

AIKEN AREA TENNIS LEAGUE 2010 CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this league is Aiken Area Tennis League. Hereinafter referred to as AATL.

ARTICLE II: Purpose

This league is a non-profit organization to promote interest in tennis through sponsorship of competitive play for members within the Aiken Area boundaries, as defined by the United States Tennis Association-South Carolina (USTA-SC) District, for all USTA sanctioned Leagues. The AATL will publish and maintain specific local league rules of play and endorse high standards of sportsmanship during league play through enforcement of the latest revision of the USTA publications "Friend at Court", and "The Code".

ARTICLE III: Affiliation

The AATL shall be affiliated with the United States Tennis Association (USTA), USTA-Southern Section and USTA-SC District. By these affiliations, the AATL shall abide by the rules, principles, and obligations as set out in the rules and regulations of the USTA for USA League Tennis, as amended by both USTA-Southern and USTA-SC, as applicable to AATL. USTA-National (highest precedence), USTA-Southern Sectional, USTA-SC District, and AATL-Local defines the order of precedence for Rules and Regulations. If a conflict in a rule or regulation for different affiliations occurs, the highest precedence affiliation version applies.

ARTICLE IV: Membership

Any Aiken area person interested in participating in the AATL is eligible for membership through play in the current local league season. USTA membership is required for all league play and open to all individuals who reach eighteen (18) years of age prior to the end of the current league year.

ARTICLE V: Dues

Each member of AATL shall pay dues through the Tennislink feature of the USTA.com website as part of the registration process fee for each team joined during the league year. Dues are determined by the AATL Board prior to each season and are based on anticipated funding requirements of the local league. Dues are voted on by the AATL Board and are deemed approved by a majority vote. Dues may be refunded under special conditions as documented in the AATL Local League Rules which are approved by the USTA-SC, published separately at the beginning of each league year, and made available for the entire AATL membership via publication on the AATL website.

ARTICLE VI: Officers and AATL Board

USTA-SC will appoint a Local League Coordinator (LLC) to implement and administer the USTA League Tennis Program on the local level and have the authority to interpret the AATL Local League's rules, regulations, and procedures. The AATL Officers will consist of the LLC, Deputy LLC, Treasurer, and Past Local League Coordinator if applicable. The AATL League Board consists of the Officers, Level Coordinators, Website Coordinator, and Media/Promotions Coordinator. The LLC will have the authority to appoint additional Coordinators as needed to support AATL activities. The AATL Board will also have the authority to replace any Board member who resigns prior to the end of a league year. The AATL Board shall meet at the discretion of the Local League Coordinator, or at the special request of any Board member, given minimum notice of one week to contact Board and schedule meeting.

ARTICLE VII: Committees

1. Grievance Committee: The USTA League Tennis regulations require each Local League to have a Grievance Committee. The AATL Grievance Committee will be chaired by an AATL member and consist of two other non-board members. These members will be approved by the Local League Coordinator and will be representative of the different geographical areas of AATL membership. The committee members, and alternates, will be published in AATL Rules at the beginning of each year prior to the start of the Spring season.
2. Grievance Appeal Committee: If a decision of the Grievance Committee is appealed, it should be directed to the Local League Grievance Appeals Committee, which shall be appointed by the Local League Coordinator. The committee members and alternates will be published in AATL Rules at the beginning of each year prior to the start of the Spring season.

ARTICLE VIII: Meetings

Section 1. The annual AATL Captains meeting shall be held during the month of January, as determined by the Local League Board. The LLC shall designate the location for the annual meeting. Notification will be sent via email using a distribution list of captains maintained by the LLC.

Section 2. Special meetings of AATL may be called by the LLC at any time as needed. At all AATL membership meetings, those captains present shall constitute a quorum and a majority of those captains shall sanction the action of AATL membership. Captains shall be defined as individuals in good standing with the AATL and identified through the USTA.com website as captain of an AATL team for the most recent season of all AATL USTA-SC Sanctioned Leagues. Each member present shall represent one vote regardless of the number of teams captained.

