USTA ATLANTA

Important Reminders/Updates for 2027 League Year

Section II.5A

In order to start the team match, complete written lineups showing all individual matches must be simultaneously exchanged.

If the captain will not be there at start time, they should send the lineup with a player who is playing in the first time slot.

If Team A will not provide a written lineup within the default time, Team B may claim a default of the positions that were to start first. The remaining positions will play at the next scheduled time(s), provided a written lineup has now been exchanged.

Section V. Inclement Weather

1) Inclement weather is defined as precipitation or severe weather (temperatures below *32* degrees or above 95 degrees for the 18 & Over and 40 & Over league, and below *35* or above *95* degrees for the 55 & Over and 65 & Over league (as determined by a weather app on the home team captain's phone for the zip code of the location of the match). Wind chill and heat index are not a factor in determining temperature.

11) For makeup matches scheduled on the designated makeup day and time, if the home team offers more than two courts to complete the match, the opposing team must accept and utilize the additional courts.

Section IV.4B and 4C

B. For team matches or rescheduled matches scheduled within 2.5 hours of a facility's posted closing time, the home team should notify the visiting team of the closing time prior to match day.

C. If a facility closes and such notice was not provided, the visiting team is not required to interrupt or reschedule play. If this occurs, the visiting team has the option to:

a) Continue play at their home courts or

b) Declare a default against the home team and win the uncompleted individual matches

Comment: When scheduling a team match or rescheduled match, the home team should notify the visiting team in advance if the facility is expected to close within 2.5 hours of the scheduled start time. This notice should be provided when finalizing the match date and time. If notice has been given or if a match begins more than 2.5 hours before closing time teams should refer to rule IV.6 if the facility closes.

Section IV.5

5) If the lights go out during an evening match and cannot be re-lit in a reasonable amount of time (10 minutes), or if the facility closes (reference rule IV.4.C above), the match can be rescheduled using the makeup deadlines.

USTA ATLANTA

TRI-LEVEL LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS – USTA Atlanta

LEAGUE YEAR 2027 (Summer 2026 - Spring 2027)

THESE RULES MUST BE PRESENT AT ALL LEAGUE MATCHES

USTA Atlanta is a non-profit organization whose mission is the growth and development of tennis in the Atlanta area. We utilize the programs of the United States Tennis Association (USTA), USTA Southern, USTA Georgia and our own local programs to carry out this mission. We offer teams the opportunity to advance to the State, Sectional and National Championships.

All players participating in the USTA League Program, as a condition of their participation, agree to abide and be bound by the USTA Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Orders; the National, Sectional, District and Local USTA League Regulations; and the standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship.

The USTA National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) is the official system to determine computer ratings for players who participate in the USTA League Program.

TennisLink is the official system for registering teams, reporting scores and providing standings.

The Local League Coordinator for USTA Atlanta is the person who implements and administers all USTA League Programs.

Competition will be played in round robin format. USTA Atlanta is permitted to add matches to a round robin to give more matches to teams in a season. Teams may play some (but not all) teams in their group twice, which is defined as a Modified Schedule. In this instance, USTA Atlanta will have TennisLink randomly assign the additional matches prior to the season starting.

SECTION I. ELIGIBILITY

1) **TEAMS**

A. Teams must have sufficient players to field a full lineup if everyone is available. For example, a team in a league playing three doubles positions must have at least six players who would fill a Tri-Level lineup.
B. Teams must play out of facilities within the geographic boundaries of USTA Atlanta, namely Cobb, DeKalb, Forsyth, Fulton, Douglas, Paulding (east of Highway 61 only) and Gwinnett counties.

2) **PLAYERS**

A. All players must use their current NTRP rating when registering. If the player does not have one, the player must self-rate using the NTRP guidelines. Failure to provide accurate information will subject the player and/or the captain to sanctions and disqualifications.

