



**USTA Southern Championship Tournament Overview**  
**2017 USTA Southern League Mixed Doubles (18 & Over, 40 & Over) Championship**

*USTA Southern would like to welcome each of you to the 2017 USTA Southern League Mixed Doubles Championship. For this weekend, we will have more than 750 participants in Little Rock, AR who will be competing for a sectional championship, and we look forward to a fun and exciting week of tennis!*

This Tournament Overview provides players with all relevant information pertaining to a championship. Players should become well-versed with the Tournament Overview and Championship Procedures prior to arrival to a championship. The Tournament Overview and Championship Procedures can be found at [www.southernmixed.com](http://www.southernmixed.com). Please note that either document may be amended at any time at the discretion of the Championship Committee and will be updated on web site within a reasonable amount of time.

**Tournament Dates (Mixed Doubles 18 & Over, Mixed Doubles 40 & Over)**

The tournament dates will be October 6-9, 2017. Please note that the plan is to conclude round robin play on Sunday with finals on Monday. However, if the championship runs into severe weather challenges, Monday may be used to complete round robin matches. Please see more information regarding inclement weather on Championship Procedures.

**Captain's Registration**

The captain's registration will allow for captains to pick up all relevant items prior to championship start. This includes but is not limited to captain packets, most current schedules, captain gift, player gifts and lunch tickets (if applicable). The registration period will also allow captains the chance to ask any questions prior to the championship start and/or register any players that are not yet registered online.

Captain Registration Logistics

Location: Burns Park Tennis Center; 4000 Joe Poch Rd; Little Rock, AR 72118

Date: Thursday, October 5, 2017 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM (central time)

In order to give captains more time to arrive to the host city, there will be no captain's meeting. However, captains are expected to read over and relay all information in the captain's packet, Championships Overview and Championship Procedures to their players. For captains that do not attend the captain's registration, he/she may pick up their items prior to the start of their first scheduled match starting at 7:00 AM at the [Burns Park Tennis Center](#) (host site).

**Championship Tournament Staff**

- Chris Walling: USTA Southern Director of Adult Tennis, Championship Tournament Director
- Deanna Garretson: Referee – Southern Mixed Doubles (Little Rock, AR)
- BJ Johnson: Scorekeeper (New Orleans, LA)
- Helen Martin: Chair, Southern Adult League Committee (Columbus, GA)
- Cookie Guarini: Vice-Chair, Southern Adult League Committee (Greensboro, NC)



- Cheryl Thompson: Member, Southern Adult League Committee (Knoxville, TN)
- Jenifer Tucker: Member, Southern Adult League Committee (Fayetteville, AR)
- Elizabeth Walker: Member, Southern Championships Subcommittee (Gallatin, TN)
- Paula Aultz: State League Coordinator (Little Rock, AR)
- Marita Edrosa: USTA Southern Manager of NTRP & Championships
- Ron Cioffi: USTA Southern Director of Communications and PR

### **Championship Contacts**

Marita Edrosa: USTA Southern Manager of Adult Tennis: [edrosa@southerntennis.com](mailto:edrosa@southerntennis.com); 770-368-8200

\*For any questions, captains only may reach out to championship contacts. Players should go to captains with all questions.

### **Championship Facilities**

Championship Headquarters

Burns Park Tennis Center; 4000 Joe Poch Rd; Little Rock, AR 72118

Additional Facilities

- Rebsamen Tennis Center; 1501 Leisure Place; Little Rock, AR 72204

### **Practice Courts**

Practice courts are available offsite and will be listed on the dedicated championship page under "Tournament Facilities." Players may not warm-up on any courts at headquarters and/or championship sites after 7:20 AM each day. If the championship is on soft courts, players may not warm up at any time on the soft courts.

### **Relevant Rules and Information**

- In your captain packets, you will find your MOST RECENT team schedule and championship procedures. Please read over and be familiar with the championship procedures including our rainout policy.
- All teams should arrive to their site 30 minutes prior to match time ready to play.
- Scorecards for each match are in your packet. Print names clearly (both first and last name). Home team is on the left side, and visitor is on the right side. Names must be same as on official roster in TennisLink. We must be able to read your scorecard, as it will be used to enter results into TennisLink. Our staff will be inputting results into TennisLink after each round. DO NOT complete scorecards ahead of time. If you turn in a wrong scorecard, we cannot give it back.
- Site Directors will pre-assign courts for each team match and will introduce each player to their opponents, so it's very important to have all players ready when your team is called.
- Staying on schedule is contingent on getting players on and off the court as quickly as possible. Therefore, one person from each team is to report scores to the tournament desk immediately after each individual match. At the end of the team match, both captains report to site desk, review scores and sign scorecard.
- Do not bring alcohol to sites. If you can drink it there, it will be either provided or sold on site.



