

SPORTS LEAGUE OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Official Singles Tennis Rules



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OVERVIEW

Teams will play one, 10 game super set (First team to 10 wins – you do not need to win by two).

Warm-up time will be included in the match time. The match should take roughly 1 hour to complete.

No-Ad Scoring (first to four points wins the game)

Forfeits: Teams will forfeit 1 game for every 10 minutes past the designated start time that they do not have the legal amount of players. If no one is present from a team by 25 minutes after the designated start time the entire match will be forfeited and the team that is present will receive both wins of the match. ***Teams that forfeit more than once will be removed from the playoffs and will not get their forfeit fee returned***

BEGINNING OF THE GAME AND PLAY FORMAT

- The beginning of the game will start with the CSSC staff using an “odd/even”, or coin flip. The winning team will have one of two options, choose to serve first or choose which side they prefer to play on, (not both). Each match will consist of one, 10 game super set (first team to 10 wins – you do not need to win by two). Each game will count in the overall standings for regular season standings. **Each game will use the No-Ad Scoring System.** That means that in any game, if the game goes to deuce, the next point will win (first team to four points).

REFEREES

- All games will be self-refereed. Teams will call all scores before each serve, and be responsible for calling the ball “in” or “out”. All players are expected to be honest throughout the league. If there is a situation where teams are having trouble with this, the CSSC staff member on site will help out if he/she can, or will call the game if needed.

FORFEITS

- Teams will forfeit 1 game for every 10 minutes past the designated start time that they are not there. If no players are present from a team by 25 minutes after the designated start time the entire match will be forfeited and the team that is present will receive both wins of the match. Teams may pick up players or have subs during the regular season in order to field a full team. Substitutes will not be allowed during playoffs.

FORFEIT FEE:

- Incorporated in your league fee is a forfeit fee. If you go the entire season without forfeiting this fee will be refunded to you. Forfeit fees may not be refunded if your team makes up the match on another day (ask our staff).

MAKE UPS:

Everyone is expected to show up and play at their scheduled game time every week. If you cannot make it you will either receive a forfeit or need to make arrangements with your opponent to make up the match on your own time. This is not encouraged, but will help assure that people are getting the matches they paid to play. At the beginning of the season we will supply all teams and players with the contact information of the other players in the league (If you have a problem with this let us know ahead of time and all correspondence will be channeled through our office). Here are the policies that must be followed for all make ups:

1. It is up to you and your opponent to coordinate a make-up. If the team/person that cannot make the match and the other party involved cannot or do not want to try and make up the match, then it will be ruled a forfeit.
2. If you are going to or need to miss your scheduled game time, you need to contact your opponent and also notify our office at least 24 hours before the scheduled match so that we do not charge you with a forfeit.
3. It is up to you to find a date, court, and time that will work for you and your opponent.
4. You need to call/email in the result of any made up matches prior to the last week of the season.
5. You can pick up a set of balls from our office or at your next match.

GAME TIMES

- Teams will receive a schedule that will list when their team will play each week. Teams will be given an allotted amount of time to play 1 match (anywhere between an hour and an hour and fifteen minutes depending on the facility). “Warm-up” time is to be included in the allotted amount of time that teams will have for their match. Teams will decide if they wish to “warm-up” or not. The longer teams take/choose to “warm-up” the less time they may have to complete their match. Teams will have 10 minutes to field a team before they receive their first forfeit.

SCORING

- Game Scoring. The first point of each game will be called 15. The second point for a team will be called 30. The third point for a team will be called 40. The fourth point for a team will be the end of the game (No-Ad Scoring). It is 10 game super set, so the first team to 10 wins the match. You do not need to win by two.

THE SERVE

- Service and side will be decided before the match by a coin flip or odd/even call. The winning team may choose to serve first or to pick a certain side. If the team chooses a side,

the other team will serve first. Each player on each team will alternate serving. Teams will switch sides every three games. A player's service will last until his/her game is finished.

- Positioning. In each game, the server will alternate between halves of the court and must serve to the opposite half on the other side of the net. The first serve of the game must be made from the right half of the servers' side to the right half of the returners' side. All serves must land in the "service box" to be a good serve.
- Faults. If the serve hits the net and does not travel to the opponents' side of the net, if the serve hits the net and lands on the opposite side of the court out of bounds, if the serve lands out of bounds, or if the server foot faults, it will be a fault. The server gets a maximum of two serves each service. If the server faults twice, they lose the point.

