

# USTA South Carolina Championship Procedures

## 2024 Championship Year

USTA South Carolina is comprised of the thirteen Local Leagues – AATL, BBTL, CTL, FTA, GATA, GSTL, HHTL, LATA, LCTA, MCTA, PD, SATL, and UPTA. The USTA South Carolina State Championship Procedures will apply to all USTA South Carolina State Championships. When not stated in the Championship Procedures, the National and Sectional regulations and Friend at Court will apply.

*Due to the possibility of championship dates and locations being modified for reasons outside of our control, USTA South Carolina highly encourages players to secure lodging at places that allow refundable deposits.*

### USTA SC State Championships & Deadlines

USTA South Carolina offers the following league championships and deadlines:

- **SC Adult 70 & Over – May 16-18, 2024 – Hilton Head Island, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: May 1, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: May 10
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
  - **SC Adult 70 & Over Wildcard:**
    - Deadline for Wildcard Application: May 1, 2024
    - Wildcard Teams Selected: May 2, 2024
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: May 3, 2024.
  - **SC Adult 70 & Over Local League at State (LLAS):**
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): May 3, 2024.
  
- **USTA Adult 55 & Over – May 18-20, 2024 - Hilton Head, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: May 1, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: May 10
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
  - **USTA Adult 55 & Over Wildcard:**
    - Deadline for Wildcard Application: May 1, 2024
    - Wildcard Teams Selected: May 2, 2024
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: May 3, 2024.
  - **USTA Adult 55 & Over Local League at State (LLAS):**
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): May 3, 2024.
  
- **USTA Adult 40 & Over – June 1-3, 2024 - Florence, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered & Online Team Deposit: May 15, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: May 24, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Team deposit will be forfeited for all teams that withdraw.
  - **USTA Adult 40 & Over Wildcards:**
    - Deadline for Wildcard Application: May 15, 2024
    - Wildcard Teams Selected: May 16, 2024
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: May 17, 2024
  - **USTA Adult 40 & Over Local League at State (LLAS):**
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): May 17, 2024.

- **USTA Adult 18 & Over - June 7-10, 2024 – Aiken, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered & Online Team Deposit: May 22, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: May 31, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Team deposit will be forfeited for all teams that withdraw.
  - **USTA Adult 18 & Over Wildcards:**
    - Deadline for Wildcard Application: May 22, 2024
    - Wildcard Teams Selected: May 23, 2024
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered Wildcard: May 24, 2024.
  - **USTA Adult 18 & Over Local League at State (LLAS):**
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): May 24, 2024
  
- **USTA Mixed Doubles – August 23-26, 2024 – Lexington, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: August 7, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: August 16, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
  - **USTA Mixed Doubles Wildcard:**
    - Deadline for Wildcard Application: August 7, 2024
    - Wildcard Teams Selected: August 8, 2024
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: August 9, 2024.
  - **USTA Mixed Doubles Local League at State (LLAS):**
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & and Match Tennis Team): August 9, 2024
  
- **Southern Tennis Association (STA) Tri-Level – September 7-9, 2024 - Greenville, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: August 21, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: August 30, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
  - **STA Tri-Level Wildcard:**
    - Deadline for Wildcard Application: August 21, 2024
    - Wildcard Teams Selected: August 22, 2024
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: August 23, 2024.
  - **STA Tri-Level Local League at State (LLAS):**
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): August 23, 2024
  
- **SC Singles League 18/40/ 50 & Over – September 21-23, 2024 - Aiken, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: September 4, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: September 13, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
  - **SC Singles Wildcard:**
    - Deadline for Wildcard Application: September 4, 2024
    - Wildcard Teams Selected: September 5, 2024
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: September 6, 2024.
  - **SC Singles Local League at State (LLAS):**
    - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): September 6, 2024

