



CSRATA Local League Regulations
2018 Championship Year
Revised December 20, 2017

Major Regulation Changes for 2018

4.03 Invalid Matches

4.03A Match Default. A match consisting of 5 lines MUST have 3 lines played to be valid. If defaults lead to only 2 lines being played, the entire match is considered to be in default. A match consisting of 3 lines MUST have 2 lines played to be valid.

4.03B Excessive Defaults in a Season. If a team defaults an entire match or defaults a number of matches greater than or equal to the number of scheduled matches in a season the team, based on the USTA Georgia Adult League Committee's decision, may be removed from competition immediately. Should this occur in a two team league where only 3 team matches are scheduled the team will immediately be removed from competition.

4.03C Under either of the scenarios in 4.03B, if removed, all matches that the team has played or matches to be played shall be null and void and a grievance may be filed. The defaulting team may also be placed on probationary watch or not permitted to play as a team the following season.

4.03D If all teams in contention for the playoffs have already played the defaulting team in good faith, the matches stand as played. In the event a team is playing a Modified Schedule and defaults all lines of the season, the team matches that the defaulting team has played during the season will stand as played.

5.0 Scorecards, Order of Play and Substitutions

5.01B Generally the home team captain will enter the scores in TennisLink, however; either Captain may enter the scores. The opposing Captain will verify the match scores in TennisLink.

5.01C Match scores **MUST** be reported within 48 hours of the completed team match. Failure to comply may subject teams to grievance and/or double default.

1. Regulations

The CSRATA abides by the United States Tennis Association (USTA), USTA Southern and USTA Georgia Regulations. We encourage players to read and familiarize themselves with these regulations as well as Friend at Court, the USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations.

1.01 Amendments. The League Regulations may be amended by the CSRATA League Coordinator(s) only after approval by the Georgia State League Coordinator.

1.02 The Local League Coordinator(s) shall have the authority to interpret the CSRATA Local League Regulations.

1.03 **Questions and Answers.** At the end of this document, **Questions and Answers**, are interpretations or clarifications of the CSRATA Local League Regulations. All players are required to abide by these interpretations.

2. Player Eligibility and Participation

2.01 Player Eligibility

2.01A A player's USTA membership must be valid through the end of the season to include play-offs. The player's name must be listed on the team roster, as shown on TennisLink, prior to participation in any match.

2.01B The Local League Coordinator establishes and publicizes the deadline for submitting an initial roster. A team will be included in the league schedule if it consists of players eligible to compete at a specific

NTRP level of competition in accordance with the tables below and if it is submitted on TennisLink by the initial roster deadline.

2.01C If a player successfully appeals their rating after registering for a team, they must notify the Local League Coordinator to have the rating adjusted on their roster. Until the appealed rating is reflected on the roster, the player must play with the rating they registered with.

| Division | Age Group | Minimum Number of Players | Gender | NTRP Level |
|----------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|
| | 18 & Over 2.5 & 5.0+ | 5 | Same Gender | A player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level except for 18 & Over 5.0+ and 40 & Over 4.5 +. |
| | 18 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 | 8 | Same Gender | |
| | 40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+ | 8 | Same Gender | |

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| <p>Adult</p> | <p>55 & Over 65 & Over Straight Levels 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 OR Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>Same Gender</p> | <p>When using straight NTRP levels, a player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level.</p> <p>Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level.</p> <p>NTRP rating level difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0</p> <p>The minimum NTRP Level for: 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0</p> |
| <p>Mixed</p> | <p>18 & Over Straight Levels 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0 OR Straight Level 2.5 AND Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0 40 & Over Combined Levels 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0</p> | <p>Mixed 3 men 3 women</p> <p>Mixed initial rosters must consist of the minimum number of players who when partnered can play at the appropriate level.</p> | <p>Men and Women</p> | <p>When using straight NTRP levels, a player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level.</p> <p>Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level.</p> <p>NTRP rating level difference between partners shall not exceed 1.0</p> <p>The minimum NTRP Level for: 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0; 10.0 is 4.5</p> |

