



## **Lake Norman 2021 USTA Adult League Regulations**

Play is governed by *The Rules of Tennis* and *The Code in Friend at Court*, the USTA League Tennis National Regulations, STA Regulations, and the USTA North Carolina League Regulations and Lake Norman USTA League Regulations.

The United States Tennis Association (USTA), Southern Tennis Association (STA) or the North Carolina Tennis Association (NCTA) are the governing bodies of these League programs.

These regulations cover USTA Adult League, USTA Mixed Doubles, Southern Combo Doubles. The Lake Norman League Coordinator, in conjunction with the NC Director of Adult Leagues, shall have the authority to interpret these Regulations.

### **USTA LEAGUE, USTA SOUTHERN, and USTA NORTH CAROLINA MAJOR REGULATION CHANGES FOR 2021**

#### Major Regulation Changes (USTA)

#### 1) 2.01A(1) — Changing NTRP Levels of Play.

i. National Championships in the Adult 18 & Over Age Group will be held at the 5.0 level. Championships below National Championships, and Local Leagues, will be held at the 5.0 level and may be held at the Open level (5.0 & higher).

ii. National Championships in the Adult 40 & Over Age Group will be held at the 4.5 level. Championships below National Championships, and Local Leagues, will be held at the 4.5 level and may be held at the 5.0 level.

iii. Conforming changes made to the following regulations: 1.04A; 1.04D(4); 1.04F(1); 2.01A(4); 2.03A(5); 2.03E; 2.03K; 3.03B(3)a; Glossary – Team Match

#### 2) 2.05E(3) — All players age 70 or over will automatically be granted an appeal (A rating) of their current rating to the next lower level, subject to 2.05E(4). NTRP Dynamic Disqualification procedures as outlined in 2.04B(3) apply.

Major Regulation Changes (USTA Southern)

1) 2.01A(4) – Adding NTRP Level of Play.

i. USTA Southern is adding two additional NTRP levels:

a. Adult 18 & Over “Open”: Minimum NTRP requirement is 5.0 or higher to participate.

b. Adult 40 & Over “Open”: Minimum NTRP requirement is 4.5 or higher to participate.

Major Regulation Changes (USTA NC)

1) M. Full Team Default; b. 2 Team Defaults: If a team defaults 2 full team matches all of their matches played or to be played will be null and void. Matches played will count for player NTRP ratings and player advancement purposes, but will not be used to determine final standings. A grievance MAY be filed. Teams with 2 team defaults will not be eligible for advancement.

2021 Lake USTA Spring League - Important Dates

Action	Group	Date
Team Registration Begins	All Age Groups	January 5 - February 4
Captain's Meeting	All Captains	Feb 23 10:00 am Feb 25 6:30 pm
Team Registration Ends	All Age Groups	February 4
At least 8 players registered for team	All Age Groups	February 4
Remainder of team (up to 15 total on roster) registered	All Age Groups	February 15 - April 28
Season dates	All Age Groups	February 22 - May 30
Last Day to Add Players	All Age Groups	April 28
State Championships	65 & Over (Greenville)	May 14-16
	55 & Over (Asheville)	June 4-6
	18 & Over (Lake Norman)	June 17-20
	40 & Over (Durham)	June 25-27

*\*Season start date is dependent on the # of teams that register in each flight. Teams will have at least 6 matches and as many as 12.*

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## GENERAL

### League Fee

The Lake Norman Spring Adult League fee is \$27 (\$18 local league fee, \$6 state head tax and \$3 TennisLink fee).

### Public Court Fees

Public park court use fees are \$150 for teams with 5-court matches and \$110 for teams with 3-court matches. Fee deadline: Court fees are due 10 days from receipt of invoice from Lake Norman Tennis Assoc. (LNTA) and may be paid at the captain's meeting. Courts are reserved for 1.5 hours per match. **Captains who neglect to pay court fees within the 10-day deadline, may be subject to a default of any matches played during the period payment was outstanding.**

