

# **EHSTL'08**

## **CHARTER AND BY-LAWS**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of the East Hills Summer Tennis League is to provide an opportunity for members to play competitive tennis in a league, to meet other players, **and above all, to have fun.** By applying for membership in EHSTL a person agrees to complete all matches within a reasonable period of the scheduled date, and to uphold high standards of **courtesy and sportsmanship** at all times.

### **II. DUES**

Yearly dues are **\$25** per player for the 1st event, and **\$7** per player for each additional event. Possible events are singles, doubles, and mixed doubles. This fee covers the cost of trophies, banquet, and league operating expenses. Dues should have been paid by **April 1**. There are **no refunds**. Mailings are an additional \$5.00.

### **III. LEAGUE ORGANIZATION**

There will be three main categories of competition, or events: singles, doubles, and mixed doubles. Each category is split up into several divisions of varying ability. During the regular season, each player/team in a division will be scheduled to play against every other player/team in the same division one time. In singles, there will be six (6) regular divisions of 16 players each. In doubles, there will be four (4) divisions of 11 teams each. In mixed doubles, there will be four (4) divisions of 11 teams each. A player may compete in more than one category, but no player may compete in more than one division of a single category.

### **IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee will consist of a president, a secretary, and representatives from each of the singles, doubles, and mixed doubles divisions. The Committee will employ a league secretary, whose duty will be to collect and compile scores, collect dues, keep records, figure standings, and reproduce and distribute these results periodically through the mail to the league members. The secretary will also handle publicity. Division representatives make division related decisions, hear and settle complaints, collect and report match scores to the secretary and if necessary, play tennis with newcomers in order to assess their ability and place them in the proper division. The secretary will receive a salary of \$300.00.

The Committee, as a group, will be responsible for all affairs of the league. It will plan the post-season banquet, be responsible for league finances, make long range plans, write the rules, and maintain the membership and waiting lists. It will hold periodic meetings called by the president, or as needed when requested by any of the division representatives. The Committee will have discretionary power on all matters pertaining to the league.

### **V. REGULAR SEASON**

The regular season will run for 18 weeks, beginning on the **April 19**. During this period, each player/team should play each other one time. Matches should be played within the week scheduled, and the scores reported promptly to the division representative by phone. The representative will phone the scores to the league secretary. The regular season **ends on August 24. No scores will be accepted after this date, there will be no exceptions.**

The weekly schedule of regular season play for all events in the current year will be sent with the rosters.

### **VI. POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT**

There will be a post-season single-elimination tournament open to all players in the league who completed all regular season matches, unless otherwise excused by the division representative. The preliminary rounds of the tournament will be held during the four weeks following the regular season. The players set up the dates and times for these matches. The finals for all events will be held on Saturday, **September 27 (rain date Sunday, September 28).**

The schedule of play for preliminary round and finals is listed in the **EHSTL'08** calendar. Play will be two sets, and a 20-point tiebreaker, if necessary, for all rounds. If you are not available to play during the scheduled tournament and cannot play earlier by mutual agreement, then you may not be able to participate.

**If you are not available to play the day of the tournament finals, then you must also forfeit your preceding match.**

## **VII. RULES OF PLAY**

A. USTA rules apply to all matches, except as noted below.

B. At any time when you are unsure or did not see if the ball bounced inside or outside the line, on your side of the court, **you must call that ball good.**

C. Once a match has begun, play should be continuous from the first serve until the match is completed. Should a player or team be unable to complete the match for any reason, other than darkness or weather, **that player/team must be defaulted and will lose the match if it can't be re-scheduled for a later date.** The loser's game score will stand from the time of the default, and the winner's score will be 10.

D. During the regular season, each match will consist of one 10-game pro-set, with regular scoring for each game. If the set is tied at 9-9, a 12-point tiebreaker will decide the winner. The tiebreaker is as follows: Retain the same serving rotation from the set, which is being played. The 1st player serves only one point, into the deuce court. Each subsequent server serves two points, 1st into the ad court, then to the deuce, throughout the remainder of the tiebreaker. The players switch sides after every six points are played. The first player to reach seven points, with at least a two-point margin, wins the match.

E. Tournament matches will be two sets, add/deuce with the 12-point tiebreaker at 6 all. If the first two sets are split, a 20-point tiebreaker shall decide the winner.

## **VIII. PLAYING OF MATCHES POLICY**

A. If possible, all matches should be completed within the week scheduled. In as much as there are circumstances when this is not possible; efforts should be made to complete them within three weeks of the schedule. If the players cannot agree on a mutually acceptable date, they should consult their division representative. If you do not have **two singles matches or one doubles match** played by the **end of May**, your playing history and situation will be reviewed and **you may be replaced and your dues forfeited.** Players/teams should have one-third of their matches played by **June 15.** The Executive Committee may take whatever action it deems necessary, if the division representative determines that players are unable or unwilling to schedule matches.

B. There will be a short warm-up period allowed prior to each match, such that there is sufficient time to complete the match. Matches, which are cut short due to darkness, rain, or time limit, should be rescheduled promptly. Play will resume from the score of the last completed game before which the match was stopped.

C. Results of matches from all divisions should be reported to the division representative, immediately after the match. If an automatic answering device answers the phone, be sure to speak clearly and loudly, stating the division, winner's name loser's name, and the score.

D. Each player or team should bring one can of new **USTA approved** tennis balls to each match. The Hi/Lo system for initiating matches and providing balls will be in force. Look up the date of the match beside the date will be indicated Hi or Lo. The highest team number is responsible to initiate call and provide balls if it is a HI week, The lowest team number is responsible to initiate the call and provide balls if it is a LO week.

