



Columbia Tennis League
Combo Doubles Regulations
Adult, Senior, & Super Senior
League Year 2010

0.00 **INTRODUCTION**

0.02 The following person has been appointed to implement and administer the Columbia Tennis League Combo Doubles League:

Nan R. Smith
223 Aiken Hunt Circle
Columbia, SC 29223
803-736-3488
scauburn79@sc.rr.com

0.06 All players must abide by USTA Southern Combo Doubles Tennis Regulations, SC Combo Doubles Tennis Rules and Regulations, and Columbia Tennis League Combo Doubles Regulations.

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

1.0 **GENERAL**

1.11 **Membership**

1.11B All players must be current members of USTA and USTA SC through October 2010. USTA SC head tax per player is \$6.00, TennisLink fee is \$3.00. Balance of fee is administrative, court fees for play-offs, and prizes for Columbia Tennis League combo doubles winners.

1.14 **Registration**

Players may be added to rosters until August 10th.

2.0 **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

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

Columbia Tennis League Grievance Committee:
Bill Brannon, Chairman
Colleen Freeman
Level Coordinator – CTL Combo Doubles

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

Columbia Tennis League Appeals Committee:
Mary Anna Scott, Chairman
Twanda Mickle
Clay Busto

GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT

2.02A General Procedures

Grievance complaints may be filed not only for infractions of the regulations, but also for failing to abide by good conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship. Such grievances must be filed in writing with the CTL Combo Doubles Coordinator prior to commencement of the next team match involving such player or team, or within 24 hours after the end of the local league play, whichever occurs first. A complaint based on ineligibility may be filed at any time after learning the person is ineligible. The CTL Combo Doubles coordinator will immediately pass the grievance to the chairman of the CTL grievance committee.

2.02A(2) Grievance Complaints concerning CTL Administration

All grievances against the CTL administration of the USTA League Tennis Program wherein the complaint alleges that a coordinator or committee has violated National, Sectional, State or Local Regulations will be handled by the USTA Southern Section Leagues Grievance and Grievance Appeals Committees.

2.02B NTRP Grievances Complaint

All self-rate grievances are now referred to as NTRP grievances.

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.

Grievances against such players may be filed by the Local Combo Doubles Coordinator, a team captain, or a league official. Such grievances will be reviewed and decided by a Self-Rate Eligibility Grievance Committee appointed and convened by the Southern Section League Coordinator.

Grievance forms can be found at the SCTA web page -
<http://www.southcarolina.usta.com/Adults / Seniors/Leagues/>
Or you may request a copy from your local coordinator, Nan R. Smith, at scauburn79@sc.rr.com.

202B(2) NTRP Grievances

These complaints should be first delivered to the Local Combo Doubles Coordinator, who will forward them to the State Combo Doubles Coordinator, who will forward them to the Section League Coordinator.

3.00 COMBO DOUBLES LEAGUE REGULATIONS

3.01 LOCAL LEAGUE

3.01(A) Number of Teams

If teams are assigned from other leagues and/or tennis associations to play in the Columbia Combo Doubles Tennis League, those teams will have home and away matches on the same basis as regular member teams of the Columbia Combo Doubles Tennis League. Teams assigned to play in the Columbia Combo Doubles League may be required by the CTL League Coordinator to play its home matches at a CTL facility designated by the CTL League Coordinator and to pay any associated court fees to the CTL facility for home matches.

3.01D(2) A self-rated player who has previously self-rated for another league must continue to play at that same self-rating during the combo doubles season.

3.01E LEVELS OF PLAY

The combined levels of each doubles pair cannot exceed the team level. Players CAN be more than one point rating level apart. (A 2.5 & 4.0 player can play at the 6.5 level) The maximum level of play allowed at the combined 5.0 is 2.5. There is no maximum rated level at all other combo doubles levels of play.

3.01G SCORING AND REST

A Match Tiebreak (first to 10 by a margin of 2) will be used in lieu of a third set for all CTL combo league matches, including play-offs. The Coman Tiebreak will be used for all sets at local league play when the score is 6-6. The Coman Tiebreak will also be used in the Match Tiebreak for the third set.

