



USTA League Coed 18–39

Section Championship Rules

A team match consists of five no-ad sets and includes one set of men's and women's singles, one set of men's and women's doubles, and one set of mixed doubles. On two courts, order of play will be:

- women's and men's doubles
- women's and men's singles
- one mixed doubles

(order of play cannot be changed)

Each no-ad set is won by the first team to reach six (6) games. Once a game reaches 40-40 (deuce), the receiving team decides whether to play a final point in the deuce or ad court. If it is mixed, it must be gender-to-gender. A nine-point tiebreaker will be played at five games all (5-5) in any set.

Nine-point Tiebreaker

A nine-point tiebreaker will be played at five games all (5-5) in any set. *Note: The tiebreaker counts as one game in overall match scoring.*

- First to 5 points: You play until one pair or player wins five points. The tiebreak is done and winner declared. (A total of nine points might be necessary.)
- Serve order: Service order continues as established during the set. The person who is to serve next begins the tiebreaker.
- Each player serves two points in succession starting from the deuce side then the ad side. Think of serving as 2-2-2-3.
- Players change sides after every four points.
- If the tiebreak reaches 4-4, the person who served the eighth point serves the ninth (final) point.
 - The receiver(s) has the choice of sides except in mixed doubles, where the serve must be gender to gender.
 - The winner of the ninth point is the winner of the set.

Arrival & Line Up Exchange

Teams should arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled match time. Penalties may be enforced at the Tournament Director's discretion. Lateness penalties will follow Friend at Court, unless the Tournament Director deems an exception for extenuating circumstances.

You should exchange the line-up within each round:

- Start by exchanging the 1st round: Men's Doubles and Women's Doubles
- Then exchange the 2nd round: Men's Singles and Women's Singles
- Then exchange who will play in the Mixed Doubles

Note: you do not need to wait for both matches to finish to begin the next match. It is recommended to start the next match as soon as possible.

Eligibility

Required Matches for Sectionals: minimum of one match (one can be a default), unless there is a single team from an area that did not have a local league.

All players must have a current USTA Membership through the end of event to compete.

Team Make-Up

Teams must have a minimum of four (4) players to begin competition, two men and two women.

A player may play, or sub, in all three (3) rounds/sets.

Players on Court

Only rostered players, including a non-playing captain, may be on court during match play. Spectators are not allowed on the court at any time while match play is in progress.

- Rostered players/captains not playing may sit or stand in between the two courts, or on an outside side of the court if next to a wall/window.

Tennis Balls

Two (2) cans of new balls will be handed out for each team match- one can for each court. When you get to the mixed doubles round, players will select the balls from one of the courts to use.

Warm-Ups

All warm-ups occur at the beginning of the match with the standard 10-minute warm-up. USTA will assign courts, and each team will have one court to warm up all their players during that time. No additional warm-ups between sets/rounds.

Changing Sides

Switch every four (4) games in the set.

Switch every four (4) points for a set tiebreak.

Let During a Serve

When a serve hits the net and bounces within the service court, the ball is playable by the receiver.

- The player intended to receive the serve must be the player to return the ball.
- If the ball doesn't land in the service box, it is considered out. If that was the 1st serve, now serve the 2nd serve. If it was the 2nd serve, point is awarded to the receiver.
- If the receiving team calls "let" during the serve and they are able to return it, it is not considered a hindrance when the ball is traveling towards them and the call is made prior to striking the return.
 - If the receiving team calls "out" and then plays the ball stating it was good or let, that is different and the serving team gets the point.

Substitutions

One (1) substitution per line is allowed in a match.

Substitutions may only be made in-between games, not between points or serves.

When a player subs in for another player, they must remain on the same side and stay in same serving order as the player for which they subbed out.

If an entirely new pair subs in for mixed, the new pair must play on the same gender side/serving order as the previous pair.

Coaching

Coaching is allowed throughout the match (between points, games, or sets) as long as it does not interfere with continuous play.

Coaching is not allowed during points or between first and second serves, as the second serve must be struck without delay.

Set Breaks

Next round of players should be ready to go – typically you are all on-court together, so there should not be any time delays to get the next round of matches going.

- If the player who just finished a set/round is the next player to go on court, s/he is allowed two (2) minutes for a rest break, or longer if needed for a restroom break.

Score Entry

Report your final team scores to the tournament desk. USTA staff will enter results in an online platform.

Championship Flight Set-Up

Final standings will be determined as follows: teams with most games won will be placed higher in order of finish. If there is a tie in the final standings between multiple teams, the following tie breaking procedures will apply:

1. Winner of the fewest number of sets lost
2. Winner head-to-head match
3. Winner of the fewest number of games lost
4. If a tie still exists, a method to be determined by the championships committee

Ratings

This league will NOT impact your Year-End Rating.

Grievance and Appeal Procedures

View [PNW Grievance Protocols page](#).