

# USTA SOUTHERN

USTA Southern Championship Procedures (updated April 10, 2026)  
2026 Championship Year  
[southernchampionships.com](http://southernchampionships.com)

*The USTA Southern Championship Procedures will apply to all USTA Southern Championships. When not stated in the Championship Procedures, the National and Southern regulations and Friend at Court will apply. USTA Southern is comprised of the following nine states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.*

**Due to the possibility of championship dates and locations being modified and/or cancelled for reasons outside of our control, USTA Southern highly encourages players to secure lodging at places that allow cancellation without penalty and/or refundable deposits. USTA Southern is not responsible for costs associated with modifying and/or cancelling a league championship.**

## USTA Southern League Championships + Deadlines (2026)

USTA Southern offers the following league championships and deadlines:

- **Adult 55 & Over: June 26-28**
  - Registration Opens: May 15 @ 12:01 AM ET
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: June 12 @ 11:59 PM ET
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: June 16 @ 11:59 PM ET
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: June 22 @ 12:00 PM ET
- **Adult 18 & Over: July 10-12 (2.5, 5.0); July 17-20 (3.5, 4.5); and July 24-27 (3.0, 4.0)**
  - Registration Opens: May 15 @ 12:01 AM ET
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered:
    - Adult 18 & Over #1 – 2.5, 5.0: June 30 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 18 & Over #2 – 3.5, 4.5: July 3 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 18 & Over #3 – 3.0, 4.0: July 10 @ 12:00 PM ET
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: July 1 @ 11:59 PM ET
    - Adult 18 & Over #1 – 2.5, 5.0: July 1 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 18 & Over #2 – 3.5, 4.5: July 7 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 18 & Over #3 – 3.0, 4.0: July 14 @ 12:00 PM ET
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal:
    - Adult 18 & Over #1 – 2.5, 5.0: July 6 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 18 & Over #2 – 3.5, 4.5: July 13 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 18 & Over #3 – 3.0, 4.0: July 20 @ 12:00 PM ET
- **Adult 40 & Over: July 17-20 (3.0, 4.0) & July 24-27 (3.5, 4.5)**
  - Registration Opens: May 15 @ 12:01 AM ET
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered:
    - Adult 40 & Over #2 – 3.0, 4.0: July 3 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 40 & Over #3 – 3.5, 4.5: July 10 @ 12:00 PM ET
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: July 1 @ 11:59 PM ET
    - Adult 40 & Over #2 – 3.0, 4.0: July 7 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 40 & Over #3 – 3.5, 4.5: July 14 @ 12:00 PM ET
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal:
    - Adult 40 & Over #2 – 3.0, 4.0: July 13 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Adult 40 & Over #3 – 3.5, 4.5: July 20 @ 12:00 PM ET
- **Mixed Doubles: September 25-28**
  - Registration Opens: August 10 @ 12:01 AM ET
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: September 16 @ 11:59 PM ET
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: September 17 @ 11:59 PM ET
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: September 21 @ 12:00 PM ET
- **Tri-Level: October 9-12**
  - Registration Opens: August 10 @ 12:01 AM ET
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: September 25 @ 11:59 PM ET
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: September 29 @ 11:59 PM ET
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: October 5 @ 12:00 PM ET

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- **Combo Doubles: March 5-8, 2027 – 40 & Over (All), 18 & Over (5.5, 7.5, 9.5), and March 12-15, 2027 – 55 & Over (All) and 18 & Over (6.5, 8.5)**
  - Registration Opens: January 2, 2026 @ 12:01 AM ET
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: February 8, 2027 @ 11:59 PM ET
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: February 13, 2027 @ 11:59 PM ET
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal:
    - Combo Doubles #1 – 40 & Over (All) + 18 & Over (6.5, 8.5): March 1, 2027 @ 12:00 PM ET
    - Combo Doubles #2 – 55 & Over (All) + 18 & Over (5.5, 7.5, 9.5): March 8, 2027 @ 12:00 PM ET
- ✓ Above-mentioned deadlines may be amended by USTA Southern at its discretion.

