

DALLAS TENNIS ASSOCIATION
Junior Team Tennis (JTT) 2012 Regulations

I. GENERAL

- A. All players must have some prior knowledge of the techniques of tennis. They must be able to serve and keep score by the beginning of the registered season.
- B. All teams must have one adult Coach/Captain, who is responsible for:
 - 1. The filtering of information from the league to parents and players.
 - 2. Determining the eligibility of the players.
 - 3. The make-up and placement of the teams according to Dallas JTT rules, and for submitting team rosters and dues through TennisLink. No refunds will be made after rosters are submitted. Addition of players to existing rosters may be made through TennisLink prior to season deadline.
 - 4. Ruling on any problems concerning team membership, vacancies, etc.
 - 5. Seeing that teams and players under his/her jurisdiction are in compliance with the league rules at all times.
 - 6. Report any exceptions to Dallas JTT in writing.
 - 7. Recording and reporting results of matches on score sheets and faxing to the Dallas JTT Coordinator within 24 hours of match completion. Any problems with a match are to be discussed with Dallas JTT Coordinator. All scores will be entered on to TennisLink by the Dallas JTT Coordinator.
 - 8. Be present or make sure an adult is present to oversee the matches, see that players observe all rules, and see that there is no outside interference in matches.

II. ORGANIZATION

- A. All registered teams must have at least 4 players (12U Beginners and **Non-Advancing teams**)/6 players (14-18U Beginners, 12-18U Intermediate and Advanced) up to 14 players, with members rotating on a weekly basis. **8U, 10U and 12U Beginner teams participating in red...orange...green... must have a minimum of 3 players.**
- B. Players on all teams participating in the 12U Intermediate, 14U Beginner and 14U-18U Intermediate and Advanced divisions, must play at least 3 matches during the regular season in order to be eligible for Sectionals. Advancing teams to Sectionals must have a minimum of 3 boys/3 girls on their regular season roster in order to qualify. **Qualifying sets per each team match are: 1st set of boy's singles, 1st set of girl's singles, boys' doubles, girls' doubles and mixed doubles ONLY.**
- C. The DTA will host an End of Season Tournament at the end of the regular season. Play format will be determined based on the number of teams and flights within each division.
- D. The length of the season will be a minimum of 4 weeks and a maximum of 10 weeks, depending on the number of teams in the Division. Divisions containing 10 or more teams may be divided into flights.
- E. Each team must have an adult present at the courts the entire time of the match who will be responsible for the players and the paperwork.
- F. Teams that have four (4) or more returning players and:
 - 1. Won 1st Place in the Lower division and/or won 75% of total matches **MUST** move up to a higher division.
 - 2. Won only 25% or less in the Upper division **MAY** move down to a lower division, only if desired.
 - 3. Any special cases will be reviewed and ruled upon by the JTT Committee.
 - 4. Players may not move during the season from one team to another unless JTT Committee grants an exception. Coach/Captains must be notified of team changes.

III. FORMAT

- A. **red...orange...green...** – this level is for young, beginner players using shorter courts, transitional balls, age-appropriate racquets and shortened score format. 8U **red** will play on 36' courts and use “red” balls. 10U **orange** will play on 60' court and use “orange” balls. 10U and 12U **green** will play on 78' court and use “green” balls.
- B. **Beginners (8 ZAT points or less)** – this level is for beginning players with no tournament experience up to those who have accumulated no more than 8 ZAT points by the specified team registration deadline set at the beginning of each JTT season.
- C. **Intermediate (9 or more ZAT points)** – this level is for players participating in local and ZAT tournaments.
- D. **Advanced** – this level is for players qualified to play in Champ and Super Champ level tournaments.
- E. Players cannot have a rating higher than the team tennis level at which they are playing.
- F. If an intermediate player champs up during the season, or is registered for an intermediate team before champing up; the player may play the rest of the season through the National Championship.
- G. **Age Eligibility** – August 31st for ALL divisions in the spring season. In the spring season, 14U – 18U Intermediate and Advanced teams will have the opportunity to advance to the JTT National Championship. The Section Championship dates will be used to determine age eligibility for the summer and fall JTT seasons.
- H. Players are required to wear smooth soled tennis shoes. No black soles. Shorts/skirts with pockets or ball holder are recommended for safety. Proper tennis attire is recommended.
- I. Home team Coach/Captains should contact the visiting Coach/Captain no later than the Tuesday prior to scheduled match to confirm (1) start time, (2) number of players, (3) if warm up court will be available, (4) where to meet 5 minutes before match start time, (5) court numbers playing on, (6) do facilities want extra play time and (7) player depth chart.
- J. Home team provides balls and acts as the match director in order to maintain a well organized and time managed event for players and parents.
- K. Completed rosters must be exchanged prior to the start of match play and may not be changed after the first match begins, except in a rain out.
- L. Order of Play based on 4 courts. **For all 12U Beginners and Non-Advancing teams when applicable, regardless of number of players available at start time, the doubles line should be played first.** The remaining players should then be matched up by ability by both coaches to utilize available courts.

