

Etowah Valley Tennis Association Rules

1. The Rules of Tennis: “The Code” shall be in effect for all league matches. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. If a player has a complaint regarding the conduct of another player or team, a written grievance may be filed with the league coordinator. Grievance forms may be obtained from the league coordinator. Only players are allowed on the court during a match. Players should leave the courts immediately after their match.

2. Roster Information: For Adult levels 3.0-4.5 a roster limit of a minimum of 8 players and a maximum of 15 players per team applies. For Combo, Senior and Mixed, Adult 2.0-2.5 a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 players applies.

Any valid player may be added to the roster at any time. However a player must play two matches to be able to advance to state for the adult leagues. Senior adults must play one match.

All team members must be registered members of the USTA with valid membership. Players must be 19 years of age before December 31st of the year in which they wish to play. Players must play at the NTRP rating assigned them on the date of their registration. Players may only play at their NTRP rating level or one level higher.

For teams that advance to the state championship, the league will pay the registration fee for the first 10 players. The team is responsible for the registration fee for any additional players.

3. Captains' Responsibilities:

Ensure that all team members and spectators follow the rules of sportsmanship.

Home captain - Ensure that a minimum of **3** courts are assigned to the match at the designated start time (2 courts minimum for adult 2.0-2.5, senior, combo and mixed). If additional courts are available notify the visiting captain as to the number of courts that are available to ensure that all players are ready to play when courts are available.

Home captain - Email league coordinator if completion of the match is delayed.

Home captain - Initiate exchange of scorecards 10 minutes prior to match time.

Home captain - Ensure that tennis balls are provided for the match.

Verify scores and make sure cards are identical at the completion of the match.

Home captain - Enter scores in Tennis link within 24 hours of completion of the match.

Visiting captain - Verify scores in Tennis link within 48 hours of completion of the match. If they are not entered within this timeframe, a double default will be applied to the match and no point will be awarded.

4. Team Match Scoring: The team winning the majority of individual matches shall be awarded one team point for that team match. The team compiling the most team match points at the end of the season shall be champions. In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures:

- a) Winner of the most individual matches,
- b) Loser of the fewest number of sets,
- c) Loser of the fewest number of games.

All matches will be two out of three sets, with the third set being a 10 point tiebreaker.

All players must play two matches to be eligible to play at state playoffs (one match for Combo and senior adult), with the exception of senior mixed/combo and super senior area teams.

5. Match Play: Matches will begin and must be played at the scheduled times as posted on the Tennis link or on an earlier date if agreed to by both team captains.

Warm up is limited to 10 minutes.

Match format consists of:

- For Adult leagues, 3.0-4.5, 2 singles and 3 doubles lines.
- For Adult leagues, 2.0-2.5, 1 singles and 2 doubles.
- For Senior, Combo and Mixed leagues, 3 doubles.

Order of play will be 1 singles, 1 doubles, 2 singles, 2 doubles, and 3 doubles for Adult leagues and 1,2,3 doubles for Senior, Combo and Mixed.

At match time, if only three courts are provide by the home team - 1 singles, 1 doubles, and 2 singles must be present for play at match time. 2 doubles and 3 doubles must be present for play 1 hour after the scheduled start time for the match.

The 15 minute default rule will apply. In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or a no show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (once the line-up has been exchanged), a team may substitute a player in the affected position within the 15 minute default time using a player not already listed in the line-up. If no substitution can be made, the affected position will be defaulted. The non-forfeiting team will be credited with a 6-0, 6-0 win.

A team may forfeit a maximum of two positions (one for 2.0-2.5, combo, mixed, and senior) without forfeiting the entire match. Number 2 singles must forfeit before number 1 singles. Number 3 doubles must forfeit before number 2 doubles.

6. Weather Conditions: Inclement weather is defined as precipitation sufficient to make the courts unplayable, lightening in the immediate area, severe weather or an actual temperature below 29 degrees F or above 99 degrees F.

If teams have reported for play and the match is delayed or interrupted by weather, teams must wait 30 minutes to determine if courts are playable. If courts are still not playable after 30 minutes, teams are free to leave and reschedule unless both teams agree to wait longer.

If matches are postponed due to weather conditions, team captains have one week to make up matches. Captains must call the courts and verify court availability for makeup matches.

7. New NTRP Ratings: After sectional and national tournaments, an NTRP ratings list is published on USTAGEORGIA.COM, identifying those players no longer eligible to play at their previous level. Players must check their rating before signing up for a team.