## Team Qualification

- State championship teams will be allowed to advance to the USTA Southern Championships contingent on eligibility. If a state championship team declines its invitation, the state association may offer the bid to the next priority team. Southern approval is required if a state goes to its third-place team or beyond.
- Wildcards may be issued at the championships at the discretion of the Tournament Committee based on need. In the final weeks prior to a Southern championship, states will be notified of such wildcard openings.

## Championship Format

- USTA Southern Championship format will be round robin or partial round robin matches against randomly selected opponents in all levels of competition. *Please note that although the below-mentioned formats are likely to be used, the actual format may be changed at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.*
- For Round Robin Format:
  - Each team will play every other team in its flight. (Exception: Please see Championship Cancellation Policy)
  - Levels with two flight winners will have single elimination finals match to determine the champion.
  - If a state has two teams in the same level, the Tournament Committee will place those teams in separate flights, provided there are two flights in that level.
  - In divisions with four teams, each team may play every other team in its flight once, followed by a 1<sup>st</sup> place playoff between top two teams (to determine Southern league champion) and 3<sup>rd</sup> place playoff between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place teams.
  - In divisions with three teams, each team may play each team twice (“double round robin”) to determine Southern league champion.
  - In divisions with two teams, each team will play the other team a number of times set forth by the Tournament Committee.
- For Partial Round Robin Matches Against Randomly Selected Opponents:
  - Each team will play four team matches against randomly selected opponents. (Exception: Please see Championship Cancellation Policy)
  - In divisions with 8-9 teams, the top four teams, based on standings and national procedures on tiebreakers, will be entered into a semifinal playoff to be followed by a final. For semifinals, the draw will be #1 vs #4 and #2 vs #3.
  - In divisions with 6-7 teams, the top two teams, based on standings and national procedures on tiebreakers, will be entered into a final playoff. The draw will be #1 vs #2.
- In the rare instance that there are more undefeated teams than allowed in playoffs, an additional playoff match may be added to accommodate the extra undefeated team. *(For example, there are three undefeated teams in a partial round robin group of seven teams after four team matches against randomly selected opponents. A playoff match between the #2 and #3 team, based on standings, may be added to determine which team is placed in the final playoff against the #1 team.)*
- NTRP levels with less than four teams registered, within 21 days of the event, may be cancelled by the Tournament Committee.
- For round robin play, the plan is to conclude round robin match play on Sunday morning with finals (if applicable) on Sunday afternoon. For partial round robin match play, the plan is to conclude partial round robin matches by Saturday evening, with semifinal playoffs (or final playoff for divisions with 6-7 teams) on Sunday morning and final on Sunday afternoon. If the event experiences weather challenges, all teams may be required to complete round robin and/or partial round robin matches at any time on Sunday and/or Monday.

