

FLEX LEAGUE RULES

New Orleans offers Spring, Summer and Fall Flex Leagues

1. Level of Play – Play is ordered by NTRP levels. If you have a current NTRP rating, it is suggested you play at that level or above. Not sure you know your level? Check out the NTRP Guidelines. Match results from this program are not utilized to generate NTRP ratings. Due to this program's less restrictive approach to inviting non USTA members and lapsed members to participate, it is understood that players may underestimate or overestimate their current skill level in their first season or may choose a lower or higher NTRP level for singles play if they primarily play doubles or visa versa. The Local Tennis Organizer has the authority to adjust players for the next season.

2. Schedule Matches – Schedules will be created suggesting a week for matches to be played. Matches can be played any time agreed upon by both players (or both doubles pairs). All matches should be completed and scores entered by the Season End Date for the program. Most leagues will schedule an extra week to complete all matches. Defaults should not be recorded until end of league season unless a player or doubles team has cancelled twice once a day/time has been confirmed. It is understood that some players may be unavailable during part of the season but planning to play more matches toward the end of the season. Any match where one player or doubles team attempted to schedule a day/time with opponents that remained unplayed at the end of the season should be recorded as a default by the player/doubles team that attempted to schedule the match.

3. The schedule will designate one player (pair) as "Home" – Unless otherwise stipulated by local league guidelines, the home player is responsible for providing a can of new balls for the match, for booking a court if necessary, and for paying any court costs/guest fees. The home player is encouraged to select a mutually convenient match location in consultation with the other player. All matches should be played within the commonly accepted area of the local league.

4. It is recommended that the winner enter the scores for the match and the opponent confirms it is correct. Either player can enter scores. Only the Local Tennis Organizer can change a score that has been entered.

5. Scoring. The local league will choose a scoring method:

- A. Best of three sets with a set tiebreak (first to 7 points by 2) at 6-6 in any set.
- B. Match tiebreak in lieu of 3rd set (first to 10 points by 2). Set tiebreak (first to 7 points by 2) at 6-6 in first or second set.
- C. Allow players to choose option A or option B for each match, or to determine a winner in an incomplete match as explained below. Preferably, players should decide on option A or option B before play begins.

If a winner is determined in an incomplete match: (the local league must authorize this format when setting up league). Winner of the most games completed wins the match. Enter scores as played from winner's perspective and enter as a completed match. If tied in games, winner of the first set is determined winner of the match.

Example: if Player A is winner and score entered is 6-4, 3-6, 3-1 (completed), Player A will receive the match win and will receive 12 games won for the match and 11 games lost while Player B will be credited for 11 games won and 12 games lost.

6. Play is self-regulated and disputes should be worked out by the players. It is recommended you read the Code for Unofficial Matches to familiarize yourself with the rules of tennis. Check out our Friend at Court guide.

7. In leagues with multiple flights, a play-off could be scheduled between flight winners. The Local Tennis Organizer will let you know how a play-off would be scheduled. Local standings are determined by most matches won, then head to head results. If a double round robin is used, or head to head is tied for other reasons, then sets won, sets lost, games won, games lost are considered in order until the tie is broken.

8. Refunds and Transfers. Players may withdraw from a flight prior to the publication of the schedule and will receive a refund of the program fee minus the \$3 nonrefundable registration processing fee. If a flight does not get published due to lack of players, the player has a choice to receive a refund of the program fee (minus \$3 nonrefundable registration processing fee) or to request a transfer to the next season with the full registration fee.

9. Waiver of Claims. Players participating in the USTA Flex Leagues acknowledge the risks associated with playing competitive tennis, accept those risks voluntarily, and, in consideration of their acceptance in the Program, assume all risks for bodily injury, waive all claims for injury and property damage, and release and hold harmless the USTA and the host facility, their officials, employees, and agents with respect to any injury or loss caused by negligence or otherwise to the fullest extent permitted by law.