PLAYING SURFACE

- The playing surface will be a regulation tennis court size with regulation nets. Doubles lines will be used for sideline out of bounds.

All unlisted rules will follow the USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations.

LEAGUE POLICIES

GAMES:

Matches will be played within the allotted time, (warm up time included). All matches are a one, 10 game super set (do not need to win by two).

REFS:

ALL GAMES WILL BE SELF-REFFED. There will be a CSSC staff member on-site to help interpret rules or if there are any discrepancies between the two teams that need to be addressed. Captains are responsible for recording the results of their game. Clipboards will be provided on each court to record the scores. Our staff will provide constant reminders with regards to this process.

FORFEITS:

If your team forfeits a match during the season, the following rules apply:

First Offense: Loss of match. Loss of forfeit fee.

Second Offense: Loss of match and staff reserves the right to remove team from playoffs.

Third Offense: Removal from the league.

Any team that forfeits more than once also forfeits any guarantee or right to a certain number of guaranteed games.

If you know in advance that your team is going to forfeit a game, we encourage you to call our office, at 312.850.8196, so as to help us schedule your opponent a game however this does not mean that your team will not receive the loss as a forfeit.

During the regular season teams will forfeit 1 game for every 10 minutes past the designated start time that they do not have the legal amount of players. If no one is present from a team by 25 minutes after the designated start time the entire match will be forfeited and the team that is present will receive all three wins of the match. *Teams without enough players may still play a “legal” game but only with the opposing teams’ consent. All teams consenting to play a legal game with less than the allowed minimum waive their right to a forfeit win.* Teams may pick up players during the regular season in order to field a full team. During playoffs teams will receive one forfeit every 10 minutes that they are unable to field a “legal” team. After they forfeit their second game the winning team will advance to the next round of playoffs. Substitutes will not be allowed during playoffs.

MAKE UPS:

Everyone is expected to show up and play at their scheduled game time every week. If you cannot make it you will either receive a forfeit or need to make arrangements with your opponent to make up the match on your own time. This is not encouraged, but will help assure that people are getting the matches they paid to play. At the beginning of the season we will supply all teams and players with the contact information of the other players in the league (If you have a problem with this let us know ahead of time and all correspondence will be channeled through our office). Here are the policies that must be adhered to for all make ups:

1. It is up to you and your opponent to coordinate a make-up. If the team/person that cannot make the match and the other party involved cannot or do not want to try and make up the match, then it will be ruled a forfeit.
2. If you are going to or need to miss your scheduled game time, you need to contact your opponent and also notify our office at least 24 hours before the scheduled match so that we do not charge you with a forfeit.
3. It is up to you to find a date, court, and time that will work for you and your opponent.
4. You need to call/email in the result of any made up matches prior to the last week of the season.
5. You can pick up a set of balls from our office or at your next match.

STANDINGS:

The updated standings will be posted weekly. The standings will display each teams rank within its skill level. Rank is based on points/winning percentage.

PLAYOFFS:

Playoffs will begin immediately following the end of the regular season and will typically last between 2 and 3 weeks. After teams have been seeded according to their records all captains will receive an email with the 1st week of playoff game times roughly 3 days before their league. **Teams will not receive an email/call for any other weeks of playoffs!** It is **ALL TEAMS'** responsibility to check the playoff brackets at the league or online to find out what time they will be playing the following week if they win. In playoffs it is not uncommon, (and in some cases will be necessary), for teams to have more than one match in a given night. No substitutes will be allowed during playoffs. All players must have signed the waiver by the second week of the season in order to be eligible for playoffs. All eligible teams will make the playoffs. Playoff eligible teams will be determined on a league by league basis. Teams that have violated the forfeit policy during the course of regular season will not be eligible for playoffs. In certain situations teams at or near the bottom of the standings may not advance to the playoffs. Check with CSSC league coordinator to see if this applies to your league. Playoffs are single elimination. During playoffs teams will receive one forfeit every 10 minutes that they are unable to field a "legal" team. After they forfeit their second game

the winning team will advance to the next round of playoffs. Substitutes will not be allowed during playoffs.

