes that the captains can agree on a makeup date(s) and the match is played without the Adult League Committee having to step in to force the match to be played. If the Adult League Committee has to propose/force a play date, then only the minimum number of courts shall be played, with the team that requested the default on the originally scheduled match date defaulting the additional courts.

- b. When rescheduling court(s) to constitute a valid match, the dates for play of the rescheduled court(s) should be agreed upon, in writing, within 7 days of the original match date. Those courts MUST be complete before the last date of that specific league season.
- c. When the original match date is within 2 weeks of the end of the flight season, the Adult League Committee will designate the final date that the rescheduled court(s) must be played.
- d. Total Team Defaults
 - 1. If a team defaults an entire team match during a single round robin schedule, the matches of that team played or to be played, shall be null or void for the entire season unless the team has played all teams in contention to win the league.
 - 2. If a team defaults an entire team match during a multi-round robin schedule, only the matches in the specific round shall be null or void.
 - 3. Only the league coordinator is permitted to enter a total team default. Entry by a team will not be recognized as a valid total team default.

16. Double Defaults

If both teams agree not to play a match, each team shall take a 5-0 or 3-0 loss in the standings. Matches will not be removed.

17. Playoff Fees/Reimbursement

- 1. Entry Fees: Any team participating in a District Championship will pay a one-time fee based on the number of courts used in championship play.
 - a. For championships requiring three courts, teams will pay a \$75 fee.
 - b. For championships requiring five courts, teams will pay a \$100 fee.
- 2. Reimbursement of team fees and provision of stipend to an advancing team as related to a team advancing through USTA Adult League playoffs shall be as follows:
 - a. Team Registration Fee Reimbursement: This reimbursement is applicable to USTA Midwest Sectional and USTA National events. The advancing team will be responsible for payment of the team fee charged by USTA Midwest. USTA Central Indiana will reimburse team fees after the advancing team has fulfilled their obligation to field and play a legal team per USTA rules and regulations in every match in the event. Once the event is concluded, the captain of the advancing team shall submit a statement that the team fulfilled its obligation as stated above along with a copy of the payment made to USTA Midwest or USTA National, as applicable. The DLC will confirm compliance with the team's fulfillment of their obligation. USTA Central Indiana will reimburse thereafter.
 - b. With respect to the USTA National event, only: USTA will charge, on a per person amount, playing versus a team fee. USTA Central Indiana will reimburse for the event as follows:

- 1. 5 court/9 player league: Reimburse for entry fee up to 12 players

2. 5 court/8 player league: Reimburse for entry fee up to 12 players
 3. 3 court/6 player league: Reimburse for entry fee up to 9 players
 4. 3 court/5 players: Reimburse for entry fee up to 8 players
 5. Tri-Level: Reimburse for entry fee up to 9 player
- c. Stipend: This reimbursement is in addition to the team fee paid to the organizing entity and is applicable to a USTA National event, only. No stipend will be provided for Tri-Level.
1. Stipend to be \$250 per team (except Tri-Level) and reimbursed after the advancing team has fulfilled their obligation to field and play a legal team per USTA rules and regulations in every match in the event.
 2. Once the event is concluded, the DLC will confirm compliance with the team's fulfillment of their obligation. USTA Central Indiana will provide the stated stipend thereafter.

1.04D(4)a Team

- a. The home team shall be the first team listed on the match schedule.
- b. The home team shall be required to provide:
 1. Courts
 2. Designated clock
 3. One new can of USTA approved yellow tennis balls per individual match provided to the team at the beginning of the season.
- c. In timed matches, it shall be the responsibility of the Home Team Captain to declare "Time".

2.00 USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS 2.01C Competition Format

2.02A(3)

If the winning team at any level of competition is unable to compete further towards the next level of championships, then the appropriate league coordinator may select the second-place team for such further competition.

3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

All USTA League Regulations in 3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES shall apply to all USTA League divisions.

3.02F

In the event of extenuating circumstances, an appeal of an Indianapolis Local League rule can be made to the Central Indiana League Committee. The DLC has no authority to appeal or change rules, only to implement, as does the SLC.

3.03 GRIEVANCE COMPLAINTS

Grievances shall be processed according to procedures specified in the current USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS. Suspension points will be allocated in line with USTA guidelines.

3.03B Local League Procedures

3.03B(1)a

A \$100.00 fee must accompany each grievance submitted for the grievance to be considered. If the grievance is upheld, the fee will be refunded. If the grievance is denied, the fee will be put into the league general fund.

3.03E(6)

NTRP Grievance(s) must be sent to the USTA/Midwest Section USTA League Coordinator for processing. A fee of \$100 paid by credit card must accompany each NTRP Grievance. If the grievance is upheld, the fee will be refunded.

USTA/ Midwest Section, Toby Gaynor: Toby@midwest.usta.com

USTA/ Midwest Grievance Payment Form: [Click here](#)

3.04A(2)a

An appeal of the decision by the Indianapolis Grievance Committee may be filed in writing with the Grievance Appeal Committee within three (3) calendar days of receipt of the Grievance Committee's decision. If local league play has ended, the appeal must be filed within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the Indianapolis Grievance Committee's decision.

Section 4.00 ADDITIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO USTA LEAGUES ADULT 18 & OVER, ADULT 40 & OVER, ADULT 55 & OVER, MIXED 18 & OVER AND MIXED 40 & OVER, COMBO AND TRI-LEVEL IN THE USTA/MIDWEST SECTION.

Tri-Level Leagues in Indianapolis: When decided by the Adult League Committee, teams will be decided by an open draft process whereby all players enter into one pool from which all captains choose or are randomly selected. Players may indicate a preferred partner so as to enter the draft as a pair.

Participants may indicate a desire to captain when entering. The Indianapolis League Committee will choose the captains for a season from the volunteers.

Draft Order: Determination of Draft Order will be by blind draw. The Draft will be a "snaking" draft. In other words, if 4 teams, the Draft Order would be:

Round 1: Team 1, Team 2, Team 3, Team 4

Round 2: Team 4, Team 3, Team 2, Team 1

Round 3: Team 1, Team 2, Team 3, Team 4...and so on.

Opening round: Captains either come with a partner or select a second teammate from Draft List.

Round 1+ [The + is for as many rounds as there remains a “pair” on the board]: If a pair has signed up together, a captain may select a pair or two individuals in a round.

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