

# USTA/SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN DISTRICT RULES TO SUPPLEMENT 2022 NATIONAL AND MIDWEST SECTION LEAGUE REGULATIONS

February 21, 2022

The USTA League Program and its policies shall be governed by the USTA League Committee appointed by the President of the USTA/Southeastern Michigan District and subject to the control and direction of the USTA/Southeastern Michigan District Board of Directors. The USTA/Southeastern Michigan District League Coordinator(s), under the employ of the USTA/Southeastern Michigan District shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the USTA League Program including the interpretation of the USTA League Regulations.

All players participating in the USTA League Program as a condition of their participation, agree for themselves, their executors, administrators, heirs and personal representatives, that all claims of every kind, nature and description are WAIVED, including past, present and future claims, if any, for injuries sustained in traveling to or from participating in the USTA League Program, against the USTA, its officers, committees and employees, the USTA Sectional and District Associations, and all sponsors, coordinators, and members of all committees relevant to the USTA League Program.

All players participating in the USTA League Program, as a condition of their participation, agree to abide by and be bound by the 2022 USTA League Regulations, the USTA/Midwest Section Standing Orders, the USTA/Southeastern Michigan District USTA League Regulations and Procedures and the standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship.

**Underlined items are additions or changes in League Rules for 2022 Season**

## I. PARTICIPATION

### A. Local Leagues Offered in Southeast Michigan – levels vary based upon player interest

#### 1. Summer Daytime Leagues

All daytime flights of the same NTRP level are one Local League.

League Types: Adult 18 & Over Women, Adult 40 & Over Women, Adult 55 & Over Women, Adult 65 & Over Men & Women

#### 2. Summer Nighttime Leagues

All nighttime flights of the same NTRP level are one Local League.

League Types: Adult 18 & Over Men & Women, Adult 40 & Over Men & Women, Adult 55 & Over Men & Women, Mixed 18 & Over, **Mixed Combo**

#### 3. August League

Tri-Level League: Monday & Wednesday nights. Separate Men and Women Leagues.

Two Levels offered: Midwest Advancing 3.5, 4.0, 4.5  
Non-Advancing 2.5, 3.0, 3.5

#### 4. Fall Leagues

Combo Doubles, Team Singles, Mixed 55 & Over, Adult 18-39 League

#### 5. Winter Leagues

Mixed 40 & Over, Team Singles, Adult 18-39 League, Winter Tri-Level Showdowns

### LEAGUES & LEVELS OFFERED:

Adult 18 & Over	Men & Women	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0
Adult 18-39	Men & Women	WTT levels – varies between 3.0 thru 5.0
Adult 40 & Over	Men & Women	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5
Adult 55 & Over	Men & Women	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0
Adult 65 & Over	Men & Women	6.0, 7.0, 8.0
Mixed 18 & Over	Co-Ed	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0
Mixed 40 & Over	Co-Ed	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0
Mixed 55 & Over	Co-Ed	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0
Combo	Men & Women	5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5
Tri-Level	Men & Women	Advancing - 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Non-Advancing – 2.5, 3.0, 3.5

<b><u>Tri-Level-Winter</u></b>	<b><u>Men &amp; Women</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Advancing – 8.0, 9.0, 10.0</u></b>
	<b><u>Men</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Advancing - 6.0, 6.5, 7.0</u></b>
	<b><u>Women</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Advancing – 5.0, 6.0, 7.0</u></b>
	<b><u>Day Women</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Advancing – 6.0, 7.0, 8.0</u></b>

Team Singles	Men	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+ (5.0 must play 1 <sup>st</sup> singles)
Team Singles	Women	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+ (5.0 must play 1 <sup>st</sup> singles)

## B. Minimum Players Required Per Team

For a team to be scheduled, a minimum number of players must be registered on TennisLink by the Team Minimum Date. **DEADLINE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**

Adult Leagues 18 & Over & 40 & Over	3.0-4.5 levels	8 players – 4 must be at level
Adult Leagues 18 & Over	2.5 & 5.0 levels	5 players – 2 must be at level
Adult Leagues 55 & Over	all levels	6 players – that can combine
Adult Leagues 65 & Over	all levels	6 players – that can combine
Mixed Leagues	all levels	6 players – 3 men, 3 women that can combine
Combo Leagues	all levels	6 players – that can combine
Tri-Level	all levels	6 players – 2 of each level
Team Singles	all levels	3 players

## C. Playoffs

All Flight Winning Teams advance to the Local League Playoffs in Southeast Michigan. National Reg 2.03A(1) If a flight winner is unable to compete at Local League Playoffs, a reasonable effort will be made to accommodate the second-place team to represent the flight.

