

AIKEN AREA TENNIS LEAGUE (AATL)
League Coordinator – Eddie Estochen (803-270-4170) edesto@bellsouth.net
AATL Web Site - www.aikentennis.com

ADULT, SENIOR AND SUPER SENIOR MIXED LEAGUE RULES – 2010

STATE LEAGUE COORDINATOR (SLC)

The following person has been appointed to implement and administer the South Carolina State USTA League Tennis Program:

Mary Goins
P.O. Box 386
Easley, SC 29641
864-855-0881
mgoins@charter.net

The following person has been appointed to implement and administer the South Carolina State USTA Adult/Senior Mixed League Tennis Program:

Susan Turner
48 Upper Pond Rd
Columbia, SC 29223
803-201-1016
tennistogo@aol.com

The following person has been appointed to implement and administer the South Carolina State USTA Super Senior Mixed League Tennis Program:

Patti McVey
147 Clouds Point
Leesville, SC 29070-6904
803-318-8463
Mixeddoubles@bellsouth.net

LOCAL LEAGUE COORDINATOR (LLC)

The following person has been appointed to implement and administer the Aiken Area Tennis League and to interpret the Aiken Area Tennis League Regulations:

Eddie Estochen
1198 Carriage Drive
Aiken, SC 29803
803-270-4170
edesto@bellsouth.net

The Local League Coordinator's (LLC) responsibility is to organize, coordinate and supervise all USTA League Tennis activities on the local level and report to the State Mixed League Coordinators.

- 0.00 USTA League Tennis National Regulations, Southern Regulations and SC Mixed Doubles Regulations shall apply to the USTA Mixed Doubles League and take precedence over AATL Mixed Doubles League Rules.
- 0.01 The purpose of the Rules and Regulations is to assure that fair play and good conduct is maintained at all times and to assist the tennis league in rendering equity to all teams and players. The Rules and Regulations are approved by the State prior to League Matches.
- 0.02 The Local League Coordinator has been appointed by the SCTA to implement and administer the USTA League Tennis Program and interpret the Mixed Doubles Local League rules, regulations and procedures.
- 0.03 It is the responsibility of each Team Captain to familiarize all team members with the Rules and Regulations.

- 0.04 Player must reach at least 18 years of age during 2010 to compete in Adult division.
- 0.05 Player must reach at least 50 years of age during 2010 to compete in Senior division.
- 0.06 Player must reach at least 60 years of age during 2010 to compete in Super Senior division.
- 0.07 New regulations or changes in 2010 AATL regulations are underlined.

1.00 GENERAL

1.05 OFFICIAL SCORE REPORTING AND STANDINGS SYSTEM. Scores must be reported in TennisLink within 24 hours of the completed team match. TennisLink will automatically confirm scores 48 hours after the team match is initially reported in TennisLink if not confirmed by opposing captain.

1.11 Membership

1.11B **All local leagues must be current members of USTA.** All players must be current members of USTA and USTA South Carolina through the Mixed Doubles Local League seasons, including local playoffs and (C) any player who progresses to championship level in the USTA League Tennis Program must be a current member through each championship progression.

USTA South Carolina's dues are \$6.00, and AATL dues are \$9.00 per player. Dues are paid for through Mixed doubles league registration.

