



**DURHAM-ORANGE COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION (DOCTA)
USTA JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS LEAGUE – 2021 CHAMPIONSHIP YEAR
Eno River Area Local League Regulations
COACHES AND CAPTAINS**

Local League Coordinator (Ages 5-18) – LeeAnn Rose – Email: leerus@icloud.com; Telephone: 919-358-1179

This is a co-ed league that plays doubles and singles matches and is for youth between the ages of 5 to 18. The teams are comprised of players of similar age and skill in beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. League winners will advance to the junior state tournament.

Registration Begins – February 25, 2021

Team Registration Deadline: March 29, 2021 (need a minimum of 5 players to make up a team)

Season Start Date: April 3, 2021 – June 5, 2021

League Fee - \$25 per player (additional fee will be added to teams advancing to the state tournament)

(Tennis Link Fee - \$3 (nonrefundable) + \$22 DOCTA JTT Fee (refundable before 1st match) = \$25.00

Practice – once a week (time will be set by your coach--minimum 30 minutes (8-10U); and 1 hour – 12-18U);

Includes – Match Play – once a week on weekends.

League Fees do not include additional charges by coaches for practice clinics, if applicable.

REGISTRATION/BACKGROUND CHECK

Tennis Link (Coaches: Become a Coach and Register a team):

1. Click on <http://teamtennis.usta.com>
2. Click on “Become a Coach/Manager,” located on your bottom right side of the page
3. Enter your USTA number (if you have one), and a team number should be assigned (write this information down)
4. You will need to complete a Background Check through the Safe Play Requirements, if you have never coached with us or you last completed this more than 2 years ago (Coaches/Co-Captains) prior to creating or working with a team. Click the link to start this process which could take up to 10 business days to complete.
https://www.usta.com/About-USTA/usta_safe_play_home/
5. It will then allow you to add players to your team. Please have your USTA number and credit card ready.
6. Rosters, scores and standings will be facilitated through Tennis Link. Coaches and players may access Tennis Link.
7. All players must be registered on Tennis Link to play in this league. If an individual is not registered, all the matches he/she has played will be forfeited.

AGE AND ABILITY LEVEL

Players must remain age-eligible through August 31, 2020. The USTA Junior Team Tennis Program uses the NTRP system for rating players and determining their placement level. Players must be rated according to the NTRP Guidelines. IF your player isn't rated, it is the responsibility of the Team Manger/Team Coach/Site Coordinator to make sure all players are properly rated and placed based on skill level and age.

LEVELS OF PLAY (For 12U-18U)

- 0.0 - 2.7 Beginner Level
- 2.8 - 3.4 Intermediate Level
- 3.5 - 7.0 Advanced Level

LEVEL OF PLAY (For 10U)

- Only 10U players playing up must do or have a rating
- Must play Advanced if:
 - NTRP of 3.5 or above in any division (will only have one if they play up)
 - They have a 1-100 Southern Standing in any age group as of December 31, 2020
 - Click link here to look up December 31, 2020 Southern STANDINGS.
 - [USTA Tournaments Home](#)
(Select Southern: Year 2020; the division you need; Standing List & Click Find It. You will refer to the list dated 12/31/20)
- Must play Intermediate if:
 - NTRP of 2.8 and Above in any division (will only have one if they play up)
 - Have a North Carolina Standing with 175 points or more as of December 31, 2020
 - Click link at [Junior Standings - North Carolina Tennis Association \(nctennis.com\)](#) to look up a December 31, 2020 NC STANDING.
(Select Southern – North Carolina; Year 2020; the division you need; Standing List And Click Find it. Look at 12/31/20 Published)

CHAMPIONSHIP ELIGIBILITY

All players must have credit for participating in two (2) separate team matches during the regular season to be eligible to participate in the USTA North Carolina State Championship. Neither of these two (2) matches can be a default. A retired match will count toward advancement. Playing two separate lines in one team match will only count as one date of play.

