

2009 Tri-Level League Regulations

- a) League season: Local league competition must conclude by October 11th
- b) Team: A "team" shall consist of doubles teams of three NTRP levels. For example, a team may have doubles teams at 2.5, 3.0 & 3.5 or 3.0, 3.5 & 4.0 or 3.5, 4.0 & 4.5.
- c) Number of Teams: A local league is a team competition in a specified geographic area that applies specific local league regulation and consists of Tri-Level formats with a minimum of two or more teams per format.
- d) Round Robin: Each Tri-Level format within a local league shall play at least one round robin competition wherein every team plays every other team. Any Tri-Level format with only two or three teams is required to play a minimum of three matches.
- e) Age: Each player shall be a USTA member who has reached the age of nineteen prior to or during the calendar year in which such player plays in his/her local league match.
- f) Entry: A player without a computer rating must self-rate on Tennis Link to enter the program. A player with a current NTRP computer rating must use that rating to enter the program. A self-rated player may be required to play up to a higher level, if demonstrated play suggests the player's self-rating is too low.
- g) Levels of Play: For league play, doubles teams will use straight NTRP levels (2.5 – 5.0). A player may play one level (.5) higher than their NTRP rating as long as one member of the doubles team is at level. For example: A 3.5 player may play up and play with a 4.0 player at the 4.0 level.
- h) Tri-Level Format: The Area League Coordinator shall determine which approved levels will be available for Tri-Level teams in local league competition. The highest NTRP level offered will play in the #1 doubles position, second highest will play #2 doubles and lowest level offered will play in the #3 doubles position. For example: 4.5's plays #1 doubles, 4.0's plays #2 doubles and 3.5's plays #3 doubles.
- i) Team Match and Scoring: The method of scoring and awarding points in order to determine the winning team of a match and the winner of the local league competition is any method compatible with Tennis Link and the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System selected by the local league. The scoring in the event of a default or disqualification shall be 6-0, 6-0.
- j) Individual Match: An individual match is any Tri-Level match played as part of a team match.
- k) Play Participation: An individual may only play in one match within each team match.
- l) Coaching will be permitted only during the 10-minute rest period between the 2nd and 3rd sets (no coaching if playing a match tie-break in lieu of a third set) or suspension of play due to a rain delay, for example.
- m) Match results entered in the TennisLink Database through October 31st will be included in year-end ratings. Dynamic Disqualifications will not apply.
- n) Eligibility: Players will use the NTRP rating they registered with for eligibility into the Section Championship and for the Tri-Level Invitational Championship in March.
Exceptions: Self-rated players will use their new year-end rating for eligibility into the Tri-Level Invitational Championship.
- o) The 3.5/4.0/4.5 level will be offered the opportunity to participate and represent SoCal in the Tri-Level Invitational Championship.