



**USTA/SOUTH CAROLINA SOUTHERN COMBO DOUBLES REGULATIONS
ADULT AND SENIOR
League Year 2009-Revised 5 /23/2009**

0.00 INTRODUCTION

- 0.01** USTA South Carolina Combo Doubles League Program is team competition for Adult men and women with combined levels of 5.0, 5.5 – 10.5. Local winning teams have the opportunity to advance to State competition. The League also offers Senior league competition at the 5.5 – 8.5 combined levels. Local winning Senior teams may advance to State competition. All State rules as outlined apply to Adult and Senior Combo Doubles League unless otherwise noted. A player may compete in both Senior and Adult Combo Doubles League in accordance with the appropriate rules.
- 0.02** USTA South Carolina has appointed the SC Combo Doubles State League Coordinator to organize and coordinate all USTA Southern Combo Doubles league activities in the South Carolina State Combo League and to interpret the South Carolina State Combo Doubles League Tennis Regulations.
- 0.03** All participants must be a current member of the USTA and reach 19 years of age prior to or during the calendar year in which they play their first local league match.
- 0.04** All Senior players must reach 50 years of age prior to or during the calendar year in which they play their first local league match.
- 0.05** All players, teams and Local Leagues must abide by USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennis Regulations and USTA South Carolina Combo Doubles Tennis Rules and Regulations.
- 0.06** Local Leagues may write regulations to govern local play. USTA Southern Combo Doubles Regulations and USTA South Carolina Combo Doubles Regulations take precedence over Local League Regulations.
- 0.07** Local League Rules and Regulations must be approved by the Combo Doubles State League Coordinator prior to the start of the Local League Season.
- 0.08** Local League Rules and Regulations must be distributed to Team Captains, along with USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennis Regulations, and USTA South Carolina Combo Rules and Regulations before League Season begins.

Paragraph numbering for the following sections is done in accordance with the numbering format of the USTA Southern Regulations. Topics addressed in specific paragraphs of the USTA South Carolina Combo Doubles Regulations relate to the same topics in the same paragraphs of the aforesaid regulations

1.00 GENERAL

1.11 Membership

1.11B All players must be current members of USTA and USTA South Carolina through the Combo Doubles Local League season, including local play-offs. USTA South Carolina's head tax is \$6.00 per player.

1.14 Registration.

1.14A(1) Rosters.

Rosters must be entered in TennisLink before League play begins. Players may not move to a different team once match play has begun for that level, unless approved by the State Combo Doubles League Coordinator. Players may not be added to the team roster during local league flight playoffs or at any championship. The Combo Doubles State League Coordinator will inform Local Leagues of add-on deadlines for State Championships.

1.14(3) General Registration.

Teams playing their Local League during Combo Doubles Championships must be entered into TennisLink by September 18, 2009.

2.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES.

2.01 Committees.

2.01A Grievance Committees. Grievances will be handled by the appropriate Grievance Committee. Committee members are subject to change as the need arises.

SC Combo Doubles Grievance Committee:

Bob Peiffer, Chairman
Mary Anna Scott, Member
Bonnie Sue Duncan, Member

2.01B Grievance Appeals Committee. Grievance appeals will be handled by the appropriate Grievance Appeals Committee. Committee members are subject to change as the need arises.

SC Combo Doubles Grievance Appeals Committee:

Dee Vaughan, Chairman
Royce Borden, Member
Joyce Harrison, Member

GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT.

2.02A General Procedures.

2.02A(2) A complaint against the Administration of the League shall be filed and heard in the same manner as any other complaint. Any complaint against the Combo State League Coordinator shall be filed in writing with the USTA Southern Section Adult Leagues Committee. A grievance decision can be appealed to a USTA Southern Section Grievance Appeal Committee. The Grievance Appeal Committee decision is final and binding.

2.02A(3) All complaints with regard to any aspect of the Combo Doubles League Tennis Program shall be processed through the USTA Southern Section League Tennis Program Grievance and Grievance Appeal Committees at the appropriate level (i.e. local, area, sectional, regional combo doubles.). Decisions of such Grievance Appeal Committees shall be final and binding except with regard to suspensions of players or teams for a period of 12 months or more.