Comment: An NTRP grievance may be filed against a player and/or captain who commits or condones entering at one level when their actual skill level is at the top of the next NTRP level or higher. *See Section IX.*

B. Players must play at or above their NTRP rating.
C. **Once a computer rating has been generated, it will remain valid for 3 years for players under age 60 and for 2 years for players age 60 and over.**
D. A player may play on more than one team in the same season provided they are:
   i) At a different level if playing in the same league, or
   ii) In different leagues.
E. All players shall have reached the minimum age for the league in which they wish to play prior to or during the calendar year in which such player participates in their first local league match. All players must be 18 years of age prior to participating in their first league match.
F. All players must be paid members of the USTA through the respective season of play including play-offs.
G. Subject to the remainder of this Section I.2.F, eligible players should be added to a roster prior to a regularly scheduled team match. Players must be added to a roster no later than 11:59 PM on the night before the last scheduled match of the regular season.

Comment: In the event of matches rescheduled due to inclement weather, a player may be added prior to their participation in such match. (EXCEPTION: If the last scheduled match of the season is rained out, players cannot be added after the scheduled match date).

SECTION II. TEAM CAPTAINS' DUTIES

1) It is the captain's responsibility to have each team member thoroughly read and understand current Local USTA League Regulations prior to the start of league competition.

2) Captains must have a current email address in order to receive league information throughout the season.

3) **PREPARING LINEUPS**

A. **Team members shall not have a higher NTRP rating than the maximum NTRP rating of the division in which they are competing, however players may play up one NTRP level. Example: a 3.5 player may play in the 4.0 position, but a 3.0 player may not play in the 2.5 position**

B. In order for a player to be eligible to progress to local playoffs**, that player must have played once during the regular season on the qualified team for 18 & Over and 40 & Over**; i.e. from the first match through the last regularly scheduled match of the local season. Receiving a default can only be counted as one of the matches played.

4) **SCHEDULING MATCHES**

A. The home team captain should contact the visiting team captain at least **three days** prior to a scheduled match to provide information and make arrangements for the match. If the captain listed on the schedule will not be present at the match, they should notify the opposing captain as to who will be acting in their stead, and give the opposing captain the phone number of that person. (We do not allow a team to rotate captains on a weekly basis)

B. The captains may agree on the order of play. However, if no prior agreement is made, the order of play will be as follows:

Format	Start time	+1 hr	+2 hrs
3 dbls	1 dbls, 2 dbls	3 dbls	

For leagues playing 3 doubles; #1 doubles and #2 doubles at the scheduled start time, 3 doubles must be present one hour later.

C. It is acceptable to use more than two courts at a time, *provided* both captains agree. Once agreement has been made, all participants must be present at the agreed upon match time, or default. Defaults may not be called if additional courts become available and their use was not agreed upon beforehand.

D. With the agreement of BOTH captains, and with the certainty of court availability:
   i) The team match or individual match may be changed at an earlier or ***later*** start time on the same scheduled day. The home captain is responsible for ensuring court availability.
   ii) The team match or individual match may be changed to an earlier day and time during the regular season schedule.

For any changes in a team or individual match start time/day or any playing order changes that deviate from the default order to be official, **BOTH** captains must agree in writing regarding the rescheduled date and time. Once a time, day and location to play early has been agreed upon in writing by the parties involved, that match MAY NOT BE POSTPONED for any reason other than inclement weather. USTA Atlanta strongly suggests

that once both captains have agreed in writing on an "official" rescheduled date and time for the match, they notify their **Level Representative** via email.

E. If a team knowingly begins a team match, including a match rescheduled for inclement weather, without a full complement of players for the lineup (e.g. six players rather than eight) they may choose which line to default. The captain may choose whether to default singles, doubles, or a mixture. However, in each of doubles and singles, the lowest position must be defaulted first.

5) **MATCH DAY**

A. **In order to start the team match, complete written lineups showing all individual matches must be simultaneously exchanged.** If the captain will not be there at start time, they should send the lineup with a player who is playing in the first time slot.