At Playoffs, a player may play on only one team of the same age group and rating level. Any player that plays on more than one team of the same age group and same rating level must select one of the two teams. **The declaration deadline for players on teams that are in contention, is NOON two Mondays before playoffs.**

Players that play in 18's, 40's, and 55's do **not** have to choose between age groups. Players that play on different playing levels, do **not** have to choose between the levels.

## D. Playoff Teams – Championship Stipend Support

Teams advancing to State, Section, and National Championships receive financial support from the District. Additional requirements are listed below:

1. To receive Championship Stipend Support, a team must consist of a minimum of 50% Championship eligible players that reside in Southeast Michigan.
2. Wildcard teams will receive a reimbursement of 50% of their Championship Entry Fees. This will be paid after full-team attendance at the Championship Event.

## II. REGISTRATION

### A. Method

Players need their USTA membership number and a valid team number for each team on which they plan to play. Team numbers may be obtained from Captains or Facility Coordinators.

Memberships may be purchased or renewed on TennisLink via the Internet. Direct TennisLink access is available at <http://national.usta.com>. Memberships may be purchased or renewed by phone, but team registration must be completed on-line.

### B. Fees

A registration fee of \$20 per team will be collected on TennisLink. USTA Membership fees vary depending on the length and type of membership selected. All Registration Fees and USTA Membership Fees are non-refundable.

Match fees for **Summer** USTA Matches are \$16 per match. Match fees for **Fall** and **Winter** USTA Leagues are \$18 per match. Match fees for **Team Singles** are \$20 per match. Match fees for the **Adult 18-39 League** are \$60 per team, per match.

### **C. Registration**

A player may register on a team up to two weeks prior to the last scheduled match in that team's flight. Any player registered after this date is ineligible.

### **D. Team Captain**

Each team must appoint a captain to handle administrative affairs and to represent the team in the USTA League Program. **Captains must be registered members of the team. All captains must complete an on-line Captain's Agreement for each league season. One Captain per team is entitled to a \$17 registration discount. This must be taken at the time of registration on TennisLink.**

## **III. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

### **A. Membership**

League participation requires membership through the end of the Local League season. Examples: Adult 18 & Over and Adult 40 & Over require membership good through August; Adult 55 & Over and Mixed 18 & Over and Mixed 40 & Over require membership good through September.

### **B. Players Under 18 Years of Age**

Players must reach the age of 18 prior to registering for a team. National Regulation 1.04E(3).

### **C. Self-Rating & Computer Rated Players**

Players, 18 years and older, who do not have a computer rating generated from the 2020 and 2021 seasons (same seasons for those 60 & over), will self-rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines. These players will declare a self-rating on TennisLink when registering for their first team. **\*Matches from 2020 are included in the 2021 year end ratings.**

### **D. Ineligible Players**

Players **must** register on a team prior to playing in a match. The District League Coordinator (DLC) may declare ineligible any player who is not registered on a team prior to participation in a league match. Any matches played by an ineligible player will be defaulted and will be scored as 6-0, 6-0 wins for the opposing team.

In the event of system problems with TennisLink, the DLC may allow a player to play prior to registration. Approval by the DLC must be received prior to the league match.

Willful impersonation of a registered league player will result in the disqualification of the entire match for the guilty team. A second such occurrence will disqualify the responsible team for the remainder of the season.