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| Combo | Combined Levels 5.0, 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5 | 6 men or 6 women Combo initial rosters must consist of the minimum number or players who when partnered can play at the appropriate level. | Men or Women | 5.0 – rating cannot exceed 2.5 5.5 – rating cannot exceed 3.0 6.5 – rating cannot exceed 3.5 7.5 – rating cannot exceed 4.0 8.5 – rating cannot exceed 5.0 9.5 – rating cannot exceed 5.5 Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team level |
|--------------|--|---|---------------------|--|

2.02 Player Participation

2.02A All players who reside within the local league boundaries in: Richmond, Columbia, McDuffie, Lincoln and Burke counties in Georgia; and Aiken, Edgefield and Barnwell counties in South Carolina are eligible to play in CSRATA leagues. Players from outside league boundaries may also be eligible to play in CSRATA leagues. USTA league matches can only play out of facilities within the league boundaries.

2.02B Players may be added to a roster up until the date on the Match Schedule of the team's second-to-last match regardless of when the match is actually played.

2.03 General

2.03A If an Adult League consists of two teams in a level of play, each team must maintain its roster with at least 40 per cent of its players at the designated NTRP level.

2.03B The maximum number of players allowed on any team is 14. The local league coordinator may authorize more or less players for teams with a modified match format.

3.0 Facilities Approved for League Play

Facilities must have a minimum of three courts, a working rest room, an on-site telephone (may be cellular) and working lights.

4.0 Schedules, Defaulted Matches, Invalid Matches and Competition Format

4.01 Schedules

4.01A Match schedules are published prior to the start of the season on TennisLink. At the end of the season incomplete matches or lines will result in a double default.

4.01B All matches must be played on the date, time and at the facility named on the Match Schedule unless otherwise approved by the Local League Coordinator. Rescheduled matches must be played at the facility named on the Match schedule unless otherwise approved by the Local League Coordinator.

4.01C General

4.01C(1) The captain must designate a team member to carry out the duties of the captain if they are not present at the match.

4.01C(2) The team designated as “home” shall supply an unopened can of USTA approved balls.

4.01C(3) Players shall provide their opponents a 5 to 10 minute warm-up even if a player is late.

4.02 Defaulted Matches

4.02A As a courtesy, the team captain should call the opposing team’s captain as soon as they know that any or all individual matches will be defaulted to prevent inconveniencing the opposing team’s players.

4.02B A 15 minute default clock begins at match time when a court is available and a player has not arrived on court.

4.03 Invalid Matches

4.03A Match Default. A match consisting of 5 lines MUST have 3 lines played to be valid. If defaults lead to only 2 lines being played, the entire match is considered to be in default. A match consisting of 3 lines MUST have 2 lines played to be valid.

4.03B Excessive Defaults in a Season. If a team defaults an entire match or defaults a number of matches greater than or equal to the number of scheduled matches in a season the team, based on the USTA Georgia Adult League Committee's decision, may be removed from competition immediately. Should this occur in a two team league where only 3 team matches are scheduled the team will immediately be removed from competition.

4.03C Under either of the scenarios in 4.03B, if removed, all matches that the team has played or matches to be played shall be null and void and a grievance may be filed. The defaulting team may also be placed on probationary watch or not permitted to play as a team the following season.

4.03D If all teams in contention for the playoffs have already played the defaulting team in good faith, the matches stand as played. In the event a team is playing a Modified Schedule and defaults all lines of the season, the team matches that the defaulting team has played during the season will stand as played.

4.04 Competition Format

4.04A Round Robin - Each NTRP level within a local league shall play at least one round robin competition wherein every team plays every other team. When any NTRP level consists of only two teams, each team is required to play a minimum of three team matches which is a triple round robin. When any NTRP level consists of only three teams, each team is required to play a minimum of four team matches which is a double round robin.

4.04B Random matches may be added to allow additional matches within a flight, additional randomly selected matches across flights and additional playoff rounds within a flight. To determine which teams are randomly selected the teams names shall be pulled from an envelope by a disinterested third party and witnessed by another disinterested third party.

4.04C Team Match. Each team match shall consist of such number of individual matches of singles, doubles, or any combination thereof as determined by the local league.

