



## **CAPTAIN GUIDELINES**

### **Junior Team Tennis – GRETA 2022**

#### **Safe Play**

Each team captain shall be in compliance with the USTA Youth Protection Policies and Procedures for USTA Junior Team Tennis. A team captain or assistant captain must be USTA Safe Play approved in order to receive an official team # and match schedule. To find out more information about Safe Play and to begin the Safe Play approval process, please go to this website: <https://www.usta.com/en/home/safe-play.html>. Becoming Safe Play approved is free and takes approximately 1.5 hours of hands-on time, in addition to a background check which may take several days.

#### **Team Composition**

Teams are non-gender specific and must include a minimum of 6 players. There are no restrictions on the maximum number of players, but a suggested team roster would be 8 players to ensure players get ample playtime and to lessen the chance of defaults caused by lack of player availability. Roster size should be based on player commitment and availability. Players may be added to a registered team after the initial team registration deadline, however, players must be officially registered in TennisLink prior to participating in a match. Any player not listed on the roster in accordance with these rules shall be considered an ineligible player, and match results of ineligible players will be considered a default.

#### **Registration & Team #s**

In order to register a team and receive a team number, captains must submit a copy of their roster and Safe Play approval to the JTT Coordinator.

#### **Match Day Responsibilities**

- Exchange line-ups with the opposing team's captain. All players must be present on site in order to be included in the line-up. There will be a grace period of 15 minutes for late players. Late players may lose the opportunity for a 5-minute warm-up. If a player fails to show up within the 15-minute grace period and a team does not have at least 3 players present on site the match will be forfeit.
- Once a match is finished, the scorecard must be initialed by each captain to signify their approval of the reported score. The home team captain must enter the match scores on Tennislink within 24 hours of the match. Do not allow your players to leave the site before the final match score is tallied. The match winner is determined by the total number of games won. In the event of a tie, a 7-point tiebreaker will be played on the court that was the last to finish. If a player leaves the site and is unavailable for the match tiebreaker, the tiebreaker will be defaulted and awarded to the opposing team.
- Prior to the start of your match and during match play, keep your players in close vicinity to your court so they are immediately available when it is their turn to play.
- In the event of a rain-out, matches must be rescheduled and played within 2 weeks of the original match date. Please inform the JTT Coordinator of any rescheduled matches.

**Coaching.** Team Captains are allowed to coach only during match changeovers and only from outside the court. Only one Team Captain, Assistant Captain, or appointed substitute captain can provide coaching during a match. Coaching should be used for positive reinforcement and must not exceed the 90-second rule for changeovers. Captains may not comment on the score or line calls during match play, nor correct any confusion over score/service rotations/changeovers/etc. while the match is in play. Captains and spectators are not allowed on the court once play has begun. Coaching is not permitted during a tie-break (with the exception of the 10U Beginner division and with the permission of the JTT Coordinator). If help is needed during a tiebreak, the Site Coordinator should be notified.