



3.5

Captain/Player MEETING

Welcome!

THANK YOU FOR PLAYING!

FT WORTH USTA leagues would not
be possible without Y  U!

Meeting Highlights

If you were unable to attend our Captain/Co-Captain meeting, we hope this slide deck provides some helpful information. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out and we welcome all questions/comments.

AGENDA

- Welcome
- Website Tips
- Tennis in the US/Texas
- Communication-Team
- Team Rosters
- Day of Match
- 2026 Rule Changes/Updates
- Weather/Rescheduling
- Fall 2026 League Season
- Playoffs
- Tennis in the area
- Tri-Level Tournament

Website tips-STAY INFORMED!

- BOOKMARK THE GFWTENNIS WEBSITE-league notices/rules/links
- SUBSCRIBE TO EMAIL LIST
- FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA: FACEBOOK site:
facebook.com/gfwtennis
- DOWNLOAD LOCAL LEAGUE RULES-to your phone!
- MAKE SURE YOU HAVEN'T UNSUBSCRIBED FROM TENNISLINK COMMUNICATION
- UPDATE ADDRESS INFORMATION IN TENNISLINK

Tennis in Texas and in the United States

- As of July 2025- 605 areas are represented in USTA League Tennis in the Nation, below is number of registrations
- #1 Atlanta 37, 670
- #5 Dallas 17,827
- #12 Austin 12,382
- #14 Houston 11,861
- #22 Ft Worth 9,499, #4 in the State of Texas-Dallas/Austin/Houston/Ft Worth/San Antonio/Corpus
- Nationwide-hoping to have 30 Million by 2030-30X30!

COMMUNICATION

- Send email out to all captains ahead of time-introduce yourself-do you have a co-captain-give cell phone number/contact information. Yes, it is helpful to have two people to contact!
- Host captain should be making contact with away team-text/email each week-confirm time/warm up courts-if you know/**reiterate we need to start on time**
- Captain communicates with team, coordinator and opposing team captain
- Players communicate with captains!
- Make sure you are checking your messages/emails the day before match or if unavailable you have communicated that ahead of time to your team and opposing team, send a team reminder—where are they heading and the time they should be on-site.

Communication-Coordinator

When should I reach out to the coordinator? **CHECK THE RULES FIRST**

****need assistance with a rule?** Captain email coordinator, players should reach out to the captain first-they can verify if need be.

****something happened out on the court today, and feel I should reach out to someone?** Email is BEST!

****questions/concerns on make up/rain outs/deadlines-rescheduled match when/where**

****need players?**

What is the best way to reach the communicate with the coordinator?

****Email is BEST!*****

TEAM ROSTERS

HOW MANY PLAYERS CAN I HAVE ON MY TEAM?

****AS MANY AS IT TAKES-KNOW YOUR TEAM/PLAYERS****

****Who/how much do my players want to play?**

****What is a fair amount of play per player? Heading to playoffs! Know the rules on qualifications! Players with a c-rating need 2 matches, one default can count. S/A rated need 3 matches and no defaults to qualify for playoffs.**

****60% of your team must be made up from our playing area. Eligibility should be determined prior to the season, there are no refunds.**

Rosters not in compliance, are not eligible for playoffs.

Day of Match-tips

- Warm up-what time is warm up? What are the rules for a warm up? Match scheduled at 9:30—my player shows up at 9:40 –can she have a warm up? How long of warm up? Can I warm up with my own team-mate?
- You “cannot” reschedule a match when both captains agree, unless it is within our local league rules.
- Exchange of line up-5 min prior to match start time. No warm up courts-not a problem-home team is not required to provide. **START ON TIME!**
- Start your match “on-time”-other teams coming on-do I have to move my match?
- 8H. When a match is not completed by the time another team is scheduled to play and the unfinished match is halted, the home team must provide alternate court(s) within one (1) hour or report the line(s) as retired with the win going to the visiting team; if a line is starting or playing the 3rd set match tiebreak, the incoming team will wait until play is finished.
- Score Entry-compare scores with opposing team, **PUT YOUR SCORES IN!!!!** Anyone can put the scores in, there is no reason scores cannot be put in a few hours after a match, anyone can do score entry, it is not up to the home team to do score entry-help one another out on the scores.

2026 Rule Changes

- Local league rules are on the gfwtennis.com website. These are not all the rules that govern tennis, however these are for the week to week matches and the rules for our local playoffs are located here.
- 2B. Players may be added to the roster as long as there are two matches remaining in a regular league season, self rates/appeal players require three matches left in the season to register.
- Rosters 2A. All players/captains must have a USTA number/membership current throughout the league and championship progression. (Ref. 1.04E(2) National Rule). If requested, players must comply and provide proof of residency and a form of identification.

Rule change/update

- 8D. Any changes in match times/facilities will be stated on the printed schedules for each league and forwarded to the team captain. Captains should check their printed schedules at the beginning of each season, contact the coordinator with any issues.
- Captains should check with facility each week and confirm court times and availability.
- 8F. Lineups should be filled out and exchanged FIVE (5) minutes prior to match time. START YOUR MATCH ON TIME!!!
- 8I. Defaults: Captains should notify opposing captains of any defaults by 7PM the night before a scheduled match. Except in cases involving sudden emergencies or illness. Once an early default is issued, it can only be voided due to a rainout or extreme weather.