### Refunds Procedure

#### **Lake Norman and NC ADULT LEAGUES REFUND POLICY**

League with Local League Play: Refund requests for Local Fees and State Head Tax charges must be made to the Local League Coordinator prior to the team's first scheduled match. Requests must be made in writing. The TennisLink fee is non-refundable. The Local League Coordinator will hold all requests and submit one list to the State League Coordinator by the refund deadline. One check will be sent to the LLC or CTA, who will issue individual checks to the players. Any team dropping out of a league after Initial Roster Deadline for that league will forfeit any registration fees paid and a grievance may be filed. There will be no refunds given due to cancellation or suspension of League or Championship play due to acts of God, war, government regulation or order, pandemic (including, but not limited to, COVID-19), terrorism, natural disaster, or any other emergency beyond USTA NC's and LNTA's control, foreseeable or unforeseeable, which makes it illegal or impossible to offer or continue any USTA Adult League Tennis programming.

**League with direct advancement to State Championships:** Refund requests for Local Fees and State Head Tax charges must be made to the Local League Coordinator prior to the Deadline to Add a Team Advancing Directly to State Championship as noted in the chart below. Requests must be made in writing. The TennisLink fee is non-refundable. The Local League Coordinator will hold all requests and submit one list to the State League Coordinator by the refund deadline. One check will be sent to the LLC or CTA, who will issue individual checks to the players.

**1-Team League Event:** Refund requests for players and/or teams participating in 1-Team League Events must be made in writing to the Local League Coordinator no later than the team registration deadline for teams advancing directly to State Championship as noted in the chart below. See League with Local League Play for how and when refunds are processed.

League	Deadline to add a team advancing directly to State Championship
USTA Adult League	April 15
USTA Mixed Doubles	July 15
Southern Combo Doubles	September 15
USTA NC Singles League	August 15
Tri-Level	July 15

## Player Eligibility

To play in the following divisions, players must reach the minimum age for those divisions by December 31, 2021 with the exception of the 18 & Over division, in which players must reach the minimum age prior to registration:

Age Division	Minimum Age
18 & over	18
40 & over	40
55 & over	55
65 & over	65
70 & Over	70

- All players must be current members of the USTA through the respective league seasons. **No renewals are allowed during the local league season.**
- All players must be registered on TennisLink prior to their first match. If a non-registered player participates in a match, that match will be considered a default.
- A valid NTRP rating level is in effect for two years for individuals 60 years of age or older prior to, or during, the League Year and for three years for individuals 59 years of age or under, or until another valid NTRP rating level is generated. (See Valid NTRP Computer Ratings Table – inside back cover of Southern/NC Regulations) Players who do not have a valid NTRP rating or have never had an NTRP Rating are required to self-rate according to the NTRP Guidelines.
- Players may compete on more than one team, except if the teams are on the same level, in the same age division, and in the same local league.
- Be aware that the Local League Coordinator has the authority to accept or deny participants from outside the local league.

## TEAM REQUIREMENTS

Roster requirements for each league:

League	Season	Minimum number	Maximum Number
USTA League 18 & over	Spring	8	15
USTA League 18 & over 2.5, 5.0 & Open	Spring	5	15
USTA League 40 & over 1 singles/ 3 doubles Open-3 doubles	Spring	7	15
USTA League 55 & over	Spring	6	15
USTA League 65 & over	Spring	6	15

The minimum NTRP Level for 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0.

### NTRP Levels of Play

DIVISION	LEAGUE TYPE	LOCAL LEAGUES
Adult	18 & Over	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0 , Open
	40 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, Open
	55 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0
	65 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 9.0

A. In the USTA League Adult divisions, a player may play only one level above his or her current NTRP Rating. (For example, a 3.5 player can play up on a 4.0 team, but cannot play up on a 4.5 team).

**B. New Open levels will be offered to provide play for plus level players.**

- 18 & Over Open is offered to 5.0 and above level players. The match format will be 1 singles, 2 doubles lines.
- 40 & Over Open is offered to 4.5 and above level players. The match format will be 3 doubles lines.
- Both levels will have advancement to State and Sectional championships and National Invitationals.
- Matches played in the Open leagues will not count towards ratings.