Comment: If Team A will not provide a written lineup within the default time, Team B may claim a default of the positions that were to start first. The remaining positions will play at the next scheduled time(s) provided a written lineup has now been exchanged.

B. The default time is 15 minutes after the scheduled start time of each individual match. No default may be claimed if a court has not become available. If players agree to play the match after the default time, the match result stands. No default may be claimed after the fact. Any player who arrives after the scheduled start time but prior to the expiration of the 15-minute default time will be allowed a warm-up not to exceed five minutes after expiration of the 15-minute default time.

Example: The scheduled start time for Line #3 doubles for the Tri-Level 18 & Over Women's Fall League is 2:30 PM. If a court is available at 2:30 PM., the default time for this match is 2:45 PM. However, if the court becomes available after the 2:45 PM default time, all players must be present and ready to step on court, else that player will be defaulted.

Comment: All players must be on the court, not merely at the facility preparing food, going to the bathroom, stretching, etc., no later than 15 minutes after the scheduled start time. Courtesy requires a prompt start time and a brief warm-up. League rules allow a default of the individual match if players are not on court within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time.

Once the teams exchange lineups no movement of players is allowed. **WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MATCHES RESCHEDULED BY INCLEMENT WEATHER, MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS ALREADY LISTED ON THE LINEUP TO ANOTHER POSITION IS NOT ALLOWED.** Points may be reversed for violation of this rule.

Example: After written lineups have been exchanged, if one player from the line 1 doubles is over 15 minutes late and the court is available, Line 1 doubles has defaulted. All other matches are to be played as originally listed on the lineup.

If during the match it is discovered that a player(s) is on the wrong court in an individual match before the first game of all matches affected has been completed, players are to go to the correct courts and begin the matches over. If the discovery occurs after the first game is completed, the matches will be completed as started and count as matches played in good faith.

C. For each team match, a majority of the individual matches must actually be played to constitute a valid team match. If a majority of the individual matches cannot be played, both captains must agree on what individual matches, based on the number of players present, or to be present, can be played to constitute a valid team match. Once that is determined, both captains will re-exchange scorecards.

If both captains cannot come to an agreement on what lines will be played to constitute a valid team match, based on the number of players present, or to be present, then the following individual matches will be assigned in sequential order to be played:

Format	Required Matches in sequential order	Minimum # of Players Required for Each Team in Valid Team Match
3 doubles	#1 and #2 doubles	4

If a team shows up without the minimum number of players required for the team match based on the number of players present, or to be present, it will be a full team default in favor of the opponents.

D. A **substitute** is defined as a player not listed on the original lineup. A substitute can be used **only if:**
   i) a player listed on the original lineup does not arrive within the 15-minute default time
   ii) a player is injured or becomes ill prior to the start of the individual match.
   iii) a doubles pair has an ineligible rating for the league being played, e.g. a 4.0 and a 3.5 playing 7.0 mixed doubles.
   iv) a match is rescheduled by inclement weather.

Comment: A substitute cannot be used if a player originally listed on the line up arrives at the match and no longer wishes to play or has time to play.

6) **SCORECARDS**

A. Captains should print a scorecard from TennisLink before each match to use for lineup exchange. **All eligible players will be listed at the bottom of each scorecard**; therefore, if you have additions, printing the scorecards before each match will avoid confusion with the opposing team.

B. Scores must be entered within 24 hours of the completion of a match. The winning captain is responsible for ensuring that scores are entered and the losing captain is responsible for confirming the scores. Deliberately entering or confirming incorrect scores destroys the integrity of the ratings system and any captains found doing so will be suspended from USTA league play. Score confirmation or score disputes must be made within 48 hours of score entry. **Scores for the last match of the season must be entered within two hours of the completed team match in order to confirm winners and develop playoff draws, or the match may be double-defaulted.**

C. Captains should keep a hard copy of each of their scorecards.

SECTION III. FORMAT OF PLAY AND SCORING

1) **TEAM MATCH FORMAT**

A. Each team match consists of the following individual matches:

Adult 18 & Over: 3 doubles

Adult 40 & Over: 3 doubles

B. **The team winning the majority of individual matches shall be awarded one team point.** TennisLink standings will determine division winners.

