



## New OC USTA League Procedures for 2018

I hope you are all enjoying your Holidays with family and friend and have a very Happy New Year!

Major change to note (please make sure you read this entire email before requesting your team number):

- We will not be using online team creation this season. To request a team number, captains must read and the rules (SCTA Regulations, OC Local League Rules and 2018 Master Schedule and Deadline Date Deadlines), review the new 2017 Year-End Ratings, and fill out the Captain's Acknowledgment Form (after reading and understanding the rules). After those are completed, email me by the deadline date requesting your team number(s) and I'll send them to you after I put them online. The link to the form is posted on the Rules, Forms and Information Page of the website: [www.orangecountyusta.com](http://www.orangecountyusta.com) (upper right-hand side) [Captain's Acknowledgement Form - Part of New Procedures for Requesting a Team](#) (please do not fill out until you've read and understand all the rules)
- SCTA will no longer be issuing refunds, so be careful about registering players.
- We can still move players to a subsequent season, if the request is made before the deadline date to register players.
- The deadline to register players will revert back to the way we used to have it. For 2018, you may continue to register players (or request to move a player to a future season) up until 4 weeks before the end date of the season. (I'll add specific dates to that Master Schedule and Deadline Date page linked above before the winter season begins. No exceptions will be made to extend these very generous deadlines, but I think it's a great change, that allows for new players to the community to get started playing asap.)
- This is the year we will be strictly enforcing our Team-Bye Request procedure that has been in place for many years, but not always followed by all captains. Captains **MUST** fill out the Team-Bye Request form and officially list all Team-Bye Requests on the form and those are the **ONLY** dates for which a captain may requests a reschedule with their opponents after the schedules

come out. If a captain fails to list a date, and/or lists dates beyond their allowable maximum, their opposing captain is not required to reschedule that match, even if it is the first match of the season. This system is in place to reward captains who take the required time up-front to manage their schedules, and penalize those who don't. This policy may require captains to roster larger teams, but will definitely require captains to poll all their players up front regarding their availabilities, so they can know when they are short players, and request team-byes accordingly and make sure to roster enough players so they have enough for all matches.

- Regarding our WD/WE area status: There are now three leagues, where OC is considered separate areas: 40 & Over Adult (winter); 18 & Over Adult (spring); SCTA Doubles (fall). This means that players in these leagues may play on both a WD and a WE team at the same level (IF we have at least 6 teams signed up for the WD league) which allows one representative to progress to the next level from each WD and WE area.
- Many more changes. Please read all the rules carefully.
- Date for Preseason meeting will be announced soon, but I also may do a bunch of local meetings for repeat captains at your sites (to make sure you get your captain's gift) with in-person hands-on training for new captains.

After you've completed the required steps and received your team numbers, you may begin registering players.

FLEX League singles will start up after the leagues are up and running, and will be run quarterly, but managed in TennisLink instead of the FLEX league platform. Long-story-short, much better platform.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need help with anything.

I hope you have a great Holiday Season!!!

Heidi



**Orange County USTA League Coordinator**  
Adult League, FLEX League, Jr. Team Tennis  
and OC 10 and Under Tennis Series Play Days

[www.orangecountyusta.com](http://www.orangecountyusta.com)

[heidi.stryker3@gmail.com](mailto:heidi.stryker3@gmail.com)