

# Dallas Tennis Association

## Junior Team Tennis

### Play Day Rules and Regulations

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# 2020 DTA Junior Team Tennis (JTT) Play Day Rules and Regulations

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## I. GENERAL

- A. All players must have some prior knowledge of the rules, scoring and techniques of tennis.
- B. All teams must have **one adult Team Captain**. The **Team Captain** must pass the USTA Safe Play Background check and be listed on Tennis Link as the Team Captain.
- C. The Team Captain is **responsible** for:
  - a. Communicating and filtering information from the JTT league to parents and players.
  - b. Determining the eligibility of the players.
  - c. The make-up and placement of players and teams according to Dallas Tennis Association (DTA) Junior Team Tennis (JTT) rules, and for submitting team rosters, and ensuring parents' pay dues through Tennis Link. No refunds will be made after registration is submitted, unless the entire Division does not make. Addition of players to existing rosters may be made through TennisLink prior to designated time specified for that season.
- D. Monitoring players (and players' parents) under his/her jurisdiction to make sure they are in compliance with the league rules at all times.
- E. Report any exceptions to DTA JTT in writing.
- F. Must be present at all Play Days, to oversee the matches, ensure that players observe all rules, and see that there is no outside interference in matches.

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## II. ORGANIZATION

- A. All teams must meet minimum player requirements as follows:
- JTT Non-Advancing Local Track teams - **4 players.**
  - JTT Advancing Sectional Track teams - **4 players.**
- B. **Non-Advancing Local Track** – No advancement to Texas Sectional Championships. This group includes all 10U Orange Ball play. Other non-advancing Yellow Ball divisions may be added at the discretion of the DTA JTT coordinator.
- C. **Advancing Sectional Track** – Advancement to Texas Sectional Championships. This group includes 12U Green Ball, 12U Yellow, 14U Yellow and 18U Yellow. Division winners will have the opportunity to advance to Texas Sectional Championships representing the DTA to compete against other Texas teams.
- D. The number of Team matches is dependent on the number of teams in the Division. Divisions containing 6 or more teams may be divided into flights.
- E. Team Composition:
- 10 & Under: 4 players (gender neutral) suggested maximum of 8 players
  - 12 & Under 1.9 Junior NTRP and below: 4 players (gender neutral) suggested maximum of 8 players
  - 12 & Under 2.4 Junior NTRP and below: 4 players (gender neutral) suggested maximum of 8 players
  - 12 & Under 2.5 Junior NTRP and above: 2 boys and 2 girls (co-ed) suggested maximum of 4 boys and 4 girls
  - 14 & Under 2.4 Junior NTRP and below: 2 boys and 2 girls (co-ed) suggested maximum of 4 boys and 4 girls
  - 14 & Under 3.4 Junior NTRP and below: 2 boys and 2 girls (co-ed) suggested maximum of 4 boys and 4 girls
  - 14 & Under 3.5 Junior NTRP and above: 2 boys and 2 girls (co-ed) suggested maximum of 4 boys and 4 girls
  - 18 & Under 3.4 Junior NTRP and below: 2 boys and 2 girls (co-ed) suggested maximum of 4 boys and 4 girls
  - 18 & Under 3.5 Junior NTRP and above: 2 boys and 2 girls (co-ed) suggested maximum of 4 boys and 4 girls

