

USTA Atlanta Junior Team Tennis Registration Information Winter 2024 Season (January 2024 – March 2024)

Winter 2024 League Information

Age Groups/Levels:

Division	Level	Court	<u>Ball</u>	Racquet
8U	BEG INT	36'	RED	Must be 23" or smaller
10U	BEG INT	60'	ORANGE	Must be 25" or smaller
10U	ADV	78'	GREEN	
12U	BEG INT	78'	GREEN	
12U	ADV	78'	YELLOW	
14U	BEG INT ADV	78'	YELLOW	
18U	BEG INT ADV	78'	YELLOW	

- <u>Determining Level of Team</u>: The junior ratings system (JNTRP) and tournament points/standings are
 used to determine play levels for Junior Team Tennis programs for 12U, 14U and 18U. 10U level
 eligibility is determined by Playtracker guidelines. It is very important that you view the <u>attached</u>
 document for specific level eligibility requirements.
- Team Match Format:
 - 12U/14U/18U- Teams are coed with a minimum of 4 boys and 4 girls per team. Each team match consists of 1 line of boys singles, 1 line of girls singles, 1 line of boys doubles, 1 line of girls doubles, and 1 line of mixed doubles in a round robin format. Scoring formats: 12U 14U play best 2 out of 3 short sets with a match tiebreaker for the third set, and 18U play best 2 out of 3 sets with a match tiebreaker for the third set.
 - 10U- *NEW* 4 player minimum; gender neutral (any combination of boys or girls). Each team match consists of 2 lines of singles and 1 line of doubles. Scoring format: 10U play the best-of-three short sets; the first to win four games wins a set. If the players split the first two sets, the third set is a 7 point tiebreak. No-ad scoring for 10U.
 - 8U- 4 player minimum; gender neutral (any combination of boys or girls). Each team match consists of 4 lines of singles (boy v. boy, girl v. girl, or boy v. girl). Scoring format: 8U plays best two-out-of-three games; each game is a 7 point tiebreak. The first to win two games wins the match.
- Registration Dates: Registration is open October 23rd, with the deadline for team registration on December 1st. TennisLink will not allow for late team registrations. We will reopen for add-ons and post schedules on December 15th. Players can then be added to teams up until the last match of the local round robin season.
- <u>League Registration Fee (per player)</u>: The league fee is \$24.15 per player. All registration is done online in TennisLink. TennisLink will show the \$21.00 local league fee and a \$3.15 TennisLink fee. **USTA Atlanta only receives the local fee portion. USTA Atlanta does not issue refunds.**



- SafePlay Process: As a captain, you MUST complete the SafePlay process before you will have access to create a team in TennisLink. If you are a returning captain, you can go to https://usta.com/safeplay to check your status. Please check your expiration date as you will be LOCKED OUT of TennisLink if you don't renew before the expiration date. To complete the SafePlay process, follow the steps here: https://customercare.usta.com/hc/en-us/articles/360041617612-How-to-Become-Safe-Play-Approved-Renew. You must be approved before you can create a team in TennisLink and the screening approval can take up to 10 business days. We cannot guarantee team entry if the screening is not submitted with enough time for clearance and team submission.
- <u>Schedule Availability</u>: Schedules will be available on TennisLink by December 15th. After schedules are posted, captains will receive an introductory letter from his or her coordinator.
- <u>League Start Date</u>: Play begins Saturday, January 6th at 1:00 pm. For most divisions, teams will be scheduled to have 6 or 7 team matches during the local round robin season.
- <u>Playoffs and Local City Finals</u>: Top teams in each flight will qualify for the playoff bracket in their respective division level. The first round of playoffs will be held February 24 with finals day on March 2. *Divisions with one flight will not advance to playoffs/finals.
- Georgia JTT State Championships and Beyond: City Champions (and some select City Finalists/Semifinalists) will be invited to attend the 2024 Junior Team Tennis State Championships in Macon the weekend of July 19-21, 2024. *8U does not advance past the local level. State Champions at the INT and ADV levels will have the opportunity to advance to the 2024 Sectional Championships (Aug 31-Sept 2 in Mobile, AL). Teams will not advance further than the Sectional Championships.

Team Requirements

- <u>Forming a Team</u>:12U/14U/18U Teams need at least 4 boys and 4 girls registered by the deadline. 10U/8U, teams need at least 4 eligible players (boys and/or girls). Teams needs to meet the level and age requirements and should double check eligibility before determining the level of the team.
- Home Facility Requirements: Teams are required to provide two courts of the same surface at their location. All facilities must be located in Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, or Forsyth County. Captains at a new facility should contact USTA Atlanta (770-416-4333) to verify your facility is eligible for the USTA Junior Team Tennis program. The following information is required: facility name, address, number of courts. The team cannot register until the facility is processed. Lights are required if a make-up match takes place during the evening. Home teams hosting 10U play must have courts prepared for 60ft play (tape, chalk, painter's tape and permanent lines are permissible). If you would like to update your JTT court availability, please email Amanda Hunt (Amanda@ustaatlanta.com) with the facility and number of courts available for Junior Team Tennis by December 1st. This will help when scheduling numerous teams at a facility.
- <u>Captain Information</u>: Captains must have a current email address in order to receive league information throughout the season. As captain, you are responsible to get all USTA Atlanta information to players. Please ENSURE that your e-mail and phone number are correct on TennisLink.

Player Requirements

- <u>Level Eligibility</u>: It is very important that you view the <u>attached document</u> for specific level eligibility requirements.
- Age Eligibility: USTA Junior Team Tennis is designed for kids ages 5-18. All players participating in the Winter 2024 season must remain age eligible through August 31st of the 2024 Championship Year (September 1, 2023 August 31, 2024). *8U-eligibility rules are not the same because 8U teams do not advance past the local level. Players on 8U teams must remain 8 or younger through the winter season (through February 17).



