

# LOWCOUNTRY TENNIS ASSOCIATION

## LOCAL LEAGUE REGULATIONS

FOR THE 2020 USTA ADULT LEAGUE  
TENNIS PROGRAM  
JANUARY 8, 2020 - APPROVED

APPROVED

## CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>1.00 GENERAL</b> .....	<b>4</b>
1.07 Tennis Balls.....	4
1.18 Sectional League Coordinator.....	4
1.19 Director of Adult Leagues (DL).....	5
1.20 Manager of Adult Leagues (ML).....	5
1.21 Local League Coordinator (LLC) .....	5
1.22 Team Captain .....	6
1.24 Local League Season .....	6
1.25 Assigned Teams.....	6
1.26 Court Facilities .....	7
1.27 Coaching And Sportsmanship.....	8
5-9. Basic Protocol and Dispute Resolution	
<b>2.00 LOCAL LEAGUE REGULATIONS</b> .....	<b>10</b>
2.01A Number of Teams.....	10
2.01B Team – Minimum Numbers of Players .....	10
2.01C Playing Up Requirements.....	11
2.01D Entry onto a team including self-rating procedures.....	11
2.01E Levels of Play Offered .....	12
2.01F Scoring and Rest – 10 point match TB in lieu of a third set .....	12
2.01G Competition .....	13
2.01G (1) Schedule Format.....	13
(1) Regular Season .....	13
(2) Local Championships - Formats, Sites and Dates .....	13
(3) Tentative Local Championships Dates for 2020.....	17
(4) South Carolina Adult Championship Dates for 2020.....	17
2.01H Team Match and Scoring .....	18
2.01H (1) 1.04C (2) Score Reporting in TennisLink.....	18
2.01I Team Lineups.....	19
(1) Strength Sheets.....	19
(2) When and how to exchange line-ups.....	19
(3) Match start times .....	19
(4) Delay in Play .....	20

(5) Defaults.....	21
2.01J Player Participation.....	21
<i>2.01K Inclement Weather .....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>2.01K (1) Inclement Weather During Regular Season .....</i>	<i>22</i>
(1) Who determines.....	22
(2) Make-up requirements.....	22
(3) How make-ups can be played.....	22
(4) <i>Flight BYE week.....</i>	<i>23</i>
2.01K (2) Inclement Weather During Local Championships.....	23
(1) Who determines.....	23
(2) Make-up requirements.....	23
2.01L Registration .....	24
(1) Player registration.....	24
(2) Team rosters .....	24
(3) Adding Players to the team roster .....	24
(4) Match eligibility .....	24
(5) Player requirements .....	24
2.01M Rescheduling Due to Conflicting Events .....	25
<b>2.03 AREA, SECTIONAL, AND NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS .....</b>	<b>25</b>
2.03A Eligibility for Advancement.....	25
<b>2.04 League NTRP Disqualification and Appeal Procedures .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<i>2.04A NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Procedures.....</i>	<i>25</i>
2.04B Local League NTRP Disqualification.....	26
2.04C NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Appeal Procedures .....	26
2.04D Scoring Procedures.....	26
<b>3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>3.01 GRIEVANCE COMPLAINTS .....</b>	<b>26</b>
3.01A Grievance Complaints During Local Championships.....	27
3.01B Grievance Complaints Concerning LCTA League Administration. ....	27
3.01C NTRP Eligibility Grievance Complaint .....	28
<b>Approvals.....</b>	<b>29</b>

## INTRODUCTION

The following are the regulations for the 2020 USTA League Tennis Program in the Lowcountry Tennis Association of the South Carolina State of the Southern Section, and they apply to the Adult 18& Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over and 75 & Over Leagues. These regulations augment the USTA League Tennis **2020** Regulations, the USTA Southern Sectional Regulations for USTA League Tennis for League Year 2020, the USTA South Carolina State Regulations for USTA League Tennis for League Year 2020, the Lowcountry Tennis Association Constitution and the Lowcountry Tennis Association By-Laws. For the most part, Local League Regulations do not repeat rules and regulations found in the other documents. In those instances, where a regulation is repeated, it is repeated verbatim. For a person to understand the full set of regulations that apply to the Lowcountry Tennis Association, it is necessary to have copies of all of the Regulations mentioned above. These regulations can be found on the Lowcountry Tennis Association website [www.lctatennis.org](http://www.lctatennis.org)

National and Southern League and USTA South Carolina League regulations take precedence Over the Lowcountry Tennis Association Local League Regulations. If any conflicts occur, the Local League Regulations will be Overruled by the other regulations.

It may be necessary to correct or change the Local League Regulations in order to react to changes in USTA League Tennis, Southern Sectional or South Carolina State regulations.

## 1.00 GENERAL

### 1.07 TENNIS BALLS

The home team must furnish one can of unopened yellow balls for each of the *individual* matches to be played. In USTA League matches, a standard Type 2 USTA approved ball shall be used. The use of any USTA “transition” ball is prohibited. The Penn pink tennis balls are not approved by the USTA and thus cannot be used for League Tennis play.

### 1.18 SECTIONAL LEAGUE COORDINATOR (SLC)

The Southern Section has appointed Chris Walling as Sectional League Coordinator to implement and administer the USTA League Tennis Program in accordance with the USTA League Tennis Regulations.

### 1.19 DIRECTOR OF ADULT LEAGUES (DL)

The following person has been appointed to implement and administer the South Carolina State USTA League Tennis Program as well as implement and administer the USTA/South Carolina Adult 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over and 75 & Over USTA League Tennis Program:

Jessica Harrell  
18 Woodcross Drive  
Columbia, SC 29212  
[Harrell@sctennis.com](mailto:Harrell@sctennis.com)  
*803-781-2574 ext. 103*

### 1.20 MANAGER OF ADULT LEAGUES (ML)

The following person has been appointed to implement and administer the South Carolina State USTA League Tennis Program as well as implement and administer the USTA/South Carolina Adult 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over and 75 & Over USTA League Tennis Program:

Susan Turner  
18 Woodcross Drive  
Columbia, SC 29212  
[Turner@sctennis.com](mailto:Turner@sctennis.com)  
*803-781-2574 ext. 140*  
*803-201-1016 cell*

### 1.21 LOCAL LEAGUE COORDINATOR (LLC)

The following person has been appointed to implement and, along with the Low Country Adult League Tennis Local League Committee, administer the Lowcountry Tennis Association USTA League Tennis Program, and to interpret the Lowcountry Tennis Association Local League Regulations:

Doreen "Dee" Mack  
1014 Magnolia Road  
Charleston, SC 29407  
[hotback4@gmail.com](mailto:hotback4@gmail.com)  
*843-568-0391*

The local league coordinator also has the authority to change the dates for registering a team and/or adding players to a team after those dates are published.

