

2008 Louisiana State Championships Procedures (12/05/2007)

The Louisiana State Championships Procedures shall be followed in all State Championships held for these USTA League Tennis programs: Adult, Senior, Mixed Doubles, Super Senior; BMW Combo Doubles (Adult, Senior, Super Senior), and Senior Mixed Doubles. Local leagues played at (during) State Championships shall follow National Regulations regarding Competition Format (3.01H).

Team Selection:

- All Programs except USTA Mixed Doubles: Each local league that enrolls a minimum of two (2) teams at an NTRP level shall send the winner to the State Tournament. Local leagues enrolling fourteen (14) or more teams at a specific NTRP level will receive two (2) entries and local leagues enrolling twentyone (21) or more teams will receive three (3) entries into the state tournament. No local league will have more than three (3) teams at any level. (3.02B)
- USTA Mixed Doubles: Each local league that enrolls a minimum of two (2) teams at an NTRP level shall send the winner to the state tournament. Local leagues enrolling 14 teams will receive 2 entries to the state tournament. Additional entries to the state tournament will be awarded to local leagues based on the number of teams in the NTRP level (1 entry for every 7 teams over 14). No local league shall have more than 6 teams at an NTRP level.
- At the discretion of the League Council, wild card teams may be added to the Championships draw to optimize tournament scheduling. (3.02B(1)) Wild card selection process: After all 14 and 21 team local leagues have been awarded, the State shall examine the ratio of "team in league/championship entries". The local league with the highest ratio will be awarded the next wild card. Example: If local league A has 16 teams and local league B has 13 teams, then local league A is awarded 2 teams automatically and local league B is awarded 1. If another wild card slot were available, then if local league A is awarded the slot its ratio would be 16/3, but if local league B is awarded the slot its ratio is 13/2. Local league B has the higher ratio and would be awarded the wildcard. Team selection in the event of a tie in number of teams in 2 or more local leagues will be decided by random draw (local league names in hat, one drawn by State League Program Coordinator). An ordered list of potential wildcard teams by NTRP level will be published with the tournament draw. Teams from this list will be asked to replace teams that withdraw more than ten (10) days prior to the start of the Championship. The League Council gives the State League Program Coordinator authority to fill vacancies in the draw that occur ten (10) days or less prior to the start of the Championship. This will be the wildcard process for all Championships in Louisiana.

Format:

- Round robin play in all levels of competition. Each team shall be scheduled for a minimum of 4 matches during a 4 day event, 3 matches during a 3 day event with the following exception: Best of three matches shall be the format for any NTRP level that has only one (1) Local League winner (determined prior to the State Championships) and the Local League at State winner (played during the State Championships). A double round robin may be scheduled, if necessary, to provide these matches. Levels may be divided into flights as necessary based on number of teams in the draw. Levels with multiple flights shall state format for determining champion in event Championship Regulations – single elimination finals or semi-final & final, for example.
- NTRP levels with three (3) flights (where each flight has the same number of teams) will be single elimination with a fourth team receiving a wild card slot. The second place team with the most team points will be given the wild card slot. If any of the flights have a different number of teams, the second place team with the highest percentage of games won vs. games played in the round robin shall receive the wild card. Any tie will be broken by the tie-break procedure stated in 3.03I – USTA League Tennis 2008 Regulations. The second place team shall be placed into the semifinal play-off as follows: Winner, flight 1 vs. Second place team; Winner, flight 2 vs. Winner, flight 3. If a draw results in the second place team playing against the first place team from its own flight, the draw shall be altered as follows: second place team shall exchange places with team listed first in the other semi-final. (National Procedure 9/13/2006)

Eligibility:

- All players must possess current USTA memberships through the State Tournament.
- **Adult Division:** Team members are eligible to advance to championship level competition if that player has played on that same team in at least 2 matches during its local league season. A maximum

of 1 default received by the player during local league competition shall count for advancing to State Championships. (3.03A(2)N)

- A minimum of eight (five for 2.5 & 5.0 levels) 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. The Championships Tournament Committee, by majority vote, can reduce that number to not less than four (three for 2.5 & 5.0 levels). (3.03A(4)N, 3.06C(1)N)
- **Senior Division:** Team members are eligible to advance to championship level competition if that player has played on that same team in at least 2 matches during its local league season. A maximum of 1 default received by the player during local league competition shall count for advancing to State Championships. (3.03A(2)N)
 - A minimum of six 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. The Championships Tournament Committee, by majority vote, can reduce that number to not less than four. (4.04B(1)N)
- **Mixed Doubles Division:** Mixed doubles players must have participated in 2 matches at the local level (1 default will count) in order to advance to any Championships (5.03A(4)NATIONAL).
- A minimum of six team members (three women and three men) who were on the final roster of their local league team at the conclusion of local league play must be available and eligible to combine and compete. The Championships Tournament Committee, by majority vote, may reduce that number to not less than four. (5.03A(3)N)
- **Senior Mixed Doubles:** Team members are eligible to advance to championship level competition if that player has played on that same team in at least 1 match (1 of which may be a default received) during its local league season.
 - A minimum of six team members (three women and three men) who were on the final roster of their local league team at the conclusion of local league play must be available and eligible to combine and compete. The Championships Tournament Committee, by majority vote, may reduce that number to not less than four.
- **BMW Combo Doubles:** Team members are eligible to advance to championship level competition if that player has played on that same team in at least 1 match (1 of which may be a default received) during its local league season.
 - A minimum of six 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 combine and compete. The Championships Tournament Committee, by majority vote, may reduce that number to not less than four.

Entry Fee & Deposit Requirements:

- Championship Entry Fee: \$35.00/player
- All teams advancing to the state championship including the teams playing their local league at the state championship such as the 4.5 men and women, etc. will be required to submit a \$35 per player deposit made payable to the LTA on or before 2 weeks prior to the State Championship. The \$35 per player deposit will represent the minimum number of players required to advance to championship competition. Deadline dates for 2008 and the minimum \$35 per player deposit required for each league division are:
 - Senior State: Friday, April 11, 2008
 - Adult State: All teams regardless of Session I or II: Friday, May 2, 2008
 - Mixed State: Friday, August 15, 2008
 - Senior Mixed: Friday, September 5, 2008
 - Combo State: Friday, October 24, 2008
 - Senior Combo: TBA
 - Super Seniors: Friday, September 19, 2008
- The \$35 per player deposit must be received by the LTA, 9270 Siegen Lane, Suite 702, Baton Rouge, LA 70810 on or before the dates posted above.
- The \$35 per player deposit will be applied to the team entry fee at time of registration for the state championship.
- Team Withdrawal more than ten (10) days prior to the start of the Championship: The \$35 per player deposit will be returned should a team withdraw from the state championship after they have submitted the \$35 per player deposit AND a substitute team has committed to fill the vacancy. Substitute teams

will also be required to submit the \$35 per player deposit within a time frame determined by the Championship committee.

- Team Withdrawal ten (10) days or less prior to the start of the Championship: Team deposit will be returned **ONLY AFTER REVIEW BY THE CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE**. The team captain must request this review in writing to the Championship Committee.
- A team may be returned the \$35 per player deposit without completing all of their state championship matches and/or withdrawing from the state championship prior to the first scheduled match under special circumstances approved by the Championship committee which could include but are not limited to the team's request to withdraw from the championship due to inclement weather where the team's withdrawal does not affect the winner of their division and/or special circumstances which warrant such action by the Championship Committee. Teams requesting the return of the \$35 per player deposit must request such in writing to the Championship Committee.
- A team forfeiting an entire team match during championship play may receive further penalties imposed by the tournament committee.