



USTA Tennessee State Championship Procedures 2014 Championship Year

USTA/Southern/Tennessee is comprised of Chattanooga, Cookeville, Fairfield Glade, Greeneville, Jackson, Knoxville, Memphis, META, Nashville, Tellico and Union City. The USTA Tennessee State Championship Procedures will apply to all USTA Tennessee State Championships. When not stated in the Championship Procedures, the National, Sectional and Tennessee regulations and Friend at Court will apply.

Tennessee State Championships

USTA Tennessee offers a State Championship for each of the following programs:

- USTA League Adult 18 & Over
- USTA League Adult 40 & Over
- USTA League Adult 55 & Over
- USTA League Adult 65 & Over
- USTA League Mixed Doubles
- Southern Combo Doubles
- USTA Tri-Level

Team Qualification

- Area championship teams will be allowed to advance to the USTA Tennessee State Championships. If an area championship team declines their invitation, then the state association will offer the bid to the next priority team.
- Wildcards will be issued to fill up draws at the state championships. USTA Tennessee uses a random drawing procedure to ensure that each area gets equal opportunity at a wildcard team each year. In the final weeks prior to a state championship, a wildcard opening may be opened to all areas if needed to be filled immediately. Additional wildcards may be extended under discretion of Tournament Committee.

Championship Format

- USTA Tennessee Championship format shall be round robin in all levels of competition. A full draw is comprised of two flights with five teams each.
- Each team shall play every other team in its flight, and the team with the most team points shall be champion in its flight. Levels with two flight winners will offer a single elimination finals match to determine the champion.
- If an area has two teams in the same level, the referee will place those teams in separate flights provided there are two flights in that level.

Eligibility

- All players must possess current USTA memberships through the conclusion of the USTA Tennessee State Championship.
- **USTA League Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over, and Mixed Doubles:** Players are eligible to advance to the state championship level competition if that player has played on that same team in at least 2 matches during its local league season. A maximum of 1 default received by the player during local league competition shall count for advancing to State Championships.
 - A minimum of eight (five for 2.5 & 5.0+ levels) team members who were on the final roster of their Adult 18 & Over and/or Adult 40 & Over local league team at the conclusion of local league play must be available and eligible to compete. The Championships Tournament Committee, by majority vote, can reduce that number to not less than four (three for 2.5 & 5.0+ levels).
 - A minimum of six team members who were on the final roster of their Adult 55 & Over or Mixed Doubles local league team at the conclusion of local league play must be available and eligible to compete. The Championships Tournament Committee, by majority vote, can reduce that number to not less than four.
- **Adult 65 & Over* and Southern Combo Doubles*:** Team members are eligible to advance to championship level competition if that player has played on that same team in at least 1 match (1 of which may be a default received) during its local league season.



- A minimum of six team members (three eligible pairings) who were on the final roster of their local league team at the conclusion of local league play must be available and eligible to combine and compete. The Championships Tournament Committee, by majority vote, may reduce that number to not less than four.

*Please refer to 2014 Southern Rules and Regulations for full details on eligibility for Adult 65 & Over and Combo Doubles.

Registration, Entry Fee, and Deposit Requirements

- Championship Entry Fee: \$30.00 per player.
- Captains are required to submit a team deposit of \$250.00 to the USTA Tennessee office within two weeks of the conclusion of their local league play. Make the check payable to: Tennessee Tennis Association.

Please write the following on your check:

- **Captain's name, Area**
- **Gender, League, NTRP Level**
- Mail the check to:
 - Tennessee Tennis Association (Attn: State League Coordinator)
 - 1029 17th Ave South, Nashville, TN 37212
- The deposit check will be held by the USTA Tennessee office until the conclusion of the 2014 USTA League Tennessee State Championships. If a team pulls out before the draw is published, the deposit will be refunded. If a team pulls out after the draw is published or if a team does not successfully complete the USTA Tennessee State tournament, the deposit will be forfeited.
- Players should be registered on both TennisLink and the Tennessee Tennis web site. In the case of administrative oversight, the Tournament Committee has the right to add a player to TennisLink after the deadline.

