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# Mixed Doubles 18 & Over League

## Fall 2026 Captain Information

*2027 Championship Year*

**Season begins: Friday, September 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**

### Hello captains!

Thank you for volunteering to serve as a captain this season. Your leadership, communication, and dedication are essential to the smooth operation and success of our league. As a captain, you are not only the primary point of contact for your team, but also a vital part of what makes this league run. We truly appreciate the time and effort you invest in organizing your players, managing match logistics, and helping uphold the spirit of fair play. We're excited for a great season ahead—thank you again for all you do!

### Rules Update: Section IV.4B and 4C

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.

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.

### Player Ratings

**Any player whose rating appeal is approved after registering to a team must contact the Director of Adult Leagues at maegan@ustaatlanta.com so the team roster can be updated.**

## Important Reminders

- To start the team match, complete written lineups showing all individual matches must be simultaneously exchanged. If the captain won't 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.**

- For players to be eligible to play in the local playoffs, they must play **two times during the regular season** (first match through the last regularly scheduled match of the round robin). A default may count as one of the matches played.

- If a team forfeits more lines than they have played, making the match invalid, a warning email will be sent to the team. If this happens a second time in the league season, the team will be removed from the league and reported to the USTA Georgia Adult League Committee for review.

## Regular Season Match Dates

**All dates are subject to change.*

| Item | Season information |
|---|---|
| Season start | Friday, September 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. |
| Detailed schedule | See TennisLink for the complete detailed schedule. From your Team Summary page, select Match Schedule. |
| Thanksgiving Bye Week | Friday, November 27, 2026 |

## Playoffs

**Players must play twice during the regular season to be eligible for playoffs**. A default received may only count as one match played. Seeding and tiebreaks are determined in this order: team losses, individual wins, least sets lost, least games lost, and head-to-head when needed. If groups play different numbers of matches and teams tie on team losses, the next tiebreak is individual win percentage.

| Division | Teams advancing and seeding |
|---|---|
| 2.5 | All four teams advance. *Playoffs begin October 30th*. |
| 3.0 | All first place teams (seeds 1-5), all second place teams (seeds 6-10), and all third-place teams (seeds 11-15) advance. *Playoffs begin November 6th*. |
| 3.5 | All first place teams (seeds 1-4) and all second-place teams (seeds 5-8) advance. *Playoffs begin November 6th*. |
| 4.0 | Both first place teams (seeds 1-2) and both second place teams (seeds 3-4) advance. *Playoffs begin November 6th*. |

## City Finals

| Division | City Finals date | Rain date / location |
|---|---|---|
| 2.5 | Friday, November 6, 2026 | Friday, November 13; higher-seeded team's home courts |
| 4.0 | Friday, November 13, 2026 | Friday, November 20; higher-seeded team's home courts |
| 3.5 | Friday, November 20, 2026 | Friday, December 4; higher-seeded team's home courts |
| 3.0 | Friday, December 4, 2026 | Friday, December 11; higher-seeded team's home courts |

## Scheduling Matches

| Default start time | Lines |
|---|---|
| 7:00 p.m. | 1D and 2D |
| 8:00 p.m. | 3D, following whichever court—1D or 2D—finishes first |

Both captains must agree to any change in the default start times or order of play. Any change to the default start times should be agreed upon in writing by both captains.

## Make-Up Matches

| Make-up deadline | Time |
|---|---|
| Second Thursday—13 days later | 7:00 p.m. |

**Example:** If a September 18 match is rained out, it must be made up by October 1.

1. The extended make-up deadline applies only to the first five matches of a seven-week season or the first four matches of a six-week season.
2. If inclement weather occurs on the Thursday deadline, the deadline moves to Monday at 7:00 p.m. and then continues weekday-to-weekday at 7:00 p.m. until weather permits play.
3. Exception: If the second-to-last regular-season match is affected by inclement weather, the make-up default time is the following Thursday—six days later—at 7:00 p.m. If the last regular-season match is affected, the deadline is Monday at 7:00 p.m. and continues day-to-day at 7:00 p.m. until play is possible.
4. During playoffs, an inclement weather make-up deadline is Monday at 7:00 p.m. and continues day-to-day at 7:00 p.m. until play is possible.

**Forfeits: If inclement weather cancels the start of the overall team match, forfeits in advance are void and all three lines may be rescheduled. If any line had already started when play stopped, the forfeit stands.**

## Finding Phone Numbers for Opposing Captains

1. Go to the TennisLink leagues page and log in.
2. Go to your team's Team Summary page.
3. Select Match Schedule to view the opposing captain's phone number.

## Finding Email Addresses for Opposing Captains

1. Go to the TennisLink leagues page and log in.
2. Go to your team's Team Summary page.
3. Select the Team Captains Report tab at the top of the page.
4. The opposing captains' email addresses will be displayed.

