

**Northern Michigan Tennis Association  
(NMI)  
Local League Rules  
As of 01-20-12**

2012 USTA League Regulations, USTA/Midwest Section League Regulations, and the Friend at Court tennis rules will be observed. In all matches played without officials, the USTA official publication, THE CODE, shall be observed. Some of these USTA and USTA/Midwest Section regulations and rules of tennis are cited on separate hand outs.

The Northern Michigan (NMI) District USTA League Committee has the authority to establish regulations in some areas. Below are the local NMI regulations for 2012

**Fees:**

There is a \$150 deposit to sign up a team. This deposit will be deducted from court fees the last weekend of play held for that team. The fee is **non refundable** if a team later decides not to participate. Make checks payable to Northern Michigan Tennis Association.

If a team defaults a court(s) they must pay for their own and their opponents' court fees for the defaulted flight(s) before other team members go on to the court for their match.

In order to participate in League play a team must be current with payment of all NMI League fees. If a team owes NMTA past dues or fees they are not eligible to play League matches.

Refunds: Registration, Sectional and Tennis Link fees are nonrefundable unless the refund is necessitated by a decision of NMI USTA League Committee.

**Domicile:**

A legal concept involving residency. It is that place where a person has a true, fixed permanent home or that person's home for the indefinite future. A person can only have one domicile at a time.

Sixty percent of each team's roster and match lineup must consist of persons domiciled within the boundaries of the Northern Michigan Tennis Association (NMTA) District.

- a. Players from Sault Ste. Marie, Canada and the surrounding area that have been invited to play in the Northern Michigan District are exempt from this rule. They play in our district by our invitation per the approval of Midwest.
- b. Players from Sault Ste. Marie, Canada and the surrounding area are treated as though they were domiciled within the NMTA District when the numbers for the 60% team roster and line up are being determined.

**Local Team Match Format:****Team Makeup**

The NMI League Committee shall determine which approved NTRP levels shall be offered for each USTA League Division. The Divisions for 2012 are: Adult, Senior, Senior Mixed Doubles, Super Senior, Mixed Doubles, Combo and Tri-level.

**The NMI League Committee has chosen to have Divisions play the format outlined below.**

**2012 Adult Division:**

2.5 and 5.0 teams will consist of a minimum of five players of the same gender to compete in one individual singles and two individual doubles matches

3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 teams will consist of a minimum of 8 players of the same gender to compete in two individual singles and three individual doubles matches.

**2012 Senior & Super Senior Divisions:**

3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5 Senior & 6.0, 7.0, 8.0 and 9.0 Super Sr. teams will consist of a minimum of six players of the same gender to compete in three individual doubles matches. Super Senior consists of a combination team format.

**Mixed Doubles & Super Senior Mixed Doubles Divisions:**

2.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0 and 9.0 Mixed Doubles teams shall consist of a combination team of three women and three men to compete in three individual double matches.

**Combo Doubles Division:**

5.5, 6.5, 7.5, and 8.5 Combo teams will consist of a minimum of six players of a combination team of the same gender to compete in three individual doubles matches.

**Tri – Level Division:** 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Tri-Level teams will consist of a minimum of six players of the same gender to compete in four individual doubles matches.

**Team Line-Ups:** (Nat 2.01C (5) – pg 11)

Team lineups for each match must be submitted by the captain or designee to the tournament desk 30 minutes prior to the scheduled match. The tournament desk has the authority to start putting on matches when courts are available but no sooner than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled match.

**Lateness penalties: Friend at Court (FAC)**

If a team lineup is not submitted prior to the match being called the desk personnel or an official, if available, shall explain the lateness rule and start the clock: on each individual match when there is a court available and that specific match is called. The Point Penalty System (PPS) will be used for each court when the individual match is called

When a line up has been turned in and a court assignment is made but a player fails to appear the PPS will be used for each court where a player for the court being called fails to appear. The desk personnel or an official, if available, shall explain the lateness rule and start the clock:

**FAC**

The penalties for lateness for a match are as follows:

- 5 minutes or less; loss of toss plus 1 game
- 5:01-10 minutes; loss of toss plus 2 games
- 10:01-15 minutes; loss of toss plus 3 games
- More than 15 minutes; default

**Play Format & Scoring:**

A round robin tournament format is being used.

