



TEAM DEFAULT

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

2024 DALLAS TENNIS USTA Rules and Regulations:

10. Updated 11/27/2023! FORFEITS/Team Defaults:

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

10B. A team must play the majority of lines each team match or that match shall be considered a “team default”. The majority of lines are lines that have been played and scores entered in Tennis Link. For a 3-line format the majority of lines would be 2 lines; 4-line format would be 3 lines; 5-line format would be 3 lines.

If a “team default” occurs for any reason during round robin play, the defaulting team will:

- (a). Be allowed to finish the remainder of the local league season. At the end of local league play, the defaulting team’s matches will be removed from Team Standings in Tennis Link; HOWEVER, all matches played AGAINST THE DEFAULTING TEAM will count towards a NON-DEFAULTING player’s eligibility for Post Season Advancement.
- (b). Should the defaulting team fail to field the majority of the lines for any remaining matches after the initial team default, every player on the team with the “team default” will be subject to a League Suspension Grievance for Flagrant Unsportsmanlike Behavior.
- (c). EVERY member of the defaulting team will be INELIGIBLE for POST SEASON PLAY regardless of Age Division, ADULT or MIXED or NTRP Level, to include League Local Play Offs, City Championship, Weekend Events and Sectionals for a period of one (1) year from the “team default”.

TEAM DEFAULTS are AVOIDABLE.

EXAMPLE 1: *In the 40 and over ADULT League that plays 4 lines (1S and 3D), a M4.0 team shows up to a match with 4 players who say they are playing 2D and 3D. The other 4 players on their team were not on site at match time for whatever reason. The teams play the 2 lines and enter the remaining 2 as DEFAULTS, that is a TEAM DEFAULT. The team short the players is automatically hit with the TEAM DEFAULT.*

EXAMPLE 2: *In the 18 and over ADULT League that plays 5 lines (2S and 3D), a W3.5 team shows up to a match with 5 players. The other 3 players on their team had something come up and they could not make the match.*

Either captain quickly points out, “Hey. May not be ideal but 2 of the players on the team with only 5 on site can play 1S and 2S and 2 of the remaining 3 players play 1D (3 lines). 2D and 3D will be a default win to the team whose players were all on site, and TEAM DEFAULT avoided!

Or teams could play 1S, 1D and 2D (utilizing all 5 available players) while defaulting on 2S and 3D. Still able to avoid the TEAM DEFAULT by playing 3 lines.

Teams should maximize the players they have on hand at match time to avoid the TEAM DEFAULT and maximize player qualifying opportunities for post season. Ask players to be flexible if the line up must change. TAKE A MOMENT TO THINK THROUGH OPTIONS WITH WHO YOU HAVE ON SITE TO PLAY KNOWING BOTH TEAMS MUST COMPLETE THE MAJORITY OF LINES.

EXAMPLE 3: *In the 18 and over MIXED League that plays 3 lines, two (2) teams arrive at a match. Both are short players, but they agree to go ahead and play 1D. MIXED Team 1 takes 2D as a default Win while MIXED Team 2 takes 3D as a default Win. Scores entered in Tennis Link. **THIS IS NOT A COMPLETED MATCH – the 2 teams only physically played 1 line.** Even though both teams defaulted 1 line, the match is NOT COMPLETE since they did not physically play 2 lines. Both MIXED teams would be at fault in this example.*

HELPFUL HINTS:

1. A retirement counts as played. Score should be entered in TENNIS LINK. Drop down to the right on score card should be entered as RETIRED.
2. Teams should have players on standby for every match so that a SUB is readily available to step in if needed at the last minute.