SOUTH GEORGIA/NORTH FLORIDA WOMEN’S TENNIS
2017-18 B LEAGUE RULES

I.  ELIGIBILITY
   A.  Players should be 18 years old to be eligible to play in the League.
   B.  College students who play varsity team tennis are not eligible to play in the League.

II. RULES
   A.  United States Tennis Association Rules and Code are in effect for all play.

III. DUES & FEES - DEADLINE OCTOBER 31ST
   A.  League Dues are due October 31st and are $10.00 PER PLAYER, which includes the cost of the year-end luncheon.  Note that this is a reduced fee for the current year which was voted on at the 8/17/17 Captain’s meeting.  Previously annual dues were $20.
   B.  Court Fees for the City of Tallahassee teams will be determined on a yearly basis. The amount for the 2017-2018 season will be $TBA PER PLAYER.
   C.  Make one check payable to Georgia/Florida Tennis League or Janie McFarlain - NOT to the City Rec. Dept. Captains, please mail all your team’s checks (10 checks) at one time to Janie McFarlain. (see page 6 for address). Or send one check from the captain.

IV. MATCH FORMAT
   A.  “B” League play consist of 5 doubles matches.  All individual matches count one point.
   B.  All matches should be played on the scheduled date.  If all 4 players agree to play prior to the match dated, this is permissible.  The only exception to playing after the scheduled match date is if the match was delayed due to weather.
   C.  The home team furnishes new USTA approved balls (top quality, soft or hard court).
   D.  Captains may call each other prior to the match and should call about any potential problems.

V. MATCH TIMES
   A.  Warm-up starts at 9:15 am.  The home team Captain is responsible for seeing that the matches start promptly at 9:30am
   B.  Warm-up time (including practice serves) is fifteen minutes.  If opponents are late arriving, players should warm-up with team members to have full warm-up time. Late players arriving after 9:30 will be penalized as follows: (Please note: Late players are entitled to a 5-minute warm-up)
      9:31-9:35am - loss of toss plus one game
      9:36-9:40am - loss of toss plus two games
      9:41-9:45am - loss of toss plus three games
      9:46am - default

VI. SCORING
   A.  Each individual match consists of the best two out of three sets.  All matches, once started, must be played to completion or be defaulted. (Exception: See Sect. X, Rule C)
   B.  The seven-point tiebreaker will be used if the score in any set reaches six games all. The tiebreaker procedure is as follows:
      The Coman Tie Break procedure is the same as the old tie break (set or match), except that ends are changed after the first point, then after every four points(i.e. after the 5th, 9th, 13th, 17th points, etc.) and at the conclusion of the tie break. The scoring in the Coman Tie Break is the same as a set or match tie break. For example, if the Coman Tie Break is used when the set score is 6-6, the player whose turn it is to serve shall serve the first point from the deuce court; after the first point, the players shall change ends and the following two points shall be served by the opponent due to serve next, starting with the ad court; after this each team shall serve alternately for two consecutive points (starting with the ad court), changing ends after every four points until the end of the tie break game.
      The tie break counts for one game and is written 7-6(4), the “4” is the number of points LOST by the winning team. After the tiebreak, players change ends and the team that DID NOT start the tiebreak now starts the next set.
   C.  In the event two teams split sets in August or September, if all four players at any time during the match agree to play a 3rd full set, they may do so. Otherwise, a 10 point Super-Tie Break (using Coman Tie-Break Procedure) will be played. After September, a third full set will be played unless all four players at any time during the match agree to a third set super- tie break. The Super Tie-Break, or 10 pointer, is played the same as the 7 point tie break (using Coman Tie-Break procedure), the first to 10 points with a margin of 2 points wins. It should be recorded on the score sheet as the actual score (i.e. 10-6)

8/24/2017
VII. ROSTERS

A. All teams must submit a complete roster by August 14th to our B League Executive Committee (EC), which consists of the B League Coordinator, Statistician, Sub List Coordinator, Website Coordinator and City Team Draft Coordinator (see page 6 for address/email address). A roster is not official until it is approved by the B League Executive Committee. To ensure proper placement, the EC will review all rosters and check players’ records going back two years, including any USTA records. The Draft Coordinator must be a player on a city team as she is responsible for helping city teams fill their rosters with players.

To be implemented for 2017-18 season, a roster must be filled from the top down, meaning there cannot be a permanently empty spot at the top positions. Players must move up to fill any empty spots. The only acceptable empty spots will be at B5. A permanent sub can fill a position, but for no more than 50% of matches. See VIII. H. for more information.