## 1.22 TEAM CAPTAIN

Each team shall appoint a team captain to handle administrative affairs and to represent the team in Lowcountry Tennis Association matters. It is recommended that the team captain be a playing member of the team, but, in no circumstances, may an individual be a team captain of more than one Adult 18 & Over, *40 & Over, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over or 75 & Over* team at the same level of play. An individual could be the captain of *multiple teams in the same age division* at different levels of play. The team captain, or an acting team captain, must be present at every match. Each team may also appoint a co-captain. Both the captain and co-captain (if there is one) must have an email address and telephone number in TennisLink.

## 1.24 LOCAL LEAGUE SEASON

The season for the Lowcountry Tennis Association Local Spring League shall be from January 1, 2020 to April 30, 2020.

## 1.25 ASSIGNED TEAMS

If teams are assigned from other leagues and/or tennis associations to play in the Lowcountry Tennis Association, those teams will play all their matches at Lowcountry Tennis Association sites. The Lowcountry Tennis Association geographic area is the South Carolina Counties of Charleston, Colleton, Berkeley, and Dorchester.

Replaced by State Regulation:

1.04D (5)b Number of Teams. When a Local League does not have the required number of Teams, (two teams) for Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over, Adult 65 & Over and Adult 70 & Over, to constitute a level, the affected Local League Coordinators, shall either:

- (1) Offer to move that team to another age division offered in that area in that level, if applicable.
- (2) Move individual players to another team in that area, if applicable, or move them to an "Extra Players" flight to hold for future play in other leagues, i.e. Mixed, Combo, etc.
- (3) The Director of Adult Leagues or Manager of Adult Leagues may move a singleton team to another area's league tree only if it is agreed upon by both local league coordinators and accomplished before that recipient area's deadline.
- (4) Complete teams that are moved to play in a local league area other than their home local league must secure home courts in that local league they choose to

- participate unless both local league coordinators agree on something different.
- (5) If one singleton team is moved into an already existing league of at least 2 teams, then that singleton team must secure home courts in that host local league where they have been moved and if that singleton team wins that league, they will represent that host league at the State Championship.
    - The singleton team must follow all rules and regulations of the host league.
    - The host league is responsible for all awards, state championship fees (if applicable) and state championship registration.
  - (6) If Local League coordinators agree to combine singleton teams in order to form a league for those teams to qualify, the winning team from that singleton league will be allowed to represent the Local League where they initially registered.
    - Rules and regulation issues that occur during the singleton team league play will be handled by the State League coordinator in consultation with the Local League coordinators that are involved.
    - The area that is represented by the winning team will be responsible for all awards, state championship fees (if applicable) and state championship registration for that team.
  - (7) Refund all or a portion of the registration fee in accordance with the Local League policy.

## 1.26 COURT FACILITIES

Each team participating in the Lowcountry Tennis Association must guarantee the use of three courts at one location for all LCTA regularly scheduled and make-up matches. Any approved USTA surface is permissible, including indoor and outdoor (clay or hard) surfaces. The choice of surfaces is the prerogative of the home team, and more than one surface may be used for a single team match. The home team must identify which individual matches will be played on which surfaces prior to either team turning in the line-up for play that day. The home team is responsible to have courts available and playable at match time. **If the court surface of the home team's choice is not available but alternate court surfaces at the home team facility are available and playable, the available and playable surfaces must be used.**

The following further defines the number of teams that may form at a facility:

For 3 position leagues, (Mixed, Combo, Singles, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over, 75 & Over, 2.5 and 5.0+) a maximum for 2 teams for every 3 courts can be accommodated. If a facility will commit to the following – 3 courts - 2 teams; 6 courts - 4 teams; 9 or more courts - 6 teams at a facility can be accommodated.

For 4 or 5 position leagues, a maximum of 2 teams can be accommodated for 3-9 courts; a maximum of 4 teams can be accommodated in facilities that will commit courts. In the case of Charleston Tennis Center, more than 4 teams can be accommodated by using Bees Landing; for Maybank, additional teams can be accommodated by using Alan Fleming courts.

For 3 position leagues where more than one division is scheduled to play at the same time, 6 courts must be available to accommodate a 3 position leagues.

For 4 or 5 position leagues where more than one division is scheduled to play at the same time, 8 courts must be available to accommodate a combination of 2 - 5 position leagues and 2- 3 position leagues; for 1 - 5 position division and 2 - 3 position division, 8 courts must be available.

### 1.27 COACHING AND SPORTSMANSHIP

1. There is no coaching allowed in the LCTA Leagues.
2. There are no linesmen or referees for LCTA matches. If a conflict occurs during match play Over line calls, the players involved may request their captains to appoint a linesperson for the remainder of the match.
3. Foot faults are illegal. Constant and blatant foot faulting giving the server a definite advantage should be politely brought to the attention of the server. If the foot-faulting continues, the players involved may request the captains to appoint a linesperson for the remainder of the match.
4. Players should call the score after each point to avoid confusion. If there is disagreement Over the score, players should go back to the last agreed upon point.
5. Spectators may not aid players in making a line call or in determining the correct score. Spectators should not participate in the match in any way and should refrain from doing so even if asked by the players.
6. Spectators may quietly watch a match in progress. They should not sit or stand at the end of the court immediately behind the servers or receivers if it is distracting to the players. Spectators may quietly clap for points well played. It should be remembered that the well-played point should be applauded regardless of who won the point. It is poor tennis etiquette to clap for unforced errors.
7. It is the responsibility of the team captain to control the noise and behavior of team spectators. Loud, boisterous or unsportsmanlike behavior is unacceptable. If a problem arises with a spectator, both players should ask the spectator to refrain from the offensive behavior. If the behavior persists, the team captains should be summoned to handle the situation. If necessary, a grievance should be filed.
8. Coaches and club professionals must not interfere in discussions or negotiations between players or captains unless specifically asked by both captains for advice. Even then, it is the responsibility of the two captains, not the coach or professional, to decide on the appropriate resolution.
9. Disputes should be settled between players as soon as they arise. All points played



in good faith stand. Players should be able to resolve any dispute by themselves. If, however, they cannot, they should do the following:

- a. The player should inform the opponent of the problem and intention to leave the court to obtain the assistance of the team captain. When leaving the court, the racket should be left on the court.
- b. The captain should contact the opponent's captain and they should try to resolve the dispute. If the captains are involved in playing a match, the players may have to postpone their play until the captains are available to assist them.
- c. If the captains and players cannot agree on a resolution to the conflict, the offended player(s) may either:
  - i. Continue to play the match, but to do so under protest. The score and who was serving at the time of the protest will be indicated on the scorecard with the annotation, "played under protest." At the conclusion of the match, the offended player(s) may or may not file a grievance. If no grievance is filed, the results of the match stand as completed.
  - ii. Stop play, ensuring both captains and the opponent know why. Indicate on the scorecard that the match was stopped in protest and indicate the score and who was serving at the time the match was stopped. The offended player or the player's captain should file a grievance. If a grievance is not submitted within the required time frame, the match will be scored as a retirement by the offended player (see paragraph 3.01B).