LOCAL RULES

Number of Players, Teams and Balls

- Each team must have at least 5 players by March 29, 2021.
- Minimum of two or more teams per level, or the team must play up a level or split up and play on other teams. The local league coordinator will discuss the options with the state coordinator if there is only one team signed up in a division. The divisions offered.

- 8 and under (8U) (beginner and intermediate) (Red Ball)
- 10 and under (10U) (beginner and intermediate) (Orange Ball)
- 12 and under (12U) (beginner and intermediate) (Green Dot Ball)
- 14 and under (14U) (beginner and intermediate) (Yellow Ball)
- 18 and under (18U) (beginner and intermediate) (Yellow Ball)

Match Format

2 Singles and 1 Doubles (8U); 2 Singles and 2 Doubles (10-18U) (this means you must play at least 3 lines for it to be a valid match **(A minimum of 3 players is required at each match)** **(Timed rotation will be used when only 4).** Singles 8U – 2 singles 1 double.

Scoring

8U - 1 game = 1 set (7 points, win by 1), best 2 out of 3 sets.

10U – 2 out of 3 shorts sets (to 4) with tiebreak (to 7) for third set win by 1 (no ad)

12U – 2 out of 3 short sets (to 4) with tiebreak (to 7) for third set win by 1 (no ad)

14U – 2 out of 3 short sets (to 4) with tiebreak (to 7) for third set win by 1 (no ad)

18U – 2 out of short sets (to 4) with tiebreak (to 7) for third set win by 1 (no ad)

At 3 all net games win.

Match Time/Team Lineups (both coaches should record scores on scorecard)

Forfeits occur 15 minutes after the match is scheduled to start. Each coach should give their players the opponent's name(s) and assign their players to the proper courts. Players should introduce themselves to their opponent and say what position (example: 1st singles, 2nd doubles, etc.) they are playing. If courts are available, warm up must begin at the scheduled match time.

- Warm-up time lasts 10 minutes, including serves.
- During warm up, a substitute may enter the match if a player fails to show up, illness or injury.
- Substitute may not be someone that is originally in the lineup
- Substitute may not be made after a point has been played in that position.
- Time will lapse from warm up for a substitution entering the match. (Ex. If a substitute enters the match five (5) minutes after the warmup starts, the substitute will have five minutes to warm up.) Each scheduled match will have a "match number". Prior to the match, coaches should obtain a copy of the Match Scorecard from the Tennis Link system. This card should be filled in with the match lineup and exchanged with the opposing captain five (5) minutes before the scheduled Match Time. (Ex. Match time at 5:00 pm, cards exchanged at 4:55 pm).

COACH COMMUNICATION AND COURTESY

- Home Team Coaches must contact the visiting Team Coach at least two (2) days prior to the scheduled match via email or phone to confirm location, time, etc. Everyone is encouraged to work out any lineup conflicts that may arise during the season. Team Coaches must keep each other informed regarding the status of their lineups.
- If you cannot make match, please notify other team by Wednesday for make up after that default.
- Local play needs to be strengthened because we are using non-gender matches. This means your #1 player should be in the #1 position either in singles or doubles.

- It is the responsibility of the Home Team to provide balls for each match. See above for ball color for each age group. Also, it would be a nice courtesy to provide water and healthy snacks, as well. An excellent parent volunteer opportunity.
- Defaults are strongly discouraged. Teams that know in advance that they will not have enough players to play a match should communicate directly with the opposing coach as soon as they know to schedule and play a make-up match within two weeks and before end of season. Immediate contact with the other Coach must occur within 48 hours after scheduled match to set up new date/time.
 **If teams are having a problem coming up with a suitable make-up date, the Local League Coordinator will set the date/time. The surface for the makeup match shall be the same as was originally scheduled.

CANCELLATION POLICY/INCLEMENT WEATHER

- For cancellation information, please contact LeeAnn Rose at 919-358-1179. Clubs are required to notify the opposing coach at least two hours prior to match time to cancel a match. (You must speak directly with the coach, do not leave a message and assume it was received).
- The home team coach must determine if the match needs to be postponed due to inclement weather. Coaches should monitor the weather conditions up to two hours before the match and make the decision at that time. Please make every effort to avoid postponing a match due to inclement weather. When in doubt, show up. (You must speak directly with the coach, do not leave a message and assume it was received).
- Cancellation of matches by Wednesday before scheduled matches on Saturday may be rescheduled if agreed. Please reschedule within 24-48 hours.
- If all matches for a specific date/time are cancelled by DOCTA due to inclement weather, coaches will receive a Calling Post Communication System Message (via voice, text and email).