### **E. Limitations to Playing Above Your Rating: National USTA Regulation 1.04G(5).**

National USTA League Regulations limit player participation in the Adult 18 & Over and Adult 40 & Over leagues. Players in these leagues may play up only one level from their computer or self-rated levels of play. (Example: a 3.5 player may only play up to 4.0; a 3.0 may only play up to 3.5.) **The Southeast Michigan Team Singles League does not allow players to play above their rating.**

Ineligible players who register for inappropriate teams will be removed from the team roster. This will occur at the time of discovery of the ineligible players. A team that uses an undiscovered ineligible player will lose the court position by default. That player will then be removed from the team roster. After a first offense, should a team play another ineligible player, the entire team match in question will become a defaulted match.

Ineligible players who are removed from a team will not be granted a refund of registration fees. However, the player can request to move his/her registration to an eligible team in any division during the same calendar year season.

#### **F. Two Team Leagues: USTA League Regulation 1.04D(5)**

If any Adult 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 ratings levels. This league is not required to comply with this regulation.

#### **G. SEM Player Roster Requirements**

The Southeast Michigan League Committee requires every team in the Adult 18 & Over and Adult 40 & Over Leagues to have a minimum of **40%** of their rostered players at the team level. If a below-level player causes a team to drop below **40%** plays a match before the team is brought back up to **40%** the individual match of that player becomes a default because that player was not eligible.

### **IV. FORMAT OF PLAY**

#### **A. Round Robin**

Each flight will play at least one round robin in which each team plays every other team. Any level with only two or three teams is required to play a minimum of three matches.

**Local league matches are unofficiated matches. Players may not solicit outside help to call lines, foot faults, or to resolve on-court disputes.**

#### **B. Team Match – Local Match Play**

Each team match shall consist of the following:

Adult 18 & Over 2.5 & 5.0	1 singles & 2 doubles
Adult 18 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	2 singles & 3 doubles
Adult 40 & Over MEN 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	2 singles & 3 doubles
<b>Adult 40 &amp; Over WOMEN 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5</b>	<b>1 singles &amp; 4 doubles</b>
Adult 55 & Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0	3 doubles
Adult 65 & Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0	3 doubles
Adult 18-39 – levels vary	World Team Tennis format
Mixed 18 & Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0	3 doubles
Mixed 40 & Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0	3 doubles
Combo 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5	3 doubles
Tri-Level 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 & 2.5, 3.0, 3.5	3 doubles
Winter Tri-Level 5.0,6.0,7.0; 6.0,7.0,8.0; 6.0, 6.5, 7.0; 8.0,9.0,10.0	3 doubles
Team Singles 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+	3 singles (5.0 must play 1 <sup>st</sup> singles)

#### **C. Match Scoring**

- Matches consist of two sets with regular scoring and a 12-point set tiebreak at 6-6
- In the event of split sets, a match tiebreak will be used in place of a third set. The first player/team to reach 10 points by a minimum margin of 2 points wins the tiebreak (ex. 10-3, 10-8, 13-11).
- Coman Tiebreak Procedures are used for the set tiebreak and the match tiebreak. When using these procedures, players exchange ends after the first point and every 4 points thereafter.
- There is no rest period after the first game of each set.
- If requested by any players on the court, a two-minute break between any set may be taken, otherwise, play is continuous.
- New balls are not provided for the match tiebreak.
- The team winning the most individual matches earns one team point.

#### D. Team Line-Ups

- Both Team Captains will exchange team line-ups **simultaneously** at the **scheduled match time, even if courts are not available.**
- 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 a match.
- The USTA/Midwest Section authorizes that in the event of a “no show” a rostered player may be substituted in the position of a missing player. This substitute must be dressed, equipped and ready to play at the time of the substitution. This substitution may be made up to but no later than the end of the ten-minute warm-up. The substituted player is entitled to a five-minute warm-up.
- Once the line-up/score card is exchanged, substitute players must play in the position where the injured, ill, disqualified or missing player was to have played.

#### E. Order of Play

- When only some courts are available at the scheduled match time, this order of play must be followed: 1<sup>st</sup> singles – 2<sup>nd</sup> singles – 1<sup>st</sup> doubles – 2<sup>nd</sup> doubles – 3<sup>rd</sup> doubles
- If **both** captains agree, this order can be adjusted to best utilize the players available, however, if either captain disagrees with a change, the order of play listed previously must be followed.

