

**USTA SLIDELL REGULATIONS**  
**For USTA League Tennis**  
**Adult Division**  
**League Year 2009**

The USTA League Tennis National, Southern, Louisiana, and Slidell Regulations have full force and applicability at all levels of play in USTA League Tennis in Slidell and there is no authorization to modify, amplify or change them by local coordinators, grievance, or grievance appeals committees. The Local League Coordinator, in conjunction with the Slidell Tennis Association shall have the authority to interpret the USTA League Tennis Slidell Regulations. USTA League Tennis Regulations (National, Southern Section, State, Local) are available at [www.slidelltennis.com](http://www.slidelltennis.com). Printed below are the USTA Slidell Regulations as authorized by the USTA League Tennis National Regulations, USTA Southern Section Regulations, and USTA Louisiana Regulations.

(Note: Paragraphs included herein are numbered according to pertinent paragraphs of the 2009 USTA League Tennis Regulations.)

**1.00 GENERAL**

**1.02 APPLICABILITY.** The USTA LEAGUE TENNIS REGULATIONS shall apply to the USA League Tennis Program.

The RULES OF TENNIS and TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS shall apply to all matches played in the USTA League Tennis Program except as modified herein. In all matches played without officials, the USTA official publication "THE CODE" shall be observed. The USTA Point Penalty System shall be used at all championship levels.

**1.04 OFFICIAL LEAGUE REGISTRATION.**

**1.04A** Teams must declare their intention to register for the league prior to or at the captain's meeting the date of which is published at [www.slidelltennis.com](http://www.slidelltennis.com). Teams must be registered on TennisLink at least 1 week prior to the start of league play. Later registrations may be accepted at the discretion of the Local League Coordinator, but not after the start of league play. State regulations require that team registration be no later than one month prior to the state tournament.

**1.04B** Prior to the start of league play teams must have enough players registered on TennisLink to populate all lines played in that competition. Players added to a team must be registered prior to the next-to-last scheduled match. State regulations prohibit adding a player less than 14 days before the state tournament. See also 1.14 REGISTRATION.

**1.09 AMENDMENTS.** These Slidell League Regulations may be amended by the Slidell Tennis Association.

**1.14 REGISTRATION.**

A player's name must be added to the amended roster (using TennisLink) prior to the player's participation in a team match.

**1.14.A Local Fees & Financial Statement.**

**1.14A(1)** The Slidell Tennis Association is responsible for making available a financial statement (upon request) to the local team captains at the conclusion of each league year. Any fees paid to the local league coordinator, level coordinators, league assistants, and/or league secretary must be itemized on the financial report.

**1.14A(2)** The 2009 Slidell league year enrollment fees are as follows: \$3 TennisLink fee will be added to all individual player registrations. \$5 of each registration (included in fees below) will be dedicated to public tennis facilities.

USTA Adult League .....	\$20 per player/per team registration
USTA Senior League.....	\$15 per player/per team registration
USTA Adult Mixed Doubles.....	\$20 per player/per team registration
USTA Senior Mixed Doubles.....	\$15 per player/per team registration
Adult Southern Combo Doubles.....	\$20 per player/per team registration
Adult Southern Senior Combo Doubles.....	\$15 per player/per team registration
Super Senior 60's and 70's.....	\$10 per player/per team registration

**1.20 LOCAL LEAGUE COORDINATORS.** Local league administrators who include Local Coordinators and Board of Directors of the Slidell Tennis Associations are responsible for administering and promoting the USTA League Programs in their area.

**1.20A League Code of Ethics.** All league administrators will adhere to the USTA Southern Section League Tennis Officials Code of Ethics as published at [www.southern.usta.com](http://www.southern.usta.com).

**2.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The Regulations in 2.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES shall apply to all USTA League Tennis Divisions. All local league regulations will include the names of grievance and grievance appeal committee members and will be distributed to captains prior to the beginning of the local league season. Distribution

via captains' packets and/or websites is acceptable. Each state shall approve all Local and State League Grievance and Grievance Appeal Committees.

**2.02A(3)** Grievances shall be handled by USA League Tennis Grievance and Appeal Committees at the appropriate level (i.e. Local, State, or Sectional). Grievance actions may be moved to the next higher organizational level for action, as deemed necessary by the appropriate governing body.

### **2.02C Local League Procedures.**

All local grievances and NTRP complaints will be submitted in writing to the local league coordinator. The local league coordinator will then forward any grievances to the local league grievance committee. NTRP complaints will be forwarded to the state league coordinator. See 2009 National, Southern, and Louisiana USTA League Tennis Regulations for procedures that must be followed to file local grievances, appeals, and NTRP complaints. Should the grieving parties disagree with the decision of the grievance committee, they can appeal the decision to the grievance appeals committee. The decision of the grievance appeals committee is final.

