



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Spring & Summer 2016 Section Rules, Regulations & Guidelines

All Local Leagues must adhere to the following:

USTA rules will govern league play, and approved local and section rules, regulations and guidelines will take precedence over national guidelines. Local league rules must be approved by the Section Coordinator.

Coaches, Co-Captains and Team Managers are responsible for reading and knowing all local league and section rules, regulations & guidelines regarding Junior Team Tennis.

Inappropriate behavior from parents, coaches/co-captains, team managers, spectators, or players will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: breaking rules, cursing, threats, violence, etc. This is a ZERO TOLERANCE policy and any violation may result in a ban from the league.

For all team matches, each team must be supervised by at least one adult.

All players MUST be registered and rostered on the online system (Tennislink) BEFORE playing their first team match.

The goal is for every player to play in at least 3 team matches during the season. In order for a team to advance to the Section Championships, 3 team matches is the minimum requirement for every player. Each team must have a minimum of 6 eligible players to participate at the section championships.

After a team has won the Section or National Championships, all players who were registered to play at this event must play in the next highest division (Intermediate to Satellite and Satellite to Advanced.) If a player is moved up in ability level, he/she must play in the age level where he/she won at the Section or National Championships. Advanced players are able to remain in their respective age division, and as they age up, they take their Advanced level rating with them (with the exception of 10s Satellite winners who may choose to play 12s Satellite the following season, as designated on the Eligibility List).

All Coordinators, Coaches, Co-Captains and Team Managers must complete the 3 step Safe Play and Background Checks procedure in order to participate in our program. Your name must appear on the approved applicants background screening results page that is housed within the USTA.com website.

<http://www.usta.com/safeplay>



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Junior Team Tennis Spring 2016 season

<u>Registration opens</u>	January 2016
<u>Pre-season meetings</u>	Jan. 13 to Feb. 12, 2016
<u>Deadline to create teams</u>	Refer to your local area's timeline
<u>League play begins</u>	Feb. 20 to Mar. 6 (no later than)
<u>Last day to register players</u>	April 29, 2016

▫ <u>Season end date</u>	May 15, 2016
*▫ <u>Area playoffs for Section Champs</u>	May 21 & 22, 2016

* If needed

<u>Deadline to register for Section Champs</u>	May 25, 2016
<u>Section Championships</u>	June 4 & 5, 2016 (location TBD)

▫ Some areas might end their season at a different date - please check your area's timeline

All area team play for section championship advancement must be concluded no later than Sunday May 22, 2016!

► 12, 14 & 18s Advanced may qualify for the Gar Glenney Cup ◀



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

National Championship Junior Team Tennis Summer 2016 Season

<u>Registration opens</u>	June 1, 2016
<u>Deadline to create teams</u>	Refer to your local area's timeline
<u>League play begins</u>	June 25 to July 10 (no later than)
<u>Last day to register players</u>	July 29, 2016

<u>Season end date</u>	August 14, 2016
(for 14s and 18s Satellite and Advanced Co-ed flights)	

<u>Deadline to register for Section Champs</u>	Wednesday August 17, 2016
<u>Section Championships</u>	August 20 & 21, 2016 (location TBD)

<p>▫ Some areas might have other age divisions (other than 14s and 18s Co-ed) - please check your area's timeline for the season end date for these age divisions. All area team play for section championship advancement (14s and 18s Co-ed only) must be concluded no later than Sunday August 14, 2016!</p>

**USTA Junior Team Tennis is based on Ability (skill level) first before Age.
The Southern California Section categories are as follows:**

Novice - Players have little or no prior tennis experience. These players should not have played in Satellite or Open level tournaments (level 7 Novice tournaments are okay.)

Intermediate - Players can have some tennis experience. These players have participated in the league but should have no extensive tournament experience and should have not acquired any points in the tournament points standings prior to the start of the season.

Satellite - (High Intermediate) Players have more tennis experience and may have a ranking and points. These players have participated in the league and play Satellite and/or Open (level 4, 5 & 6) tournaments. Players may not have more than 200 points in the Open standings prior to the season start date set by the Section. Please refer to the eligibility list for details.

Advanced - Players have extensive tennis and tournament experience. These players would usually participate in Open (level 1, 2, 3 & 4) tournaments. Players with 201 or more points in the tournament points standings MUST participate in the advanced division

The Section will post its eligibility list prior to the start of the season.

Spring & Summer season will use the most recent January tournament points standings list (from tournament play)
Fall season will use an August tournament points standings list.

The eligibility list published will be used for the duration of the entire season. If a player is designated as Satellite and/or Advanced on this list, he/she must play Satellite and/or Advanced in any age division he/she chooses to play.

Teams must declare their status level (Novice, Intermediate, Satellite or Advanced) when they submit their team into their local league at the beginning of their local league season.