## 2.00 LOCAL LEAGUE REGULATIONS

### 2.01A NUMBER OF TEAMS

The Lowcountry Tennis Association shall consist of a minimum of two teams in a specific level of competition or division. In order to accommodate scheduling considerations, the Lowcountry Tennis Association may establish two or more flights within a division. The decision to establish two or more flights will be made by the Level Coordinator for that Division in consultation with the Local League Coordinator. Assigning teams to flights will be done as follows:

1. Teams desiring to play during the day will be in separate flight(s) from teams desiring to play in the evening.
2. If there are two or more flights within the day or night groups, the make-up of a flight will be the result of either a random selection or based on geographical location, as determined by the level coordinator. When using the random selection alternative, the level coordinator may elect to split, to the maximum extent possible, the teams from a single tennis club among the flights.

### 2.01B TEAM – MINIMUM NUMBERS OF PLAYERS

1. 18 & Over League teams in the 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 4.5 divisions shall consist of a minimum of eight players of the same sex eligible to compete at a specific level of competition.
  - a. 40 & Over League teams in the 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 4.5 divisions shall consist of a minimum of *seven* players of the same sex eligible to compete at a specific level of competition.
2. 18 & Over and 40 & Over League teams in the 2.5 division and 18 & Over League teams in the 5.0 division shall consist of a minimum of five players of the same sex eligible to compete at a specific level of competition.
3. 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over and 75 & Over teams in the *2.5*, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 9.0 divisions shall consist of a minimum of six players of the same sex eligible to compete at a specific level of competition. Team members may have an individual Dynamic National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) rating below but not higher than the maximum NTRP rating of the level in which they are competing.
4. All members of a team in the Adult 18 & Over League must be at least 18 years of age *prior to participating in a USTA League*.
5. All members of a team in the Adult 40 & Over League must be at least 40 years of age by December 31, 2020.
6. All members of a team in the Adult 55 & Over League must be at least 55 years of age by December 31, 2020.
7. All members of a team in the Adult 65 & Over League must be at least 65 years of age by December 31, 2020.
8. All members of a team in the Adult 70 & Over League must be at least 70 years of age by December 31, 2020.

9. All members of a team in the Adult 75 & Over League must be at least 75 years of age by December 31, 2020.

## 2.01C PLAYING UP REQUIREMENTS

Teams in the Lowcountry Tennis Association are limited in the number of players on the roster who have an NTRP rating (whether computer-generated or self-rated) that is lower than the level of play. 18 & Over and 40 & Over League teams (except for 4.5 teams) playing in the LCTA are limited to four players that are “playing up.”

Teams that believe they should be given an exemption from this rule may submit a well-justified request to the Local League Coordinator or Playing Up Committee Chair. An LCTA Committee will review the request and determine whether an exemption will be granted. Teams with more than the authorized number of players “playing up” will be required to remove one or more players from the team until the authorized number is not exceeded.

18 & Over and 40 & Over 4.5 teams are allowed an unlimited number of players playing up as long as there are at least four players on the team with a 4.5 rating. (Note: for age groups 55 & Over and the other older age groups, the team must have at least 3 players at rating. Once this requirement is satisfied any number of players may play up without a waiver.)

Irrespective of the regulations above, if any LCTA team is in a flight consisting of only two teams, both of the teams must be in compliance with 2020 USTA Regulation 1.04D “If any Adult Division Age Group consists of only two teams in a level of play, each team must maintain its roster with at least 40 percent of its players at the designated NTRP level of play. The exception is the Adult Division 55 & Over Age Group that uses combined NTRP rating levels and will not be required to comply with this Regulation.

Teams in the Lowcountry Tennis Association 65 & Over, 70 & Over and 75 & Over leagues in the 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 9.0 divisions are unlimited to number of players that are “playing up.”

(Note: for age group 55 and Over, the team must have at least 3 players at rating. Once this requirement is satisfied any number of players may play up without a waiver. An exception to this regulation can be made with the approval of the LLC if a registered singleton team must compete locally to advance to the state championship.

## 2.01D ENTRY ONTO A TEAM INCLUDING SELF-RATING PROCEDURES

1. Players with a computer rating must play at that NTRP level or higher.

2. Players without a computer rating but who self-rated within the past two years must play at that level or higher.
3. 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 provide accurate 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. Important note: After a player self-rates, the player must play at that NTRP level or higher; i.e., the player may self-rate at a level lower than the level at which the player intends to play.

#### 2.01E LEVELS OF PLAY OFFERED

The Lowcountry Tennis Association Local League has determined that for the league year of 2020, the following levels shall be available if there are at least two teams for the level.

18 & Over Men:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0+
18 & Over Women:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0+
40 & Over Men:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+
40 & Over Women:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+
55 & Over Men:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0
55 & Over Women:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0
65 & Over Men:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0
65 & Over Women:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0
70 & Over Men:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0
70 & Over Women:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0
75 & Over Men:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0
75 & Over Women:	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0

#### 2.01F SCORING AND REST – 10 POINT MATCH TB IN LIEU OF A THIRD SET

1. All matches in the 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over and 75 & Over Leagues will be the best of three sets with a match tie break (i.e., first team to win at least 10 points and with at least a two point margin Over the opponent) in lieu of the third set, and with set tie breaks (i.e., first team to win at least 7 points and with at least a two point margin Over the opponent) at 6-all in the first two sets. If either a set tiebreak or match tiebreak is needed the LCTA will use the Coman Tiebreak Procedure.
  - a. During Local playoffs in the LCTA, all matches in both the 18 & Over, 40 & Over and 55 & Over League will be the best of three sets with a match tie break used in lieu of a third set.
2. Players are allowed a 2-minute break at the end of each set

3. After the first game of each set, opponents will rotate sides without taking a break.

## 2.01G COMPETITION

### 2.01G(1) SCHEDULE FORMAT

#### 1. Regular Season

- a. Each division shall consist of one or more flights as discussed in paragraph 2.01A above.
- b. To the extent possible, each flight in each division shall play at least one round robin competition wherein every team plays every other team, and each team must play a minimum of three team matches. In a flight with two teams, the teams must play a minimum of three matches. In a flight with three teams, each team must play a minimum of four matches.
- c. Flights will only be subdivided into sub-flights when the number of teams registered for a flight is such that it does not allow one full round robin format to be played in the number of weeks allocated or available for play in any particular season.

