

**Ekolu Section Championship
December 2-3, 2023
Fairmont Orchid
Kohala Coast | Hawai`i Island**



HAWAII PACIFIC



Dear Captains,

Congratulations to you and your teammates on being your area's USTA Ekolu League Champion and advancing to the USTA Hawaii Pacific Ekolu League Section Championships. The event is being held December 2-3, 2023, on the Kohala Coast at Fairmont Orchid.

This packet contains the information your team will need to make the necessary preparations for the Section Championships. Please review the entire packet carefully and distribute the information accordingly to your team's players. This packet will also be listed on the USTA Hawaii Pacific Section website [here](#).

Host Facility – Fairmont Orchid

If there is a change in your commitment to this event, please notify your Local League Coordinator and the Section League Coordinator immediately as the runner-up team will be offered the opportunity to compete. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Yoshinaga at yoshinaga@hawaii.usta.com or (808) 491-7665.

Important Notes

Date: December 2-3, 2023

Format: Round Robin

Awards: Awards will be presented to the Champions

Tournament Staff

Tournament Director: Sara Yoshinaga

Head Referee: TBA

Adult League Committee Chair: Leonard Loventhal

Championships Committee Chair: Jane Sakakihara

Championships Committee: Nancy Kelly, Leo Kunimoto, and Jane Sakakihara

Best of luck to you and your team!

Sincerely,

Sara M. Yoshinaga
Section League Coordinator
USTA Hawaii Pacific Section

Leonard Loventhal
Adult League Committee Chair
USTA Hawaii Pacific Section

Tournament Information

Regulations

The 2023 USTA League Regulations, USTA Rules of Tennis and The Code will be observed during the event. The 2023 USTA Hawaii Pacific League Regulations will govern the event.

Team Format

One (1) men's doubles, one (1) women's doubles, and one (1) mixed doubles

Line-ups

Please submit team line-up forms to the Tournament Desk thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled time of the match. Team captains are expected to comply with this request. Once submitted, line-ups cannot be changed except for injury, illness or disqualification prior to start of the match or other circumstance as previously determined by the Championship Committee. All players on the line-up should be present and available to play thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled match time.

Match Schedule

A tentative match schedule will be posted closer to the tournament date. If any changes are made to the schedule, captains will be notified, and updates will be available [here](#). Teams must be registered in TennisLink and all participants must have competed in a local league. Some divisions may require two or three matches to be played any given day. Match times are tentative, and play will be on a "followed by" basis. The Tournament Desk has the right to call a match to begin play up to thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled start time, assuming courts are available to do so. Once a match has been called, the USTA's Point Penalty System applies and will be strictly enforced.

USTA Membership

All team members must have current USTA memberships or players will be required to renew prior to their first match. Please instruct your players to renew ahead of the tournament to avoid any delays.

Tournament Desk

The Tournament Desk is where captains turn in line-ups, look up scores from previous matches, etc. The following is also done:

- Collect line-ups thirty (30) minutes prior to the match
- Assign courts, distribute balls, introduce players and teams
- Players report scores and return balls after completion of the match. Captains will sign and verify scores after total match completion
- A player is allowed a thirty (30) minute rest period between matches (only considered between matches of the same level)

Awards

Awards will be presented to the Champions upon completion of each division's match play on the last day of the Championship.

Rain Delay Possibilities

- Matches being delayed
- Having to wait on-site for further instructions
- Matches being postponed until the following day
- A shift to alternative scoring methods

Players should commit themselves to the championships for the entire event, including being ready for evening/night play. Do not leave the facility during the rain delay without approval from the Tournament Director.

Cancellation of Tournament

If the championship, or part of the championship, is canceled due to rain or unforeseen circumstances, the championship will not be rescheduled. The USTA Hawaii Pacific Section will not be responsible for reimbursement of any travel expenses due to cancellation of the event.

Warm-Up and Default

A five (5) minute warm-up period, including practice serves, shall be observed throughout the event. The Point Penalty System, including a fifteen (15) minute default period, shall be observed throughout the event.

Competition Format

A team may play up to three (3) matches per day. Best of two tiebreak sets with regular scoring and a match tiebreak, if required in lieu of a third set. *Match Tiebreak: first to 10 win by 2. A set break of 120 seconds shall be taken at the end of each set, including the second set of a split set. After each match, the players from both teams must return to the tournament desk to return balls, report scores and receive information on later matches.

At the conclusion of each team match, captains of both teams must report to the tournament desk to confirm scores and sign the scorecard. Captains who do not confirm their scores before the next team match or within fifteen (15) minutes of their last team match of the championship forfeit the right to do so.

