



2008 Fall Junior Team Tennis Orange County ~ Local League Rules

General Information

This document, along with all the forms and information you need are posted on the website: www.orangecountyusta.com on the Junior Team Tennis page.

Divisions

Ideally, flights will have 8 - 10 teams and play 7 -9 matches. Teams will have byes during the season. Let your parents know this so they expect it.

Registration

Players must be registered before they play their first match. If they are not, they are subject to potential default of their played match. COACHES... DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOUR PLAYERS! Contact me if you are having registration issues. You may NOT play in the league without registering your players. It messes everyone else up. If a team does not have at least 6 players registered by September 15th, they may be dropped from the schedule. If a parent is not getting a player registered and you want them on your team, you should register them yourselves and collect from the parent when you collect your fee.

Team Information Sheet

All teams must be on line by the date the team information sheet is due, which is September 14, 2008. We want at least 4 players registered by this date, and at least 6 registered by September 20. By September 27, we would like at least 8 registered, which is what we consider a minimum number to have a team. If you don't have the minimum number of players registered you risk being pulled out of the league. The reason for this is that it has been too much of a bummer for other teams who show up with full teams to play those who only have 3 or 4 that day. You need to roster enough to field a full team each week. We recommend you roster 10 on each team.

On your team information sheet, you are asked to designate your team's ability within each ability level. This is very important so that we make sure the kids are playing matches at their same level. Designate as follows on both your team information sheet and when you name your team online.

Refunds

If a child is registered and unable to play, you may request a refund up until September 30, 2008 for that players. However, the deadline to pull your team out of the league if you are not going to be able to field a full one is September 14, 2008, unless you get it ok'd ahead of time. Otherwise, if you pull out after that date, none of your players on that team will be issued refunds.

Ralleyball & Quickstart Formats

We'll talk about this at the meeting, but we will try to have a flight of each.

Ralleyball Format

No minimum numbers or age limits. Ralleyball is for all kids who are just new to tennis. They typically don't play games on their own without help or are just starting to. They don't have to be able to serve. All Ralleyball teams go to the same site each week, and the coach typically does drill with the entire group to gauge the ability levels present. Then they gear the day according to who they have present. Some kids will be sent out to play a set, some a short 3-game set, and some will play various games on court.

8s, 10s, 12s, 14s Novice and Intermediate Format

Each match consists of 2 rounds

Players may play in both rounds.

One round is: 6 Singles

One round is: 3 Doubles

Match Format is a 6-Game Pro Set with a Tie Break at 5 - 5. The tie break is scored as one game, so the winning score would be 6 -5.

Scoring is no-add scoring, unless otherwise agreed by both captains/coaches

12s & 14s Advanced

8-Game Pro Set with a Tie Break at 7-7.

Each match consists of 2 rounds

Players may play in both rounds.

One round is: 3 Boys Singles, 3 Girls Singles

One round is: 1 Boys Doubles, 1 Girls Doubles, 1 Mixed Doubles

Hosting captain/coach will decide which match is played first.

Players must play in order of strength. All players who show up must play. (Hosting coach needs to make sure this happens if the visiting coach is not present, so they may need to change a pre-designated lineup.)

18 & Under Advanced, Intermediate and Novice Formats

One round is: 6 Singles

One round is: 3 Doubles

Match Format is 8-Game Pro Set. Tie Break at 7 - 7. The tie break is scored as one game, so the winning score would be 8 -7.

Scoring is No-Add, unless otherwise agreed by both captains/coaches

Players playing on Two Teams

Players may play on two teams as long as the teams are in different divisions who don't play each other during the Local League. This should be used in an emergency situation, and you should continue to add players so you have two full teams without the duplicate player(s). Player must pay and register for both teams. ***If both teams qualify for Sectionals, the player must chose for which team they will play, even if it disqualifies the other team due to not enough players.

Scorecards

Print your scores cards on-line at the Tennis Link Site.

Use your specific match number, it will print all your and your opponent's registered players at the bottom of the sheet.

Record scores right away. Both teams are to report scores. Either team may go first. Once scores are input, the other captain sees what the first captain put in and either confirms or disputes the scores.

Please report scores within 24 hours.

If you see a score in the computer you believe to be incorrect, **e-mail me the match number** and what you think the score/player should be.

Individual Defaults

We want to minimize defaults of course.

If you are unable to bring the minimum number required for a match, (4,) please call the opposing coach the night before the match.

Any player who shows up to a match needs to play at least one round.

If you are short a player, you will end up defaulting one match in both rounds.