#### F. Warm-Up

- Each individual match must include a 10 minute warm-up period, which will be taken during the first 10 minutes of the scheduled match time. (Team Singles uses a 5 minute warm-up.)
- All practice serves must be taken **during the warm-up time.**
- If a player arrives late, but during the warm-up time, s/he is entitled to the time remaining from the initial warm-up or 5 minutes, whichever is longer.

#### G. Injury

During match play, a period of 10 minutes is allowed for each injury, after which the injured player shall either continue or retire. If the injured player chooses to retire, the match shall be awarded to his/her opponent. Enter scores in TennisLink exactly as they stood at the time of the retirement. Select “retired” instead of “complete” to finish input of this match on TennisLink.

#### H. Coaching

Coaching is **not** permitted at any time **during the match or between sets.**

#### I. On-Court Viewing

Only active participants are permitted on-court during match play.

#### J. Electronic Devices

All electronic communication devices including, but not limited to, cell phones and pagers, must be turned off before warm-up. If a player’s electronic device is activated during play (defined as the first ball that is put in play), the opponent may claim the point based on a deliberate hindrance and players on adjoining courts may call a let.

#### K. Playing Surface/Special Situations

- Any/all playing surfaces in good condition are eligible for USTA League play. Specifics (i.e. number of courts, type of surface, which levels will play on which surface) must be provided in writing to the District League Coordinator.
- Outdoor facilities must have accessible restrooms and water on the premises.
- Any special situations (i.e. staggering match times, etc.) must be provided in writing to the District League Coordinator.
- All Special Situations are subject to approval of the USTA League Committee and District League Coordinator.

#### **L. Courts Required for Match Play**

Facilities with 5 or more courts (inside and outside) cannot stagger match start times. A combination of 5 courts (inside and outside) must be made available for play. Facilities can only stagger matches if all their courts are used by USTA League matches.

#### **M. Indoor Back-up**

1. All teams playing outdoor matches, but scheduled in flights with indoor teams, must make every effort to secure indoor back-up for the same date.
2. Captains will be provided a list of clubs with possible indoor court availability.
3. If there is an issue with indoor court availability, staggered start times are authorized for matches that are moved indoors due to weather.
4. The time and site for indoor back-up is the choice of the home team if a decision is made to change from outdoor to indoor more than two hours before the scheduled match time. Home team captains are encouraged to communicate with the visiting captain early in the day if rain is a possibility.
5. If indoor back-up is not available, the rules for outdoor flights apply. This is covered in Letter O.
6. In cases where the visiting team arrives at the outdoor courts for the match and it is raining, (or if it is within 2 hours of the scheduled match time), the visiting team will have the option of choosing the home team's rain back-up or going to the rain rules in Letter O.

#### **N. Indoor Teams May Request Placement into Outdoor Flights**

Any indoor team that would like to **voluntarily be considered** for placement into an outdoor flight is permitted to do so. Teams who make this request will play their home matches indoors but are required to follow all other rules that pertain to Outdoor Flight play. Teams who wish to be considered for placement into the Outdoor Flights must contact the District League Coordinator. **Placement of indoor teams into an Outdoor Flight is not guaranteed.** Indoor teams will be placed into the Outdoor Flights only when there is room to make such a placement.

#### **O. Outdoor Flights/Rain Rules**

Flights comprised of teams that only play outdoors, are exempt from the requirement of indoor back up courts. Outdoor flights will follow the procedures listed below. **Any indoor team that is voluntarily placed in an outdoor flight is also required to follow these rules. These rules also apply when indoor back up is not available for flights that have both indoor and outdoor teams.**