The order in which matches will be placed on the courts will be men's doubles, followed by women's doubles, and followed by mixed doubles. However, the Tournament Desk may alter the order with reason.

Coman Tiebreak and Set Tiebreak

The Coman Tiebreak shall be used for both the set tiebreaker as well as the match tiebreaker.

Coman Tiebreak: Players change ends after the first point, then after every four points thereafter, as well as at the conclusion of the tiebreaker. The set tiebreaker is first to 7 points and win by 2. This shall be used in the first or second set at six games all. In a match tiebreak, partners may change sides of court for service return just as they would be allowed in a third set. Once the change is made, they will continue to play that side of the court for the remainder of the tiebreak.

Scoring

Regular scoring will be used for all matches. The winner of a third set shall be credited with a set won and a game won. The loser of the third set shall be credited with a set lost and a game lost. In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures:

1. Individual Matches—winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition
2. Head to Head—Winner of head-to-head match
3. Sets—loser of the fewest number of sets in the entire competition
4. Games—loser of the fewest number of games in the entire competition
5. Coin toss

Coaching

Coaching is not permitted at any time during the match.

Cell Phones

Players who take their cell phones onto the court must have them turned off.

Referee

The Referee is an official who exercises jurisdiction over more than one court. The Referee's duty can include, but are not limited to the following:

- Ensuring that assigned courts are ready for play
- Enforcing the warm-up time and Point Penalty System
- Resolving scoring disputes
- Overruling line calls and calling foot faults when he/she is in direct observation of the court
- Controlling spectators
- Enforcing the Point Penalty System for lateness and Code Violations. (Flagrant and/or repeated offenses may result in disqualification of players from the Championship)

Team captains and players are encouraged to seek the assistance of the Referee and/or Tournament Director to help resolve problems that may occur with regards to the competition.

Court Monitors

- Enforce warm-up time
- Enforce two (2) minute time for set break
- Available for player assistance to locate referee, etc.
- Ensure players vacate the courts at completion of match
- May call foot faults

Referees will have USTA uniforms, and court monitors can be identified by their colored vests.

Medical Time-Out

- Medical Condition: Medical conditions include, but not limited to, an injury, illness, and heat related conditions or cramping
- Medical time-out: A medical time-out consists of evaluation time as determined by the referee, plus a maximum of three (3) minutes for treatment time
- Penalty: If more than fifteen (15) minutes lapse between the time an official is notified of the medical condition and resumption of play (re-warm up, if any), the player shall be subject to the point penalty system
- Bleeding: A medical time out shall be called whenever a player is bleeding externally
- Only one medical time-out shall be permitted for heat related conditions and cramping in any match, even if the heat related condition or the cramping occurs in different parts of the body.

Full regulations on medical time-outs may be found in Friend at Court.

Match Scheduling and Rest

Events using the Match Tiebreak may schedule no more than three matches per day per team. Players shall be offered a rest period of thirty (30) minutes between matches.

Please note there is no scheduling accommodation offered to players participating on more than one team at different levels in this playoff, and the thirty (30) minute rest period does not apply under these circumstances.

All captains and players are reminded that the draws and entire schedule are done completely at random.

Captains are expected to inform the Tournament Director as soon as possible if their teams will be defaulting a match or matches. Teams are expected to field a full team during the tournament.

Individual and Team Defaults

Please review the match schedule and make your flight arrangements accordingly. Potential sanctions for teams leaving Section Championships early include:

- Teams leaving before completion of the Section Championship must get permission from the Tournament Director
- Teams leaving without permission are subject to sanctions such as suspension up to, but not including, twelve (12) months

Sanctions will be determined by the Grievance Committee.

In the spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship, all individual matches in each team match should be played to completion.

A complaint against a player or team alleging a violation during championship league competition shall be filed with the Grievance Committee in accordance with rules in the 2021 USTA Rules and Regulations. The complaints must be written on specific forms obtained from the site director and returned within the time restraints.

Tournament Site

- Tournament Headquarters will be located at Fairmont Orchid
- Team Captains are asked to check in thirty (30) minutes prior to each scheduled match, and your players must be present at this time
- Be aware that matches may be called earlier if courts are available, and it is the responsibility of the players and their team captains to be ready to play when their matches are called
- Water and ice may not be provided

Tournament Play

- The format will be round robin
- Matches will begin between 7:30 am – 9:30 am on Saturday and Sunday morning, and the check-in time is thirty (30) minutes prior to the match
- Tournament desk will be open thirty (30) minutes prior to first scheduled matches on each day

Team Packets

Team packets include match scorecards and a captain gift that may be picked-up at the Tournament Desk prior to your team's first match.