

# Rules & Scoring

## Game Rules & Keeping score

Different scoring systems may be used depending on the tournament but are aligned with USTA Rules. Contests will most likely consist of 2-3 singles and 3-4 doubles matches determined by coaches.

Either A pro-set or 2 out of 3 sets played. For a pro set, a match is won by the first player or team to win 8 games. A player must win by 2 games to win the match. If the set becomes tied at 7, a tie breaker will determine the match. A tie break is won by the first person to reach 7 points. Players alternate serve after every odd point.

A 4-point scoring system shall be used with no deuce point. At 3 points to 3 points in a game, the receiver has the choice of side. No-ad scoring will be used for all matches. If the score is tied at three points for each player or team, the next point wins the game.

## Section XI Rules

Set and Match Rules. No ad scoring will be used.

Set: A set is won by a team or individual winning four games first.

Examples of winning sets: 4-0, 4-1, 4-2, 4-3

Match: Each match will consist of winning two sets in a row or winning a 12-point tie breaker after splitting sets. The maximum number of games in a match would be 15.

Example of matches:

4-2, 4-3, (no tie breaker played)

1-4, 4-0, (10-8) (tie breakers played)

4-0, 2-4, (7-5) (tie breakers played)

4-3, 3-4, (7-2) (tie breakers played)

## The 12-Point Tie Breaker (Official USTA Rule)

Singles: Player B, having served the last game at 3-3, lets player A serve the first point from the right court; B serves points 2 and 3 (left and right), A serves point 4 and 5 (left and right); B serves point 6 (left) and after they change ends, point 7 (right); A serves points 8 and 9 (left and right); B serves points 10 and 11 (left and right), and A serves point 12 (left). The player who reaches 7 points during these first 12 points wins the game and set. If the score has reached 6 points all, the players change ends and continue in the same pattern until one player establishes a margin of two points, which gives him/her the game and set. Note that the players change ends every six points, and that the player who serves the last point of one of these 6-point segments also serves the first point of the next one (from right court). For a following set the players change ends and B serves the first game.

Doubles: Follows the same pattern, with partners preserving their serving sequence. Assume players A-B versus players C-D, with A having served the first game of the set. A serves the first point (right); C serves points 2 and 3 (left and right); B serves points 4 and 5 (left and right); D serves point 6 (left) and the teams change ends. D serves point 7 (right); A serves points 8 and 9 (left and right); C serves points 10 and 11 (left and right); B serves point 12 (left). The team that wins 7 points during these first 12 points wins the game and set. If the score has reached 6 points all, the teams change ends. B then serves point 13 (right) and they continue until one team establishes a 2 point margin and thus wins the game and set. As in singles, they change ends for one game to start a following set, with players C-D to serve first.

## Set

First player to reach 6 games by 2. If the score reaches 6-6, players should play a 7-point tiebreaker to determine the winner of the set. (7-6)

## 2 out of 3 set match

First player to win 2 out of 3 sets with no ADD.

## 8 Game Pro-Set

An 8 Game pro-set is a race to 8 games. The first player to win 8 games wins the match. If the score reaches 7-7, a 7-point tiebreaker is played to determine the winner.

**Regular scoring**

15, 30, 40, game. If the score reaches 40-40 or deuce you must win 2 consecutive points to win the game. Regular scoring is used in DPTA tournaments.

**No-ad scoring**

The first player to win 4 points wins the game. If the score reaches 3-3 or deuce, the returner has the choice of which service box he or she would like to return serve from. This is the scoring format used in ZAT tournaments.

**7 Point Tie-Breaker**

This is considered the last game of a set or a match if the score reaches 6-6 or 7-7 in an 8 game pro-set. The first player to reach 7 points with a 2-point margin is the winner. The first point is served to the deuce court. Players alternate serving 2 points each after the first point serving to the ad court first and the deuce court second.

**Changing ends**

Players should change ends of the court on odd number games.

**Spinning the racquet**

One player should spin the racquet on the ground and the other player should call up or down before the warm-up. The winner has four choices. 1. To serve 2. To receive 3. Side of the court 4. You can make the other player choose.

**Calling out the score**

Call out the score before each point. It is the server's responsibility to call out the score. If your opponent is not calling out the score, call it yourself. If you and your opponent lose track of the score, meet at the net and back track points. If you still cannot remember the score, go back to the last point where you and your opponent can agree on the score and begin playing again from that point.

**Scorekeepers**

If you are playing on a tennis court with scorekeepers attached to the net post be sure to use them. Many tennis matches have been lost because of the game score being called out incorrectly.

**Bad calls**

Expect some bad calls during a match, even the pros get bad calls with line judges. If you get a bad call question your opponent. If bad calls continue, consider asking the tournament director for a line judge.

**Coaching**

It is against the rules for an athlete to be coached during a match. Coaching is permitted when changing sides, one minute crossover after odd numbered games, and the second and third set.

No spectators are allowed near court side. This includes all team members.

No coaching by anyone except coaches.

A tie breaker should be considered as one game, therefore no coaching during the tie breaker.

The receiver may ask the coach to call foot faults and to observe any other infractions.

When coaches are requested to make line calls, a point shall only be overruled if questioned by a player.

Coaches should not walk on the court except to officiate a tie breaker or in dealing with emergency situations.

Players should bring their own water bottles to matches.

Players should not leave the court until the match is over.