## **IX. FORFEITURE**

A. Unless a match has started (see **VII-C**), **NO** forfeitures will be allowed. If you are having difficulty setting up your match, call your division representative early. **Do not wait until August.** Players who do not complete their matches may not be invited to participate in the league.

B. If a player is injured and cannot play the matches within a reasonable period of time, he must report this to the division representative. Should the injury be of a nature requiring a long time to heal, the Executive Committee may replace the player with a new member from the waiting list. The injured player will be placed on the waiting list, with preferred status.

## X. REGULAR SEASON PLAYER/TEAM RANKINGS

Players/teams will be ranked within each division according to the number of matches won. In the case of duplication, the total number of matches played, and finally the winning game (not match) percentage will establish the standings. As a result, **a match played and lost has more value than an unplayed match.**

## XI. PROMOTION/DEMOTION TO ANOTHER DIVISION

**Singles** - The first and second place finishers in each division in the regular standings must move up to the next higher division for the following season. The lowest two finishers may be required to move down to the next lower division for the following season.

**Doubles** - The first place finishing team in each division in the regular season standings must move up to the next higher division for the following season. The lowest finishing team may be required to move down to the next lower division for the following season.

## XII. ELIGIBILITY FOR THE FOLLOWING SEASON

Singles players or doubles teams **not** completing all their matches may not be invited to rejoin the league for the next season, unless there are exceptional circumstances (i.e. injuries). The Executive Committee will review the list of prospective players and teams for an upcoming season.

## XIII. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

An active member of the league must sponsor all new applicants for membership in EHSTL. The applicants will then be placed on the waiting list for singles, doubles, or mixed doubles, according to the date of application.

Age limitations - **Singles:** must reach 18 years of age during the season.

**Doubles:** must reach 18 years of age during the season or,  
reach 16 years of age during the season, if the child of the other team member.

## XIV. ADMITTANCE OF NEW PLAYERS

If a vacancy in a singles division comes about for any reason during the year, a new player may be admitted from the waiting list, on the basis of the player's seniority on the waiting list. If this occurs during the regular season, the new member **will assume the record** of the previous player. Players who have preferred status on the waiting list receive priority over all others on the waiting list. The new player must pay dues at full cost, even though he/she will only be completing the unplayed matches of the replaced player.

If a single-player vacancy should occur in a doubles team, the remaining member of the team may fill the vacancy with a new member of his choice. If this occurs while the season is in progress, the team shall **retain the previous record** it had established. To the extent possible the new player should be of similar playing ability as the replaced player. The division representative must be notified. The new player must pay dues at full cost.

## XV. SPLITTING OF DOUBLES TEAMS

In the event that a doubles or mixed doubles team separates between seasons and each player wishes to continue the following season with a new partner, each new team will be admitted to the appropriate division if there are openings on the roster. If there is not room for an additional team, the following rules will apply:

A. Members of the original team must decide which member will continue, and must notify the division representative of the decision. The member not chosen to continue will be given preferred status on the waiting list for that division.

B. If the original team members cannot decide who shall continue, the Executive Committee will decide. In general, rulings will be made in favor of the member having seniority in that division.

C. If a team wins their division, they must move up as a team. One-half of the team cannot advance to the next division.

## XVI. BANQUET

A banquet will be held as soon as possible after the post-season tournament. The banquet will consist of dinner, league business, and awards. The business will be a financial statement from the secretary and the election of the executive committee for next year. The cost of the banquet is included in the dues for league members. A member's right to attend the banquet without charge may not be transferred to a non-member. Non-member guests are welcome with advance payment of a guest fee, to be determined by the actual costs of the banquet.

## XVII. AWARDS

In each division, the first and second place finishers in the regular season, as well as the first and second place finishers in the post-season tournament will receive awards. These awards will be presented at the banquet or the tournament. Players must complete a **full season** to be eligible for awards.

## XVIII. GENERAL INFORMATION

### EHSTL'08 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President-	Elaine Griffin	724-325-4872	Secretary-	Dave Pozek	412-877-2406
Singles 0-	Art deMateo	412-795-6390	Mixed A & B-	Lori Stawovy	724-309-5444
Singles 1-	Ted Batt	412-374-6273	Mixed C & D-	Marv Chidester	412-271-8426
Singles 2-	Ed Gerstenhaber	724-325-5373	Doubles 1 & 2-	Beth Meier	724-396-1309
Singles 3-	Mike Lechmanik	412-741-6647	Doubles 3 & 4-	Mary Ellen Ottie	412-371-8686
Singles 4-	Betty Heim	724-733-7676			
Singles 5-					

### EHSTL'08 CALENDAR

March 31	Dues must be paid
April 14	Web site updated & rosters mailed to paid members who requested them
April 19	Regular season play begins
May 15	Standings updated on web site
May 31	Standings updated on web site (Minimum two singles matches played, one doubles match played)
June 15	Standings updated on web site
June 30	Standings updated on web site
July 15	Standings updated on web site
July 31	Standings updated on web site
August 15	Standings updated on web site
August 24	End of regular season play, <b>Final day to report scores !!!!</b>
August 25	Meeting of EHSTL board to set up tournament President's house 7PM. Reps to bring final league standings.
Aug 30-Sept 7	First round singles and doubles tournament matches completed
Sept 8-14	Second round singles and doubles matches completed
Sept 15-21	Semifinals, singles and doubles
September 27	<b>Tournament Finals &amp; Picnic at Monroeville Park</b> (Rain date - September 28)
September 27	Banquet reservation and guest fees due
October 3	<b>Banquet at Holiday Inn, Monroeville</b>

**ENJOY YOUR SUMMER TENNIS !!!!**