1.14 Registration.

- (a) Rosters must be entered in TennisLink before League play begins. Players may not move to a different team once match play has begun for that level, unless approved by the State Mixed Doubles League Coordinator.
- (b) INITIAL ROSTER DEADLINE: Local League Team Rosters with a minimum of 6 legal players must be submitted into TennisLink no later than **May 1, 2010** in order to participate in the AATL 2010 Mixed Doubles League.
- (c) AATL team registration will end **July 10, 2010**. Teams may continue to add players per these league regulations.
- (d) **Teams that will be playing their Local League during** the Mixed Doubles Championships must be entered into TennisLink with a minimum of three eligible partnerships by **July 10, 2010**. Super Senior Teams that will be playing their Local League during the Mixed Doubles State Championships must be entered into TennisLink with a minimum of three eligible pairings by **July 31, 2010**. The add-on deadline date for levels playing Local League at Mixed Doubles Championships is **August 17, 2010**.
- (e) The required State Adult and Senior Championship team entry fees and information must be received by the State Mixed Doubles Coordinator by August 24, 2010. The required State Super Senior Mixed Doubles Championship team entry fees and information must be received by the State Super Senior Mixed Doubles Coordinator by September 15, 2010.
- (f) All players must have a current USTA membership which is valid through league season. (Any player applying for or renewing a USTA membership may do so online when registering on TL.)
- (g) If a player plays on two Adult teams at the **same level** or two Senior teams at the **same level** in the **same league**, all matches played will be defaulted and the player removed from both rosters.
- (h) After commencement of local league play, Player's name **must** be added to the team roster before the player's participation in a team match, and players may be added to the roster up to one day prior to the date when there are no longer enough matches on the Tennislink published schedule to qualify for championships.
- (i) Once placed on a roster through TennisLink, there will be **no refunds after league play begins**. It is possible to transfer from one team to another without additional fees by contacting the Local

League Coordinator to process the movement from one team to the next. Transferring to another team must be done **before the start of the Mixed Doubles Season.**

2.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES.

With the approval of the State Mixed Doubles League Coordinators, the AATL Grievance Committee and the Grievance Appeal Committee are appointed by the Local League Coordinator. If a grievance is filed, and/or appealed and a Committee chair or Committee Member is close in any way to either party or the grievance, the Local League Coordinator along with the State Mixed Doubles League Coordinator may replace the chairman and/or committee member (s) to ensure maximum objectivity in the grievance procedure.

2.01 Committees. The Local League Coordinator has the authority to appoint the persons who shall serve on Grievance and Grievance Appeals Committees in the place of those persons listed below in the case of conflict, absence or other inability to serve. Substitute appointments will come from a list of other 2010 Grievance Committee volunteers.

2.01A Grievance Committees.

AATL Mixed Doubles Grievance Committee:
Ron Rondeau, Chair
Kerry Dunn
Donnie Campbell

2.01B Grievance Appeals Committee.

AATL Mixed Doubles Grievance Appeals Committee:
Sandy Harris, Chair
David Fauth
Mary Abele

Alternates as needed for Grievance or Appeals Committees:
Ron Dellamora, Shawn Risher, Rob Lascola, Barb Dellamora, Todd Fields

2.02 Grievance Complaints.

2.02B NTRP Grievances. NTRP grievances shall come under the jurisdiction of the Section Grievance and Grievance Appeals Committees. Grievance Complaints will be sent to the Local League Coordinator and then to the State Mixed Doubles League Coordinator to be forwarded to the Section Grievance Committee.

2.03 Procedure for Filing Grievances

2.03A. A complaint against a player or team alleging a violation during local league competition shall be filed in **writing with the LLC prior to the commencement of the next team match in that flight involving such player or team, or within twenty-four (24) hours after the end of local league play, whichever occurs first,** except a complaint based on ineligibility under USTA League Regulations which may be filed after knowledge thereof. The LLC shall send a copy of such complaint to the party(s) to whom the complaint has been made and the Grievance Committee.

2.03B. The grievance can be e-mailed, mailed or delivered to the LLC. **E-Mailing is preferred as it will expedite the procedure.**

2.03C. The LLC will have the responsibility for naming a Grievance Committee to review

grievances and render a decision on the course of action to be taken on each incident. The procedure for handling grievances that is outlined in the USTA League Regulations shall be followed. The LLC will also have the responsibility for naming an Appeals Committee. 2.03D. Grievance Procedures are outlined in the USTA League Regulations 2.00 Grievance Procedures. The form for filing a grievance can be found at, www.aikentennis.com, under rules.

5.01 LOCAL LEAGUE

5.01A Number of Teams. When a Local League does not have the required number of teams (two teams) to constitute a level in Adult or Senior, the State Mixed Doubles Coordinator, in consultation with affected Local League Mixed Doubles Coordinators, shall either:

- (1) Assign singleton team to another Local League, in which case, (a) State Mixed Doubles Coordinator will transfer assigned team to League to which it is assigned and assigned team will abide by rules of host league; (b) host league will make rule regarding travel for matches.
- (2) Group singleton team with other singleton teams in the state and schedule a playoff among those teams to determine advancement to State Championships. State Mixed Doubles Coordinator will decide on date(s), playoff structure, and designate site and Local (host) League.
- (3) Complete teams choosing to play in a local league area other than their home local league must secure home courts in local league they choose to participate.