Section 3. The AATL Board will meet twice per year, at a minimum, with additional meetings held at the request of any League Officer. These Board meetings will be limited to the League Board only. The minutes from these meetings will be reviewed by the Board prior to being published on aikentennis.com for viewing by the entire AATL membership.

Section 4. League Board—All members of the League Board are responsible for attending meetings called by the Local League Coordinator or Board Officers. If a member of the League Board is unable to attend a meeting, it is the responsibility of each member to vote in absentia given adequate explanation of the issue requiring a Board vote. The Deputy LLC or LLC will coordinate and document any absentia voting per the responsibilities documented in the following article.

ARTICLE IX: Responsibilities

Local League Coordinator:

- Promote and support the growth of USTA League Tennis including recruiting and training volunteers to assist with league support activities.
- Lead AATL general membership and Board meetings.
- Complete all necessary state required paperwork/activities to support league operation and AATL team advancement towards National Championships.
- Develop and distribute calendars to Board members that correspond to National, Southern and State events/deadlines.
- Administer and enforce all Rules and Regulations from USTA, USTA-Southern USTA-SC and provide final decisions related to AATL Rules and Regulations.
- Identify and resolve any local league issues.
- Be primary point of contact for entire AATL membership with regard to league scheduling, rule/regulation interpretations, facility usage coordination, and any other issue identified by AATL members.
- Provide information, completed forms and volunteer services, as requested by USTA-SC, to conduct USTA-SC state championships for all Leagues.
- Appoint committees or additional Coordinators deemed necessary to run the league including Grievance and Grievance Appeal Committees.
- Train Deputy LLC to become competent in all LLC responsibilities, and to meet USTA-SC State League Coordinator approval for replacement.
- Complete yearly revision of rules and regulations of the leagues, obtain approval by USTA-SC, and distribute to AATL prior to beginning of Spring season.
- Issue Mixed, Combo, Super Senior and Fall League specific rules, obtain USTA-SC approval if required, and publish to AATL membership prior to league play.
- Providing Board approved minutes to the Website Coordinator for publication on AATL website.
- Issue Miscellaneous mailings/communications to AATL membership as deemed necessary by the League Board.

Deputy Local League Coordinator:

- Assisting LLC at all meetings, including the taking of minutes.
- Responsible for helping to run the league programs and organize events to help grow the league. This includes helping with scheduling, making suggestions for growth opportunities and assisting members when possible.
- Other miscellaneous activities per the LLC.
- (If in training for LLC) All activities as part of training to become the USTA-SC approved LLC.

Past Local League Coordinator (if applicable):

- Assist LLC as requested.

Treasurer:

- Handling cash disbursements and deposits.
- Maintaining all accounts relative to AATL, including ordering checks, reconciling to bank statements and writing checks.
- Upon request, providing financial reports for review by the League Board.
- Coordinating and supporting 3-year Financial review..

Website Coordinator:

- Non-Voting Member of AATL Board
- Maintaining all portions of the AATL website as current.
- Publication of League Scheduling, Standings, Rules & Regulations, Facilities, AATL Board Information, and other information used to promote the AATL on the website.
- Maintaining an AATL Board page that includes the current Constitution, Meeting minutes, and Board/Committee/Coordinator Contact information.
- Submit estimated annual expenses for website maintenance to Treasurer.

Media/Promotions Coordinator:

- Non-Voting Member of AATL Board
- Advertisement (e.g., banners, newspaper ads, mass email and mailings) of AATL and AATL Activities all over the CSRA, and at all championships to which AATL teams advance.
- Liaison between AATL, AATA, and other tennis bodies within boundaries of Aiken Area (as defined by USTA-SC).
- Attend Aiken Community Tennis Association meetings.
- Provide input to USTA-SC Western Area Director in regard to all league related information.