B. Prior to October 1, a team’s approved preliminary roster may be changed without approval from the EC. A roster change is not for a single match, but to change the line-up going forward. Never forfeit the higher position and have the roster play down from their original position. You may forfeit a lower position and have players move to higher positions as team subs at any time. The revised final roster needs to be submitted by October 1st to the EC and if approved by the EC, the League Statistician will include the changes in the next published score sheet and revise the official team roster.

C. After October 1st, if there is a permanent change in the roster, the EC MUST approve the change and the League Statistician will include the changes in the next published score sheet. The EC’s decision on a roster may be changed at any time based on match results that shows a player is too strong to play at that position. If the team disagrees, a grievance may be filed following the procedure outlined in section XIV.

D. Regular players may not move down. The only exception for regular players is in performance. Any time during the year at the discretion of the captain, a doubles pair that has lost two consecutive matches may be moved down one position to adjust her team to reflect the descending order of strength. After October 1st, the EC MUST approve the change and the information by 8:00pm Friday evening prior to the scheduled Tuesday match and will send an approval or disapproval to the requesting captain. The EC will send the roster change to the League Statistician. The change will be included in the next published score sheet as a permanent roster change.

E. Three people can fill one position on a team. Each person will be responsible for paying the League dues, administrative fee and city court fees, if applicable. The Excellence Award will be forfeited because they will not be playing with the same partner every game.

VIII. SUBSTITUTIONS

A. Captains must submit a list of subs and their designated positions that they will use for the season on August 28th at the Captain’s Meeting or before. If the sub will sub for that team only, it must be noted. These names will be used to generate an official ranked sub list, which will be provided to each Captain at the beginning of the season. Subs may move up but not lower than their designated position on the sub list.

B. All subs must be on the B League sub list to play in a match. If a sub needs to be added or their designation changed, email the B Sub Coordinator, Sharon Dailey before 8:00 p.m. on Monday before the match on Tuesday. She will add it to the official sub roster after approval from the B League Executive Committee. Captains are expected to be aware of additions and changes. A complete B Sub List will be mailed out after 8pm on the Monday before our Tuesday match. Please do not call Sharon the morning of the match to arrange for the sub to be added to the list.

C. Substitutions must be placed where they belong in the lineup according to their strength so that the entire team is in a descending order of strength. Any other procedure is called “sandbagging” and is illegal. Every effort should be made to find a sub appropriate to the position needed.

D. Regular A6 League team players will be allowed to sub at the B1 position with a B1 player or B1 sub as a partner. Two regular A6 League team players will not be allowed to play together at the B1 position. The A6 player must be listed on the B sub list according to section VIII. B.

E. No individual player may play in more than one scheduled league match for the given week. This includes a position that has been forfeited. No player can be listed on the results sheet twice in the same week for the same match.

F. If an ineligible sub plays in a match and the team wins, it will be treated as a forfeit.

G. Players needing a sub should do the phoning and arrange the sub themselves. Do not leave it for the captain to do. Captains are responsible for providing their team members with the sub list.

H. Permanent Subs can only be used as a replacement for a regular member for 50% or less of the matches. The Excellence Award will be forfeited because they a permanent sub will not be a member of the team. If a permanent sub is used for more than 50% of matches, they will have to become a team member and are responsible for paying the $10.00 league dues. If a permanent sub plays more than 50% of matches in a year, any matches played after that will be forfeit.

8/24/2017
IX. FORFEITED MATCHES
   A. It is permissible to default an individual match in any position. The Captain must notify the other Captain by 8:00pm Monday or earlier.
   B. When a Captain calls to default a position prior to the match, she should first exchange lineups. She does this by taking turns with the other Captain after stating each of her positions and pausing to let the opposing Captain read her players for that position starting with “B1” and continuing down the roster. After the complete exchange of name, the defaulting captain then gives the names of her defaulting players. If either Captain fails to provide this information, she forfeits her right to file a grievance.
   C. The only exceptions are last minute emergencies. When a default occurs, Captains should list the names of all players involved and not just leave player slot blank on the score sheet. A player who has a forfeit for a match is not eligible to play in the same match against other opponents because they will be listed on the results sheet twice in the same week.
   D. Teams should be in descending order including forfeits.
   E. A match that has been forfeited at any time prior to 9:30am on the Tuesday it was to have been played is considered “completed” at 9:30am on that date if any other match in the league has been started. If all league matches are “rained out” (See rule X.A) before 9:30am on Tuesday, and no league matches have been started or are subject to possible later completion under rule X.E., a forfeit under this section is disregarded and all points will be split.

