



PACIFIC NORTHWEST

One-Weekend Leagues

Frequently Asked Questions

What are One-Weekend Leagues?

Southern Oregon and Eastern Washington players have long distances to travel if they play matches at alternating facilities. Example: Klamath Falls or Ashland to Salem is about 230 or 240 miles and takes over four hours to drive the distance. Wenatchee to Hood River is about 226 miles and also four plus hours to drive the distance.

Southern Oregon and Central/Eastern Washington face league challenges that other Areas never see due to the extended time needed to travel for a match. Sometimes, players who work weekends cannot commit to multiple weekends for matches. Players with school-age children, often have their school, sports, and performing arts activities to attend and need to minimize the adult time away. There are a myriad of other reasons:

- 1) Driving 2-4 hours to matches which rules out weekdays and weeknight leagues available in large urban areas
- 2) Rain, snow, wind storms from late October through March exacerbate the drive to matches
- 3) The need to play indoors most seasons—October 1 through April 30 and usually more months
- 4) Summers that are so beautiful (and finally dry!) that many of our players choose other activities, saving their competitive tennis for indoors in the dreary weather.

We want to include these tennis players in our small but devoted tennis community. USTA tries to find formats that work for the greatest number of tennis players. Some players accept travel more than 60 minutes for a match but many do not. Some captains like to control scheduling their own matches, others do not want that added task and do not sign up for the captain duties and thus a team of a dozen or so players are not on a team. Some players can't be given enough matches, others just want a couple. Some players strive to advance to Sectionals and beyond while others just enjoy the social aspect of tennis and meeting new players. The differences are numerous. Trying to find just one model that will please all players and facilities is not possible. We need to offer opportunities to include more tennis players.

Hopefully, one-weekend format will accommodate more players. Some new tennis players are more likely to join the fun with friends and spouses to our favorite form of exercise during a fun, exciting weekend.

Will the One-Weekend League be played far away?

This depends upon your perspective. The one-weekend venue could be 200 plus miles for some players. We alternate venues for the different leagues in an effort to vary the travel distance for players. We are limited to facilities that can accommodate (have enough courts) for one-weekend leagues.

What will the new league cost?

The ONE-WEEKEND leagues cost a bit more than the Multi-Week League. This is because in the Southern Oregon multi-week leagues the facilities host matches at no cost to the visiting teams. There has been an unwritten reciprocity agreement.

For One-Weekend Leagues, we usually utilize all courts at one facility for three days, taking courts away from their members. Thus, the facilities assess court rental fees. Each facility sets the rate it charges for court times. This means the teams/players need to pay for the court time. USTA Pacific NW will average the expected cost and divide among the estimated number of players for the event. This extra fee is included in the TennisLink registration fee for each player. USTA Pacific Northwest absorbs all staffing, ball costs, and any snacks & beverages provided.

Will USTA provide a discounted room rate or hotel recommendations?

We contact hotels in the area of the ONE-WEEKEND event to secure discounts. The information will be posted on the Pacific Northwest website and sent via email to the captains. The web link to the Southern Oregon Leagues page is www.usta.com/pnwsorleagues.

What is the difference between One-Weekend and the Multi-Week League?

One-Weekend takes place on one weekend. Each weekend and gender is in one town. There might be two locations in one town. Probably venues: Roseburg at Umpqua Valley Tennis Center, Eugene at Eugene Swim & Tennis Club and the YMCA, Salem at Salem Tennis & Swim Club and Courthouse Tennis Center, Bend at Athletic Club of Bend, Corvallis/Albany at Timberhill and Albany Tennis Club.

The Captains do not do any match scheduling.

USTA Pacific Northwest schedules the matches, provides the staff, tennis balls, scoresheets, snacks, and enters the scores.

Tournament energy—many players are buzzing around in the tennis viewing areas, watching matches prior to, during and after their teams' match.

OK, then what's the same?

- Match format

- The winning team advances to Sectionals!

May players play on two different teams participating in the One-Weekend League?

Yes, at different NTRP levels. Example: a 3.5 player may play on a 3.5 team and on a 4.0 team. Sometimes these will be different weekends for different levels. Sometimes they will be held the same weekend. If this is the same weekend, realize how many matches a player might be scheduled to play. Not all players want or can play three or four matches in a day.

Note: Friend at Court rules require a rest between matches at level but NOT for someone playing both in two different levels. We'll try, but we cannot guarantee match scheduling to accommodate the two levels.

Do all players on a team have to come from the same club?

No. You may mix and match. No one is required to be a member of a club to participate.

Do One-Weekend winners go to Sectionals?

Yes. In Southern Oregon, we will offer either a One-Weekend style league or a Multi-Week style league. The winning team at each division will be able to advance to Sectionals.

What are the Qualifications for Sectionals?

All players must have played at least two matches at the local league level to qualify to compete at Sectionals. One of those two matches may be a default received. Exceptions are for the three non-Nationals leagues: One Doubles, Mixed 55 & Over and Adult 65 & Over Leagues. For these three leagues, players must play a minimum of one match and it may be a default received.

What are the Qualifications for Nationals?

USTA offers National Championships for Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over, Mixed 18 & Over and Mixed 40 & Over Leagues. All players must have played at least three matches through Sectionals to qualify to compete at Nationals. One of those three matches may be a default received.

One Doubles and Adult 65 & Over Leagues are **privately hosted National Invitationals**. The hosting Tournament Directors set the requirements, not USTA. To be invited to national invitationals, you will need to win USTA/PNW Sectionals. (There is currently no advancement past Sectionals for Mixed 55 & Over.)

How many matches will we get?

That depends on how many teams sign up. We guarantee each team at least three matches. See the

document called 2018 USTA PNW One-Weekend Leagues_Scheduling Guidelines.

What happens if there is only one team signed up in my division?

It depends on the league. National Regulations require a minimum of two teams for all leagues that are National programs: Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over, Mixed 18 & Over and Mixed 40 & Over. If there is only one team confirmed, it will not be allowed to participate due to National Regulations. The Area League Coordinator will make every effort possible to assist in fielding a second team.

ADULT 65 & Over, MIXED 55 & Over and One Double may choose to advance straight to Sectionals.

What if there are only two teams signed up?

There will be a triple round robin, i.e., you will play each other three times.

What if there are “too many” teams?

That is not a problem. We will divide any division larger than six teams into flights.

For more information about League Schedules, Rules and general FAQs, go to our PNW website at <http://www.usta.com/pnwleagues> and check out the USTA League Information web page... all the info you used to have to search for... all in one place! There is a link to the Southern Oregon page with our calendar, schedules, and resources.

If you have any USTA League questions, please contact League Coordinator Kathi McKay at kmckay@pnw.usta.com; ph/t: 360-688-8771