- C. A local league shall consist of a minimum of 2 teams at a specific level of competition. Advancement to a State Championship is not permitted if this requirement is not met, except for the following:
- D. **The following divisions/age groups are permitted to advance directly to state championships if they are the only local team:**
- **USTA Adult League 18 & Over Open teams\***
  - **USTA Adult League 40 & Over Open teams\***
  - **USTA Adult League 65 & Over teams**
  - **USTA League Mixed Doubles: All 55 & Over and 65 & Over teams**
  - **NCTA Singles League: All levels**
  - **Tri-Level: All levels**
- E. Teams that may advance directly to a State Championship must be added to TennisLink and have the minimum number of players required to form a team registered no later than the dates in the chart below. If the team is not added prior to the initial roster deadline of the local league, the LLC must contact the State League Coordinator (SLC) to notify that a team has been added. Failure to notify the SLC may result in the team not being added to the State Championship schedule.

<b>League</b>	<b>Deadline to add a team advancing directly to State Championship</b>
USTA League Adult	April 15
USTA League Mixed Doubles	July 15
Tri-Level	July 15
USTA-NC Singles League	August 15
Southern Combo Doubles	September 15

- F. Teams that are participating in 1-Team Events must have the minimum number of players registered on TennisLink no later than their league's Initial Roster Deadline. An exception can be made if a team needs to be added to provide competition for a single state team.
- G. Teams that advance directly to a State Championship OR are participating in a 1-Team Event must maintain their roster on TennisLink with a majority of players from within the league area that they are representing. For example, a roster of 15 players must have a minimum of 8 players residing within the league boundaries. An exception can be made if a team is formed by the State League Coordinator to qualify a team.
- H. Teams that advance directly to a State Championship OR are participating in a 1-Team Event must maintain their rosters with at least 40% of players at the designated NTRP level of play. Leagues (and levels) that utilize combined

ratings, for example Mixed Doubles or Adult League 55 & Over 9.0, and Tri-Level League teams are excluded.

- I. If a level of USTA League Adult 18 & over, 40 & over or 55 & over 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. This rule does not apply to the Adult 55 & Over and 65 & Over 9.0 league.
- J. In USTA League Adult 55 & Over 9.0, Adult 65 & Over 9.0, Mixed Doubles, NCTA 70 & Over and Southern Combo Doubles, the combined levels of each doubles pair cannot exceed the team level.

## **CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Each captain is responsible for reviewing and understanding not only the local regulations but also the State, Sectional, and National Regulations.
- **Each team should have an ACTING captain present at every match.** Captains must record scores and sign both scorecards. Each captain must circle the winners and record scores from the WINNERS' point of view. The names on the cards must be the same as the names on the rosters. Captains should keep a copy of original scorecard for your records.
- The home team will supply new balls. The home team has the choice of court surface and a mixture is acceptable.
- Keep team informed of scheduled matches. No schedule changes without permission of Local League Coordinator (LLC).
- All scores must be posted on TennisLink within the prescribed time listed in the local league rules. **The scores must be posted within 48 hours by the winning captain and confirmed within 48 hours of the match by the losing captain.** If the score has not been posted and confirmed within the 48 hours after the match, the LLC will determine if there is a winner by the information s/he has. If a confirming captain disagrees with the score or players listed on scorecard, click on the *dispute* button, e-mail the coordinator, and copy opposing captain with the information you are disputing. The LLC reserves the right to confirm or dispute scores after the 48-hour time frame.
- Home team captains must secure courts for make-up matches. Public facility captains must fill out the form requesting make-up courts found on [www.Inta.org](http://www.Inta.org) on the *Captain's Corner/Player Resources* page. The LLC will secure courts where available.

## **Court Availability**

- Each team must guarantee use of at least 3 courts per team for USTA Adult League. Two lines may be staggered.

- Any approved USTA surface is permissible, including indoors. (If indoors, home team pays for court time). When a mix of courts surfaces are being used, home team captain shall notify opposing captain of use of mixed surfaces prior to scorecard exchange. Home team captain shall then communicate court assignments prior to scorecard exchange.
- All players in the team line-up are required to be present at the match start time.

### **Inclement Weather**

If the weather is questionable, it is ultimately the responsibility of the HOME TEAM CAPTAIN to make the call on court conditions & to communicate with the opposing captain on court conditions. If you are the visiting captain and don't hear from the home team, CALL THEM!!! Do not cancel a match earlier than 2 hours before match times. If there is any question, both teams must show up ready to play. COMMUNICATE!

