

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY FALL 2007 TEAM TENNIS
PLAYERS' GUIDELINES**

PURPOSE AND GOALS

- The purpose of BCTA team tennis is to provide tennis competition in an atmosphere of fun and fairness.
- BCTA team tennis goals include:
 - Improvement in individual play
 - Expanding understanding of tennis strategy
 - Development of friendship with team mates and players from other teams.
 - Having a good time on the court

BASIC INFORMATION

- A team consists of 6 to 12 players. (Captains in a given flight may set a max under 12)
- Each team match consists of 2 doubles courts for most levels of play.
- Play consists of best 2 out of 3 sets, with 6-6 ties settled by a “first to 7, win by 2 points” tie-break. If necessary and agreeable to both captains, teams may play a “first to 10, win by 2 points” tie-break in lieu of a 3rd set. When this tie break has been played, it is reported just as you would report a 3rd set. If not agreeable to both captains then a full 3rd set is played. *Agreement to play a 3rd set tiebreaker can come at any time during the match, but is generally not decided until after the 2nd set is played.* However, players should come expecting to play a full three sets.
- A team which does not field a court within 15 minutes of the designated starting time forfeits that court. In unusual circumstances, please remember that the goal is to play.

REMINDERS FOR CONDUCT OF PLAY

- The 15 minute warm-up includes practice serves. No “First one in.”
- If disagreement occurs on the score, go back to the score on which both sides can agree and resume play from there.
- If the receiving team does not see the ball land out, the ball is good.
- If two players on the receiving team do not agree on a call, the ball is good.
- If a player calls a ball “out” but then determines that it landed “in”, don’t continue play or ask for a replay. The point is awarded to the opponents.
- When a “let” is called due to outside interference during serve, the server is entitled to two new serves.
- Players who reverse positions:
Serve – if a player serves out of turn, the correct person resumes serving as soon as the error is determined, and all points remain. If a game is completed before the error is discovered, the order of service remains as altered.
Court sides (deuce court, ad court) – if the wrong person receives serve (has changed sides from prior games), players stay in same positions until the game is finished. The next game, they return to correct sides.
- A ball is in play until it lands out. If the ball hits a receiving player or is caught before landing out, the point is awarded to the opponents.
- If a “tie-break” is played to complete a set, that tie-break counts as a game. Thus, the team which received serve in the first point of the tie-break serves first in the next set.
- Players who make contact with the net with body, clothing, or racquet while the ball is in play lose the point. *USTA rules are applicable.*
- Cell phones should be off. If your cell phone rings during play, you lose the point.

TENNIS IS GREAT! ENJOY THE CHALLENGE