- For teams that advance to the USTA League **Mixed Doubles 18 & Over and Mixed Doubles 40 & Over** National Championship, each player must play 3 matches to qualify (one default may count). The 3 matches can include your local play, state championship and sectional championship matches.
- Teams are expected to complete all individual courts/matches scheduled. A grievance may be filed against any team defaulting individual courts and/or an entire team match.
- Rain Delay #: CAPTAINS ONLY: **888-434-0998**. There may be some threats of rain throughout the tournament, and we will make sure we update the hotline as soon as possible. Captains should check this hotline an hour prior to their scheduled matches for all updates. Even if it's not raining at the hotel, I would encourage you to still call the rain hotline number, as it may be raining at the tennis center. Captains will also be given a "text" option where players can get immediate updates for the tournament.
- Awards presentations will be on site for both winning and finalist teams.
- Use our web page information. [www.southernmixed.com](http://www.southernmixed.com). We will post all results, stories, updates and changes during the event on that site.
- Merchandise will be available at the facility headquarters. Cash, check or credit card.
- Lunches will be provided on **Friday and Saturday** at facility headquarters for players only. Lunch tickets will be provided and must be turned in to receive lunch.

#### Reminders from the Referee

- Cell Phone/Pager warning: This is your official warning. Please make sure all players have their cell phone and pager off or on vibrate. If a cell phone or pager goes off in the middle of a point, the opponent may claim the point.
- Scoring Format: All matches will be the best 2-out-of 3 sets with a 10-point match tiebreak in lieu of a full 3rd set. The Coman Tiebreak Procedure will be used for all tiebreaks (including the 10-point match tiebreak).
- Changeovers: The rest time for all changeovers is 90 seconds, except between sets which is limited to 2 minutes.
- Warm-Ups: Players are limited to a 10-minute warm-up prior to match play. If players exceed the 10 minutes, the players may be told to play regardless of where they are in warm-up, so it's important to stay within time on your warm-up.
- Medical Time-Outs: The player in need of the medical time-out should not leave the court. Immediately send someone not involved in the match to get a referee. All medical time-outs will be addressed in compliance with "Friend at Court."
- Bathroom Breaks: A player can take a bathroom break at any time but players should try to take breaks during changeovers or between sets.
- Rain Procedures: If there is a rain delay, players are not permitted to leave the tennis center unless otherwise released by the Tournament Director and/or Tournament Referee. If pulled from the courts due to rain, players must report their match scores in progress to the site coordinator.
- Point Penalty System (PPS): The PPS will be enforced. If a player is :01 to 5:00 minutes late, it is a loss of toss and 1 game for that player. If a player is 5:01 to 10:00 minutes late, it is a loss of toss and 2 games for that player. If a player is 10:01 to 15:00 minutes late, it is a loss of toss



and 3 games for that player. If a player is 15:01 minutes late, it is a default. The Championship Referee is responsible for issuing defaults for failure to arrive on time.

- Note: Matches are un-officiated and all issues should be resolved on the court by the players involved. The Championship Referee should only be requested if all players on court cannot resolve the problem on their own and if requested by the players on court. Spectators are not permitted to request a Referee unless the players on court request it.

#### **Social Media & Marketing**

- Like us on FaceBook! During the championship, we will be announcing prize winners. [www.facebook.com/USTASouthern](http://www.facebook.com/USTASouthern)
- Team photos for both finalist teams will be taken prior to the final.
- Candid action shots will be taken periodically throughout the day.
- Penn has been a fantastic sponsor for the 2017 USTA League Adult 40 & Over National program. USTA Southern would like to give a shout out to Penn for the tremendous support given from them over the years.

*\*USTA Southern would like to thank each and every captain for their volunteerism and dedication to our league program. There is a lot of work in captaining and your work and commitment is much appreciated. This championship event would not be possible without each of you, so thank you.\**

***Please be nice to the site coordinators and other volunteers. They are giving up their time to provide you with an outstanding championship experience. Players who display inappropriate behavior to any of the site coordinators, volunteers and/or tournament staff may be subject to a sportsmanship grievance.***