

USTA  COLORADO LEAGUE  
**TENNIS**

**Captains' Meeting  
2026 Season**

**SOUTHERN COLORADO**



Captains,

Thank you for all you do for league  
programs in Colorado!

All of your USTA Colorado league resources are available on our website:

[USTAColorado.com](https://ustacolorado.com)

The screenshot shows the USTA Colorado Leagues website. At the top left is the USTA logo with 'COLORADO LEAGUES' below it. To the right is a navigation menu with 'ABOUT US', 'ADULT LEAGUES', 'JUNIOR LEAGUES', and 'USTA.com'. The main banner features a blue background with the text 'Thank You!' and 'League Players, Captains, Coordinators and Facilities' in green. Below this is 'Here's to another great season of League Tennis in 2026!' and a photo of two tennis players on a court. Below the banner are five content tiles: 'NTRP Ratings', 'League Menu' (with a tennis ball image), 'League Calendar', 'League Changes for 2025', and 'Junior Team Tennis' (with a photo of a young player). At the bottom is a dark blue section titled 'Welcome to USTA Colorado Leagues' with a paragraph of text.

**USTA**  
COLORADO  
LEAGUES

ABOUT US ▾ ADULT LEAGUES ▾ JUNIOR LEAGUES ▾ USTA.com ▾

**Thank You!**  
**League Players, Captains,  
Coordinators and Facilities**

Here's to another great season of  
**League Tennis in 2026!**

[NTRP Ratings](#)

[League Menu](#)

[League Calendar](#)

[League Changes for 2025](#)

[Junior Team Tennis](#)

**Welcome to USTA Colorado Leagues**

We are dedicated to promoting and developing the sport of tennis throughout Colorado through the provision of exceptional league tennis programs. Our league department's goal is twofold: first, to develop, implement, manage, and oversee high-quality league programs that cater to the diverse and growing tennis community across each geographic area in Colorado; and second, to steadfastly support the league interests of tennis players and facilities throughout Colorado. This website has been created to provide a more user-friendly means for Colorado league players, captains and coordinators to access information about our league programs. Find all other USTA Colorado information on [usta.com](https://usta.com).

# Participation Numbers

Colorado Local League Area	Adult Leagues					
	2021 Players	2022 Players	2023 Players	2024 Players	2025 Players	2025 Growth
Denver-Metro	31562	32783	33360	34253	34050	-0.6%
Mountains	1305	1168	960	889	927	4.3%
Southern Colorado	2653	2940	2968	3095	3495	12.9%
Northern Colorado	3113	2912	3206	3163	3046	-3.7%
Western Slope	964	1099	1071	1190	1196	0.5%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39597</b>	<b>40902</b>	<b>41565</b>	<b>42590</b>	<b>42714</b>	<b>0.3%</b>

# Pickleball lines

## USTA Colorado Rule has not changed

- » No unapproved lines on courts being used for sanctioned play
- » Tennis is continually growing, so we need the courts
- » Stand-alone pickleball facilities opening, so that is a good step in maintaining tennis infrastructure for tennis

## FAQs

- » What about other parts of the country? Typically, not comparable to CO.
- » What if players agree? Still No.
- » How should our facility accommodate pickleball players? Taped lines allow courts to be used for tennis and pickleball.

# Days & Times

- No changes Days & Times for levels in 2026
- FAQ: Our facility is full on this night of the week, so what can we do?
  - » Some facilities are full on Mon, some on Tue, some on Wed, and some on Thurs.
  - » No arrangement would fix things for every facility and changes typically help some facilities, but hurt others.
  - » We try to avoid annual changes, but this is reviewed annually to ensure optimal balance
  - » We also balance days for levels as much as possible to allow players to play in overlapping leagues

# 2026 Calendar, Days of Play

**Click Here to go to the  
Calendar Page on  
USTAColorado.com**

- No changes to Days of Play for 2026
- NEW online, mobile friendly format for calendar and days of play.
- Please check website instead of printing copies.
- There are occasionally dates that have to change.
- Printed copies can be inaccurate if anything changes.

