

Lakeshore Tennis League

Rules and Regulations

SPORTSMANSHIP - The Lakeshore Tennis League was created to provide new opponents for league members as well as to foster competition and good sportsmanship. Hopefully these goals will be practiced throughout the season. Players exhibiting unsportsmanship conduct may be reported to the League director.

MATCH SCHEDULES - The time, date, and site of each match will be decided by mutual consent of the scheduled players. The match should be played any day during the week scheduled. If, for any reason, you are unable to play the week scheduled (vacation, injury, etc.) you **MUST** notify your opponent ahead of time. This will prevent your opponent from taking a possible default (see FORFEITURES). Any exceptions to this rule must be mutually agreed upon by the players involved. Either player listed has the responsibility of scheduling the week's match. Players are encouraged to contact other opponents if the scheduled opponent is unavailable. Remember the purpose of our league is to provide enjoyment - NOT frustration!

PRACTICE MATCHES - Lakeshore league members are encouraged to contact players from other divisions for practice matches. The main objective is to have fun playing tennis. You are not restricted to playing just league matches.

FORFEITURES - Matches not played within the scheduled week may be played at a later date only with the mutual consent of both players. Players may agree to play at a later date in the event of illness, injury, personal emergency, or other condition. If you are leaving on vacation, please notify your opponent **BEFORE** leaving. **A member who feels that his scheduled opponent has not made himself available for play may declare a forfeit and be awarded a default.**

The following "three strikes – you're out" method for declaring a forfeit was approved at the 2001 banquet:

- 1) Contact your opponent to schedule a match.
- 2) If there is no reply to the first message - leave a second message.
- 3) If there is no reply to the second message - leave a third message stating that if the opponent does not establish contact by a certain date (a week for example) that you will declare a forfeit.
- 4) If there is still no reply - send notification of the default to the League director (please include dates messages were left).

Defaults are awarded based upon an honor system – please allow sufficient time between contacts (a week for example?) for an opponent to respond to a message. If neither player notifies the League director that there is a problem, defaults will NOT be recorded. (revised 2001)

EQUIPMENT - The player in the left-hand column is expected to provide three new playable balls for each match. Therefore, each player is responsible for providing balls for about half of his matches. Please comply

with this policy. At the start of a third set either player may, at his own expense, open a new can of tennis balls (ref: banquet 2002)

As an extra COVID precaution if each player wants to provide their own balls they may do so as long as they are of like kind (Extra Duty for hardcourt are recommended)

PLAYING MATCHES - Service will be determined by traditional racquet spin. Rules of the USTA will govern play. All matches are **BEST TWO OUT OF THREE SETS**, and the sets must be completed the same day except when interrupted by darkness or inclement weather. In the event that a set is tied at six games each, a twelve-point tiebreaker should be used (see below).

Alternate set tiebreaker methods:

If **BOTH** players agree **BEFORE** the start of the match one of two alternate scoring methods may be used in place of a twelve-point tiebreaker:

- 1) Instead of playing a twelve-point tie-breaker when a set is tied at six games each, players may continue playing until one player achieves a two game advantage (LTL - 1998).
- 2) A deciding Match Tie-break game may be played when the score in sets is one-all. This 10-point tiebreak game replaces the third set. (ITF Rules of Tennis Appendix V 2015)

TWELVE POINT TIE BREAKER- 7 out of 12 points ("Wimbledon" method as approved by ILTF) for singles play. Player A serves first point from right court; player B serves points 2 and 3 (left & right); player A serves points 4 & 5 (left & right); player B serves point 6 (left) and, after players change sides, point 7 (right); player A serves points 8 & 9 (left & right); player B serves points 10 & 11 (left & right); and player A serves point 12 (left). If points reach six-all, players change sides and continue as before. Player A serves point 13 (right); player B serves points 14 & 15 (left & right); etc. until one player establishes a margin of two points. Players change ends for one game to start the next set, with player B to serve first.

INTERRUPTED MATCHES - If play is interrupted or discontinued by mutual consent, play is to resume at that point in the match. You do not begin the whole match over. Therefore, if sets are 1-0, games are 5-4, and play is stopped, you continue within that week at that point with whoever was serving, with no points or advantage to anyone. The sets remain at 1-0 and games 5-4. Scheduled matches have priority over make-up matches.

REPORTING MATCH RESULTS - The match results are to be reported by the winning player to the League director upon completion of the match. Acceptable methods of reporting match results are by email, text, or phone call (number and email address provided at end of rules & regulations). All matches should be completed by the deadline indicated on the match schedule. There will be additional time at the end of the schedule for make-up matches (usually 2-3 weeks at the discretion of the League director).

LEAGUE STANDINGS - Standings are determined by individual win-loss records. Each division will be ranked according to the number of wins. If there is a tie in the number of wins the person completing the most matches will be ranked higher. It is necessary to play off ties for only the first place in each division. If there is a multiple tie for first place, the order of play will be determined by the league recorder who will initiate a drawing or coin toss. Ties for other than first place will be resolved by awarding the higher standing to the winner of the regularly scheduled match.

LEAGUE RULES - League rules may be added, deleted, or modified by a simple voice vote taken at the end of season awards banquet.

Any questions or concerns please contact us: lakeshoretennisleague@gmail.com