## Registration, Deposit + Withdrawal Requirements

- Championship Entry Fee: \$65 per player. A late fee of \$25 will apply after online registration deadline. Player entry fees covers partially the expenses that USTA Southern incurs for each championship, which may include player t-shirt or gift, bag tags, captain gift, awards, player amenity/lunches, court fees, tennis balls, photographer, referee, team supplies and materials, volunteer travel expenses, and host stipend to local tennis community.
- Separate from the individual entry fee, captains are required to make an online team deposit hold of \$300 **within one week of the conclusion of their State Championship**. No checks via mail will be accepted.
- The deposit will be held by the USTA Southern office until the conclusion of the applicable 2026 USTA League Southern Championship. If the team successfully completes the championship (e.g., no defaults), or if a team withdraws *before* the permitted withdrawal deadline, the deposit hold will be removed (not forfeited). If a team withdraws *after* the permitted withdrawal deadline, or if a team does not successfully complete the Southern championship, the deposit will be forfeited or partially forfeited as follows:
  - If a team withdraws after the permitted withdrawal deadline, or if a team does not successfully complete the Southern championship, the entire deposit will be forfeited.
  - If a team defaults an individual court during championship, an administrative fee of \$100 per individual court will be deducted up to the full amount of the deposit. Any remaining funds will be released to the captain. *(For example, a team defaults an individual court during its Saturday afternoon match. Following the championship, \$100 will be charged against the deposit hold, with the remaining \$200 being released by USTA Southern.)*
- Team captains with deposit forfeiture and/or administrative fees for individual defaulted courts may submit a waiver request to be exempted from paying fees. Waiver requests will be submitted to and reviewed by the Southern Adult League Committee Chair, Vice-Chair and Section League Coordinator.
  - Note: Collected monies will be donated to the Southern Tennis Foundation.
- Permitted Withdrawal requests must be submitted by captain to [leagues@sta.usta.com](mailto:leagues@sta.usta.com) by the applicable above-mentioned deadline. Players must receive confirmation of withdrawal request to be final. Technical difficulties will not be considered if submission is received past the deadline. *Please note that teams/players that withdraw after the "individual registration refunds" deadline, but before the "permitted team withdrawal" deadline, will not be issued a refund of their individual player registration fees. To be refunded registration fees, teams and/or players must notify USTA Southern prior to above-mentioned "individual registration refund deadline." Please see "Registration, Deposit + Withdrawal Requirements" from the Southern Championship Procedures for further details.*
- Players must be registered on both TennisLink and Match Tennis Team ("MTT").

## Scheduled Matches

- Schedules on the MTT are the official schedules.
- No accommodation for scheduling will be made at any Championship for teams with players who may be competing on two or more teams during a championship. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- **Per Southern League Regulation 2.03B(2): 2.03B(2): Southern does not authorize a captain to represent more than one team during championship competition.**
- Players may only be listed on a scorecard once per scheduled match time. If a player is submitted on two line-ups per scheduled match time, the priority scorecard for player will be the first submitted in MTT. *(For example, Player A is listed on a 7.5 Combo Doubles scorecard (submitted at 7:42 AM) and 8.5 Combo Doubles scorecard (submitted at 7:52 AM), with both matches scheduled for Friday at 8:00 AM. The 7.5 Combo Doubles scorecard will be deemed priority, and Player A will be disqualified from the 8.5 Combo Doubles Scorecard. Please see below on eligible substitution rules.)*
- Captains should turn in scorecards 30 minutes prior to the start of their scheduled match, when all players are present and ready to play. This is a courtesy to all players.
- Scorecards will be submitted online using MTT. Only captains who are assigned the "captain" role in MTT will be permitted to submit a scorecard. If a second captain is needed to submit scorecards, primary captains should contact the MTT chat box and request the designation of a secondary captain.
- If a team has a known default on the scorecard, the opposing team will have the opportunity to revise its scorecard once both scorecards are turned in and default has been announced by site director.

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- If a team has an unknown default on the scorecard (i.e. player is a “no show”), then players on the scorecard will be moved up in accordance with National Regulation Table 2.03K (“Allowable Defaults at All Championships”). Singles and doubles are considered separate entities when applying 2.03K. *(For example, Player A is #1 singles and Player B is #2 singles on a scorecard. Player A is called at match time to go on court; however, Player A cannot be found. Player B is not permitted to go on court until after the applicable 15-minute default window of Player A. If Player A is found within the 15-minute default window, the applicable “Penalties for Lateness” will be applied via Friend at Court for Player A,*

*and both Player A and Player B can go on court. If Player A is not found within the 15-minute default window, then Player B moves up to the #1 singles position, and the #2 singles position is defaulted.)*

