



USTA Adult League Captains Meeting

www.CharlotteTennisAssociation.com

- Be sure you are on mute
- Sign in by typing your name in the chat box

Introductions

Robyn Haug

Adult Programs Manager

Carla O'Connor

Executive Director

Adult League Committee

TBD

- On behalf of Carla and board of directors – we want to thank anyone that contributed to our strategic planning process by submitting a survey or participating focus group call
- Everything was fully considered - we look forward to sharing the results, including our four priorities and strategies.

Social Media – Mackenzie King, King Social Management



<https://www.facebook.com/charlottetennisassociation>



<https://www.instagram.com/charlottetennisassociation/>

The Charlotte Tennis Association has partnered with Mackenzie King, King Social Management (KSM), as our outside creative and social partner, their role is to help the Charlotte Tennis Association to show up more consistently and authentically across social media — not just to post, but to tell the story of Charlotte tennis. That means highlighting:

- League play and team culture
- CTA programs and events
- Community involvement and advocacy
- The people who make this tennis community special (that's you)

Our goal is to strengthen community engagement, increase awareness of CTA offerings, and make sure Charlotte tennis feels visible, connected, and fun— both on and off the court.

Why Content From Captains & Teams Matters

The most engaging content doesn't come from polished campaigns — it comes from **real moments. You're already living these moments.** When you share them, you help build pride across leagues and levels, encourage new players to get involved and show what makes our Charlotte tennis community so special! We would love to see:

- Match-day vibes & team wins
- Social play, clinics, playoffs, celebrations
- The friendships and traditions that make league tennis what it is

How You Can Contribute (Easy + Low-Lift)

You don't need to be a content creator — just capture what's already happening. **What to share:**

Quick iPhone photos or short videos (*please capture vertically!* 3-4 photos and/or a few 5-second videos is great)

- Team group shots (vertical)
- Match-day selfies (vertical)
- Fun team traditions or celebrations (on and off the court!)
- Playoff or season highlights
- Real, candid, in-the-moment shots

How to share

- Tag [@charlottetennisassociation](https://www.instagram.com/charlottetennisassociation) on Instagram
- [Upload photos and videos](#) using our form that is linked on the [Program Resources](#) page of the Charlotte Tennis Association website.
- Encourage teammates to tag CTA too — the more perspectives, the better!

By The Numbers

2026 USTA Adult League

- 436 teams (+15 over last year)
- +7 teams at public park facilities (all teams were placed)
- 1,791 matches
- 392 unique captains

Rankings for USTA Leagues

- Ranked 1st in NC
- 2nd in the Southern Section
- 7th in the Nation for number of unique USTA League players
- 9th in the Nation for total number of registrations

2025 Notable Numbers Across Junior and Adult Programs

- 46 facilities
- 17,416 player registrations
- 66,000 play occasions
- 840 volunteers/captains

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- Thank you captains! This is a lot of tennis, across a lot of facilities, and we truly would not have teams—or leagues—without you stepping up. The time, organization, communication, and flexibility you provide are what make all of this possible.
 - Despite ongoing court availability challenges, we were able to place all teams. We also had 392 unique captains, which tells us two things: we have a lot of people willing to step up, and many of you are doing double—or even triple—duty to keep leagues running.

Summer Leagues

- Registration for summer leagues opens on April 1
- 4 different ways to play through the summer
 - USTA NC Singles
 - USTA Mixed Doubles
 - USTA Southern Tri-Level
 - USTA Flex Doubles
- Reminder; added 40 & Over age group in Tri-Level in 2025 (+37 teams)

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- So, what's next? It's already time to start thinking about summer league.
 - Registration for summer leagues opens on April 1
 - 4 different ways to play through the summer – Singles, Mixed Doubles, Tri-Level (added play division 40+ division) expect to grow more
 - There is something for everyone

Awards and Recognitions



Captain of the Year Award Criteria

Forms on Player Resources page on website
Deadline to submit; **July 15, 2026**

Criteria for this award are as follows:

- Nominee must be a current USTA Member.
- Nominee has made significant efforts to promote the USTA League program and to organize teams comprised of new and/or returning players.
- Nominee has made significant efforts to provide a fun and positive experience for teammates and other USTA League program participants.
- Nominee demonstrates exceptional organization and communication skills.
- Nominee provides a positive team experience, builds team camaraderie, makes everyone feel as though they are a valued member of the team.
- Nominee demonstrates familiarity and complies with USTA and USTA League regulations.
- Nominee demonstrates good sportsmanship.