1. All matches scheduled outdoors during the final week of the league season, must be played on the date scheduled. If weather is an issue, indoor courts must be scheduled for the original match date. For all other matches, the Saturday following the date of any rained-out match will be used as the make-up date. (Sunday courts may be used **only** if Saturday home courts are not available.) An alternate date can be used if, within 24 hours of the rained-out match, both captains agree to a different date and time.
2. The Saturday time or the date and time of the make-up match must be emailed, faxed, or voice mailed to the District League Coordinator within 24 hours of the rained-out match.
3. Failure to report reschedule dates/times may result in penalties to both teams. Any penalties would be handled by the SE Michigan League Committee on a case-by-case basis.
4. If an entire match is postponed prior to the start of play, all courts must play on the rescheduled date. Since play had not begun, different players may be used in the rescheduled match.
5. If either team had to default courts in the original match and none of the originally scheduled courts began play, all courts are to be played on the new rescheduled date. The defaulted courts do **not** carry over to the rescheduled date.
6. If play begins but is interrupted by inclement weather, the rain date match is started from the point of interruption using the same players. New balls may be used if there is a day or more delay in resumption of play.
7. If both teams choose to take the match indoors (either the same or different date) any additional cost is to be shared equally by all players on the courts.

8. The playing of individual courts at separate times is **STRONGLY DISCOURAGED**. **This must be a last resort and requires prior approval by the District League Coordinator**. Complete information of dates, times and sites must be provided for each court prior to the approval of this method of completing a rained-out match.

**P. Darkness – Outdoor Facilities Without Lights**

Any player in an outdoor match may decide when it becomes too dark to continue play outdoors. Play must be suspended at the end of an even number of games in the set or at the end of a set. (i.e. 2-4, 4-0, or 6-4). Play must be resumed indoors **the same night**, unless both captains agree to alternate arrangements. All players on the court(s) involved will split any cost associated with moving a match indoors. All suspended matches not completed on the same night must be completed and entered on TennisLink within one week. If the match is not completed on the same night, both captains must contact the District League Coordinator with the agreed upon date and time of the rescheduled court. **When entering scores for a split match, use the date of the last match to finish as the date the match was played.**

**Q. Court Defaults – Arriving Late & Defaults Without Notice**

- Any player arriving more than 10 minutes after the match is placed on the court is subject to default. To avoid confusion, defaults should be immediately noted on the scorecard.
- **No penalties for lateness will be incurred prior to the 10-minute limit.**
- After line-ups are exchanged, should both teams have different positions that are defaulted, those positions may not be changed unless both captains agree to make adjustments to utilize all players present. If captains cannot come to a complete agreement, all listed defaults stay as presented on the team line-ups.
- **Full payment for individually defaulted courts must be made prior to the start of the team match.**
- **All paid players are to play and will not be turned away.**

**R. Court Defaults – Defaults With Prior Notice**

When a team is short players and must default court(s) in a local league match, the team captain is required to contact both the opposing captain and the host facility. This call must be made at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled match. Calling at least 24 hours prior to the match relieves the defaulting team of financial responsibility for the defaulted court(s). **(This does not apply to Total Team Defaults – see letter S.) Should both the host club and the opposing captain not be contacted, the defaulting team will be responsible for the entire cost of the defaulted court(s).**

- Defaulted courts must follow the default principles in 2.03K of the 2022 USTA League Regulations.
- The maximum number of positions a team may default without defaulting the entire match is as follows: 5-court leagues may default 2 bottom positions 3-court leagues may default 1 bottom position.
- Teams that do not field the minimum number of court positions will lose the match as a total team default. Team standings will treat this match as a total team default as outlined in Letter S. The defaulting team will also be responsible for all match costs.

**S. Total Team Defaults**

- If a team defaults an entire team match, (no matter when notification is received) the defaulting team is responsible for all lost match fees to the host facility.
- Any team committing a Total Team Default cannot advance to District Playoffs.

Impact on Standings – Multiple Round Flights (teams play each team at least twice)

During local league play, should a team within a flight default an entire match, the District League Coordinator will calculate the standings to determine the flight winner. This is done by manually removing all matches involving the defaulting team from the round in

which the total team default occurred. For rating purposes all match results remain in TennisLink.

**Impact on Standings – Single Round Flights (teams play each other only once)**

A team receiving a total team default will receive only partial credit for the courts won by default. For rating purposes all match results remain in TennisLink.

The number of courts that this team will receive will be the average of the courts won during the matches that the team **actually played** in the flight. All partial courts, sets, games **will be rounded down** to the lowest whole number. (This same calculation will be used for courts won, sets lost and games lost if further steps are needed to break a tie.)

