



## **RULES & REGULATIONS**

### **Jr. Team Tennis – Fall 2024**

The GRETA Recreational Junior Team Tennis (JTT) league is a fun, team-oriented, and competitive tennis league for youth tennis players from beginner through advanced levels of play. Teams are co-ed and comprised of players of similar age and ability. JTT is open to all players regardless of club or school affiliation. Teams will compete against other local teams in the spring season for the opportunity to advance to a state championship. There is also a fall season for players to continue to gain match experience. The objective of the GRETA JTT league is to introduce kids to team competition in a positive setting that promotes sportsmanship, skill development, and personal growth.

The GRETA Recreational JTT league is sanctioned and supported by the United States Tennis Association (USTA), the USTA Southern Section, and the North Carolina Tennis Association. In addition to the Local JTT regulations outlined in this document, all players, coaches, and parents must abide by the national regulations set forth by the USTA as well as additions set forth by USTA Southern.

#### **SEASON DATES**

- Fall Season Dates – September 28-November 9 (Saturdays)
  - rain make-up dates 11/16, 11/23
  - match start times – 1pm, 2pm

#### **FALL DATES/DEADLINES**

- Monday, August 12
  - Team creation and player registration begins
    - to create a team, a parent must complete the Safe Sport training and background check
  - How many courts available and date conflicts for home matches
  - Contact info (cell/email) for each team captain and/or pro who handles the weekly matches
- Wednesday, September 18
  - Deadline for team creation and minimum number of players registered
  - Players registered without a team will be either combined to form a team or added to another team
    - If there are not enough players or a team to join, player will be refunded registration fee (less processing fee)
- Sunday, September 22
  - Match schedule published
- Saturday, September 28
  - 1<sup>st</sup> week of matches begin
- Saturday, November 9
  - Last day to register players on TennisLink

## **DIVISIONS**

- A minimum of 2 teams must be registered to field a division. Teams may move to another division in order to participate.
- Divisions Offered-
  - 10U Beginner (rally ball league, orange ball)
  - 12U Beginner (green ball)
  - 12U Intermediate (yellow ball)
  - 14U Beginner/Intermediate
  - 18U Beginner/Intermediate

## **MATCH SITES/DAYS**

- Teams must designate a facility for home matches
  - if a team does not have a facility, they may use public courts or be a travel team
- Matches will be scheduled on Saturday afternoons at 1pm or 2pm

## **LEAGUE FEES**

- The online registration fee is \$40 per player.
  - Your facility or club may charge an additional administrative fee and/or for practices
- GRETA will provide awards for division winners/finalists and for good sportsmanship

## **MATCH FORMAT**

- 10U Beginner – 1 court singles/1 court doubles; no serves just underhand feed anywhere in the court; round robin play for 1 hour
- 12U/14U/18U – 2 courts of singles/1 court of doubles

## **SCORING FORMAT**

- 10U – 1 game to 7 points, win by 1; 1 underhand or bounce-hit “serve” anywhere in the court
- 10U/12U/14U/18U – 2/3 4-game shorts sets, no ad, 7-pt tiebreaker at 3-3, 10 pt match tiebreaker if split sets

## **SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**

- At the end of the season, 2 players will be recognized for their good sportsmanship
- Team Captains will nominate 1 player from the opposing team each week

## **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP ADVANCEMENT**

- The spring season is the qualifying season for the JTT State Championships for 12s/14s/18 age divisions
- Winners from our local league tournament receive an automatic bid to the State Championships
- If the winning team cannot attend the State Championships the bid will go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place team
  - If the 2<sup>nd</sup> place team cannot attend, a coin will be flipped to award the bid with the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> place finishing teams
- Players must have a 2-match history in the local league (1 may be a default) to qualify
- Bids for the State Championships will be awarded to the winning teams from our local league tournament held at the end of the season
  - The local spring season results will be used for seeding at the local league tournament
  - If the local league tournament cannot be played, the regular season results will be used for advancement to the state championships (games won)