C. Each division of an NTRP level shall play a round robin format in which each team will play every other team a minimum of one time.

D. Defaults (defaults) and disqualifications shall be scored according to USTA League Regulations.

2) INDIVIDUAL MATCH FORMAT

A. The warm-up must be accomplished in a maximum of ten minutes, including serves**. Do not practice returns of serve during the warm-up.**

B. In the 18 & Over and 40 & Over leagues, matches will be best 2 out of 3 sets with a 3rd set 10-point Coman tiebreak in lieu of a full third set. A 2 minute rest period is allowed between the 2nd and 3rd sets. No coaching is permitted.

Comment: Coaching is considered to be communication, advice, or any instruction of any kind and by any means, which is either audible or visible to a player.

Comment: Communication between spectators and players should be in a language understood by all players present, or it may be considered coaching.

C. Tie-breaks will use the Coman tiebreak format in which ends are changed after the first point and then after every four points.

D. **Cell phones, pagers, fitness trackers (e.g., Fitbits), smart watches, and other electronic devices.** Cell phones and pagers should be turned off during the entirety of the match. Fitness trackers and smart watches may be worn during a match. However, if a player suspects an opponent is receiving communications of any kind (other than fitness data) via the fitness tracker or smart watch, the suspecting player may ask the opponent to remove such fitness tracker or smart watch and to discontinue monitoring of the device during the match.

Comment: If a player's phone rings on the court during a point, an opponent may claim the point in the game on the basis of a deliberate hindrance. Exception: first responders may receive phone calls without penalty; first responders should alert their opponents to the possibility of receiving calls prior to the match start. Any other phone calls are not permitted during the match.

SECTION IV. MATCH REQUIREMENTS

1) **COURTS**

A. Each team must guarantee the use of at least two playable courts (same surface, same location) as home courts. Once a team has selected its official home facility in TennisLink, all home matches shall be played at that facility.
B. Home teams" will have the choice of court surface for which they wish to play their home matches. The use of tennis-related blended lines are permitted on courts used for local league matches. The use of other lines for another sport, such as pickleball are not permitted on courts used for local league matches.
C. Home teams must have restrooms with running water and flushable, functioning toilets that remain unlocked for the entirety of match play. Porta Potties are not approved restrooms. If restrooms are out of order, the visiting team must be given the option to provide courts. If the visiting team cannot provide courts, then it goes back to the home team to find nearby courts with acceptable restroom facilities.
D. If the home team facility has special requirements for guests entering their facility, such as: a specific dress code, the signing of a waiver or requiring the collection of personal information (photo ID, email address, phone number, etc.) captains must inform the visiting captain in advance.
E. Any player may deem a court unsafe for play. Once play has started, a court cannot be deemed unfit for play unless there is a change in court condition.
F. Courts with lights are not required for daytime leagues.

Comment: As a courtesy to your opponents, you should advise them in advance if using clay courts.

2) The home team must pay required court and/or guest fees for visiting team players. This includes indoor fees. In case of a make-up match or rain on the scheduled play day, the visiting team *may* share the cost, provided it is discussed and **agreed to** before the visiting team arrives.

Comment: The home team does not have to pay parking fees for visiting teams. As a courtesy, the captain at a facility where parking charges are imposed should inform the visiting captain in advance.

3) If the home team cannot provide two courts at the home team facility, the visiting team has the first option of supplying courts for the match. If the visiting team is unable to provide courts, the responsibility reverts to the home team which must provide courts within a reasonable distance (a few miles). If no courts are available, the away team may choose whether to reschedule under the inclement weather rules or to take a default of any or all lines.

