



2025 Mississippi Jr Team Tennis Summer Championship Regulations

Team Coaches/Managers:

Each team captain registered in Tennislink must have completed the USTA Jr Team Tennis Background Check and Safe Play requirements. If a captain's previous background check has expired, they will need to go to www.usta.com/safeplay and sign in with the email address and password used for their USTA ACCOUNT and complete the background check and Safe Play video. Once the background screening is complete, that website will show 3 green checkmarks at the top and the captain is eligible to be linked to their JTT teams in TennisLink.

Player Participation More Than One Team:

Players may play on more than one team in the same local league in our state, as long as they are in different age divisions. For example, a player can play on a 14 and under team and an 18 and under team. That player can only play on one of those teams though if advancing to ANY championship. A player may play in the same age division in SEPARATE local leagues, but must choose only one team to play with at the state tournament.

More Than One Match: (State Only)

Players are not allowed to play more than once in a match.

Team Composition:

12U, 14U, and 18U teams must have at least 3 boys and 3 girls on the original roster to be eligible for advancement. Teams cannot sign up for State if they do not have at least 6 players on the original roster. IF teams have 6 players on the original roster but all of the players can't come to State, that team may THEN use the substitution rule, but must have 6 players committed to sign up for State.

10U teams no longer have to be composed of specific gender and must have a minimum of 4 players on the original roster to be eligible for advancement. Teams cannot sign up for State if they do not have at least 4 players on the original roster. IF teams have 4 players on the original roster but all of the players can't come to State, that team may THEN use the substitution rule, but teams must have 4 players committed to sign up for State.

Substitutions 12U, 14U, and 18U Age Divisions:

After local play is complete and you are advancing to state or the invitational;

Substitutes cannot exceed more than 50% of a team's original roster.

- In no event can more than 4 substitutes (2 boys & 2 girls) be added to a roster.

Examples of what teams can do:

- Teams with 1 boy and 1 girl are ineligible to participate since adding players exceeds 50% of the Original team.
- Teams with 2 boys and 2 girls can add only 2 boys and 2 girls to their team.

- Teams with 3 boys and 3 girls can add only 1 boy and 1 girl to their team.
- Teams with 4 boys and 4 girls (or more) cannot add any players.
- Teams with 3 players for one gender, and 1 player for the other, can add two players to the gender with 1 player.

Example of what teams cannot do:

- Teams with any variation 0 & 3 (boys or girls) can NOT add 3 players to the gender with 0 players, and 0 players to the gender with 3 players.

Substitutions 10U Age Division:

After local play is complete and you are advancing to state or the invitational, teams may add players using the following rules;

- Teams with 5 or more players cannot add a substitute.
- Teams with 4 players can add a maximum of ONE substitute player.
- Teams with TWO or THREE players are allowed to add a maximum of TWO substitute players.

ALL substitutes or players added have to have qualified by playing matches with their team in the local league, OR, be registered on a local team that came straight to state.

Substitutes cannot exceed 50% of a team's original roster.

- ✓ **All substitutions must be approved by the state coordinator.**

State Championship Match Format: (State Only)

12U, 14U, and 18U - One girl and boys singles, one girl and boys doubles match. (No Mixed at State)

10U – 2 singles matches and one doubles matches. (Gender Neutral)

Coaching:

In our state and section, coaching is allowed by one person during a match (whomever is designated the coach or captain for that match, although that may be a different person each match, it doesn't have to be the captain). Coaching is only allowed during changeovers. It is not allowed during tiebreaks, after the first game of a set, or by hand signals during play.

Eligibility for Progression:

In order to advance to the summer Mary Hatfield Invitational Championship in 2025, all players must be registered on the local team they are representing.

In order for a team to come straight to state without local play, they are the **ONLY** team registered in the division and all players advancing to the championship **MUST** be registered on the local team they are representing.

JTT ADVANCED DIVISION ELIGIBILITY FOR PROGRESSION:

If a team that has declared that they want to play in the "Advanced" division, those teams may come straight to State but players **MUST** be registered on the local team they are playing with at the state championship.

ADVANCED vs INTERMEDIATE:

In the summer league teams are eligible to advance to State and the Invitational.

- **The World Tennis Number "WTN" at time of registration will be used to determine the divisions' players are eligible to participate in during the Championship YEAR. A player's Singles WTN will be used as long as confidence is over 30%. WTNs with a Confidence Factor of 10%-30% will be treated as "no rating".**

Age Division	Range	WTN Rating at the time of Registration Players with no confidence factor will be able to sign up for any division.
18U Adv	40 - 1	Anyone allowed to play ADV in 18U
18U Int	40 - 23	Must be within range to play INT in 18U
14U Adv	40 - 1	Anyone allowed to play ADV in 14U
14U Int	40 - 27	Must be within range to play INT in 14U

In 12U divisions, a player may play Green or Yellow based on PlayTracker regulations/allowances.

In 10U divisions, a player may play Green or Orange based on PlayTracker regulations/allowances.