## **TEAM COMPOSITION**

- Teams can be formed with any combination of boys and girls at the appropriate age and ability level for the division they are competing in
- 10U minimum number of players - 3
- 12U/14U/18U minimum number of players – 4

## **PLAYER REQUIREMENTS**

- Prior to registration, the player must
  - be a current USTA member, in good standing, thru November 9, 2024
  - age eligible thru November 9, 2024
  - competing at the appropriate skill level (see JTT Levels of Play Guidelines document)
  - not be suspended from USTA competition
  - 12U/14U/18U must have prior tennis match experience

## **PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Show up 10-15 minutes prior to your scheduled match time
- Check in with your team captain when you arrive for your match
- Exhibit good sportsmanship and effort
- Encourage and cheer for your teammates
- Report match scores to your team captain

## **TEAM CAPTAIN REQUIREMENTS**

- Prior to team creation, the team captain must
  - be a current USTA member or have a USTA number
  - complete the USTA Safe Play background screening and online education from the U.S. Center for Safe Sport on a bi-annual basis prior to creating a team. Click here to complete the 3-step process or visit <https://www.usta.com/en/home/safe-play.html>
- Make sure players and parents abide by the local league rules

## **TEAM CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Have match balls (new or slightly used) for the match
- Communicate with their team on player availability
- Communicate with other Team Captains on forfeits and general skill level of roster
- Put together match line-ups
- Record on scoresheet your lineup and opponents lineup
- Take picture of completed match with scores and winners circled and text to LLC 919.630.0386
- No coaching allowed by the team captain, assistant captain, coaches, and spectators during match warm-up and match play
- Ensure all spectators for their team follow the code of conduct
- Attempt to provide matches for “extra” players
- Select 1 player from the opposing team for the Good Sportsmanship Award

## **CREATE A TEAM**

- Click here or visit [https://support.activenetwork.com/usta/articles/en\\_US/Article/Create-a-JTT-Team](https://support.activenetwork.com/usta/articles/en_US/Article/Create-a-JTT-Team) for a step-by-step guide to create your JTT team

## **REGISTER A PLAYER**

- Click here or visit <https://tennislink.usta.com/TeamTennis/Main/RegisterPlayers.aspx> to register a player using a team number and the players USTA account number

## **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP ADVANCEMENT**

- Teams in the 12s-18s age divisions that win the local league tournament receive an automatic bid to the State Championships
- The State Championships will be held in July, 2025; date and location TBA

## **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

- In the case of a grievance filing, the Local League Coordinator will form a grievance committee

comprised of 3 persons that are free of conflict

### **Spectator Code of Conduct**

In an effort to promote fairness and to assure a physically and mentally healthy experience for all players, tennis has expectations around spectator behavior. All JTT spectators are asked to follow these rules of conduct:

#### **Cheering**

Clapping for good shots is encouraged and will be allowed provided spectators show respect for all players.

- Please wait until a point has finished before clapping. Clapping during play is a distraction for all players.
- Please keep cheering respectful in tone and volume. Cheering that gets out of control can intimidate children on the court, disrupt other matches in progress, and cause conflict between opposing teams.

#### **Coaching**

Coaching and all other communication to the players from both spectators and the team captain/coach is prohibited in our local league. Spectators are not allowed to assist with making line calls, calling double bounces, or providing scores to players. The Team Captain/Coach may intervene in a match to answer a question or resolve a dispute.

Division	Ball/Court	Match Format	Min # of Players	Scoring
10U Beginner	Orange 60' baseline court	1 court of singles 1 court of doubles round robin play	3	1 <sup>st</sup> to 7 pts win by 1
12U Beginner	Green 78' court	3 courts of singles 1 court of doubles	4	2/3 4-game short sets no ad 7-pt tiebreaker at set score 3-3 10-pt tiebreaker if split sets
12U Intermediate 14U/18U Beginner Intermediate	Yellow 78' court	3 courts of singles 1 court of doubles	4	2/3 4-game short sets no ad 7-pt tiebreaker at set score 3-3 10-pt tiebreaker if split sets