

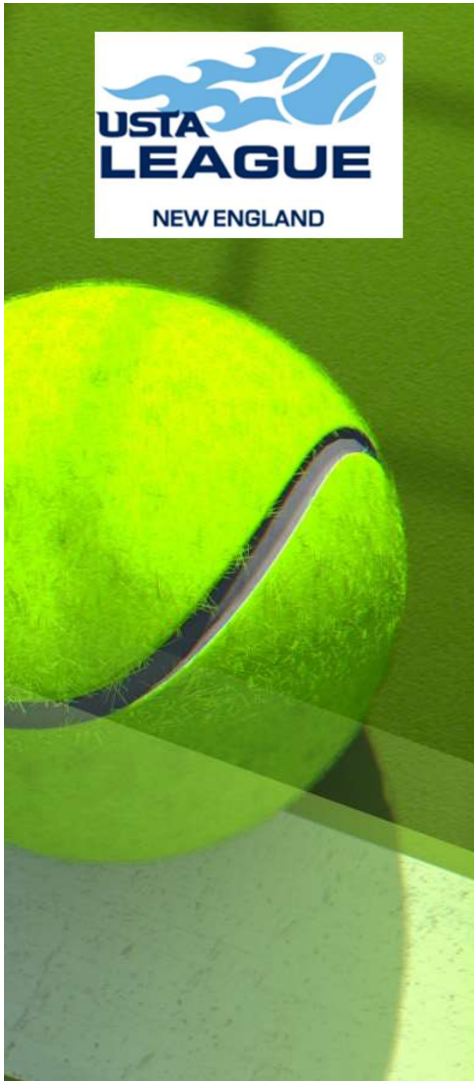
A close-up photograph of a bright yellow-green tennis ball resting on a white tennis court surface. The ball is in sharp focus, showing its fuzzy texture and the dark seam. The background is a blurred green tennis court. The overall image has a green gradient overlay on the right side.

2020 VT USTA Captain's Meeting
January 5, 2020
Lesli Nichols

Agenda



- Introduction
- State League Committee Update
- 2019 Year in Review
- 2020 League Information
- National and Local Rule Changes
- Captain Items
- Q & A
- Adjournment



2019 Championship Year in Review

- Number of Captain/Co-Captains: 133
 - 22 Captains had more than 1 team
- Number of Teams: 125
- Player Registrations: 1206
- Accomplishments:
 - Tri-Level: 4.5 Men went to Nationals
 - 18 & Over: 4.0 Men went to Sectionals
 - 65 & Over Women: 8.0 went to Nationals