X. RAINED-OUT MATCHES
   A. In the event of inclement weather (rain, freeze, excessive wind and threatening weather, etc.), the home team Captain has the responsibility to determine whether a match should be cancelled. She also has the responsibility to call the other team captain before 7:30am in order to cancel the match. If no call is received, the visiting team captain shall assume the weather is acceptable to play.
   B. If all league matches are cancelled by the league coordinator, or by all captains because of the weather, points can be split unless the match was completed before 9:30am on Tuesday, and no league matches have been started or are subject to possible later completion under rule X.E. below, then all teams will split points.
   C. If not all the league matches were cancelled by captains or if any match was started but had to be halted because of weather then for all such matches, the points may either be split or made up as indicated in paragraph IX.E. below. For example, if a team forfeits a position prior to the match and the match is rained out, all 5 points will be split equally. If the teams decide to make-up the match, the forfeit is erased and can be made-up or the points split. If any match is completed before the regularly scheduled Tuesday match, the result stands regardless of a rain-out.
   D. If any league match was played to completion prior to the regularly scheduled Tuesday match time by prior agreement of the players and all other matches were cancelled on Tuesday for weather, the match(es) played prior to the regularly scheduled Tuesday time slot will be counted as a win or loss for the participating teams but shall not be counted for the purposes of VIII.E or X.B & C.
   E. A match that has been halted, or cancelled, and can be resumed or made up under these rules, may be played or completed on a date that is mutually agreed upon by both Captains (or by each pair of position players individually) but must be completed within 15 days of the cancelled or halted match date, excluding the original match date, weekends and holidays. If Captains (or each pair of position players individually) cannot agree to a make up date, the points will be split.
   F. Temperature Rule: The League Coordinator will make the decision if matches are called and points splits. This decision will be made by Monday at 8:00 p.m.

XI. RESULTS
   A. The home team Captain has the responsibility of getting the score sheet to the League Statistician, Katie Brennan (see address list page 6)
   B. If the results are not received after five (5) days (Sat), the home team’s points are forfeited. The visiting team keeps the points the visiting team won, providing the Captain, after receiving her result sheet, sends in her score sheet within 5 days to the League Statistician.
   C. Please make sure the sub is clearly indicated on the score sheet that is turned into the statistician. All changes to rosters, sub lists or corrections to the results sheet will be published on the following week’s results sheet.
   D. Captains should distinguish between a “forfeit” and a “rain out” on their score sheets. “Forfeits” should be indicated with the notation, “Forfeit-name of team receiving the point” even if the match could possibly be a “Rain-Out”. The “rain-out” notation should also include the “score” at the time the match was halted (i.e. “Rain out 6-4, 4-2 Ten Aces); or indicated that the match was cancelled by the home team and “never started” (i.e. Rain out – never started).
   E. The league statistician will notify all team captains by the weekly results sheet if any match in the league was started and indicate whether the matches “rained out” are subject to Rule X.B. (split or make-up rule) or whether all matches are subject to X.E and all teams will split points.

8/24/2017
XII. PLAYOFFS
A. The team that wins the Fall season with the most points and the team that wins the Spring season with the most points will have a playoff match to determine the League Championship.
B. In case of a tie at the end of the Fall or Spring season, the results of the last head-to-head match will decide the winner. If teams are still tied, the team with the fewest sets lost in a head to head match will be the winner. If the teams are still tied, the team with the most games won in the head to head match will be the winner. If the head to head match was not played, the match will be rescheduled.
C. A team line up must be submitted to the Steering Committee, c/o Joody Moates, five days prior to the playoff date. This rule must be adhered to or else the team will forfeit any grievance rights.
D. Substitutes must have played in at least two regular matches for any team during the current league year or subj must be pulled from the “C” League for the “B” League.
In order to cut down on the use of substitutes, individual teams who know that they can’t play on the scheduled date will be permitted to arrange with their opponents to play on another day, prior to the playoff match. If the opposing team cannot accommodate the other team, a sub will be permitted.

XIV. INJURY
A. In case of injury, a five-minute suspension of play is allowed.

XV. COACHING
A. No coaching is allowed during the match, except between the second and third sets and after the teams have left the court when a ten-minute rest period may be taken. Coaching may only occur off the court.

XVI. GRIEVANCES/STEERING COMMITTEE
A. Players should FIRST consult with their appropriate Steering Committee Representative before filing a grievance.
B. Grievance Reports are available if an alleged infraction occurs that needs to be brought before the Steering Committee. It needs to be mailed or emailed to the Steering Committee and the Captain of the team accused of the infraction. A response by the accused team to the grievance must be received within 10 days; otherwise, the grievance will be honored.
C. The Steering Committee member will be ineligible to vote if she actually plays on either team but may give guidance on whether it is a worthwhile grievance.
D. BLATANT WRONGDOING BY ANY CAPTAIN MAY RESULT IN A TOTAL LOSS OF POINTS FOR THAT MATCH.

