



## USTA Dallas ADULT Leagues

# CAPTAINS' RESPONSIBILITIES

*Updated 1/11/2023 (last revision 1/6/2023)*

**WAIVER OF CLAIMS.** Players, participants, and any spectators or individuals that are participating in USTA tournaments, programs, or events acknowledge the risks associated with tennis, accept those risks voluntarily, and in consideration of their acceptance in the USTA tournaments, programs or events, assume all loss or damage, and any claim or demand therefore on account of injury to the person or property or resulting in illness and/or death arising out of or related to their participation, including without limitation as a result of any exposure to infectious syndromes or diseases whether caused by negligence or otherwise. By participating or attending a tournament, program, or event, the players, participants, and any spectators assume all risks whether known or unknown. Furthermore, players, participants, and spectators agree to release and hold harmless the USTA, its affiliated Sectional Associations, and Districts/Subdivisions, and the host facility (hereafter, Released Parties) and the Released Parties employees and agents with respect to any injury or loss caused by negligence or otherwise to the fullest extent permitted by law.

### **INDIVIDUAL LEAGUE FORMATS AS FOLLOWS:**

<b>League:</b>	<b>Format:</b>	<b>Post Season Advancement:</b>
Women 18 & over ADULT Fall (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5) Weekday (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5) Weekend (W2.5, 5.0 and OPEN)	3 doubles – 1 singles 3 doubles – 2 singles 2 doubles – 1 singles	Non-Advancing
Men 18 & over ADULT Fall (3.5, 4.0, 4.5) (3.0, 5.0, M5.5, Open)	3 doubles – 2 singles 2 doubles – 1 singles	Non-Advancing
Women 18 & over ADULT Spring/Summer (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5) (W2.5, 5.0 and OPEN)	3 doubles – 2 singles 2 doubles – 1 singles	Sectionals; Nationals
Men 18 & over ADULT Spring/Summer (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5) (5.0, 5.5 and OPEN)	3 doubles – 2 singles 2 doubles – 1 singles	OPEN – Nationals Invitational Sectionals; Nationals
40 & over ADULT (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5) (OPEN)	3 doubles – 1 singles 2 doubles – 1 singles *	M5.5 & OPEN – Nationals Invitational Sectionals; Nationals
55 & over ADULT (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0)	3 doubles	OPEN – Nationals Invitational Sectionals; Nationals
65 & over ADULT (7.0, 8.0, 9.0)	3 doubles	Sectionals; Nationals Invitational Sectionals; Nationals
<b>MIXED:</b> 18 & over (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0)	3 doubles	Sectionals; Nationals
<b>40 &amp; over MIXIN' It Up Weekend Event:</b> (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0)	3 doubles	Sectionals Only
<b>55 &amp; over Weekend Event:</b> (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0)	3 doubles	Sectionals Only
<b>COMBO DOUBLES Weekend Event:</b> Women & Men (6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5)	3 doubles	Sectionals Only
<b>LONE STAR Weekend Event:</b> Women Only (2.5)	3 doubles	Sectionals Only
<b>TRI LEVEL Weekend Event:</b> Women & Men (4.5-4.0-3.5 and 4.0-3.5-3.0)	3 doubles	Sectionals Nationals Invitational 4.5-4.0-3.5 <u>ONLY</u>

\* 40 & Over City Championship, Sectionals and Nationals format will be 3 doubles (OPEN).