MAKE-UP PROCEDURES

- Coaches may call the Local League Coordinator for court availability to “reschedule” the entire match. In this case, the match will be treated normally, and scorecards will be exchanged at match time. Coaches make this decision at the time they determine the match will be postponed. Local League Coordinator should be notified of the date once a match has been rescheduled. Matches not made up by the last date of the season will be scored “double default” for both teams.
- If the original match is in progress when the inclement weather begins, and conditions become unsafe, play stops. The same lineup must be kept, and play is continued when conditions are favorable. The score should be agreed on and recorded by the players at the time the match is stopped. The match will continue from its stopping point when rescheduled.

MATCH FORFEITS

If a team defaults an entire team match for any reason during Round Robin play, then the next time a team defaults an entire team match, all matches played shall be null and void. If all teams in contention for the championship have already played the defaulting team in good faith, the matches stand as played. Sanctions and penalties may be imposed on the defaulting team. Forfeits, especially those that have not been communicated in advance, can be a major source of frustration among league players, parents and coaches. Please communicate.

REPORTING SCORES (REQUIRED)

- Scores MUST be entered in the computer within 48 hours of your match or they will become a double Forfeit.
- Either team's captain may enter scores. The opposing team captain is responsible for confirming the entered scores within 48 hours.
- If scores are not confirmed within 48 hours of entry, the local coordinator will confirm the scores and are considered valid and no appeals will be allowed.
- If an error is made when entering the scores, please email LeeAnn Rose at leerus@icloud.com.

ENTERING THE SCORES

- Go to Tennis Link
- Log in with your USTA number
- Click on the "Score Entry" icon on right side.
- Type in the match number found on your schedule on your left side.
- Fill in the prompted information.
- When you put in the year, it must look like this: 01/31/2021 – or the computer will not take it.
- You will have an arrow to pull down the names, so you don't have to type them in.
- Look for the icon that says completed, retired, default, etc.

CELL PHONES AND MP3 PLAYERS

All cell phones of participating players should be turned off or silent during League Matches. This is considered an official warning about cell phones. The player whose cell phone rings during a match loses a point. The penalty is only enforced on the court of the cell phone owner. IPODs are not allowed to be turned on during the player's match.

PROFANITY AND UNSPORTSMANLIKE BEHAVIOR

Players should abide by the "Code of Conduct" that all leagues follow, as well as the USTA 2019 Friend of Court Code. Coaches are held responsible for making sure each player follow the code of conduct; and shares this with their players and parents.

COURT ASSIGNMENTS AND SURFACES

Captains must designate home courts during the time of registration (by March 25). Failure to do this causes a home court to be assigned by the League Coordinator, this assignment will not be changed once schedules are completed. If you arrive at a location and they have more than one surface for your match, the home team captain will assign which positions play on which court surface. The court assignment must be noted on the one team's lineup before they exchange their lineup cards.

BATHROOM BREAKS

Reasonable bathroom breaks are allowed. No one should accompany that player other than a partner or opponent.

STANDINGS/PROCEDURES FOR TIE AT END OF THE SEASON

- Regular season standings will be based on 1) Total teams wins; and 2) Individual Matches won

- Procedures in the event of a tie will be as follows: 1) Team Score (wins and losses); 2) Individual Matches Won; 3) Sets Won Lost and 4) Games Won/Lost. **Tennis Link is set up to place teams according to their rank.

COACHING

- A coach must be with their team at each match whether it is home or away.
- Coaches for ages 5-8 may coach as needed throughout the match.
- Coaches for ages 9-18 may coach during the change-over ONLY.
- Team coaches, teammates, and spectators may not volunteer advice online calls or scoring.

03/17/21

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