3.01 H COMPETITION FORMAT

3.01H (2) TEAM MATCH AND SCORING

- (1) Each team match in the CTL Combo Doubles Tennis League shall consist of three doubles matches.
- (2) The team winning two out of three matches in a team match shall be awarded one team point.
- (3) Flight standings at the end of the regular season shall be in the order of the number of team points won, i.e., the winner of the flight competition shall be the team with the most team points at the end of the season, etc. In the event that two or more teams in a flight have the same number of team points at the end of the season, the tie shall be broken in the following manner:
 - (i) Winner of the most individual matches during the season.
 - (ii) Loser of the fewest number of sets during the season.
 - (iii) Loser of the fewest number of games during the season.
 - (iv) Winner of head-to-head match.
 - (v) Toss of coin by Combo Doubles Coordinator.
- (4) When there are two or more flights within a division level, the teams will be ranked for city play-offs in order of flight winners first and then flight runner-up. Team rankings for winners and runner-up teams will be determined based on team matches won, or highest winning percentage of team matches when the flights do not contain the same number of teams. Rankings and tie-break procedures will be done in the same manner described above in I (3) (i, ii, iii, iv and v).
- (5) Match scores are to be entered into TennisLink within 48 hours of the end of the match. While either team may enter the score, **it is recommended the captain of the winning team enter the score.**

- (i) If match scores are not entered into TennisLink within 48 hours, a team will receive a warning. Any additional occurrences of not entering the score within 48 hours of match completion may result in the match being excluded when determining the division/flight standings.
- (ii) The captain of the losing team (or the team not entering the results in TennisLink) will verify that the scores have been entered correctly. The verifying captain will either confirm on TennisLink that the match score as reported is accurate, or will dispute the score if he/she believes an error has been made and that the reported score is incorrect. The captain disputing the score must notify the Level Coordinator that a match has been disputed and the basis for the disputed score. Please copy the other captain in the correspondence. **Refer to the match number when reporting a dispute and provide specific information of the dispute.**
- (iii) The verification of the match score must be completed within 48 hours of the score being entered into TennisLink. After 48 hours, the reported score will be assumed to be correct, and there will be no opportunity to correct a score even if it is wrong.
- (iv) It is strongly recommended that the two captains compare notes at the end of the match in order to decrease the probability of any errors being entered into TennisLink.

Team Lineups.

- (1) The two team captains shall exchange their team lineups in writing simultaneously, prior to the beginning of the team match but no later than the scheduled start time of the match. No substitution may be made in an individual match after the lineup has been presented, except for injury to, illness of, disqualification or no-show of a player. 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 substitution can be made, the affected position will be defaulted, except: If two players in the lineup, not playing with each other, do not show, then the two partners who did show will form a partnership, if it is an otherwise valid partnership, and play together in the higher lineup position.
- (2) Starting Match Play. All individual matches will begin (i.e., the first serve will be made) within fifteen minutes of the scheduled start time. All warm-ups, including service warm-ups, should be concluded prior to fifteen minutes after the scheduled start time. (Exception: All players will be allowed a five-minute warm-up even if this means starting the match after the mandatory start time.)
- (3) A default occurs when a team captain cannot field all positions for a team match. Defaults must be given "from the bottom" except as provided for in paragraph J (1) above. i.e. The No. 3 doubles must be defaulted before the No. 2 doubles, and the No. 2 doubles must be defaulted before the No. 1 doubles may be defaulted.
- (4) To receive a win by default, the non-defaulting player or players must be present on court, ready to play; however, if a team captain advises his/her opponent in advance of the default, he/she, in effect, waives the requirement for the non-defaulting player(s) to be present in order to receive the default.
- (5) If a captain is advised prior to the match that the opponent must default one or more positions and that captain knows that he/she would also have had to default a position, it is incumbent upon that captain to demonstrate good sportsmanship and declare a double default rather than to accept the win.
- (6) If a team defaults an individual match during or prior to the line-up exchange, and inclement weather forces the match to be postponed before a point is played in any individual match, the default is cancelled and a team can be placed in the line-up when the match is rescheduled.
- (7) If both teams default the same position, neither team will receive a win and the scorecard will indicate a double default.
- (8) Each team will be allowed one individual match default per team match. For example, if a team has 7 matches on the schedule, they will be allowed no more than 7 individual match defaults. **If a team exceeds the allowed number of defaults or if the team defaults one entire match (i.e. two out of three positions in the team match), the league will file a grievance against that team.** The grievance committee shall determine what appropriate action should be taken which may include forfeiture of all matches and/or disqualification from the next season. A captain has the right to appeal.