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOME TEAM CAPTAIN:**

1. It is the CAPTAIN'S responsibility to confirm their **HOME** courts with Facility Managers prior to requesting a USTA ADULT League Team Number with the Dallas Tennis Association (DTA). Captains should work directly with Facility Managers to best understand their policies and procedures. The DTA will proceed under the assumption that ALL captains have followed this guideline when assigning Team Numbers at the beginning of EVERY ADULT League season.
2. The **HOME** team captain should determine the time courts are available and contact the **VISITING** team captain at least five (5) days prior to the match with the scheduled match time and accurate, up-to-date directions to the site.
3. Reserve the appropriate number of courts for two hours. **HOME** captains are responsible for making sure assigned courts are playable and meet the USTA court requirements as stated in *Friend at Court* available on the USTA website at [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com). For example, appropriate net height, removal of any obstacles that might be considered a hindrance, etc...
4. **HOME** team provides the appropriate number of cans of new USTA approved yellow balls.
5. Match Times:  
**Saturday ADULT League only:** Any time between 9:00am and 4:00pm is an acceptable start time for the Saturday League.  
**Sunday ADULT Men's League only:** Matches should not be scheduled before 11:00am unless both captains agree to an alternate time.  
**Women's ADULT Spring/Summer League:** Any time between 9:00am and 1:00pm is an acceptable start time for the Weekday League. Any time between 9:00am and 4:00pm is an acceptable start time for the Weekend League.  
**Updated 1/11/2023! Women's ADULT Fall/Winter Leagues:** Any time between 9:30am and 11:30am is an acceptable start time for the Weekday Leagues and any time between 10:00am and 2:00pm is an acceptable start time for the Sunday Leagues, unless both captains agree to an alternate time.  
**18 and over MIXED:** All matches are to start between 5:00pm and 6:00pm, unless both captains agree to an alternate time.  
**55 and over MIXED:** Matches should not be scheduled before 3:00pm unless both captains agree to an alternate time.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOTH CAPTAINS:**

1. Captains should verify players' eligibility prior to the start of the season. Players MUST BE registered on TENNIS LINK prior to match start time to be considered eligible for play.
2. Match play should begin at the designated START TIME.

### ***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules & Regulations:***

**7H.** Match play must begin no later than 15 minutes after the designated start time per the 15-minute default rule. No line shall begin play before the 15-minute default time has passed unless all players from the higher singles/doubles positions are present. Defaults must be from the bottom up. (i.e.: Line 2 singles or Line 3 doubles if players are not available at the start of the match.) Doubles teams are to be moved up as a pair.

### ***PENALTIES FOR LATE ARRIVAL:***

The penalties for late arrival (0-5 minutes/1 game & loss of toss, 5-10 minutes/2 games & loss of toss, 10-15 minutes/3 games and loss of toss, 15:01 minutes/default). These penalties apply to physically being on court not just on site.

3. There is NO COACHING allowed during USTA league/post season play.

### ***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:***

**7K.** Coaching is NOT allowed during USTA League or Championship play.

4. Blank scorecards are available through TENNIS LINK.

Visit <http://tennislink.usta.com/leagues>. Click on "Record a Score" located under **My Quick Links** on the right. Enter your match number. Scroll to the bottom and click on "Print Blank Scorecard".

**GREAT NOTE:** Scorecards printed off Tennis Link for matches will include both teams' most up-to-date rosters. **Captains are responsible for verifying player eligibility prior to match play.**

5. Rosters must be exchanged at the designated match time. Teams are encouraged to field players in order of strength.

***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules & Regulations:***

**7I.** The team captain for each team shall exchange their team line-up simultaneously prior to the beginning of the team match. No substitution may be made in an individual match after the line-up has been presented, except for injury to, illness of a player during warm-up and an eligible replacement can be made within the default time. The substituted player may only take the position of the player whom they are replacing. If the substitution is made during the warm-up, the substitute player is entitled to a five-minute warm-up.

6. Points played in good faith stand. If a disagreement arises on court it should be resolved before play resumes. Detailed information may be found in *Friend at Court "The Code"* available on the USTA website. Match results will stand as played, **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules & Regulations:***

Match play and points are to be awarded to the player(s) who physically completed the match. NO EXCEPTIONS. Players may not be substituted during Score Entry on USTA TENNIS LINK nor may match results be altered. This will result in an AUTOMATIC Forfeit/Team Default, noted in rule #10. Both captains and players involved will be removed from USTA Dallas ADULT League play indefinitely.

7. Enter scores utilizing TENNIS LINK at <http://tennislink.usta.com/leagues> within 12 hours of a completed match. Either captain may enter match results on to TENNIS LINK.

***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:***

**9A.** Within 12 hours of a completed match BOTH CAPTAINS are responsible for entering scores using USTA TENNIS LINK. The first captain (or designated team member) to log on will enter the scores and the second captain (or designated team member) to log on will confirm or dispute the already reported results. In the event of a disputed score, contact the DTA office with the details at [leagues@dta.org](mailto:leagues@dta.org).