- If a captain duplicates a name in error on a scorecard, a team may be allowed to substitute a player for the duplicate name in the lower position (at the discretion of the Tournament Committee), using a player not already listed on the line-up. A substitution may only be made in the lower position if the error is discovered before the match begins. If no such substitution can be made, USTA League Regulation 2.03K will be used in determining required position of default.
- No substitution may be made in an individual match after the line-up has been presented, except for injury to, illness of, ineligibility or disqualification of a player prior to the start of such match, and except other circumstances as permitted by Tournament Committee. If substitution is made during warm-up, the substitute player is entitled to a five-minute warm-up. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted.
- Site Directors will call teams when court assignments are available to confirm players are present and onsite. Players will be assigned a court (via text) as they are available. Players must have their cell phones off or on vibrate once assigned a court. If a cell phone goes off in the middle of a point, the opponent may claim the point.
- Captains are expected to approve/sign-off on MTT scorecards after each scheduled match is completed before leaving the tennis facility. Failure to approve/sign-off on the scorecard 15 minutes after the last individual line is completed in a team match may result in final scores confirmed only by opposing captain (and no future score updates).
- If there is a rain delay, players are not permitted to leave the site unless otherwise released by the Tournament Director and/or Tournament Referee. If released from the courts due to rain, players must report their match scores in progress in the MTT. Players will be prompted to enter all details of where the match stands **by selecting “delay.”**
- If a team match is postponed following the exchange of line-ups, the original line-up will stand for the make-up match UNLESS teams are released from the tournament by the Tournament Director and/or Referee. If teams are released, the line-up would stand only for those positions that have already started (first service attempt) and all other positions (even those that were in warm-up) may be changed, including defaulted courts.
- Tournament Referees may assist with medical time-outs and scoring disputes but will not be used to make line calls or call foot faults. If a player believes that line calls and/or foot faults are an issue, the player may request a Referee (if available) to assess the problem. Spectators are not permitted to request a Referee unless the players on court request it. All medical time-outs will be addressed in accordance with “Friend at Court.”
- **The Tournament Committee** will be pro-active in dealing with weather. However, in the event of weather challenges, the Tournament Committee may use an alternate scoring match format in order to complete the tournament. See Alternate Scoring document located on web site and/or in captain’s packet for scoring conversions.

## Scoring

- Regular scoring for matches will be the best of two tiebreak sets with a 10-point match tiebreak in lieu of a third set. No-ad scoring may be used in all matches. There will be a two-minute set break at the end of each set with no coaching. The match tiebreak shall be scored as one set and one game for tiebreak procedures. In the event of shortened formatting, matches will be converted to a compatible scoring format using the Alternative Scoring document (found on championship web site).
- The Coman Tiebreak Procedure will be used for all tiebreaks (including the 10-point match tiebreak).
- **In the event of a tie:**

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- For each individual team match, the tie will be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so: least sets lost, then least games lost, then highest game winning percentage, then the winning team of #1 doubles match, then the winning team of the #1 singles match.
- For determining round robin flight winners or teams to advance to a semifinal and/or final, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so: winner of the most individual matches, then winner of head-to-head match (if all tied teams played one another), then least sets lost, then least games lost, then highest game winning percentage. If a tie remains through game winning percentage, the tie will be broken by the following: team with highest number of victories at #1 doubles during round robin and/or partial round robin matches, then team with highest number of victories at #1 singles during round robin and/or partial round robin matches. Please see USTA League Regulation 2.03H(1) for further information. (Exception: See below bullet on “Full Team Defaults” for “Partial Round Robin Play.”)
- In the event of a full team default (i.e., team does not to play a majority of individual matches), the following scoring procedures may apply when determining flight winners and/or advancing teams to playoffs:
  - Round Robin (every team plays each team in its flight) & Partial Round Robin: All matches of the defaulting team already played shall be null and void when determining standings but will be used for ratings and advancement purposes. If all teams with a mathematical chance to advance have played the defaulting team in good faith, those matches shall stand as played when determining standings.
  - Partial Round Robin Play (only): All teams in applicable division will go through a tiebreaker procedure to determine advancing teams to playoffs, since all teams will not have an equal number of team matches. This will ensure that teams are compared against each other as fairly as possible. The tiebreaker procedure will use the first of the following procedures that does so:
    - Team with the least number of team losses. (*For example, a team with 3-0 record is priority over a team with 3-1 record.*)
    - Team with the lower percentage of individual losses played (individual matches played divided by the number of all individual matches played). Any individual retirement will count as an individual match played for the purpose of calculating individual losses. (*For example, a team with 3/12 record in individual losses (20%) is priority over a team with 5/15 record in individual losses (25%).*)
    - Team with the lower percentage of sets lost (lost sets played divided by number of all sets played). Any individual retirement will count as an individual match played for the purpose of calculating lost sets. (*For example, a team with 7/24 record in lost sets (22.58%) is priority over a team with 8/26 record in lost sets (23.53%).*)
    - Team with the lower percentage of games lost (lost games played divided by number of all games played). Any individual retirement will count as an individual match played for the purpose of calculating lost games. (*For example, a team with 141/302 record in lost games (31.83%) is priority over a team with 159/314 record in lost games (33.62%).*)
    - Coin toss
- All teams are expected to play all scheduled matches. Any team not complying will be subject to a grievance that will include all players from the championship roster.
- If any team is released from the Southern championships due to inclement weather and certain individual matches in its team match have already started, they will be recorded in TennisLink as a “retirement” with the leading team in the individual match as the “winner.” (For example, team leading 6-4, 0-4 would be considered the leading team. If a second set is not completed, the team winning first set is considered the leading team.)

