

Welcome to the NSJ Ladies Tennis Ladder

I am excited to get the ladder started. We are going to try something new this year that I hope will alleviate some of the time constraints as in years past. The ladder this year is going to be a self-administered ladder. That means each player will be responsible for setting up their own matches. Therefore, you can play as often as you would like or every few weeks if that is what your schedule allows.

The Ladder list will be grouped into 3 different tiers according to your USTA Rating. The three tiers are 2.5, 3.0 and 3.5 and above. Do not worry if you do not have a USTA rating, just let me know what tier you would like to play. Additionally, please let me know if you would like to play "up". Players may challenge another player within their own tier, and the tier above them.

The ladder is for singles only.

Players can join the ladder at any time during the season and is free to NSJ members.

Each player should bring a new can of balls to the match; open one for play. The winner gets the unopened can, the loser gets the used balls.

If you are challenged to play a match, please respond within 48 hours to either set up the match or let them know you are not available to play within the next week or two.

There are a few options of how to score. The best of two out of three sets of regular match play. A 7 point tie-breaker (first to 7, win by 2) is played at 6-6 in a set. If both players agree, players may opt to play a 10 point tie-breaker (first to 10, win by 2) in place of a third set. Or if both players agree, A "Pro set" (1 set, 1st player to 10 games, a tiebreak is played at 9-all) may be played if both players agree.

Matches started but interrupted because of weather should be continued from the point of interruption within the next seven days or re-start the match.

US Tennis Association rules apply to all matches and are available from the USTA. (The rules are also available on the web under "The Rules of Tennis" at <http://www.usta.com/rules/>).

Self-officiating according to The Code (also published by the USTA and available on the web under "The Code" at <http://www.usta.com/rules/>) provides a way for honest players to employ the same approach to various situations so that neither takes advantage of the other. Surprisingly few players are familiar with The Code, so a condensed version is included below.

The oldest tradition in tennis is to give your opponent the benefit of the doubt; this means that any ball that cannot be called out with surety is presumed to be good and continues in play. Therefore, no point should ever be replayed because a player is not sure whether a ball was in or out -- if you're not sure, then it was in! (i.e. If you're 99% sure that the ball was out, then it was in!)

All players should cooperate to attain accuracy in making line calls. You are obligated to call all balls on your side, to help your opponent make calls when the opponent requests help, and to call against

yourself (with the exception of a first service) any ball that you clearly see out on your opponent's side of the net.

Any call of out or let must be made instantaneously (that is, before either an opponent has hit the return, or before the ball has gone out of play); otherwise, the ball continues in play.

Please e-mail the match results including the date match was played to Jamie Harper at Jamalabeth@aol.com. The winner will be awarded 5 points and the loser will be awarded 3 points.

If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Harper at Jamalabeth@aol.com