Rule Change/Update

- 8L. Defaults must be communicated prior to the line-up exchange. Unaware captain can reorder their line-up if defaults are not communicated. THIS IS IMPORTANT!
- 8M. Defaults: A team must play the majority of lines in a match. (USTA Reg 2.01C(3).) 4/5 Line league-must play 3; 3-line league, must play 2 lines. Team is subject to grievance and scores pulled for all matches in the league if the majority of lines are not played. Any team defaulting an entire match is subject to grievance and ineligible for championship play. TEAMS SHOULD NOTIFY THE COORDINATOR IN ADVANCE OF FULL

Rule update-holidays

- 12C. In the event of rain or wet courts both Captains can agree that the match is rained out.
- 13A. If a match is not played or completed on the scheduled date due to: weather, Religious Holidays, Thanksgiving (which includes the Saturday/Sunday before and after), FWUSTA League Playoffs, FWUSTA Sectionals/Nationals, or Spring Break which is March 16-20, 2026 the match must be made up within 2 weeks (14 days) from the match date, unless this is the last match of the season which must be completed within 1 week (7 days). An email must be sent to the coordinator by either captain the day of rain out. Of note, rescheduling for college spring break is not allowed.
- WHY IS MY MATCH SCHEDULED THE WEEK OF SPRING BREAK/GOOD FRIDAY?

REFRESHER!

- Difference in retirement/default-HOW TO SCORE THESE IN TENNIS LINK
 - playing and injury occurs=retirement
 - player does not show up=default-Question regarding # of defaults-
 - Lost score/called the score wrong—now what? Go back to where you do agree, CALL THE SCORE! How to handle call disagreements.
- 8G. Points played in good faith stand. If a disagreement arises, it should be resolved before play resumes. Match results will stand as played. (Friend at Court: Part 2 - The Code #2)

Weather/Rescheduling a match

- **Weather**

12F. In matches where lineups have been exchanged but match play has NOT BEGUN, a new lineup may be exchanged for the makeup match. If a default has been issued, it is now void.

12G. If a minimum of one line has served the first ball, the lineup is locked in and cannot be changed, including any defaults.

- **Rescheduling-Work together!**

13G. Match MUST be rescheduled within 3 days, until midnight of the third day and BOTH CAPTAINS must e-mail the coordinator the date, time & site for each rescheduled line. Failure to notify the league coordinator may result in a default of any lines not yet played. **13H.** If the match is unsuccessfully completed in time period allowed, then the match will be sent to GFTC Grievance for a decision

YOU MUST ALL WORK TOGETHER/CAPTAINS/PLAYERS EVERYONE, ANSWER YOUR TEXTS & CALLS!

Fall 2026 League Season

- League season – September 5th – November 15th
- - Last day to complete matches – November 22nd
- - Players may be added to the roster if there are two matches remaining in the regular league season for © rated players, (s) (a) must have 3 matches remaining to be added to roster.
- - Team rosters must be made up of 60% of players residing within the Ft Worth playing area.
- (The 60% Rule is to ensure the Ft Worth USTA playing area is represented at Sectionals/Nationals.)
- - Eligibility should be determined prior to the season since there are no refunds.

Fall 2026 continued...

- Team rosters must be made up of 60% of players residing within the Ft Worth playing area.
- (The 60% Rule is to ensure the Ft Worth USTA playing area is represented **Playoffs for the 3.0 to 4.5 levels: December 6th– 8th.**
- 3.0-4.5Format – 3 lines of doubles, 1 line of singles
- The first place teams from each flight will qualify for the playoffs-fall is a small playoff, spring is a larger playoff.

Playoffs!!

- We won! On to playoffs...consider who is available, notify coordinator within 24 hours, don't wait! Know where your team is in the standings, there is a A LOT to schedule.
- Captains-communicate with your players, communicate with coordinator! Everyone should know who captain is day of playoffs!
- Tips on dealing with team/day of playoffs-Info flows through the captain!
- Tournament desk tips-Captains notify your players where they are going—players should be reaching out to the captain, not the desk!
- Teams winning fall playoffs will receive a wild card into spring playoffs provided the team retains 50% of the players who played in the Fall. Players whose rating changes in the fall are not eligible to play in the spring playoff as these teams are advancing to sectionals/nationals.

Tennis in the GFW Tennis Area

WHAT ELSE IS IN THE AREA THAT I CAN PLAY?

****NETT-NETTLEAGUE.ORG**

*****KATCH-Spring/Fall/Summer Tournaments @ RTC & Keller HS
Tennis Courts**

****FT WORTH TENNIS ASSOCIATION-RED BALL PLAY**

****TCU-SETS IN THE CITY-Coed doubles-Ft Worth Tennis Association**

****LONESTAR-Thursday league**

Looking for Thursday teams!

3 Doubles per team, for 2.5/3.0 Players-get another day of tennis

***Doubles only! Secure your home courts!

2026 Lone Star League Thursday!

Coordinators: [Jack & Laurie Sheehy](#)

Format: 3 lines doubles

(2.5 and low 3.0/new 3.0) Thursday Mornings-Sept 4, first day of play. No playoff/advancement for this league.

Key take aways...

- *Start your matches on time

- *Put your scores in, there is no reason not to have the scores in a few hours after a match. Anyone can put the scores in.

- *Follow the local league rules found on the gfwtennis.com website; these are not all the rules that govern tennis, however they will get you through the local league matches

Tri-Level Tournament 2026

- November 7-9, Friday evening match, Saturday/Sunday @ RTC
- Matches are scheduled-no need to sit around all day-come/go watch some great tennis. Doubles tennis, one line of each for the following:
- Low Tri-3.0/3.5/4.0
- Mid Tri-3.5/4.0/4.5
- High Tri-4.0/4.5/5.0
- 6 player minimum roster-Advances to sectionals Jan 2026 (Georgetown) Nationals March 2026 in San Diego-

Wrapping it all up!

Thank you for getting your teams together, thank you for supporting tennis in the Greater Ft Worth playing area. Please reach out if there is anything we can help you with, we are here to support you through the league season. Best of luck to you all!



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