5.0 Scorecards, Order of Play, and Substitutions

5.01 Scorecards

5.01A Scorecards should be printed from TennisLink and lineups exchanged 10 minutes before the scheduled match time.

5.01B Generally the home team captain will enter the scores in TennisLink, however; either Captain may enter the scores. The opposing Captain will verify the match scores in TennisLink.

5.01C Match scores **MUST** be reported within 48 hours of the completed team match. Failure to comply may subject teams to grievance and/or double default. TennisLink will automatically confirm scores 48 hours after the team match is initially reported if not confirmed by the opposing captain. Once the scores are automatically confirmed in TennisLink the opposing team loses all rights to contest any score discrepancies.

5.02 Order of play

When the number of available courts is less than the number of team matches and the order of play sequence is optional, the home team captain will choose the order of play. For example: with 3 courts available the home team captain may choose to start #1 singles, # 1 doubles and # 2 doubles, or #1 singles, #2 singles and # 1 doubles.

5.03 Substitutions

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 on the line up. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted. If the substitution is made during the warm-up, the substitute player is entitled to a 5 to 10 minute warm-up.

6.0 Match Rescheduling

All make-up matches may be scheduled individually and do not have to be made-up as a team.

6.01 Valid reasons to reschedule a match.

6.01A Weather-related conditions

6.01B Players who have conflicts by participating in tournaments held within the CSRATA boundaries as defined in the Bylaws and entry is open to all CSRATA members including tournaments that are a progression from qualifier tournaments (e.g., The Banana Open).

6.01C Players who have conflicts by participating in USTA League Tennis Championships: State, Sectional and National.

6.01D A Captain has received pre-approval from the Local League Coordinator due to extreme and/or extraordinary circumstances.

6.01E Players who are USTA Officials and have conflicts when officiating sanctioned tournaments held within CSRATA boundaries.

6.02 Tournament related match rescheduling

6.02A Approval to reschedule will be granted only for the number of players competing at the approved event. No more positions will be rescheduled than the number of players competing at the event. Rescheduled matches must be played by the players attending the event.

6.02B Captains MUST notify the opposing prior to the scheduled match of the number of players involved and the specific lines that that will require rescheduling.

6.02C Matches must be played prior to the originally scheduled match or

6.02D Within 15 days of the original match date. If the make-up match is scheduled on day 15 and it is rained out then the make-up will roll to day 16 and so forth until the match is completed.

6.03 Weather related match rescheduling

6.03A The decision to reschedule a match should not be made until one and one half hours before the scheduled start time in the event of rain, lightning, severe cold (<32°F including the wind chill factor), or severe heat (>102°F). If both captains agree, the decision to reschedule a match may be made prior to one and one half hours before match time. Also, if in agreement, the match may be played during extreme temperatures. The official site for temperature verification is the Weather Channel or <http://www.weather.com>. Once a match begins it must be completed regardless of the temperature. Severe cold or heat temperatures cannot be enforced.

6.03B If inclement weather occurs after a match begins, completed individual matches stand as played. Incomplete matches resume with the same line-up and match score that existed when play was halted.

6.03C In the event that inclement weather forces the cancellation and rescheduling of a team match, unrestricted substitutions from the team roster may be made in any individual matches that have not begun. This includes moving a player from one position to another. Points awarded for defaults during the original written lineup exchange will stand. All players involved in such forfeits cannot participate in the rescheduled match. Defaults offered verbally prior to the original written line up exchange are nullified when the match is rescheduled due to inclement weather.

6.03D The time and place of the make-up match must be established within five days of the postponed match date. Once the make-up date and time has been established, the make-up match cannot be rescheduled for any reason other than inclement weather. Captains must clearly state their agreement to the postponed match date for example; “I agree to Sunday December 25 at 4:00 p.m”. If captains cannot successfully reschedule the match, the League Coordinator specifies the time and place for the make-up match. Defaults will be recorded for individual matches not completed at the specified time and date.

6.03E Make-up matches must be played within 15 days of the original match date. If the make-up match is scheduled on day 15 and it cannot be played due to inclement weather the Captains MUST notify the local league coordinator to request an extension. Otherwise, matches may be double defaulted.

