

12/20/15

Hi Everyone,

A reminder that our 18 & Over MIXED Doubles and our 40 & Over Adult Men's and Women's Leagues begin the first part of January. Please get your teams online asap if you want to play!

I've adjusted the deadline dates for Winter to give you all a few more days to get your teams online and get the TIS and FIS filled out. Please make sure your facility's blackout dates are listed ONE time on the FIS, and that each team is listed on the TIS with all Team Bye Requests listed no later than Saturday evening, December 26.

So far, we have enough Women's Friday teams so that Women at the 3.5 and 4.0 level may play on both a WE and WD team at the same level.

As those of you know who have already filled the TIS out, we have had multiple issues with people who have had trouble inputting their own information and in turn, messed up someone else's or the formatting. So I'm locking it down in sections, as you add your information. This means that once you add, I lock your line, you'll not be able to edit or add information to it. If you DO need to change your information, you'll need to do a new line and make an indication on that line that you are replacing your old information. For example, you would re-add your team into the first open line at the bottom of the sheet. Make a note in the facility line like this: Facility name abbreviated - rep line 5 (i.e. NBTC - rep line 5).

It was great to see those of you who made it out to the captains meeting. For anyone who missed, please make sure to read the rules posted on the RFI page of the website: www.orangecountyusta.com

A reminder that all the large group emails I send out are now archived on the first page of that website, so if you have missed anything, that's where to find it.

A few reminders and clarifications from the meeting are below:

1) Move-Up/Split-Up Rule - This rule continues to be a source of confusion for everyone, including the SCTA who forwarded my question to Nationals in order to answer it. Here is the official word on this multi-part rule:

- First, the phrase 'National Player' refers to any player who did BOTH of the following on a 2015 qualified (see below) league:
 - Was rostered on a team that either went to Nationals OR qualified to go to Nationals (sometimes the 1st place teams doesn't go, but their players are still considered National Players).
 - Played at least 3 times for that team, through Sectionals
- National Players are grouped according to Mixed and Adult Leagues and National Players ONLY come from the two groups below and each group is considered National ONLY within that group. This means that if you have an 18 & Over Mixed team this season, it MAY consist of an unlimited number of National Players from the 18 & Over Adult League. In other words, Adult National Players do not count in the Mixed Leagues and Mixed National players do not count in the Adult Leagues.
 - Mixed Includes: 18 & Over, 40 & Over
 - Adult Includes: 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over
- National Players do NOT include National Players who Moved Up a level. The team is NO LONGER required to move up as a unit to be allowed to play more than the 3 allowed players. This means that a 4.0 team may roster an unlimited number of 3.5 National Players who went to Nationals at 3.5 and are 'playing up.'
- A team may only roster a maximum of 3 National Players (as defined above). So you can see that the rule allows for a tremendous amount of flexibility and is much less restrictive than it ever was.

Please let me know if you have questions. Any team who rosters more than the maximum number of 3 National Players will need to delete one and if more than 3 play during the season before the violation is noticed, matches will be defaulted.

2) We are in a Dynamic DQ Season for 40 & Over Adult League: Make sure you review the information posted on the website: www.orangeountyusta.com on the NTRP page and let me know if you have any questions. We always go over ratings at length at the meetings, so please make sure you try to attend. A few reminders: Essentially, computer-rated players are NOT subject to NTRP or Dynamic DQs. Most other rating types are, including self-rated and appeal-rated players who are especially vulnerable. Never allow non-computer rated players to

play on two different levels, as it is highly likely that their play at the higher level will generate ratings that will DQ them at the lower levels. After you've read through the rules and the information on the NTRP Page, if you have any questions about ratings, please let me know.

3) I've included 2 more questions I've received from captains on the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) Page of the website. Here are the latest additions:

Q: We have a player turning 40 in June. Is she allowed to be on winter league?

A: Yes. Anyone turning at least 40 *anytime* during the year in which the league is run may play on the 40 & Over League.

Q: How do I view my roster and/or see what teams have signed up?

A: To view your roster, go to www.orangecountyusta.com and click on the OC USTA LEAGUE Section on the right-hand side of the page. Then click on the league you are in. (If it prompts you to sign in, you'll need to do that.) Next, find your team, click on it and then click on the link in the upper right-hand side that says "Follow This Team." That will 'pin' the team to your Tennislink Home Page and you can access it easily next time.

I think that's enough reading for tonight. Please let me know if you have any questions and/or need help with anything.

Happy Holidays!!!

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