5.01B Team. AATL teams are limited to 14 players. There is no limit to the number of players that appear on that roster that are at a specific NTRP level.

5.01E Levels of Play.

ADULT LEAGUE: Straight 2.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0

SENIOR LEAGUE: Straight 2.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0

SUPER SENIOR LEAGUE: 6.0, 7.0, 8.0

The partnership **must not exceed** the combined level of play that the team has entered. **The combined ratings of a partnership cannot be more than 1.0 NTRP rating apart.** If a partnership desires to play together and do not equal an above level, they may play up, i.e. 3.0 and 3.5 may play 7.0 together because they are not more than one point apart.

5.01G Scoring and Rest

Individual matches consist of the best 2 out of 3 sets with a **Coman set** tiebreak when the score of a set is 6 games all. If opponents split sets, in lieu of a 3rd set to decide the individual match winner, a Coman10-point match tiebreak will be played.

5.01H COMPETITION FORMAT

5.01H(2) Team Match and Scoring.

- (a) The maximum number of defaults allowed teams during Local League Season is equal to the number of team matches played.
- (b) Players must be present and on court to receive a default.
- (c) All matches played by a team that drops out of League during League Season will be used to qualify players for Championship play.
- (d) Retirements will be used to qualify all players involved in retired match for Championship play.

5.01H(4) Team Lineups. An individual match is started when the first ball is put into play. After the start of an individual match, if injury to, illness of, or disqualification of a player occurs, the opponents will be awarded a default for that individual match only. The default principles in 2010 USTA League Regulation **5.03L**, shall be applicable, with the Sectional modifications that:

- a. In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no-show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (once the lineup 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 in the lineup. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted in local leagues.
- b. In the event that a team match must be re-scheduled and starting times are staggered, where opponents are not available and ready to play, defaults will be awarded in the affected position only.
- c. For Weather Affected Matches, See Mandatory procedure “Matches Affected By Inclement Weather”
- d. Defaults:
 - (1) Default – when a team knows in advance it will not be able to field all three positions. In this case, the #3 doubles position must be defaulted.
 - (2) Forfeit by default – when a player who was expected to play, does not show within 15 minutes of scheduled match time, becomes unable to play and no substitute is available. In this case, the position in which the player was scheduled to play is defaulted.
 - (3) Default by disqualification – disqualification occurs when a player is ineligible to participate for any reason (i.e., not a member of USTA, under age, not on roster). The position in which the disqualified player played is defaulted.
 - (4) Full Team Defaults (2 of 3 Match lines):
 - i. Full team defaults are not permitted in the AATL.
 - ii. Full team defaults result in deletion of all future matches from the league schedule for the offending team with those match dates becoming byes for opposing teams.
 - ii. If not in the last round robin of the local league season, the offending team will be DQ'd in all matches played in the round robin where the team default was given.
 - iii. Players on a team DQ'd for granting a full team default are not entitled to refund of any portion of their league registration fees.
 - iv. All players on any team giving a full team default may have sanctions imposed via grievance against them to include ineligibility to compete at any SC State Championship for a period not to exceed 11 months.
 - v. Players receiving a default must be listed on Scorecard; players giving a default must not be listed.
 - vi. Double-Defaults - If there is a default by each team for the same position, the scorecard shall reflect that it is a Double Default, and the line entered in Tennislink using the Double-Default option for that line.
 - vii. Defaults given are voided in the event of rainouts provided **no individual** match has started. If any match has started (first ball put in play), the default stands.
 - (5) Retirement occurs when an individual match has started and a player is unable to continue due to injury, loss of condition, or emergency. In case of retirement after commencement of a match, the non-retiring player, or doubles team, shall be credited with such number of additional games as would have been won if match

was completed and non-retiring player or doubles team won every subsequent game. **For NTRP computer data entry in TennisLink, mark as “retired” and submit actual scores of match at the point of retirement (i.e. 6-3, 2-1, retired).**

