



EASTERN

USTA EASTERN 2007-08 MIXED DOUBLES REGULATIONS

All Eastern Mixed Doubles Leagues shall follow the regulations set forth by USTA National League Regulations, and follow the Rules of Tennis and Tournament Regulations.

1. FORMAT:

- a. Mixed Doubles League levels are as follows: 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, and 10.0. The total of the ratings of the two players of each doubles team may not exceed the level they are playing.
- b. Two 3.0 players would play on a 6.0 team; a 3.0 and a 3.5 must play on a 7.0 team.
- c. Ratings of players on any doubles team may not be further apart than 1-point increments. (On an 8.0 team, a 3.0 player may not play with a 5.0 player. But a 3.5 may play with a 4.5 player).
- d. Each League shall consist of a minimum of two (2) teams. Any leagues consisting of two teams must play a minimum of three matches.
- e. Each team shall have a minimum of six (6) players, (three men, three women), and may have additional players.
- f. Each team must have use of three courts for home matches.
- g. Each match will consist of three mixed doubles matches; for a match to be considered an eligible match a minimum of two courts must be played.

2. NTRP RATINGS:

- a. Early start leagues (leagues that begin before 2007 year end ratings are published) will use 2007 Early Start computer ratings (as of September 17, 2007) for players for their mixed local season as well as mixed championships. If player's ratings are changed following publication of final ratings, they will be allowed to finish the season with the rating they had at the time they registered.
- b. Any mixed leagues that start after year end ratings are published must use the final 2007 computer ratings, which will be those derived from the 2007 league year, including national championships. Any player that registers on a Mixed Doubles team after the final computer ratings have been issued must use their final year end rating for Mixed Doubles play, even though the Mixed League is an Early Start League.

- c. If a player is under the age of 60 during the 2008 Championship year and does not have a computer rating from 2005, 2006 or 2007, they must declare their self-rating when they register for their team on Tennis Link. If a player is 60 years of age or older during the 2008 Championship year and does not have a computer rating from 2006 or 2007 they must declare their self-rating when they register for their team on Tennis Link.
- d. Players who play Mixed Doubles only will receive a computer rating following the publication of final adult and senior ratings in November 2007.

3. ALL TEAM MEMBERS MUST:

- a. Register to play on their team through the Tennis Link web site (<http://national.usta.com>) prior to playing their first match.
- b. Be members of the USTA through the end of local league play.
- c. Have reached the age of 19 years prior or during the calendar year of the league season.

4. PLAYER PARTICIPATION

- a. No individual player is eligible to play for any championship team unless he/she is listed on the team roster for the local league season. Players may **NOT** be added for flight playoffs. To qualify to participate in any area Mixed Doubles Championship (Districts, Regionals or Section), a player must have participated in at least two team matches (1 default may count) during the local league season with the same team. To qualify for National championships a player must have participated in 3 matches (no defaults). Refer to Appendix for clarification on retirements and/or defaults.
- b. Team members may represent public or private facilities.
- c. Team members may play on more than one NTRP level within a division (adult or masters mixed), providing it is a higher level than their rated level and is no more than one level above their rating. The team member must keep within the local guidelines regarding the percentage of players at level.
- d. A player may play on more than one team per season as long as it is not the same league level in the same local league. The section has the right to accept or deny participation.
- e. Players who play on two teams may play on both teams in the same region or section championship provided they are different NTRP levels.

5. THE TEAM CAPTAIN MUST:

- a. Make sure all players are registered through Tennis Link and listed on an official roster and have valid ratings before participating in any match.
- b. Make sure every player listed on the roster is eligible for play at that level/division.
- c. Contact the visiting captain at least one week prior to the match to discuss the site and confirm that there are no forfeits.
- d. Be present at every match or assign someone in his/her place to be the acting captain.
- e. Exchange lineups simultaneously, prior to starting play, and record scores of each match.

- f. Sign the scorecards after checking that the scores are written correctly. Both team captains are responsible for inputting scores into Tennis Link within 24 hours. Penalties may occur if scores are not input in a timely manner. Captains may forfeit their right to dispute a scorecard if they do not confirm match results in Tennis Link.