3.01H(4)

c. Inclement Weather during Regular Season

(1) It is the responsibility of the home team captain to determine whether weather conditions warrant the postponement of a regular season team match. If teams have assembled and have started play or are waiting to start play, they should be prepared to wait one hour to determine if the courts are playable. It is recommended the home team captain consult with the visiting team captain prior to making the "play/no play" decision, especially if match play has already begun.

(2) If match play has not begun (i.e., no individual match has started), the team captains will decide, within 48 hours, on a mutually agreeable make-up date and inform the level coordinator. This make-up date must be within two weeks of the scheduled date of the postponed match, except as stated below.

(4). If the two captains cannot mutually agree on a make-up date, the level coordinator will establish the make-up date and time. Team lineups on the make-up day do not have to be the same as they were on the day of the postponement even if the lineups had already been exchanged, and any defaults given during or prior to the line-up exchange are cancelled.

(3) If match play has begun (i.e., at least one point played in one individual match), completed matches will stand as played, incomplete matches must be resumed by the same players at the exact set, game and point score as when play was halted, and matches not started may change the players listed on the line-up. Defaults given prior or during the line-up exchange will stand if match play has begun on the other courts. The incomplete matches or unstarted matches do not have to be played at the same time and date, but can be arranged by the individuals involved in each of the individual matches. The decision when individual matches will be resumed must be made within 48 hours and the matches played within 2 weeks, except as stated below in K (4). The level coordinator will establish the make-up date and time if the players cannot agree.

(4) All make-up matches must be completed by the Saturday following the last scheduled match of the regular local league season for each division. If there is a city play-off, the league coordinator may require an earlier time for completing make-up matches, and will set a date/time for completion which will be binding on the teams.

SCHEDULING ACCOMODATION of CTL local league matches for CTL teams advancing to State, Sectional or National Championships:

Should a CTL team progress to the State or Sectional Tennis Championship playoffs, team captains shall make accommodations in CTL local league team match play when the affected team cannot field the required teams to complete a scheduled CTL Combo Doubles match. Rescheduling procedure should follow the inclement weather guidance and the Level Coordinator be advised of such.

Columbia Tennis League does NOT reschedule matches due to conflicts with other league play, such as Lexington Area Tennis Association.

COACHING AND SPORTSMANSHIP

- a. No coaching will be permitted once play has begun.
- b. There are no linesmen or referees for CTL matches .Players are responsible for their own calls and should abide by "The Code".
- c. Spectators may not aid players in making a line call or in determining the correct score. Spectators should not participate in the match in any way and should refrain from doing so even if asked by the players
- d. Spectators may quietly watch a match in progress. They should not sit or stand at the end of the court immediately behind the servers or receivers if it is distracting to the players. Spectators may quietly clap for points well played. It should be remembered that the well-played point should be applauded regardless of who won the point. It is poor tennis etiquette to clap for unforced errors
- e. It is the responsibility of the team captain to control the noise and behavior of team spectators. Loud, boisterous or unsportsmanlike behavior is unacceptable. If a problem arises with a spectator, both players should ask the spectator to refrain from the offensive behavior. If the behavior persists, the team captains should be summoned to handle the situation. If necessary, a grievance should be filed.
- f. Coaches and club professionals must not interfere in discussions or negotiations between players or captains unless specifically asked by both captains for advice. Even then, it is the responsibility of the two captains, not the coach or professional, to decide on the appropriate resolution.

g. Disputes should be settled between players as soon as they arise. All points played in good faith stand. Players should be able to resolve any dispute by themselves.

PROGRESSION

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 and Super 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, Senior and Super 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>

You may advance to the state championships on more than one team at the same level from different local leagues. There will be NO scheduling accommodations made for such players and/or teams.