

IRMSL Tennis League

Friday 55+ MENS 3.5-4.0

Part I: Organization Rules (Effective September 16, 2021)

League Guidelines

1. Administered by IRMSL Tennis League
 - a. Jessica Agee-Bradshaw
 - i. jessicaabradshaw10s@gmail.com
 - ii. Cell (770) 330-0696
 - iii. Website – irmsltennis.net
2. Play conducted under USTA Rules, The Code and Friend at Court unless existing league rules are in place to specify otherwise.
3. Soft court surfaces will be used only for league play.
4. Clubs/facilities within Martin & St. Lucie Counties are eligible to enter teams.
5. No guest fees will be charged to the visiting team.
6. League will play three (3) positions of men's doubles.
 - a. Strength to weakness
 - b. Strongest players on position #1 on down
 - c. One (1) point awarded for each position won
7. Teams are comprised of 3.5 & 4.0 male players.
 - a. No 4.5 player allowed to be newly rostered effective 9/16/21
 - b. Any 4.5 "caliber" players previously rostered are grandfathered effective 9/16/21
8. A club/facility may field multiple teams in the league.
 - a. A player who is a member at a club/facility with multiple teams is restricted to playing for only one (1) team during a season.
9. A club/facility must commit to have sufficient number of courts available throughout the league season to host their home matches.

10. Team registration of \$100 is required to be paid prior to match play
 - a. Checks – JABAAR LLC – PO Box 518 – Palm City, FL 34991
 - b. Venmo & Zelle available – contact Jessica Bradshaw
11. Additional committees -
 - a. Advisory committee - each league season this committee will exist to assist the league administrator if needed & will be comprised of all the team captains
 - b. End-of-season event committee – if such an event will be held, a committee will be formed and be in place for that league season
12. **IRMSL TopDog** will be the league’s scoring website
 - a. Manage teams
 - b. Print scorecards
 - c. Enter scores
 - d. View stats/standings
 - e. Web address - [IRMSL Tennis League | Topdog Sports \(topdoglive.com\)](https://www.irmsltennis.com/)

Part II: League Operating Rules

Teams

1. Each team shall roster and maintain a minimum of ten (10) players
 - a. Roster limited to twenty-five (25) players
 - b. Each team shall have a playing Captain
 - i. A Co-Captain is strongly suggested but not required

Players

1. Must be at least 55 years of age on the first day of the current season.
2. Will be of a 3.5 or 4.0 rating/skill level.
 - a. No 4.5 rated/skilled players are allowed to be newly added to the league effective 9/16/21.
3. Should be a resident or non-resident member of the participating club/facility he is being rostered on for a period of three (3) months or longer.
 - a. The league administrator must be notified in writing of any exceptions & approve such players.
4. If belongs to multiple clubs/facilities, he can only be rostered on & play for one (1) for the entire league season.
5. Must be rostered on the team before playing in a match.
 - a. Captain will submit player info to league administrator to be added
 - i. Full first & last name (correct spelling of both)
 - ii. Email address
 - iii. Phone contact number (cell phone preferred)
 - iv. City, State & Zip player resides
 - v. Rating/skill level – ex 3.5 or 4.0 (will be verified)
6. Once a player's rating/skill level has been established, it will remain as such for the entire current season.
7. **MUST** have played in at least two (2) regular season matches to be eligible to play in the playoffs.
 - a. If a player's scheduled position is forfeited/defaulted by the opposing team, he will receive credit as a match played towards playoff eligibility.

Format of Play

1. Best 2 out of 3 sets with a super tiebreak (first to 10 points by 2) played in lieu of a full 3rd set.
 - a. If all four (4) players agree, a full 3rd set can be played & will be scored as 1-0
2. **Coman Procedure** used for all tiebreaks
 - a. Set score 6 games all - tiebreak first to 7 by 2 points
3. A ten (10) minute break after the 2nd set is allowed if desired by either team.

Matches

This is a FUN league set up for all to get some exercise, have some fair honest competitive play. Gaming the system, cheating, underhandedness or behavior less than honorable will not be tolerated!

1. Strength to weakness will be the concept maintained in weekly lineups.
 - a. Strongest players must be played on position #1 on down.
 - i. Regardless of sickness/injury on day of match
 - ii. If a complaint is received, it will be reviewed. Upon completion of review, if it is found that strength to weakness was violated –
 - a. Offending team will lose the win for that position.
 - b. Offending team will be assessed an additional penalty point from their total current season points to-date.
2. Scheduled match start times will be between 8:00 am and 12 noon. 10:00 am is preferred to accommodate traveling.
3. New cans of yellow tennis balls appropriate for soft courts will be furnished by the home team opened in the presence of both teams.
 - a. No titanium or practice balls allowed.
4. A ten (10) minute warmup is allowed after lineups are exchanged or at the scheduled match start time.