Comment: Court unavailability: If the home team knows 24 hours in advance that its courts are likely to be unavailable, (e.g. the facility has clay courts that are waterlogged or a freeze is forecast for the night before the match, or courts are covered in ice or snow, or are out of action for maintenance), the home captain must offer the visiting team the option of providing courts and proceed as described in Section IV.3 above If this procedure is followed and alternative courts cannot be found, the match may be rescheduled using the inclement weather rules. If the home team does not follow this procedure and the match cannot be played because of unavailable courts which were known to be such in advance, the away team may choose to claim a default or to use the inclement weather rules. This rule does not apply to anticipation of wet weather or excessive heat or cold.

4) All matches must be played to completion without interruption. There is no provision for a facility that places a time limit on courts. A visiting team is not required to move to different courts or interrupt play to resume later. If this occurs, the visiting team has the option to:

A. continue play at their home courts **or**

B. For team matches or rescheduled matches scheduled within 2.5 hours of a facility's posted closing time, the home team should notify the visiting team of the closing time prior to match day.

C. If a facility closes and such notice was not provided, the visiting team is not required to interrupt or reschedule play. If this occurs, the visiting team has the option to:

a) Continue play at their home courts or

b) Declare a default against the home team and win the uncompleted individual matches

Comment: When scheduling a team match or rescheduled match, the home team should notify the visiting team in advance if the facility is expected to close within 2.5 hours of the scheduled start time. This notice should be provided when finalizing the match date and time. If notice has been given or if a match begins more than 2.5 hours before closing time teams should refer to rule IV.6 if the facility closes.

Exception: If a makeup match or rescheduled match has not been completed by the default time for a regularly scheduled USTA league match that is booked for the same courts, the players in the makeup match must vacate the court. They may move to another court or reschedule using the inclement weather rules.

Comment: If a team playing a makeup match will not vacate the court and therefore the home team cannot provide 2 courts, refer back to Section IV.3.

5) If the lights go out during an evening match and cannot be re-lit in a reasonable amount of time (10 minutes), or if the facility closes

(reference rule IV.4.C above), the match can be rescheduled using the makeup deadlines.

SECTION V. INCLEMENT WEATHER
See Section X for Makeup Default Times

2) Inclement weather is defined as precipitation or severe weather (temperatures below *32* degrees or above 95 degrees for the 18 & Over and 40 & Over league, and below *35* or above *95* degrees for the 55 & Over and 65 & Over league (as determined by a weather app on the home team captain's phone for the zip code of the location of the match). Wind chill and heat index are not a factor in determining temperature.

1) A one-hour delay from the agreed upon start time for the team match must be observed at all times in order for weather conditions to improve. This includes make up matches. If within one hour conditions improve the match is to begin and **all positions are to play**.

Exception: the Local League Coordinator or Program Director may postpone a City Final match without waiting for one hour.

Comment: Captains should stay in contact via the telephone during inclement weather. There is no requirement for the visiting team to drive to the courts in order to cancel the team match.

Comment: While nobody is required to dry off courts, it is requested that both teams cooperate in preparing courts for play, particularly at times when the weather forecast suggests that there may be problems in rescheduling.

2) Once inclement weather has caused the start of a match to be delayed by more than one hour from the regularly scheduled time, the match has become a makeup match and inclement weather rules apply.

3) If the start of a team match is cancelled due to inclement weather, any defaults awarded in advance may now be played.

4) In the event inclement weather occurs after the team match has begun, a one-hour wait to resume play must be observed. **If play cannot be continued**:

   A. Completed individual matches stand as played.
   B. Points awarded for defaults given at the time the original written lineup was exchanged are considered completed matches. All players listed on the lineup who are involved in defaults **cannot** participate in a re-scheduled match.
   C. Individual matches in progress must be made up and resumed by the same players at the exact set, game and point that existed when play was halted.
   D. Any player who is not involved in a previously started match or default can participate in any matches that have not yet begun.