6.03F Matches not completed by the seasons’ end date may be double defaulted.

6.04 Home captain responsibilities

6.04A Notify the home facility prior to the original date of a match that said match needs to be rescheduled. It is unnecessary to notify the home facility when a match is postponed due to inclement weather.

6.04B Reschedule the match in accordance with the make-up match policy of the facility at which the original match was scheduled.

6.04C Obtain the League Coordinator’s approval before changing a match location.

7.0 Scoring, Playoffs and Progression to State

7.01 Scoring

7.01A The team winning the majority of individual matches is awarded one point for “Team Score Wins”.

7.01B When teams have the same “Team Score Wins” and “Team Score Losses” at the end of a match or season, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so:

7.01B (1) Individual matches. Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.

7.01B (2) Sets. Loser of the fewest number of sets.

7.01B (3) Games. Loser of the fewest number of games.

7.01B (4) Head-to-Head. Winner of head-to-head match.

7.01B (5) Coin flip performed by the Local League Coordinator.

7.02 Playoffs

7.02A If time permits, a playoff will be held for NTRP levels with day and evening leagues between the first-place teams of each league season to determine the local league winner each year. If time constraints prevent a playoff the winner will be determined by the formula as stated in 6.03B(2).

7.02B The Local League Coordinator contacts the captains of the first-place teams to establish a neutral play-off location. The play-off matches must be completed within 15 days of the first-place teams’ last match. For example: If there are fall day and evening leagues and spring day and evening leagues; there would be a playoff between the fall day and spring day first place teams to determine a day winner. There would be a playoff between the fall evening and spring evening first-place teams to determine an evening winner.

7.03 Progression to State and Entry Fees

7.03A NTRP Levels with Day and Evening League

7.03A (1) If for fall and spring seasons two berths are received for each season (4 total berths) then each league will receive one berth for each season without playoffs. For example: Fall day and evening will each receive a berth and spring day and evening will each receive a berth.

7.03A(2) If three berths are received, one berth is awarded to the playoff winner of the day league, one berth is awarded to the playoff winner of the evening league and the third berth is awarded to team with the next best record in either the day or evening league.

7.03B All Other Leagues

7.03B (1) If the same team wins both seasons for an NTRP level, or the first place team declines the berth, the second berth is awarded to the second place team with the most Team Score Wins from either season.

7.03B (2) If the second place team plays an unequal number of team matches, the second berth is awarded to the second place team with the least percentage of Individual loses from either season. The formula is: The team with the least number of Actual Individual Losses divided by the number of Possible Individual Losses.

7.03B (3) If the same team without identical rosters qualifies for a berth from both seasons, that team chooses which season's roster represents our league at the Georgia State Championships.

7.03C Two-Team Leagues. Two-team leagues in both seasons will only receive one berth to State Championships and the berth will be awarded to the team with the most team wins, or if an unequal number of matches were played, the berth will determined using the formula in 6.03B(2).

7.03D Area Teams. The USTA Georgia may authorize area teams at a given NTRP level with no local competition during the Championship Year if there is an opportunity to progress to a State Championship. These teams qualify for State Championships by playing against an area team from another Community Tennis Association (CTA). The 65 and Over and Combo 55 and Over may advance directly. All team's MUST come from the season prior to the State Championships, the players MUST use their Year End Rating and the team MUST be registered during the designated registration period and MUST meet the minimum number of player requirement.

7.03E Combo State Champion Move Up/Split Up. The Southern Combo Doubles Georgia State Regulations 2.44A (1) – (3) shall apply to CSRATA Combo teams.

7.03F Wildcards Procedures.

7.0F(1) If the League receives a wildcard and all first place teams are progressing to State Championships then the wildcard will be offered to the second place team from either season with the best Individual Match Win/Loss Percentage record using the formula in 6.03B(2).

7.03F(2) If the best second place team declines, the second place team from the other season will be offered the wildcard.

7.03F(3) If both second place teams decline the wildcard will be offered to the best third place team and so on.