Example:

Teams of 4 – Doubles plus 2 sets of singles.

Teams of 5 – Doubles plus 3 sets of singles.

For 14U – 18U Beginners and 12U – 18U Intermediate and Advanced, format requests 3 boys and 3 girls to meet World Format requirements Order of play based on 4 courts:

Example:

Gender Doubles plus 2 sets of Gender Singles followed by Mixed Doubles and remaining Gender Singles

- G. (*) Important Note: The Texas Section and Nationals follow the World Format which requires a minimum of 3 boys and 3 girls. A player is allowed to play a maximum of 2 sets per team match. Player eligibility for advancement requires that he/she play in 3 team matches during the regular season. **Qualifying sets per each team match are: 1st set of boy's singles, 1st set of girl's singles, boys' doubles, girls' doubles and mixed doubles.**

- M. League play will be on Sundays. All matches must start at either 1:00 or 2:30 pm. Match times will be posted on the match schedule on the DTA website at www.dta.org at the beginning of the JTT season. The entire match will be played on the scheduled day with the exception of a rain out.
- N. A time limitation of 45 minutes per set will be enforced by Home Team Coach/Captains in order to allow for equal playing for all lines during match.
- O. A player must be available to begin his match within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time or within 15 minutes of the finished time of the previous match. If the player is not available, the opposing Coach/Captain may request a forfeit.
- P. A player may not play more than 2 times per team match with the exception of 10 and under **red...orange...green...**

IV. SCORING

- A. **red...orange...green...** – 8U teams will play 3 sets of singles; the first to score 7 points wins the game. Players will play unlimited games within a timed **8-10 minutes** and record number of games won on score sheet. The 10U-12U teams will play 3 lines of singles per set, no-ad scoring. Each team match will consist of 3 - 20 minute timed sets. Players will play unlimited games within the 20 minutes and record number of games won on score sheet.
- B. 12U Beginner and Non-Advancing teams will play 6 sets of singles and 1 set of doubles. **ALL will play a 6-game shortened set, no-ad scoring; tiebreak at 5-5.** A player may play a maximum of 2 sets in each team match.
- C. 14U–18U Beginners and 12U – 18U Intermediate teams will play **1 set of boy’s singles, 1 set of girl’s singles**, 1 set of boys’ doubles, 1 set of girls’ doubles and 1 set of mixed doubles. **ALL will play a 6-game shortened set, no-ad scoring; tiebreak at 5-5.** A player may play a maximum of 2 sets per team match.
- D. 14U–18U Advanced teams will play **1 set of boy’s singles, 1 set of girl’s singles**, 1 set of boys’ doubles, 1 set of girls’ doubles and 1 set of mixed doubles. ALL will play an 8-game pro set, no-ad scoring; tiebreak at 7-7. A player may play a maximum of 2 sets per team match.
- E. **14U–18U Beginner through Advanced that are not able to meet the USTA’s 3 boys/3 girls requirement will be placed in a separate flight when the number of registered teams permits and a competitive JTT season may be scheduled. In this case, teams will play a 6-game shortened set, no-ad scoring; tiebreak at 5-5. A player may play a maximum of 2 sets per team match.**
- F. 12U – 18U matches will be scored as sets won.
- G. Completed score sheets showing both total scores and sportsmanship will be signed by both Coach/Captains and the host team will be responsible for faxing to JTT Coordinator within 24 hours of match completion at 972.763.0781.
- H. The Dallas JTT Coordinator will be responsible for entering scores onto TennisLink for all divisions.

V. SUBSTITUTES

- A. A substitute should be no stronger than the player for whom he or she is substituting.
- B. Any substitute of a player not registered on said team will result in an automatic default of that line.