#### 2. Local Championships: To participate in local championships, a player must have played in 2 regular season matches or have 1 default and 1 match played.

- a. Single Flight. When the division consists of a single flight, there will be no Lowcountry Tennis Association playoffs when the division consists of a single flight.
- b. Two Flights. When there are two flights in a division, the playoff format will depend upon the number of teams from the LCTA that will participate in the State Championships.
  - i. If only one LCTA team will participate in the State Championships, that team will be determined during a single playoff match involving the top team in each flight.
  - ii. If the Lowcountry Tennis Association receives a wild card for a second entry into the State Championships before the local championships are scheduled, the winner and finalist will be determined during a playoff in a round robin playoff, involving the top two teams in each flight/sub-flight, to determine the final placement of the teams. In the first round, the top team from each flight will play the number two team in the other flight. In the second round, the top team in each flight will play the number two team in its flight. In the third round, the top teams from each flight will play each other as will the second-place teams from each flight. If a wild card is received after the playoff schedule is published the two-team procedure will be followed.
- c. Three Flights. When there are three flights in a division, the playoff format will depend upon the number of teams from the LCTA that will participate in the State Championships.
  - i. If only one LCTA team will participate in the State Championships, a round

robin playoff involving the top team in each sub-flight, will be held to determine the final placement of the teams.

- ii. If the Lowcountry Tennis Association receives a wild card for a second entry into the State Championships before the local championships are scheduled, the winner and finalist will be determined during a playoff in a single elimination, eight-draw tournament format consisting of the top two teams from each flight. The first-place team will be the winner of the playoff. The second-place team will be the losing finalist of the playoff. The third-place team will be the winner of a match between the two losing semi-finalists of the playoff. The fourth-place team will be the loser of a match between the two losing semi-finalists of the playoff. The teams will be seeded in the following format.
  - Position 1 will go to the first-place finisher Flight #1 and will have a first-round bye.
  - Position 2 will be a bye position.
  - Position 3 will go to second place finisher from Flight #2 and will play Position 4 in the first round.
  - Position 4 will go to second place finisher from Flight #3 and will play Position 3 in the first round.
  - Position 5 will go to second place finisher Flight #1 and will play Position 6 in the first round.
  - Position 6 will go to first place finisher from Flight #3 and will play Position 5 in the first round.
  - Position 7 will be a bye position.
  - Position 8 will go to first place finisher from Flight #2 and will have a first-round bye.(In order to determine which flights are Flights #1, #2, and #3, the level coordinator will put the names of the three flights on separate sheets of paper, put them in a container, and select one sheet from the container. That will be Flight #1. The level coordinator will then select, in turn, Flights #2 and #3 from the remaining sheets of paper.)
- d. Four Flights. When there are four flights in a division, the Playoff format will depend upon the number of teams from the LCTA that will participate in the State Championships.
  - i. If only one LCTA team will participate in the State Championships, a round robin playoff involving the top team in each sub flight, will be held to determine the final placement of the teams.
  - ii. If the Lowcountry Tennis Association qualifies for more than one automatic entry or receives a wild card for a second entry into the State Championships before the playoffs are scheduled, the winner and finalist will be determined during a local championship in a single elimination, eight-draw tournament format consisting of the top two teams from each flight. The first-place team

will be the winner of playoff. The second-place team will be the losing finalist of the playoff. The third-place team will be the winner of a match between the two losing semi-finalists of the playoff. The fourth-place team will be the loser of a match between the two losing semi-finalists of the playoff. The teams will be seeded in the following format.

- Position 1 will go to the first-place finisher in Flight #1 and will play position #2 in the first round.
- Position 2 will go to the second-place finisher in Flight #4 and will play Position #1 in the first round.
- Position 3 will go to the second-place finisher in Flight #2 and will play Position #4 in the first round.
- Position 4 will go to the first-place finisher in Flight #3 and will play Position #3 in the first round.
- Position 5 will go to the first-place finisher in Flight #2 and will play Position #6 in the first round.
- Position 6 will go to the second-place finisher in Flight #3 and will play Position #5 in the first round.
- Position 7 will go to the second-place finisher in Flight #1 and will play Position #8 in the first round.
- Position 8 will go to the first-place finisher in Flight #4 and will play Position #7 in the first round.

(In order to determine which flights are Flights #1, #2, #3, and #4, the level coordinator will put the names of the four flights on separate sheets of paper, put them in a container, and select one sheet from the container. That will be Flight #1. The level coordinator will then select, in turn, Flights #2, #3, and #4 from the remaining sheets of paper.)

- e. Five Flights. When there are five flights in a level of play, the Playoff format will depend upon the number of teams from the LCTA that will participate in the State Championships.
- i. If only one LCTA team will participate in the State Championships, a round robin playoff involving the top team in each sub flight, will be held to determine the final placement of the teams.
  - ii. If the Lowcountry Tennis Association qualifies for more than one automatic entry or receives a wild card for a second entry into the State Championships before the local championships are scheduled, the winner and finalist will be determined during a single elimination, sixteen team draw, tournament-format playoff involving the top two teams in each flight. The first-place team, i.e., LCTA Champion, will be the winner of the playoff. The second-place team will be the losing finalist of the playoff. The third-place team will

be the winner of a match between the two losing semi-finalists of the Playoff. The fourth-place team will be the loser of the match between the two losing semi-finalists of the playoff. The teams will be seeded in the following format.

- Position 1 will go to the first-place finisher in Flight #1 and will have a bye in the first round.
- Position 2 will be a bye position.
- Position 3 will be a bye position.
- Position 4 will go to the second-place finisher in Flight #2 and will have a bye in the first round.
- Position 5 will go to the second-place finisher in Flight #4 and will play Position #6 in the first round.
- Position 6 will go to the second-place finisher in Flight #5 and will play Position #5 in the first round.
- Position 7 will be a bye position.
- Position 8 will go to the first-place finisher in Flight #3 and will have a bye in the first round.
- Position 9 will go to the first-place finisher in Flight #2 and will have a bye in the first round
- Position 10 will be a bye position.
- Position 11 will be the second-place finisher in flight #1 and will play position #12 in the first round.
- Position 12 will be the second-place finisher in flight #3 and will play position #11 in the first round.
- Position 13 will be the first-place finisher in flight #5 and will have a bye in the first round.
- Position 14 will be a bye position.
- Position 15 will be a bye position.
- Position 16 will be the first-place finisher in Flight #4 and will have a bye in the first round. (In order to determine which flights are Flights #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5, the level coordinator will put the names of the five flights on separate sheets of paper, put them in a container, and select one sheet from the container. That will be Flight #1. The level coordinator will then select, in turn, Flights #2, #3, #4, and #5 from the remaining sheets of paper.)

f. Playoff Sites. The selection of the playoff site(s) is the responsibility of the level coordinator. There are three possible approaches if a wild card is received before playoffs: (a) play all of the playoff matches at one site; (b) play each playoff match at the home facility of the team with the higher standing in the flight competition; (c) or a combination of the two. Under (b) and (c), if the home facility of the team with the higher standing is not available to



host the playoff match, the match will be held at the facility of the team with the lower standing will be asked to host the playoff match. If neither facility can host the match, the level coordinator will select a neutral site for the match.

g. **Playoff Dates.** For all divisions having playoffs, the playoff dates will be determined prior to the start of the season and the playoff dates will be posted on the LCTA web site.

