

TCA Friendship Ladder Rules 2017/2018

TCA's Tennis Ladder is designed to create good competition, and a high level of fun, while increasing our member's skills and allowing them to meet other members.

Each challenge period will be given an odd or even designation, with **the first being even**, the next odd, and so forth (**odd or even will be designated at the top of the ladder, both in the club house and on the web.**) During each challenge period, the players on the designated rungs will be allowed to challenge the person in the rung above them. If the challenger wins, then the people will switch places (i.e. if you are on an "even" rung, and you challenge and "odd" rung and win, then you move up. The next week you will be able to challenge again since you are now an "odd" rung. If you lose, the positions stay the same and you wait to be challenged next week.) The ladder will begin **Monday, October 23, 2017** and end **Sunday, January 21, 2018.** **The Tournament is TBA.**

Please remember that signing up for the ladder is a **responsibility**, and in order to make the ladder effective, players must be willing to make those **obligations**.

Ladder Rules

1. You may only challenge the person **directly above you**, except during the 3-up challenge weeks (**see rule 17**)
2. Either as a challenger or challenged, you should play **one** match a week.
3. The challenge will be one (1) week long (Monday through Sunday).

Exception: Dec. 18 - Dec 31 is treated as one week.

4. The challenger arranges the match, and must give the challenged a minimum of two (2) alternative times; one (1) of these **must** be on the weekend; the other on a weekday. Please be cooperative when arranging matches.
5. If the challenged is unable to play the match, a **default** should be recorded, and the positions exchanged. Default should not be considered a four-letter word. In order for the ladder to be effective and fair, players need to take the legitimate defaults and keep moving.
6. Both the challenger and the challenged bring a **new** can of balls to the match. You play with one can, the winner takes the unopened can and the loser takes the can used in the match.
7. Each match will be best 2 of 3 sets with regular scoring, and a twelve (12) point tie breaker at six (6) all in any set. If a 3rd set is required it will be played as a Traditional ten point tiebreaker (NOT the KOMAN Rotation).
8. If the challenger wins, positions are exchanged, if not, positions remain the same.
9. The **winner** is responsible for recording the outcome of the match in the challenge record book, located at the front desk.
10. All challengers **must** contact their opponent by **Wednesday** of the challenge week. Challenged must have a minimum of two (2) days advance notice to schedule the match. If challenged after Wednesday, the challenged is under no obligation to play the match, but is **encouraged** to do so.
11. The ladder will be changed by Noon Monday of the next week, according to the challenge record book. If it is not in the challenge record book, your match will not be recorded. Defaults are important in facilitating movement in the ladder.

12. Once on a division, you must remain there until you can challenge onto the bottom of the higher division, or be dropped to the top of the lower division.
13. Should a ladder position be vacated, a person on the waiting list, or a bye, will be added to the vacated slot.
14. If either player fails to arrive within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled start time, the challenge is either dropped or defaulted, depending on which player is late. If a match is defaulted, it should be recorded as such.
15. If you join late, you can join at the bottom of division three (3) Women or four (4) Men, or go on a waiting list for the first open slot on division one or two or three.
16. There will be no "no default weeks" (i.e. Thanksgiving week will be treated as any other week). Instead the two (2) weeks of December 18 - 24 and December 25 -31 will be treated as one (1) week.
17. **3-up challenge.** In order to mix up the ladder (a little more movement) we will have 4 x "3-up" challenges as follows:

Week 2: 3-up Odd Oct 30

Week 5: 3-up Even Nov 20

Week 8: 3-up Odd Dec 11

Week 11: 3-up Even Jan 8

The first 3-up challenge will be Week 2; Oct 30 - Nov 5; an Odd week, the #13 will challenge #10, #11 will challenge #8, #9 will challenge #6, etc. Due to the nature of the 3-up challenge two (2) to three (3) (depending on odd/even week) at the top or bottom of the ladder may be without a challenge.

Thanks and have fun!

If you have any questions please call Liz or Monica at 262-1691

Week 1: Oct 23 - Oct 29 = EVEN
Week 2: Oct 30 - Nov 5 = ODD 3-UP
Week 3: Nov 6 - Nov 12 = EVEN
Week 4: Nov 13 - Nov 19 = ODD
Week 5: Nov 20 - Nov 26 = EVEN 3-UP
Week 6: Nov 27 - Dec 3 = ODD
Week 7: Dec 4 - Dec 10 = EVEN
Week 8: Dec 11 - Dec 17 = ODD 3-UP
Week 9: Dec 15 - Dec 31 = EVEN
Week 10: Jan 1 - Jan 7 = ODD
Week 11: Jan 8 - Jan 14 = EVEN 3-UP
Week 12: Jan 15 - Jan 21 = ODD

The Tournament Weekend is TBA