202B Self-Rate Grievances Complaint. Self rated players who enter the Combo Doubles Tennis league by misrepresenting their actual skill level are considered to have violated the standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship and may be subject to a grievance complaint and possible disqualification.

202 B(1) Self-Rate NTRP Grievances filed within two weeks of the start date of the players' and/or captain's State 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.

2.02B(2) Self-Rate NTRP Grievances. Self-Rate NTRP grievances shall come under the jurisdiction of the Section Grievance and Grievance Appeals Committees. Grievance Complaints will be sent to the State League Coordinator to be forwarded to the Section Grievance Committee.

3.00 COMBO DOUBLES LEAGUE REGULATIONS

3.01 LOCAL LEAGUE

3.01(A) Number of Teams. When a Local League does not have the required number of teams (two teams), in either the Adult Division or the Senior Division, to constitute a level, the State League Coordinator, in consultation with affected Local League Coordinators, shall either:

Assign the singleton team to another Local League, in which case, (a) the assigned team will register on TennisLink in the Local (host) League to which it is assigned and pay the fees and abide by the rules of the host league; (b) the host league will make the rule regarding travel for matches.

Group the singleton team with other singleton teams (Adult or Senior Divisions) in the state and schedule a playoff among those teams to determine advancement to the State Championships. The State League Coordinator will decide on the date(s), playoff structure, and designate the site and Local (host) League.

3.01D ENTRY.

3.01D(2) Players who do not have a computer rating on file in TennisLink shall self-rate in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines and complete the self-rating process on TennisLink when registering for a team. 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.

3.01E LEVELS OF PLAY.

The levels offered will be combined (5.0, 5.5, 6.5,7.5,8.5, 9.5,10.5 Adults and 5.5,6.5,7.5, 8.5, Seniors)
*****The combined levels of each doubles pair cannot exceed the team level.*****

3.01G SCORING AND REST Local Leagues have the option to use or not use the Match Tiebreak (first to 10 by a margin of 2) in lieu of a third set in Local League play, including playoffs.

3.01H COMPETITION FORMAT

301H (1) Format of play will be three individual men's and women's doubles matches per team match.

3.01H(2) Team Match and Scoring.

- a. Local Leagues may make a rule regarding the maximum number of forfeits allowed teams during the Local League Season.
- b. A Local League may set their policy for players' presence on court to receive a forfeit.
- c. All matches played by a team that drops out of the League during the League Season will be used as forfeits to qualify players for Championship play.
- d. Retirements will be used to qualify all players involved in the retired match for Championship play.

3.01H(4) Team Lineups. An individual match is started when the first ball is put in play. After the start of an individual match, if injury to, illness of, or disqualification of a player occurs, the opponents will be awarded a forfeit for that individual match only. The forfeit principles shall be applicable, with the Sectional modifications that:

- a. In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no-show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (once the lineup has been exchanged), a team may substitute a player in the affected position within the 15-minute default time, using a player not already listed on the lineup. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position will be forfeited in local leagues.
- b. In the event that a team match must be re-scheduled and starting times are staggered, where opponents are not available and ready to play, forfeits will be awarded in the affected position only.
- c. Local Leagues may make a rule regarding rescheduling of matches due to inclement weather.

301H(5) Player Participation.

3.01H(5)b During the South Carolina Combo Doubles Local League Season a player may play on more than one combined level in Adult and/or Senior divisions in the **same** Local League during the same season.

3.01H(5)c

(1) A player may not play at the same combined level in the same division (Adult or Senior) on teams in separate Local Leagues in South Carolina Combo Doubles during the same season.

(2) A player may play at different combined levels in the same division (Adult or Senior) on teams in separate Local Leagues in South Carolina during the same season.

(3) A player from another state (as defined by the player's primary residence as listed in USTA records) may not participate in South Carolina without approval by the Local League Coordinator representing the area that is affected and the State League Coordinator. A player playing out of his/her home state without obtaining prior approval may be subject to sanctions, which may include disqualification from further play and voiding of matches already played. Sanctions may be applied to the team captain as well. A player from another state who previously received approval to play in South Carolina and who has played in South Carolina in every year since that approval was granted, need not reapply for approval to play in 2009 in the same local league and the same division (adult or senior) as in 2008.