- **SC Adult 75 & Over Invitational – October 11-13, 2024 – Location TBD**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: September 25, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: October 4, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
- **SC Adult 75 & Over Wildcard:**
  - Deadline for Wildcard Application: September 25, 2024
  - Wildcard Teams Selected: September 26, 2024
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: September 27, 2024.
- **SC Adult 75 & Over Local League at State (LLAS):**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): September 27, 2024
- **USTA Adult 65 & Over – October 12-14, 2024 - TBD**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: September 25, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: October 4, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
- **USTA Adult 65 & Over Wildcard:**
  - Deadline for Wildcard Application: September 25, 2024
  - Wildcard Teams Selected: September 26, 2024
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: September 27, 2024.
- **USTA Adult 65 & Over Local League at State (LLAS):**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): September 27, 2024
- **STA Combo 18/40 & Over Combo Doubles - October 25-28, 2024 - Florence, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: October 9, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: October 18, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
- **STA Combo 18 40 & Over Wildcard:**
  - Deadline for Wildcard Application: October 9, 2024
  - Wildcard Teams Selected: October 10, 2024
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: October 11, 2024.
- **STA Combo 18/40 & Over Local League at State (LLAS):**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): October 11, 2024
- **STA Combo 55/65 & Over Combo Doubles – November 2-4, 2024 - Aiken, SC**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered and Online Team Deposit: October 16, 2024
  - Deadline for Individual Registration Refunds: October 25, 2024
  - Deadline for Permitted Team Withdrawal: Prior to draws being posted. Teams will be charged \$300 if they withdraw after the draws are posted.
- **STA Combo 55/65 & Over Wildcard:**
  - Deadline for Wildcard Application: October 16, 2024
  - Wildcard Teams Selected: October 17, 2024
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered: October 18, 2024.
- **STA Combo 55/65 & Over Local League at State (LLAS):**
  - Deadline for Minimum Required Registered (TennisLink & Match Tennis Team): October 18, 2024

Information for these championships can be found at <https://sctennis.com/leaguestatechampionships/>

## Team Qualification

- Local League winning teams will be allowed to advance to the USTA South Carolina State League Championships contingent on eligibility. If a Local League championship team declines their invitation, then the local league may offer the bid to the next priority team. State approval is required if a local league goes to their third-place team or beyond.
- Wildcards may be issued for the state championships at the discretion of the Championship Committee based on need.
  - A minimum of four local teams is required to be eligible for a wildcard.
  - Wildcards will be chosen by a weighted random draw.
  - Local Leagues automatically qualifying for two berths (16+ teams locally) to state championships will be eligible for a wildcard if no other teams are available.

## Championship Format

- USTA South Carolina State League Championship format shall use round robin or partial round robin matches against randomly selected opponents in all levels of competition.
- **Flighted Round Robin format:**
  - A full draw is comprised of one, two, three or four flights with four teams in each flight where possible.
  - Each team shall play every other team in its flight. (Exception: Please see Championship Cancellation Policy)
    - Flighted Round Robins:
      - Two Flights: Single elimination final to determine winner.
      - Three Flights: Three flight winners and the top second place team will play semi-final. Winners of semifinal will play final to determine winner.
        - Top Second Place Team determination can be found under “Scoring”
        - Semifinal: Flight 1 v Flight 3, Flight 2 v Second Place winner.
          - Semifinal may be adjusted at the discretion of the Tournament committee if both teams are from same flight.
      - Four Flights: Four flight winners will play a semifinal and finals match.
        - Semifinal: Flight 1 v Flight 3, Flight 2 v Flight 4
        - Winners of semifinal will play final to determine winner.
    - If an area has two teams in the same level, the Referee and Championship Committee will place those teams in separate flights provided there are two flights in that level.
    - In divisions with 3 teams, each team may play every team twice (“double round robin”) to determine State Champion.
    - If an applicable division only has 2 teams, each team will play the other team a number of times set forth by the Tournament Committee.
    - If any flights have a different number of teams, the tie will be broken by the game winning percentage. If defaults are given, then the game winning percentage will be calculated manually not counting those defaults.
    - Retirements – only games played are counted.
  - For Partial Round Robin Matches Against Randomly Selected Opponents:
    - Each team shall play four team matches against randomly selected opponents. (Exception: Please see Championship Cancellation Policy)
    - In draws with 8 teams or less, the top 2 teams, based on standings and national procedures on tiebreakers, will be entered into a final playoff.
    - In draws with 9 teams or more, the top 4 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 v #4 and #2 v #3.

The format for each level will be based on the total number of teams in that level. Not all levels will play the same format.