- If it is raining or the weather is questionable, do not assume the match is cancelled. Your team should show up ready to play unless both team captains have spoken in person (not on answering machine) and cancelled the match.
- Safety of the players is the number one priority; therefore, if it begins raining once a team match is underway and players feel that conditions are unsafe, then the match should be stopped.

### **In the event of rain:**

- When teams have assembled to play, and weather and/or courts are questionable, or the match is interrupted by inclement weather, teams are required to wait 30 minutes past the originally scheduled match time, unless both teams agree to wait longer. Do not assume the match is cancelled. Your team must show up ready to play, unless both captains of the teams have spoken in person (not on answering machines or email) and cancelled the match.
- If the *start* of a team match is cancelled due to inclement weather (first point of the team match not played), any defaults awarded in advance or at the time lineups were exchanged are null and void.
- In the event inclement weather occurs *after* the team match has begun, players must wait 30 minutes to determine if play can be resumed, unless both captains agree that play is not possible or agree to wait longer.
- In the event inclement weather occurs *after* the team match has begun (at least one point played in one individual match):
  - Completed individual matches stand as played.
  - Points awarded for defaults given at the time the original written lineup was exchanged are considered completed matches if any court began play.
  - Incomplete matches that were in progress (first point played and beyond) must be resumed by the same players, in the same positions (ad and



deuce), same side of net, same set, game, and point score, and at the same site, (unless players have mutually agreed to play elsewhere).

- Substitutions of players:
  - For individual matches that **have not yet begun**, any player who is not involved in a match that was in progress or a default may sub in for the make-up match.
  - For team matches **interrupted due to inclement weather**, lineups will stand for any court that had begun play (first point played). For any court that had not yet begun play (first point played), teams may substitute players as long as the substitutions are not listed on the original scorecard.
- **Captains must exchange at least one contact name for each line within 48 hours of the match being cancelled. It is the responsibility of the home team captain to initiate contact with the opposing team captain.**
- **Players must contact each other to schedule their individual matches and confirm make-up match date, time, and location.**

## **MAKE-UP MATCH PROCEDURES**

(Defaults will be taken if rule is not followed.) The Local League Coordinator (LLC) will not be responsible for managing the process of exchanging lineups. However, if contact names for lineups have not been exchanged within 48 hours, captains should notify the LLC. At this point, the LLC will advise captains they have 24 hours to exchange contact names to avoid default.

**Once a time, day, location, and court surface for the make-up match has been agreed upon by the parties involved, that match may not be postponed, for any reason other than inclement weather.**

- Incomplete or postponed matches must be made up within 14 days.
- If captains cannot agree on a make-up day, the 14th day will be the default mandatory match date. If there is inclement weather on the 14th day, the match will be played on the 15th day or the next subsequent day as weather and court conditions permit.
- In accordance with regulations for score entry, when matches are played on the mandatory match date, scores must be entered within 48 hours of that match time. In the event that captains mutually agree for players to play the match after the mandatory match date and within the 48-hour match score entry deadline, the provision for making up rained-out matches will not apply. The deadline to enter scores 48 hours after matches to be played on the mandatory match date (or the official rain date for the mandatory match date) stands.
- The default match location and time is the same as the originally scheduled match location and time. If courts cannot be reserved at the originally scheduled match facility then the match should be played at the visiting team's facility. If neither

team is able to reserve courts at their facility for the default mandatory match date, captains should contact the Local League Coordinator to reserve courts at a neutral facility. Captains must contact the LLC 48 hours prior to the match date, so courts can be reserved.

- Club captains shall reserve courts for make-up matches. Public court captains need to fill out the rain make-up court request sheet on the *Captain's Corner/Player Resources* page of [www.lnta.org](http://www.lnta.org) and submit to Iris to secure courts.

