

### **Local Championship Guidelines and Progression to USTA League State Championships**

- 1) Final standings will determine flight winners and advancement to Local Championships, or directly to State Championships in the event of only one flight. Any flights that are scheduled to play a complete round robin followed by additional matches as part of a second round, the top two teams in those flights will advance to the Local Championships.
- 2) Final standings are determined by the number of team wins in round robin play. The following procedure is used to break any ties in round robin play during the local season:
  1. Individual Matches: Winner of the most individual matches in that flight or division
  2. Head to Head: Winner of head-to-head match
  3. Sets: Loser of the fewest number of sets
  4. Games: Loser of the fewest number of games
  5. Game Winning Percentage: Total games won divided by total games played
  6. Toss of Coin
- 3) Teams accepting a spot in the Local Championships must have enough players available and committed to field valid team matches. Failure to do so results in a full match default and an automatic grievance will be filed. If a default is against a team not in contention for advancement and does not impact the final standings the Local League Coordinator may waive the automatic grievance if approved in advance.
- 4) In the event of illness, injury, disqualification, or no-show of a player prior to the start of an individual match (once the lineup has been exchanged), a team may substitute a player in the affected position within the 15-minute default time, using a player not already listed on the lineup. If no such substitution can be made, the affected position only will be defaulted.
- 5) Home courts for Local Championships will be determined by random draw prior to the start of the season. The Local League Coordinator may rearrange the match dates to accommodate conflicts with match locations. The intent, when applicable/possible, is for all teams to host at least one match.
  - a. If the required minimum number of courts to host a team match are not available, or there are no lights at the home team's facility on the date of the scheduled match, courts may be reserved at the visiting team's facility. If courts cannot be reserved at the visiting team's facility on the date of the scheduled match, a neutral facility may be used.
  - b. For the purpose of scheduling Local Championships, MCPR courts are considered interchangeable when assigning home courts. When possible, Local Championships for teams using any MCPR facilities as their home courts, will be scheduled using one of three locations – Jeff Adams, Park Road or Queens Sports Complex.
- 6) Local Championship matches may be scheduled for any weekday in traditional morning or evening time slots or at anytime on Saturday/Sunday.
- 7) At the discretion of the Local League Coordinator, dates, times and locations may change due to weather, conflicts with another Charlotte Metro League championship match or regular season match, or other unknown events (see #10).
- 8) **At the discretion of the Local League Coordinator, matches interrupted by rain or similar circumstances are not required to be completed on the designated rain date. A makeup date may be assigned as needed to ensure the match is finished before the end of the championship period. The goal is to ensure all matches are completed during the playoff period.**
- 9) Teams playing in Local Championships should be prepared to play anytime during the championship period. In the event of inclement weather and a conflict with another Charlotte Metro League championship match that match will be scheduled for the same time on the next day as weather and court conditions permit.
- 10) The team listed on the schedule as the home team is always responsible for providing the balls.

- 11) Considerations will be made for players participating in other USTA league events only where they are representing the Charlotte Metro League. If a team has a conflict with players participating on a team in another Charlotte Metro League regularly scheduled championship match, scheduled for the same time, rescheduling of lines will be based on the number of players in conflict. We request that captains work together to resolve the conflicts that may occur due to rained out matches. Lines in conflict need to be played by or on the mandatory match date that is set by the Local League Coordinator.

The second team notified of their championship match where the conflict is identified, will be the team to reschedule. In order to reschedule, captains must notify the Local League Coordinator of the conflict within 48 hours of notification of team advancing to championships, including the number of players involved.