Age Eligibility:

All JTT local seasons that will have teams advance to the summer championship will check players' ages at the time of registration. **Players must remain age eligible through August 31.** (i.e. If Jim turns 13 on August 20, he will have to play 14 and under locally, EVEN if he is still 12 during the local league and the state championships).

Playing "UP" in Age Division:

10 and Under players may "play up" in the 12U Intermediate Division, but NOT any division higher than that (12's Advanced, 14's, or 18's) UNLESS they've reached "mission complete" status in the Youth play Tracker system. Players age 11 and older may play up in ANY JTT age division that they choose.

Team Roster Makeup/ Out of Area Participation:

At least 50% of a local JTT roster must be made up of players that list their home address on their USTA membership as being from within that local league's area. It is up to the captain of the team to check the roster and ensure that their team complies with the rule. As long as 50% of the team is from the local area, the other 50% may come from another area inside Mississippi or from another state.

Waiver Claims:

Members, players, spectators, and other participants in USTA tournaments, programs, and events acknowledge the associated risks, assume those risks voluntarily, and in consideration of their attendance at USTA tournaments, programs and events, agree to assume any loss or damage, and to waive any claim or demand on account of any injury to person or property arising out of or related to their attendance, including, but not limited to, exposure to infectious syndromes or diseases, whether caused by negligence or other fault. By participating in or attending USTA tournaments, programs and events, members, players, spectators, and other participants assume all risks whether known or unknown. Furthermore, members, players, spectators, and other participants agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless the USTA, its affiliated Sectional Associations and Districts/Subdivisions, and the host facility (Released Parties) and the Released Parties' employees, contractors, representatives and agents with respect to any such injury or loss caused by negligence or other fault, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION SYSTEM:

The USTA's Digital Platform must be used for registering teams and players. A player's name must be listed on the team roster, as shown in the USTA's Digital Platform, prior to participation in any match. The State Association shall establish deadlines and procedures for registering players and teams in the USTA's Digital Platform.

OFFICIAL SCORE REPORTING AND STANDINGS SYSTEM:

The USTA's Digital Platform must be used for reporting scores and providing standings. Match App, or similar, may be used providing all results are also recorded in USTA's Digital Platform.

COMPETITION FORMAT:

The competition format may be round robin, partial round robin, or a combination of the two, at the discretion of the Championship Committee.

ROUND ROBIN:

If round robin competition is used, each team shall play every other team in its flight and the team with the highest number of total games shall be the champion in its flight. The use of flights requires a playoff to establish a champion.

PARTIAL ROUND ROBIN:

The Partial Round Robin Format may be used in scenarios when the number of teams does not work well with round robin.

- All teams shall be scheduled the same number of matches against randomly selected opponents.
- The 2 teams at the top of the standings at the end of the unflighted matches are the 2 teams to make a final.

FYI for State Tournament (Rules You Need to Know)

1. Scoring:

Local format and scoring will be determined by the local league coordinator.

*The scoring format for 12U, 14U, and 18U at the state tournament will be **the best of 3 sets** (a set to 6 w/ a regular tiebreak at 5 games all) with a match tiebreak (tiebreak to 10) played in lieu of a 3rd set.

* The scoring format for 10U will be **the best of 2 short sets to 4** (a set to 4 with a tiebreaker at 3 games all). The set and match tiebreaker will be one more game played keeping the serving order.

2. Advancement:

The following table will determine how many teams from each local league will advance to the state tournament on **August 3-4 in JACKSON, MS.**

10's, 12's, and 14's table below

- 1-3 teams in a division (1 team advances)
- 4-6 teams in a division (2 teams advance)
- 7-9 teams in a division (3 teams advance)
- 10-12 teams in a division (4 teams advance)
- *There is always a possibility that wildcards will be invited in addition to the qualifying teams.*

18&Under Table

- 1-4 teams in a division (1 team advances)
- 5-8 teams in a division (2 teams advance)
- 9-12 teams in a division (3 teams advance)
- 13-16 teams in a division (4 teams advance)

3. Determination of Winners:

Winners at state AND in local play will be determined by the following:

- 1) The winner of the most games will be the winner of a match and a flight
- 2) If the total games won are tied, the following will be the tiebreak procedures.
 - a) If two teams are tied, head to head results will determine the winner.
 - b) If more than 2 teams are tied, the team with the most team matches won advances
 - b) The final tiebreaker will be the team with the most individual matches won, followed by the most amount of sets won.

4. BALLS USED/ COURT SIZE:

- The 10's INTERMEDIATE will play on a 60' court with an orange low-compression ball. 10 and under players must use a racquet that is 25" or less.
- The 10U Advanced Level will be played on a full size 78' court with a green dot ball.

The 12 and Under INTERMEDIATE Division

- The 12 and Under Intermediate Division will play with a green-dot ball on a full sized court.
- 12U advanced division will play with a yellow ball on a full sized court.

Summer JTT Championship August 1-3, Jackson/Ridgeland/Madison area.

Tournament Website [HERE](#)

This site houses accommodations information, lodging form for out of town participants, master schedule, Match App link, sportsmanship nominees, captains meeting link, and the results of the tournament.