**1<sup>st</sup> Total Team Default**

1. Warning email will be sent to Captains, Players and the team's facility contact person.
2. Team that committed the total team default must pay the host facility the total fees due within 10 business days.
3. Email will be sent to the facility that received the total team default with an explanation that fees should be paid within 10 business days.
4. Non-payment of penalty and fees may result in the suspension of the captain and all players for 364 days.
5. Suspensions begin at the end of the league season in which the total team default occurred.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Total Team Default**

**(Any additional total team defaults)**

1. Warning email will be sent to Captains, Players and the team's facility contact person.
2. Team that committed the total team default must pay the host facility the total fees due within 10 business days.
3. Email will be sent to the facility that received the total team default with an explanation that fees should be paid within 10 business days.
4. Captain will be suspended for 364 days as captain.
5. The team will incur a \$100 penalty in addition to the expectation that court fees will be paid. The \$100 penalty is to be paid to USTA-Southeast Michigan; court fees are to be paid to the affected facility. Both are due within 10 business days.
6. Non-payment of penalty and fees may result in the suspension of the captain and all players for 364 days.
7. Suspensions begin at the end of the league season in which the total team defaults occurred.

**T. Rescheduling Matches – All Divisions and All Seasons**

**It is expected that teams make every effort to play their matches as published.**

If your team is short players, you are encouraged to play a legal match with fewer courts. Five-court leagues may default up to 2 courts; three-court leagues may default 1 court.

**To Reschedule:**

1. The Captain requesting the reschedule must email the opposing Captain and the District League Coordinator **PRIOR** to the original schedule date.
  - a. This email must include 2 choices for the new date and time.
  - b. These dates must be dates prior to the last match scheduled in the flight.
2. The opposing Captain will select 1 of 3 options.
  - a. Play as scheduled
  - b. Date/time #1
  - c. Date/time #2



3. If one of the two date/time choices is selected, this change must be emailed by both Captains to the District League Coordinator.
4. If neither date is acceptable, the match will be played as scheduled.
5. If the match is not played as scheduled and is not rescheduled, the team requesting the change will be charged with a total team default. This team must pay all match fees to the host club. Additionally, this team is not eligible for playoffs.

## V. CAPTAIN'S DUTIES & REQUIREMENTS

The Team Captain **must**:

- Be a registered member of his/her team.
- Each season, complete the on-line Captain's Agreement by the established deadline.
- Be present during each match (or designate a Temporary Team Captain to represent the team in his/her absence).
- Exchange line-ups/score cards **simultaneously** at the **scheduled match time**.
- Report or verify each match score following the completion of the match.
- Attend the Team Captains' Meeting(s).
- Both Captains are responsible for reporting match scores. The first Captain in TennisLink reports the match scores; the second Captain verifies or disputes the scores. All scores should be reported and verified within 24 hours of the completion of the match.

Failure **to report a match score within 48 hours will result in the following consequences:**

1. A written warning will be issued to both teams for the first offense.
2. Any future matches that fail to make the 48-hour time limit will result in that individual team match not counting toward league standings for **either** team; however match results will be used to generate player ratings.
3. Scorecards that are not confirmed or disputed within 48 hours may not be disputed at a later date.

## VI. APPEALS, DISQUALIFICATIONS AND GRIEVANCES

### A. Computer Rated Appeals

Players who wish to appeal their year-end rating must do so online at TennisLink. Appeals may be filed at any time, but an appeal must be granted prior to participation at a lower NTRP level. All appeals are granted or denied based upon USTA Computer Methodology National Guidelines.

**All computer rating appeals are final. A warning to this appears on TennisLink prior to the final submission for all appeal requests. A player cannot request to be moved back to the original rating.**

### B. Self-Rate Appeals

Players who wish to appeal a self-rating should do so electronically at the time they are assigned their initial rating on TennisLink. Players should follow instructions on TennisLink regarding the completion and submission of their Player History Form. Decisions regarding self-rate appeals may take up to 21 days; however, every effort will be made by the USTA/Midwest Section Self-Rate Appeal Committee to reach a decision prior to this deadline.

Players who are granted an appeal will be notified by email. Players must return to TennisLink to complete the registration process prior to participating in a league match.