e. **Scorecards:**

- (1) Scorecards are to be printed by captains from TennisLink for use during line-up exchange.
- (2) Captains are to exchange line-ups simultaneously at the scheduled match time. No changes may be made after line-ups have been exchanged, except as indicated in **5.01H(4)a**. Please note: After scorecards have been exchanged, if a team receives a default, the receiving team **does not have the option to change their line-up!**
- (3) **Captains are to agree on scores and players’ names (as they appear in TennisLink) on scorecard before leaving match and sign each other’s scorecards.** The signed scorecard will be official agreement of the final match scores.
- (4) Either captain can report scores on TennisLink and must report within 24 hours of match. The first captain to access TennisLink enters the score; the second captain confirms the score. Each match must be entered and confirmed. If the match is not confirmed within 48 hours after the first captain enters the score, TennisLink will automatically confirm.

f. **AATL Local League Specific Rules:**

- (1) Each team must have a captain or acting captain present at each match.
- (2) Home Team Captain is responsible for contacting visiting captain ahead of time to confirm match time, location, etc. Home team captains are required to inform visiting captains of court surfaces to be used at each position prior to scorecard exchange.
- (3) Each team must play at least three matches to qualify for further championship play.
- (4) Home team is responsible for providing new balls, but new balls may be introduced to a match at any time, if all players competing in the individual match agree.
- (5) It is the responsibility of the home team captain to contact the visiting team captain prior to the scheduled match time if the weather will not permit play. The captains can then discuss postponement, rescheduling, etc. If weather and availability of courts at **visitor’s site permits play, match should be played at visitor’s courts.**
- (6) If the beginning of a match is delayed by rain or wet courts, **SEE MATCHES AFFECTED BY INCLEMENT WEATHER for mandatory make-up procedure.**
- (7) **If an event affects a majority of the players from either team from playing at the scheduled match day/time, See “MATCH CONFLICTS WITH OTHER EVENTS”**
- (8) Players must report to scheduled matches on time. The 15-minute default rule will apply unless prior arrangements have been made between captains.
- (9) **CELL PHONES** and all other electronic devices must be turned off. If a cell phone rings during a point, the opponent wins the point based on a hindrance. Cell phone usage or Text Messaging during a match is not permitted. Emergency response personnel may utilize electronic devices, worn on their person, and set to vibrate mode for notification.
- (10) Errors in entering scores in Tennislink must be corrected by the LLC. Prior to requesting the LLC to make a correction, captains should agree that the correction is required. The LLC should be notified by one of the captains, via email with CC: of the other captain, the exact details of the required correction **including match number**, individual match line number, and the player/score correction required.
- (11) Each team must guarantee availability of 3 courts for AATL matches. Any approved USTA surface is permissible, including indoor and outdoor (soft and

hard). It is the home team's responsibility to have courts available and playable at match time. Separated courts may be used. Captains must designate the exact location of any separated courts prior to the match.

- (12) USTA rules govern play. Also, "The Code" as a handbook of **ethics and fair play should be understood and followed by every player**. Captains and team members are urged to familiarize themselves with the official USTA, STA, SCTA, AATL rules, and "The Code".
- (13) Once an individual match has begun, no coaching may be given a player by anyone.
- (14) Sportsmanship:
 - i. No linesmen or umpires will be provided for matches.
 - ii. Every player is expected to call shots on his side, as he would expect his shots to be called on the other side and **loud enough for his/her opponent to hear**. Any out ball must be called instantaneously; otherwise, it is presumed good and in play. Avoid late calls.
 - iii. Balls that are not clearly out should be awarded the opponent. In the case of doubles, when partnership is in disagreement of a call, it should be awarded the opponent.
 - iv. Players are advised to call the score before each point to avoid confusion. If the players can not agree on the score, the score reverts to the score at which the players last agreed.
 - v. Players should advise their home fans to also show sportsmanship and applaud for good shots made – not points won for errors. Also, respect players on neighboring courts. Spectators may not aid players in making a line call nor in determining the correct score. Spectators should not participate in the match in any way and should refrain from doing so even if asked by the players. Spectators may quietly watch a match in progress. They should not sit or stand at the end of the court immediately behind the servers or receivers if it is distracting to the players.
 - vi. Spectators may quietly clap for points well played. It should be remembered that the well-played point should be applauded regardless of who won the point. It is considered to be poor tennis etiquette to clap for unforced errors. It is the responsibility of each team to control the noise and behavior of its spectators. Loud, boisterous or unsportsmanlike behavior is unacceptable. If a problem exists with a spectator, the player(s) or her opponent(s) should ask the spectator to refrain from the particular behavior. If the behavior persists, team captains should be summoned to handle the situation.
 - vii. Coaches or club pros must refrain from intrusion in discussions or negotiations between players or captains unless specifically asked by *BOTH* captains. Even then, it is the responsibility of the two captains, not the pro, to decide on the resolution of the incident.
 - viii. All complaints alleging a violation of fair play and unsportsmanlike conduct shall be filed in writing to the LLC who will forward the complaint to the Grievance Committee and other appropriate persons. The Grievance Committee will review the alleged grievance and determine the necessary actions that should be taken.