5. A twenty (20) minute wait period shall be in place for a tardy player.
 - a. Present players may continue to warmup
 - i. Tardy player – past 10 minutes of scheduled match start time – forfeits his warmup
 - b. Both Captains can agree to give tardy player additional time.
 - c. In the event that the tardy player does not show up within either the allotted given 20-minute or subsequent agreed upon timeframe –
 - i. Tardy player’s position is defaulted & his partner does not get to play in the match.
 - ii. Neither team gets to adjust their lineup or change pairings.
6. All conflicts should be addressed and tried to be resolved by the captains on site.
 - a. If this cannot be done, both captains shall submit in writing to the league administrator a recap of the event(s) for resolution.
 - i. The advisory committee minus the two (2) captains involved may be consulted.
7. A total of fifteen (15) minutes may be taken as a medical time-out or to assess and treat an injury.
8. Refreshments may be served at the discretion of the home team after the match.

Rescheduled Matches

Should only be used in the case of inclement weather, unplayable court conditions, natural disasters, pandemics & other situations deemed reasonable by the league administrator.

- ❖ Important – A match is not considered to be started until the 1st serve has been struck whether it was good or not. This means that position #1 could still be in their warm up when position # 2 has officially started their match. In case rain comes at this moment, position #2 will need to be resumed by the four (4) players on the court as is. Position #1 players could be changed by both teams if needed because they did not officially start their match.

1. Captains of both teams must advise the league administrator via email of any matches that will be rescheduled including the reason & all makeup arrangements.
2. Should be played within the following week if at all possible.
 - A match already in progress being completed on another day -
 - Players that started the match must be the same players to continue play
 - Play resumes exactly where it was left off
 - Same set score, game score, team/person serving, team/person receiving
 - Individual positions for an in-progress match being completed on another day may be played on different days upon agreement by all four (4) players involved.
 - All four (4) players are responsible for confirming & reporting the final score to their captains
 - A match already in progress is delayed but hopes of being resumed same day -
 - Both Captains need to agree on how long to wait for the courts to become playable before trying to resume play
 - It only takes one (1) player to say they don't feel safe playing & play will not resume
 - A match where both teams are at the match site but match play has not begun and play will begin on another day -
 - Lineups can be changed by both Captains
 - Any previous divulged forfeits are null/void
 - A match where both teams are at the match site but match play has not begun with hopes play may begin soon/same day -
 - Both Captains need to agree on how long to wait for the courts to become playable before trying to begin the match
 - It only takes one (1) player to say they don't feel safe play & play will not begin

Scheduling

1. Season shall normally run November to April.
2. A regular season shall consist of – at least but not limited to - each team playing every other team once at home and once away.
 - a. Additional “round” of play can be scheduled if
 - i. Number of weeks permits
 - ii. Captains agree
 - iii. Is in the best interest of the league
 - b. Playoff can be scheduled
 - i. Number of weeks permits
 - ii. Captains agree
 - iii. Is in the best interest of the league

- ❖ **2021-2022 Playoffs:** Ten (10) team league - At the end of this regular season, teams 1-4 in the standings by total points will play in the Ashe division and teams 5-8 in total points will play in the Sampras division. Teams 9 & 10 in the standings are finished for the season.
 - 1st playoff match – April 1st Higher finishing team in the regular season standings will be the home team (see chart below)
 - 2nd playoff match – April 8th Higher numbered team will be the home team (see chart below)

April 1st	Team 1 vs Team 4	Team 2 vs Team 3
	Team 5 vs Team 8	Team 6 vs Team 7
*****	*****	*****
April 8th	Winner of 1 vs 4 plays Winner of 2 vs 3	Loser of 1 vs 4 plays Loser of 2 vs 3
	Winner of 5 vs 8 plays Winner of 6 vs 7	Loser of 5 vs 8 plays Loser of 6 vs 7

If two or more teams have the same number of total points, below – in order – is how ties will be broken -

- 1st - win/loss results in head-to-head match play looked at
- 2nd - total number of games won looked at
- 3rd - a one match three (3) position playoff will be played.
 - A flip of a coin will determine the home team.

3. Once published, match dates/times are not subject to change for any reason other than inclement weather, unplayable court conditions, natural disasters, pandemics & other situations deemed reasonable by the league administrator.

Captains Responsibilities

- ❖ Be the spokesman for the team.
- ❖ Attend Captain's meetings or send a designated representative.
- ❖ As home captain, contact the visiting Captain two (2) days prior to the match to -
 - Confirm number of courts playing
 - Confirm directions to your club/facility
- ❖ Print the lineup and scorecard for exchange with the opposing captain.
- ❖ Home team Captain is responsible for entering match results on the website by 5:00 pm the day the match was played.
- ❖ Coordinate with team members and the captain of the visiting team any "reschedule" matches.

End-Of-Year Event

If one is to be held, a committee will be formed –

- Of current season league players to
 - Organize the event
 - Handle collecting any monies needed to cover the cost of the event either per player or per team