ADULT 55&OVER AND MIXED 55&OVER
SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
September 19–22, 2014

Dear Team Captain:

CONGRATULATIONS! The USTA/Mid-Atlantic Section has been notified that you are the captain of the winning team from your area. As such, you are invited to participate in the USTA/Mid-Atlantic Adult 55&Over and Mixed 55&Over Sectional Championships. The information below should answer any questions you may have regarding this event. If not, please e-mail me at Leibfreid@mas.usta.com. Also, please continue to check our web site for further updates. Go to www.midatlantic.usta.com. On the top, put your cursor on USTA League Tennis, then Sectional Championships, then Adult 55&Over.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **USTA League Tennis Regulations (January 2014)** apply to this event. Please refer to that document for additional information and rules concerning USTA League Tennis competition.
2. **PENN** is the official ball.
3. Players are expected to wear tennis attire appropriate to this event.

TOURNAMENT RULES OF PLAY

1. **Match line-ups must be turned in to the Tournament Desk no less than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the match.** Failure to do so will result in an automatic $50.00 cash fine for each such occurrence, which must be paid before offending team may play. Penalties for lateness apply, up to and including match forfeiture if your line-up is 15 minutes late or more. The Tournament Desk clock, at the match site, is the official timepiece. This tournament uses "followed by" scheduling. By rule, the Tournament Desk has the right to call matches up to 30 minutes before their scheduled start time, and will do so assuming courts are available.
2. Once submitted, line-ups cannot be changed without the written approval of the Tournament Director and the Referee.
3. The order of play is #1, #2 and #3 Doubles.
4. Players must be present and ready to play in order to claim a Default. Otherwise, a Double Default is declared.
5. A warm-up period not to exceed 10 minutes (including practice serves) shall be observed.

6. All matches shall be best of two sets, with regular scoring, and the set tie-break shall be used at 6-all in each set. In the event of split sets, a match tie-break shall be played to determine the match winner, with no rest period or coaching allowed. The Coman tie-break shall be used. **(Note: Tournament Director/Referee reserves the right to alter the order of play or to implement alternative scoring systems at any time if necessary in their judgment to complete the tournament within the prescribed time).** Please note that for purposes of Rule 2.03C, a "third set tie-break" shall count as both one set lost and one game lost.

7. At the conclusion of each individual match, all players must return to the Tournament Desk to report scores. Captains or their designees are required to sign the official scorecard at the conclusion of each team match. **All reported scores are deemed final fifteen minutes after the conclusion of the last individual match. Thereafter, no changes will be accepted.**

8. Roving umpires under the direction of the Referee will be on hand at all times to enforce proper conduct and observances of rules.

9. Teams departing prior to completion of all their matches without the written permission of the Tournament Director shall be disqualified from League play for the following year.

10. **YOU MUST BRING A FULL TEAM TO THIS CHAMPIONSHIP, or request a waiver from the Section Office to allow you to attend without a full complement of players. Failure to bring a full team could mean penalties; including the whole team being banned from playing USTA League Tennis for up to one year.**

11. If you choose to compete on more than one team, **no consideration will be given to scheduling.**

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**HOST HOTEL**

The Host Hotel will be the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, 777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510. **We have secured a special USTA rate of $89.00 per night, plus taxes, for either a single or double room.** This rate includes self-parking and internet. **You must use this link to secure the above rate:** [https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/USTASeptember](https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/USTASeptember). Please note that the hotel books quickly.

**CHAMPIONSHIP SITE**

We have secured courts at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA at the Folkes-Stevens Tennis Center

Site address: 4501 Parker Ave, Norfolk, VA 23529

Please carpool to the site as much as possible – a parking pass will be posted online. Please have this pass displayed at all times while you are parked at ODU.
REGISTRATION AND CAPTAINS’ MEETING

For all teams starting play on Friday, September 19, registration will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 18 and the mandatory Captains’ meetings will begin promptly thereafter. For all other teams, registration will be at 7 p.m. on Friday, September 19 and the mandatory Captains’ meetings will begin promptly thereafter. Both the meeting and team registration will be conducted at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel. The front desk will be able to advise you as to which room. If you cannot attend, please have a representative present – do not phone this office. If no-one on your team can attend, please find another captain who can handle those duties for you. It is most important that all captains attend this meeting. We will be serving drinks and light snacks.

Your District will be paying the registration fee for the teams attending.

All players must meet standard eligibility requirements (e.g. current USTA membership, minimum 2 local league matches, 1 default counting) provable via TennisLink. We will be giving a t-shirt to each player who attends the event. Tell your players to bring their picture ID with them, and pick up their t-shirt at the tournament site at ODU. The tournament desk will open at 7:15 a.m.

MATCHES

The Schedule will be placed on our website (www.midatlantic.usta.com) as soon as possible. The days of play are as follows: Friday, Saturday & Sunday – ADULT 55&Over 7.0 men and women and 9.0 men; Friday & Saturday - ADULT 55&Over 6.0 women; Saturday, Sunday & Monday – ADULT 55&Over 8.0 women; Saturday & Sunday - ADULT 55&Over 6.0 men and MIXED 55&Over 8.0; Sunday - ADULT 55&Over 9.0 women; Sunday & Monday - ADULT 55&Over 8.0 men and MIXED 55&Over 7.0

MATCH FORMAT

♦ Play will consist of #1, #2 & #3 Doubles.
♦ If you do not have a full line-up for any reason, you must forfeit your #3 Doubles and notify the tournament desk. Please make sure you have enough players attending the event who will be available to play all matches.
♦ Please make changeovers and breaks as brief as possible.
♦ If needed, the USTA tie-break rules will be used to determine the champions.
RAIN PLAN

In the event of rain, report to the Tournament Desk, with the balls, for instructions on how to proceed. **Write down the score and who was serving, and bring that information with you to the Tournament Desk.** The tournament staff will have the option of revising the schedule and the tournament format, if necessary, in the event of inclement weather. Please be aware that if it does rain, matches will get very backed up and we may have to change the days of play.

WINNERS AND FINALISTS

First and second place teams will receive 8 USTA awards. Additional awards can be ordered. Further, first and second place teams will have their pictures taken, which will be posted on our web site. **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE THE TOURNAMENT SITE UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED YOUR AWARDS AND HAD YOUR PICTURE TAKEN.** Winning teams need to be certified – we cannot rush this process. Please be patient – when we have the information from the scorekeeper we will let you know.

BEST OF LUCK IN THE TOURNAMENT!!

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