



## 2019 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY USTA LEAGUE PROCEDURES

Red marks changes for 2019

**Line-up Exchanges:** Team captains must simultaneously exchange line-ups BEFORE the match start time. Suggested time is 5 minutes before the match time. **For Mixed Doubles 18 & Over League, lineups must be exchanged for all SPLIT courts 5 minutes prior to the start of the FIRST match (i.e., if your team plays two courts at 7pm and one court at 8:30pm, the lineup for the three courts is exchanged five minutes prior to the 7pm match start).** Those captains who do not submit the line-up before the match start time are subject to the lateness penalties **for all courts:**

5 mins. or less late: loss of toss and 1 game  
5:01 – 10:00 mins. late: loss of toss and 2 games  
10:01 – 15:00 mins. late: loss of toss and 3 games  
More than 15 mins late, default

**Timed match scoring procedures:** AT THE END OF REGULATION PLAY AND TIME IS CALLED before a match is completed and players continue to play, all points that have been played will count.

**If time has been called and the BALL IS IN PLAY, finish the point** you are playing but do not start a new point. The point will count only if it ends a game or set.

**If time has been called DURING THE FIRST SET OR DURING THE SECOND SET,** total the number of games for each team. The team with the most games wins the match on that court.

**If time has been called DURING THE FIRST OR DURING THE SECOND SET and the added game counts are tied,** one point shall be played to determine the winner. See procedures below.

**If time has been called DURING A SEVEN POINT TIEBREAKER OR THIRD SET TEN POINT TIEBREAKER,** the team ahead by one or more points shall be declared the winner of the tiebreak. If this occurs during the seven point tiebreak of the second set, the team ahead by one or more points is declared the winner of that set (7-6). If the game count is then tied as a result of the first set ending in a 7-6 score, then a sudden death point shall be played following the "One Point Procedures" below. Once the Third Set Ten Point Tiebreaker has begun, you DO NOT go back and count games.

**If time has been called DURING THE THIRD SET TEN POINT TIEBREAKER and the score is tied,** one point shall be played to determine the winner of the tiebreak.

**One Point Procedures:** The home team spins the racquet. A spin of the racquet shall be used to determine which team will serve/receive the point. The non-serving team has the option of which side to receive serve (deuce or ad court), but in no event will players change court side. One point is played. The winner of that point is declared the winner. In Mixed Doubles, the option goes gender to gender.



Matches that end with a sudden death point are entered in TennisLink as follows:

- a. If time expires in the first or second set and a sudden death point is required, add one game to the winning team's score and enter that score, accompanied by the "Timed Match" code;
- b. If time expires in the match tiebreak and a sudden death point is required, the actual scores from the first two sets are entered, followed by 1-0 for the winner of the sudden death point and accompanied by the "Timed Match" code.

**Who calls time? Official Match Timepiece:** Captains must agree beforehand on one "official timepiece" (which may include cellular telephones, facility horns or buzzers) to control time for all courts and who is authorized to call "Time" to end simultaneously all matches still in play; or team captains may appoint an acceptable third-party, including members of either team, to keep the time for the entire team match. No other means of time notification to players on court is permitted. Whatever agreement is struck regarding management of time should be recorded on each copy of the scorecard before match play begins and should be initiated by each captain.

**Problem match:** If there is a problem on the court with outcalls, foot faults, or delay of game, teams may seek an acceptable (by both) impartial third party to make calls in regards to these concerns. If an acceptable impartial third party is not available, a team captain or team representative from each team may observe the match from a stationary position at the net post. Selected parties must be in DIRECT observation and must remain at the net post (i.e don't start wandering to baselines). If both agree, out call correction stands. If only one party agrees then player's call stands. Regarding foot faults, before a player may call a foot fault on his opponent, (s)he must first give a warning.

#### **FLEXED MATCHES**

Matches may not be "flexed," unless the match is scheduled on Easter weekend, Memorial Day weekend, the closest weekend to 4<sup>th</sup> of July or Labor Day weekend OR the match is the same weekend as a USTA event (regionals, sectionals, tournament, etc.). If you have one (1) player on a roster of a USTA championship-bound team, you may not reschedule any courts; with 2-3 players, you may reschedule one court; with 4-5 players, you may reschedule two courts; and with 6 or more, the entire match should be rescheduled by the LLC.

