



## **USTA Mississippi Cathead Corporate League Rules**

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### **FORMAT & SCORING:**

1 Guys Doubles, 1 Girls Doubles, 1 Mixed Doubles. Best of 3 sets to 6 games, 3rd set tiebreak, No-Ad Scoring.

### **TEAMS/ROSTERS:**

A minimum of 3 men and 3 women need to be registered for the team by **October 9** **AND** Team Entry Fee must be received to be included in the schedule. There is no limit to the number of players that can be on a team. Players may register for the team and be added to the roster up until the last day of the season. All playing levels are welcome! A paid USTA Membership is NOT required, but a FREE USTA Account number will be needed when players register online for the team (*an expired USTA number works*). Players do not have to be employees of the company to be on a team, it is up to the company to decide who to add to their team roster. All players must be **21+** to be part of a team.

### **TEAM LEVELS/DIVISIONS:**

We will offer two divisions that teams can enter, 7.0 COMBO and below (any player combination), and 8.5 COMBO & below (any player combination). There is no minimum or maximum rating for either division, each doubles court should just not add up to MORE than 7.0 for that division or 8.5 for the higher division

### **RATINGS:**

We will use USTA NTRP Ratings for this league, BUT if a player does not have a current NTRP rating, they WILL NOT be asked to self-rate when registering. If a player does not have a current USTA NTRP Rating, they should use their last published NTRP rating when deciding what level/division to register for. If a player has NEVER had an NTRP rating, they should use [THESE GUIDELINES](#) to determine what level they should be. There will be NO NTRP Grievances, chill out, we're here to have fun!

### **REGISTRATION:**

Submit Team Entry Form online and pay team entry fee at [THIS LINK](#) by the **October 4** team deadline. Once entry form is received, we will issue each team a Team ID number

that individual players will go online to register for at [THIS LINK](#). Players must have a FREE USTA Account number to register. A current OR expired USTA number will work, but if a participant has NEVER had a USTA number, they may create a [FREE USTA Account Number HERE](#). Players will be charged a \$3 user fee when registering for the Team Number.

### **MATCH PLAY:**

**Check-In:** Captains should collect court fees from each player on their team, turn them in, and check in at the Parham Bridges front desk before match time. The staff will tell them what courts they are assigned to.

**Exchanging Lineups:** Captains should exchange lineups with the opposing team before the match and send players to assigned courts. HOME TEAM PROVIDES BALLS, and USTA MS will provide each team with balls to bring for the matches.

In the event of an injury, illness, or no-show of a player, teams may substitute another player into the lineup as long as it is done before the match starts.

If a team (or individual court) is not on site 15 minutes after the scheduled match time, that match (or individual court) will be considered a default.

**Order of Play:** All 3 courts will start at the same time each week, so a team will need a minimum of 3 guys/3 girls to play a full match

### **MULLIGANS:**

Each player in every individual match will receive ONE MULLIGAN per match. A mulligan is essentially a “do-over” point. When using a mulligan, players must announce BEFORE the next point is played that they would like to use their mulligan.

### **DEFAULT RULES:**

Every effort should be made to provide 3 courts for each scheduled match. If a team KNOWS they will not have enough players to field a court, they should email or text the opposing captain the day of the match to let them know they are defaulting a court (and which court they will be defaulting). Also, let the FACILITY know if you are defaulting a court OR an entire match so they know the court(s) will be open and available to be assigned to someone else.

**Rainouts/Makeup Matches:** In case of rain, call Parham Bridges at 601-956-1105 to see if courts are playable. If the match gets canceled because of weather, it is up to the captains to contact one another to reschedule the match. Captains must agree on a

rescheduled date, time, and location, and reserve their own courts for makeups. Makeups must be completed by November 20. If captains cannot agree to a rescheduled date/time by November 5, contact Chip Carter, and he will set a date/time/location for the match or enter it as a double default if neither captain wants to play the match.

**Rescheduling Matches:** A team may contact the opposing captain to reschedule prior to the match under the following circumstances:

- Rain or severe temperatures (40 or below) are forecasted within 4 hours of match start time.

If a team does not have enough players to play a match, they may request a reschedule from the other captain, but the opposing captain is not REQUIRED to reschedule and may accept a team default. If you KNOW you are not going to have enough players to play a court OR a match, contact the opposing captain at least 4 hours before the match.

**Score Entry:** Captains will be given instructions on how to enter scores online or on the USTA App. Captains should try to enter scores within 24 hours of the match being completed, and the standings and individual scores will be listed on Tennislink.

**Registered Players:** Players must be registered online before participating in the match. If a player is not registered when a captain goes to enter a score, they may enter a default for that court.

**STANDINGS:** The winner of a team match will be the team that wins at least 2 courts.

The winner of the league will be determined in this order:

- Best team won-loss record
- Winner of head-to-head match (in a 2-way tie only)
- Team with the most individual courts won
- Team with the most individual sets won (if all of the above are tied)

**COACHING:** Coaching is allowed throughout the match, it just must be done outside the fence on changeovers only and not interfere with continuous play.

**FRIENDLY REMINDERS:**

This is a fun, recreational, SOCIAL LEAGUE! We want all captains and players to be flexible, exhibit good sportsmanship, and be willing to work with other teams to ensure the season is a success. Because this is a fun league, we will not accept NTRP grievances. **Be kind, have fun, play tennis, drink Cathead.** If we left something out, feel free to ask.