## LEAGUE PLAY

- A. Round Robin. Each NTRP level within a local league shall play at least one round robin competition wherein every team plays every other team. When any NTRP level consists of only two teams, each team is required to play a minimum of three team matches, which is a triple round robin. When any NTRP level consists of only three teams, each team is required to play a minimum of four team matches, which is a double round robin. Any NTRP level may be divided into flights and each team shall play every other team in its flight. The flight winners may enter a playoff structure to establish a local league champion for that NTRP level. The Local League Coordinator will determine the schedules.
- B. If multiple flights in an NTRP level exist, at least 1 team from each flight will advance to a playoff to determine the winner of that level. This rule does not prohibit a playoff for single flight leagues.
- C. The LLC will determine the playoff format.
- D. A team's lineup **does not** have to be listed in order of strength. Example: in the 2.5/3.0/3.5 leagues, the 3.5 rated players play on the #1 court, the 3.0 players on the #2 court and the 2.5 players on the #3 court.
- E. The scoring format for all leagues will be best 2 out of 3 sets, with a 10-point match tiebreaker used in lieu of the third set. An exception may be requested for 2-team leagues. Exception requests must be made in writing to the NC Director of Adult Leagues prior to the beginning of league play for approval.
- F. The Coman Tiebreak format will be used for all tiebreakers.
- G. Coaching is not permitted at any point during a match.

H. Defaults will be “from the bottom up,” defaulting the lowest positions first. The chart below shows which courts are to be defaulted first in the different match types.

Match Type	Courts to be Defaulted First
2 Singles, 3 Doubles	#2 Singles or # 3 Doubles
1 Singles, 2 Doubles	#1 Singles or #2 Doubles
1 Singles, 3 doubles	#1 Singles or #3 Doubles
3 Doubles	#3 Doubles

I. Scorecards are to be exchanged when all players are on site and ready to play. At the scheduled match time, if a player is not on site, the captains have 3 options to proceed with the scorecard exchange:

1. Wait until the missing player is on site and ready to play (prior to the 15 minute default time), exchange scorecards and play the match. At the default time, if the player is still not on site and ready to play, the missing player would be moved to a defaultable court (see chart above in sect. J). Scorecards would then be exchanged, and play would begin. *OR*
2. Captains can agree to exchange scorecards and begin play with the lineups as-is. Default rules will apply (See National Reg 2.03 K and Q&A). *OR*
3. Substitute a missing player with an eligible player that is on site and ready to play, but who is not listed on the original scorecard. Substitutions must be made prior to the 15-minute default time and can only be exchanged for the missing player in the original lineup.

J. Each team must have the minimum number of players available to play the majority of individual matches. If one team does not have the minimum number of players, the opposing team will be credited with a total team default and will win each individual match 6-0, 6-0. If neither team has the required minimum number of players, the match shall be scored as a double team default and neither team will receive credit for a win. In the case of a team default or double-team default, where individual courts have been played (for example, rain make-ups), any individual matches actually played will count only for NTRP ratings and player eligibility for advancement and cannot count for determining standings.

K. If both teams have the minimum number of players available to play, but the combination of individual defaults by the two teams would result in the majority of matches not being played (valid team match), the teams must follow the procedure below:

The first course of action would be for both captains to agree on what individual matches, based on the number of players present, or to be present, can be played

to constitute a valid team match. Once that is determined, both captains will re-exchange scorecards.

If both captains cannot come to an agreement on what lines will be played to constitute a valid team match, based on the number of players present, or to be present, then the following individual matches will be assigned in sequential order to be played:

Format	Required Matches in sequential order	Minimum # of Players Required for Each Team in Valid Team Match
2 singles, 3 doubles	#1 and #2 singles, and #1 doubles (priority); #2 doubles if enough players present	4
1 singles, 2 doubles	#1 singles and #1 doubles	3
1 singles, 3 doubles	#1 singles, #1 Doubles & #2 doubles	3
3 doubles	#1 and #2 doubles	4

If these procedures are not followed and the resulting scorecard shows an invalid team match, both teams will be charged a full team default.

### Full Team Defaults

North Carolina Regulation-- Full Team Defaults:

- A. 1 Team Default: At the end of the season, standings will be evaluated to see if the full team default had an effect on the final standings. If the final standings were affected, all of the matches of the defaulting team will be removed from the standings (only the effected round, if more than one round robin) and the final standing will be recalculated. If neither team in contention received a full team default, the final standings will stand. The defaulting team may be subject to a grievance.
- B. 2 Team Defaults: If a team defaults 2 full team matches, all of their matches played or to be played will be null and void. Matches played will count for player NTRP ratings and player advancement purposes, but will not be used to determine

the final standings. **A grievance may be filed.** Teams with 2 team defaults will not be eligible for advancement.