### C. NTRP Disqualifications

Information regarding NTRP Disqualifications can be found in the National USTA League Regulations located under Regulations 2.04 at:

<https://www.usta.com/en/home/play/adult-tennis/programs/national/usta-league-resources.html>

All matches played at the disqualified NTRP level (along with any lower NTRP level matches) will be overturned and will become default wins for the opposing player(s). Match reversals will occur

for all matches played during the same Local League Season. Matches played in Mixed Doubles or Combo, prior to a player disqualification are exempt from reversal. All future Mixed Doubles or Combo matches must be played at the new higher NTRP level. Any Mixed Doubles or Combo matches played after a player disqualification will be reversed if the rating combination makes the partnership ineligible for participation.

#### **D. General Grievances**

Any grievance alleging a violation by an individual or team during local league competition shall be filed with the District League Coordinator. Grievances of this type must be filed prior to whichever occurs first: the involved team's next match or within 24 hours of the end of the local league season. See National Regulation 3.03B for more information. All local grievances must be filed on an official Grievance Form and must include a \$50 filing fee.

Paperwork and filing fees must be sent to: USTA/Southeastern Michigan, 17280 Farmington Rd, Livonia MI 48152. Checks should be made payable to USTA/Southeastern Michigan. Filing fees may also be paid by credit card by contacting the District Office at 734-421-1025.

All grievances will be forwarded to the Chair of the appropriate Grievance Committee. Further information regarding the filing of a grievance is available under 3.00 of the 2022 National Regulations.

#### **E. NTRP Grievances**

**Documentation for NTRP Grievances must be filed with the Midwest Section and can be emailed to Toby Gaynor ([toby@midwest.usta.com](mailto:toby@midwest.usta.com)).** The cost to file this grievance is \$100 per player. **Grievance and payment forms are located on the Midwest website at: <https://www.usta.com/en/home/play/adult-tennis/programs/midwest/league-documents.html>**

Players with the following rating types cannot be grieved for NTRP purposes: C, B, A. All other rating types may be subject to an NTRP Grievance.

#### **F. End of Season Dates**

**All USTA League Tennis seasons in Southeast Michigan end 24 hours after the last originally scheduled match in each flight. This date will be published on the Team Summary page in TennisLink.**

### **VII. FACILITY ELIGIBILITY**

#### **A. Organizational Membership**

Facilities hosting USTA League teams must register as an organizational member. This is now FREE! Registration is required in order to obtain team numbers from the District Office. Each facility is also responsible for a team fee for each team entered in the Summer USTA League program. Fees are \$40 per 5-court team and \$20 per 3-court team.

#### **B. Summer Team Schedules and Facility Fees**

Facility Fees are due prior to the release of the team schedules.

#### **C. Dropped Teams**

Facilities that drop teams after the team declaration deadline will be reviewed by the USTA/Southeast Michigan League Committee to determine if further penalties are necessary.

#### **D. Court Availability**

Each host facility must have an adequate number of courts to provide for the number of matches required for each of its teams. In the event of a shortage of courts on a given night at any facility, a neutral site with available courts could be used to accommodate any overflow. All attempts will be made to schedule equal home and away matches; however, the District League Coordinator and the scheduling committee will make the final decision in placing teams to match times and sites.

#### **E. Match Start Times**

Unless agreed upon by both captains, match start times are as follows:

All Weekday League Matches – no later than 2:00 pm

Summer League Night Matches – no earlier than 6:30 pm

Summer League Day Matches – no earlier than 9:00 am

Fall/Winter League Day Matches – no earlier than 9:30 am

#### **F. Facility Contacts**

Each facility must designate a person as facilitator of their league teams. This person will be familiar with all aspects of the league program and will be able to assist team members with routine needs. This person will also serve as the contact for the USTA/Southeastern Michigan District League Coordinator in all matters pertaining to teams or players at their facility. The name of the contact person must be provided in writing to the District League Coordinator.

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USTA/Midwest Regulations can be found online at

<http://www.midwest.usta.com/ustaleague/?intloc=headernavsub>

National USTA League Regulations can be found at

<https://www.usta.com/en/home/play/adult-tennis/programs/national/usta-league-resources.html>