

LOCAL LEAGUE RULES OF PLAY 2008

1. The Rules of Tennis: "The Code" shall be in effect for all League matches.

- Unsportsmanlike conduct of any manner will not be tolerated. A grievance may be filed against the player or team involved following two written complaints.
- Only players are allowed on the court during a match. Players should leave the courts immediately after their match.

2. Roster Information

- Roster limits for all leagues will be a maximum of 16 players
- All players should be signed up on the roster in the Tennis Link system by the team registration deadline date for each season of play. Player registration will remain open for a period of four weeks following the team registration deadline for each season of play. (Exception: New teams being put together by a League Coordinator)
- After the registration deadline date, players may be added to a roster in the event of death, major illness, disqualification, season ending injury, or moving in or out of boundaries with the approval of the Adult League Committee.
- No more than 50% of the players on a roster may be from out of the state of Georgia.
- All team members must be registered members of the USTA with valid membership. Players must be 19 years of age before December 31st of the year in which they wish to play in the league. Players must play at the NTRP rating assigned them on the date of their registration.
- Players may only play at their NTRP rating level or one level higher.

3. Captain's responsibilities:

- Home captain - Initiate exchange of scorecards 10 minutes prior to match time.
- Home captain - Supply balls for the match. TENNIS BALLS MUST BE HARDCOURT USTA APPROVED.
- Verify scores and make sure each card is identical.
- Captains should notify a League Coordinator when a full team forfeit occurs.
- Ensure that all team members and spectators follow the rules of sportsmanship.
- Attendance by Captain or representative from team is mandatory at Captain's meeting in order to pick up packet and schedule! Any consequence that results from non-attendance at the captain's meeting is that team's responsibility.
- Both captains are responsible for entering scores into the Tennis Link system within 48 hours of the completion of the match as scheduled in Tennis Link. Failure to enter scores within this time frame will result in a double default for both teams. Notify the Local League Coordinator immediately if there is a delay in completing the match.
- Each captain is responsible for ensuring that the Coordinator has your correct email address and phone number.
- Email and use of the www.rometennis.com website will be the main source of communication with captains.

4. Matches will begin at the scheduled times as posted on the "Tennis Link" and www.rometennis.com web sites. Teams should be ready to go on the courts by match time. Warm-ups take place prior to match time - Warm-up is limited to 10 minutes. The first serve should take place at exactly match time.

- Adult league format will consist of 2 Singles and 3 Doubles for levels 3.0—4.5
Adult league format will consist of 1 Singles and 2 Doubles for levels 2.0— 2.5.
Senior, Combo and Mixed leagues format will consist of 3 Doubles at all levels.
- All matches will be 2 out of 3 sets with a 10 point match tie-breaker used to determine the winner of the third set. (The winner of the tie-breaker is the first team to ten points by a margin of two points - ex. 10-8 or 12-10.) A set tie-breaker will be played at six games all in the first two sets. (First team to seven by a margin of two points - ex, 7-6, 9-7.)
- A team must have a minimum of 4 eligible players (3 players for 2.0—2.5) for match play each week.
- A full team forfeit occurs when a team cannot legally field 3 or more positions in an Adult League match (two or more for 2.0 and 2.5 levels). A full team forfeit occurs in a Mixed, Combo or Senior League match when a team cannot legally field 2 or more positions. Therefore, a team may forfeit a maximum of two positions (one for 2.0—2.5) in an Adult League match without forfeiting the entire match. A team may only forfeit one position in Combo, Senior and Mixed Doubles without forfeiting the entire match. Forfeits shall be determined in the following order:
 - The No. 2 singles must be forfeited before the No. 1 singles.
 - The No. 3 doubles must be forfeited before the No. 2 doubles.
 - 2.0—2.5 teams may forfeit No. 1 Singles or No. 2 Doubles.
- A 15 minute default rule will apply in all leagues. In the event of illness, injury, or no-show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (after the line-up has been exchanged), a team may substitute a player in the affected position WITHIN the default time, AS LONG AS THAT PLAYER WAS NOT ALREADY LISTED ON THE CARD. If no substitution can be made, the affected position will be defaulted. THIS IS NOT THE SAME AS A FORFEIT. If the No. 1 singles player gets injured or does not show on time, then that position is defaulted. A forfeit indicates prior knowledge that a team does not have sufficient players for the match. A team with only six players might forfeit either the No. 3 doubles or both singles. A five-minute warm-up is allowed for all players - even those arriving at default time.
- Where matches of the same level are scheduled back to back and/or on any Super Saturday, players have 30 minutes from the end of their match to report to their second match, with no default allowed. The captain of the team should notify the opposing team under these circumstances.

5. LEAGUE NTRP DISQUALIFICATION AND PROCEDURES

- Disqualified players may register on a higher-level team if a team agrees and there is time to register prior to the end of local round robin competition. Local regulations for deadlines and roster limits would be waived if a team is found and time permits.
- If a self-rated player is disqualified for that particular level of play, all matches played by that individual player shall be considered losses and scored (6-0, 6-0). If a computer rated player is disqualified for that particular level of play in local round robin play, the player is immediately promoted from that level, but no matches will be reversed. Players not disqualified by conclusion of local league round robin play will be eligible to compete in entire local playoff. Dynamic ratings will be calculated at the end of the local playoff to inform any disqualified players that they may not advance to the state championships. Points earned by disqualified players will stand.

