

UNIVERSITY CLUB OF PALO ALTO
USTA RULES (“UC USTA Rules”)
Amended 05-14-15

I. Mission

The primary mission of the USTA program at the University Club is to give members the opportunity to play competitive league tennis.

II. Tennis Director - General

A. The Tennis Director is responsible for managing the entire University Club USTA Process, including but not limited to:

- Selecting and meeting with Team Captains prior to a league season start;
- Participating with Captains in forming teams and dividing players among teams to obtain the best balance between competitive capability and individual participation; and
- Determining, prior to start of any league season, if there is sufficient interest to form a particular team.

Issues concerning team management, day-to-day questions regarding application and enforcement of UC USTA Rules and USTA rules in general shall be brought first to the attention of the Tennis Director who is responsible for enforcement of UC USTA Rules. Further questions or issues requiring rules interpretation and resolution shall be brought to the Tennis Committee which is the final arbiter on all issues and conflicts regarding application of UC USTA Rules.

III. Team Captains

A. Prior to the expiration date for registration of a USTA league team, the Tennis Director will solicit requests from members to serve as team captains. The Club encourages rotation of team captains on a regular basis to develop new leadership. The Tennis Director will select and approve all captains, including members who would like to captain two teams simultaneously.

B. Captain Responsibilities

- a. Captains must be familiar with and commit to follow UC USTA Rules and Norcal USTA league rules;
- b. Meet with Tennis Director before start of USTA season to review UC USTA Rules;
- c. Communicate with all the players to discuss the UC USTA rules;
- d. Schedule match and weekly practice dates;
- e. Request member availability for matches and practices;
- f. Determine the line-up for each match and report the scores; and
- g. Endeavor to play all rostered players at rating (subject to player availability) a minimum of two matches to qualify players for post-season play.

C. Failure to Follow Captain Responsibilities

It is expected that Team Captains will be knowledgeable with and carry out the Captain Responsibilities specified above in Section A and will follow the UC USTA Rules. In the event that a Captain fails to follow UC USTA Rules and/or carry out the duties in Section A, the Tennis Director (and/or the Tennis Committee) may request a Captain step down at any point during a league season and may designate another member to serve in his/her place.

IV. USTA Team Formation Process

No team can be registered with Norcal USTA until a team captain is chosen and approved by the Tennis Director.

A. Formation for Rostering Team

All UC USTA teams must have a minimum of eight (8) UC members, and must comply with Norcal USTA Rules for determining composition of rostered players. Subject to the exception specified below, non-members may only play on a UC USTA team if the team is not expected to reach its minimum size of UC members (see recruiting below). The Tennis Director must first approve participation by a non-member before any non-member may roster.

B. Team Size Minimum

- a. Five Team Play (2 singles – 3 doubles) – 18 min
- b. Three Team Play (3 doubles or 2 doubles, 1 singles) – 16 min

Exceptions to the minimum team size can only be made with the permission of the Tennis Director.

C. Team Composition and Recruiting

The following prioritized list shall be used when recruiting and accepting members on a UC USTA team:

- i) UC Members at that rating
- ii) Non-Members at that rating (capped at a maximum of 3 non-members who may be permitted to roster at any time during the season) with Tennis Director approval in advance
- iii) UC members playing up who are within the top four (4) computer rated players at the lower level

D. UC USTA Play on a Team Above Rating

The top four (4) computer rated UC USTA players from a given team are eligible to roster on a higher rated team one level above their USTA rating.

E. Regular and Post-Season Play

Once a team is formed UC members, waitlisted UC members and non-members are treated equally for purposes of determining team lineup for each match.

F. Forming a Second Team

The Tennis Director has discretion to determine whether the number of players available at a rating level is sufficiently large enough to justify whether formation of a second team is necessary. In the event the Tennis Director determines that a second team is justified, the formation for both teams will be completely random (e.g. names will be drawn designating which team you will roster on)

V. Team Practices and Match Scheduling

Each League may hold one designated practice per week. Unless there is a USTA match scheduled at the selected time, two courts will be reserved by the Tennis Director for each League's practice during their team's season which runs from the date the team is registered through last post-season match. Team Captains must coordinate with the Tennis Director to select their team's designated practice day and time to avoid conflicts with other UC USTA team practice/match schedules and regularly scheduled member play. USTA matches have precedence over reserved courts. No USTA practices may be held before 11am on weekends.

VI. Non-Member Court Usage While on a UC USTA Team

Non-members are permitted to play in one UC USTA designated practice day per week. Beyond that one day, any non-member must be accompanied by at least one member if a practice is held outside of the designated practice day. A guest fee will be charged for the non-members. No exceptions will be made. The team captain is responsible for registering non-members as guests when signing in for court access. Non-members cannot play two consecutive years on UC USTA teams.

VII. Non-member Fees for Playing on UC USTA Team

Non-member players on a UC USTA team will be charged a participation fee of \$75 per player. The fees will be assessed against the Team Captain's account prior to the start of the league season. The \$75 participation fee includes one designated practice per week during the designated USTA league season in which the non-member is playing.

VIII. Joint Teams with Other Clubs

UC members may join with another club to create a "joint team" whereby home match play (and practices) are split between the two clubs. This scenario is intended where there are an insufficient number of players at rating to form a UC

USTA team to satisfy the desires of members who are wanting to play on a UC USTA team at their rating level.