## Important Items Relating to Friend at Court (FAC)

- Penalties for Lateness (“PFL”): PFL, which includes the 15-minute default rule, will apply. The Tournament Referee, in conjunction with the Tournament Committee, has the authority to enforce penalties for lateness. If a player is :01 to 5:00 minutes late, the penalty is a loss of toss and one game for that player. If a player is 5:01 to 10:00 minutes late, the penalty is a loss of toss and two games for that player. If a player is 10:01 to 15:00 minutes late, the penalty is a loss of toss and three games for that player. If a player is 15:01 minutes late, the penalty may be a default.
  - Note: Once a court opens up for any given round at a facility (8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, etc), all players who arrive after the scheduled match time may be assessed penalties in accordance with the

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above-mentioned "Penalties for Lateness." Per FAC Table 16, "Penalties for Lateness," the Referee is not required to keep a court open while waiting for a player. Therefore, a court does not have to be currently open for a player to be assessed penalties under the above-mentioned "Penalties for Lateness."

- Warm-Ups: Players are limited to a five-minute warm-up prior to match play.
- Maximum Number of Matches Per Day: For all NTRP levels 55 & Over and younger, when using a scoring format of 10-point match tiebreaker in lieu of third set, teams may have a maximum of four matches per day, and no more than three should be singles. (Reference: FAC, Table 9 "Maximum Number of Matches Per Day.")
- Changeovers: The rest time for all changeovers is 90 seconds, except between sets, which is two minutes.
- Continuous Play: There is continuous play in the following situations: 1) during any tiebreaker (set or match tiebreaks), and 2) after the first game of each regular set.
- Bathroom Breaks: A player can take a bathroom break at any time, but players should try to take them during changeovers or between sets.

## Grievances

- The Tournament Referee may assess code violations. The Tournament Committee may assess suspension points under the USTA League Suspension Point System. There is no direct right of appeal. However, the captain (of the player assessed suspension points) may file an administrative grievance (against the Section League Coordinator) with the Southern League Grievance Committee within the permitted timeframe. *Please note that administrative grievances will not be reviewed until after the championship.*
- Grievance Forms are available at each of the sites at the tournament desk. Completed grievance forms must be presented to the Site Director (by the captain, **or team designee**) at the site of the match within 30 minutes of the completion of the last individual court of the team match. The filing fee is \$100, and will be returned if the grievance committee upholds or affirms the grievance.
- NTRP Grievances filed within 14 days of the Southern championship against anyone participating in the USTA Southern Championships will be administered after the Championship, unless the USTA Southern Adult League Committee Chair, Vice-Chair and Southern League Coordinator authorize the administration of the grievance prior to that time. If the grievance is not administered until after the USTA Southern Championships, points won by players will stand. Disqualified players through grievance and/or captains who are suspended will not be eligible to advance to the National Championships.
- A team that withdraws from a championship after permitted withdrawal deadline, or a team that forfeits an entire team match during championship play, will be subject to a grievance filed by the Tournament Committee and may receive points under the Suspension Point System.

