Fall 2026 USTA Atlanta Junior Flex League Rules

- **About**
  - This league was created to encourage juniors to participate in a fun and flexible format! Players should try to be as flexible as possible as this is a relaxed and social league! We cannot wait to see you shine on our theme weeks!
- **Season Dates**
  - Fall Season: September 21-October 26. All scores must be entered by 11:59pm on 11/8 to count towards standings. Keep in mind that the league you registered for may be combined with another playing level depending on the number of players registered.
- **Playing Levels**
  - Flex League participants will be divided into playing levels based on age and ability. Players may play 'up' in an age group, but they may not play in a division below their age.
  - Players will go by their age as of the season start date (9/21/26).
  - Age groups will be divided into the following:
    - 10 and Under (Orange Ball)
    - 12 and Under (Green Ball)
    - 15 and Under (Yellow Ball)
    - 18 and Under Boys (Yellow Ball)
    - 18 and Under Girls (Yellow Ball)

    Flights will be determined based on the playing levels of the registered players within each age group. World Tennis Number (WTN) will be used to determine playing level. If a player does not have a WTN, please include information about their tennis ability level when registering.
- **Format**
  - **10U:** 2 out of 3 short sets; the first to win four games wins a set. If one player wins the first two sets, he or she wins the match. If the players split the first two sets, the third set is a 7-point tiebreak (first to 7 and do not have to win by 2).
  - **12U & 15U:** 2 out of 3 short sets; each set is to 4 games. Set tiebreakers (first to 7, win by 2) to be played at 3-3. If the players split the first two sets, the third set is a match tiebreak (first to 10, win by 2).
  - **18U:** 2 out of 3 full sets with the 3rd set being a match tiebreaker (first to 10, win by 2).
- **Match Play**
  - Players will have one week to play their assigned match. The 'playing' week begins on Monday. Players can schedule matches throughout the week with the final deadline to enter scores as the following Sunday. Players will be given a one-week courtesy period after their designated match-week to get their match

played in the event of inclement weather or availability issues. Keep in mind, if matches carry over into the 'makeup' week, players will be expected to play multiple matches in a given week.
    - Match 1- September 21-September 27 (Makeup to be played by Oct 4)
    - Match 2- September 28-October 4 (Makeup to be played by Oct 11)
    - Match 3- October 5-October 11 (Makeup to be played by Oct 18)
    - Match 4- October 12-October 18 (Makeup to be played by Oct 25)
    - Match 5- October 19- October 25 (Makeup to be played by Nov 1)
    - Match 6- October 26-November 1 (Makeup to be played by Nov 8)
  - Players are required to submit at least 3 days/times to their opponents that they would be able to play the match. Both players/parents will be responsible for scheduling matches with their assigned opponent(s).
  - Players will be given their full season schedule prior to the first match. If BOTH players agree, matches for future weeks can be played early.
  - The 'Home' team will be required to provide balls and pay court fees associated with the match. Please make sure to reserve enough time for matches to be completed. If match time is interrupted due to time constraints, players may be at risk of forfeiture.
  - We recommend making court reservations to secure the match however, if matches are to be played at public courts with no reservation system, players may wait for up to 15 minutes for a court to open up. If players wait longer than 15 minutes, the home player is at risk of default.
  - Players MUST commit to the same home courts the entire season, unless special circumstances occur. The League Admin reserves the right to determine if players can change home courts.
- **Court Approval**
  - Players are required to play at a USTA Atlanta approved facility. Players will be able to select their facility from the dropdown menu when registering. If you do not see your facility/neighborhood listed, please reach out to the league coordinator with the following information:
    - Name of the facility
    - Number of Courts
    - Does the facility have lights? (facilities are REQUIRED to have lights)
    - 10u divisions are required to have 10&under lines on their 'home' courts.
- **Defaults/Retirements**
  - Once matches have been agreed upon, both parties should make reasonable concessions to get the match played. If players have a scheduled match (in writing) and one of the opponents needs to cancel the match, it must be done within 48 hours of the originally scheduled match. If a player cancels the match

inside the 48-hour withdrawal window, the match will be recorded as a default unless opponent agrees to reschedule.
    - If a player does not show up within 15 minutes of the agreed upon match time (or does not show up at all), the match will be recorded as a default unless opponent agrees to reschedule.
    - Excessive Defaults: A player having excessive defaults may be disqualified from playoffs and/or suspended for the next season. This penalty also applies to any player excessively withdrawing after the 48-hour cancellation deadline and to players that forfeit playoff matches. Players who have more than 3 defaults in a given season will be disqualified from the next subsequent season – these will be evaluated by the league administrator before making final disqualifications.
    - In the event of retirement (this means stopping the match due to injury or illness), scores should be entered as played at the time of retirement.
- **Rescheduling/ Inclement Weather**
    - It is strongly encouraged that all matches be played on the scheduled match day and time. If the match is rescheduled, it must be played by the makeup deadline. If the original match time must be changed, both players will need to agree on a new date/time. Once a match time has been agreed upon, the only acceptable cancellation is due to inclement weather.
    - Inclement weather is to be defined as:
        - Courts that are wet due to rain, other weather-related instances
        - Temperatures above 95 degrees or below 32 degrees at the agreed start time- as defined by the zip code on weather.com
- **Playoffs**
    - Playoffs will be determined by the number of participants in each playing level. The league administrator will send out playoff information on a division-by-division basis. Some playing levels will not have playoffs. If playoffs are not applicable, the top player at the end of the regular season will be the division winner.
- **Refunds/Credits**
    - Refunds will not be issued once payment is received. A one-time credit for the following season may be requested if a player becomes injured or is unable to participate in the league prior to playing any matches.
    - Players who refer two NEW players to the league will earn a free league credit to be used in the next subsequent season. Contact amanda@ustaatlanta.com to redeem.
- **Code of Conduct**
    - The Code by USTA should be followed for all match play. USTA Atlanta reserves the right to ban/remove any player from the league for an indefinite time period in the event of unsportsmanlike conduct. Too many forfeits will be considered an unsportsmanlike penalty and subject for removal from the league.

The League Administrator reserves the right to suspend or remove players from league play for entering false score reports or unexcused, multiple forfeits, or for playing in a league at the incorrect rating level. Spectators should be outside of the fence and not interfere with the match. Coaching is not permitted during matches.

- This League follows USTA's Friend at Court rules.