6. A grievance may be filed against the captain and team for having 2 or more full team forfeits within a season, with the penalty being possible removal from the league. If all teams in contention for the local championships have already played the forfeiting team in good faith following the second forfeit, the matches stand as played. If all teams in contention have not played the forfeiting team following the second forfeit, then all matches of that team played or to be played will become null and void. Disqualification of teams due to two or more full team forfeits will occur at the end of the season of play.

7. Adult, Mixed, and Senior players must play two matches to be eligible to advance to the Georgia State Championships. Adult BMW Combo requires one match played in the 6.5 and 7.5 levels in order to advance to the Georgia State Championships. Adult BMW Combo levels 5.0, 5.5, 8.5 and 9.5 and BMW Combo Seniors may advance directly to the Georgia State Championships where there is no local league. Senior Mixed must play one match to advance to the Georgia State Championships. Where there is no local league, Senior Mixed teams may advance with no matches played.

8. Wednesday has been set aside as the rain-out make-up day for all Adult league matches at the same time and location of the original schedule. All other league make up days will be determined by season. Captains may agree to play rainout make-up matches at other times as long as it is before their next scheduled match. Arrangements for these make-up matches must be agreed upon within 48 hours of the original match start time, or assumed rescheduled for the makeup default time. If Monday and Tuesday matches are rained out, the Monday night matches will play first, with the Tuesday night matches taking the next week on Wednesday, if other arrangements cannot be made. Also: PLEASE DO NOT TRY TO PLAY A MATCH AT THE CITY UNLESS YOUR TEAM WAS SCHEDULED THERE ORIGINALLY. Court fees will be charged for any make-up matches played on different nights or days other than the normal make-up.

9. Weather conditions:

- Call the Tennis Hotline 706-233-9854 or the tennis center after 5:00 p.m. for 6:30 matches and after 6:30 for 8:00 matches, for decisions regarding inclement weather. Captains do not call matches. Decisions will be made one and one half hours prior to the scheduled match time. The Rome Tennis Center location will be used to determine rain-outs.
- Inclement weather is defined as precipitation or severe weather temperatures below 30 degrees or above 95 degrees as determined by the Weather Channel. Wind chill and heat index are not a factor in determining temperature.
- A half-hour delay from the scheduled start time for the team match is to be observed at all times in order for weather conditions to improve. This includes make up matches. If within 30 minutes conditions improve or the temperature rises to at least 30 degrees or falls to 95 degrees or below, the match is to begin and all positions are to play.
- If a team match is cancelled due to inclement weather any forfeits awarded in advance may now be played.
- In the event inclement weather occurs after the team match has begun, a 30 minute wait to resume play is to be observed. If play cannot be continued:
 1. Completed individual matches stand as played.
 2. Points awarded for forfeits given at the time the original written lineup was exchanged are considered completed matches. Players listed on the lineup involved in forfeits cannot participate in a re-scheduled match.
 3. Individual matches in progress must be made up and resumed by the same players at the exact set, game and point that existed when play was halted.
- In the event the temperature falls below 30 degrees or rises above 95 degrees after the team match has begun, individual matches in progress must continue play to completion.
- Once a time, day and location for a rainout makeup match have been agreed upon by the parties involved, that match MAY ONLY BE CANCELLED OR RESCHEDULED due to inclement weather or an extreme, extenuating circumstance. This will be determined by the Adult League Committee Chairperson and/or Local League coordinator.
- In the event that lights do not come on and a match cannot be played, the match will be treated as a rain-out. The home captain should notify the Rome Tennis Center and the League Coordinator ASAP.

10. Any team involved in a USTA League Tennis State, Sectional or National Championship, regardless of the league, may reschedule their match with the opposing team. Opposing teams are required to reschedule under this circumstance. Match must be made up within two weeks of the original scheduled match date.

11. The team compiling the most team match points at the end of the season shall be champions. In the event of a tie, the tie shall

be broken by the first of the following procedures:

a)Winner of the most individual matches, b)Loser of the fewest number of sets, c)Loser of the fewest number of games

12. State Tournament and Wild Card Qualifications:

- The winning team from each season qualifies. If the same team wins both seasons, the 2nd place team qualifies. Two different 2nd place teams would play-off to decide the winner, using only the roster of the season in which they placed 2nd.
- Wild Cards will be given to the next best team in the appropriate level based on highest percentage scores.
- The league coordinator will contact teams eligible for consideration in this matter.

13. After the Adult/Senior sectional championships, an NTRP (early start ratings) list is published on the www.ustageorgia.com website, identifying those players no longer eligible to play at their previous level. It is the player's responsibility to check their rating. Ratings may be appealed at any time, unless the player has been benchmarked. **District/Area, Section and National Championship Benchmarks may not be appealed the first year received.**