

**Dallas Tennis Association *Covid-19***

*Local League Play Match Protocol and Safety Guidelines updated 10/28/2020*

Additional Information available through [usta.com/playersafety](https://www.usta.com/en/home/stay-current/national/usta-statement-on-safety-of-playing-tennis-during-the-covid-19-v.html)

**WAIVER OF CLAIMS.**Players, participants, and any spectators or individuals that are participating in USTA tournaments, programs, or events acknowledge the risks associated with tennis, accept those risks voluntarily, and in consideration of their acceptance in the USTA tournaments, programs or events, assume all loss or damage, and any claim or demand therefore on account of injury to the person or property or resulting in illness and/or death arising out of or related to their participation, including without limitation as a result of any exposure to infectious syndromes or diseases whether caused by negligence or otherwise. By participating or attending a tournament, program, or event, the players, participants, and any spectators assume all risks whether known or unknown. Furthermore, players, participants, and spectators agree to release and hold harmless the USTA, its affiliated Sectional Associations, and Districts/Subdivisions, and the host facility (hereafter, Released Parties) and the Released Parties employees and agents with respect to any injury or loss caused by negligence or otherwise to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**Link to *covid-19* Guidelines:**

[USTA](https://www.usta.com/en/home/usta-covid-19-updates.html)  
[City of Dallas](https://dallascityhall.com/Pages/Corona-Virus.aspx)

Safety guidelines to be followed to due to *covid-19*:

1. INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS PRE-MATCH PLAY RESPONSIBILITY.

***Per USTA Nationals:***

1. Have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
2. Are exhibiting any symptoms of the coronavirus. According to the CDC, people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported—ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus: fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.
3. Are a vulnerable individual and your state and region is in Phase One or Phase Two. A vulnerable individual is an elderly individual and/or an individual with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy. (For states and regions in Phase Three, a vulnerable individual can resume public interactions, including playing tennis, but should practice physical distancing.)
4. *Covid-19* INDIVIDUAL FACILITY’S MATCH PROTOCOL AND SAFTEY GUIDELINES.

The ***HOME*** Team captain is responsible for advising the ***VISITING*** Team at least five (5) days prior to scheduled match of any Match Protocol and Safety Guidelines that may exist at their facility.

1. MATCH TIME/WARM UP:

***HOME*** Team is responsible for advising ***VISITING*** Team of match time at least five (5) days prior to scheduled match. ***HOME*** Team should advise if warm up courts will be available for ***VISITING*** Team at that time. Once on site, players should follow current social distancing polices.

1. SOCIAL DISTANCING:

Maintain safe social distance between players during the racquet spin at the start of a match. Maintain physical distancing when changing ends of court. Try to stay at least 6 feet apart from other players during the match.

Offer an acknowledgment such as a nod, a thumbs up or a “good match” instead of shaking players’ hands. Do not make physical contact with other players.

1. FACE MASKS:

Players are required to bring and wear face masks in facilities’ Pro Shops. Players should all respect and follow safety guidelines as set at each individual facility.

1. GREIVANCES:

If a player refuses to comply with match protocol and safety protocol, a grievance may be filed, and disciplinary action taken.

1. MATCH ATTENDANCE:

Limit the number of players on site for each designated match. Teams are asked to be mindful and considerate of social distancing and facility capacity requirements. Once matches are completed and scores reported leave the facility. **NO LINGERING.**

**SPECTATORS ALLOWED with Exception!** Facilities have maximum occupancy requirements as outlined by the city. Teams are required to leave if requested by DTA Site Worker, USTA Official, Facility Manager or staff. **PLEASE EXPLAIN AND SHARE WITH PLAYERS.**

1. NO COACHING!!!!
2. SCORE CARDS AND SCOREKEEPER:

***BOTH*** captains should print, fill out and bring scorecard to scheduled match. Rather than exchanging the printed scorecards, the DTA suggest that captains take a picture of their opponent’s scorecard which should have been filled in by line with their players’ first and last names prior to match time.

*2021 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:*

***7G.*** Captains should use scorecards on USTA TENNIS LINK to avoid playing ineligible players. Go to <http://tennislink.usta.com/leagues>. Click on “Record a Score” located under My Quick Links on the right. Enter your match number. Scroll to the bottom and click on “Print Blank Scorecard”. Captains are responsible for verifying player eligibility prior to match play.

Scorecards printed off USTA TENNIS LINK for matches will include both teams’ most up-to-date rosters.

Players will be responsible for reporting match results directly to their captains.

*2021 USTA Dallas Rules and Regulations:*

***9A.*** Within 12 hours of a completed match BOTH CAPTAINS are responsible for entering scores using USTA TENNIS LINK. The first captain (or designated team member) to log on will enter the scores and the second captain (or designated team member) to log on will confirm or dispute the already reported results. In the event of a disputed score, contact the DTA office with the details at [leagues@dta.org](mailto:leagues@dta.org).

During match play, clearly verbalize score at the start of each point. Facilities have been advised to remove score tender from courts. When available, players may use at their own risk.

1. SCORECARD EDITS:

Any edits need to be forwarded to the DTA via email at [leagues@dta.org](mailto:leagues@dta.org).

Please include the following information in email:

(1) Match Number/Team Names/NTRP

(2) Details of Requested Edit

(3) Copy opposing captain. They MUST agree.

1. PERSONAL EQUIPMENT/BEVERAGES:

Players are responsible for their own water/sports beverages. Facilities WILL NOT have water on court. Water bottles, towels or any other personal equipment should be stored inside their tennis bag when not in use.

Bring their own chairs and avoid sharing a bench with a teammate and/or opponent.

Use headbands, hats, towels, or wristbands to avoid touching their faces during play.

1. BALLS:

HOME teams are responsible for providing one (1) can of new balls per match. Should a concern exist, players may bring their own can of new balls for their personal use. **PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH AN OPPONENT’s PERSONAL BALLS.**

1. WASH HANDS/HAND SANITIZER:

Wash hands often (before/after matches).