



SOUTHERN



**USTA Southern Championship Tournament Overview**  
**2017 Combo Doubles (55 & Over)**

*USTA Southern would like to welcome each of you to the 2017 Southern Combo Doubles Championship. There will be more than 500 participants in Auburn, AL who will be competing for a sectional championship, and we look forward to a fun and exciting weekend 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.southerncombo.com](http://www.southerncombo.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 (Combo Doubles 55 & Over)**

The tournament dates will be March 2-4, 2018. Please note that the plan is to conclude round robin play on Sunday by 1:00 PM (central) with finals to commence shortly afterwards.

**Captain's Registration**

All captains are expected to pick up and relay to their team members 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: Yarbrough Tennis Center; 1449 Richland Rd; Auburn, AL 36832

Date: Thursday, March 1, 2018 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 should pick up their items prior to the start of their first scheduled match starting at 7:00 AM at the **Yarbrough Tennis Center** (host site).

**Championship Tournament Staff**

- Chris Walling: USTA Southern Director of Adult Tennis, Championship Tournament Director
- TBD: Referee – Southern Combo Doubles
- Marita Edrosa: USTA Southern Manager of NTRP & Championships
- Helen Martin: Chair, Southern Adult League Committee (Columbus, GA)
- Cookie Guarini: Chair, Southern Championships Subcommittee (Greensboro, NC)
- Chaney Mills: Member, Southern Adult League Committee (Pelham, AL)
- Anna Martin: Member, Southern Adult League Committee (Wilmington, NC)



SOUTHERN



- Ruth Anne Bendall: AL State League Coordinator (Birmingham, AL)

### **Championship Contacts**

Marita Edrosa: USTA Southern Manager of NTRP & Championships: [edrosa@sta.usta.com](mailto:edrosa@sta.usta.com); 770-368-8200

Chris Walling: USTA Southern Director of Adult Tennis: [walling@southerntennis.com](mailto:walling@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

Yarbrough Tennis Center (clay); 1449 Richland Rd.; Auburn, AL 36832

### **Additional Facilities**

- Grand National Marriott Resort (Clay); 3700 Robert Trent Jones Trail; Opelika, AL 36801
- Moore's Mill Club Fitness Center (Clay); 1957 Fairway Drive, Auburn AL 36830; Auburn, AL 36830
- Calhoun Tennis Center (Clay); 1102 Denson Drive; Opelika, AL 36801

\*hard courts may be used in the case of inclement weather

### **Practice Courts**

Practice courts may be available offsite. If available, more information will be given out at the Captain's Registration. Players will be asked to vacate the tennis courts at tournament tennis centers by 7:20 AM each day so matches can get started. 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



## SOUTHERN

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. If this rule is not followed, a grievance may be filed against a player(s).
- The Southern Combo Doubles championship is the highest level of championship for Combo Doubles, so congratulations for teams advancing to the highest level of competition.
- 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.
- Text Alert #: Players can text **COMBO55** to the phone number 84483. Signing up for this text service will allow players to receive any updates (by text) regarding the tournament.
- Awards presentations will be on site for both winning and finalist teams.
- Use our web page information. [www.southerncombo.com](http://www.southerncombo.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.

### 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.



### SOUTHERN

- 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.
- Dunlop has been a fantastic sponsor for the USTA Combo Doubles League Championships. USTA Southern would like to give a shout out to Dunlop 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 courteous and respectful 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 which may subject player to suspension for up to 12 months.***