

# 3.0/ 3.5 Ft Worth USTA Captain/Player Meeting

## Transcript

Kelly McCullough, President of the Greater Fort Worth Tennis Coalition, and Lori Sheehy, Local League Coordinator, addressed the Fort Worth USTA captains and players. They highlighted the coalition's role in organizing local tennis events, supporting grassroots tennis, and professional tournaments. In 2024, the league reached over 10,000 participants, with a 3% growth rate. Key points of the meeting included the importance of timely communication, player availability, and adherence to rules. They emphasized the need for captains to manage their teams effectively, know the local league rules, handle weather-related rescheduling, and maintain sportsmanship. The meeting also covered the use of USTA tools.

## Action Items

- Ensure captains are forwarding information and rules to their players.
- Remind captains to double-check schedules with facilities and notify the coordinator of any discrepancies.
- Notify the coordinator immediately if there are any score entry errors, copying the opposing captain.
- Educate captains and players on the crossover rule for playing on multiple teams, 60% of roster must be made up of players from the gfwtennis playing area

## Outline

### Introduction and Meeting Purpose

- Lori Sheehy is introduced as the local league coordinator.
- Kelly thanks the captains for their efforts in captaining their Fort Worth USTA teams
- The meeting aims to provide high points and open the floor for discussion and clarification.
- Kelly mentions that the slide deck will be available on the GFW tennis website

- **Overview of Greater Fort Worth Tennis Coalition**

- The Greater Fort Worth Tennis Coalition is a nonprofit community Tennis Association that plans and administers Fort Worth USTA, tournaments, social tennis, in the GFW tennis area.
- The board of directors consists of one person from each of the seven CTAs in the area.

- League fees support grassroots tennis, professional tennis events, facility support, and playoff costs.

## **League Participation and Rankings**

- In 2024, over 10,000 participants were reached, with leagues growing by 3%.
- A recent PAC study showed 25.7 million US tennis players
- The importance of the GFWtennis.com website and email list for staying updated on league activities is emphasized.

## **Communication and Match Coordination**

- Captains are encouraged to communicate with their players and opposing teams about match details and court availability.
- The importance of having an acting captain at every match is highlighted.
- Kelly explains the process of sending availability messages to players through the USTA tennis link.
- The need for captains to forward information from the coordinator to their players is stressed.

## **Captain and Player Responsibilities**

- Captains are responsible for ensuring their players are rostered before playing a match and communicating with other teams and facilities.
- Players need to provide availability, answer their captains, and start matches on time.
- The crossover rule is explained.
- The 50% rule discussed. 60% Rule discussed

## **Day of Match Tips and Sportsmanship**

- Warm-up courts are not required when teams are hosting
- Matches should start on time, especially if there are matches scheduled after the current one.
- Score entry should be done promptly, and any errors should be reported to the coordinator.
- The importance of sportsmanship and handling disputes on the court is discussed.

## **Weather and Rescheduling**

- Players need to respond promptly to rescheduling requests.
- The process of rescheduling matches is explained, emphasizing the need for team effort.
- The accuracy of tennis league analytics and the importance of using USTA records for rating purposes are discussed.

## **Playoffs and Grievance Procedures**

- The importance of communicating with the coordinator and using co-captains for playoffs is highlighted.
- Tips on dealing with sideline behavior and the potential for grievances due to poor sportsmanship are provided.
- The process for filing grievances and reviewing the code of conduct for good sportsmanship is explained.