5.01H(5) Player Participation

5.01H(5)b During the South Carolina Mixed Doubles Local League Season, a player

may play on more than one NTRP level in Adult and/or Senior divisions in the **same** Local League during the **same** season.

5.01H(5)c

- (1) A player may play at the **same** NTRP level in the same division (Adult or Senior) on teams in separate Local Leagues in South Carolina during the **same** season.
- (2) A player from another state (as defined by the player's primary residence as listed in USTA records) may not participate in South Carolina without approval by the Local League Coordinator representing the area that is affected and the State Mixed Doubles League Coordinator. A player playing out of his/her home state without obtaining prior approval will be subject to sanctions, including, at a minimum, defaulting of all matches played prior to receiving approval. Sanctions may be applied to the team captain as well. **A player from another state who previously received approval to play in South Carolina and who has played in South Carolina in every year since that approval was granted need not reapply for approval to play in 2010 in the same local league in the same division (Adult or Senior) as in 2009.**
 - i. South Carolina Players from outside of the AATL boundaries are no longer required to submit OOA approval forms. However, teams are limited to OOA players per (vii) below. Out-of-State (OOS) residents (as determined by address in Tennislink) are required to submit an OOS approval form to the League Coordinator [The electronic OOS form may be found at Aikentennis.com on the rules page.], which will be subject to approval by both the AATL LLC and the State League Coordinator.
 - ii. Mixed teams are limited to 2 OOS players per team.
 - iii. OOS player forms shall be approved prior to a player signing up for a team (OOS players who sign up for a team, and are not granted approval to play will forfeit their entire registration fee).
 - iv. All matches played by OOS players who do not have approved OOS forms filed with the league will be changed to defaults received by the OOS players opponent(s),
 - v. OOS players who were approved for 2009 competition in a specific league and flight (e.g. Adult 8.0, Senior 7.0, etc.) do not need to submit an OOS approval form for 2010 to play in the same league/flight, but will count towards the per team OOS player maximum.
 - vi. Except in the event of a singleton team playing local league at state championships, AATL teams are required to have >50% players from within the AATL boundaries. The combined number of OOA and OOS (maximum 2-three position matches, 3-five position matches) is required to be <50% of team total. AATL teams must play home matches at facilities within the AATL boundaries.
 - vii. Singleton teams placed in the AATL by the State League Mixed Doubles Coordinator are required to have >50% players from within boundaries of their own home league Area.
 - viii. The League Coordinator, with State League Coordinator approval, may increase the OOS limits if necessary to avoid a singleton team at an NTRP/flight that is required to play a local league season for advancement to championships.

5.01H(5)d

- (1) Players who qualify for South Carolina Mixed Doubles State Championships may advance on one Adult and one Senior team in the 2010 season, but may not advance on two adult or two senior teams. **Scheduling WILL NOT accommodate players who compete on an Adult and Senior team.**
- (2) Players who qualify for Sectional Championships may advance on one adult and one senior team but may not advance on two adult or two senior teams. If eligible players do not participate at the State Championships, they may participate in the Sectional and/or National Championships. **There is no advancement beyond State Championships for Super Senior Mixed Doubles Program.**
- (3) A default will not count for advancing to National Championships. Three matches are

required for advancement.

