

# IRMSL Tennis League

## Friday 50+ MENS 4.0/3.5

### Part I: Organization Guidelines

Effective November 14, 2025

Revised December 18, 2025 Rescheduled Matches

1. Administered by IRMSL Tennis League
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    - ii. Cell (770) 330-0696
    - iii. Website – [irmsltennis.net](http://irmsltennis.net)
2. Play conducted under USTA Rules, The Code and Friend at Court unless a written league guideline is in place to specify otherwise.
3. Soft court surfaces will be used exclusively for league play.
4. Clubs/facilities within Martin & St. Lucie Counties are eligible to enter teams.
5. No guest fees will be charged to the visiting team.
6. League will play three (3) positions of men's doubles.
  - a. Strength to weakness
  - b. Strongest players on position #1 down to position #3
  - c. One (1) point awarded for each position won
7. Teams are comprised of 4.0 & 3.5 male players.
  - a. No 4.5 player allowed to be newly rostered effective 9/16/21
  - b. Any 4.5 "caliber" players previously rostered are grandfathered effective 9/16/21
8. A club/facility may field multiple teams in the league.
  - a. A player who is a member at a club/facility with multiple teams is restricted to playing for only one (1) team during a season.
9. A club/facility must commit to have sufficient number of courts available throughout the league season to host their home matches.
10. Team registration fee of \$125 is required to be paid prior to match play
  - a. Checks – JABAAR LLC – PO Box 518 – Palm City, FL 34991
  - b. Venmo & Zelle available – contact LA
11. Additional committees -
  - a. Advisory Committee (AC) - each league season this committee will exist to assist the LA if needed & will be comprised of all the team captains

- b. End-of-season event committee – if such an event will be held, a committee will be formed and be in place for that league season
12. **IRMSL TopDog** will be the league’s team management/scoring website
  - a. News & Information (including these guidelines)
  - b. Manage teams
  - c. Print scorecards
  - d. Enter scores
  - e. View stats/standings
  - f. Web address -  
[https://irmsltennis.topdoglive.com/pages/club\\_information.asp?orgid=2101](https://irmsltennis.topdoglive.com/pages/club_information.asp?orgid=2101)

## **Part II: League Operating Guidelines**

### **Teams**

1. Each team shall roster and maintain a minimum of ten (10) players
  - a. Roster limited to twenty-five (25) players
  - b. Each team shall have a playing Captain
    - i. A Co-Captain is strongly suggested but not required

### **Players**

1. **Must be at least 50 years of age or turn 50 during the current playing season.**
  - a. **2025/2026 season deadline to add players is Thursday 3/12/26.**
2. Will be of a 4.0 or 3.5 rating/skill level.
  - a. No 4.5 rated/skilled players are allowed to be newly added to the league effective 9/16/21.
3. Each individual club/facility has its own rules/guidelines governing WHO can play on their teams. This is not up to the league.
  - a. A member may be defined as one who pays HOA/POA dues or club membership dues **or team dues**
4. If is a member at multiple clubs/facilities, he can only be rostered on & play for one (1) club/facility for the entire current league season.
5. Must be rostered on the team before playing in a match.

- a. Player will submit a [Brand New Player Form](https://form.jotform.com/222644387305154) to LA to add any new players - (click above or cut/paste the address below <https://form.jotform.com/222644387305154>)
- 6. Once a player's rating/skill level has been established, it will remain as such for the entire current season.
- 7. Must have physically played in at least two (2) regular season matches to be eligible to play in the playoffs.
  - a. Recorded defaulted matches do not count toward playoff eligibility

### **Format of Play**

1. Best 2 out of 3 sets with a super tiebreak (first to 10 points by 2) played in lieu of a full 3<sup>rd</sup> set.
  - a. If all four (4) players agree, a full 3<sup>rd</sup> set can be played & will be scored as 1-0
2. [Coman Procedure](#) used for all tiebreaks
  - a. Set score 6 games all - tiebreak first to 7 by 2 points
3. A ten (10) minute break after the 2<sup>nd</sup> set is allowed if desired by any player or either team.

### **Matches**

This is a FUN league set up for all to get some exercise & to have some fair, honest, competitive play. Gaming the system, cheating, underhandedness or behavior less than honorable will not be tolerated!

1. Strength to weakness will be the concept maintained in weekly lineups.
  - a. Strongest players must be played on position #1 on down.
    - i. Regardless of sickness/injury on day of match
      1. If a complaint is received, it will be reviewed. Upon completion of review, if it is found that strength to weakness was violated –
        - a. Offending team will lose the win for that position.