The grievance committee for all 2009 leagues consists of Jim Rollins (chair), Sandy Haro, and Paul King. The grievance appeals committee for 2009 includes Richard Root (chair), Josie Rollins, and Al Marquez.

## **3.00 ADULT LEAGUE REGULATIONS**

All USA League Tennis Regulations, Southern Section League Regulations, Louisiana Regulations, and Slidell Regulations in 1.00 GENERAL and 2.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES and the following procedures shall apply to the USA League Tennis – Adult Division.

### **3.01 LOCAL LEAGUE.**

A local league cannot reject a player from another area.

**3.01B Team.** There is no limit to the number of players that appear on a team roster in the Slidell local league.

#### **3.01D Entry**

**3.01D(2)** Players who do not have a computer rating on file in TennisLink shall self-rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines and declare their self-rating on TennisLink when registering for a team. Individuals who have had a national or section ranking; played college tennis; have taught tennis; or played professional tennis must also complete a player history form and submit to the state and receive approval from the state to participate at their self-rated level before participating in a match. Failure to do so or omission of information regarding a player's tennis history will subject the player, the captain and/or others who condoned inaccurate self-rating to sanctions and disqualification.

**3.01F Levels of Play.** Slidell offers Adult League play at 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 4.5 levels for men and women.

#### **3.01H Competition Format.**

**3.01H(2) Team Match and Scoring.** A team match will consist of three(3) doubles individual matches (lines) and two(2) singles individual matches. Exception: A 2.5 team match will consist of two(2) doubles' matches and one(1) singles match.

**Match Sequence:** The home captain will assign matches to the courts in following sequence:

#1 Singles, #1 Doubles, #2 Singles, #2 Doubles, #3 Doubles.

The captains are responsible for seeing that matches start on time. Warm-ups are limited to 10 minutes, including serves, which must be taken before play begins. It is essential that this rule be followed to prevent matches from stacking up during the day and altering starting times.

Team line-ups will be exchanged by the team captains five minutes before match time.

Team line-ups are exchanged simultaneously by the team captains by exchanging match scorecards. These scorecards are generated on the TennisLink web site and printed by the captains or other team members.

Substitutions are allowed in team lineups after they have been exchanged if that individual match has not started and default time has not occurred. Substitutions are allowed for: injury, illness, disqualification, or no-show of a player, and when rain or inclement weather forces the cancellation and rescheduling of a team match. An individual match is started when the first ball is put in play. A substitute is defined as any team member who was not listed on the original line-up.

**Late starts:** If a team is more than 5 minutes late getting on the court with their opponents, they will lose the racquet spin for choice of serve. The penalty after being 10 minutes late is the loss of racquet spin and forfeiture of one game. The match will start with the score, 1-0.

**Default time** is fifteen(15) minutes after the scheduled match time. Players must be on the court at that time to avoid default. In the event that fewer than 5 courts are scheduled for a match, the fifth (for 4 courts) or fourth and fifth for (3 courts) lines will be scheduled for 1 hour 30 minutes after the starting time of the initial matches, even if courts become available earlier. If courts are not available at the official starting time, the match will start at such time as the courts become available. If the court becomes available after the original forfeit time, the official forfeit time will then change to the same time as the court becomes available. In order to prevent courts from backing up, captains shall not agree to start late to avoid a forfeit.

The scoring method that will be implemented for the local league is best 2 out of 3 sets with a set tie breaker (first to 7 by 2) to be played at 6-6 in all sets. A match tie breaker (first to 10 by 2) will be played in lieu of the third set. For purposes of deciding ties in league standings, the tie breaker played in lieu of the third set will be scored as 1 set and 1 game.

Local scores will be entered on Tennis Link by a member of either team. The first team accessing the site will enter the scores. A member of the opposing team will confirm or dispute the scores. In the event of a dispute, contact the local league coordinator so that scores may be adjusted.

All scorecards must be entered within **48 hours** of the completion of the match. If scorecards are not entered within 7 days of the completion of the match, the match may be declared a double forfeit by the local league coordinator.

### **3.01H(2)a Team Forfeits**

A team that fails to send at least four (4) players (1 doubles, 2 singles) to a match is subject to suspension from the league and penalties to individual players on that team as determined by the grievance committee if a grievance is filed. If a team forfeits all five individual matches, all team matches played by the team during the season will be considered forfeits if: a) the individual matches would have affected the outcome of the championship and if: b) a protest is filed by a league team no later than 72 hours after the end of the league season.