**Rain plans/makeup matches:** Makeup matches will be rescheduled by the team captains within a one week period following the missed scheduled match. In cases where no agreement can be reached by both captains, the final decision will be made by the Coordinator. All matches must be played by the deadline for completing local league match play. Once a match has started (first service attempt), only players designated on the original scorecards will be allowed to play. If line-ups have been exchanged but the match has not yet started, or are in warm-up, you do not have to use the same players. In cases where no scheduling agreement can be reached by both captains, the final decision will be made by the level coordinator(s).



## **RAIN/SNOW PROCEDURES**

- 1. If it is raining or the weather is questionable the morning of the match**, both team captains should check [www.pgcta.com](http://www.pgcta.com) or contact their level coordinator to determine if the match has been postponed. If the match has not been postponed, both teams and their entire line-ups must show up, dressed and ready to play. Failure to do so will result in a default or assessment of the late penalty as applicable (ALL PLAYERS SHOULD BE VISIBLE BY BOTH CAPTAINS – NOT IN THE CAR). Teams must wait 30 minutes to see if the rain will clear and the courts will dry. Both captains must agree that the courts are safe and playable in order for the match to begin. If some of the courts are playable, 18 & over and 40 & over matches will be played beginning with the #1 singles, #2 singles, #1 doubles, #2 doubles and #3 doubles. Tri-level, combo, mixed 18 & over, and 40 & over matches will begin with #1 doubles, then #2 doubles, and then #3 doubles.

Should the match be postponed after warm-up begins, a captain may make substitutions for any individual matches that have not already started (first service attempt has not been made). The substitutions become the official line-up.

- 2. If rain forces the postponement of a match**, the line-ups will be exchanged five minutes before the agreed upon time of the rescheduled match.
  - a. Rained out matches will be re-scheduled by the opposing captains. Once the make-up date for a team or individual match has been agreed upon, it cannot be changed unless due to rain.
  - b. If captains cannot agree on a make-up date, the level coordinator and league coordinator will reschedule the match.
  - c. If the make-up match is postponed again due to rain, the make-up match procedures will begin again at #1 above.
- 3. If rain interrupts play during the match**, players must record the score of the match as it stands (set score and game score) and the time. Opposing captains will reschedule the make-up match. It is mandatory that all players agree on the score, the remaining time, the server, and the sides (deuce or ad) on which each player is playing, and that this information is documented and signed by captains before they leave the court. This will enable the match to continue smoothly. Home teams are to continue play with the same balls or bring a new can of balls.

Rained out 18 & Over and 40 & Over, Combo and Mixed – 18 & Over and 40 & Over matches must be rescheduled within seven days and played before the last match of the regularly scheduled season. A 10-minute warm-up shall be granted once play is resumed. If one of the players is unavailable to schedule a make-up date prior to the end of the season, that player or doubles team shall retire that match with the opposing player or doubles team being declared the winner. The completed games shall be recorded with the retiring player or team's opponent(s) being declared the winner. If the players or teams are unable to agree to a date and time prior to the end of the season, the Coordinator shall choose a date and time for the match to be completed. The make-up date must be



communicated to the league and level coordinators within seven days to ensure that it is recorded in TennisLink.

4. **Snow Procedures.** Matches will be played if the facility is open. Both captains can agree to reschedule at a cost to the teams that reschedule. Both captains must be in agreement to reschedule.

Directions to facilities: Included on the league website ([www.pgcta.com](http://www.pgcta.com))

Roster limits: 12 players for 2.5 teams; 18 players for all other teams

### **COACHING AND SPECTATORS**

Spectators are not allowed to observe matches inside the tennis bubble (outside sidelines and imaginary extensions thereof). No non-playing Captains are allowed on court at the tennis bubble. Non-playing Captains are allowed only when called to court by a player. If called, both Captains should be present during any discussions. No communication and no coaching is allowed between spectators and players.

The above policy does not apply to the practice courts if available for the Winter Mixed Doubles League; however, the practice courts are only for use by players **REGISTERED** to play in the Prince George's County 18 & Over Mixed Doubles League.

### **PLAYER REFUNDS**

Player refund forms are submitted directly to Mid-Atlantic for processing and must be filed **PRIOR to the end of the regularly scheduled local league season (does not include playoff matches and/or championships)** using the last scheduled match in TennisLink as the end of the local season date. The on-line Jotform is located at <http://www.jotformpro.com/form/51233368605958> (a link to the form can be found on the league website ([www.pgcta.com](http://www.pgcta.com))). *No refunds will be issued after the deadline.* Players that have played a match are not eligible for refunds.

Either the team captain or the player must submit the online form. The **Active Fee is collected by TennisLink and is non-refundable and \$6.00 of the registration fee will not be reimbursed due to outside payment processing fees.**

**These Procedures are as enforceable as rules.**