



## 2012 USTA KENTUCKY JR. TEAM TENNIS STATE REGULATIONS

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**2012 USTA Kentucky JTT State Championship Summary**  
**10s, 12s, 14s, & 18s**  
**July 20-22, 2012**  
Intermediate & Advanced  
\$25 per player (\$20 for 10U)

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Kentucky Jr. Team Tennis local leagues and the Kentucky Jr. Team Tennis State Championships will abide by the **2012 USTA Jr. Team Tennis Regulations**, as well as the Southern Additions, with the following additions and general rules highlighted. The Rules of Tennis and The Code, as found in the 2012 Friend at Court shall govern all matches.

### **A. Local JTT Leagues**

1. All Coordinators, Coach/Captains, and Co-Captains entered in TennisLink must adhere to the USTA Kentucky Youth Safety Policy (Appendix I), which includes completing & passing each every two years:
  - a) Successful completion of the USTA Southern Online Youth Protection Course
  - b) Successful completion and “clearing” a background check through Acxiom’s USTA Kentucky account
2. CTAs and/or coordinators must pay a \$1 per registration “head tax” to USTA Kentucky to assist in funding the cost of the background checks.
3. All local JTT matches are unofficiated matches; therefore, players and teams shall abide by The Code (see 2012 Friend at Court, pages 45-51).
4. Local League Coordinators and Committees may develop additional rules & procedures, which must not become inconsistent with USTA, USTA Southern, and USTA Kentucky:
  - a) The local league determines the number of matches a player can play in a local team match.
  - b) Other examples: Cans of balls needed per match, scoring format, etc.
5. A player may participate on more than one team in a local league during the same season as long as it is not the same division in the same league.
6. All 8U and 10U divisions must be played using the QuickStart Tennis Play Format parameters (balls, racquet, court size, scoring, and net height).
  - a) See C.15 and C.16 for 10s and 8s parameters.
7. A league must be age validating for any team in the local league to be eligible to advance to championships.
  - a) For example, a player turning 19 in the summer can not play in an advancing league because the player is considered an ineligible player due to his/her age)

8. The winning team from all local leagues may advance to the Kentucky State JTT Championships.
  - a) Additional teams will be invited to the Kentucky State JTT Championships as teams are needed.
9. Local leagues may offer end-of-season Jamborees/Tournaments that can be entered as a USTA Tournament, thus earning ranking points for players involved providing the following provisions are met:
  - a) No co-ed divisions, except Mixed Doubles.
  - b) Singles divisions must use a multiple set format. No 8-game pro sets allowed for singles play.

## **B. Requirements to Advance to State Championship**

### **1. USTA Membership**

- a) All players must be USTA Members through August 31, 2012.

### **2. Championship Year 2012**

- a) The JTT season runs from September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2012.
- b) Teams must qualify to advance to the State Championship from local league play.
- c) Local league play must be completed by July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to be counted toward player eligibility.

### **3. NTRP Rating Information**

- a) Juniors must be rated appropriately according to the National Tennis Rating Program, see NTRP Guidelines in the National JTT Regulations.
- b) Players rated 3.5 and above must play in advanced divisions.
- c) Players with a Southern Standing of 1-300 or National standing of 1-600 in the 12U, 14U and/or 18U divisions as of July 31 2010 must play in the Advanced Division. (A list of players who must play in Advanced Divisions can be found on the USTA KY JTT page).
- d) Players with a Southern Standing 1-100 in the 10U division, as of July 31, 2011, must play in the **10U** Advanced Division (A list of players who must play in Advanced Divisions can be found on the USTA KY JTT page).
- e) If a player is found to be out of level, he/she will not be allowed to play in the remaining matches and all games won by the player will be removed.

### **4. Requirements for Team Advancement**

- a) A minimum of three boys and three girls are required to field a team.
- b) Should a team roster drop below the minimum requirement to be able to advance to State, then up to one boy and or one girl may be added from the local league to meet this requirement.
- c) All substitutions must be approved by the State Coordinator and all player and team eligibility requirements must be met.
- d) Substitutes may not advance beyond the State Championships with the team if the original local league roster is submitted for advancement.

### **5. Requirements for Player Advancement**

- a) To advance, a team must be co-ed and have played in a co-ed league or Area Championship to advance to the State Championship and beyond.
- b) A player must have played at least three (3) local dual team matches in the local league during the 2012 Championship Year.

1. All qualifying matches must be played in 2 or more days (no 1 day leagues)

- c) Only one (1) default will count toward the three (3) match minimum requirement to advance.
- d) Qualifying teams must be co-ed, registered through TennisLink Team Tennis, and have local match results recorded in the local program to advance to State, Section, or National Championships.