7.03G Entry Fees to State and Sectional Championships

7.03G(1) State Entry Fees. The CSRATA will pay the State entry fee for the teams who: have accepted a berth to the Championships, and/or (subject to fund availability) one wildcard team for each flight. Other teams who accept a wildcard must pay for their own entry fees.

7.03G(2) Sectional Entry Fees. The CSRATA will pay the Sectional entry fees and (providing the Championship is held outside the CSRATA boundaries) a travel allowance of \$400.00 to team advancing to Sectional Championships.

7.03G(3) Tournament Withdrawal Policy. Teams that withdraw within twenty-one days of the start of the tournament and the posting of the draw will reimburse CSRATA the state entry fee. If a team does not reimburse the entry fees a grievance may be filed against all members on the team information sheet which could result in suspension of all USTA league play until the fee is reimbursed.

8.0 Grievance Procedures, Members of the Grievance Committee, Grievance Appeals Committee Members and Local League Rules Committee Members

8.01 Grievance Procedures.

8.01A The USTA National Regulation Section 3.0 shall apply to the CSRATA Local Leagues.

8.01B The Grievance and Grievance Appeal process is administered by the Local League Coordinator(s) as well as the appointment of the said Committee members.

8.02C Grievance procedures and forms can be found at csratennis.com.

8.02 Members of the Grievance and Grievance Appeals Committee

8.02A The Grievance Committee and Grievance Appeals Committee members are subject to change to avoid conflicts of interest and/or the appearance of conflicts.

8.02B Grievance Committee. Kyle Perry (Chair-person), Kim Frank and Yvonne Harrison.

8.02C Grievance Appeals Committee. Darren Meadows (Chair-person), Nancy Crawford and Laurie Haynie.

8.03 Members of the Local League Rules Committee: Gail Connor (Chair-Person), Linda Reich and Cathy Moseley.

9.0 Questions and Answers, Interpretations Championship Year 2018

4.0 Schedules, Defaulted Matches, Invalid Matches and Competition Format

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| <p>Why is it important that the matches be played at the time, date and facility named on the match schedule?</p> | <p>This is the best way to ensure all team matches are fairly played. We pay for court use and abiding by the date, time and place helps to ensure proper fiscal accountability. Also, there are many factors that are considered when schedules are developed. For example there are dates and times when courts may not be scheduled due to Adult and Junior tournaments as well as facility policies and activities.</p> <p><i>See Regulation 4.01B</i></p> |
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6.0 Match Rescheduling

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| <p>I have 2 players going to State Championships on a weekend my team is scheduled to play locally. How many lines can I reschedule?</p> | <p>Two lines may be rescheduled. Those may be 2 singles, 2 doubles or a combination.</p> <p><i>See Regulation 6.02B</i></p> |
| <p>Two local teams from the same flight are going to State and taking 2 players each. How many lines can be rescheduled?</p> | <p>Each team may reschedule 2 lines. Those may be 2 singles, 2 doubles or a combination.</p> <p><i>See Regulation 6.02B</i></p> |

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| <p>A team takes 2 players to State but still can field enough players to field 5 lines. They only field 3/5 lines. Is this taking advantage of the rule?</p> | <p>No. This rule gives both teams the opportunity to play the player or combination of players that they want to play. Neither team is penalized because players choose to play in Championships.</p> <p><i>See Regulation 6.02B</i></p> |
| <p>An e-mail is sent to the opposing Captain suggesting a date to schedule a make-up match. The opponent replied. "Looks good I guess" but did not show for the match. Did the reply adequately commit the opponent to the make-up date?</p> | <p>No. A clear statement of agreement is required. "I agree to Sunday, July 18 at 2:00 p.m." is an example of a clear statement. Some examples of unclear statements are: Looks good, I guess, Got it. The Captain who sent the e-mail is not entitled to receive the default.</p> <p><i>See Regulation 6.03D</i></p> |
| <p>A make-up match was rained out. Does the match now have 15 days to be completed?</p> | <p>No, make up matches must be played within 15 days of the original match date.</p> <p><i>See Regulation 6.03E</i></p> |

Lucy Anderson and Barbara Leisey
Local League Coordinators