8. Change/Edit to Scorecard:

When requesting a change or edit to a scorecard, please email Local League Coordinator at [leagues@dta.org](mailto:leagues@dta.org) and copy the opposing captain with the following information:

- (1) Match #
- (2) Detailed Description of requested change/edit.
- (3) Both captains must agree to the requested change/edit via email prior to TENNIS LINK being updated.

9. Make up Matches due to Rain/ Championship Advancement/Extreme Weather should be determined and follow the guidelines as set in the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations, #8A-G.

*\*\*\* Should teams be faced with inclement weather on the date of the scheduled make up match, teams have 7 days from that date to reschedule unless late in the season at which time the DTA will set a completion deadline.*

10. Inclement Weather Guidelines.

***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:***

**8C. Updated 2/28/2022!** Rain/Extreme Weather Delay:

If both captains have not agreed to declare a rainout/extreme weather, both teams (all players to play that day's match) must be available at the site for one hour beyond the scheduled match time.

**8D.** Extreme Weather Conditions. The HOME Captain determines the conditions at the match site and is responsible for notifying the VISITING Captain NO MORE THAN two (2) hours prior to match start time on the SCHEDULED DAY OF THE MATCH. Both captains should verify through [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com). The following weather conditions may subject a match to be rescheduled:

- (1) If the actual temperature is 35 degrees or below at the time match is scheduled to begin play.
- (2) The actual temperature is 105 degrees or higher at the time match is scheduled to begin play.

If either of the above extreme weather conditions exist, either captain may reschedule the match. Once the match has started, it must be completed.

11. Do not default the majority of lines. If your format calls for 4-5 lines, you must play 3 of the lines. If your format calls for 3 lines, you must play 2 of the 3 lines, etc... Teams who do not field the majority of lines during a match will be held to the penalty as outlined in the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations, #10A.

**TEAM DEFAULT RULE per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:**

**10. FORFEITS/Team Defaults:**

**10A.** Forfeits start from the lowest singles or doubles lines. **A team must play the majority of lines each team match or that match shall be considered a "team default".** If a "team default" occurs for any reason during round robin play, the defaulting team will (1) default all remaining matches in the round robin, (2) not be eligible for the same Local League Championship for that season, and (3) all team members of the defaulting team must split up in the following season with no more than 4 members of the defaulting team on any one team in the following season. After the season, if all teams in contention for championship play have already played the defaulting team in good faith, the matches stand as played; otherwise, all matches of the defaulting team shall be invalid.

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY!!!**

**TEAM DEFAULTS WILL STAND. Teams will NO LONGER be allowed to reschedule the majority of lines once the Team Default occurs.**

**NOTE!!** If your format calls for 4-5 lines, you must play 3 of the lines. If your format calls for 3 lines, you must play 2 of the 3 lines, etc... Teams who do not field the majority of lines during a match will be held to the penalty as outlined in the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations, #10A.

12. Captains should READ and KNOW DTA and USTA League rules so that you are prepared for any situation that may arise.
13. **NEW!!! TO RESOLVE A DISAGREEMENT.** The players are expected to resolve disagreements on the court. Friend At Court, "The Code" describes a 3-step process for score disputes, in order of preference:
  1. All points & games are agreed upon by the players and REPLAY ONLY the disputed points or games.
  2. Play from a score that is agreed upon by all players.
  3. Spin a racquet or toss a coin.

**NOTE!** Under no circumstances may any other person or Captain intervene in a match in progress.
14. **NEW!!! INJURED PLAYER.** A one-time **3-minute** medical time-out is allowed for injury, illness and heat related condition.  
A maximum 15-minute medical time out is allowed for bleeding injury. If bleeding continues and match doesn't resume within 15 minutes, the match is retired.  
If a player cannot complete the match, the match is retired. Scores are entered as played, e.g. 6-3, 2-0, RETIRED (not completed).
15. All players are responsible for their own water during the match.
16. **NEW!!! PACE OF PLAY.**  
**As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:**  
**7L.** Play should be continuous. Between points, a maximum 25 seconds is allowed. When players change ends at the end of a game, a maximum 90 seconds is allowed. At set break, 120 second (2 minutes) is allowed.

There is no break after the 1st game of any set.

