

## Tennis Rules & Guidelines – revised Jan 2019

### TENNIS RULES & GUIDELINES:

The tennis rules have been separated into Facility (F), Adult (A) and Junior Team (J) rules for clarity. The Tennis Committee will review these rules on an annual basis. If you have any suggestions or questions, or have a concern about rule violations, please let the Tennis Committee know. The Tennis Committee reserves the right to address any unforeseen problems that might arise, that are not specifically covered by these rules, and to act on such problems as it deems is in the best interest of The Falls of Autry Mill Tennis Program.

### FACILITY RULES:

F-1. Tennis courts are available for use by resident members, dependents living with a resident member and their guests only. Members or a dependent must be present when their guests are using the courts.

F-2. All members are to clean up after their matches. Items left on the courts should be brought to the clubhouse for the lost and found collection.

F-3. Court reservations should be made in advance of using the courts as the priority of use will be determined by the reservation. Reservations can be made via our website at [www.fallstennisclub.com](http://www.fallstennisclub.com).

F-4. Court reservations can be made up to 7 days in advance.

F-5. The Falls Tennis Committee and Tennis Director have the right to organize and present social outings and/or tournaments, and may therefore reserve the required number of courts in advance of the 7 day rule.

F-6. Cancellations of court reservations should be made so that others may sign up for the courts.

F-7. Reservations can be made for courts 1-12, 2 hours for doubles, 1 1/2 hours for singles. If these courts are congested, play will be limited to 1 hour for both singles and doubles. During the hours of regularly scheduled LEAGUE MATCH PLAY, availability of courts 11 and 12 may be limited at the discretion of the Tennis Director.

F-8. Court reservations will be forfeited if others are waiting and the court is vacant 10 minutes past the reserved time.

F-9. A member is limited to one court at a time. Additional courts may be used if available but must be relinquished upon request of another member.

F-10. ALTA and USTA makeup matches will take precedence over individual play and scheduled team practices, although the team captain or a team member must reserve the courts in advance even if it is their own practice time. Every effort should be made to contact the individuals that are being bumped. Bumping should be in the following order:

- (1) Unreserved courts
- (2) Team practice and/or lesson time of the team making up the match
- (3) Individual lesson

(4) Other team lesson by a random selection of courts

F-11. Non-league play or lessons shall not take place adjacent to regularly scheduled ALTA or USTA matches without the prior consent of both team captains involved. Makeup matches are excluded from this rule.

F-12. Only those people playing tennis are allowed on the courts. Parents are responsible for ensuring their children are supervised in such a manner that their activities do not disturb the tennis competition.

F-13. Proper tennis attire (tennis shoes and shirts) must be worn at all times on the courts. No black soled shoes or any shoes that will mark and/or damage the courts are allowed. Only shoes designed for tennis play should be worn on the courts.

F-14. No bicycles, skateboards, scooters, or rollerblades are allowed on the tennis courts. No recreational activities, except tennis, are allowed on the tennis courts.

F-15. No glass bottles are allowed on the tennis courts.

F-16. No smoking is allowed on the tennis courts or the surrounding areas.

F-17. Proper etiquette and behavior is expected from all those who are using the courts.

F-18. All formal complaints to the Tennis Committee shall be in writing in order for the complaint to be addressed and if necessary, forwarded to the Board of Directors for further consideration.

F-19. Only the Tennis Director and staff shall be allowed to provide professional tennis coaching and/or services at this facility. Subject to continued Board approval, non-residents may take private lessons or participate in open clinics with the Falls Tennis Staff after paying a usage fee (see F-20) to be remitted to the Falls HOA.

F-20. A \$35 Adult Non-Resident fee per calendar quarter shall be paid to the Falls HOA and managed by the Falls Tennis Staff. This usage fee entitles the non-resident to any one or more of the following Falls Tennis Program functions:

- (1) The ability to take private lessons from the Falls Tennis Pro Staff at their published rates.
- (2) The ability to participate in open clinics at the published rate.
- (3) The ability to play on a Falls Tennis Team (USTA and/or ALTA).
  - a. Team participation includes access to the team clinics at the agreed upon rate.
  - b. If the non-resident ONLY participates in a team, the \$35 fee paid shall cover the entire USTA or ALTA season if the season crosses a calendar quarter or year.
  - c. Captains may collect the fee for their teams and provide to the Falls Tennis Program staff.
- (4) The maximum fee to be paid by an individual for a calendar year is set at \$140.
- (5) The usage fee does NOT entitle a non-resident to reserve a court.
- (6) Any non-resident that does not or will not pay the non-resident fee will be revoked access to all Falls Tennis Program functions (teams, private lessons, open clinics). The non-resident may resume participation once any fees are brought current.

F-21. A \$10 Junior Non-Resident fee per calendar quarter shall be paid to the Falls HOA and managed by the Falls Tennis Staff. This usage fee entitles the non-resident to any one or more of the following Falls Tennis Program functions:

- (1) The ability to take private lessons from the Falls Tennis Pro Staff at their published rates.
- (2) The ability to participate in open clinics at the published rate.
- (3) The ability to play on a Falls Tennis Team (USTA and/or ALTA).
  - a. Team participation includes access to the team clinics at the agreed upon rate.
  - b. If the non-resident ONLY participates in a team, the \$10 fee paid shall cover the entire USTA or ALTA season if the season crosses a calendar quarter or year.
  - c. Captains may collect the fee for their teams and provide to the Falls Tennis Program staff.
- (4) The maximum fee to be paid by an individual for a calendar year is set at \$40.
- (5) The usage fee does NOT entitle a non-resident to reserve a court.
- (6) Any non-resident that does not or will not pay the non-resident fee will be revoked access to all Falls Tennis Program functions (teams, private lessons, open clinics). The non-resident may resume participation once any fees are brought current.