### **3. Tentative Local Championships Dates for 2020**

18 and 40 & Over May 1<sup>st</sup> – May 8<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Pleasant Recreation

18 and 40 & Over May 9<sup>th</sup> – May 17<sup>th</sup> at Charleston Tennis Center

55 & Over April 25<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>

**\*\*\*\*\*All *Local* dates, times and locations are subject to change.\*\*\*\*\***

### **4. South Carolina Adult Championship Dates for 2020**

May 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> - Adult 70 & Over, Hilton Head, Levels 3, 3.5, 4

May 30<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> - Adult 55 & Over, Hilton Head, Levels 3, 3.5, 4, 9

June 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> - Adult 40 & Over, Florence, Levels 2.5, 3, 3.5, 4, 4.5+

June 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> - Adult 18 & Over, Aiken, Levels 4, 4.5, 5+

June 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> - Adult 18 & Over, Aiken, Levels 2.5, 3, 3.5

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> - Mixed Doubles, Hilton Head, 55 and 65 and Over, All Levels

Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> - Mixed Doubles, Hilton Head, 18 and 40 and Over, All Levels

Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> - Adult 75 & Over Invitational, Hilton Head, *All Levels*

Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> - Adult 65 & Over, Hilton Head, *All Levels*

Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> – Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> – Adult 40 & Over Combo Doubles, Florence, All Levels

Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> – Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Adult 18 & Over Combo Doubles, Florence, All Levels

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> – 18 & 40 Singles League, Aiken, All Levels

A player must play in at least 2 Local League matches in order to qualify to play at USTA SC Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over and Adult 55 & Over State Championship (a default received counts towards advancement). Local Playoffs are championships, not part of the local season.

A player must play in at least 1 Local League match in order to qualify to play at the USTA SC Adult 65 & Over and 70 & Over State Championship *(a default received counts towards advancement)*. *Local playoffs are championships, not part of the local season. There is no local play requirement for the 75 & Over State Invitational.*

## 2.01H TEAM MATCH AND SCORING

- a. *Team matches in the Lowcountry Tennis Association for the 18 & Over age division shall consist of:*(2) individual singles matches and (3) individual doubles matches for men and women in the 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 4.5 flights.
- b. (1) individual singles match and (2) individual doubles matches for men and women in the 18 & Over 2.5 and 5.0+ *levels*. (The format for the 5.0+ *level* may be revised by vote of a majority of the captains of the teams participating, and if so, approved by the LCTA Local League Coordinator.)
2. Each team match *in the Lowcountry Tennis Association* for 40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 4.5+ women, shall consist of 1 single and 3 doubles *matches*. *Each team match for the 40 & Over 2.5 and 5.0+ levels for men and women will consist of 1 singles and 2 doubles. (The format for the 5.0+ level may be revised by vote of a majority of the captains of the teams participating, and if so, approved by the LCTA Local League Coordinator).*
3. *Each team match in the Lowcountry Tennis Association for the 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over, and 75 & Over men and women shall consist of 3 doubles for all levels.*
4. *The team winning the majority of the individual matches in a team match shall be awarded one team point.*
5. *Flight standings at the end of the regular season shall be in the order of the number of team points won, i.e., the winner of the flight competition shall be the team with the most team points at the end of the season. In the event that two or more teams in a flight have the same number of team points at the end of the season, the tie shall be broken in the following manner for the 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over, and 75 & Over.*
  - i. *Winner of the most individual matches during the season.*
  - ii. *Head to Head competition.*
  - iii. *Loser of the fewest number of sets during the season.*
  - iv. *Loser of the fewest number of games during the season.*
  - v. *Games won percentage (%): Total games won divided by total games played.*
6. During playoff round robins when a wild card has been received, the positions of the teams at the end of the round robin shall be determined in the same manner as during flight competition except that only matches played during the playoff round robin will be used to determine team points, individual matches won, sets lost and games lost.

## 2.01H (1) SCORE REPORTING IN TENNISLINK.

Per USTA-SC regulation 1.04C (2)

The initial entry of match scores in TennisLink must take place within 48 hours of the completion of the match. After match scores have been entered in TennisLink, they must be confirmed by the opposing team within 48 hours of the initial entry or the initial score will automatically be considered valid. Failure to comply may subject teams to a grievance and/or double default.

1. While either team may enter the score, it is recommended that the captain or co-captain of the winning team enter the score.
2. If match scores are not entered into TennisLink within 48 hours, a team may receive a warning. Any additional occurrences of not entering the score within 48 hours of match completion may result in the match being excluded when determining the division/flight standings.
3. The captain of the losing team (or the team not entering the results in TennisLink) will verify that the scores have been entered correctly. The verifying captain will either confirm, through TennisLink, that the match score as reported is accurate, or will dispute the score if he/she believes an error has been made and that the reported score is incorrect.
4. The verification of the match score must be completed within 48 hours of the score being entered into TennisLink. After 48 hours, the reported score will be assumed to be correct, and there will be no opportunity to correct a score even if it is wrong.
5. It is strongly recommended that the two captains compare notes at the end of the match in order to decrease the probability of an erroneous score being entered into TennisLink.

## 2.011 TEAM LINEUPS

1. Strength sheets will not be used in the Lowcountry Tennis Association.
2. The two team captains shall exchange their team lineups in writing simultaneously, prior to the beginning of the team match but no later than the scheduled start time of the match. No substitution may be made in an individual match after the lineup has been presented, except for injury to, illness of, disqualification or no-show of a player. In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no-show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (once the lineup 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 on the lineup. If no substitution can be made, the affected position will be defaulted. . If a team has a default, the opposing team will have the opportunity to adjust their scorecard either in doubles by moving the third-place position to the second-place position or in singles by moving the second-place position to the first-place position.
3. Starting Match Play. All individual matches will begin (i.e., the first serve will be attempted) within fifteen minutes of the scheduled start time. All warm-ups, including service warm-ups, must be concluded prior to fifteen minutes after the scheduled start time. Exception: All players will be allowed a five-minute warm-up even if this means starting the match after the mandatory start time.