5.02 PROGRESSION.

5.02B State Championships.

- (1) All participants must be on original roster and have played at least two matches locally (one default may count) in **Adult** in order to be eligible to compete at Mixed Doubles State Championships, and **Seniors** must play at least one match (one default may count) in order to be eligible to compete at Mixed Doubles State Championships. A default received will count as a qualifying match for Super Senior Mixed Doubles Chps.
- (2) Only one default will count as a qualifying match for Adult and Senior State Mixed Doubles Championships and Sectional Mixed Doubles Championships.
- (3) A default will not count for advancing to Mixed Doubles National Championships.
- (4) For all players involved, a retirement counts as a qualifying match for Adult and Senior Mixed State, Sectional and National Championships.
- (5) All matches played by a team that drops out of league during league season will be used to qualify players for Championship play.
- (6) Teams that withdraw from Championships after roster/fee submittal deadline will forfeit fees. A team substituted for withdrawing team will not be responsible for championship fees other than for those *players exceeding number of players paid for by withdrawing team*. *If fees were not paid by withdrawing team, that team's Local League will pay fees*. Recovery of championship fees will be up to appropriate Local Leagues.
- (7) If a team withdraws from a championship after draw has been published, a grievance will be filed against all members on team roster that is submitted for championship. Sanctions against these team members may include that all members on submitted roster be banned from participating in any playoff (state or higher) for a period of up to 11 months.
- (8) If an entire team defaults their match during a championship, a grievance will be filed against all members on team roster that is submitted for championship. Sanctions against these team members may include that all members on submitted roster be banned from participating in any playoff (state or higher) for a period of up to 11 months.
- (9) The winner of each level at State Mixed Doubles Championships will be allowed to advance to Sectional Championships in Jackson, MS, October 15-17, 2010.
- (10) **CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW:** The Championship Draw is a random draw done by championship referee before league competition is completed. Where possible, however, teams from same local league will be put in separate flights. The number of flights at a given level will depend on number of teams eligible. A flight typically will have four teams and the referee may elect to add wildcard teams to balance out flights (see item (10)). In the case of three flights, a wildcard will be drawn at random (from the numbers 1, 2, 3) by referee on final day of round-robin play to determine which flight's second place team will play in semi-finals. The wildcard team will play a team from another flight.
- (11) **WILDCARD PROCEDURE:** Wildcards will be chosen from a random draw based on number of teams and positions by Area from current Mixed Doubles season. The number of teams an Area has will be divided by number of positions that Area qualifies for at State Championships. This number will determine total chances the Area will have in the random draw. An Area whose team is drawn for a Wildcard and used at a particular level will **NOT BE ELIGIBLE** to have a wildcard at the same level the following year unless there are not enough teams available to complete draw. An Area whose team is named to replace a team that dropped out of State Championship will remain eligible for a wildcard at that level the following year. **Three-team levels will not be eligible for a wildcard.**

- (12) All **9.0 Senior** and **10.0 Adult** teams will play their Local League at State Championships. These levels may be required to play at a different time and/or location, and teams with a minimum of three eligible partnerships must be entered into TennisLink by **July 10, 2010**. **Player add-on deadline for these teams is August 17, 2010.**
- (13) Scheduling at State Mixed Doubles Championships will not accommodate players who compete on both an Adult and Senior team.
- (14) The State Mixed Doubles Championships will be a round robin format.
- (15) Entry fee for State Mixed Doubles Championships will be \$20.00 per Championship participant.

5.02C SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sectional Championships format shall be a round robin in all levels of competition. A full draw is comprised of two flights with five teams each: the nine state champion teams and a wildcard team. Each team shall play every other team in its flight and the team with the most points shall be champion in its flight. Levels with two flight winners will offer a single elimination finals match to determine the champion. If a state has two teams in the same level, referee will place those teams in separate flights provided there are two flights in that level. The Section may issue wildcards as necessary to fill draw. If less than four teams are entered in a NTRP level draw within 21 days of event, the draw for the NTRP level will be cancelled unless otherwise authorized by Tournament Committee.

