

USTA League Tennis
The Macon Tennis Association
Adult/Senior/Super Senior/Mixed

The purpose of the USTA League Tennis is to promote team tennis at the local level. The established National Tennis Rating Program attempts to ensure that players of comparable ability will have fair and recreational play.

USTA LEAGUE

MAJOR REGULATION CHANGES FOR 2011

- 1. If an Adult or Senior League consists of only two teams in a level of play, each team must maintain its roster with at least 60 percent (60%) of its players at the designated NTRP level of play.*
- 2. Players who play exclusively in the Mixed Doubles Division and choose to participate in the adult, Senior, and/or Super Senior Divisions the next year must enter those divisions by self-rating with the minimum rating being the higher of the self-rating or mixed exclusive rating.*
- 3. A Super Senior player is eligible to advance to National Championships competition of that player has played on that same team in at least three (3) matches through Section Championships. No defaults received by the player during league competition shall count for advancing. A retired match shall count for all players involved.*

I. REGULATIONS

A. The Local League shall observe the USTA, Southern Tennis Association and Georgia Tennis Association League Regulations as published. Any modifications of these rules pertaining specifically to the Macon League will be published herein. National, Section and State rules and regulations may be found at the respective web sites: www.usta.com, www.southern.usta.com, www.ustageorgia.com

B. All local regulations will be established by a MTA Rules Committee which consists of the Local League Coordinator and all other coordinators representing various levels.

II. MEMBERSHIP

A. All players must be members of the USTA. USTA memberships must be current through the league season. USTA memberships expiring during the season must be renewed at the beginning of the league season.

B. A team must have the minimum number of players needed to field a team in order to be placed in the schedule. Exception: the Local League Coordinator may extend the roster deadline for the betterment of the league.

C. Players may be added to teams throughout the season at any time prior to their first match played.

D. Each player shall have reached eighteen (18) years of age prior to, or during, the calendar year in which such player plays his/her first local league match.

III. CAPTAINS

- A.** The team captain must create a team on Tennis link and give team members the team number.
- B.** Team captains and players should read and be familiar with the rules of the USTA, STA, GTA and MTA and with The Code.
- C.** Team captains should exchange completed line-ups no later than the scheduled match time.
- D.** Scores need to be entered on Tennis Link as soon as possible and confirmed by the other team. Any team member can do this, but to prevent confusion you may want to enter this yourself. Matches not confirmed within 48 hours of the first scores entered, will be confirmed as correct by the computer. If there is a dispute, hit the dispute button and notify the MTA to get this resolved. This is done through Score Entry and the match number may be found in the Match Summary in Stats and Standings.
- E.** The Home team must provide courts. If a fee is required the Home team is responsible for all fees. The captains are responsible for obtaining courts whenever matches are scheduled.

IV. FORMAT OF PLAY

- A.** The home team furnishes the new balls.
- B.** In adult and senior leagues, two out of three sets will be played. In mixed doubles and super seniors, a 10-point tie-break will be played in lieu of a third set.
- C.** A point will be awarded to the team winning the team match.
- D.** The 15-minute default rule is in effect.
- E.** Team matches or individual matches may be rescheduled if both captains agree. The rescheduled matches should be played prior to the original scheduled date.
- F.** No more than 50% of players on a team can be out of level. If the number is odd, the higher number in the division must be in level.

V. INCLEMENT WEATHER

- A.** The only weather conditions that authorize the cancellation of a match scheduled is rain, snow or severe temperature (35 degrees or lower). If the start of a team match is cancelled due to inclement weather “and no points have been played in any of the individual matches for that team match”, any defaults awarded in advance may now be played. A team or teams may submit a new line up due to the cancellation.
- B.** In the event that inclement weather does occur after play has begun, completed matches will stand as played and incomplete matches must be resumed by the same players at the exact set, game, and point that existed when play was halted.
- C.** Captains should assemble their teams at the facility even if inclement weather has occurred or threatens. However, upon advice from the facility within one hour prior to the scheduled match time that the courts are not and will not be playable, both captains may agree that a rain-out has occurred and proceed to reschedule the match. If teams have assembled to play and the match is delayed or interrupted by rain, snow, or wet courts, teams should be prepared to wait ONE HOUR to determine if the courts are playable. After one hour has elapsed or, if both captains agree sooner, the captains may proceed to reschedule the match. Both captains may agree to wait longer than one hour.
- D.** Rescheduled matches due to weather must be completed within FOURTEEN DAYS of the scheduled match. Only the coordinator can extend the fourteen days deadline. Both captains must contact the League Coordinator to confirm rescheduled match dates and times within FORTY-EIGHT HOURS of the original scheduled match time. The confirmed match dates and times are thereafter considered as official match dates and times.
- E.** Captains have two options in rescheduling rain-outs. Either captain may insist on a new match date being set, in which case line-ups will not be exchanged until the teams meet for the rescheduled match. In the alternative, if both captains agree, they may exchange line-ups at the rain-out and allow individual opponents to schedule their own individual matches. In either case,

if teams cannot agree on a rescheduled date, the League Coordinator will reschedule the match. A match rescheduled by the Coordinator is not affected by the fourteen-day rule.

F. Rain-outs occurring on the last match of the season will be rescheduled by the League Coordinator.

VI. DEFAULTS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

If a team does not field a team sufficient to win the match, the match will not be played. (Examples: A 2.5, mixed, or senior team must have a sufficient number of players for two levels of play. An adult league team must have sufficient players for three levels of play.) If a team fails to field sufficient teams for two matches, the coordinator may file a grievance.

VII. CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRESSION

A. Two teams from each level, winners from fall and spring seasons, will advance to the District League Championships, (unless there are only two teams playing at the level). If the same team wins both seasons, a playoff may be necessary to determine the second team. Exception: For the women, where there are day and business leagues, one team will represent each league, with a play-off possibly necessary between fall and spring winners in order to determine which team will advance.

B. A player is eligible to advance to state and sectional championships if he/she has played in 2 league matches, with no more than 1 being a default. Should a player's team advance to national championships, he/she must have played in 3 matches with no more than 1 being a default.

C In the Adult League, a player may advance on two (2) adult teams, provided the two teams play at different levels. In the Senior league, a player may advance on one team. In Mixed doubles, a player may advance on one adult team and one senior team. In Combo Doubles, a player may advance on two (2) adult teams and one (1) senior team.

D. Local teams which are unopposed (without any competition) in the local league and which are eligible under USTA-Georgia rules to advance to state championships may elect either (1) to have their local league fee refunded and pay their own registration fee for the state championship tournament or (2) to pay the local league fee and have MTA pay the registration fees of 8 players for the state championship tournament.