Captains that exchange lineups after the posted start time / begin play later than 15 minutes after the posted start time are in violation of LCTA rules and therefore subject to grievance, which can even be filed by captains of teams who play after your matches are Over. We encourage Captains to exchange lineups 5 minutes before the scheduled match time so the matches can begin.

4. There are two situations that delays in starting play MAY be accommodated:

- a. An unexpected, verifiable public situation (major accident, road closed, traffic re-routed) if the player communicates with their captain and the captain is able to communicate the situation to the other captain by scheduled start time. The late player is to stay in communication in transit. The delay will be considered for that position(s) only. All other matches shall start within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time. The maximum waiting time before default is 30 minutes after scheduled match time.
- b. Courts are not available to begin any of the matches.

5. Defaults

- a. An entire team default occurs when a team captain cannot field a majority of all positions for a team match.
- b. Defaults must be given "from the bottom" except for examples such as : #3 doubles must be defaulted before the #2 doubles, and the #2 doubles must be defaulted before the #1 doubles may be defaulted.
- c. To receive a win by default, the non-defaulting player or players must be present on court, ready to play. However, if a team captain advises his/her opponent in advance of the default, he/she, in effect, waives the requirement for the non-defaulting player(s) to be present in order to receive the default.
- d. If a captain is advised prior to the match that the opponent must default one or more positions and that captain knows that he/she would also have had to default a position, it is incumbent upon that captain to demonstrate good sportsmanship and declare a double default rather than to accept the win.
- e. If a team defaults an individual match during or prior to the line-up exchange, and inclement weather forces the match to be postponed before a point is played in any individual match, then the default is cancelled.
- f. If both teams default the same position, neither team will receive a win and the scorecard will indicate a double default.
- g. If a 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over, 65 & Over, 70 & Over and 75 & Over team playing in the 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+ and 9.0 flights defaults an excessive number of matches, (i.e., more than twenty percent of its scheduled individual matches, during the season), none of that team's individual matches for the entire season will count in the league results. Example: If there are ten scheduled matches for a 3.5 55 & Over League team, there will be 30 scheduled individual matches. If a team were to default 6 or more individual matches, none of the team's individual matches for the entire season would count except for determining computer ratings.
- h. By joining the Lowcountry Tennis Association, a team is making a commitment to play every match. In accordance with USTA SC 2.01C(5) If a team defaults an entire match. A 'team default' occurs when a team defaults 3 or more individual matches in a 5-court

team match, or a team defaults 2 or more individual matches in a 3-court team match *or a 4 court team match*. If a team commits a 'team default for any reason during round robin play, all matches for the defaulting team already played or to be played shall be null and void when determining standings but will be used for ratings and advancement purposes. If all teams with a mathematical chance to advance have played the defaulting team in good faith, those matches shall stand as played when determining standings. Teams that default an entire match are expected to play the remainder of their schedule. A grievance will be filed against a team that is assessed a team default.

Defaulted matches received will be used for qualifying purposes for players advancing to Championship play. If there is a full team default in a double or triple round robin, only the RR tier/segments that have the full team default will be impacted. Each of the Round Robin segments will be treated as whole and separate within the local league flight. If the first RR was finished and the full team default occurred during the 2<sup>nd</sup> RR then all matches for the first RR would stand.

A grievance may be filed against any team which defaults an excessive number of its individual matches or which defaults an entire team match. The situation will be assessed by the Grievance Committee and penalties imposed as appropriate. Penalties could include barring the team and/or its players from participating in future Lowcountry Tennis Association league tennis play for a specified period of time.

- i. For FALL SEASON ONLY: The total team default rule will not be enforced. However, teams are strongly encouraged to play all positions in all matches.

## 2.01J PLAYER PARTICIPATION

1. Individuals may not play at the same *NTRP* level on more than one team in *an age division in the same local league*. Individuals, however, may play on *more than one team in a NTRP level within an age division in the same season provided it is in separate local leagues. A player may play on more than one NTRP level in any age division, if age applicable, in the same local league during the season.*
2. As per USTA-STA, there is no residency requirement for players. The team home facility must be in LCTA's geographic area – Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, and Dorchester counties. USTA-SC is not assigning teams in 2020; but if a team is assigned chooses to play in the LCTA and LCTA accepts the visiting team, the visiting team must play its home matches at an LCTA tennis facility.
3. Regulations concerning playing on two or more teams at the USTA-SC Championships will be included in the 2020 USTA-SC regulations. Captains and Players advancing on two or more teams are strongly advised to read and understand the USTA-SC regulations.

## 2.01K INCLEMENT WEATHER

## 2.01K(1) INCLEMENT WEATHER DURING REGULAR SEASON

1. It is the responsibility of the home team captain to determine *if* weather conditions warrant the postponement of a regular season team match. If teams have assembled and have started play or are waiting to start play, they should be prepared to wait one hour to determine if the courts are playable. It is recommended the home team captain consult with the visiting team captain prior to making the "play/no play" decision, especially if match play has already begun.
2. If match play has not begun (i.e., no individual match has started), the team captains will decide, within 48 hours, on a mutually agreeable make-up date and inform the level coordinator. This make-up date must be within two weeks of the scheduled date of the postponed match. In the event a match to be made-up occurs at the end of the season and the match directly affects the flights participation in the local league playoffs, with the Flight coordinators assistance and direction, the match will be made-up within a 72 hour period so that local league playoffs can proceed as planned. If the two captains cannot mutually agree on a make-up date that will be within the 14 days, the match is automatically set by the league for the first following Saturday at 2:00 PM at the Home Team courts location.

Captains are encouraged to play all positions at the same time, just as they would in a regularly scheduled match; however, this is not a requirement. Team lineups on the make-up day do not have to be the same as they were on the day of the postponement even if the lineups had already been exchanged, and any defaults given during or prior to the line-up exchange are cancelled.

Once the make-up dates are established, those are considered to be the official match dates and they are not able to be postponed unless there is inclement weather on those dates. The coordinator should be informed of the makeup date in writing via email. If the match is rained out on the makeup date, the 2-week rule is reset from the date that was communicated to the coordinator. If the coordinator is not informed, the teams will be held to the 2-week makeup from the original match date. If one team shows for a team or an individual match and the other does not, the match will be recorded as a default by the team that did not show. If neither team shows for the agreed upon make-up date or the league set date, the match will be scored a double forfeit. If the two teams double forfeit the entire match in this manner, this will result in both teams losing one team match, 5 individual matches; 10 sets, and 60 games. If one or more individual positions are double forfeited (while others are played), it will result in both teams losing one individual match, two sets and twelve games for each double defaulted match. If it rains on Saturday, the match is rescheduled for the following Saturday at 2:00 pm unless both captains agree to another day and/or time prior to that. Coordinators have the responsibility to ensure these requirements are met.