5.03 AREA, SECTIONAL AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS. DATE AND LOCATION.

The 2010 USTA League Tennis Adult and Senior State Mixed Doubles Championships will be held in Charleston, SC September 11-13, 2010.

The 2010 USTA League Tennis Super Senior State Mixed Doubles Championships TBD.

The 2010 USTA League Tennis Southern Sectional Mixed Doubles Championships - October 15-17, 2010, in Jackson, MS.

The 2010 National Eastern Mixed Doubles Championships – (Champions from Caribbean, Eastern, Florida, Mid-Atlantic, Middle States, Midwest, New England, and Southern Sections) – (tentative date) November 20-22, 2010, Las Vegas.

Day and Time of Play

Matches for Adult and Senior play will be scheduled during the week (Monday thru Thursday) starting no earlier than 6:00 pm. Super Senior play will be scheduled as agreed upon by all Super Senior captains prior to the league season. The LLC has the option to schedule other days and times if the number of teams and court availability warrants such a schedule.

MATCHES AFFECTED BY INCLEMENT WEATHER (Mandatory Procedure)

General Weather Related Rules (Apply to all Inclement Weather Cases)

W1. Matches may only be postponed if courts are unplayable, as verified by both team captains, due to moisture, freezing, or the match time temperature is below 32 degrees. Matches may not be postponed due to excessive wind or heat.

W2. Matches may not be postponed more than one hour before match time.

W3: Only players on the team roster for the originally scheduled match date/time are eligible for make-up matches.

W4. If some courts are playable at match time, other individual matches, not started due to unplayable courts, may not be postponed to a later date unless courts are still unplayable 30 minutes after the original match time. Postponed individual matches are subject to rules 2A-2D below.

W5: Team Captains shall schedule all individual and team make-up matches. Since substitution applies to all matches not started, exchange of scorecards, and relying on players to arrange times to complete a make-up match is NOT permitted.

W6: Failure to follow the prescribed inclement weather make-up procedures listed for cases 1-3 will result in individual match defaults.

Case 1: If courts are unplayable due to moisture, or temperature is below 32 degrees at match time, and both captains agree to postpone the match.

1A. Postponed matches may be made up, either as a team, or individual positions separately, within two weeks from the original match date. Exceptions may be granted by the LLC after receiving written (email) request by either captain.

1B. Within 24 hours from match postponement, the home team captain shall provide the Visiting team captain a minimum of **2 dates** for each affected position, with proposed match times, (maximum of one Saturday or Sunday date, weekday times before 6pm may be given, but do not count towards the 2 date per position minimum as these times do not accommodate working players) to choose from for the make-up match(es). The AATL LLC shall be notified, via email, of the postponement and proposed make-up dates/times at the same time as the visiting team captain. Acceptable examples for a 5 position match, rained out on a Sunday, include (**2 options** for each singles position, and **2 options** for each doubles position,

*Monday, All positions at 6:30pm

*Sunday, Singles (1 position at 2pm or 7pm), Doubles (2 positions at 7pm)

*Wednesday #2, Singles (2 positions at 7pm), Doubles (2 positions at 6pm)

Note: 3 different days are given, that include times after 6pm during the week, and any time on one weekend day. 5 total singles position times, and 7 doubles position times are provided. This is slightly more than the minimum, and captains are encouraged to provide as many options as they can. (Remember that when split, individual matches are recorded on the scorecard based on the order they are played. So assigning line numbers to the dates provided is meaningless. The first match played is #1, second #2, etc.)

1C. After receiving the proposed make-up dates/times, the visiting team captain may decide how many of each position (Line numbers shall be recorded on the scorecard in the chronological order they are played except in the case of defaults as described in 1D below) are played on the given dates/times and notify the Home Team Captain and League Coordinator, via email, within 24 hours (NOTE: Based on the timing in rules 1B and 1C, the schedule for make-up matches should be established with 48 hours after original match postponement.) **If agreement between captains can't be reached, any disputed individual matches will be made up at a time decided upon by the LLC.**

1D. After make-up scheduling, if a team must default an individual match on any of the make-up dates, the defaults shall be recorded at the lowest positions when scores are entered in TennisLink regardless of the defaulted match position.

