

2009 Cancer Services Tennis Special Rules

1. Please remind your players that good sportsmanship is required of all players. Any breeches of sportsmanship may result in a player and/or a captain being suspended or banned from future Aquinas League events.
2. All matches through the Championships play a 10-point tie break in lieu of a third set. Finals may be full two out of three sets.
3. No substitutes or additional players are allowed on a team after the team is called at the Calcutta except in the only condition set forth in the Calcutta Rules. If you find yourself short on a court, PLEASE come to the tourney desk as soon as you know this and we will help fill the court with a body so your opponents may have the opportunity to play. It will officially be a default for your opponents (6-0, 6-0).
4. The official order of breaking ties when teams are tied with matches won when establishing who will be the "wild card" team or group winners is as follows: 1) fewest sets lost; 2) most sets won; 3) fewest games lost; 4) most games won; 5) head to head; 6) racquet toss; 7) paper, scissors, or rock; 8) joust with racquets (mid-size or smaller).
5. The play-offs will not be finalized for everyone until after dinner most probably so IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT BE IN, please stick around or leave a cell number with BEAU BROCK.
6. Matches may be on hard court or soft. At the YMCA, the first available courts will be used for play. Again, at SOAC, soft and hard courts may be used.
7. Directions to all the facilities we are playing at are located on batonrougetennis.com. Please obtain them and get them to your players.
8. You will be provided a packet for which you will sign for at the HQ at SOAC. It will include all your players' shirts, ditty bags and MEAL TICKETS. Meal tickets are treated like money. They are transferable among players and also, if you lose them you must purchase new ones. PLEASE PLACE THEM WITH YOUR WALLET AND VALUABLES. DO NOT SIMPLY PLACE THEM IN YOUR TENNIS BAG AND EXPECT TO BE ALLOWED TO WALK THROUGH THE LINE AND EAT THE MEALS. Everyone taking meal tickets are volunteers with strict instructions to take tickets from EVERYONE, period. They have heard every excuse and are trained by Klingon overseers not to grant access to crying children or pregnant women so tell your tennis players not to try, PLEASE. During the weekend, if you have a meal ticket problem look for Beau Brock, OR OTHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS LISTED BELOW. Meal tickets are not required on Thursday night.
9. This is a charity event and we will be selling raffle tickets and drawing the prizes Saturday night. Our silent auction runs from Friday afternoon through Sunday at 4:30. These are major vehicles we utilize to raise money for Cancer Services. Please encourage your players to participate.
10. The check-in desk to pick up captains packets and t-shirts is in the bar at

SOAC beginning on Friday afternoon.

11. If you owe some extra player fees, please pay them prior to the Calcutta on Thursday.
12. If you need players between now and Thursday call immediately Beau Brock at 252-6065 so we can try and help you out.
13. Matches at Southern Oaks (SOAC) require men to wear sleeves
PROPER TENNIS SHOE TREADS MUST BE ADORNED. No cross trainers or running shoes, please, or the player will not be allowed to play.
14. Anyone who would like to help sponsor during the weekend is most welcome. Every penny of a cash donation goes DIRECTLY to Cancer Services. We also need numerous volunteers to help all weekend so if anyone wants to help out, we certainly would like to have the help.
15. The organizers of the event are the Aquinas League and players are welcome to become members or volunteers at this event or others we do during the year. In October will be the 3rd Annual Aquinas Classic at Southern Oaks. We need help on ALL our events which are structured like St. Jude BUT smaller. FOR MORE INFO ABOUT ALL THESE EVENTS AND AQUINAS LEAGUE, PLEASE GO TO AQUINASLEAGUE.ORG OR ASK ONE OF OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Just look for the Aquinas League pin!
16. Official Rules of Tennis questions will be decided by Co-Director Johnny Little or Co-Director Beau Brock. Any other questions about the event should be directed to members of the Tournament Executive Committee which consists of: Gwen Harmon, Beau Brock, Liz Jenkins, Barry Searles, Debbie Schott, and Jared White.
17. All captains are responsible for the ratings of their players, and any violations will subject both the player and captain to potential suspension or ban. And yes, we have suspended AND banned players for violations in the past in order to preserve the integrity of this event for YOUR pleasure.
18. Please show up early, IF POSSIBLE, and when finished report your score at the applicable desk promptly so everything can move along efficiently.
19. We have 15 kegs donated by Abita and 2 kegs donated by Sam Adams. Southern Oaks Athletic Club bar accepts cash, credit cards, and let's all have a good time responsibly and help kids with cancer this weekend! We also have received donations of Red Bull for Saturday afternoon only, Tea for Saturday, and Coca-Cola products which we want players to enjoy BUT please ask them NOT to hoard them as we have limited supplies for the event and do not want to run out until Sunday. So please ask your players to help us by taking what they need and allowing everyone to enjoy these products. WE DO NOT HAVE BOTTLED WATER DONATED FOR THIS EVENT SO PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN AND THERE IS WATER ON THE COURTS BOTH AT SOAC AND THE YMCA...PLEASE ADVISE YOUR PARTNER. WE WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN A SPONSOR FOR THIS EVENT FOR THIS...
20. The Common Sense Ratings Rule - Every year we consider special considerations for ratings of players for our tournaments. All players must sign up with the most recent year's ratings. After which, our committee then may reclassify or

refuse players' applications to play. All determinations, since year one of our events have allowed a diminimous amount of players the opportunity to play "technically" down below their NTRP OR made them play higher than their NTRP number when it was incorrectly lowered. The point of this rule is NOT to be boxed in by the already flawed NTRP rating system to the detriment of the enjoyment of our players. During this St. Jude event, as in all other events we run, a nominal amount of players may be allowed to play down and a nominal amount of players are being forced to play above their NTRP number. This is NOT being done to reward or penalize particular players. If ANY players feel this takes away from the integrity of our event as these decisions are perceived to be taken in an arbitrary and capricious nature, please advise and their entry fee will be refunded. It goes without saying, any decision made in this vein has been taken objectively and with deep reflection and have not been in any influenced by any particular membership in any club. This is not a sanctioned tournament and the tournament reserves the right to use common sense to create the most fair and competitive play in our events. We have tried to even power rank teams and provide teams who are more interested in "fun" a chance to be successful regardless of their "technical" rating. In contrast, at a a sanctioned event, a self rate NTRP rating cannot be challenged, and all players are grouped in the same draw regardless of the reality of their true ability. This has only resulted in lack of enjoyment by players who are dismayed at "the same people winning every time." At our events, we reserve the right to disqualify players who clearly are incorrectly rated, and attempt to properly place teams in competitive pools so that EVERYONE has an opportunity for success during the weekend. This system has worked. The entry form clearly states "The Tournament Committee reserves the right to reclassify or refuse any entrant" which is our rule. It is the rule we have maintained, considered, and acted upon at every event since our initial 2003 St. Jude event. It has only been applied 15 times in the past 7 years in a tournament pool of approximately 3500 players total. The only person for whom this is being done in this event is Sherry Gautreau, our Honorary Chair and cancer survivor.

21) Prior to the Calcutta, all players are locked in and we encourage everyone to look them up so there is no surprise as to who is playing for whom. I am happy to point out the "best" teams on paper at our calcutta as the more money bid is the more money we raise families living with cancer. Again, this is why our committee is doing this...

Thanks and good luck! Any other questions, please call Beau Brock at 225.252.6065

Beau James Brock
2009 Co-Chair