## Adding or Changing the Co-Captain

1. Go to the TennisLink leagues page and log in.
2. Under Quick Links, select New Team Management.
3. Under Team Name/Team #, select your team.
4. On the team management page, select Edit next to Co-Captain and choose the co-captain from the drop-down list.

**Note: You must be listed in TennisLink as the team captain to add or change the co-captain.**

## Captain's Corner

The Captain's Corner is a key resource for captains. Visit the Mixed 18 & Over Captain's Corner for:

- TennisLink instructions
- League calendar
- USTA Atlanta local league rules and regulations
- Friend at Court, including The Code for unofficiated matches and guidance on line calls, balls that hit scoreboards, hindrances, a lost hat, yelling at a partner, and other situations
- Grievance forms and procedures
- Self-rating guidelines

## Adding a Player After the Season Begins

Players may be added until 11:59 p.m. on the Thursday before the last local round-robin match.

## Scoring

The mandatory default scoring method is a third-set 10-point Coman tiebreak in place of a full third set.

## Playing on More Than One Team

A player may play on more than one team in the same season when the teams are at different levels within the same league—for example, one 3.0 team and one 3.5 team.

## USTA Georgia State Tournament: September 2027

We are in the 2027 Championship Year. USTA Atlanta City Champions and select finalists or semifinalists will advance to the USTA Georgia State Tournament in September 2027.

## Qualifying for the State Tournament

If your team is invited, each player attending State must appear on the scorecard for two regular-season matches. One may be a recorded default received, but at least one must be an actual match played.

## Facilities

### Restrooms

Home teams must provide restrooms with running water and flushable, functioning toilets that remain unlocked throughout match play. Porta Potties are not approved. If restrooms are out of order, the visiting team must be allowed to provide courts. If it cannot, the home team must locate nearby courts with acceptable restrooms. Captains should have the restroom keys and keep the facilities open.

### Guest Requirements

If the home facility requires a dress code, waiver, or collection of personal information such as a photo ID, email address, or phone number, the home captain must notify the visiting captain in advance.

### Court Time and Lighting

Captains should be familiar with rule IV (specifically IV.4B and C) of the local rules regarding matches being played to completion. Rule IV.5 states that If the lights go out during an evening match and cannot be restored within a reasonable time—10 minutes— or if the facility closes (reference rule IV.4.C) the match may be rescheduled under the make-up deadlines.

### Official Home Facility

After a home facility is entered in TennisLink, all home matches should be played there. If the designated facility is unavailable, the visiting team has first option to play at their home courts. Captains may mutually agree to another site when it improves the commute, but the home captain may not unilaterally schedule an alternate facility.

## The Grievance Process

The grievance section of the Mixed 18 & Over Captain's Corner contains the two types of complaints a captain may file. USTA National has also instituted a Suspension Point System.

### NTRP Grievance

If you believe a self-rated player misrepresented their ability—for example, their level is at the top of the next level or higher—file an NTRP Grievance as soon as possible before the next match. The claim must include evidence, such as a college playing background; an opinion alone is not valid support.

### Sportsmanship Grievance

A team captain must submit any complaint alleging a USTA League Regulations violation in writing by email to the USTA Atlanta Grievance Committee chair at grievances@ustaatlanta.com. Valid grievances may include misrepresenting a player's identity on a scorecard or in TennisLink; falsifying TennisLink scores; recording a score without playing; ethnic slurs or obscene language; coaching; abusive behavior; or physical violence.

**Filing deadline: A grievance must be filed before the earlier of (a) the involved team's next match in that flight, whether or not the player participates, or (b) 24 hours after the local league regular season ends. For grievances arising during playoffs, including city finals, the deadline is 30 minutes after the involved team's match ends.**

**Filing fee: A $50 fee must accompany a sportsmanship grievance. USTA Atlanta will refund the fee if the grievance if suspension points are assessed. For dismissed grievances, fees will be donated to the Atlanta Youth Tennis and Education Foundation.**

## Important Tips

- Read and become familiar with the USTA Atlanta local rules and regulations.
- Before each match, both captains should simultaneously exchange complete scorecards.
- Assign a co-captain who can step in if you are unexpectedly out of town. Once assigned, the co-captain will have captain access in TennisLink.
- Contact the opposing captain at least three days before the match to coordinate logistics.
- Confirm the facility address, number of courts available, and court surface with the opposing captain.
- If both captains agree, a match may be played earlier or at a different time on match day. Keep your level representative informed.
- The home team must provide two courts of the same surface. Unless both captains agree otherwise, #1 and #2 doubles play first; #3 doubles should arrive within one hour of the scheduled start time.
- Confirm that every player is registered before entering the court. A player who starts at 7:00 p.m. but registers at 7:02 p.m. has played an illegal match; the line will be disqualified and awarded to the opponent.

**Good luck—and have a great season!**

## Contact

| Name | Role | Phone | Email |
|---|---|---|---|
| Phil Kinneer | Program Director, Mixed Doubles | 757-619-6047 | philkinnjr@hotmail.com |
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