

2007 BMW COMBO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS REGULATIONS

AMENDED TO MOVE CHECK-IN SITE 11/1/07

- Team Entry fee is \$210 for first six players (\$35/player) made payable to the LTA and mailed to 5726 Marina Bay Drive, Shreveport, La. 71119. Team entry must be received by October 26, 2007.
- Additional Tennis Link registered players will be paid for during registration at UNO TENNIS CENTER on Thursday, November 8th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and on Friday, November 9th from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 10th.
- If your initial entry fee is not received by the deadline, your team will be dropped out of the draw.
- All teams must register at a designated registration site before playing their first match
- Players are required to have played a minimum of one (1) match or received one (1) default locally to advance to the state championships

The 2007 Combo Doubles State Championship Committee members are John Liles, Tournament Chairman; Cleburne Simon, Referee; Sue Anne Stuntz, LTA Staff; Suzette Watson, Local Tournament Chair; and Celeste Bordelon, Tournament Staff.

All USTA League Tennis Regulations in 1.00 GENERAL, 2.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES and the 2007 Southern Section BMW Combo League regulations listed below shall apply.

1. All participants must be current members of the USTA.
2. All participants must reach 19 years of age for adult divisions and 50 for senior divisions during the calendar year in which they play their first local league match.
3. The format of play will be three individual men's or women's doubles matches per team match. Levels offered in this program are Adult combined levels 5.0, 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5 and 10.5 and Senior levels 5.5, 6.5, 7.5 and 8.5 where each individual doubles team's combined NTRP ratings may not exceed the level entered.
The National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) is the official system for rating levels of competition in BMW Combo Doubles. Players who do not have a computer rating on file in Tennis Link shall self-rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines and declare their self-rating on Tennis Link when registering for a team. Individuals who have had a national or section ranking; played college tennis; have taught tennis; or played professional tennis must also complete a player history form and submit to the state and receive approval from the state to participate at their self-rated level before participating in a match. Failure to do so or omission of information regarding a player's tennis history will subject the player, the captain and/or others who condoned inaccurate self-rating to sanctions and disqualification.
4. A player may not be dynamically disqualified based on match results from BMW Combo Doubles and match results are not calculated in year-end NTRP computer ratings. Players may play with the rating submitted on the roster through the Sectional Championships unless the player's year end rating is two levels above the rating on the roster.
5. Players must play in at least one local or state championship match in order to advance to the BMW Combo Doubles Sectional Championships. If there is no local or state competition offered, a team may advance directly to the BMW Combo Doubles Southern Sectional Championships. The deadline for players to register on teams that are advancing directly to the 2007 Sectional Championships is 12/31/07. Players who qualify for State or Sectional Championships may advance on (one) adult team and (one) senior team but may not advance on (two) adult or (two) senior teams.
6. Sectional Championships Competition Format: The Championships Committee shall determine the format for the competition. If round robin competition is used, then each team shall play every other team in its flight and the team with the most team points shall be champion in its flight. The use of flights requires a playoff structure to establish a champion. If single elimination competition is used, then each team shall be drawn in tournament format in accordance with the USTA Tournament Regulations.

7. Sectional Championships Scoring: All matches will be the best of two sets and the set tiebreak shall be used at 6-all in each set. In lieu of a third set, a match tiebreak shall be played. In the event of a tie, whether in round robin or single elimination competition, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so:

A. Individual Matches. Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.

B. Sets. Loser of the fewest number of sets.

C. Games. Loser of the fewest number of games.

D. Head-to-Head. Winner of head-to-head match.

E. A method to be determined by the championships committee: procedure to be announced prior to commencement of championship competition.

F. 3.03D (1) Round Robin Playoff Format. NTRP levels with three (3) flights with the same number of teams will be single elimination with a fourth team receiving a wild card slot. When the number of teams in each flight is equal, the second place team with the most team points will be given the wild card slot. When the number of teams in each flight is not equal, the team winning the highest percentage of individual courts will be awarded the wild card. Any tie will be broken by the tie-break procedure stated in 3.03I- USTA League Tennis 2007 Regulations.

8. Defaults. A minimum of 6 team members who were on the final roster of their local league team at the conclusion of local league play must be available and eligible to compete at the State and Sectional Championships. The Tournament Committee can reduce that number to not less than four. A team may default a maximum of one position in a match without defaulting the entire match. Said position shall be the No. 3 doubles.

A. Scoring of Individual Defaults: Defaults will be scored as a 6-0, 6-0 win for the player (doubles team) receiving the default and a 6-0, 6-0 loss for the player (doubles team) that defaulted the match. In the event of a default by both opposing players (teams), both sides will be given a 6-0,

6-0 loss and neither receives credit for a win. NOTE: If a double default results in a tie, the tie-break procedure shall be the same as listed above in order to determine a winner of that team match.

B. Scoring of Team Defaults. If a team defaults an entire team match for any reason during round robin play, then all matches of that team played or to be played, shall be null and void. If all teams in contention for the Championships have already played the defaulting team, the matches stand as played. The section may impose further sanctions or penalties on said team.

C. Retirement. A retirement occurs when an individual match has started and a player (doubles team) is unable to continue due to injury, loss of condition or emergency.

D. Scoring of Retirements. In case of a retirement, the non-retiring player (doubles team) shall be credited with such number of additional games as would have been won if the match was completed and the non-retiring player (doubles team) won every subsequent game.

9. States will appoint Self-Rate NTRP Grievance and Grievance Appeal Committees with approval of the USTA Southern Section. These committee will have jurisdiction over grievances filed against any player and/or captain who commits or condones entering at one level when their actual skill level is at the top of the next NTRP level or higher. (USTA Interpretation, May, 2004). Self-Rate NTRP Grievances filed within two weeks of the start date of the player's and/or captain's State or Sectional Championships will be administered after the event unless the state or section 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 and/or captains that are suspended will not be eligible to advance to the next level of championship play.

The tournament referee has banned the use of cell phone during tournament matches. Players must turn off their cell phones prior to the start of their match. Cell phone rings during a match will result in a point penalty for the first offense, a game penalty for the second offense and a default for the third.

The Grievance Committee will be Cleburne Simon, Referee and two (2) Local League Coordinators at the tournament and not involved in the grievance.