5) In the event the temperature falls below 32 degrees or rises above 95 degrees after the team match has begun, any one individual may choose to postpone the match for one hour to see if conditions improve. If conditions do not improve within one hour, those matches may be rescheduled. Equally, any individual matches that have not started may be delayed for one hour waiting for conditions to improve. If conditions do not improve within one hour, those matches may be rescheduled.

6) For matches delayed or rescheduled to play during darkness, the home team facility must have lights. (If the home team cannot provide courts with lights, see Section IV, Rule 3.)

7) In case of inclement weather for team or individual matches whose start time or day had been **officially** rescheduled use the applicable makeup default times

Comment: If the captains failed to officially reschedule their team match in writing and the (unofficial) match is cancelled due to inclement weather, the make-up default time becomes the originally scheduled day and time for the team match.

8) Arrangements for make-up matches must be agreed upon within **48 hours** of the original match start time, or assumed rescheduled for the makeup default time.

9) Once a time, day and location for the makeup match has been agreed upon in writing by the parties involved, that match **MAY NOT BE POSTPONED**, for any reason other than inclement weather.

10) For makeup matches scheduled on the designated makeup day and time, if the home team offers more than two courts to complete the match, the opposing team must accept and utilize the additional courts.

SECTION VI. PLAYOFFS & PROGRESSION

1) All teams placed first and second in their division will advance to playoffs. Some third and fourth place teams may also be used to fill the draws at the discretion of the Program Director. The exception to this is single division levels where the Program Director will determine the playoff structure prior to the first match of the season.

2) **The division winner shall be the team having won the most team matches in its division competition.** In the event of a tie for division winner and/or second and third place positions, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following methods.

a. Winner of the most individual matches.
b. Loser of the fewest sets
c. Loser of the fewest games
d. Head-to-head winner

Comment: In the event two teams from different divisions tie all the way down to the fewest games lost, the Local League Coordinator will determine which team will advance to playoffs using a coin flip.

3) Playoff draws will be seeded with the highest seed playing the lowest, the second highest playing the second lowest and so on.

4) All playoff matches should be played to completion to generate accurate individual ratings.

5) In order for a player to be eligible to progress to the USTA Atlanta local playoffs and City Final, that player must have played once during the entire local round robin season for that particular season for 18 & Over and 40 & Over leagues (i.e. from the first match through the last local round robin match of the season). Receiving a winning default can only be counted as one of the matches played. It is each captain's responsibility to ensure that scorecards are accurate throughout the season and all players are eligible before competing in playoffs.

6) In order for a player to be eligible to progress to State Championships**, that player must have played once during the regular local league season the team qualified for 18 & Over and 40 & Over leagues.** Receiving a default can only be counted as one of the matches played.

7) USTA Georgia will award 1 state berth for 2-5 teams; 2 berths for 6-10 teams; 3 berths for 11+ teams.

8) Vacancies created in the State Championship due to a repeat winner at the City Finals, extra berth, or a wild card, shall be filled using the next best team as determined by percentage of individual wins during local league playoffs. If a city champion declines their invitation, then the berth will be awarded to the losing finalist with the best playoff record, as measured by percentage of individual wins, from all group finalists in the same season in the same level and league. If all group finalists decline, the place will be offered to the best losing semifinalist across the groups on the same basis. If it comes down to 1st round playoff teams, the team with the highest seed (as determined by local league round robin record) will get the invitation.

Comment: If decisions get to 2nd round of playoffs, teams with byes during 1st round of playoffs will be counted as a 3-0 win determining percentages.

9) Individual Defaults at the State Tournament. Any team defaulting a court for any reason will be fined $100 per court defaulted. The fine must be paid in the tournament room prior to the team's next match. If it's the team's last match of the tournament, they must pay prior to leaving. If a team does not pay the fine, a grievance will be filed against all members listed on the team information sheet, which could result in suspension from any USTA League play until the fine is paid. Any matches played during that time will be reverted to losses. The reason for this regulation is it's your team's responsibility to have players on every court at each match during a state championship. When a team defaults a line, it not only can affect the outcome of the tournament, but more importantly, it effects those players who showed up ready to play, only to find their opponents did not show.