## NTRP Dynamic Disqualification and Other Advancement Information

- USTA Southern follows USTA League Regulation 2.04E(2)c, and dynamic ratings will be generated following the USTA Southern Championship. It is possible for any self-rated (S) or appealed (A) to be dynamically promoted. The promoted player will not be eligible to advance to the next level of competition. Points earned by promoted players will stand.
- Players in early-start leagues who were promoted in the 2025 year-end ratings may continue play through the state league championships, if permitted in the state league regulations, but are not permitted to advance to the Southern and/or National League Championship at the lower level.

## Championship Cancellation Policy

### Round Robin Format (Flighted Format)

- Should inclement weather or other circumstances prevent the completion of a Southern Championship or prevent round robin matches from starting by a specific time as determined by the Tournament Committee, the level/flight winners will be determined by the first of the following procedures that does so:
  - In the event a level or flight within a level consists of multiple round robins, the first-place team will be determined by TennisLink standings at the conclusion of the most recent full round robin. If no full round robin is completed, the below-mentioned procedures would apply.
  - In the event that only one team in a round robin has a mathematical chance of finishing first, that team will be declared the winner of the round robin.

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- If more than one team has a mathematical chance of winning their round robin, and the first-place team has already beaten the other teams with a mathematical chance of winning, the first-place team would be considered the round robin winner as the head-to-head winner.
- If a round robin winner cannot be determined, and each team in a round robin has been given the opportunity to complete a minimum of one team match, only teams with a mathematical chance of finishing first will receive an entry into a drawing to determine the winner. Undefeated teams will receive a second entry into the drawing.
- If a round robin winner cannot be determined, and each team in a round robin has not been given the opportunity to complete a minimum of one team match, each team will receive one entry into a drawing to determine the round robin winner.
- The following procedure will take place when two round robin winners (in a specific age group and NTRP level) have been determined by the above-mentioned procedures and/or cancellation occurs after the finals have begun:
  - Both teams can agree to meet at a location and time to play for the Southern championship. A deadline will be given by the Tournament Committee to complete the match. If both teams cannot agree to a location and time prior to or on the deadline set forth by the Tournament Committee, both teams will receive an entry into a drawing to determine the Southern champion. USTA Southern will not be responsible for providing an official or for expenses relating to this match. The Tournament Committee may keep both finalist teams at the tennis center past 5 pm to see if play can continue later that evening.

## *Partial Round Robin Format*

- Should inclement weather or other circumstances prevent the completion of a Southern Championship or prevent partial round robin matches from starting by a specific time as determined by the Tournament Committee, the winners will be determined by the first of the following procedures that does so:
  - If a minimum of three full rounds have been completed by all teams, any undefeated teams will receive an entry into a drawing to determine a winner. In this instance, unfinished partial round robin matches in fourth segment will not count.
  - In the event that only one team (after the most recent full partial round robin segment) has a mathematical chance of finishing first, that team will be declared the winner.
  - If more than one team has a mathematical chance of winning, after the most recent full partial round robin segment, and the first-place team has already beaten the other teams with a mathematical chance of winning, the first-place team would be considered the winner as the head-to-head winner.
  - If a winner cannot be determined, and each team has been given the opportunity to complete a minimum of one team match, only teams with a mathematical chance of finishing first will receive an entry into a drawing to determine the winner. Undefeated teams will receive a second entry into the drawing.
- The following procedures will take place when cancellation occurs after the semifinal playoffs have begun:
  - Teams that have clinched (won a majority of individual matches) their semifinal playoff will be considered the winner of their semifinal match.
  - Teams that have not clinched (not won a majority of individual matches) their semifinal will be put into a drawing to determine the winning semifinalist. For each individual line won by a team, the team will receive an additional entry into the drawing. (For example, the #2 doubles match was finished. The winning team of the #2 doubles match would receive an additional entry into the drawing.)
  - Both winning semifinalists (now finalist teams) can agree to meet at a location and time to play for the Southern championship. A deadline will be given by the Tournament Committee to complete the match. If both teams cannot agree to a location and time prior to or on the deadline set forth by the Tournament Committee, both teams will receive an entry into a drawing to determine the Southern champion. For each individual line won by a team, that team will receive an additional entry into the drawing. (For example, the #2 doubles match was finished. The winner of the match would receive an additional entry into the drawing.) If teams agree to meet, USTA Southern will not be responsible for providing an official or for expenses relating to this match. The Tournament Committee may keep both finalist teams at the tennis center past 5 pm to see if play can continue later that evening.