# USTA Colorado Regulations

# Review

# USTA Adult 40 & Over Format

- **National Championships**
  - » Will still be 5 lines (1 singles, 4 doubles)
- **Sectionals, Districts and Local League**
  - » Will still be 4 lines (1 singles, 3 doubles)
- **Team Minimum requirement is 9 players**
- **2-2 Ties**
  - » Team that wins matches by larger margin wins
  - » If it is close, input the scores and the system will show who wins
  - » Spreadsheet on [ustacolorado.com](http://ustacolorado.com) for quick help

# Full Team Defaults

- **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR CAPTAINS:** If a Majority of Lines aren't played, it's a team default. Must play 2 out of 3 lines, 3 out of 4 lines, or 3 out of 5 lines for it to be a valid match. In a 4-line league, if both teams default a separate line, they are both ineligible to advance.
- **7.01 Full Team Defaults.** For each local league, Flight Playoff and/or District Championship team match, a majority of the individual matches must be played to constitute a valid team match. The USTA Colorado District League Coordinator (or Area Coordinator in outlying areas) must be notified prior to entering a full team default.
  - **7.01A A match is considered a full team default / invalid match if:**
    - **7.01A(1)** 2 out of 3 positions are defaulted
    - **7.01A(2)** 2 out of 4 positions are defaulted, or
    - **7.01A(3)** 3 out of 5 positions are defaulted.
  - **7.01B Consequences of Full Team Defaults.** If a team Full Team Defaults a match (including Double Full Team Defaults) for any reason during round robin play, that **team is ineligible to advance beyond the local league** even if the team finished first in overall standings.

# Dynamic Disqualifications

Captains and Players are often not aware of the  
Dynamic Disqualification process

- Leagues that have Dynamic DQs:
  - » Adult 18 & Over, Adult 40 & Over, Adult 55 & Over
  - » Mixed 18 & Over, Mixed 40 & Over
- Who can be DQd?
  - » Self-rated players, Appeal Down players
- Score reversals
  - » If a player receives 3 strikes, scores are reversed for that “round”.
  - » Notice is not provided ahead of time.
- Tennisrecord.com is incorrect and just profiting on web traffic. More on next slide.

# Note about Tennisrecord.com

The rating information they provide is inaccurate and does not represent actual NTRP ratings in any way.

- The unknown individuals running the website know that they are giving false information to players.
- They make millions of dollars annually based on traffic and advertising, while lying to players.
- Stop visiting this website and supporting their unethical practices (profiting based on incorrect information).

# 75% In-Level Requirement

**6.01 75% In-level Requirement.** At least 75% of all players on each team roster must be playing “in level” (i.e., on a 3.5 team, 75% of the players must have a valid 3.5 NTRP rating).

**6.01A This rule does not apply to.** Leagues with a combined NTRP format (i.e., 6.0, 6.5, 7.0, etc.), or Teams in the women’s 2.5 or men’s 3.0 levels. Teams must reach this percentage by the first scheduled match of the season and maintain it throughout the season. **NOTE:** This percentage applies to the total number of players on the team roster, not the specific set of players in a line-up for a team match. [See Appendix A](#) for the specific numbers of players allowed to play up depending on the total roster size.

**6.01B 75% Waiver.** If a team desires a greater percentage of out-of-level players, a waiver may be requested by the team captain or facility coordinator to allow the team to maintain a roster below the 75% in-level requirement. All online Waiver Request Forms must be submitted to USTA Colorado by the first scheduled match of the season for that league.

**6.01C Violation of 75% In-Level Requirement.** If a team is found to be in violation of the 75% in-level requirement, the team will have 48 hours from time of notification to become compliant. Teams that fail to comply within this timeframe will be disqualified from the league without a refund, and all match scores will be reversed to 6-0, 6-0 wins for the opposing teams.