Scheduled Matches

- The captain is responsible for checking his/her team in at the site of the match. When all players are present and ready to play, the captain will turn in their lineup at the site desk using one of the scorecards in your registration packet. It is asked that captains turn in scorecards 30 minutes prior to the start of their scheduled match. Captains should fill out scorecards according to the instructions enclosed in this packet.
- If a team has a known default, the opposing team will have the opportunity to revise their scorecard once both scorecards are turned in and the default has been announced by the site director.
- In the event of illness or injury prior to the start of an individual match (once the line-up has been exchanged), a team may substitute a player in the affected position within the 15-minute default time, using a player not already listed on the line-up. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted.
- If a captain duplicates a name in error on a scorecard, a team may be allowed to substitute a player for the duplicate name in the lower position (at the discretion of the Tournament Committee), using a player not already listed on the line-up. A substitution may only be made in the lower position if the error is discovered before the match begins. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted.
- The Point Penalty System, which includes the 15-minute default time rule, will be strictly enforced. Court monitors may be used to time warm-ups and changeovers.
- Winners of individual matches will take the balls and report the score immediately to the site desk.
- Captains are expected to sign each scorecard after each scheduled match is completed before leaving the tennis facility. Failure to sign the scorecard may result in scores posted online only confirmed by opposing captain.
- If a team match is postponed following the exchange of line-ups, the original line-up will stand for the make-up match UNLESS teams are released from the tournament by the Tournament Director and/or Referee. If teams are released, the line-up would stand only for those positions that have already started (first service attempt) and all other positions (even those that were in warm-up) may be changed including defaulted courts.
- Tournament Referees will not be used to make line calls or call foot faults.



Scoring

- Each team will receive 1 point for each team match won. Results may be posted on the official scoreboards. In the event of a tie, the tiebreak procedures will be as follows:

2.03H Procedures in the Event of a Tie. In the event of a tie, whether in round robin or single elimination competition, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so:

2.03H(1) Individual Matches. Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.

2.03H(2) Head-to-Head. Winner of head-to-head match.

2.03H(3) Sets. Loser of the fewest number of sets.

2.03H(4) Games. Loser of the fewest number of games.

2.03H(5) A Method to be Determined by the Championships Committee

- All scores are final 48 hours after the conclusion of the tournament.
- Team and Individual scores and standings may be posted at the tournament headquarters each day. Results will be entered into Tennis Link throughout each day and can be viewed on this website.
- All teams are expected to play all scheduled matches. Any team not complying may be subject to grievance procedures in addition to forfeiting the team deposit check. In accordance with USTA League Tennis Regulations, any team forfeiting an entire team match for any reason will result in all matches of that team previously played or to be played to be declared null and void. If all teams in contention for the Championships have already played the forfeiting team in good faith, the matches stand as played.

Grievances

- Forms are available at each of the sites at the tournament desk. Completed grievance forms must be presented to the Site Director at the site of the match within 30 minutes of the completion of the team match.
- The committees involved will handle all Grievances as promptly as possible. Unless requested by the committee, only the captain and the player(s) involved will be permitted at any hearings.
- NTRP Grievances filed within 21 days of the start date of the player's and/or captain's state championship will be administered after the event unless the section authorizes the administration of the grievance prior to that time. If the grievance is not administered until after the event, points won by players will stand.
- A team forfeiting an entire team match during championship play may receive further penalties imposed by the Championship Grievance Committee.

NTRP Dynamic Disqualification

- USTA Southern follows national regulation 2.04E(2)c in that dynamic ratings will be generated following the State Championships. Points earned by disqualified players will stand. The disqualified player will not be eligible to advance to the next level of competition.
- NTRP Grievances filed within 21 days of the state championship against anyone participating in the State Championships will be administered after the State Championships unless the USTA Southern Section Adult League Committee Chair, Vice-Chair and Sectional League Coordinator authorize the administration of the grievance prior to that time. If the grievance is not administered until after the State Championships, points won by players will stand. Disqualified players and/or captains that are suspended will not be eligible to advance to the National Championships.



Tournament Cancellation Policy

- Should inclement weather or other circumstances prevent the completion of a State Championship; the Tournament Committee will determine whether the matches played at the point of cancellation will be used to determine round robin group winners and a champion and finalist in each of the levels.
- If the Tournament Committee determines that there was a lack of "equal opportunity" for all teams in the level due to the schedule of play, the Tournament Committee will place all teams in a drawing to determine the champion and finalist in each level. (For instance, in a five team round robin, one team may be in first place at the time of cancellation with two matches played, while other teams in the round robin have fewer matches played. This example would not provide "equal opportunity" for all teams in the round robin and would not be used to determine the round robin group winner). If any team in a round robin flight is mathematically out of contention at the time of championship cancellation, then those teams will be excluded from the drawing.

Administration

- Rain Hotline Number: Primary: 1-865-384-8017 Secondary: 1-615-512-8551
- Tournament Committee will use proper and fair judgment with regard to all state tournament-related issues.
- Tournament Committee: To be appointed by Tennessee Adult League Committee Chair.
- Championship Grievance Committee: To be appointed by Tennessee Adult League Committee Chair.
- Championship Procedures may be amended at Tournament Committee's discretion.