### **3.01H(2)b Cell Phones**

Cell phones are to be turned off when entering the court area before warm-up begins. If a cell phone rings, the first time a warning will be issued. The second time it rings, there will be a loss of one game. If the cell phone rings a third time, the match will be defaulted. Medical personnel on emergency call are exempt from this rule.

### **3.01H(4)c Inclement Weather:** Local league matches may be canceled due to inclement weather.

1. Teams will assemble on time regardless of weather conditions. A minimum of four players is required on the site to constitute a team assembly. If the minimum of four(4) players is not present at the site when forfeit time occurs, the opposing team is awarded that match, regardless of the weather conditions. The only exception to this rule is when both captains mutually agree that playing the match within one hour of the scheduled time is impossible because of existing weather conditions or item 7 below takes precedence.
2. Teams must wait one hour past the originally scheduled match time to determine if the courts will be playable. Teams are not obligated to wait the one hour if both team captains ascertain the courts will not be playable, with rolling, in that one hour time span.
3. If a team match is in progress when inclement weather occurs, players still must wait the required one hour before rescheduling. The exception would be if both team captains decide the courts would not be playable within that one hour time span.
4. When rolling of courts is required, each team is responsible for rolling half of all courts to be used in the match to be played.
5. At the end of one hour, the two captains will declare if the courts are playable. If the captains cannot agree on whether to play, a coin flip will be used to decide whether the teams will play.
6. Every effort should be made to play matches at the scheduled date and time before calling a rainout. Home team captains should be considerate of "traveling" visiting teams and try to alert them of a possible rainout before they "drive over" if at all possible.
7. In the case where a match involves a traveling out-of-area team, the visiting captain may unilaterally cancel the match if the National Weather Service Forecast on the morning of the match calls for a

50% or greater chance of rain at match time. The visiting captain must attempt to contact the home captain to notify him/her of the cancellation and discuss the situation.

Times and dates for rescheduled matches will be set by mutual agreement of the captains. If the match has not yet begun, matches must be played as a team- no individual line rescheduling. Rainouts should be rescheduled for the following Sunday (eight days later), or the captains can agree on another date. If the match has already begun, matches can be scheduled individually. In the event that captains cannot agree on a match time, the local league coordinator will set the date. Home captain must advise the local league coordinator within 48 hours of the rainout and of the rescheduled date and time. The home captain must reserve the courts for the rescheduled match. In the event that line-ups have been exchanged, but **no** lines have started play, new lineups may be exchanged prior to the start of the rescheduled match. However, if any lines have begun play, then the original lineups are in force for all lines, except that a player not on the original lineup can be substituted as indicated above (3.01H(2)).

Except in the case of sequential rainouts or if special permission is received from the league coordinator, all make-up matches must be completed within 3 weeks of the originally scheduled date.

Except in cases of inclement weather or on designated "special dates"(see below), **matches must be played at their scheduled time and location.** Matches will be rescheduled only at the direct request of the local league coordinator. Failure to play the match will result in the match being designated a double forfeit

The local league coordinator may designate some scheduled dates as "special dates." These would typically be dates on or near holidays. For matches scheduled on these dates, either captain may unilaterally decide to reschedule the match rather than play it on the scheduled date. The captain **MUST** notify the local league coordinator and the opposing captain of this decision at least 7 days subsequent to the playing date. The rescheduled match will be treated as a rainout.

### **3.02 PROGRESSION.**

#### **3.02B State Championships.**

The team winning the majority of the five(5) individual matches will be awarded one team point. If a double default results in a tie, the winner of the team match shall be determined by a tie break procedure consisting of 3-5 below. (i.e. least sets lost in the match, least games lost in the match, coin toss)

The team with the most team points will be declared the local league winner.

In case of a tie, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so:

1. Individual Matches: Winner of the most individual matches in the entire league competition.
2. Sets: Loser of the fewest number of sets in all league competition (a forfeit counts as two sets lost).
3. Games: Loser of the fewest number of games in all league competition
4. Head-to-Head: Most head-to-head team matches won - In the case of a two way tie, most team matches won in head-to-head competition between the two tied teams. In the case of a multiple tie, most team matches won in all matches involving head-to-head play between the teams that are tied.
5. Coin Toss

#### **TEAM CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES**

Team captains will handle the administrative affairs of the team and represent the team in all USTA league matters.

Specific responsibilities are:

- Attend local captain's meeting.
- Register the team on the Internet Tennis Link site and provide team number to players for registration.
- Enter scores on the Tennis Link site (or delegate this responsibility to a team member).
- Provide tennis balls for all host matches.
- Read and familiarize themselves with all league and tennis regulations and share this information with their team members.