1E. If a make-up match must be postponed due to inclement weather, it must be made up within one week, and rules 1A-1D, or 2A-2E if applicable, apply to all successive make-ups with the one week limitation applied.

Case 2: Courts become unplayable after match start time, but before the start of the first point in the match.

2A. Case 1 rules 1A-1E apply.

2B. Defaults received during scorecard exchange count.

2C. For make-up matches, substitution of players on original scorecard may include any player eligible per rule W3.

2D. In the case of defaults received at originally scheduled match time, the players listed on the scorecard at original exchange receive the default, and are not eligible for substitution at other positions for this team match.

Case 3: Courts become unplayable due to moisture after the first point has been played in an individual match.

For this case, the match must be resumed from the exact point where it was stopped (i.e, same players, score, court position, court surface but not exact court, and service rotation) completed within two weeks of the original match date using rules 1A-1E Above. Matches will be completed line by line/position by position unless the team agrees to complete all matches at one time. All three positions on the team must complete their matches, and have them entered in Tennislink, within 15 calendar days from the day the match was originally scheduled.

MATCH CONFLICTS WITH OTHER EVENTS

Except in the event of weather, matches may not be played after the originally scheduled match date. Matches may be played up to 2 weeks in advance of the originally scheduled match for 4 reasons: (1) If the match date interferes with a league championship. (This includes Adult, Seniors, Super Seniors, Combo, and Mixed Doubles); (2) If the match date conflicts with a previously scheduled TEAM commitment to a tennis related event out-of-town, such as an adult tennis camp, or an out-of-state tennis tournament where the TEAM is competing; (3) If a majority of team members are affected by school holidays, and are not available to play (4) Special event deemed acceptable by the Local League Coordinator (i.e., tournament, tennis facility event, funeral, etc.). However, both captains must agree to this change, and permission must be granted by the Local League Coordinator, or else the match will be played as scheduled.

Two dates, minimum, with proposed match times should be given to the visiting captain to play the match early using the procedure given in rules MATCHES AFFECTED BY INCLEMENT WEATHER rules 1B-1C. If no agreement can be reached on a date to play, the Local League Coordinator has the final say. If it rains the day of the match, and no other day can be agreed upon to play, then the original date of the match stands.

AATL Policy on Paying for Teams to attend SCTA Championships

Qualifying teams (Local League Winners) will submit, with a list of players from their roster not going to playoffs, a check made out to the AATL with a total that includes \$20 for each player going to playoffs. The AATL will pay the team fee, and hold this check until State Championships are over. If a team participates at state playoffs, the check will be destroyed or returned to the captain at their request. If a team backs out after the deadline, and another AATL team is unable/unwilling to take their place, the check will be deposited into the AATL account to cover the fees forfeited per State rules.

For Teams advancing directly to Championships without local league play, the teams will pay their own championship registration fees. The local league team registration will consist of the Tennislink fee (\$3), and State head-tax (\$6) only. The AATL head tax charged for teams playing in local leagues will not be included in this registration fee.

AATL Policy for Granting League fee Refunds

Full refund (minus the USTA National Processing fee) of the league registration fee will be granted if a player requests to be removed from a team prior to the start of the league season for any reason. Requests for refunds will not be granted after the league season begins except in the case where a player moves out of the AATL local area before participating in any matches. It is a player's responsibility to submit refund requests to the AATL.

Other Situations:

If there is a situation that is not covered by these rules and regulations, refer to USTA Sectional and State League Rules and Regulations. The advice and recommendations of the South Carolina Mixed Doubles League Coordinator shall be secured by the LLC when deemed necessary. Questions regarding rules interpretations, refunds, Tennislink corrections shall be addressed by the AATL LLC: Eddie Estochen (edesto@bellsouth.net, 270-4170)

AATL Board Information:

Local League Coordinator: Eddie Estochen (edesto@bellsouth.net, 270-4170)

Deputy Local League Coordinator: Royce Borden (theborden5@aol.com) Treasurer: David Snyder CPA

Website Coordinator: David Hoel

Media & Promotions Coordinator: Dawn Calvert

Adult League Coordinator: Courtney Whitlow

Senior League Coordinator: Mo Garcia

Super Senior League Coordinator: Rita Greenquist