Level Coordinator (1 year term for Adult, Senior, Super Senior):

- Interface with Age-Level captains to notify LLC of any desired Policy/Rules changes.
- Interface with Age-Level captains to notify LLC of any desired league scheduling changes.
- Assist with Funfreeze tournament.
- Attend AATL Board meetings, and serve as voting representative for Age group.

ARTICLE X

Committees

- The Local League Board – Made up of three officer, two Coordinator, and up to three Level Coordinator positions. See above for details.

- Local League Grievance Committee – appointed by LLC at the beginning of each year for 1-year term, and defined in AATL Rules for the various leagues throughout the year, published separately.
- Local League Grievance Appeals Committee - appointed by LLC at the beginning of each year for 1-year term, and defined in AATL Rules for the various leagues throughout the year, published separately.

ARTICLE XI

Financial

- Dues will be used for operation of the AATL. Any disbursement outside of what is considered normal operating expenses must be approved by the League Board. Examples of normal operating expenses include, but are not limited to, state fees incurred for teams progressing to the State Championships, registering captains, eligible player refunds, postage for mailings, supplies to support AATL publications, USTA-SC form completion, website maintenance, and Board meeting expenses.
- LLC and Deputy LLC (if necessary) travel expenses, not covered by the USTA-SC, shall be paid to attend USTA South Carolina meetings and Local League Coordinator meetings.
- AATL Board Members may be requested to attend State Championships for the purpose of serving as staff, committee member, or other support person representing the AATL. If such requests are made but not paid for by the USTA-SC, reasonable expenses for participants will be paid as the AATL Budget allows.
- Each Board Officer will maintain a record of spending activities and will present such record to the Treasurer. Expenditures paid through the AATL account will be monitored by the LLC and the Treasurer. Records kept by the LLC and the Treasurer will be compared and reconciled semi-annually, and a financial report with all account activity will be prepared for review by the Board Officers.
- Every three years, since 2009, AATL financial records will be examined by an independent financial reviewer every three years, and a summary document generated that includes all findings and observations. AATL funds will be used to pay the reviewer for generation of this document if compensation is required.

ARTICLE XII: Amendments

This Constitution will be reviewed, revised if necessary, and approved (majority vote) by the AATL Board annually. The yearly Constitution update will be made available to the AATL membership through publication on Aikentennis.com.

The AATL rules will be revised annually by the LLC, and prior to each league year (e.g., Mixed, Combo, Super Senior) with approval by the USTA-SC. AATL Board approval (majority vote) is required for new AATL specific rules added to an annual rules revision. USTA-SC requests for modification/revision of AATL Board approved local rules shall be performed by the LLC without approval by the AATL Board. The final version of league rules will be distributed to the AATL Board after USTA/SC approval.

ARTICLE XIII: Disclaimer

Any situation not covered by the AATL Local League Rules and Regulations will be decided using applicable USTA USA League Tennis Rules and Regulations, USTA-Southern Rules and Regulations and USTA-SC Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE XIV: Diversity Statement

The Aiken Area Tennis League welcomes all people who play, watch, support or enjoy the game of tennis in our facilities, events, tournaments, programs, membership and leadership and will not discriminate against any person on the basis of age, sex, race, ethnicity, creed, sexual orientation, physical condition or national origin. We recognize diversity is essential to achieve the mission of the USTA "To Promote and Develop the Growth of Tennis."

2010 AATL BOARD MEMBERS

Local League Coordinator
Deputy Local League Coordinator
Treasurer
Website Coordinator
Media/Promotions
Adult Coordinator
Senior Coordinator
Super Senior Coordinator

Eddie Estochen
Royce Borden
Michael Griffin
David Hoel (Non-Voting)
Dawn Calvert (Non-Voting)
Courtney Whitlow
Mo Garcia
Rita Greenquist