Simply Smashing, Alley Cats, Double Dares :  
Killearn (2), Mid Court Crisis:  
Golden Eagle (1), Capital City (1):  
Bainbridge (2), Glen Arven (1):  
Representative At Large:  
"B" League Coordinator :  
Sas Johnson  
Patty Lang  
Joyce Simmons  
Steffey Vines  
Katie Brennan  
Joody Moates-(c)597-2724 (h)668-5639

XVII. HOSPITALITY
A. The Year-End Luncheon will rotate among the teams.

2016 – Bainbridge  
2017 – Capital City  
2018 – Killearn  
2019 – City Teams  
2020 – Golden Eagle  
2021 – Glen Arven  
2022 – Bainbridge  
2023 – Capital City  
2024 – Killearn  
2025 – City Teams  
2026 – Golden Eagle  
2027 – Glen Arven  
2028 – Bainbridge  
2029 – Capital City  
2030 – Killearn  
2031 – City Teams  
2032 – Golden Eagle  
2033 – Glen Arven
SOUTH GEORGIA/NORTH FLORIDA WOMEN’S TENNIS
2017-18 B LEAGUE RULES

XVIII. COURT COURTESY
A. As a courtesy to all other players, please refrain from these distractions:
   1. The use of active cell telephones on the court while the match is in progress.
   2. Bringing children or pets that could be a distraction during the match.
   3. Guests or teammates accompanying players should show the proper respect for all players while the match is being played. (Cheering for a bad shot is not sportsmanlike.)
B. The proper procedure will be:
   1. Issue a warning first
   2. If the distraction continues, the captains need to be notified and they will confer as to whether the match should be defaulted.

XIX. CHALLENGE MATCH PROCEDURE

A. There are two types of challenges:
   1. Challenge from one level to another, i.e. B-1 to A-6 and C-1 to B-5.
      a. These challenges must be completed 30 days after the draft is posted in June so the teams will be set for the season. Exception: The challenged pair can re-challenge within the ten-day period, even if the 30-day challenging deadline has passed if the challenged pair loses.
      b. There will be no challenging of one level to another after the team has been set for the year and the 30-day challenge period has expired.
      c. A doubles pair may not challenge the same pair more than once during the 30-day challenge period.
      d. A6 and B5 teams will be required to accept no more than two challenges in the 30-day challenge period.
   2. Challenges within the team for position, i.e. 2 to 1, 3 to 2, 4 to 3, 5 to 4
      a. Once a team has been set, challenging may continue during the year but only within the team positions.
      b. A captain may move players up or down one position at her discretion based on performance or she may suggest that the teams play a challenge match to adjust the team to reflect the descending order of strength. (See IV Match Format F.)
      c. Cross team challenges are not permitted. Challenges can be issued to the challenger’s team only.

B. Guidelines
   1. Doubles pairs have the right to challenge to improve their position and must defend their position by accepting challenges. Players must accept the first challenge issued and only accept one challenge at a time.
   2. If challenged, players must accept and agree to play within a ten-day period. Weekends and holidays are not included in the ten-day period. Two dates must be agreed upon, one to be used only if a rainout occurs.
   3. Doubles pairs may challenge one or two positions above. If the challenging pair wins, that pair takes the place of the losing pair and the pairs in between do not move.
   4. A substitute cannot issue a challenge. Players must be a member of a team to issue a challenge.
   5. A match will consist of the better of two out of three sets.
   6. After the challenge has been agreed upon, the match is forfeited if either pair is unable to play.
   7. Challengers provide the balls. Defenders choose the courts.
   8. If a player loses her partner (temporary or permanently, due to injury or vacation), she may defend her position with a league-approved substitute; however, a challenge may not be issued using a substitute.
   9. If a threesome exists in a position, the threesome has the choice of who plays the match. In the case of a rematch, the same people must play the challenge.
   10. If a problem arises, the "B" league coordinator can help resolve the issues.

8/24/2017
USA Tennis League Coordinator & League Treasurer:  
Janie McFarlain  
2014 Golf Terrace Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
Home: 878-3343  
E-Mail: janie@mcfarlain.com

B League Executive Committee:  
B League Coordinator:  
Joody Moates  
8376 Hunters Ridge Trail  
Tallahassee, Fl. 32312  
Home: 668-5639  
Cell: 509-4972  
E-Mail: jcmoates@comcast.net

Statistician & Excellence Award Coordinator:  
Katie Brennan  
Cell: 850-445-1131  
Home: 850-391-9125  
Email: KathleenLBrennan@aol.com

Sub List Coordinator:  
Sharon Dailey  
Cell: 850-544-3378  
Email: spdailly@embarqmail.com

City Team Draft Coordinator  
Margaret Mooney  
Cell: 850-339-6345  
Email: margmooney@yahoo.com

League Website Coordinator  
Rhonda Tullos  
Cell: 850-933-8355  
Email: rhondatullos@gmail.com