3. If match play has begun (i.e., at least one point played in one individual match), completed matches will stand as played, incomplete matches must be resumed by the same players at the exact set, game and point score as when play was halted, and matches not started will be played by the individuals listed on the line-up without any substitutions. Defaults given prior or during the line-up exchange will stand. The incomplete matches or matches that have not started matches do not have to be played at the same time and date but can be arranged by the individuals involved in each of the individual matches. The decision when individual



matches will be resumed must be made within 48 hours and the matches played within 14 days (within 72 hours if at the end of the season and it affects who will participate in the local league playoffs) or the match will be set by the league automatically on the first following Saturday at 2:00 PM at the Home Team courts. Once the make-up dates are established and the flight coordinator is informed, those are considered to be the official match dates and are not able to be postponed unless there is inclement weather on those dates. If one or both teams in an individual match do not show to play on the agreed upon or league established make-up date, there are three possible outcomes:

- a. If an individual match had started prior to the inclement weather and if one team shows for the make-up match and the other does not, that position will be recorded as a retirement by the team that did not show, with the score being entered as it was when play was interrupted;
- b. If an individual match had not started prior to the inclement weather and if one team shows for the make-up match and the other does not, that position will be recorded as a default by the team that did not show;
- c. If neither team shows for the match, the individual match will be scored as a double forfeit. This will result in both teams losing one individual match, two sets and twelve games.
- d. If it rains on Saturday, the match is rescheduled for the following Saturday at 2:00 pm unless the players involved agree to another day and/or time prior to that. Coordinators have the responsibility to ensure these requirements are met.
- e. For FALL SEASON ONLY: The two-week deadline will not be enforced. However, teams are strongly encouraged to play all matches in the schedule by the end of the season.

4. *If a Flight BYE week date is included in a flight schedule, the Flight BYE week date will be initially designated as the Flight make-up date for matches that are postponed due to inclement weather in that flight schedule. Upon postponement, captains must immediately (within 48 hours) contact the flight coordinator and either:*
  - a. *Accept the scheduled Flight BYE week date for their make-up date, which will become the official date for the make-up match or*
  - b. *Re-schedule the make-up date within the allocated two-week make-up time frame allowed under LCTA make-up regulation; at which point that date will become the official date for the make-up match.*
  - c. *If captains do not contact their flight coordinator as above, the Flight BYE week (if still available) will be designated as the official make-up date for the postponed match. Once the date has been set, the make-up date cannot change unless there is inclement weather on that date; which would result in rescheduling the make-up match.*

#### 2.01K(1) INCLEMENT WEATHER DURING LOCAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. During local championships, it is the responsibility of the level coordinator to decide when a match must be postponed due to inclement weather. There is no maximum wait time, but it is at the discretion of the level coordinator to decide when players should be released.

2. Make-up times and dates for postponed playoff matches will be determined by the level coordinator. Completed matches will stand as played; incomplete matches must be resumed by the same players at the exact, set, game, and point score as when play was halted; and matches not started must be played using the same players as listed on the line-up at the time of the line-up exchange. In the event that postponement begins prior to the start (playing at least one point) of an individual match, the line-ups may be changed, and defaults given during or prior to the line-up exchange are cancelled. Every effort will be made to play the make-up no later than the following day, subject to court availability. (It may be necessary to shift playoff sites and court surfaces.) All postponed individual matches whether in progress or not at the time of postponement will recommence at the same time.

## 2.01L REGISTRATION

1. Teams will register for play in the LCTA 2020 Spring tennis program by entering their rosters in TennisLink no later than January 4, 2020. No new teams may be established after that date unless a waiver is received from the LCTA Local League Coordinator. Teams will register for play in the LCTA Adult 65 & Over and Adult 75 & Over beginning July 3, 2020 and no later than July 31, 2020. No new teams may be established after that date unless a waiver is received from the LCTA Local League Coordinator
2. A roster will be considered valid on January 5, 2020 and July 31, 2020, if it has at least eight, *seven*, six, or five players depending on age group and level.
3. A player may be added to a team roster until the date of that team's last scheduled regular season match but participate in 2 regular season matches to be eligible for local playoffs.
4. A player may not play for a team until the player has been entered on the roster. If a player is not on the roster at the start time of a match and plays in that match, the individual match will be considered to be a default.
5. To be listed on a roster, a player must:
  - a. Be a paid-up member of the USTA. (In accordance with USTA/SC regulations, all players for the 2020 season must have their memberships paid-up through the LCTA local league season, i.e., April 30, 2020 for Spring League and December 12, 2020 for Fall League. TennisLink will not allow a player to be added to the roster if this requirement is not met.
  - b. Pay a \$15 fee through TennisLink. This fee is collected each time a player's *name* appears on a roster. The entry fee consists of the following elements: \$6 to USTA/SC to support league tennis operations in South Carolina; \$6 to LCTA to support league tennis operations in our local league; and \$3 to support the operation and maintenance of TennisLink.
  - c. Be on a team that plays at or above the player's current rating as indicated in TennisLink. A player may play at a level higher than his/her rating. Players without a rating in TennisLink must self-rate, using the National Tennis Rating Program standards, before registering for a team. Those self-ratings will be in effect for two years or until the player generates a computer-based rating.



## 2.01M RESCHEDULING DUE TO CONFLICTING EVENTS

During the season, it is quite possible that a team will have a scheduled match that conflicts with championship play (i.e., Local championships, State Championships, Sectional Championships, or National Championships) or play on a team that is representing the LCTA in tennis competition (such as the Southern Cities Championship). The captain of the team may request that the match be rescheduled, and the request must be granted by the opposing captain in the following circumstances.

1. The team has three or more players participating in the conflicting event.
2. The team has two or more players participating in the conflicting event in 18 and Over or 40 and Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 or 4.5 team with 10 or fewer players on the roster.
3. The team has 2 or more players participating in the conflicting event in the 18 and Over 2.5 or 5.0 with 7 or fewer players on the roster.

When that occurs, the captains should make every effort to reschedule the match to a date prior to the originally scheduled date. If that is not possible, then the rescheduling must occur as indicated in paragraph 2.01K(1)(b) for a match that is totally postponed due to rain. (If a league match is scheduled to be played in the morning and the competing event is a local league playoff match to be scheduled at 5:00 p.m. or later, that does not constitute a conflict for the purposes of this rule. Neither does this rule apply to conflicts with local sanctioned or unsanctioned tournaments though captains may opt to reschedule such matches if mutually agreeable to both captains.) Players may play on more than one team during local championships, but no accommodation shall be given for scheduling purposes.

