



USTA SOUTHERN COMBO DOUBLES 2011 TENNESSEE STATE REGULATIONS

USTA Southern Combo Doubles Regulations and the Tennessee State Regulations have full force and applicability at all levels of play for USTA Southern Combo Doubles in Tennessee. There is no authorization to modify or change these regulations by players, captains, local league coordinators, or Grievance or Grievance Appeal Committees. The RULES OF TENNIS, “the Code” and Friend at Court govern play. The USTA Southern Combo Doubles State League Coordinator and the USTA Tennessee State League Committee shall have the authority to interpret the Tennessee State Regulations. The USTA Southern Section has approved these Regulations.

1. All players must be a current member of the USTA with a valid membership through March 31, 2012. All teams and players will register through TennisLink. Team captains will use the following format for team name: State/Local League/Captain’s last name (example: TN/Nashville/Bodry). All participants must reach 18 years of age for Adult divisions, 50 for Senior divisions, and 60 for Super Senior divisions during the calendar year in which they play their first local league match. Teams must have six (6) players with compatible NTRP ratings registered by the local league deadline to constitute a legal team.
2. The National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) is the official system for rating levels of competition in USTA Southern Combo Doubles. **Players who do not have a computer rating on file in TennisLink shall self rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines and complete the self-rating process on TennisLink when registering for a team. Failure to do so or omission of information regarding a player’s tennis history will subject the player, the captain, and/or others who condoned inaccurate self rating to sanctions and disqualification.**
3. Self-rated players who misrepresent their actual skill level are considered to have violated the standards of good conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship and may be subject to a grievance complaint and possible disqualification. A captain, local league coordinator, or member of the State League Committee can file a NTRP grievance.
4. The format of play will be three individual doubles matches per team match. Local and state championship matches will be the best of two sets with a Set Tiebreak (first to 7 by 2) used at 6 all in each set. In lieu of a third set, a Match Tiebreak (first to 10 by 2) will be played. The Coman Tiebreak Procedure will be used for all Set Tiebreaks and Match Tiebreaks in local league and state championship matches. There will be a two-minute set break at the end of each set. There is no coaching at any time.
5. Tennessee authorizes a player NTRP limit for Adults, Seniors, and Super Seniors. Levels offered are:

Adult

5.0 level your rating cannot exceed 2.5
5.5 level your rating cannot exceed 3.0
6.5 level your rating cannot exceed 3.5
7.5 level your rating cannot exceed 4.0
8.5 level your rating cannot exceed 4.5
9.5 level your rating cannot exceed 5.0
10.5 level open to all players

Senior

5.5 level your rating cannot exceed 3.0
6.5 level your rating cannot exceed 3.5
7.5 level your rating cannot exceed 4.0
8.5 level your rating cannot exceed 4.5

Super Senior

6.5 level your rating cannot exceed 3.5
7.5 level your rating cannot exceed 4.0
8.5 level your rating cannot exceed 4.5

6. Local League areas have the authority to limit the number of players on a team roster and limit the number of players from out of state. This can be by percentage or number. Teams must be able to qualify all players on the team roster.

7. If a player is disqualified from the Adult and Senior League program and that disqualification affects a team registration, then the local league deadline will be waived for the affected team(s) for one week.

8. All players must play at least one match locally to be eligible for the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship. Defaults received do count toward advancement. A retired match counts for all players. Players may play on more than one level in a local league. Players must play at least one match in both levels to advance to the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship. If there is only one team registered in a local league at a specific level, that team may advance directly to the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship. All players must play at least one match at the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship to advance to the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Sectional Championship. If there is only one team registered at a specific level in the state, that team may advance directly to the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Sectional Championship.

9. Players may advance on two (2) Adult; or two (2) Senior; or one (1) Adult and one (1) Senior; or one (1) Adult, one (1) Senior, and one (1) Combo Super Senior teams at the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship. There will be no special scheduling for those players playing on more than one team at the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship.

10. The following areas have been approved as Local Leagues: Chattanooga, Fairfield Glade, Greeneville, Jackson, Knoxville, Loudon, Memphis, META, Murfreesboro, Nashville, and Union City. A new USTA Southern Combo Doubles League may be considered at the discretion of the State League Coordinator and the State League Committee.

11. The total local league registration fee for a player is not to exceed \$27. There will be a three (\$3) dollar fee added each time a player registers for a team in TennisLink. Eight (\$8) dollars of that fee goes to USTA Tennessee to offset expenses for the state administration of the league (**no refunds**). Each coordinator may receive four (\$4) dollars for his/her compensation. The remainder of the fee is to offset local league expenses. Court fees are not included in local league registration fees. Local League Coordinators are required to submit a preliminary and a year-end budget to the State League Coordinator.

12. Local leagues that have separate flights will have a playoff of the top team(s) from each flight. Local Leagues will determine the number of teams from each flight to play in the playoff and the method used (round robin or single elimination). The winner of the playoff will be the first place team of that local level.

13. A local league that has ten (10) or more teams at a single level will advance two (2) teams to the 2011 USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship. A local league with twenty (20) or more teams at a single level will advance three (3) teams to the 2011 USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship.

14. The USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship Committee determines the number of teams needed to round out a Championship division. If a wild card is needed, one will be selected by process of a blind draw from all local leagues at that combined level. If for any reason a team receiving a wild card invitation cannot advance to the 2011 USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship, then the wild card goes back to the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship Committee to be drawn again.

15. A minimum of six (6) team members who were on the final roster of their local league team must be available and eligible to compete for all matches at the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship. The State Championship Committee can reduce that number to not less than four (4). Any team defaulting a court at the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship without prior approval from the State Championship Committee will be fined \$50 per match. If the fine is not paid, all players listed on that roster will not be able to advance to the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship in 2011.

16. All players advancing to the 2011 USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship will be charged twenty-five (\$25) dollars per person. Captains are to turn in one check to the Local League Coordinator for all team members advancing to the State Championship. Checks must be turned in prior to the State Championship. Checks are to be made out to USTA Tennessee.

17. State Championship awards will be given only to players who paid and participated on the winning team at the State Championship.

18. Teams advancing to the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship must plan to stay and play the duration of all their round robin matches, winning or losing. Leaving a State Championship before all round robin matches are completed may be cause for a grievance to be filed by the State League Coordinator against that captain and their team. Any team withdrawing after the schedule is posted on the USTA Tennessee web site (www.tennesseetennis.com) may be subject to a grievance filed by the State League Coordinator and is subject to such penalties or sanctions deemed appropriate by a Grievance Committee. The tentative schedule will be posted on the www.tennesseetennis.com web site one week prior to the State Championship.

19. The USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Championship will be October 21-23, 2011 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The 2011 USTA Southern Combo Doubles Southern Sectional Championship will be March 2-5, 2012. The site is Mobile, AL.

Listed below are the people named to serve on the USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennessee State Grievance and Grievance Appeal Committees. The members of the Committee(s) may be the same as, or different, in whole or in part, from the Committee(s) first approved.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE: Elizabeth Walker (Chairman), Vicki Laughters, Barbara Hooper

GRIEVANCE APPEALS COMMITTEE: Pat Evans (Chairman), Deidra Dunn, Bob Ambler

TENNESSEE STATE LEAGUE COMMITTEE: Ann Flint (Chairman), Paul Fultz, Angel Talwar, Nancy Vineyard

