

Welcome Back to Tennis
2020 – Summer Social League
Team Tennis
SW Washington



Team Composition:

- Teams need a minimum of two women and two men
- More players can increase availability
- One player may play in three sets—doubles, singles, mixed doubles or
- May have two, three, or more players of the same gender for one team match
 - One player for each individual match
 - Substitutes are allowed—either one of the named players or another player registered on the team
- Players join according to ratings. Players may play up one level.
- Team captains may discuss their line-ups in advance, or at least their combo ratings so teams bring similarly rated players and pairs.

Dates:

July 17-August 30

Divisions:

- 2.5
- 3.0
- 3.5
- 4.0
- 4.5
- Combined 9.5 (5.0 + 4.5)

Team Match Format:

A team match consists of six no-ad sets as one set each of:

- Women’s doubles and Men’s doubles
- Women’s singles and Men’s singles
- Two Mixed Doubles

Play in the above order unless both captains agree to change order

Individual Match Scoring:

- First to six (6) games
- If game score is 5-5, play a tiebreak

Tiebreak:

- Continue in same service order

- First to five (5) points
- Play first point from deuce (right) side
- Opponent serves twice—first from ad (left) side and then from deuce (right) side
- If the tiebreak reaches 4-4:
 - The receiver(s) has the choice of sides except in mixed doubles, where the serve must be to same gender as the server
 - The winner of the ninth point is the winner of the set

Team Standings Determined by (in order):

- Total Games Won
- Head-to-head
- Fewest Games Lost
- Fewest Sets Lost

Match Day Guidelines

Facility Requirements for Social Distancing

Each facility has their own requirements for playing tennis at their facility. Please be aware of these ahead of time. The home team captain needs to advise the visiting team captain of the facility's protocols.

Playing Tennis Safely Tips and Recommendations

Prior to playing your matches, please take into consideration:

- Stay at least six feet apart from other players and people. This includes, but is not limited to, no high fives, no handshakes, and no talking close to each other.
- Use a face covering when not playing a match
- Wash your hands thoroughly or use hand sanitizer before, during, and after play.
- Stay on one side of the court for the individual match
- Per USTA Return to Play Recommendations, each player should use their own can of tennis balls. Every player, including substitutes will need to bring a new can of tennis balls and are designated for same player throughout the match. Do not touch other players' tennis balls.
- When retrieving tennis balls, use your racquet—or racquet and foot— to pick up tennis balls and hit them to the player to whom the tennis balls belong
- If you touch another player's/pair's tennis ball, it is recommended to use hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your face
- Clean and wipe down your equipment, including racquet, racquet handle and water bottles
- Use only your own towels and water bottles
- Do not congregate at rest period—social distance
- When you play doubles, avoid all incidental contact

Arrival & Player Announcements (via text)

Due to social distancing measures, teams should adhere to the following recommendations when arriving for a match:

- All players should be aware of requirements of each facility as those might be stricter than what is recommended below
- Players should wear a face covering when going to their court and leaving the court area. Be advised some facilities may require a face covering to be worn on site unless you are playing
- Captains and players should coordinate how to pay guest fees, if any, ahead of time
- Players should arrive 15 minutes prior to match start time and wait outside the facility in their vehicle or at a safe distance from other people
- Captains need to do the following:
 - Home team captain (texts) the visiting team captain which two courts they will be using

- Both captains bring their own pen and line-up sheet to avoid sharing
 - Have a completed line-up ready upon arrival
 - Visiting team captain places line-up upside down on a bench/table/counter/ other place designated home team captain and moves 6' away
 - Home team captain places her/his line-up on same apparatus right side up and turns the visiting team line-up face up to the right side
 - Each captain takes a turn to photograph the line-ups that are side by side
- Both captains text their respective Men's and Women's Doubles pairs the names of their opponent and the court they should go to
- The remaining players may go to the designated court shortly after the Men's and Women's Doubles players to maintain social distancing
- Individual players should go straight to the court assigned to them and nowhere else in the facility except the restroom
- Late Penalties will be as follows:
 - 0:01-5:00 minutes - loss of 1 game and loss of toss
 - 5:01-10:00 minutes - loss of 2 games and loss of toss
 - 10:01-15:00 minutes - loss of 3 games and loss of toss
 - 15:01+ minutes - individual default

Eligibility

- USTA Membership is not required
- Non-USTA members will need to have—or create—a free TennisLink account to join a team and will need to complete the self-rate questionnaire
- Players need to be registered for the team prior to participating in a team match
- Registration fee is nil except the \$3 processing fee to Active.com

Players on Court

- Only rostered players who are actively playing in the team match may be on court during match play
- Non-playing captains and spectators are not permitted due to social distancing measures.
- Rostered players and captains not playing in an individual match may sit or stand nearby while maintaining social distancing requirements

Tennis Balls

- Each player provides her/his own fresh can of tennis balls for the match

Timed Matches

Due to social distancing measures, timed matches will be the norm to reduce the number of players in the same area:

- Set a cell phone timer for the 30 minutes before warm-up begins
- All warm-ups will be five (5) minutes before each individual match

- Each individual match needs to finish in 25 minutes or less, a total of 30 minutes from beginning
- If you are still playing a set when the timer chimes, you may finish the game or tiebreak if not yet completed
- Individual matches may end in a tie, e.g., 4-4

Changing Ends and Score-tender cards

- Due to social distancing measures, players will not change ends during the set
- Score-tender cards are likely not available. You are welcome to keep track of your score on paper with the pen or pencil only you touch
- Always announce the game score before each game
- Standard 90-second breaks may be taken after odd-numbered games (not after the first game)
- Benches and chairs might not be available for sitting
- Due to possible court damage, please do not bring your own chair

Substitutions

- One (1) substitution per individual match is allowed
- Substitutions may only be made 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) if it does not interfere with continuous play
- Social distancing must be adhered to, meaning teammates must always be 6 feet or more apart if coaching
- Coaching is not allowed during points or between first and second serves because the second serve must be struck without delay

Score Entry

- Report your score to your acting captain when s/he is available to write down the score or text your score to your captain
- Upon completion of the Team Match, both captains should agree on the final scores and each take a photo of the completed scorecard
- The winning captain should enter the score into TennisLink and the opposing captain should verify the entry is correct

Match Completion

- When the team match is complete, offer an acknowledgment such as a nod, a thumbs up or “good match” instead of shaking players’ hands
- All players should immediately vacate the facility unless the host facility allows members and/or non-members to remain on site
- Players are recommended to wear a face covering when leaving the court and premises
- Be advised some facilities require a face covering to be worn on site unless you are playing

Ratings

This league will NOT impact your Year-End Rating

Grievance Procedures

There will be no grievances reviewed in this league. In other words, be nice and have fun!

Team Defaults

- There are no penalties imposed for team defaults
- Non-defaulting team captain records the score on TennisLink with their teammates names and ‘default’ instead of “Completed”, “Timed Match”, etc.
- If you know your team is unable to make a match, please give your opponent as much notice as possible
- Reschedules are allowed if both captains agree