San Antonio JTT Fall 2026
Rules & Regulations

Match Information

- A Team match will consist of the following in each division: Red Ball division will play 4 singles (gender neutral); 10U Orange, 10U Green, 12U Green, 12U Novice & 14U Novice divisions will play 4 singles & 2 doubles (gender neutral); 12U Intermediate, 14U Intermediate & 18U Novice divisions will play 4 singles & 2 doubles (gender specific - must have at least one boy and one girl in the appropriate singles line); 18U Intermediate division will play boys singles, girls singles, boys doubles, girls doubles, and mixed doubles.
- Red Ball division will consist of 2 games with each game being the first to win 7 points. Orange ball division will consist of one 4 game set, no ad scoring, no tiebreaker at 3-all (next game wins). The 12U Green & 12U Novice divisions will consist of one 4 game set, no ad scoring, 7-point tiebreaker at 3-all. The 14U Novice, 14U/12U Intermediate, 18U Novice &18U Intermediate divisions will consist of one 6 game set, no-ad scoring, 7-point tiebreaker at 5-all.
- Each Team Match will be assigned courts at check-in which is 20 minutes prior to the scheduled match time. At this time, team Coaches/Captains will receive all instructions & court assignments and relay them to their players & parents. Red Ball division should go straight to their Rem d Ball courts where team Coaches/Captains will be given their court assignments.
- Teams must have a minimum of 4 players on match day. If a team does not have the minimum number of players present, it must default from the **bottom** line up.
- Coaches must determine their lineups BEFORE each Team Match and exchange scorecards with each other at this time. Stacking is not allowed at the local level. Coaches are expected to determine their lineups (especially in singles) according to strength, i.e. the strongest player should be playing at line 1 and so forth. After the line-up is exchanged, substitutions may only occur in the case of an injury or illness before the start of their individual match (warm-up).
- Warm-up prior to the first match played is a maximum of 5 minutes. In subsequent matches, the warm-up is a maximum of 3 minutes.
- A maximum of a 3-minute break is allowed after the completion of an individual line within the team match. Players are allowed up to a 10-minute break (if needed) between team matches.
- Coaches must sign and turn in the completed scorecards to the tournament desk at the end of each completed Team Match.
- Standings are determined by total games won during the season. If there is a tie between two or more teams, the following tiebreakers will be used in the following order:
    - o Head-to-Head
    - o Fewest total games lost
    - o Fewest total sets lost

Coaching

All Coaches/Captains MUST be Safeplay approved. Coaching is allowed ONLY during the 90 second changeovers. Coaching is not allowed during the first changeover. Coaching must take place from outside the fence. Coaches are not allowed on the court. Parents and spectators are requested to stay at least five feet from the fence. In no event is coaching allowed during a tiebreak. If players cannot resolve an issue amongst themselves, both coaches should go out on the court to help guide them to reach a resolution. Coaches are only allowed on the court in the Red Ball & Orange Ball divisions.

Age & Level Requirements

As validated in TennisLink, players must remain age eligible through **December 31st** for all advancing divisions. Non-advancing division players (Red Ball & Orange Ball) may be given some flexibility depending on the player's level. Level requirements are based on the player's skill level and match experience.

Penalties For Being Late

Once a court becomes available, the clock starts for a team to present its players for play. If there is a delay, the penalty shall be:

- 3-5 minutes late is loss of toss & warm-up.
- 5-10 minutes late is loss of toss, warm-up & 1 game.
- 10-15 minutes late is loss of toss, warm-up & 2 games.
- More than 15 minutes late is a default.

San Antonio JTT Fall 2026
Rules & Regulations
(cont. pg. 2)

Individual Defaults

An individual default occurs when a player fails to appear on time or is defaulted for misconduct.

- Procedures in the event of a default: When a team must default a match, the team Coach/Captain must notify the Coordinator prior to exchanging line-up. The opposing team will be notified and extended the opportunity of adjusting their line-up.
- Scoring of individual defaults: The defaults described will be scored in accordance with the format in TennisLink Team Tennis. In the event of a default by both opposing players, neither team receives credit for that match win or games (match will be recorded as a double-default).

Retirement

A retirement occurs when an individual match has started and a player or a doubles team is unable to continue due to injury, loss of condition, or emergency. Scoring of retirements: In the event of a retirement, for the purpose of determining standings, the non-retiring player/doubles team shall be credited with such number of additional games as would have been won if the match was completed and the non-retiring player/doubles team won every subsequent game.

Eligibility

For Sectionals A player is eligible to progress to Sectional Championships if that player has met all the following conditions:

- Participated on a team from the USTA Texas Sectional Junior Team Tennis eligible program within TennisLink Team Tennis.
- Played on the advancing team in at least two team matches during the team's local USTA Texas Junior Team Tennis season.
- The results of the two matches must be recorded in TennisLink Team Tennis. Neither of the two matches may be the product of a default received. A retired match shall count toward the two-match requirement for eligibility for the players involved.

Code of Conduct:

- The highest level of SPORTSMANSHIP is expected from every player! An understanding of and a commitment to the points below are part of your responsibility as a player in a USTA tournament. Violators of this code or its spirit are subject to disciplinary action.
- Once you have entered a USTA Texas Junior Team Tennis Match, honor your commitment to play. Exceptions should only occur in cases of serious illness, injury, or personal emergency.
- From the beginning of the match, play must be continuous. Attempts to stall or extend rest periods for the purpose of recovering from a loss of physical condition (such as cramps or shortness of breath) are illegal.
- Intentional distractions that interfere with your opponent's concentration or efforts to play the ball are against the rules.
- Spectators – including parents, friends and team captains/managers – are welcome to watch and enjoy matches. Their role, however, is clearly restricted to that of passive observer with no involvement of any kind during the match unless otherwise expressed.
- Players are expected to put forth a full and honest effort regardless of the score or expected outcome.
- Players are expected to maintain full control over their emotions and behavior throughout the match.

Player Participation

USTA Texas Sectional Junior Team Tennis players are allowed to play on more than one team in a local program during the same season, provided that the players may not play on more than one team in the same division. A player may play in any number of individual matches within a team match as determined by the local league which is two individual matches per Team Match. A maximum of 10 players are permitted on regular season roster. However, if a team wins the regular season and advances to state, only 8 players are permitted to participate in the state tournament.

Grievances

All grievances must be made in writing within 10 days. Any grievance against an individual or team may only be made by the team Coach/Captain of the team who has competed in the match where alleged violations have occurred. The grievance will be presented to the JTT Committee for a resolution to be determined.