

Local League Rules are specific to Santa Barbara and are applied in conjunction with the 2021 National and Sectional League Rules and Regulations.

1. Captaining:

- A) New Captains must attend any Captains' Meeting or New Captains' Meeting called by the Area League Coordinator.
- B) All Team Captains are required to manage team matches and team activities, which includes representing your team at Captains' Meetings and keeping your players informed of local, sectional and national regulations as well as local and championship play. Anyone attending a Captains' Meeting as a representative for an experienced captain must give all handouts and notes to the Captain ASAP after the Meeting.
- C) Captains are responsible for actions of their players and their spectators during each match.
- D) If the Captain is not going to be at a match, the Captain must give the opposing Team Captain the name of the "Acting Captain" and his/her phone number.

2. All Santa Barbara USTA/SCTA Leagues will be played in the format of the best of two tiebreak sets with a 10-point match tiebreak in lieu of a third set.

3. Each Team Captain shall give every player on his/her Team Roster the opportunity to play a minimum of two matches during the league season. (Although there are no roster limits, your roster should not be so big that this cannot be accommodated.)

4. Lineups are to be exchanged before match start time. All players shall be present before exchanging lineups. If a player is not present before lineups are exchanged, that player shall be placed in the #3 doubles position for a 3-line format and in the #2 singles position or #3 doubles for a 5-line format. Per USTA Regulations, no substitution may be made in an individual match after the lineups have been presented except for injury to, illness of, or disqualification of a player prior to the start of the match.

5. USTA rules will govern play. Default time will be 15 minutes after the schedule match time. Captains are responsible to enforce the rule. 5 minute warm up with the opponents, with match starting NO later than 15 minutes after scheduled match time. When a player on any court is more than 15 minutes late, that court is defaulted.

6. If a player arrives past the 15-minute default time, that court is defaulted. If the players on both teams decide to play in spite of the late arrival, the match will stand as an official match. There is no "playing just for fun."

7. It is recommended that all cell phones are turned OFF before the match begins. Otherwise, set any cell phone on vibrate. Per Friend at Court: "A player may not receive information via electronic devices such as cell phones and smartwatches." And "A ringing cell phone is a deliberate hindrance; if an opponent's cell phone rings during a point, the player may immediately stop and claim the point."

8. Since Local League play is un-officiated, teams have done the following to help resolve line call or foot faulting issues: Stop play. Ask your Captains or two players (one from each team) to stand on the court at each end of the net. Splitting the court in half lengthwise, they will make a line call or a foot fault call on their side of the court, ONLY when asked by one of the players

9. Entire team match defaulted by choice of team or captain will eliminate that team's eligibility to play in Sectionals and for playing in the next Local League season.

10. All matches must be played on "Hard courts." The only exception is if the visitors agree for a particular match, and it's requested 4 days prior to match.

11. **Rescheduling matches:** Once a final schedule has been generated and posted on-line, there may be reasons why a match may need to be rescheduled. If both teams agree to a reschedule, and there is sufficient time within the league season to do so, the following will be followed:

A) A rescheduled date and time must be agreed upon within one week of the original match date, otherwise, it will be recorded as a Team Default against the team that asked for a reschedule.

B) A rescheduled match must be played before the end of the local league season or before a local flight playoff (whichever comes first); otherwise, it will be recorded as a Team Default against the team that asked for a reschedule.

C) Rescheduled matches may fall under the "No Penalty" or "Penalty" guidelines. **No Penalty if:**

- A minimum of 4 players on the team is representing that area at a USTA/SCTA league Playoff or Championship.
- The Home Facility scheduled an unplanned event and there are no courts available on or off site.
- Due to Unplayable Conditions: In case of bad weather - rain, fog, wind, smoke from fire, ash, heat (95 Degrees), etc. - the Home Team Captain shall notify the Visiting Team Captain of court conditions the day of the match, but not more than 2 hours before match time, in order to be sure of court playability. The Home Team Captain shall be on the site in order to make that decision, or can postpone the match having received notice from the tennis facility that the courts are unplayable. The notification should be made by phone because an email might not be read in time. Two hours ahead gives time to notify all players of the decision and still be able to arrive on time. Once a decision is made that "unplayable conditions" exist, the match will be rescheduled.
- For the weather site of choice-see your Local League Regulations (LLR). If no site is designated, use: www.accuweather.com. The ALC may confirm "Unplayable Conditions" if there are any questions or disputes.

12. Captains are jointly responsible for confirming the match, time, number of courts, etc. with each other, by the Wednesday preceding the match. If you fail to confirm, matches will be played as scheduled. **The visitors supply the tennis balls.**

13. For straight level leagues, each team each team must have 50% of players at level. If there is a league of only two teams in a level of play then each team must maintain its roster with at least 40% of its players at the designated NTRP level of play.

14. Please make sure that your team is a positive example of goodwill on the court. It is the responsibility of the captain to understand the rules and ensure that their players are familiar with the most common situations and play using the principles of The Code (of Conduct). **If there is a reason to research the correct rule in a match, the players can stop play and look it up in a rule book or online. The references listed below are posted on the 1st page of the Santa Barbara Leagues website, for your reference. Santa Barbara Leagues website: <http://ustasocal.com/adult/leagues/santa-barbara>**

- A) These **SANTA BARBARA LOCAL LEAGUE REGULATIONS** (under Area Updates)
- B) **NATIONAL & SECTIONAL REGULATIONS** (under FORMS & INFORMATION)
- C) **FRIEND AT COURT** (under FORMS & INFORMATION)