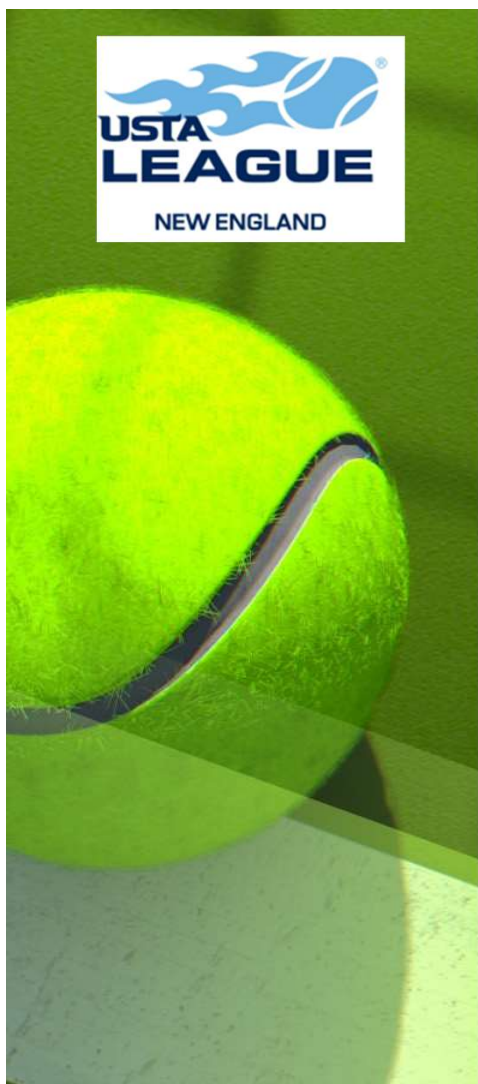
Captain Survey - 2019 Championship

We had a total of 24 responses

- 80% (19) Female
- 20% (5) Male

Average Experience Rating

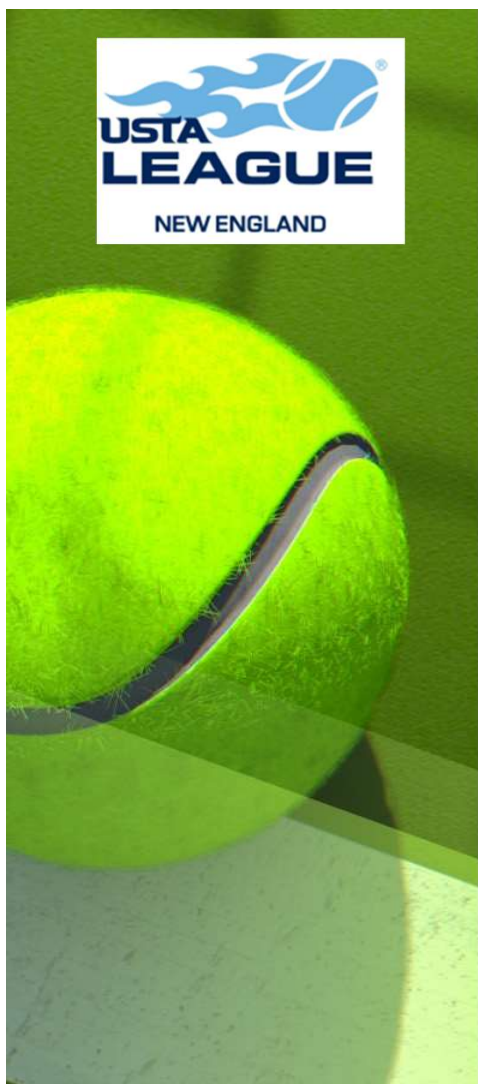
- Overall: 7.6
- Female 7.8
- Male 7.0



2020 Championship Year

- 2020 Championship USTA League Calendar
 - Web (USTA & Vermont) and Emailed
- 2020 Vermont Easy Reference Guide (ERG) and Local Rules
 - Web (Vermont) and Emailed
- New League Offerings for 2020
 - Mixed 55 & Over League
 - Potential Summer offering
 - Email to all players to follow
 - Men's Singles Flex League
 - May-August
 - Will have North and South league if enough interest

Contact Lesli @ vt-league@newengland.usta.com



National/Local Rule Changes

- 40 & Over Adult – all levels except 4.5+
 - 1 singles/3 doubles for New England Sectional in 2020 and also Nationals in 2021
 - 4.5+ league is an issue still to be discussed at the National level and remains 2 singles/3 doubles. Same rules as 2019 remain in effect.
- Self-Rates & Appeals – To play at Nationals, players must have played 4 matches and no defaults as one of the matches
- Safe Play Rule – A player must already be at least 18 years old to register for a team; they cannot register at 17 even if they turn 18 during the season.

Sportsmanship



USTA PLAYER PROMISE:



I recognize that tennis is a sport that places the responsibility for fair play on me. I promise to abide by the rules of the game, which require me to give the benefit of the doubt to my opponent.

At all times I shall strive to compete with the true spirit of sportsmanship, recognizing that my behavior on the court is a direct reflection of my character. Whether this match ends with my victory or defeat, I promise to conduct myself in a way that honors my opponents, my team, those who support me, and the game of tennis.

Sportsmanship Cont'd



- Captains – You are the best example for your team; Strive to demonstrate and uphold the best behavior and sportsmanship
- Work to understand each other and come to an agreement together
- Do not use disrespectful language or insulting names
- Remind your team to uphold positive behavior on the court
- Remind yourself that the goal is to play tennis and have a fun competitive atmosphere

Captain Interaction



- Good Communication is key
 - Confirm matches 24-48 hours ahead of time
 - Know your players and teams; get commitments at the beginning of the season and ahead of the matches from players
 - If you and other captains share players across multiple leagues and teams, reach out and coordinate with each other; work together to balance availability
 - Consider offering more dates than you have matches for
 - Whatever captains agree to at a match will stand; however, once something has been brought to the LLC's attention, the rules must be followed.
 - Remember everyone has the same goal in mind

Club Interaction



- We recommend Captains to confirm your home courts with the club 3-5 days ahead of the match;
- Provide 24-hours notice of cancellation to the Club where feasible. If you know a match is going to be re-scheduled well in advance, let the club know as soon as possible. Do not wait.
- Most clubs prefer and request Home Captains to collect the match fees for both teams to minimize and streamline the chaos with the front desk.
- If time and player arrival allows, please pay the match fee ahead of starting the match.