**6. Participation on More Than One Team**

- a) A player may participate on more than one team at the Kentucky JTT State Championship, but no special scheduling arrangements will be made to accommodate players on two teams. A player may not play on two teams in the same division.

**C. Kentucky JTT State Championship**

**1. Entering Kentucky JTT State Championship**

- a) *Team Registration.* Completed Registration Form & Registration Fees due July 22.
- b) *Consent Forms.* Signed Medical Consent Forms are due for all members of the team before the team's first match.
- c) All documents mentioned can be found at: [www.ustaky.com](http://www.ustaky.com)
  - i. Click on "Junior".
  - ii. Then "Junior Team Tennis".
- d) *Substitution Rule.* If 3 boys and 3 girls from an advancing team can not compete, additional players from other teams in the local league can be added. 1 boy and/or 1 girl may be added to complete a team. Players must meet requirements to advance.
- e) Match Schedules will be posted on [www.ustaky.com](http://www.ustaky.com) by July 20.

**2. Captain Conference Calls**

- a) Instead of having a mandatory morning meeting with captains, two (2) conference calls will be offered.
  - i. Conference Call Options
    - 1. Wednesday, July 18 @ 6pm (Eastern)
    - 2. Thursday, July 19 @ 7pm (Eastern)
  - ii. Conference Call-In Numbers
    - 1-888-394-8197
    - Passcode: 373473#

**3. Tournament Amenities**

- a) All players and captains will receive a t-shirt.
- b) All captain's will receive a captains gift.

**4. Tournament Awards**

- a) Awards will be given to the top 2 teams in each division.
- b) Sportsmanship awards will be given to 1 boy and 1 girl in each division.

**5. Tournament Website**

- a) For all Championship information, please log on to the JTT page on [www.ustaky.com](http://www.ustaky.com).
- b) For Championship Information, please log on to the JTT homepage found on TennisLink.

**6. Championship Flight Set-Up**

- a) Teams will compete in a non-elimination round robin.

- b) Depending on the number of teams in each division, divisions may be split in to 2 or more flights.
- c) If flighted, winning teams will advance to additional rounds to determine the winner of the division.
- d) All teams are guaranteed a minimum of three (3) at the Championship.
- e) Winners of the division/flight will be determined by total games won.
- f) If 2 teams are tied in total games won at the end of a division/flight, the teams will select one (1) mixed doubles team to play a 10 point Match Tiebreak to determine the winner of the division/flight. Players for the tiebreaker are selected when the tie occurs.

**7. THE CODE & USTA Rules Govern All Matches**

- a) Players must play by THE CODE during all matches.
- b) USTA Rules as found in the 2012 Friend at Court will govern all matches.

**8. Match Information**

- a) Captains must turn in lineup card by match time.
  - i. If after match time, the team will be penalized based on USTA rules.
- b) Each team match will be assigned 2-4 courts.
  - i. When possible, courts will be together.
- c) 3-4 cans of balls will be given for each team match.
- d) Each team match will consist of 5 matches (Boys Singles, Girls Singles, Boys Doubles, Girls Doubles, Mixed Doubles).
- e) Order of play for all team matches is singles, doubles, mixed doubles unless agreed upon by both captains based on players doubling up.
- f) Following a team match, both captains must sign the match card.
- g) Appeals—Captains have up to 30 minutes following a team match to file an appeal. If no appeal is filed within 30 minutes, the match is final.

**9. Scoring Format for 12s, 14s, and 18s**

- a) All matches will be the best of 2 short sets to 4 games with No Ad Scoring and a 10 point match tiebreak in lieu of the 3<sup>rd</sup> set.
  - i. A 12-point tiebreak is played at 3-games in all each set (first to 7 points by 2).
- b) No-Ad Scoring—The first player to win 4 points wins the game. If the score reaches three (3) points all, or Deuce, the winner of the next point wins the game. At Deuce, or 3-points all, the receiver has the choice of which side to receive.
  - i. In singles, the receiver may choose to receive on either the left or right side of the court.
  - ii. In doubles, the receiving team has a choice of who will receive the deciding point. Players must stay on the same receiving side they have played during the entire set.
  - iii. In mixed doubles, the server must serve to the side of the opponent of the same gender. For example, a girl serving must serve to the girl on the deciding point.

**10. The "Playing Twice Rule"**

- a) One girl and one boy may play two positions. The "Playing Twice Rule" will be in effect: one player may only double up one time until each player has had a turn to play twice.
- b) A player who plays twice must play Mixed Doubles and either Singles or Doubles.
- c) Captains must submit a "pink sheet" to the tournament desk to record players who are doubling-up in a team match.
- d) The "Playing Twice Rule" will start over in Playoffs, such as Semifinals and/or

- Finals following round robin group play.
- e) Teams do not have to have fewer than 4 boys and/or few than 4 girls to play an individual twice.