## 2.03 AREA, SECTIONAL, AND NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 2.03A ELIGIBILITY FOR ADVANCEMENT

Players must have participated in a minimum number of 2 matches to play in LCTA local playoff, state (District), and sectional competition. Retirements, both given and received, are considered as participating in a match. One of these matches can be a default received, but defaults given do not count towards meeting this requirement. In order for a player to participate in the National Championships, he/she must have played (one default received counts towards advancement) in at least three matches, including state and sectional championships.

## 2.04 LEAGUE NTRP DYNAMIC DISQUALIFICATION AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

### 2.04A NTRP DYNAMIC DISQUALIFICATION PROCEDURES

During local league competition and at every level of championship competition below national championship, computer ratings will be calculated for all players to determine if any players have reached the disqualification criteria using the USTA NTRP Computer Methodology Procedures.

Players will be NTRP disqualified if they reach the disqualification level three times based on

all matches reported in the national database. There will not, however, be any disqualification of a player with a C (year-end computer rating not including a rating resulting only from play in mixed doubles) rating.

#### 2.04B LOCAL LEAGUE NTRP DISQUALIFICATION

Players who are NTRP dynamically disqualified will be notified by the Sectional League Coordinator or designee and have the right to a review in accordance with the procedures in Reg. 2.04C – *NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Review Procedures*.

#### 2.04C NTRP DYNAMIC DISQUALIFICATION AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

If the player or the team captain of a player disqualified in the local league desires a review of the NTRP Dynamic Disqualification, he/she must submit a written request to the Southern Tennis Association within the time limit set by the NTRP Committee of notification of the disqualification.

#### 2.04D SCORING PROCEDURES

This section replaced by the Sectional Rule as posted in green below. Beginning with the 2016 season, matches shall not be reversed.

If a self-rated (S) or Medical Appeal player is promoted from a particular level of play, the player shall cease play immediately from the NTRP level being promoted from and graduate to the next higher NTRP level. All prior matches shall stand in good faith.

Captains and/or teams with 2 or more promoted players within a 12-month period may be subject to an NTRP Grievance and subsequent suspension from USTA Leagues.

### 3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

#### 3.01 GRIEVANCE COMPLAINTS

Grievance complaints may be filed not only for infractions of the regulations but also for failing to abide by good conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship. Such grievances must be filed in writing with the chairman of the Lowcountry Tennis Association Grievance Committee prior to commencement of the next team match involving such player or team, or within 24 hours after the end of local league play, whichever occurs first, except a complaint based on ineligibility may be filed at any time after learning the person is ineligible.

With the approval of the *SC Manager of Adult Leagues*, the Lowcountry Tennis Association Grievance Committee consists of five or more Lowcountry Tennis Association members appointed by the Lowcountry Tennis Association President/Local League Coordinator. The chairperson and at least two additional members will confer to decide any grievance appeal submitted to the Committee. The members are: Chairperson- Nancy Pitcairn; Members – Steve Speer, Lisa Deidrick, William “Bill” Snead, Becky Williamson, Jim Gooden and Steve Wilson.

The decisions of the Lowcountry Tennis Association Grievance Committee may be appealed. With the approval of the *SC Manager of Adult Leagues*, the Lowcountry Tennis Association Appeal Committee consists of five Lowcountry Tennis Association members appointed by the Lowcountry Tennis Association President/Local League Coordinator. The chairperson and at least two additional members will confer to decide any grievance appeal submitted to the Committee. The members are: Chairperson- Donna Brown; Members – Bill Ennis, Judi Fillinger, and Art Welling, and Rob Eppelsheimer.

If a conflict of interest arises from any grievance or grievance appeal committee member, the local league coordinator may at their discretion appoint additional committee members to fill the temporarily vacated slot.

### 3.01A GRIEVANCE COMPLAINTS DURING LOCAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Filing a Grievance. Grievance complaints may also be filed during the LCTA Playoffs. A complaint against an individual or team may only be filed by the team captain of the team who has competed in the match where the alleged violation occurred, the league coordinator, or the Playoff Director. These complaints must be submitted, in writing, within thirty minutes of the end of the team match to the Playoff Director (or his/her designated representative). When such a grievance is filed, the next round of play will be delayed for all teams until the grievance is decided.
2. Playoff Grievance Committee. Prior to the playoff, a three-person Playoff Grievance Committee will be designated, and the captains participating in the playoff will be advised of its composition. Normally, the Playoff Director will be one of the members of the Committee. Members of the Playoff Grievance Committee need not be at the site during the playoffs but must be available by telephone throughout the playoff competition. Whenever possible, the Playoff Grievance Committee should meet at the playoff site if a grievance is filed, but participation by telephone is allowable if necessary. The decision of the Playoff Grievance Committee shall be by majority vote.
3. Filing an Appeal. Any party to a grievance complaint may appeal the decision, in writing, within 30 minutes following the rendering of the grievance committee decision. Prior to the playoff, a three- person Playoff Grievance Appeal Committee will be designated, and the captains participating in the playoff will be advised of its composition. Members of the Playoff Grievance Appeal Committee need not be at the site during the playoffs but must be available by telephone throughout the playoff competition. Whenever possible, the Playoff Grievance Appeal Committee should meet at the playoff site if a grievance appeal is filed, but participation by telephone is allowable if necessary. The decision of the Playoff Grievance Appeal Committee shall be by majority vote and the decision of the Grievance Appeal Committee is final and binding. Play will not recommence until the Grievance Appeal is decided.

### 3.01B GRIEVANCE COMPLAINTS CONCERNING LCTA LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION.

Any grievance pertaining to administration of the League Program at any level shall constitute an Administrative Grievance. Captains and committee members are not subject to Administrative Grievances.

### 3.01C NTRP ELIGIBILITY GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT

Self-rated players who enter the USTA League Tennis Program by misrepresenting 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.

Grievances against such players may be filed by the Local League Coordinator, a team captain, or a tournament committee. Such grievances will be reviewed and decided by a NTRP Eligibility Grievance Committee appointed and convened by the Section League Coordinator. These complaints should be first delivered to the Local League Coordinator, who will forward them to the *SC Director of Adult Leagues*, who will forward them to the Section League Coordinator who, in turn, will forward them to the Southern NTRP Eligibility Grievance Committee Chairman.

APPROVED

## APPROVALS

Submitted: Doreen "Dee" Mack Date: *01/03/2020*  
Lowcountry Tennis Association  
Local League Coordinator

Approved: Susan Turner Date: *01/07/2020*  
USTA/South Carolina  
Manager of Adult League

APPROVED