

City of Bloomington Adult Tennis League Rules and Guidelines



Welcome to the 2025 tennis season! The City of Bloomington is thrilled to have your team participating in our leagues this year. Tennis has a proud tradition here in Bloomington, and your involvement continues that legacy. If you have any questions or need assistance during the season, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. Wishing you and your team a successful and enjoyable season!

Anthony DiBella

League Director

Rosters

- A. City Roster/Waiver Form must be completed and signed by all members of your team. Players who have not signed your team's roster/waiver are considered illegal players. Roster/waiver forms should be EMAILED to the league director at adibella@bloomingtonmn.gov. They can also be completed on site, on the first night of play.

Schedules

- A. League play begins the week of May 29th, 2025.
- B. No games will be scheduled on 6/19, 6/30 7/1, 7/2, 7/3, 7/4.
- C. **Link to schedules:** teamsideline.com/bloomingtonmn

Games

- A. **Game Scores:** the winning team reports the final score for each game online. Teams will receive an email to report final scores. Scores will be automatically posted online, and standings will be updated.
- B. In the event of inclement weather, teams and players can check the **Weather Updates** page on Team Sideline. This page will provide the most up to date information and game status. Page link: [Weather Updates Page](#)
- C. Rain/Weather Policy: The Tennis Coordinator and Parks and Recreation Staff will make the final decision whether or not to cancel play.
- D. If rain or other inclement weather occurs any time after 4:30pm or during play, call or text Tennis Coordinator, Marcia Bach at 952-250-3454, and if she cannot be reached, please contact Anthony DiBella at 952-215-9788.
- E. Regular Season matches will **NOT** be made up if canceled prior to or during play due to weather. All matches that are completed prior to a weather cancellation will still be counted.
- F. If one or both members of a team are unable to attend their scheduled regular season matches, it is their responsibility to find substitutes. Substitutes must turn in a signed registration form/waiver.
- G. Any matches played with unregistered substitutes (illegal players) will be forfeited (10-0 loss).
- H. If neither team is able to play during their scheduled week, they may mutually agree to reschedule and complete the match before the following week's scheduled games.

Men's and Mixed Doubles Playing Rules

- A. Each team will play two 10-game pro set matches each league night unless there is a rainout that week.
- B. League standings at the end of 10 weeks will determine league champion. Ties will be broken based on the total head-to-head games won, then by the fewest games lost during the regular season, then by a coin toss.
- C. Any "no show" team will forfeit 10 games to each team against which it fails to appear.
- D. The second match of the night will begin as soon as both teams have completed their first match. This match should take place on the first available court and re-use match 1 tennis balls.
- E. No tiebreakers will be played during the regular season. The first team to reach 10 games is the winner; consequently, it is not necessary to win by 2 games. For example, a match could end with a 10-9 score.
- F. "No-ad scoring" will be used. The receiving team decides who receives the serve and the game point is at second deuce.

Women's Doubles Playing Rules

- A. Each team will play best two out of three set matches each league night, unless there is a rainout that week.
- B. League standings at the end of 12 weeks will determine league champion.
- C. Women's Doubles Champion will be determined by matches won.
- D. Awards will be given to all regular season league champions.
- E. Regarding in-game rules, such as line calls and settling disputes, the leagues follow the USTA Code of Conduct.

USTA Code of Conduct

- A. Courtesy should be extended to your opponent. If you do not know them, introduce yourself. Offer to spin your racquet to determine side and serve. After the match, it is courteous to shake hands and if your opponent has won, congratulate them!
- B. If you do not have an umpire, take on the job of linesman as well as player. You must call all balls as if you were a linesman and not the player, except that any doubt must be resolved in favor of your opponent.
- C. When you are your own linesman, your obligation is to call all balls on your side of the net, but also to help your opponent when requested. You must call against yourself any ball that you clearly see out on the opponent's side whether they have asked your opinion or not. (An exception is your partner's first serve in doubles.)
- D. Do not question your opponent's call unless asked. Ask your opponent's opinion when they are in a better position to see the ball than you. Do not enlist the aid of a spectator.
- E. Calls of "out" and "let" should be made instantaneously. A delay or doubtful call implies

that it was not seen clearly, and a ball you cannot call out is presumed good. On a point ending placement, in which you have no chance to return the ball, the instantaneous call is not so important as it may be to achieve accuracy in the call with a more careful look. In any event, do not claim a “let” because you did not see the ball.

