



2010 USTA Jr. Team Tennis Tennessee State Championships

July 30- August 1
Chattanooga, TN

Mission Statement

The USTA Jr. Team Tennis program emphasizes fun, fitness, and friends. The focus in this program is enjoying the exhilaration of exercise and refining the skills that make tennis fun for players of all ages and levels of competition. All participants play on a team, practice with friends, and play matches together. The 12 & U, 14 & U and 18 & U teams at both Intermediate and Advanced have the opportunity to advance to Section competition. Winners in the 14 & U and 18 & U Intermediate and Advanced divisions at Sectionals may qualify for the National Championships.

In addition, there will be an 8 & U, quick start format division and a 10 and under 60' court division. Teams must qualify locally to advance to the Tennessee Championship. Currently, there is no Sectional or National Championships for these levels.

Tournament Format

The format may change after the registration deadline depending on the total number of teams in each given division. Final confirmation of the tournament format will be provided for each division after the registration deadline. The anticipated format will be one complete round robin rotation within a flight. The flight winners will play for the Championship. If multiple flights are not needed, then one complete round robin rotation will determine the champion based on cumulative games won unless alternative scoring/criteria are needed due to circumstances outside the tournament committee's control.

Disputes concerning a match or player involved in a match must be made by the Coach no later than 30 minutes after the completed match scores are given to the tournament desk. After this 30-minute period, all results are final.

Questions concerning rules and regulations should be addressed to the Tournament Director. If an immediate ruling is not possible, the Tournament Committee will render a decision.

Team Managers and Coaches

- All coaches must be 18 years or older.
- Teams may have a Team Manger and a Coach. One coach is required for the duration of the individual match. Only the designated Coach will be permitted to coach during the coaching period.
- The tournament director reserves the right to change or alter the coaching rules of a championship event.
- It is encouraged to have a Team manger to take care of the administrative duties and a Coach to take care of coaching duties.

Match Format

12 & under I/A, 14 & under I/A, and 18 and under I/A Divisions:

A team match is made up of 5 events – boys' singles, girls' singles, boys' doubles, girls' doubles and mixed doubles.

10 and under 60' court Division:

A team match is made up of one boys singles, one girls singles and one mixed doubles.

8 & under Quick Start format Division:

A team match is made up of two singles and one doubles.

Individual Match Scoring

12 & under I/A, 14 & under I/A, and 18 and under I/A Divisions:

A match will consist of best two out of three sets first to 4 games with a tie-break played at 3-all.

8 & under Quick Start format Division and 10 and under 60' court Division:

A match will consist of 7 pt. games and first to win 2 out of three is winner of the match.

Team Match Scoring

The team match is scored by cumulative games won from each of the events. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to determine another means of determining winners should that be necessary.

Championship Flight Setup

Teams will participate in a non-elimination round-robin format with playoff crossovers if applicable. Teams will be separated into flights/divisions depending on the size of the championship event. The winner of each flight/division will be determined by total games won. If there are an uneven # of flights in the non-elimination round robin, then the team in 2nd place with the highest wins/losses will advance to the championship play-off. The tournament committee reserves the right to change the play-off draw should two teams from the same round robin flight be set to play one another.

In the event that teams within a flight tie, a flight tiebreak will be determined as follows:

- 1) If two teams are tied: head-to-head results (most games won in that head-to-head match)
- 2) If three or more teams are tied: the least number of sets lost, then the least number of games lost, then, finally, a spin of the racquet.

Championship/Playoff Match Tiebreak

12 & under I/A, 14 & under I/A, and 18 and under I/A Divisions:

In the event that team scores are tied at the completion of a championship or playoff match, the teams will play a mixed doubles, 10-point match tiebreak to determine the winner of the overall match. Players for the mixed doubles may be selected when the tie occurs.

The tournament committee reserves the right to switch teams in the play-off brackets, so that teams that competed in the initial pool of play are not playing again in the first play-off match.

8 & under Quick Start format Division and 10 and under 60' court Division:

In the event that team scores are tied at the completion of a championship or playoff match, the teams will play a 10-point match tiebreak to determine the winner of the overall match.