VI. FORFEITS/DEFAULTS/INJURIES

- A. A forfeit occurs if a player is scheduled to play and is unable to find a sub; thus, having to forfeit the match. If a player forfeits his playing 2 times during a season, the player will not be eligible to play for the remainder of the season. These forfeits do not have to be consecutive. The player will not be eligible to compete in City Championship and Bracket play. Forfeits are a form of questionable sportsmanship. A forfeit will be scored as 6-0 or 8-0 depending on Divisions and set in question. **red...orange...green... is the exception and will be handled separately should situation arise. Defaults will be scored as 2-0.**
- B. A default occurs if a player is unable to finish a match that has been started, because of illness or injury. If a player is injured or becomes ill, the player may request a 5-minute time out from the

Coach/Captain. At the end of 5 minutes, play must resume or the match must be defaulted. The player who defaults may keep any points already earned in the match.

VII. INTERFERENCE

Teammates, spectators, or parents may not volunteer assistance with line calls or scoring. Coach/Captains ONLY may speak to players on the court, should a problem arise. If a player needs assistance, he/she is to place his/her racquet down to signal to sideline to get a Coach/Captain. Should parental interference occur the JTT Grievance Committee may take action. Exception to rule is the **red...orange...green...**, which allows one Coach/Captain on each court.

VIII. RESCHEDULED MATCHES

- A. Matches will be rescheduled only if the home team's courts are unplayable due to inclement weather.
- B. If a match is delayed due to rain, the visiting team must wait ½ hour for courts to be playable. If the courts do not become playable, the match will be rescheduled.
- C. Within 48 hours, times and dates must be exchanged by Coach/Captains and notification given to the JTT Coordinator.
- D. After 48 hours, if a time and date is not agreed upon by Coach/Captains, the JTT Coordinator will set date and time. His/Her decision is final.
- E. The rescheduled match must be played within 14 days from original scheduled date. If the rescheduled match is rained out, the process goes back to step C. If a player is not available for rescheduled time and date, that player is required to get a substitute. Exception: If the last match of the season must be rescheduled, it must be played within 7 days from the original scheduled date.

IX. PROTESTS/GRIEVANCES

Problems arising at a match are to be resolved by the Coach/Captains. If a problem arises that cannot be resolved by the Coach/Captains, either may file a protest after the match.

1. The Coach/Captain must notify the opposing Coach/Captain and the JTT Coordinator as soon as possible.
2. All protests/grievances will be submitted in writing to the JTT Coordinator within 4 days of the match protested. The JTT Coordinator should notify and copy the Grievance Committee.
3. The Grievance Committee will review both sides and make a decision. Grievance Committee rulings are final.

X. SPORTSMANSHIP

- A. Ethical and sportsmanlike conduct is expected of all players and managers. The use of profanity, obscene gestures, slamming balls, throwing a racquet purposely, and habitual bad line calls **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**.
- B. The offending player's Coach/Captain should immediately issue a warning to the player. If the player's Coach/Captain refuses to give the warning, then the opposing Coach/Captain may give the warning to the player. If a warning is given, the Coach/Captain should detail the incident on the score sheet, and notify the JTT Coordinator via email.
- C. If a player is warned with a 2nd violation during the same season, the JTT Coordinator will notify and copy the JTT Committee.
- D. The JTT Committee will review both violations and determine if the player will be ineligible to play the remainder of the season, as well as be ineligible for prizes and playoffs. Any special cases will be reviewed and ruled upon by the JTT Committee.

XI. AWARDS AND ELIGIBILITY FOR END OF SEASON TOURNAMENT

- A. In order to be eligible to participate in the End of Season Tournament, a team must not have excessive forfeits as stated in VII. A. above or two violations of sportsmanship as stated in XI above.

The JTT Committee may grant an exception for a player who has been injured or ill during the season (if notified before the next scheduled match).

- B. Individual awards will be given to the 1st and 2nd place teams in each division at the end of the regular season based upon the number of sets won. **red...orange...green...**division winners will be determined by the total number of games won during the season. Play offs will be held to determine winners in multiple flight divisions when needed.
- C. The End of Season Tournament play format will be determined by the number of teams and flights participating within a given season.
- D. Section Championships will be held in all seasons. National playoffs are held for Section winners from the winter/spring season only. The Texas Section has specified the following divisions for advancing teams: 12 & Under Intermediate, 14 & Under Beginner, 14 & Under Intermediate, 14 & Under Advanced, 18 & Under Intermediate and 18 & Under Advanced.