



TENNIS

Rules

Revised July 2016

Current USTA rules will govern play. Intramural Policies, Procedures, Eligibility Requirements, etc. and specific rule modifications will take precedent. Tennis sport club members must play in the competitive division (if competitive and recreational are offered) and there shall be a limit of one tennis sport club member per doubles team.

I. COURT, PLAYERS, AND EQUIPMENT

A. Playing Court

1. The court shall measure 78 feet long and 27 feet wide.

B. Equipment

1. Individuals/teams must supply their own racquets.
2. Shoe Policy: Each player must wear athletic type shoes that cover the foot completely.
3. **Jewelry is illegal equipment.**

C. Server & Receiver

1. Individuals/team must be **ready to play** at game time or forfeit. **The supervisor's watch when present is the "official" game time. GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME.**
2. A coin toss will determine ends of the court and who will be the server or receiver. The individual winning the toss shall have first choice of options. The options for each shall be:
 - a. To choose service or receive.
 - b. To choose end of the court. The individual/team, not having the first choice, shall exercise the remaining option.
 - c. **If an individual/team allows their opponents 10 minutes to avoid a forfeit, they shall automatically receive the first choice of options.**
3. The service shall be delivered with both feet behind the base-line and within the imaginary continuations of the center-mark and the sideline. The server shall stand alternately behind the right and left halves of the court beginning from the right in every game. The ball shall pass over the net and hit the ground within the service court which is diagonally opposite.
4. At the end of the first game the receiver shall become the server and the server receiver and so on alternately in all subsequent games of the match.
5. **A match will consist of a maximum of 23 games with the first person to 12 games being declared the winner.**
6. **Games will have an hour and ten-minute time limit. The player ahead in games at the end of the hour and ten-minute time limit will be declared the winner. In the case that the number of games is tied the current game will be finished to determine the winner. There shall be no time limit on semi-final and final matches.**
7. **Scoring**
 - a. No-Ad system of scoring will be utilized.
 - b. If a player/team wins the first point the score is 15, second point 30, third point 40, and fourth point is game.
 - c. If both players/teams have won three points, the score is called deuce. One deciding point shall then be played with the winner of the deciding point scoring the game. **The receiver shall determine which service court the final point will be served.**
8. Players shall change ends at the end of the first, third, and every subsequent alternate game.
9. A ball falling on a line is regarded as falling in the court bounded by that line.

II. TENNIS DOUBLES RULE MODIFICATIONS

A. Playing Court

1. The court shall measure 78 feet long and 36 feet wide.

B. Server & Receiver

1. Service order for doubles shall be determined as follows:
 - a. The pair who has to serve in the first game of each set shall decide which partner shall do so and the opposing pair shall decide similarly for the second game. The partner of the player who served in the first game shall serve in the third; the partner of the player who served in the second game shall serve in the

- fourth, and so on in the same order in all the subsequent games of the set.
- b. The pair who has to receive the service in the first game shall decide which partner shall receive the first service and that partner shall continue to receive the first service in every odd game throughout that set. Partners shall receive the service alternately throughout each game.
 - c. Partners must receive on the same side of the court throughout all games.

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