SECTION VII. DEFAULTS, RATINGS & DISQUALIFICATIONS

1) A player may not be dynamically promoted based on match results from the Tri-Level program, but match results will be calculated in year-end NTRP computer ratings.

2) If a team has an invalid match (a majority of the individual matches must actually be played to constitute a valid team match) the team may (state ALC's decision) be removed from competition and the standings.

3) Any team found playing an ineligible player may be subject to a filed grievance against the ineligible player and/or team and may result in the player and/or team being disqualified from league play.

4) All players must use their most current published rating at the time of registration on a team. All computer ratings are administered by USTA Georgia. Players will use either their current self-rating or their most recent published Year End rating.

5) Once a player is registered on a specific team roster, they may play at that level throughout all USTA state and sectional championships even if their rating increases prior to the championships unless the person has a dynamic or NTRP Grievance disqualification. If a team advances to a National championship and a player's most recently published year end rating is higher than their roster rating, that player would not be eligible to advance to a National championship with the team.

6) Any player who has been dynamically disqualified, or whose published rating is above the disqualification level, is no longer protected through the championships and must immediately cease participation at that level.

7) If a self-rated player or a player with a granted medical appeal or a computer rated appeal (A) is disqualified for that particular level of play, the player must immediately stop play at that level but their scores will not be subject to match reversal. Local play occurring at the State Championships: Players will be permitted to play in the entire event, but if a disqualification occurs when the ratings are run at the conclusion of the tournament, those matches will be handled in the following manner: If the playoff is a round robin, matches for the disqualified players are reversed. Matches played during a playoff, by winners advancing from multiple round robins are not reversed.

8) A disqualified player may join a team at their new higher level following TennisLink procedures. No refund will be given to a disqualified player.

9) When new ratings are published, players can appeal by attempting to register for their team on TennisLink. All ratings appeals notifications are immediate via TennisLink. Any questions regarding ratings appeals should be addressed with the Director of Leagues for USTA Georgia.

10) If a player successfully appeals their rating after registering for their team, they must notify their 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.

SECTION VIII. LOCAL LEAGUE GRIEVANCES

1) Complaints alleging a violation of USTA League Regulations shall be filed in writing by a team captain via email (grievances@ustaatlanta.com) to the chairman of the USTA Atlanta Grievance Committee. Examples of valid grievances include but are not limited to: misrepresenting a player's identity on a scorecard or in TennisLink; falsifying scores in TennisLink; recording a score without playing the match; using ethnic slurs or obscene language; coaching; abusive behavior; or physical violence.

Grievances must be filed prior to whichever occurs first: (a) the involved team's next match in that flight whether or not the involved player participates OR (b) within 24 hours after the end of the local league regular season. For all grievances arising during playoffs (including city finals), Grievances must be filed within 30 minutes of the completion of the involved team's match.

2) There is a $50 fee for filing a grievance under this Section VIII, which must accompany the written grievance. If the grievance is kept on file or if penalties are imposed, USTA Atlanta will refund the $50 fee. All grievance filing fees retained by USTA Atlanta will be donated to the Atlanta Youth Tennis and Education Foundation.

3) The USTA Atlanta office will send a copy of the complaint via email to each party against whom the complaint has been made.

4) The USTA Atlanta Grievance Committee members are Kathy Solomon (chair), Carolyn Watkins, Jenni Ginepri, Tim Lynn, Greg Wandrick

The USTA Atlanta Grievance Appeals Committee members are DeAnna Emborski (chair), Shannon Rowe, Maureen Gold and Joan Marcinko

SECTION IX. NTRP GRIEVANCES

1) A complaint may be filed by a captain or Local League Coordinator against a player and/or captain who commits or condones entering at one level when their actual skill level is at the top of the next NTRP level or higher. If a team has multiple players disqualified during a season or league year, USTA Atlanta may raise a NTRP grievance against the captain, who may be subject to sanctions, including disqualification and suspension, as deemed appropriate by the Southern Section NTRP Grievance Committee.