Scheduling

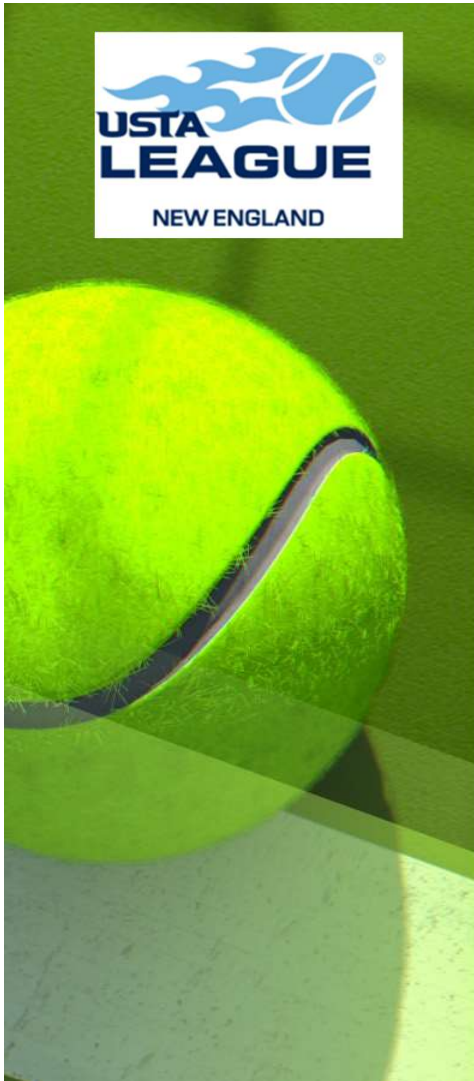


- Communicate District/Sectional dates at Start of Season; get commitments early
- Follow deadlines and instructions provided by the Local League Coordinator; it becomes confusing for other captains when you deviate.
- Communicate club scheduling restrictions or changes to the visiting Captain including the surface to be played on at the time you agree to the match date.
- Be considerate of your opponents' travel time; Teams more than one hour away should be given the option of weekend dates.
- Re-schedules - Do as early as possible. Captains are ultimately under no obligation to reschedule, but please make a reasonable attempt to do so. Remember the goal is to play tennis! Maybe matches can be played over a couple days/times to get it completed
- Home captains must cancel the original date ASAP with the club when rescheduling to avoid any penalties.
- Communicate all changes to the Local League Coordinator as soon as possible. Be sure to include the League, Team and Match Number

Other Important Items



- A player must be registered to the team before playing.
 - Check your roster and the visiting team roster BEFORE the match starts during the exchange of lineups.
 - If a player is NOT registered tell the captain of that team BEFORE the match starts and come to an agreement on how to handle it.
 - Players can register using the Mobile App and it is immediate
- A player must have a valid NTRP rating
- A player can only play at .5 above their level of play.
- The Home Team is responsible for every court having a copy of the ERG; make sure your team's players are familiar with timed match procedures. Indicate at the start of the match if it is Timed.
- A player must play in at least two matches (one default counts) to advance to USTA New England championship play, and at least three matches (no defaults) to advance to National play.
- Captains (home or away) are to enter scores within 48 hours on TennisLink.

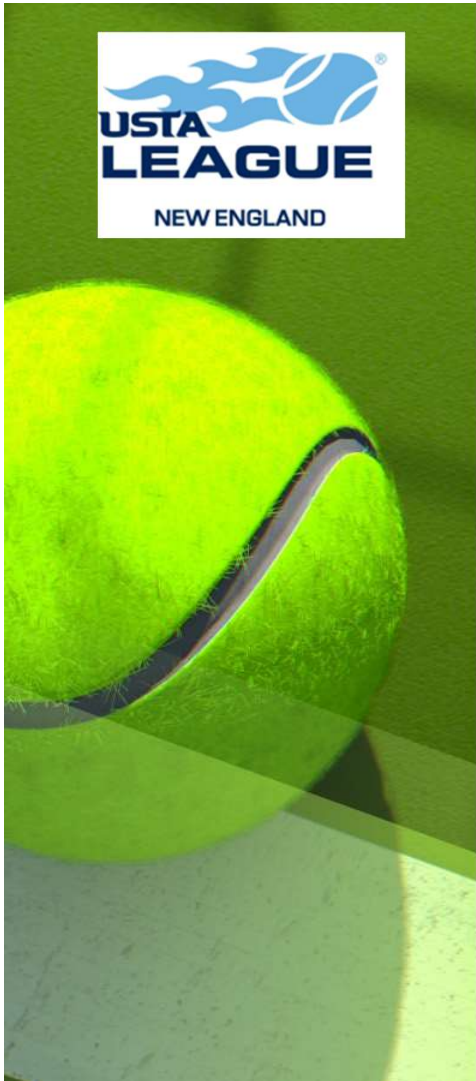


Closing

- Q & A
- Prizes
 - (2) \$50 Tennis Warehouse Gift Cards
 - (1) Pair of Tickets to Roger's Cup

Thank you for all your work!!

Have a fantastic 2020 Championship Season



Local League Coordinator

- Lesli Nichols
- Email: vt-league@newengland.usta.com
- Phone: 802-734-8991; call or text
- Located in Essex Junction, VT