## **Match Reschedules**

- In support of play opportunity, and to avoid team defaults, if both captains agree in advance, they may reschedule a match that is in conflict with a holiday or for any other reason, provided the match is completed and scores are entered in TennisLink before or by the 14th day from the original match date. Captains must notify opposing captain at least 1 week prior to scheduled match and discuss rescheduling the match.
  - Championships: If a team has 4 or more players on a roster (3 for Singles League matches) who are representing the LAKE League, or working at a League Championship at either the North Carolina State, Southern Section or National Levels and has a team match in conflict with these events, then the team can reschedule the match either by playing before the scheduled date or within 2 weeks after the scheduled match (as long as the make-up match occurs within the league season dates). The captain of the team with the conflict must notify the opposing team captain and LLC of the conflict, no later than 1 week before the scheduled match and work with both parties to reschedule the match within the above mentioned timeframe.
  - Spring Adult Leagues: Captains must agree before rescheduling any matches due to Spring Break. The matches may be played prior to the scheduled date or within the 14-day make-up period. The LLC should be notified of any rescheduled matches.
  - Summer Mixed Doubles: Captains must agree before rescheduling any matches due to holidays (July 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>). The matches may be played prior to the scheduled date or within the 14-day make up period. The LLC should be notified of any rescheduled matches.

## **MATCH PROCEDURES**

- Warm-ups begin at the match start time and are limited to 10 minutes including serves. However, if all players are present and match courts are available, the warm-up may start sooner. If a player arrives after the match start time but before the 15-minute default time, the player(s) is entitled to 5 minutes for warm-up.
- The team captain for each team shall exchange their team line-up simultaneously prior to the beginning of the team match. At the scheduled match time, if a player is not on site, the captains have 3 options to proceed with the scorecard exchange. Please refer to section K for the list of the 3 options.
- 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, prior to the start of such match. In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no-show of a

player (after the lineup has been exchanged and prior to start of affected match), 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. The substitution shall affect only the position for which the substitution has been made. The remaining lineup positions will remain the same.

- The default time is 15 minutes after the scheduled start time of each individual match. If courts are not available at the scheduled match start time the default time is 15 minutes after a court becomes available for the first court of the team match.

- **Cell phones are not permitted to be turned on during play.** If the phone rings during the point, the opponent may stop the point and claim the point based on deliberate hindrance. If the cell phone rings between points, the interruption is treated as a warning. In both cases, **the player shall turn off the cell phone.** There is no penalty for a vibrating phone, but the player should immediately turn off the phone.

- Coaching is not allowed. Spectators are to watch quietly while a match is in progress and may not assist in line calls, score disputes, or any other calls. Applaud appropriately for winning shots made by both teams!

- The only time a player may leave the court is to:

1. take a bona fide restroom visit (preferably on an odd game changeover or between sets)
2. fix an item of clothing necessary to play (you **may not** leave the court to get a racquet)
3. get water (please plan ahead and take water with you before the match starts)

## Match Scoring

- To win a team match, a team must win at least a majority of the individual courts played.

If tied 2-2, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following methods to do so:

1. Sets: Loser of the fewest number of sets.
2. Games: Loser of the fewest number of games.
3. Game Winning Percentage: Total games won divided by total games played
4. Winner of No. 1 Doubles

- 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.

- In the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play, it is recommended that the opposing team(s) should be advised of a known default.

- 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.
  - When entering scores involving a default on TennisLink, use the pull down menu and select "Default." The system will automatically record the appropriate score.

**Final Standings**

In Local Leagues at the end of round robin play, if the season ends with a tie for first place, the tie shall be broken according to the following tiebreakers, unless otherwise specified in local league regulations:

1. Winner of the most individual matches.
2. Head-to-head winner
3. Loser of the fewest number of sets.
4. Loser of the fewest number of games.
5. Highest % of games won vs. games played.
6. Method TBD.

**Advancing to Local Playoff (Championship) and State Championship**

If multiple flights in an NTRP level exist, at least 1 team from each flight will advance to a playoff to determine the winner of that level. This rule does not prohibit a playoff for single-flight leagues.