## Registration, Deposit + Withdrawal Requirements

- Championship Entry Fee: \$30 per player. Player entry fees partially cover the expenses that USTA South Carolina incurs for each championship, which may include player gift, captain gift, awards, player amenity/lunches, court fees, tennis balls, referee, team supplies and materials, volunteer travel expenses, and generous host stipend to local tennis community.
- Captains are required to put a credit card on file on the MTTA as a deposit by the stated deadline.
- If a team withdraws *after* the permitted withdrawal deadline, or if a team does not successfully complete the South Carolina championship, the card on file will be charged up to \$300. The situations where the credit card will be charged, or partially charged, are as follows:
  - If a team withdraws after the permitted withdrawal deadline, or if a team does not successfully complete the South Carolina championship, the entire \$300 will be charged to the card on file.
  - If a team defaults an individual court/line during a SC championship, an administrative fee of \$100 per individual court will be charged to the card on file up to \$300. *(For example, a team defaults an individual line during its Saturday afternoon match. Following the championship, \$100 will be charged to the card on file.)*
  - Team captains with withdrawal 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 South Carolina Adult Program Committee Chair, Vice-Chair and South Carolina Director of Team Play.
  - Note: Collected monies will be donated to the South Carolina Tennis Foundation.
- Permitted Withdrawal requests must be submitted by captain to [Fulmer@sctennis.com](mailto:Fulmer@sctennis.com) by the applicable aforementioned deadline. Players must receive a confirmation of withdrawal request to be final. Technical difficulties will not be considered if submission is received past the deadline. Please note that individual refund deadlines still apply even if your team withdraws prior to the permitted withdrawal deadline. (See "USTA SC League Championships + Deadlines." Teams and/or players that withdraw after individual refund deadline will not be refunded their registration fee.
- Players must be registered on both TennisLink & Match Tennis Team App (MTTA).

## Scheduled Matches

- Schedules on the Match Tennis Team App (MTTA) are the official schedules.
- No accommodations 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.
- 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 MTTA. *(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.
- Scorecards will be submitted online using the MTTA. Only captains who are assigned the "captain" role in MTTA will be permitted to submit scorecard. If a second captain is needed to submit scorecards, primary captains should contact the MTTA 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.
- 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 the 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 a 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 MTTA 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 MTTA. Players will be prompted to enter all details of where the match stands.
  - 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 proactive in dealing with the weather. However, in the event of significant weather challenges, the Tournament Committee may use an alternate scoring match format to complete the tournament.

## **Scoring**

- All 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 2-minute set break at the end of each set with no coaching. The match tiebreak shall be scored as 1 set and 1 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 the championship web page.
- Results will be entered into TennisLink throughout the day and can also be viewed via the Match Tennis Team App.
- Each team will receive one point for each team match won.
- The Coman Tiebreak Procedure will be used for all tiebreaks (including the 10-point match tiebreak).

## **In the Event of a Tie**

- For each individual team match, the tie shall 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. (40 & Over League)
- For determining round robin and/or flight winners and/or determining teams to advance to a semifinal and/or final:
  - Most Team Wins (winner of most individual matches)
  - Winner of head-to-head match (if all tied teams played one another)
  - Least Sets Lost
  - Least Games Lost
  - Game Winning Percentage (If defaults are given, then the game winning percentage will be calculated manually not counting those defaults.)
  - Team with highest # of victories at #1 Doubles during state championship round robin and/or partial round robin matches.
  - Team with highest # of victories at #1 Singles during state championship round robin and/or partial round robin matches.

- Please see national 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 will apply when determining flight winners and/or advancing teams to playoffs:
  - Round Robin (every team plays each team in its flight): 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: Teams will not have an equal number of team matches due to a team default. All teams in the applicable division will go through a tiebreaker procedure to determine advancing teams to playoffs. 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.
    - Team with the least number of ACTUAL INDIVIDUAL LOSSES divided by the number of POSSIBLE INDIVIDUAL LOSSES.
    - Team with the least number of ACTUAL SETS LOST divided by the number of POSSIBLE SETS LOST.
    - Team with the least number of ACTUAL GAMES LOST divided by the number of POSSIBLE GAMES LOST.
    - Coin toss
- All teams are expected to play all scheduled matches. Any team not complying will be subject to a grievance which will include all players from the championship roster.
- If any team is released from the South Carolina State championships due to inclement weather and certain individual matches in their team match have already been started, it 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 2<sup>nd</sup> set is not completed, the team winning the first set is considered the leading team.)

