



## SSTA Rules of Doubles Tennis Play

### **FORMAT:**

Matches are played in a competitive rotational partner format. Each session consists of 24 games, weather permitting, as follows: Coed doubles teams (2 men/2 women) play 2 sets of 12 games with each partner. All other teams play 3 sets of 8 games with each partner.

Starting court assignment for the season will be determined by League Co-Directors based on previous season standings and play level.

The equipment manager provides the balls, score cards, and clipboards. Each session's court sheet will indicate the rotation of either 1 UP/1 DOWN or 2 UP/2 DOWN and total points for each player thus far in the season.

### **RULES OF PLAY:**

1. Spin the racket to determine which team serves first. The first server will continue to serve first after each rotation of partners.
2. Warm up for 10 minutes to avoid injury.
3. First Ball In (FBI) is used for each player's first serve. Prior to the start of play determine if FBI is on the deuce side only or both deuce and ad sides.
4. FIRST DEUCE is played out. SECOND DEUCE is game point, and the receiver chooses the side to receive on.
5. Switch ends on odd games.

### **SUBSTITUTION PROCEDURES:**

You have been provided with a list of SSTA members willing to substitute for you whenever they are free to do so. Only SSTA members may sub. Please call, text or email a substitute

player (sub) from the list with the same playing abilities to cover for you. Tell your scorekeeper who your sub is. No Show = No Points + Court Drop!

You are permitted three subs for the season to be considered a regular player and eligible for awards. Regardless of your sub's score, you will earn no more than the average of your season score.

### **LATE ARRIVAL PROCEDURES:**

Any player arriving at the end of the 10-minute warm up time will enter their assigned court and will have a 3 minute "injury prevention" warm up. Courts missing a player will play Canadian Doubles until the player arrives. Players will not be moved up or down to fill in. Only the court missing a player is affected. The late player will enter the round, with a 3-minute warm up, and may begin earning points from that game on. The other players keep all points earned prior to the late player's arrival.

Canadian Doubles: One player plays singles for 8 games (these do not have to be consecutive games...some play 4&4). Each player takes a turn as a singles player. Doubles players must play to the singles lines for the singles player. Singles players may play to the doubles lines for the doubles teams. Record games won in each set (total games played for each player = 24). Serve rotates from side to side, doubles team starting 1st.

**Let League Directors and Scorekeepers know of injuries ASAP.**