Other factors to consider:

- Recruiting new players or organizations to support the USTA League program.
- Tenure as a USTA League player.
- Tenure as a captain and number of teams captained.
- Captains and/or participates across multiple league programs.
- Captain has led a team through a local season as well as post season play including state, sectional or national championships.
- Attends captain's meetings.
- Meets timelines/deadlines set by local league.
- Nominee goes above and beyond. Organizes team practices and social gatherings.

- Captain of the Year, is selected based on nominations submitted by players. Those submissions are reviewed by a committee, and the award recognizes USTA League captains who demonstrate an encouraging attitude and excellence in sportsmanship, leadership, communication, and organization.
- What you see here is the criteria used in the selection process. When submitting a nomination, please be as specific as possible and include as much detail as you can. This shows that our captains of the year recipients truly go above and beyond.
- We are fortunate to have many outstanding captains and receive great submissions each year. Thank you to everyone who takes the time to nominate a captain. If your captain isn't selected this year, please continue to submit them for consideration in future seasons.
- Award forms are available on the website, and the deadline to submit is July 15, 2026.

Outstanding Captains of the Year

Mary Eshleman
(Providence Plantation)



Samantha Abbott
(Public Park Facilities)



In just four years as a USTA League player—and three as a captain—this leader has guided teams across multiple programs and levels, advancing teams to states and sectionals while creating an environment that balances competition, fun, and inclusion. Known for her organization, creativity, and genuine care for players, she builds strong team culture through thoughtful lineups, motivating messages, and meaningful connections on and off the court. Beyond her own teams, she recruits new players and helps grow league tennis at her club, all while exemplifying the sportsmanship and community spirit of the USTA League. She is more than a captain—she is the heart of her teams and a true connector.

We are proud to announce that **Mary Eshleman is one of the Charlotte Metro Captains of the Year!**

Across multiple seasons and programs, this captain has built teams that are not only successful, but intentionally inclusive and exceptionally well run. In just three years as a USTA League player and captain, she has led teams in Summer, Fall, Winter Flex, and Spring, guiding them to strong regular-season results and the Adult League State Championships. Her leadership blends organization, vision, and heart, creating teams that are both competitive and deeply connected. She recruits players from across Charlotte, mentors new members, and ensures everyone has the chance to play. She fosters a positive, disciplined, and supportive team culture where players compete hard and cheer even harder for one another, building confidence and camaraderie that lasts well beyond the season. We are excited to announce that **Samantha Abbott is our other Charlotte Metro Captain of the Year!**

The recipients will receive the jacket shown here. If you run into them on the courts, please be sure to congratulate them—they've earned it.

Captained the Most Teams

- Jeff Morse (13) - Captained 13 of 14 teams he played on, across 4 Leagues
- Katie Cronin (7) - Captained 7 of 9 teams she played on, across 4 Leagues
- Allison Broemel (7) - Captained every team she played on, across 4 Leagues
- Emilia Anderson (7) - Captained 7 of the 9 teams she played on, across all Leagues, except the Flex League

- Between just these 4 captains that's almost 500 registrations!

USTA League Reminders and Regulations



USTA League Reminders

- USTA League Program Resources
 - Found on the CTA website at www.CharlotteTennisAssociation.com under Adult Menu / USTA League Tennis
 - Contains USTA Regulations, awards forms, Coman tie-break procedures, rain make up forms, playoff schedule and guidelines, new captain's guides
- Questions - email Robyn at USTALeague@CharlotteTennisAssociation.com
- Communicate!
- Ask Questions!



