



Mount Vernon Community Tennis **Junior's Division Rules**

Revised November 20, 2015

1. Purpose

1. The purpose of the Mount Vernon Community Tennis League, Junior's Division is to promote tennis in the community for all levels.

2. Eligibility

1. Teams shall consist of recreation clubs within approximately a 5 mile radius of George Washington's Mount Vernon.

2. Eligible players must be 18 or under at the start of the season by the first match and a bona fide member of the recreation club. No player can play for two clubs in the same division.

3. A player can only be on one roster during a season. Rosters should be given to the scorekeeper by the end of June. A player can switch rosters if they have not already played for another team.

4. Rosters must consist of boys and girls.

5. A \$40 league fee is required for each team.

6. Each team must have an adult tennis representative to act as captain at each match. The captain will be responsible for contacting other team captains prior to matches to discuss lineups, etc. This person does not have to be the "coach" – should be a parent representative.

7. Teams should be run by parent volunteers, not employees of the clubs involved.

3. Levels

1. Each team match shall consist of two singles and one doubles per age level for three levels: 18 and under, 14 and under, and 12 and under. A training level can be played for any age and not counted in the total points.

2. Players can play up an age level, but not down. A player must play in the appropriate level based on his/her age at the time of the first match of the season.

4. Play

1. Play will be according to USTA rules and Code of Conduct.

2. League play day for the Junior's Division is Wednesday mornings beginning at 8:30am or Sundays starting at 5pm. Singles begin play at 8:30 and doubles will follow, unless a change is mutually agreed upon by the captains. A 9:30 arrival time for the secondary matches is reasonable.
3. Play will consist of an 8 game pro set, with a 12 point tiebreaker, if needed. Training matches will consist of a 6 game set. In extreme conditions, a vote can be taken by team captains to cancel match. Majority rules.
4. Lineups must be exchanged by captains 10 minutes before the match begins. The scorecard on the day of the match must have at least 1 girl in the lineup. * If there is no girl on the line up 10 minutes prior to the beginning of matches the other team will automatically win one of the matches. The match that is won cannot be determined by the team, it will just be an automatic win.
5. Lineups should be by strength alone and not manipulated for a win. Manipulating within an age group (i.e. having a stronger player play in the number 2 singles slot and a weaker player in the number 1 slot in order to win the number 2 match) is considered stacking. However, it is not stacking to move a weaker player up an age group when there is a vacancy in the older age bracket. This allows a strong player the opportunity to play in the number 1 singles slot in his/her appropriate age group. Complaints concerning "stacking" or "sacrificing" should be reported by e-mail to the scorekeeper ASAP. Multiple complaints may result in loss of points, and if not corrected, dismissal from the league.
6. If a player is more than 30 minutes late, the match is forfeited to the opponent. If possible, a substitute of the same level as the player missing can be played. If one cannot be found, then a non-counting match should be played to ensure as much play is possible for all who showed up.
7. Players may play officially, only once, in the same match. For example, they may not play singles and then doubles on the same day.
8. Rain dates will be moved to the end of the season and played on the designated play day unless another date can be mutually agreed upon by the two captains.
9. Individual makeup matches can be played at the player's leisure, but must be made up within two weeks of the original play date.
10. Scores to be called in or emailed to the scorekeeper by the home team within 24 hours of the end of the match to ensure timely update of the results.

5. Matches

1. Matches begin the first Sunday or Wednesday 4 days after FCPS last day of school. Match play on Father's Day is at the discretion of the Captain's to agree upon preseason.
2. The home team is required to provide playable courts, water, new balls for each court and refreshments.
3. The home team captain should contact the visiting team captain prior to the match to discuss match specifics (i.e. court situation, rain plans, full lineups, defaults, etc.).

4. Coaching is allowed during change over (reasonable time limit) if both coaches from opposing teams are present. If only one coach is present, then coaching is prohibited. Calls will be the sole responsibility of the players, unless it's a training match.

5. One adult or a mature tennis player should be assigned to each training match, if possible, to encourage learning for the players. One person may be able to handle multiple courts if necessary. Scorekeeping and serving positions are the type of things this person will help with.

6. Bad language or etiquette will be handled by both coaches in the following manner: One warning, then loss of game, then loss of match.

7. If a child gets three or more bad calls, they may ask for both representatives, one from each team, to assist.

6. League Administration

1. League administration should be made up of volunteers from each participating club. Officers should, at the minimum, include: President, Vice President (the next President in succession), Secretary, Treasurer and Scorekeeper. Officers serve for two years. The Presidential succession follows the following pattern LHP (2014, 2015), SRA (2016, 2017), MVP (2018, 2019), MH (2020, 2021) HM (2022, 2023) WW (2024, 2025) RG (2026, 2027) LHP 2028, 2029). There will be one vote per team.

2. An end of season captain/coaches meeting to be held within two weeks after play has ended, followed by a luncheon/round robin play for all players hosted and organized by the administrating club.

3. Awards for the winners to be organized by the league for presentation at the luncheon.