

## 2023 USTA Tennessee Tri-Level League Regulations

### Knoxville

Local League Coordinator (LLC)

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**Regulations written in BLUE text are specific to the Knoxville leagues and may not apply in other local areas.**

#### I. Dates

<u>League</u>	<u>Local Registration Opens</u>	<u>Local Team Registration Close</u>	<u>Local Last Day to Add Individual</u>	<u>Local Schedule Released</u>	<u>Local Playoff Dates</u>	<u>Tennessee League Play Deadline</u>	<u>State Championship</u>
Tri-Level	January 1, 2023	January 4th (men) January 8th (Women)	Jan 7-Feb 26 (men) Feb 24(women)	Jan 5 (men) Jan 10 (women)	NA*	August 23, 2023	Tri-Level All Divisions September 15-17, 2023 Knoxville, TN

**Table1: Knoxville Tri Level League Play Dates**

#### Registration Dates:

- A. All local areas must end team registration on or before the State Team Registration deadline of **July 25, 2023**. Local areas that do not have a team signed up in a level of play have an additional two weeks from the Local Team Registration deadline to form a team in that level, and that team may advance directly to state championships.

## II. Tri-Level League Regulations

- A. The Tri-Level League is a team format which consists of three doubles positions, each at a different NTRP level to form the “team”. It is designed for players to compete against the same ability and gender in a fun format that does not count toward a player's NTRP rating.
- B. USTA Tennessee offers Tri-Level leagues for 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over age divisions.
  - a) \* Tri-Level 65 & Over locally may be played with Adult League Committee approval.
  - b) [Knoxville Tri Level league includes 65 & over age groups for the 2.5,3.0,3.5 3.0,3.5,4.0 and 4.5,4.0,3.5 levels](#)
- C. Tennessee offers the below divisions in each age group.
  - a) 3.5, 3.0, 2.5
  - b) 4.0, 3.5, 3.0
  - c) 4.5, 4.0, 3.5
  - d) 5.0, 4.5, 4.0
  - e) [Open, 4.5, 4.0 \(Knoxville\)](#)
- D. Team matches will consist of three (3) doubles matches, played in order of NTRP Rating based on the division. For example, for the 3.5, 3.0, 2.5 division, the maximum NTRP rating for #1 Doubles is 3.5, for #2 Doubles is 3.0, and for #3 Doubles is 2.5.
- E. A player may play at their current NTRP level and/or up to one level above the current NTRP level. (i.e. a 2.5 can play in the 2.5 spot, or substitute into the 3.0 spot, but cannot play in the 3.5 spot)
- F. The minimum number of players for a legal team is six (6).
- G. USTA Tennessee will have no residency requirements for teams that are in leagues with local play.
- H. For teams that advance directly to a State Championship or play their local league at a State Championship, USTA Tennessee requires that at least 3 players of the team be residents of the local area from which that team is representing.
- I. USTA Tennessee limits the number of players that may appear on a team roster in the Tri-Level leagues to 18 players.
- J. All captains will use the following format when registering a team. For example: Facility/Last Name/City.
- K. The USTA Tennessee Adult League Committee, or the Local Rules & Regulations Committee have the authority to amend these regulations when necessary.
- L. If the Local League Regulations do not have a regulation in place to address an issue and there is a National regulation on that issue, the Section, District/Area or Local League must follow the national regulation.
- M. [Local rules may be changed or edited if necessary with approval from the Local League Coordinator\(s\) in conjunction with the local rules committee.](#)

### III. Eligibility

- A. Players must have a USTA Membership that is valid through the end of the local league season. If a player is advancing to the USTA Tennessee Tri-Level State Championship, the player must have a valid USTA Membership through the end of the Championship.
- B. All must be at least 18 years of age prior to registering and competing on a Tri-Level team.
- C. For the Tri-Level 40 & Over and 55 & Over divisions, all players must have reached the minimum age for the league type within the calendar year.
- D. All players must have a valid NTRP rating on file in TennisLink. Players who do not have a computer rating are to self-rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program before registration.
- E. Any player who participates in a match without first registering in TennisLink for the team, will be considered ineligible, and scores will be entered as 6-0, 6-0 in favor of the opponent.

### IV. Match Format

- A. The best of three sets with a match tiebreak in lieu of the 3rd set.
- B. If a set is tied 6-6, a 7-point set tiebreak will be played (first to 7 by 2)
- C. If sets are tied 1-1 a match tiebreak (first to 10 by 2) shall be played.
- D. There will be a two-minute set break at the end of each set.
- E. All tiebreaks shall follow the Coman tiebreak procedure.