**Post Season Play:**

1. DTA and your fellow captains are expecting to play all lines as designated by ADULT League Division throughout post season play, including League Play Offs and City Championship. Should your team accept their playoff spot and then default 2 lines in one (1) match or 2 or more lines over the entire Post Season Event, your team may be subject to potential disciplinary actions to be determined by the Post Season Grievance Committee. For 3 line leagues and

NTRP Levels, if team defaults 2 lines or more over the entire Post Season Event, your team may be subject to potential disciplinary actions to be determined by the Post Season Grievance Committee.

***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:***

10. FORFEITS/Team Defaults:

10A. Forfeits start from the lowest singles or doubles lines.

1. Designated Format for Post Season Play if faced with Inclement Weather:

***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:***

**7M.** When weather or unforeseen circumstances force the DTA League Coordinator to use an alternate scoring format during a local championship event (i.e. League Play Off, City Championship and Weekend Events), Dallas will utilize an 8-game Pro-Set with Ad scoring. If faced with time constraints, the DTA League Coordinator and VP of Leagues will determine the appropriate scoring format, which could include a shorter format.

2. CAPTAINS are responsible for managing their rosters with regards to players on multiple teams at the same NTRP Level or another city.

***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:***

**4D.** It is the responsibility of the captain to know if they have any players that qualify for championship play on more than one team within the same division\*. A player who will be attending Sectionals with a team from another local league is not eligible to participate in USTA Dallas playoffs in the same division.

3. For Sectionals and Nationals Advancing Leagues...

Captains, if you have a player on your team who has **ALREADY QUALIFIED and PLANS TO REPRESENT/PLAY** for a team that **IS NOT DALLAS**, they SHOULD NOT step on court/hit a single ball for your team during Dallas' Post Season Play (League Play Offs/CITY CHAMPIONSHIP). Any player who participates in Dallas' Post Season Play is considered by the DTA committed to your DALLAS TEAM AS LONG AS THE DALLAS TEAM IS IN THE RUNNING FOR A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP. The DTA follows Section and Nationals Play for DALLAS' ADVANCING TEAMS and will file a Grievance against any player(s) who play for another city during Sectionals or Nationals while their DALLAS TEAM is still in the National Championship progression.

4. POST SEASON PLAYER ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS:

***As per the 2023 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:***

**2C(1).** All players with a valid computer rating must play two (2) matches during the local league season (one (1) of which may be a default) in all leagues other than 55 & Over MIXED, Combo Doubles and Tri Level which require only one (1) match (zero defaults) to be eligible to participate in championship competition (Local League Championship, Sectionals, etc...).

**2C(2).** All Self-Rated and Valid Computer Rated Appealed players must play three (3) matches during the local league season (zero defaults) in all leagues other than 55 & Over MIXED, Combo Doubles and Tri Level which require only one (1) match (zero defaults) to be eligible to participate in championship competition (Local League Championship, Sectionals, etc...).

**2D.** In the Adult and Mixed Divisions, all players other than Self-Rated and Valid Computer Rated Appealed Players are eligible to advance to National Championship competition if that player has played on the same team in at least three (3) matches at the same NTRP level in the same Age Group through Sectional Championships and is otherwise eligible. A maximum of one (1) default received by the player during local league or championship competition shall count for advancing.

All Self-Rated and Valid Computer Rated Appealed players are eligible to progress to National Championship competition if that player has played on the same team in at least four (4) matches at the same NTRP level in the same AGE Group during its local league season and is otherwise eligible. No defaults received by the player during local league or championship competition shall count for advancing. Retired matches shall count toward advancing for all players involved in both USTA League Divisions.

5. Move Up/Split Up Regulation (2.06A)

***As per the 2022 USTA Nationals Rules and Regulations:***

2.06A National Championship Teams. 2.06A(1): Move-Up - Teams and team members that advanced to, or qualified for, any National Championship may play together as a team, in whole or in part, if they move up one NTRP team level.

2.06A(2): Split-Up - No more than three (3) players who were on the roster of any team that advanced to, or qualified for, any National Championship team the previous year may play together in the same Division, same Age Group and at the same NTRP team level as the National Championship team(s), if their NTRP rating allows. Split-Up requirements only apply to players who participated in three (3) or more matches (including one default) for that team during the championship year.