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### III. FORMAT & SCORING

- A. **10U Orange Ball.** Teams will play on a 60' court, use "Orange" balls, and have a maximum racket length of 25 inches. Teams can be gender neutral with a minimum of 4 Players. **10U Orange ball** teams will play **3 lines of singles** per round, no-ad scoring. Each team match will consist of 3 (THREE) 20-minute timed rounds. Players will play unlimited games within the 20 minutes and the number of games won will be recorded on the score sheet.
- B. **10U Green Ball.** Teams will play on 78' court, use "Green" balls, and have no racket restrictions. Teams can be gender neutral with a minimum of 4 Players. Each team match consists of **4 singles** (in order of strength) and **2 doubles** (in order of strength). Players may play a maximum of one singles match, and one doubles match per dual team match. If a team has only 3 players, it must default line 4 singles and line 2 doubles. If a team has only 2 players, it must default line 3 & 4 singles and line 2 doubles. Match play is 1 (ONE) 4 game pro-set with a 7-point tiebreaker at 5-5.
- C. **12U Yellow Ball Beginner and Intermediate.** Teams can be gender neutral with a minimum of 4 Players. Each Team match consists of **4 singles** (in order of strength) and **2 doubles** (in order of strength). Players may play a maximum of one singles match, and one doubles match per Team match. If a team has only 3 players, it must default line 4 singles and line 2 doubles. If a team has only 2 players, it must default line 3 & 4 singles and line 2 doubles. Match play is 1 (ONE) 6 game pro-set with a 7-point tiebreaker at 5-5.
- D. **14U – 18U Yellow Ball Beginner and Intermediate.** Teams must of a minimum of 2 Boys and 2 Girls. Each team match consists of 2 sets of boys' singles, 2 sets of girls' singles, 1 set of boys' doubles, 1 set of girls' doubles. Players may play a maximum of one singles match, and one doubles match per team match. If a team has only 3 players, it must default line 4 singles and line 2 doubles. If a team has only 2 players, it must default line 3 & 4 singles and line 2 doubles. Match play is 1 (ONE) 6 game pro-set with a 7-point tiebreaker at 5-5.

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## IV. ELIGIBILITY & DESCRIPTIONS OF PLAYER DIVISIONS

- A. **Age Eligibility.** As validated in TennisLink, players must remain age eligible through the final day of the month in which the season Sectionals is held to be able to register, participate and advance to USTA Texas Sectionals.
- B. **NTRP Overview.** The National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) is the official system for determining the levels of competition for the USTA League Program. The primary goal of the program is to help all tennis players enjoy the game by providing a method of classifying skill levels for more compatible league play.
- Players cannot have a NTRP rating higher than the team tennis level at which they are playing, at time of player registration.
  - Player NTRP rating at time of registration is the rating the player may play for the season through the Texas Sectional Championship.
- C. **Player Divisions.** The National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) ranges are as follow:

### 12U Yellow

- **Beginner: NTRP 1.9 and below.** A beginner strong Green Ball player or a 12U Challenger player in Yellow Ball.
- **Intermediate: NTRP 2.4 and below.** A strong 12U Challenger or Champ player

### 14U Yellow

- **Beginner: NTRP 2.4 and below.** A beginner 14U tournament player.
- **Intermediate: NTRP 2.9 and below.** A 14U strong Challenger or Champ player.

### 18U Yellow

- **Intermediate: NTRP 2.9 and below.** A 18U strong Challenger or Champ player.

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## V. SCHEDULING

- A. All matches will be played during designated Play Days that will be managed by the DTA.
- B. A Play Day will consist of all teams in a Division (or flight) reporting to one location and playing a Round Robin format. The amount of Play Days and/or matches will be dependent on number of teams registered in that Division.
- C. The DTA will determine and communicate:
  - Location of Play Days
  - Date and time of Play Days
  - The Round Robin draws
- D. JTT League play will be play on Sundays. The entire Play Day draw will be played on the scheduled day with the exception of bad weather.
- E. A player must be available to begin his/her match at the scheduled start time. If the player is not available within 15 minutes of scheduled match time, the opposing Team Captain will be awarded a default.
- F. A player may not play more than 2 (TWO) times per Team match with the exception of 10 and under **Orange Ball**.

## VI. SUBSTITUTES

- A. Substitute players may be used (prior to start of a match) in the event of illness or injury.
- B. A substitute should be no stronger than the player for whom he or she is substituting.
- C. Any substitute of a player not registered on said team, within 24 hours of match completion, will result in an automatic default of that line.

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## VII. TEAM DEFAULT/DEFAULTS/INJURIES

- A. A Team Default occurs when a team shows up with less players needed to complete a Team match. **If a team receives 2 (TWO) Team Defaults they will not be allowed to participate in JTT Sectionals.**
- B. A Default occurs when a player is scheduled to play and is unable to find a sub; thus, having to forfeit.
- If a player Defaults 2 (two) times during a season, regardless of reason, the player will not be eligible to play for the remainder of the season. These Defaults do not have to be consecutive.
  - Defaults are a form of questionable sportsmanship.
  - A Default will be scored as 6-0 to the opposing player.
- C. A Withdraw/Walkover occurs if a player is unable to finish a Match that has been started, because of illness or injury.
- If a player is injured or becomes ill, the player may request a 5-minute timeout from the Team Captain. At the end of 5 minutes, play must resume.
  - If player cannot resume play, then the match is declared completed and both players will keep any earned games in the Match.