3.01H(5)d Players who qualify for South Carolina Combo Doubles State League Championships may advance on more than one Adult or one Senior team in the 2009 Combo Doubles League State Championships, but they may advance to the Sectional Championships on no more than one adult and one senior team.

PROGRESSION

3.02A Local League Competition. Each Local League MUST complete their Local League Season prior to the South Carolina Combo Doubles State League Championships and submit the required team entry fees and information to the Combo Doubles State League Coordinator by October 15, 2009.

3.02B State Championships.

(1) All participants must be on the roster and have played at least one match locally in the Adult Division in order to be eligible to compete at Combo Doubles League State Championships and at least one match in the Senior Division in order to be eligible to compete at Combo Doubles League State Championships.

(2) The following number of teams at the 6.5 Adults and 7.5 Adults levels per Local League will be qualified to go to the Combo Doubles League State Championships.

<u>2-19</u>	teams	<u>1 team</u>
<u>20-39</u>	teams	<u>2 teams</u>
<u>40 or More</u>	teams	<u>3 teams</u>

(2a) The following number of teams at the Adult and Senior Divisions, 5.0, 5.5, 8.5, 9.5 and 10.5 levels per Local League will be qualified to go to the Combo Doubles League State Championships.

<u>2-12</u>	teams	<u>1 team</u>
<u>13-24</u>	teams	<u>2 teams</u>
<u>25 or More</u>	teams	<u>3 teams</u>

Combined Levels with 8, (cap of 8), or fewer teams around the state will play their local league at the South Carolina Combo Doubles State League Championships. Any play at the local league level will not qualify the individuals for advancement to the Sectional Championships with that team.

(3) Play-offs may be required to determine advancement to Combo Doubles League State Championships between Local Leagues/levels that only have two teams in a level; this applies to both Adult and Senior Leagues.

(4) A Default received counts as a qualifying match for both Adult and Senior Combo Doubles State League Championships.

(5) For all players involved, a Retirement counts as a qualifying match for Adult and Senior Combo Doubles League State Championships.

(6) The winner of each level at the Combo Doubles League State Championships will be allowed to advance to the Sectional Championships in Mobile, Alabama, January 22-25, 2010

(7) Teams that withdraw from the Championships after the roster/fee submittal deadline will default fees. A team substituted for the withdrawing team will be responsible only for any additional championship players exceeding the number of players submitted on withdrawing team.

(8) CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW: The Championship Draw is a random draw done by the championship referee before league competition is completed. Where possible, however, teams from the same local league will be put in separate flights. The number of flights at a given level will depend on the number of teams eligible. A flight typically will have four teams and the referee may elect to add wildcard teams to balance out flights [see item (12)]. In the case of three flights, a wildcard will be drawn at random

(from the numbers 1, 2, 3) by the referee on the final day of round-robin play to determine which flight's second place team will play in the semifinals. The wildcard team will play a team from another flight.

(9) WILDCARD PROCEDURE: (a) Wildcards will be chosen from a random draw based on the number of teams and positions by Area from the current Combo season. The number of teams an area has will be divided by the number of positions that area qualifies for State Championships. This number will determine the total chances the Area will have in the random draw. A Team that is drawn for a Wildcard and used at a particular level will NOT BE ELIGIBLE to have a wildcard at the same level the following year unless there are not enough teams available to complete the draw.

(b) If a team drops out of the championship schedule at the last minute and there are no other teams left in the level for drawing a wildcard the Combo Doubles State League Coordinator then has the option to replace that team with a team that received a wildcard the previous year. If this should happen any team that has been used as a wildcard for replacement purposes will be eligible for a wildcard the following year.

(c) The State League Coordinator will draw wildcard as needed when a level doesn't have enough teams to make a level.

(d) Two-team levels will not be eligible for a wildcard.

(10) Scheduling at Combo Doubles League State Championships will not be able to accommodate players who compete in both Adult and Senior divisions, and who compete on multiple levels.

(11) The Combo Doubles League State Championships will be a round robin format.

(12) Entry fee for Combo Doubles League State Championships will be \$20.00 per Championship participant.