2) The party that files the NTRP grievance must provide documentation to support their complaint at the time of their filing.

3) The USTA Southern Section NTRP Grievance Committee will have jurisdiction, augmented as necessary by experts in NTRP ratings, and may ask the alleged violator to complete a USTA Player Background History sheet and submit it to the committee for review. After review, and in consultation with the NTRP experts who have augmented the committee, they will take action, as they deem appropriate.

4) This action may include disqualification, suspension from league play or other league sanctions.

5) Send NTRP Grievances to grievances@ustaatlanta.com for forwarding to USTA Southern Section Grievance Committee. USTA Atlanta serves only as a pass-through entity to the Southern Section.

6) An NTRP Grievance can be filed at any time. NTRP Grievances filed within seven days of the start of the player's and/or captain's local league playoffs will be administered after the event unless the USTA Southern Section authorizes the administration of the grievance prior to that time. If the grievance is not administered until after the event, points won by players will stand. Disqualified players and/or captains that are suspended will not be eligible to advance to the next level of championship play.

7) There is no fee for filing an NTRP grievance under this Section IX.

SECTION X. START TIMES & MAKEUP DEFAULT TIMES

The following charts indicate the normal match times and default times. The League Program Director may modify the normal default times and the length of time which must be waited before a match can be delayed for inclement weather to accommodate circumstances such as extended periods of bad weather being forecast or the presence of a bye week in the schedule.

The makeup default time is used in the event matches have not been completed prior to the makeup default time. The order of play for the makeup default time shall be the same as a regularly scheduled match unless a prior agreement has been made.

Women

Make-up Matches

START TIMES & MAKEUP DEFAULT TIMES

Makeup Deadline* 2nd Saturday (14 days later) 6:00 PM (Women)

Example: If a match scheduled for August 15th is rained out, players have until August 29th to make the match up.

Extended makeup default times are in place only for the first five matches for teams with a seven week season or the first four matches for teams with a six week season.

If inclement weather occurs on the makeup deadline day (Saturday), the new deadline moves to Monday evening at 7:00 PM and continues weekday-to-weekday at 7:00 PM until weather permits the match to be played.

***Exception**: If inclement weather occurs on the second to last match of the regular season, the makeup default time is Saturday (7 days later for women) at 6:00 p.m. If inclement weather occurs on the last match of the regular season, the makeup deadline is Wednesday at 7:00 PM and continues day-to-day at 7:00 PM until weather permits the match to be played.

If inclement weather occurs during the playoffs, the makeup deadline is Wednesday at 7:00 PM and continues day-to-day at 7:00 PM until weather permits the match to be played.

Men

Make-up Matches

START TIMES & MAKEUP DEFAULT TIMES

Makeup Deadline* 2nd Saturday (13 days later) 6:00 PM (Men)

Example: If a match scheduled for August 16th is rained out, players have until August 29th to make the match up.

Extended makeup default times are in place only for the first five matches for teams with a seven week season or the first four matches for teams with a six week season.

If inclement weather occurs on the makeup deadline day (Saturday), the new deadline moves to Monday evening at 7:00 PM and continues weekday-to-weekday at 7:00 PM until weather permits the match to be played.

***Exception**: If inclement weather occurs on the second to last match of the regular season, the makeup default time is Saturday (7 days later for women) at 6:00 p.m. If inclement weather occurs on the last match of the regular season, the makeup deadline is Wednesday at 7:00 PM and continues day-to-day at 7:00 PM until weather permits the match to be played.

If inclement weather occurs during the playoffs, the makeup deadline is Wednesday at 7:00 PM and continues day-to-day at 7:00 PM until weather permits the match to be played.