Age & Gender Categories:

- 10 & Under Teams Players must not age up before:
 May 15 (Spring) August 31 (Summer) December 15 (Fall)
Novice, Intermediate, Satellite and Advanced Teams are Gender Neutral.
- 12 & Under Teams Players must not age up before:
 May 15 (Spring) August 31 (Summer) December 15 (Fall)
Novice, Intermediate, Satellite & Advanced Teams are Gender Neutral.
- 14 & Under Teams Players must not age up before:
 May 15 (Spring) August 31 (Summer) December 15 (Fall)
Novice, Intermediate, Satellite & Advanced Teams are Gender Neutral (Spring & Fall)
Summer – Satellite and Advanced Co-ed teams only (minimum 3 boys and 3 girls)
- 18 & Under Teams Players must not age up before:
 May 15 (Spring) August 31 (Summer) December 15 (Fall)
Spring – Girls only (due to CIF regulations)
Summer – Satellite and Advanced Co-ed teams only (minimum 3 boys and 3 girls)
Fall - Boys only (due to CIF regulations)

TennisLink checks age verification for our 3 program seasons. If for some reason an error occurs through our on-line system (TennisLink), the age up dates listed above will take precedence.

USTA Membership Optional and League Fees

USTA membership is optional for all players in our Spring and Fall season; however, it will be required in our Championship Junior Team Tennis Summer season.

If you do not have a USTA membership # and want to play JTT, you must create an account in TennisLink in order to register to play on a team. Please follow these step by step instructions:

- ▶ From the main USTA JTT homepage (right next to Sign-In), click on “Create An Account”
- ▶ Click on Create Account where it says “Do you play in a USTA program...”
- ▶ Choose “I am new to TennisLink and want to create an account” to create your TennisLink account #

This TennisLink account # along with your team number will allow a player to register for a team.

Anyone found to put erroneous information into their new TennisLink account # to register for a team will be removed from our program and will not be allowed to participate in our program in the future.

SCTA Program Fee: The fee charged by the Section is \$15.50. During registration the online administrator (Active.com) also charges a \$3.00 per player registration fee and there is a \$1.00 Safe Play fee. The total program fee is \$19.50.

Section Championships

The Section Championships will be held in the following divisions.

- 10 & Under (Intermediate, Satellite & Advanced) – 6 game Pro-Set, no-ad scoring, with a set tiebreak at 5 games all. 2 Singles and 2 Doubles matches will be played.
Minimum of 6 eligible players required. Teams are Gender Neutral (any combination of boys & girls on a team)
- 12 & Under (Intermediate, Satellite & Advanced) – 8 game Pro-Set, no-ad scoring, with a set tiebreak at 7 games all. 2 Singles and 2 Doubles matches will be played.
Minimum of 6 eligible players required. Teams are Gender Neutral (any combination of boys & girls on a team)
- 14 & Under (Intermediate, Satellite & Advanced) – 8 Game Pro-Set, no-ad scoring, with a set tiebreak at 7 games all. 2 Singles and 2 Doubles matches will be played.
Minimum of 6 eligible players required. Teams are Gender Neutral (any combination of boys & girls on a team)
- ◆ 14 & Under (Satellite & Advanced Co-ed) Summer season - match format will depend on how many teams participate in the section event. Minimum of 3 eligible boys and 3 eligible girls required.
- 18 & Under (Intermediate, Satellite & Advanced) – best 2 of 3 sets, no-ad scoring, with a set tiebreak at 5 games all. A match tiebreak (first to 10 points, win by 2) is played in lieu of a third set. 2 Singles and 2 Doubles matches will be played.
Minimum of 6 eligible players required, Single Gender (Girls) in Spring and Single Gender (Boys) in Fall
- ◆ 18 & Under (Satellite & Advanced Co-ed) Summer season - match format will depend on how many teams participate in the section event. Minimum of 3 eligible boys and 3 eligible girls required.

Formats are subject to change

There will be 8 spots maximum for each division/flight at the Section Championships.

A round robin format will be played; but a single elimination format could be used if needed.

- If more than 8 teams qualify for the Sections Championships, smaller areas will have to play off to get into the Section Championships.
- Larger areas might need to have an area playoff to determine which team advances to the Section Championships.

Section Championships Eligibility

All players participating in the Section Championships must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Player must have played in 3 local area team matches (one match may be an onsite default or an exhibition match on record.)
 - Areas with not enough teams (minimum 2 per flight) may play out of area to become eligible for Championship play. They can also play in another flight within their area to obtain their 3 local area team match requirement for the Section Championships.
 - In order to qualify for the National Championships from our Summer season, your local league flight must have at least 2 teams in your age and ability level.
- Players may only participate for one team only at the Section Championships.
- If a player is listed on the current section eligibility list and is on a team at lower ability level, the player and/or entire team can be disqualified during the course of their local league season or at the section championships. It is the coach's responsibility to check their players names on the current section eligibility list when putting their teams together at the start of your local league season.

Substitutions

There are no substitutions except in cases of a mitigating circumstance (ie. a documented injury, a family emergency, etc.) A written appeal must be made only to the Program Coordinator 10 days in advance of the start date of the Section Championships. A decision will be made no later than 7 days before the start of the event. The decision of the Program Coordinator is final.

Uniforms

Our program strongly recommends that each team has a uniform look. Teams have full autonomy to select their own uniforms (team shirt.) The Jr. Team Tennis program strongly encourages all teams have a uniform look while participating in all team matches throughout the season.

Sportsmanship

Good sportsmanship is required of everyone involved in the Junior Team Tennis program - from the spectators, parents, coaches/co-captains, team managers and players. Any reports of less than desirable behavior will be dealt with immediately. As stated previously, there is a ZERO TOLERANCE policy in effect for anyone involved in any match in our program. With this being said, we truly hope everyone involved in the Southern California Junior Team Tennis program enjoys every aspect of what we have to offer. Thank you for your support and participation in our program!