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## VIII. INTERFERENCE

- A. Teammates, spectators, or parents may not volunteer assistance with line calls, scoring, or coaching.
- B. **ONLY Team Captains or the DTA Play Day Coordinator, may speak to players on the court**, should an issue arise.
- C. If a player needs assistance, he/she is to place his/her racquet up to signal to the sideline to get a Team Captain.
- D. **No coaching is allowed at any time.** If parental interference occurs, the JTT Grievance Committee may take action.
- E. The appointed DTA Play Day Coordinator has the final say in any dispute.
- F. The appointed DTA Play Day Coordinator has the authority to request a spectator leave the premises.

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## IX. RESCHEDULED MATCHES/WEATHER

- A. The DTA Junior Team Tennis Area Coordinator will be responsible for determining delays, postponements, and cancellations due to weather issues.
- B. The DTA Junior Team Tennis Area Coordinator will be responsible for the rescheduling of the Play Day.
- C. If a match has begun and becomes delayed due to weather, the teams must wait 1 hour for courts to become playable. If the courts do not become playable, the remainder of the Play Day will be rescheduled.
- D. The DTA Junior Team Tennis Area Coordinator will determine if a Play Day is a complete rainout, or delayed, at least 2 hours prior to start time.
- E. The rescheduled match will be played on the designated weather make-up date.
- F. Extreme Weather Conditions: The following weather conditions may subject a Match to be rescheduled:
  - If the actual temperature is 40 degrees or below OR the wind chill factor is 32 degrees or below.
  - The actual temperature is 105 degrees or higher.
  - If **sustained** winds are 30 mph or higher.

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## X. SPORTSMANSHIP

- A. Ethical and sportsmanlike conduct is expected of all players and Team Captains. The use of profanity, obscene gestures, slamming balls, throwing a racquet purposely, and habitual bad line calls **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**.
- B. The offending player's Team Captain should immediately issue a warning to the player. If the player's Team Captain refuses to give the warning, then the opposing Team Captain may request the appointed DTA Play Day Coordinator to intervene. The DTA Play Day Coordinator has the final say in any dispute.
- C. If a player is warned with a 2<sup>nd</sup> violation during the same Play Day, the appointed DTA Play Day Coordinator will notify the JTT Committee.
- D. The JTT Committee will review both violations and determine if the player will be eligible to play the remainder of the season, as well as any post-season Sectional play. Any special cases will be reviewed and ruled upon by the JTT Committee.

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## XI. PROTESTS/GRIEVANCES

- A. Problems arising at a match are to be resolved by the Team Captains. If a problem arises that cannot be resolved by the Team Captains with the assistance of the DTA Play Day Site Coordinator, either may file a protest after the Match.
- B. The Team Captain must notify the opposing Team Captain and the DTA Junior Team Tennis Area Coordinator as soon as possible that they are filing a grievance.
- C. All protests/grievances must be submitted in writing to the DTA Junior Team Tennis Area Coordinator within 4 days of the Match protested. DTA Junior Team Tennis Area Coordinator will notify and copy the DTA Executive Director and appropriate DTA Board Members who will then form a Grievance Committee.
- D. The Grievance Committee will review both sides and decide on appropriate action. Grievance Committee rulings are final.
- E. The DTA Junior Team Tennis Area Coordinator will not take part in any grievance ruling.

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## XII. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- A. Violation of any DTA Junior Team Tennis rule/guideline will result in a violation toward the team that the violator represents and/or is affiliated with; this includes Team Captains, Team Co-Captains, players, and/or family members.
- **First Violation.** The First Violation will result in a team warning to the involved Team Captains; Team Co-Captains; players and/or family members. DTA JTT Committee members and the USTA Texas Section will be informed of the violation and the warning via email.
  - **Second Violation.** The Second Violation will result in team disqualification from any/all post season Texas Sectional play. DTA JTT Committee members and the USTA Texas Section will be informed of the violation and the warning via email.
  - **Third Violation.** The Third Violation will result in the entire team expulsion from the JTT league and all remaining matches will be recorded as defaults. DTA JTT Committee members and the USTA Texas Section will be informed of the violation and the expulsion via email.

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