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

- Penalties for Lateness, 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. The Tournament Referee may also use the Suspension Point System at his/her discretion.
- Warm-Ups: Players are limited to a five-minute warm-up prior to match play.
- Changeovers: The rest time for all changeovers is 90 seconds, except between sets, which is limited to two minutes.
- Continuous Play: There is continuous play during 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.
- USTA Comment 30.1: A player may bring to the court written notes that were prepared before the start of the match and may read these notes during the match. **While on court or during a match, a player may not receive information via electronic devices capable of receiving communications such as cell phones and smartwatches.**

#### Grievances

- Suspension Points may be assessed onsite during a league championship by the Head Referee. A captain may appeal said suspension points to the Championship Grievance Appeal Committee within 72 hours of points being assessed. *Please note that appeals may not be reviewed until after the championship. Please refer to national league regulation 3.04a(4).*
- Grievance Forms are available at each of the sites at the tournament desk. Grievance forms must be submitted online (by the captain) 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. Fee will be returned if the grievance committee upholds or affirms the grievance.

- NTRP Grievances filed within 14 days of the start date of the State championship against anyone participating in the USTA SC Championships will be administered after the Championship unless the USTA SC Adult Program Committee Chair, Vice-Chair and SC Director of Team Play authorizes the administration of the grievance prior to that time. If the grievance is not administered until after the event, points won by players will stand. Disqualified players through grievance and/or captains that are suspended will not be eligible to advance to the Sectionals.
- A team that withdraws from a championship after the draws have been published or a team that forfeits an entire team match during championship play may be subject to a grievance filed by the Championship Committee and may receive suspension penalties imposed by the Championship Grievance Committee.
- Players who exhibit inappropriate behavior and/or unsportsmanlike conduct towards tournament staff and/or volunteers will be subject to a Championship Grievance and may receive suspension penalties imposed by the Championship Grievance Committee.

#### **NTRP Dynamic Disqualification**

- USTA SC follows USTA League Regulation 2.04E(2)c, and dynamic ratings will be generated following the USTA SC 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 at the disqualified level. Points earned by promoted players will stand.

### **Championship Cancellation Policy**

#### ***Round Robin Format (Flighted Format)***

- Should inclement weather or other circumstances prevent the completion of a State Championship or prevent round robin matches from starting by a specific time as determined by the Championship Committee on the final day of the championship, 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<sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup>-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.
  - If 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.
  - 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Undeclared 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 SC champion. USTA SC 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 5:00 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 South Carolina Championship or prevent partial round robin matches from starting by a specific time as determined by the Championship Committee, the winners will be determined by the first of the following procedures that does so:
  - If a minimum of 3 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 the 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 1st 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. 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) in their semifinal playoff will be considered the winner of their semifinal match.
  - Teams that have not clinched (not won a majority of individual matches) in their semifinal will be put into a drawing to determine the winning semifinalist. For each individual line won by a team, said team will receive an additional entry into the drawing. (For example, the #2 doubles match was finished. The winning team of said #2 doubles match would receive an additional entry into the drawing.)
  - Both winning semifinalists (now finalist teams) can agree to meet at a mutual location and time to play for the South Carolina championship. A deadline will be given by the Championship Committee to complete the match. If both teams cannot agree to a mutual location and time prior to or on the deadline set forth by the Championship Committee, both teams will receive an entry into a drawing to determine the South Carolina champion. For each individual line won by a team, said team will receive an additional entry into the drawing. (For example, the #2 doubles match was finished. The winner of said match would receive an additional entry into the drawing.) If teams agree to meet at a mutual location, USTA South Carolina will not be responsible for providing an official or for expenses relating to this match.
  - If the timing of the Sectional deadline for teams, advancing from the State Championship is not sufficient to schedule a finals match to determine the winner, then the two teams will be placed in a drawing to determine the winner who will advance to the Sectional Championship.

## **Administration + Player Expectations**

- Notification Alerts: Download Match Team Tennis App (MTTA) (available for iPhone and Android). Once you open the app, sign up for text and email alerts. Notification alerts will be used for weather updates and general tournament info. Any email that is sent to players may be found in a player/captain's MTTA inbox.
- Players are not permitted to warm up on courts at a facility where matches for the championships are being played. Failure to comply may result in assessment of suspension points by the Head Referee for failure to comply with Championship Procedures.
- Captains and players are expected to be courteous and cooperative with championship staff and volunteers.
- The Championship Committee will use proper and fair judgment regarding all state tournament-related issues. This includes, but is not limited to, procedures and information not listed in the Championship Procedures.
- Championship Committee will consist of the Tournament Director, Tournament Referee and minimum one other person selected by the USTA SC Director of Team Play.
- Championship Grievance Committee: To be appointed by USTA SC Director of Team Play.
- Championship Procedures may be amended at the Championship Committee's discretion.
- The Championship Committee may release a team from the South Carolina championship.