- F. In doubles, if one partner calls the ball good and the other calls it out, the point goes to the opponents, as doubt has been raised, and it is not up to the two partners to come to any agreement.
- G. In doubles, the receiver’s partner should call the service line, and the receiver together with their partner should call the center and sidelines of the service court.
- H. If the first serve is obviously out, it is discourteous to return it across the net, unless of course, it is impossible to avoid the return.
- I. The foot-fault is one violation that cannot be called in the absence of a linesman or umpire. The person who foot-faults unknowingly is taking advantage of their opponent. The fair-minded person will break themselves of habitual foot-fault in practice, by asking others to observe their serve. The person who foot-faults knowingly is cheating.
- J. Exclamations in the course of play can be used against you, as the opponent is entitled to demand a replay. However, they must do so immediately and not go ahead with the point and claim a replay later, after they have lost the point.
- K. In doubles, in the course of play there should be no conversation between partners except brief and simple instructions, such as “mine,” “out,” “run,” etc.
- L. The intentional waving of a racquet or your arms, or the making of noise to distract your opponent is not permissible.
- M. With matches going on in adjoining courts, extend the same courtesies to those players that you would want for yourself. Do not retrieve your ball from or behind the adjoining court while play is going on. Do not ask for your ball or return a ball to the adjoining court while play is in progress.
- N. You must volunteer honestly against yourself such violations as double-hit, double-bounce ball, touching your body, or clothing, touching the net, reaching over the net, etc.
- O. Never try to take advantage of an opponent by serving before they are ready. Your opponent may ask for a “let” if you “quick -serve” them. However, if they either hit the ball or try to hit the ball, they cannot then claim they were not ready.
- P. During the match with no umpire present, the players must conduct the match in accordance with these rules. Players may not accept any coaching during the progress of the match. At no time should they consult with parents, friends, coach or spectators. If there is a disagreement as to the score, it can only be decided by the spin of the racquet.
- Q. Do not stall. This is gamesmanship to upset your opponent and a form of discourtesy. Stalling is defined as: a) excessive time being taken in arriving at a match to be played; b) excessive warm-up (more than 5 minutes); c) moving at abnormally slow speed between points; d) excessive time in toweling between games (limit 1 minute); e) extra time at the end of the first set that ends on even games (play must be continuous); f) server waiting at the net while receiver retrieves a ball; g) taking excess of 10 minutes between second and third

sets; H) unnecessarily discussion to catch breath; I) delay in clearing balls from the court between serves.

- R. Tennis is an enjoyable game for all participants. The game is spoiled for everyone playing and for the spectators if you engage in: a) loud postmortems after each point; b) complaints of the type of shots your opponent makes; c) sulking when you are losing; d) throwing your racquet; e) hitting the ball in anger; f) losing your temper; g) using vulgar language.

Locations

- A. **Valley View Playfields:** 9000 Portland Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55420
- B. **Dred Scott Playfields:** 10820 Bloomington Ferry Road, Bloomington, MN 55438
- C. **Jefferson High School:** 4001 W. 102nd St., Bloomington, MN 55437
- D. **Kennedy High School:** 9701 Nicollet Ave, Bloomington, MN 55420

Contacts

- A. Anthony DiBella (League Director)
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 - b. Office: 952-563-8676
 - c. Cell: 952-215-9788
- B. Marcia Bach (Tennis Coordinator)
 - a. mbach@bloomingtonmn.gov
 - b. Cell: 952-250-3454
- C. Tommy Comstock (Sports and Facilities Coordinator)
 - a. tcomstock@bloomingtonmn.gov
 - b. Office: 952-563-8738
 - c. Cell: 952-324-0917
- D. Parks and recreation office
 - a. Phone: 952-563-8877