Team Structure

12 & under I/A, 14 & under I/A, and 18 and under I/A Divisions:

- Each team must have a minimum of 3 boys and 3 girls. If a player is needed to “double up”, playing two positions within a single team match, *he or she must play in the mixed doubles for one of their two events*. Only one girl and one boy may “double up” within a team match. The player(s) being used twice must be evenly rotated between all players in a fixed order throughout flight play. At the start of a championship or playoff match, the fixed rotation is no longer required.
- If a team is reduced to 2 players of a given gender, they must default the singles slot in which they are short the player.
- To be eligible, players must have 3 team match histories from local season play in TennisLink, where only 1 of the 3 matches may be recorded as a default or forfeit by the opposing team.
- If a player on a qualifying team advancing to a championship competition is, for whatever reason, unable to participate, a substitute player may be added to the qualifying team's roster from the same local league, ONLY in order to meet the minimum team size requirement. No more than **one boy and/or one girl** may be added to any team roster. For example, a regular season team with 4 boys and 4 girls who has both a boy and girl not available to play at state **cannot** add players, as they still have the minimum of 3 boys and 3 girls on their team roster.
- Players added to a roster must have played on a team in the same local league that season and meet all other eligibility requirements.

8 & under Quick Start format Division:

- A team will consist of 3 – 4 members/non gender specific.
- A player, from the same local league may be added if the team drops to 2.

All substitutions in ALL age divisions must be done by the Jr. Team Tennis State coordinator.

Order of Play (12 & under I/A, 14 & under I/A, and 18 and under I/A Divisions):

- The order of play shall be Boys' and Girls' Singles, Boys' and Girls' Doubles, and then Mixed Doubles.
- Line-ups for each team match are due at the tournament desk 30 minutes prior to scheduled match times.
- A pink slip must accompany your roster and must be signed prior to every match by the site personnel.
- Coaching (only permitted from Coaches with the tournament credential) is allowed from *outside* the fence on *changeovers only*. Coaching is not allowed at any other time. Interference from other parties, including parents, is not permitted.

Levels of Play

- USTA Jr. Team Tennis use the NTRP rating system to determine placement of eligible teams/individuals in proper divisions.
- Levels of Play - 12 & Under Intermediate (3.0 & Below), and Advanced (3.5 & Above); 14 & Under Intermediate (3.0 & Below) and Advanced (3.5 & Above); 18 & Under Intermediate (3.0 & Below) Advanced (3.5 & Above).
- Players with a Southern Standing of 1-300 in the 12's-18's and 1-100 in the 10's, as of July 31 preceding the Championship Year, must play in the Advanced Division, even if playing up in a different age division. A player falling below this benchmark should refer to NTRP criteria to determine if their skill requires them to play in the advanced division. This NTRP criteria also applies if a player has an NTRP rating from participating in a USTA Adult League.
- Each individual team member, not the team average, must fit the NTRP guidelines for the level of play.
- If a player is found to be out of level, they will not continue to play in the championship and all points won by that player will be removed.

Player Verification

Players will be subjected to the Tennislink exception report to verify they have the required local league 3-team match history, meet age requirements, and team composition. All participants must be age eligible for their division of play through August 31, 2009.

Coaches

The designated coach may report infractions to the Official, who shall then take appropriate action. Only the designated coach will be permitted to coach during the changeovers.

Mandatory Team Manager Conference Calls:

Mandatory conference calls will be conducted with Team Managers of participating teams to review any and all information regarding to the championships. The calls will be Monday, July 27 at 6:00 PM central time and Tuesday, July 28 at 6:00 PM central time. A team manager only needs to be on one call. The call in # is 800-653-7574 Pass Code: 1278699#

Amenities/Awards/Activities

- All team members will receive a tournament t-shirt.
- Team members on the champion and finalist teams from each division will receive individual gifts.
- Coaches from each team may vote to help determine the recipients of the Sportsmanship awards (boy and girl).
- Awards ceremony will immediately follow final round matches.