#### ADULT TEAM RULES:

A-1. Adult teams may be considered full with 14 resident members for ALTA and 12 resident members for USTA teams. Mixed doubles teams may be considered full with 16 resident members. Senior teams may be considered full with 12 resident members. This is to ensure that each player can play in a reasonable number of matches. Teams may be expanded beyond these guidelines based on a vote of the team members.

A-2. Teams must elect a captain, who is a Falls resident, each season prior to roster submission.

A-3. The team captain will be responsible for setting the line-ups and determining the level of play for each player on the team.

A-4. At the beginning of each season, captains must provide the Tennis Director with their rosters and schedule so that the courts can be reserved and posted for the season.

A-5. The team captains are responsible for monitoring the cleanup after team matches.

A-6. All resident players must be members in good standing of the Falls Homeowners' Association, having paid their annual dues and amounts owed to the tennis staff. They will not be placed on the roster until that is accomplished.

A-7. Poor sportsmanship or disrespect towards any player or the tennis staff will not be tolerated. Any violation should be reported to the Tennis Director and/or Tennis Committee. After three or more documented instances of inappropriate behavior, the player will be banned for one year from participating in any Falls events or team matches.

A-8. The Tennis Committee has the option to bill each Falls resident playing league tennis an annual per person fee. This fee will go to the Tennis Committee fund to cover improvements to the tennis facility.

A-9. Rules for new players:

- (1) Any new resident or non-resident player wishing to join a team must fill out a form that is available in the Pro Shop. This must be done for each season.
- (2) The Tennis Director will determine the level of play for the individual and place that player on the appropriate team.
- (3) A player whose rating will alter the level of the team cannot be added without a vote of the resident team members.
- (4) The Tennis Committee has the final decision on team placement.

A-10. Rules regarding the changing of ALTA/USTA teams:

- (1) Any player wishing to change teams must fill out a form that is available in the Pro Shop. This must be done for each season.
- (2) If there are spots available for a team you would like to move to, there will be a tryout with that team and the Tennis Director, who will advise as to the appropriate placement level.
- (3) A player whose rating will alter the level of the team cannot be added without a vote of the resident team members.
- (4) The Tennis Committee has the final decision on team placement.

A-11. Rules regarding addition of outside players to Falls teams:

- (1) In the event that existing teams do not have enough players to make a roster, outside players may be allowed to play on The Falls teams. Teams are allowed 4 non-residents on their roster or a team make up of 2/3 residents, 1/3 non-residents. Any exception to this rule would require approval from the Tennis Director and/or Tennis Committee.
- (2) The outside player is charged a fee per season (see F-20). The payment is remitted to the Tennis Committee. If an outside player does not pay the fee prior to the start of the season, then he or she will not be permitted to play tennis in the neighborhood and his or her team will not be allotted courts for their home matches until the fee is paid.
- (3) Outside players may not captain (outside players may co-captain with a resident captain), may not request to change teams (unless the other team has less than 2 outside players), and do not have voting rights.

A-12. To form a new team there must be a minimum of 12 players for the roster. Formation of a new team must be approved by the Tennis Director and Tennis Committee. The creation of new teams cannot jeopardize the viability of any existing teams.

A-13. Residents who relocate outside of The Falls assume non-resident status the season following their departure from the neighborhood.

JUNIOR TEAM RULES:

J-1. Juniors programs are for ages 17 and under.

J-2. Junior ALTA teams may be considered closed when the roster reaches 14 players. Any players in excess of that number may be considered as alternates only and may participate in practices but may be played in emergency situations only.

J-2. Junior USTA teams may be considered closed with 8 boys and 8 girls. Any players over that number may be considered alternates.

J-3. If a player is available for 5 matches, they must be given the opportunity to play in at least 2 matches. Every effort should be made to play each player by the third match. This does not apply to alternates.

J-4. Any child under 10 years of age must meet with a staff pro and pass a serving proficiency test before being allowed to be a regular member of an existing team. The child must also demonstrate the ability to understand the scoring system. No such test will be necessary if a new team is formed consisting of inexperienced players with the intent of allowing those children to play their way into skills. The serving test will consist of a warm-up period and 20 serves each from the ad and deuce courts. To be considered proficient, the child must be able to make 15 of the 40 serves in the appropriate box. This will be the minimum requirement.

J-5. Rules regarding addition of outside players to Falls teams:

- (1) In the event that existing teams do not have enough players to make a roster, outside players may be allowed to play on The Falls teams. Teams are allowed 4 non-residents on their roster or a team make up of 2/3 residents, 1/3 non-residents. Any exception to this rule would require approval from the Tennis Director and/or Tennis Committee.
- (2) The outside player is charged a fee per season (see F-21). The payment is remitted to the Tennis Committee. If an outside player does not pay the fee prior to the start of the season, then he or she will not be permitted to play tennis in the neighborhood and his or her team will not be allotted courts for their home matches until the fee is paid.