If you are short two players, you will default 2 matches in the first round and one match in the second.

Defaults are scored 6-0 or 8-0 for the team receiving the default. The team receiving the default must enter a name in the computer, but the team defaulting doesn't.

Defaults must always occur from the bottom up. i.e. If you are missing two girls, you must default line 2 & 3 singles, and the girls doubles line. Even if it is your line 1 and 2 player who are missing, you must move your line 3 player into line 1.

4/2 Rule-Only for 12s and 14s Advanced

If a team is short one member of either gender, they may play a player of the opposite gender, causing the team to have either 4 boys and 2 girls that day, or 4 girls and 2 boys. The side having 4, lines those players up in order of strength and then take the 4th player and move them to the opposite side and then line those three players in order of strength. Example: You have 4 boys and 2 girls for a match one day.... You would take the 4th boy in strength and move him to the girls side, and then line up those three players in order of strength. If he is stronger than both girls he would play line 1, if weaker, he would play line 3, etc....

4/2 Scoring works like this: The team who plays against the 4th player, will get six games in the scoring regardless of the score. The 4th player will get to count up to 5 of the games they win for their team.

Full-Team Defaults

Full-Team Defaults will not be allowed in the league.

If a team absolutely can not make a match, they will have to reschedule with the other team.

The date needs to be set right away, and not wait until the end of the season to see if it matters. E-mail the new rescheduled date to Heidi and the on-line schedule will be changed to reflect the new date.

The team who would have received the default now becomes the home team.

The team who would have been the defaulting team may only be allowed to start out with the following penalty system:

In the bottom two singles lines, and the bottom doubles line, the team who is causing the reschedule, would only be allowed to win up to 5 games. Their opponent will automatically be awarded 6 games, regardless of their game score.

If for some reason a full-team default is not made up, at the end of the season, each team in contention will be awarded the same default by the defaulting team. **This is what we want to avoid because it can change the standings after the season is over. Teams who chronically do not field full teams and/or do not complete all their matches are subject to being left out of the league.**

Schedules

See handout

Schedules will be posted on-line at www.usta.com under the Team Tennis part of Tennis Link the Sunday night before the league starts. Tell your parent that they need to expect to play the first match.

Let all your parents know that this is where they find their team's schedules and results.

Age Eligibility

Players must remain in their age category through **December 15, 2008** this Spring Season. Make sure you check all your players' birthdays. If a 14 & under player turns 15 on or before 8/31/2008, they may not play in the 14 & under division at all. They must play 18 & under.

ALLSTARING

We don't want ALLSTAR teams playing in our league. Please do not put together ALLSTAR teams

Parent Captains

If you use parent captains, please keep them well informed and give me their contact information as soon as you have it. I'd like to require one parent per team for most teams to handle the coordination of the players and communications with the opposing team's contact. We need to make sure there are fewer defaults this season, so the parent needs to get firm commitments from players/parents.

Parents and Coaches at Matches

Each team may designate one adult per team to be the "coach". That is the only person who may coach and/or talk to the players during their matches, and only on change-overs.

PLEASE educate your parents on this as well as proper spectator behavior.

The Code is posted on the website- www.orangecountyusta.com and included in your packet. Please encourage them to read it. Make sure they know they should cheer for all players and all good points and not when a player makes an unforced error.

Deviations from the Rules

We sometimes allow deviations from the rules at the local league level, to get as many kids playing as possible. However, almost always, a team who is allowed to deviate from the rules will not be allowed to progress to Sectionals. They need to know that they will be playing for fun during the season.

Communications

I need at least one e-mail contact per team.

Communications must be primarily through e-mail.

If you have computer troubles during the season, you will need to get me someone else's e-mail who can receive and relay messages to you.

Post-League Play

Teams who win their flights will move on to the next level of competition. More teams out of Flights I will go straight into Sectionals. Winning teams from Flights II, III and IV may have to play off against each other for a spot in Sectionals at a Local League Playoff.

Website

I have a website which I also use to post and communicate information to you. Here is the address: www.orangecountyusta.com Most of the handouts from tonight are posted there now. This document will be posted there soon as well, after I make any revisions that need to be made after today's meeting. If any of you would like me to post a flyer of yours to advertise your program, I would be happy to do that. The majority of visitors to the site are people who do a search through Google, probably looking for tennis in Orange County. I also have directions to most of the tennis sites in Orange County. If you click on 'Directions' it will give you a list. Please check out to see if your site is listed there. If not, let me know and I will add it.

I look forward to working with all of you this season.

Here is my information:

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