All matches shall be the best of two sets, with regular scoring and a Set Tiebreak (1<sup>st</sup> to seven by a margin of two) at six all in each set. During the tiebreak the Coman change of ends pattern will be used. IE: change sides after the 1<sup>st</sup> point and every four points after that (1, 5, 9, 13, 17 .....).

In the event of split sets, a Match Tiebreak (1<sup>st</sup> to ten by a margin of two) shall be played in lieu of the third set. During the tiebreak the Coman change of ends pattern will be used. The third set tiebreak shall be scored as 1-game and 1-set for tiebreak purposes.

A two minute set break with no coaching is allowed after each set.

The final match score is to be determined by all the players on the court at the completion of the match before vacating the court. No changes to the score can be made after the court has been vacated. Both teams must report scores to the tournament desk at the end of the match.

Either a captain or designee must sign the scorecard at the completion of the team's matches.

**Defaults:****Team Default:**

NMI League matches will follow the USTA National regulation 2.03L for scoring in case of a team default. (pg 15)

**NTRP Disqualification:**

The USTA National regulations give the Section authority to determine the consequences of an NTRP disqualification. Match scores will be 6-0, 6-0 wins for the opposing team (2.04E(1) pg 17)

For USTA / Midwest and therefore NMTA in the event of an NTRP disqualification for that particular level of play, all matches played at the disqualified level or below and any subsequent matches played by the player shall be considered losses and those matches shall be considered wins for the opposing player or doubles team. (Sectional regulations (2.04E(1) pg 8).

**Division Winner:**

The method of awarding points in order to determine the winning team of a local league division shall be the same as that used in Championship competition. (Nat.2.03H pg. 14)

**Progression:**

Each team that wins a specific level of local league competition shall be entitled to advance to the next level of competition. If the winning team at any NTRP level of competition is unable to compete further towards the National Championships, then the Local League Coordinator may select the second place team for such further competition, etc.. (Nat. pg. 11/12)

**If a team wins their level and is not able to advance** on to represent NMI they **will be responsible for any costs incurred by NMTA** if another team in the division is not able to advance to represent NMI.

**Grievances: Only a team captain, league coordinator and/or member of the championship committee may file a Grievance or Appeal:**

All complaints alleging a violation by an individual or team during local league competition shall be filed in writing with the District League Coordinator. The complaint must be filed prior to the commencement of whichever occurs first: (a) the involved team's next match in that flight, whether or not the involved player participates or (b) within 24 hours after the end of the local league season.

**NTRP Grievance:** A player who enters the USTA League by inappropriately self-rating at an NTRP level lower than the player's actual skill level is considered to have violated the standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship. These players may be subject to an NTRP Grievance. Players with the following computer ratings: A, B and C are not subject to NTRP Grievances.

All NTRP Grievances are sent to the USTA/Midwest Section Office, Attention Diane Ansay. There is a \$50.00 filing fee until July 15, at championship time it is \$100.00 filing fee. If the grievance is approved, the fee is refunded.

**Grievance Appeals:**

Any party to the complaint *may appeal the decision of the Grievance Committee within the time fixed by the Grievance Committee.* Upon receipt of an appeal of the decision of the Grievance Committee, the Grievance Appeal Committee shall act promptly to resolve the appeal.

Any situations coming to the attention of the USTA Northern Michigan District League Coordinator and/or the Northern Michigan League Committee that are not covered by the 2012 USTA League Regulations, current USTA/Midwest Section Standing Orders for USTA Leagues or by NMI Local USTA League rules will be sent to the NMI League Committee for an interpretation/decision.