Number of Players in Conflict	Number of Lines Allowed to Reschedule (Teams with players in conflict will choose lines to reschedule)
1 player	1 line (singles or doubles)
2 players	1 or 2 lines (any combination of singles and doubles, up to two lines)
3 players	1 to 3 lines (any combination of singles and doubles, up to three lines)
4 players	1 to 4 lines (any combination of singles and doubles, up to four lines)
5 or more players	1 to 5 lines (any combination of singles and doubles, up to five lines)

### Local Championship Format

# of Flights <sup>1</sup>	Championship Format	Total # of Championship Matches
1	No championships. Winner of flight advances.	0
2	Single elimination format. Winners of each flight play a match. Winner advances.	1
3	Winners of each flight play a round robin. Top team advances, or top two teams advance if 30 or more teams.	2
4	Winners of each flight play a round robin. Top team advances, or top two teams advance if 30 or more teams.	3
5	A wildcard will be offered to a 2 <sup>nd</sup> place team. The wildcard will be chosen randomly <sup>3</sup> for a total of 6 teams participating in championships. Teams will be split randomly <sup>2</sup> in 2 flights of 3 teams. Teams will play a round robin in each flight. Winners of the round robin will play each other to determine first and second place. Top team advances, or top two teams advance if 30 or more teams.	3
6	Teams will be split randomly <sup>2</sup> in 2 flights of 3 teams. Teams will play a round robin in each flight. Winners of the round robin will play each other to determine first and second place. Top team advances, or top two teams advance if 30 or more teams.	3
7	A wildcard will be offered to a 2 <sup>nd</sup> place team. The wildcard will be chosen randomly <sup>3</sup> for a total of 8 teams participating in championships. Teams will be split randomly <sup>2</sup> in 2 flights of 4 teams. Teams will play a round robin in each flight. Winners of the round robin will play each other to determine first and second place. 2 <sup>nd</sup> place teams will play each other to determine 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> place. Top team advances, or top two teams advance if 30 or more teams.	4

A complete round robin followed by additional matches as part of a second round:

- In the event a flight plays a complete round robin followed by additional matches, the top two teams in those flights will advance to the Local Championship.
- In the event there is more than one flight for the Local Championships, 1st and 2nd place teams from the same regular season flight will be placed in different flights.
- Wildcards will be chosen from flights where a 2<sup>nd</sup> place team is not already advancing to championships. A 2<sup>nd</sup> place team will advance before a 3<sup>rd</sup> place team.

4. Players must play in a minimum number of regular season matches to be eligible to advance to Local Championships and State Championships (players on teams advancing directly to the State Championships, are exempt from the following):

USTA League	Season	Minimum Required Matches Played	# of defaults that may count as a match played
USTA Adult 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over	Spring	2	1
USTA Adult 65 & Over	Spring	1	1
USTA Mixed Doubles 18 & Over, 40 & Over, 55 & Over	Summer	2	1
USTA Mixed Doubles 65 & Over	Summer	1	1
USTA NC Singles League	Summer	1	1
USTA Tri-Level League	Summer	1	1
USTA Southern Combo Doubles League	Fall	1	1

**A. The following local leagues will receive invitations to the State Championships:**

- 1) USTA Adult League
- 2) USTA Mixed Doubles League
- 3) USTA NC Singles League
- 4) USTA Southern Tri-Level League
- 5) USTA Southern Combo Doubles League

**B. Invitations per level of play:**

- 1) **1–29 teams:** One invitation
- 2) **30–44 teams:** Two invitations
- 3) **45 or more teams:** Three invitations

USTA League State Championship	Dates	Location	Levels
USTA Adult 65 & Over League	May 14-17, 2026	Greenville	All
USTA Adult 55 & Over League	May 28-31, 2026	Greensboro	All
USTA Adult 18 & Over League	June 11-14, 2026	Lake Norman	All
USTA Adult 40 & Over League	June 18-21, 2026	Women: Winston-Salem Men: Hickory	All
USTA Mixed Doubles League	September 10-13, 2026	Greensboro	All
USTA Tri-Level League	September 17-20, 2026	Raleigh	All
USTA NC Singles League	October 1-4, 2026	Goldsboro	All
USTA Southern Combo Doubles League (Week 1)	November 5-8, 2026	Wilmington	2.5, 6.5, 8.5 (All Age Groups)
USTA Southern Combo Doubles League (Week 2)	November 12-15, 2026	Wilmington	5.5, 7.5, 9.5 (All Age Groups)

The State League Coordinator will notify each Local League Coordinator in the event of any wildcards, being offered.