- b. Offending team will be assessed an additional penalty point from their total current season points to-date.
2. Scheduled match start times will be between 8:00 am and 12 noon. 10:00 am is preferred to accommodate traveling.
3. New cans of yellow tennis balls appropriate for soft courts will be furnished by the home team opened in the presence of both teams.
  - a. No titanium balls or practice balls allowed.
4. A ten (10) minute warmup is allowed after lineups are exchanged or at the scheduled match start time.
5. A twenty (20) minute wait period shall be in place for a tardy player.
  - a. Present players may continue to warmup
    - i. Tardy player – past 10 minutes of scheduled match start time – forfeits his warmup
  - b. Both Captains can agree to give tardy player additional time.
  - c. In the event that the tardy player does not show up within either the allotted given 20-minute or subsequent agreed upon timeframe –
    - i. Tardy player’s position is defaulted & his partner does not get to play in the match.
    - ii. Neither team gets to adjust their lineup or change pairings.
6. All conflicts should be addressed and tried to be resolved by the captains on site.
  - a. If this cannot be done, both captains shall submit in writing to the LA a recap of the event(s) by 9:00pm day of conflict for resolution.
    - i. The AC minus the two (2) captains involved may be consulted.
7. A total of fifteen (15) minutes may be taken as a medical time-out or to assess and treat an injury.
8. Refreshments may be served at the discretion of the home team after the match.

### **Rescheduled Matches**

Should only be done in the case of inclement weather, unplayable court conditions, natural disasters, pandemics & other situations deemed reasonable by the LA & AC.

- ✚ Important – A match is not considered to be started until the 1<sup>st</sup> serve has been struck whether it was good or not.
  - This means that position #1 could still be in their warm up when position # 2 has officially started their match. In case rain comes at this moment, position #2 will need to be resumed by the four (4) players on that court. Position #1 players could be changed by both teams if needed because their match did not officially start.

1. Captains of both teams must advise the LA via email or text of any matches that will be rescheduled including the reason & all makeup arrangements.
2. Must be played to completion within thirteen (13) days.
  - **Excluding holiday weeks where the league has no scheduled play.**
  - A match already in progress being completed on another day -
    - Players that started the match must be the same players to continue & complete the match
    - Play resumes exactly where it was left off
      - Same set score, game score, team/person serving, team/person receiving
    - Individual positions for an in-progress match being completed on another day may be played on different days upon agreement by all four (4) players involved.
      - All four (4) players are responsible for confirming & reporting the final score to their captains
  - A match already in progress is delayed but hopes of being resumed same day -
    - Both Captains need to agree on how long to wait for the courts to become playable before trying to resume play
      - It only takes one (1) player to say they don't feel safe playing & play will not resume
  - A match where both teams are at the match site but match play has not begun and play will begin on another day -
    - Lineups can be but are not required to be exchanged
    - Any previous declared forfeits/defaults are null & void
  - A match where both teams are at the match site but match play has not begun with hopes play may begin soon/same day -

- Both Captains need to agree on how long to wait for the courts to become playable before trying to begin the match
  - It only takes one (1) player to say they don't feel safe play & play will not begin

**Scheduling**

1. Season shall normally run early late November to early April depending on the number of teams participating.
2. A regular season shall consist of, but is not limited to, each team playing every other team once at home and once away.
  - a. Additional "round" of play can be scheduled if -
    - i. Number of weeks permits
    - ii. Captains agree
    - iii. It is in the best interest of the league
  - b. Playoff can be scheduled
    - i. Number of weeks permits
    - ii. Captains agree
    - iii. It is in the best interest of the league

- ❖ **2025-2026** Playoffs: Seven (7) team league - \*At the end of this regular season, teams 1-4 in the standings, by total points, will enter a playoff.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> playoff match – Semi "A" March 27<sup>th</sup> Higher finishing team in the regular season standings will be the home team (see chart below)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> playoff match – Semi "B" March 27<sup>th</sup> Higher ranked team will be the home team (see chart below)

March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Semi "A" Team 1 vs Team 4	Semi "B" Team 2 vs Team 3
*****	*****	*****
April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	League FINALS	Winner "A" vs "B"

*\*If two or more teams have the same number of total points, below, in order, is how ties will be broken (as shown in TopDog)-*

- 1<sup>st</sup> - win/loss results in head-to-head match play looked at
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – most individual matches won
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – highest total number of sets won
- 4<sup>th</sup> – highest total number of games won

3. Once published, match dates/times are not subject to change for any reason other than inclement weather, unplayable court conditions, natural disasters, pandemics & other situations deemed reasonable by both the LA & the AC.

### **Captains Responsibilities**

- ❖ Be the spokesman for the team.
- ❖ Attend Captain's meetings or send a designated representative.
- ❖ Home team Captain, contact the visiting Captain two (2) days prior to the match to -
  - Confirm number of courts playing
  - Confirm directions to your club/facility
  - Discuss any other pertinent information – ie bring water
- ❖ Print the scorecard with pre-populated lineup (player's names) for exchange with the opposing captain.
- ❖ Home team Captain is responsible for entering match results on the website by 5:00 pm the day the match was played & the
- ❖ Visiting Captain is responsible for confirming those match entries within 24 hours.
- ❖ Coordinate with team members and opposing Captain for any "reschedule" matches.

### **End-Of-Year Event**

- 2025/2026 will have a combined event with the Tuesday Men's league -
  - Tentative date is Tuesday April 7, 2026 @ Buttonwood
  - Those participating will pay the required charges individually