- <u>USTA Membership</u>: USTA junior memberships are now FREE. Players will still need to obtain/renew a
 membership at <u>www.membership.usta.com</u> or by calling 1-800-990-8782 but there will no longer be a
 membership fee for junior players. If you have any questions or need to update your membership
 information please call the above number or email <u>customercare@usta.com</u>.
- Captains should check with all players before registering them for the team. Once payment has been
 made no refunds will be issued. We recommend that each parent be responsible for registering
 their child on a team.
- If you need additional players for your team, please visit the database of players looking for a team on our website at http://www.ustaatlanta.com/findateam.

Other Important Information

- Teams that are formed outside of the USTA Atlanta boundaries (outside of DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, and Forsyth) are welcome to participate in USTA Atlanta Junior Team Tennis (if approved).
 However, teams outside USTA Atlanta boundaries may be required to travel to more (if not all) matches, and will be grouped with the teams in closest proximities as possible.
- USTA Atlanta will make every effort to group teams within the closest proximities possible. Just because your team is closer to one facility does not necessarily mean you will be grouped in that subflight.
- TennisLink allows captains to view the "work in progress" that USTA Atlanta has done when putting together schedules. In most cases, teams are shifted around in order to finalize other divisions.
 PLEASE NO PHONE CALLS prior to schedules being posted.



Winter JTT 2024 Level Eligibility Requirements

Beginning Fall 2023, the SJTTL programs in USTA Southern will use the ITF-World Tennis Number to promote level based play across the Section.

- 40-1 scale, with 40 (minimum) being a beginner player and 1 (maximum) being an elite professional.
- Players will have a separate WTN for singles and doubles rating. The registration platform only
 considers a player's Singles rating at time of registration.
- Players with a low confidence factor will have the option to sign up in any division.
- Players can locate their rating as well as JTT Results within their usta.com profile.
- Junior Rating Search (tennislink)
- Junior Player Search
- Request to change WTN Number

The rating bands for SJTTL are as follows:

Division	Eligible WTN Range	Ineligible WTN Range
12 & Under Beginner	40-31	30.9-1
12 & Under Intermediate	40-29	28.9-1
12 & Under Advanced	40-1	NA
14 & Under Beginner	40-29	28.9-1
14 & Under Intermediate	40-27	26.9-1
14 & Under Advanced	40-1	NA
18 & Under Beginner	40-27	26.9-1
18 & Under Intermediate	40-23	22.9-1
18 & Under Advanced	40-1	NA

In 12U divisions, a player may play Green or Yellow based on PlayTracker regulations/allowances. For more information, please visit: https://netgeneration.usta.com/us-en/the-net-generation-playtracker.html

In 10U divisions, a player may play Green or Orange based on PlayTracker regulations/allowances. For more information, please visit: https://netgeneration.usta.com/us-en/the-net-generation-playtracker.html



CREATING A TEAM

- As a captain, you MUST complete the SafePlay process before you will have access to create a team
 in TennisLink. If you are a returning captain, you can go to https://usta.com/safeplay to check your
 status. Please check your expiration date as you will be LOCKED OUT of TennisLink if you don't
 renew before the expiration date. To complete the SafePlay process, follow the steps here:
 https://customercare.usta.com/hc/en-us/articles/360041617612-How-to-Become-Safe-Play-Approved-Renew.
- In order to "Create a Team", you will need to become a coach/manager in TennisLink.
- If you need to become a JTT captain, follow these steps:
- Go to TennisLink http://tennislink.usta.com/teamtennis Then scroll to the bottom of the page and click on 'Become a Coach/Manager'.
- You will follow the necessary prompts depending on whether you have a USTA number or need to create an account. (There is no cost to create an account.)
- Once you have completed these steps, you can register your team.
- All Captains must create a new team number each season. This step creates a team number and registers the team.
 - Log in to TennisLink as captain (http://tennislink.usta.com/TEAMTENNIS/Secure/logon.aspx?Caller=Login)
 - Click on "Register for a Team", and then click "Click here to create a new team"
 - Select Type of Program (Jr)
 - Select Section (Southern)
 - Select District (Georgia)
 - Select Area (USTA Atlanta Juniors)
 - o Click "Go"
 - Select appropriate program.
 - Make a note of your new team number.
 - Create team name (Facility name Captain's last name)
 - Select your Home Court Facility.
 - Select Division and check affiliations.
 - Enter Co-captain Information, if applicable.
 - Click on "Save"! The system will not create the team unless you hit save.

REGISTERING A PLAYER

- *Double check the <u>winter eligibility guidelines</u> for each level before registering your child to a team. No refunds will be given to ineligible players that register to a team.
- Go to Jr. Team Tennis TennisLink home page http://tennislink.usta.com/TeamTennis/Main/Home.aspx
- Click on "Have a Team ID?".
- Enter the Team # of the team you are registering your child for.
- Enter in your child's USTA membership #.
- Complete payment information.
- Check the information carefully. If you register your child incorrectly you will forfeit the TennisLink fee.
- Click "Submit".



CHECKING YOUR TEAM ROSTER

- Go to http://tennislink.usta.com/teamtennis.
- Sign in as a Coach/Coordinator with your email address.
- Under "My Options", click on "Teams".
- Don't see your team? Be sure the championship year is designated as 2024.
- Click on the notebook icon to the right of your team.
- Select "Player Roster."
- This is also where you will view match schedule, get scorecards, etc.