#### 11. Coaching

- a) Coaching is only permitted by the designated team coach from outside the fence and only on changeovers and set breaks.
- b) Parents or other observers may not coach players.
- c) Coaching should not be in excess of the time allotted for a changeover.
  - i. 90 seconds for changeover
  - ii. 120 seconds on set break
  - iii. 3 minutes prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Set Match Tiebreak
- d) No one should be on court except players, tournament staff, or other authorized persons.
- e) See additional handout called "Coaching in JTT Matches" on the USTA KY JTT webpage.

#### 12. Lack of Players

- a) If an injury occurs after any points have been scored and the player cannot continue then the team will forfeit the remaining games in that match to their opponent. If an injured player is scheduled to "double up", the team may insert a player into the voided position. In all cases every substitution must be reported to the tournament desk prior to the substitute playing points.
- b) If a team is short a player for any reason prior to a match, the team must forfeit the singles position first.
  - i. The opposing team will have the opportunity to change their lineup, but may not see the lineup card of the team forfeiting a position.

#### 13. Rain/Weather

- a) If matches are suspended or postponed due to weather please return immediately to the tournament desk to provide your current match scores.
- b) Do not let players leave the site – as soon as courts are playable matches will be sent out. Players and teams who help prepare courts for play get priority.
- c) Format and scoring may change if significant delays have occurred to assure the event concludes.

#### 14. Ranking & Standings Points

- a) Players will earn ranking and standings points for wins during the JTT Championships. Players will earn the following points for wins during the state championship:
  - i. Advanced Divisions: Kentucky Level 3 (40 points per win).
  - ii. Intermediate Divisions: Kentucky Level 4 (35 points per win).

#### 15. 10 & Under Divisions

- a) All 10U matches will be played using the QuickStart Tennis Play Format parameters, including:
  - i. *Court:* The court shall be a 60-foot court (60' long and 21' wide for singles and 27' wide for doubles).
  - ii. *Net:* The net shall be 36 inches high at center.
  - iii. *Ball:* The ball shall be Orange Low Compression.
  - iv. *Racket:* The racket shall be no longer than 25 inches.
  - v. *Court:* 60' by 21' for singles; 60' by 27' for doubles.
  - vi. *Scoring:* Best of 2 no-ad short sets, first to 4 games (at 3-3, the winner of the next game wins the set 4-3). For the 3<sup>rd</sup> set, the first player to win 7 points

wins the set. A team scores a point for every game won and a point for winning the 3<sup>rd</sup> set.

#### **16. 8 & Under Divisions**

- a) The 8U Championship will be played using the QuickStart Tennis Play Format parameters including:
  - i. Court: The court shall be a 36-foot court (36' long by 18' wide).
  - ii. Net: The net shall be 33 inches high at the center.
  - iii. Ball: The ball shall be Red Foam or Red Felt Low Compression Ball.
  - iv. Racket: The racket shall be no longer than 23 inches.
  - v. Scoring: Best of 3 Games to 7 points. Players alternate serving 2 points in a row. Players do not change ends during the game. Players shall change ends after each game.
- b) Teams must be composed of players from the local league. Players on a local team are not forced to only play with that team.
- c) A non-elimination format, which promotes match play for all teams, will be used at the State Championship.
- d) Winning teams do not advance beyond the Kentucky JTT State Championship.

### **D. Advancement to Sectional Championship**

#### **1. USTA Southern Section JTT Championship**

- a) Winners of the State Championships 10U, 12U, 14U, and 18U divisions will advance to the USTA Southern Section JTT Championship in Auburn, Alabama on August 17-19.
- b) State League Coordinator must receive a confirmation accepting or declining the invitation no later than Monday August 6th.
- c) In the event that the first place team declines the trip, the runner up will be extended the invitation.
- d) Any wildcards to the Sectional JTT Championships will be offered to the next highest finishing teams.

#### **2. Ranking & Standings Points**

- a) Players will earn ranking and standings points for wins during the JTT Sectional Championships. Players will earn the following points for wins during the sectional championship toward their Kentucky ranking and standings:
  1. Advanced Divisions: Kentucky Level 2 (50 points per win).
  2. Intermediate Divisions: Kentucky Level 3 (40 points per win).

### **E. Advancement to National Championship**

#### **1. Ranking & Standing Points**

- a) Players on teams who advance to the National JTT Championship will earn the following points for wins toward their Kentucky ranking and standings:
  1. Advanced Divisions: Kentucky Level 1 (80 points per win).
  2. Intermediate Divisions: Kentucky Level 2 (50 points per win).