6. THE LOCAL LEAGUE COORDINATOR WILL:

- a. Form the Leagues based on levels 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, and 10.0.
- b. Make sure scores are confirmed by both captains on Tennis Link within 48 hours.
- c. Provide the schedule for the local teams; suggest 2 hours/match.

7. THE AREA LEAGUE COORDINATOR WILL:

- a. Contact the other local league coordinators and arrange area playoffs, in consultation with the Eastern office.
- b. Submit the awards order form for area awards to the Eastern office.

8. MATCH REGULATIONS:

- a. A 10 minute warm-up including serves before the match begins.
- b. All matches will be 2 out of 3 sets; a 12-point tiebreak (first to 7 by 2 points) will determine the winner if games reach 6-all in any set. Local leagues may use alternate scoring methods, e.g. no-ad, 9-point tiebreak, or they may use a match tiebreak in lieu of the third set. The scoring system should be determined before the local league season begins.
- c. Play must be continuous throughout the match. A 2-minute break is allowed following each set. A 10-minute rest between the second and third sets is allowed if one team requests it, AND third sets are played out.

9. SCORING:

- a. One team court point is awarded to each winning team.
- b. Final score would be written as 3-0, or 2-1. The winning team for the match receives one (1) team match point. The team with the most team match points will be the league winner. In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures:
 - 1.** Individual matches-Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.
 - 2.** Sets - Loser of the fewest number of sets.
 - 3.** Games - Loser of the fewest number of games.
- c. Defaulted matches. In case of a default, the non-defaulting party shall be credited with such number of games as would have been won if the match was completed and the non-defaulting party won every subsequent game.
- d. Forfeited matches. The non-forfeiting party shall be credited with a 6-0, 6-0 win.

10. NTRP

- a. Any player disqualified from Adult or Masters competition may not play at the disqualified NTRP level of play or lower for the remainder of the year and for up to three years unless a new computer rating is generated. A player may not be disqualified based on match results from the Mixed Doubles division. Mixed Doubles will not be a part of generating a player's year-end rating except for those players who play in the Mixed Doubles Division exclusively.

11. SELF RATE GRIEVANCE:

A captain, coordinator or member of a championship committee may file a Self Rate Grievance if a player is competing one level or more below their actual skill level or against a captain who knowingly condones player entry at a level below their actual skill level. The Section Grievance Committee has jurisdiction over self rate grievances. These grievances must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Section Grievance Committee on the designated Grievance Form (available on the Eastern web site). Requests that are incomplete or not timely will be rejected. The subject of the self rate grievance must submit a completed USTA Self-Rate Player Background Form to the Chairperson of the Section Grievance Committee; the grievance will automatically be granted where the player fails to submit a completed Background Form. After review of the grievance, and any supporting documentation, the Section Grievance Committee will issue a written decision documenting any actions they deem appropriate which may include disqualification, suspension from league play, or other league sanctions. Captains or others who condone inappropriate self-rating may be subject to possible sanctions, including disqualification and suspension.

12. CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- a. All matches will be the best of two out of three sets, with regular scoring, and a set tiebreak at 6-all in each set. In the event of split sets, a match tiebreak (first to 10 points, win by 2) shall be played in lieu of a third set, with no coaching allowed at any time during the match.

APPENDIX

2008 MATCHES REQUIRED TO ADVANCE FOR EASTERN				
	<i>ANY CHAMPIONSHIP LEVEL</i>		<i>NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP</i>	
	LOCAL MATCHES REQUIRED	DEFAULTS	MATCHES through SECTION CHAMPIONSHIPS	DEFAULTS
USTA League Division	To advance to a championship level through Section Championship	Defaults counting to advance to any championship level through Section Championship	To advance to National Championship	Defaults counting to advance to National Championship
Ad	2 matches	1 default may count	3 matches	NO defaults
Masters (Senio	2 matches	1 default may count	3 matches	NO defaults
Mix	2 matches	1 default may count	3 matches	NO defaults
Grand Master (Super Senio	1 match	NO defaults	2 matches	1 default may count
	A RETIRED Match shall count for all participants			