USTA League Reminders

Schedules

- Check all match start times and locations
- In lieu of skip week pushed out start date
- Check player availability now; determine whether you have conflicts later in the season
- Other than the first week of season any rescheduling at all needs to be played before the regularly scheduled match date

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- In lieu of skip week pushed matches up to start a little later.
 - Captains should communicate with their teammates when they receive requests to accommodate conflicts, particularly with spring break weeks. Spring break weeks fall at end of the season so don't forget.
 - Remember, other than the first week of matches (week of 2/15 - not necessarily your first match) any rescheduling at all needs to be played before the regularly scheduled match date.

USTA League Reminders

Full Team Defaults

- Must play a majority of lines for a match to be valid
 - 3-line matches must play at least two lines
 - 4 and 5-line matches must play at least three lines
- If a team defaults two or more full team matches a grievance will be filed against the entire team
- Remind your players when they register, they are making a commitment to play

- Check player availability now. If you think you might run into issues or be facing a full team default, please reach out early so we can try to work something out and still get a valid match played.

USTA League Reminders

Scorecard Correction

- Captains/players are strongly advised to confirm scores and player names with one another at the conclusion of the match to avoid confusion with incorrect scorecard entry.
- Captains have until 2 weeks from the time match scores have been entered to request a correction to a scorecard. After that time, unless a scorecard exchange can be produced (via attachment in email or photos of scorecard) with both line-ups entered (done at time of match) no requests towards changes can be made.
- Captains must complete the [Scorecard Correction Form](#) to request scorecard changes.

- Use linked Scorecard Correction Form to request a change to a scorecard

Regulations

When playing indoors, courts must be available for the full duration of the match. If courts are not available for the entire match, the match should be recorded as a retirement by the host team.



Regulations

Players with an expired self-rating that then self-rate at a higher level in order to register for a team are NO LONGER allowed to finish out the season at the lower level.

- This is important to keep in mind with summer registration opening on April 1.
- If someone is prompted to self-rate tell them to stop their registration until they complete their Adult League season.

Regulations

- In accordance with Metro USTA League Regulations, teams are expected to play if the courts are playable. In cases of extreme weather conditions—such as high winds, below-freezing temperatures, or extreme heat—matches may be rescheduled at match time if both captains/players agree, and the reschedule must follow the rain makeup policy.
 - While players may begin communication earlier, the decision to reschedule should not be based on forecasts or the anticipation of extreme conditions. Players are expected to report to the match site to assess conditions, potentially warm up, and then make a decision about play. Each line should determine for themselves whether they feel comfortable playing.
 - If players on individual lines are willing to play and the others are not, standard default procedures apply.



Regulations

- In the event of a default, the lowest positions are defaulted first. The chart below shows which courts are defaulted first, based on the number of missing players and match type. This rule does not apply to the Tri-Level League, where any line may be defaulted.
 - Comment: Taking a default and then playing the match for fun can create confusion about the match's validity and sends a mixed message about the spirit of play. Everyone is present and willing to play, yet still choosing to default. It's best to avoid defaulting in these situations and simply play the match.



Championship Guidelines

- The following local leagues will receive invitations to the State Championships:
 - USTA Adult League
 - USTA Mixed Doubles League
 - USTA NC Singles League
 - USTA Southern Tri-Level League
 - USTA Southern Combo Doubles League
- Invitations per level of play:
 - 1-29 teams: One invitation
 - 30-44 teams: Two invitations
 - 45 or more teams: Three invitations

- We don't have any divisions this season with 45 or more teams, however, we may have that many in the fall Combo Doubles League.

Championship Guidelines

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.



State Championships

65 & Over - now 4 days
May 14-17, 2026 (Greenville)

55 & Over - now 4 days
May 28-31, 2026 (Greensboro)

18 & Over
June 11-14, 2026 (Lake Norman)

40 & Over
June 18-21, 2026
Winston-Salem (Women)
Hickory (Men)

40 & Over Reminder
(all levels except 2.5 women):

- Local play; 1 Singles and 3 Doubles
- State championship and beyond:
1 line of singles and 4 doubles

- 55 & Over and 65 & Over age groups state championships are now 4 days instead of 3.