Captains **MUST** monitor their rosters to ensure compliance with the 75% in-level requirement.

Rule has been in place since 2010, so there is no reason that we still have captains ignoring the rule.

# Mandatory Reschedules

Any reschedule for a reason not listed below is considered a Non-Mandatory Reschedule.

We recommend that all captains decline requests to reschedule that do not fall under  
Mandatory Reschedules

- **10.00 Mandatory Reschedules.**
  - » Inclement Weather
  - » Darkness
  - » Flight Playoff Conflicts
  - » League Championship Conflicts
  - » National Holidays
  - » League Department Scheduling Conflicts

# Team Withdrawal

We cannot have teams that withdraw after the deadline or drop out of a league.  
This adversely affects all teams in the flight.

**7.01D Team Withdrawal or Failure to Complete Scheduled Matches.** Once the minimum roster deadline has passed or championship schedules have been published, all teams are expected to participate in and complete all scheduled matches.

**7.01D(1) Violation of Regulations.** Any team that withdraws from the league or fails to complete the required matches is considered in violation of USTA League Regulations and Championship Procedures.

**7.01D(2) Consequences for Withdrawal.** If an entire team withdraws after the minimum roster deadline or championship schedules have been published:

- » Players on that team will not receive a refund.
- » League fees may not be transferred or applied to another league or season.
- » The team and/or its players may face additional penalties or suspension points as determined by the Colorado District League Grievance Committee.

In accordance with the USTA Suspension Point System, the assessment of 2 to 24 suspension points per individual or team involved may occur for “Failing to comply with a USTA League Regulation, Guideline, or Championship Procedure”.

# Lateness Penalty at Districts

- Changes to Procedure for Lateness at Districts
  - » **8.06B in Colorado Regulations**
  - » Addresses issue we have been seeing
  - » Summary: If a player is running late and ends up past the 15-minute default, the opposing captain will be able to change their line-up.

# Eligibility Requirements to Advance

Championship Level	Players	Matches Required on the Same Team	Defaults That Count
Flight Playoffs & District Championships	All players	2 matches during local league play	1 default received shall count
Intermountain Sectional Championships	All players <u>other than</u> self-rated & computer-rated appealed players	2 matches during local league play	1 default received shall count
	<b>Self-rated</b> & computer-rated <b>appealed</b> players	3 matches through District Championship	1 default received shall count
National Championships	All players <u>other than</u> self-rated & computer-rated appealed players	3 matches through Sectional Championship	1 default received shall count
	<b>Self-rated</b> & computer-rated <b>appealed</b> players	4 matches through Sectional Championship	No default received shall count

- No changes to eligibility requirements this year.

# **USTA National Regulations**

# **Changes**

# 2026 National Reg Changes

- **Captaining Multiple Teams:** A captain can only represent one team in the same age division and NTRP level at a National Championship.
  - » Same rule has been adopted for Colorado District Championships and Intermountain Section Championships.
- **2.07 Championship Players.** Adult 18 and Adult 40 & Over Sectional Championship or National Championships players cannot appeal their NTRP level down.
- **3.04B Grievance Appeal Committee Action.** Criteria for grievance appeals if no new information is provided to the Grievance Appeal Committee.

# Sportsmanship

- **Please continue to emphasize sportsmanship with your teammates!**
- **Formal Complaints should be submitted for bad sportsmanship**
- **The Code of Tennis, Principle #1**
  - » *Courtesy is expected.* Tennis is a game that requires cooperation and courtesy.

# Contact Information

**Jean Orton**

[jean.orton@yahoo.com](mailto:jean.orton@yahoo.com)

719-238-3130

Trio

USTA Adult 18 & Over

CTA Twilight

**Susan Swarmer**

[sswarmer@msn.com](mailto:sswarmer@msn.com)

719-282-3540

All other leagues

**USTA Colorado In-House Staff**

<https://ustacolorado.com/about-us/staff-directory/adult-league-contacts/>



**Thank You!**

**Have an amazing  
2026 league season!**