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## Administration + Player Expectations

- Notification Alerts: Players should download MTT (available for iPhone and Android) and sign up for text and email alerts. Notification alerts will be used for weather updates, raffles and general tournament info. Any email that is sent to players may be found in a player/captain's MTT inbox.
- Tournament Committee will use proper and fair judgment regarding all Southern championship-related issues. This includes procedures and information not listed in the Championship Procedures.
- Tournament Committee will consist of the Tournament Director, Tournament Referee and a minimum of one other person selected by the Southern Adult League Committee Chair.
- Southern League Grievance Committee: Jenifer Tucker (Chair), Megan Cooper, Danielle Broadstreet, Lacey Mitchell (alternate), Nan Smith (alternate).
- Championship Procedures may be amended at the Tournament Committee's discretion.
- Players are permitted to practice on hard courts, if available, prior to the start of each championship day with specifics provided in the player welcome email (normally through 7:00 AM, 7:15 AM or 7:30 AM local time). Once the championship begins for the day, players are not permitted to practice on courts used for the championship. **Failure to comply may result in a code violation by the Tournament Referee, and the assessment of suspension points by the Tournament Committee, for failure to comply with Championship Procedures.**
- The Tournament Committee may release a team from the Southern championship.
- **Captains and players are expected to be courteous and cooperative with championship staff and volunteers.** Players who exhibit inappropriate behavior and/or unsportsmanlike conduct towards the host, tournament staff and/or volunteers will be subject to a Championship Grievance and may receive points under the Suspension Pont System.



## 2026 Dates, Location & Tournament Committees\*

- Adult 55 & Over (Auburn, AL – June 26-28): Jason Ontog (TD), TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Adult 18 & Over #1 – 2.5, 5.0 (Sumter, SC; July 10-12): Jason Ontog (TD), TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Adult 18 & Over #2 – 3.0, 4.0 (Mobile, AL; July 17-20): Chris Walling (TD); TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Adult 18 & Over #3 – 3.5, 4.5 (Mobile, AL; July 24-27): Chris Walling (TD); TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Adult 40 & Over #1 – 3.5, 4.5 (Rome, GA; July 17-20): Jason Ontog (TD), TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Adult 40 & Over #2 – 3.0, 4.0 (Rome, GA; July 24-27): Jason Ontog (TD), TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Mixed Doubles (Memphis, TN; September 25-28): Jason Ontog (TD), TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Tri-Level (Rome, GA; October 9-12): Jason Ontog (TD), TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Combo Doubles #1 – 40 & Over (All) + 18 & Over 6.5, 8.5 (Mobile, AL; March 5-8, 2026): Jason Ontog (TD), TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).
- Combo Doubles #2 – 55 & Over (All) + 18 & Over 5.5, 7.5, 9.5 (Mobile, AL; March 12-15, 2016): Jason Ontog (TD); TBD (Southern Committee) and TBD (Tournament Referee).

*\*Please note any of above-mentioned Tournament Committees and/or dates may change prior to tournament start.*