Seeding: Teams are seeded according to points/winning percentage and strength of schedule.

Teams may be dropped from their regular season level based on the above criteria. Teams may be moved to a higher division during the playoffs only if permission is granted by the CSSC full time staff. Skill levels may be divided into separate divisions based upon size of level. Teams may play more than one game per day, and/or play games on days/nights other than your regularly scheduled league day/night if necessary.

CSSC reserves the right to schedule playoff games on days other than teams regularly scheduled league night. Any questions regarding rules, policies, or eligibility of players must be addressed before the start of the playoff game.

Any team that would like to challenge the eligibility of an opposing player must do so before the start of the playoff game. No protests will be considered valid after a game has started.

WAIVERS:

In order to participate in the league, each participant must sign the team waiver. Waivers are provided and must be completed and handed in no later than the first night of play. Players not present the first week of play will still be required to sign a waiver with our staff before participating. Players must sign the waiver in order to be eligible for playoffs.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

Players who have been placed on the roster and signed the waiver are eligible for playoffs. A formal protest may be filed before a game if an opposing player's eligibility is in question for the playoffs. The player in question will be required to provide his/her player information (name, address, phone #, signature) in writing to a CSSC staff member prior to the start of the game. This qualifies as an official protest. Any protest made during or after a playoff game will NOT be considered a formal protest. The game will then be played in its entirety as scheduled. Teams will be notified of all rulings on the identified eligibility discrepancy by the following business day – decisions will not be made on site. If the protest is proven to be legitimate, it will result in the forfeiture of the game in question. Games subsequent to the protested game may be rescheduled. The above procedure will also apply for any other "logged" protests. All rulings by CSSC staff are considered final.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

The idea of CSSC is to have fun. We hope that all participants keep that in mind when becoming involved. Although the games may become intense, you still can be competitive while maintaining good sportsmanship. With this said, any behavior deemed unacceptable by staff may result in suspension and/or

ejection from a game or the league. Abuse of staff will not be tolerated. CSSC reserves the right to remove a player from a game or a league if they are considered to be bringing down the quality of the league. CSSC will not tolerate fighting! Fighting will be an automatic ejection from any game and in most cases ejection from the league for the remainder of the season.

STAFF:

To coordinate and run the league, the officials and/or staff will be available at all times to help the league run as smoothly as possible. If you have questions regarding schedules, policies, rule interpretations, directions to the bar, etc. please ask.

LEAGUE CANCELLATION/RAINOUT:

Please call our weather hotline for the most up to date information on any cancellations (312.773.7100)

Leagues may be cancelled due to existing weather conditions, dangerous or unplayable field conditions, facility constraints, etc. CSSC staff makes every effort to play all scheduled games, thus we will not cancel games until absolutely necessary. Therefore, if you are calling concerning a decision on a cancellation, remember we will not have an answer until close to the start of the league.

If the league is cancelled, CSSC staff will change the weather hotline immediately. CSSC will then text/email all of the captains to let them know when possible. It is then the captains responsibility to inform all teammates of the cancelation. If a league is cancelled on site, CSSC staff will attempt to contact those teams still scheduled to play the remainder of the league day/night. Depending on the time of cancellation, some teams will have to be notified on site. If we do cancel, follow next week's schedule (ex. If April 13 is cancelled teams should follow the April 20 schedule for their next game). The games that are cancelled will be made up towards the end of the season if time allows. In extreme circumstances, CSSC reserves the right to run a shortened season without a refund. CSSC reserves the right to move games or weeks to an alternative location when deemed necessary without compensation. CSSC also reserves the right to schedule games on days other than your regularly scheduled league day/night if necessary.

PRIZES/ JERSEYS:

Each team will receive a pre-bundled set of colored jerseys with various sizes at the first night of the league. Additional shirts and sizes can be purchased from the CSSC for an additional charge. The top teams in each division will receive a prize of great emotional, spiritual, and most importantly, social value.

These policies are designed to make the league run as smoothly and safely as possible, and provide continuity for its participants. Each player in the league is responsible for this information: please advise your team of these rules and thanks for playing.