- Local League Coordinator will determine the playoff format. The time and date may vary from the original time and day that you played during the season, in order to accommodate all players. Playoffs that involve flights shall be scheduled at the discretion of the LLC. Site and time will be determined by the LLC.
- When scheduling local league playoff matches, there will be no special consideration for players on multiple teams. No considerations will be made for players participating in other USTA League events, where they are not representing Lake Norman Leagues.

**Winners Advance to State Championships**

- A. Each local league will be extended one invitation per level of play for a team to go to the State Championships. The top 2 teams will be automatically invited when a level has the following number of teams:

League	Season	Min # of teams on a Level
USTA League Adult	Spring	30
USTA League Mixed Doubles	Summer	25
Southern Combo Doubles	Fall	30
NCTA Singles League	Varies	25

Tri-Level	Varies	25
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- B. Wildcards will be offered, if needed, to local leagues according to the chart in Appendix A of these State Regulations. The NC Director of Adult Leagues will notify the LLC of each league after the team registration deadline, if any wildcards are being offered.
- C. If the 1st place team from a local league cannot attend the State Championships, the 2nd place team from that local league’s particular NTRP level will be asked to represent the local league. If the 2nd place team is unable to attend, the Local League Coordinator must contact the NC Director of Adult League Tennis to discuss the possibility of a lower-finishing team attending in its place. The offer may go to another local league, as determined by the Wildcard chart in Appendix A of these State Regulations, if a team is needed to fill the draw.
- D. The following is the minimum number of team members who were on the final roster of their local league team at the conclusion of local league play who must be available and eligible to compete at the State Championships:

League	Season	Minimum number
USTA League Adult 18 & Over	Spring	8
USTA League Adult 18 & over 2.5, 5.0 Open	Spring	5
USTA League Adult 40 & Over	Spring	7
USTA League Adult 55 & over and 65 & over	Spring	6
USTA League Mixed Doubles*	Summer	6
Southern Combo Doubles*	Fall	6
NCTA Singles League	Varies	3
Tri-Level*	Varies	6

\*Those 6 players must be able to combine to form 3 eligible teams.

- E. Teams must have played in a minimum of 3 local matches, except in cases where a team is advancing directly to the State Championships, as provided for in Rule II. E.
- Players must play in a minimum number of regular season matches to be eligible to advance to Local Championships (playoffs) and State Championships (players on teams advancing directly to the State Championships, are exempt from the following):

**\*Players must meet the 2 match requirement during the regular season to qualify for local playoffs and State Championships.**



League	Season	Minimum Required Matches Played	# of defaults that may count as a match played
USTA League Adult 18 & over, 40 & over, 55 & over	Spring	2	1
USTA League Adult 65 & over	Spring	1	1
USTA League Mixed 18 & over, 40 & over	Summer	2	1
USTA League Mixed 55 & over, 65 & over	Summer	1	1
Southern Combo Doubles	Fall	1	1
NCTA Singles League	Varies	1	1
Tri-Level League	Varies	1	1

- F. If a player's team wins at the State Championship but s/he did not play at the State Championships, that player is eligible to play at the Section Championship provided he/she had met the requirements to qualify for the State Championship.

### 2021 State Championships

League State Championship	Date	Location	Levels
USTA League Adult 65 & Over	May 14-16	Greenville	All
USTA League Adult 55 & Over	June 4-6	Asheville	All
USTA League Adult 18 & Over	June 17-20	Lake Norman	All
USTA League Adult 40 & Over	June 24-27	Durham	All
USTA League Mixed Doubles	Sept. 9-12	Asheville	All
Tri-Level	Sept. 23-26	Hickory	All
NCTA Singles League	Oct.7-10	Goldsboro	All
Southern Combo Doubles (Part 1)	Nov. 4-7	Wilmington	2.5/6.5/8.5
Southern Combo	Nov. 11-14	Wilmington	5.5/7.5/9.5

Doubles (Part 2)			
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## **COMMITTEES**

The Lake Norman Adult League Grievance and Grievance Appeal Committee are formed as necessary by the LLC using members of the Adult League Committee, and/or Lake Norman League players. The procedures for filing a grievance are outlined in the 2021 USTA League National Regulations.

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