### V. League Play

- A. Players arrive on time and be ready to play
- B. Phones turned off
- C. Captains exchange lineups prior to the match. No player should be listed that is not on premises and ready to play.
- D. Courts go on in order of NTRP rating. (4.0, 3.5, 3.0)
- E. Substitution: In the event of an illness, injury of a player or ineligible player, that is listed on the line-up. A substitution may be made in the affected position if it is made within the 15-minute default period, using a player with correct NTRP rating, and not listed on the original line-up. That player should receive a 5-minute warm-up.
- F. Defaulted court. Only one defaulted court per match, but can be at any level. Knoxville Tri Level League requires that the default is made per NTRP level and no level has to play up, per example in a 4.0,3.5,3.0 League if the 3.5 court is to be defaulted, the 4.0 players play court 1, the 3.0 players play court 3 and court 2 is defaulted.
- G. If a captain knows ahead of time an entire team match will be forfeited, the captain must notify the LLC and the opposing team captain. If a team forfeits an entire team match and that forfeit affects the outcome of the local league, then all matches played by the forfeiting team, at least for the round, will be removed from the standings. If the forfeiting team has no effect on the outcome of the local league, matches played by that team will stand, and the team is eligible for advancement.
- H. By regulation, match results must be entered into TennisLink within 48 hours. All scorecards will be FINAL 48 hours after the team match is complete. If a score is entered, and then found

to be in error, the captain must contact the LLC to have it corrected. Both captains should be listed on that email to the LLC, so everyone is aware and in agreement of change.

- a. If scores are not entered into TennisLink within 48 hours, both captains may be subject to a local grievance and sanctions imposed by the Local Grievance Committee. LLC may enter a double default as the final score.
- I. If an area has more than one flight within a level, each local area will determine the format for the local play offs.
  - a. **There are no playoffs planned for Knoxville Tri level leagues**
- J. If play is interrupted by weather, darkness or other factors beyond the control of players, completed individual matches will stand as played. In the event that rain or inclement weather forces the cancellation and/or re-scheduling of a local league team match, the line-up would stand only for those positions that had already started (first service attempt) their match. All other positions, even those that were in warm-up may be changed including defaulted courts.
  - a. **Knoxville Tri Level League is played indoors, so weather should not impact the schedule unless the roads are hazardous to drive. In which case the Local League Coordinator needs to be notified to reschedule the match. Any other requests to reschedule will not be approved.**
- K. GKTA will provide balls to the teams home matches when all team members are GKTA members for 2023 calendar year.
  - a. Players can find membership information at <https://playtennis.usta.com/gkta>
  - b. Captains should notify the Local League Coordinator to apply for ball sponsorship from GKTA, once they have verified their players have completed the membership requirements.

## VI. Championships

- A. During the local season, players must play in at least one (1) match to be eligible to compete at the USTA Tennessee League Tri-Level State Championship. One (1) default counts toward eligibility.
- B. The number of advancing from **Knoxville** is determined by the chart below:

<b><u>Division</u></b>	<b><u>Number Of Local Teams At A Specific NTRP Level</u></b>	<b><u>Number Of Local Teams Advancing to State League Championship</u></b>
All Tri-Level Leagues	1 - 9	1
	10-19	2
	20+	3

**Table 2: Number of Local League Advancing to State Championship**

- C. If there is only one team registered from any authorized area, that team may advance directly to the USTA Tennessee Tri-Level State Championship.
- D. The 2023 USTA Tennessee Tri-Level State Championship will be held in Knoxville on September 8-10<sup>th</sup>.

## VII. Grievances

- A. Grievances are filed with the Local League Coordinator to administrate. Please submit via email, including a \$50.00 fee within written time restraints. Should the Grievance Committee uphold the grievance, the \$50.00 will be refunded. The LLC will forward the grievance to the USTA Tennessee Grievance Committee. Forms for grievances may be obtained from the LLC.

## VIII. Committees

- A. Local Regulations Committee: Jeremy Tanaru, Tiffany Webb and Amanda Smith
- B. USTA Tennessee Grievance Committee: Terryann Nelson (Chair), Debbi Booton, Jackie Mills
- C. USTA Tennessee Grievance Appeals Committee: Roger Ross (Chair), Barbara Hooper, Cayce Neal
- D. Grievance and Grievance Appeal Committee members may change or individual members substituted at the discretion of the Tennessee Adult League Committee Chairperson.

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