

Timed Match Procedures - 3/14/23

To standardize the determination of a winner in timed matches, the USTA Mid-Atlantic League Committee has written these timed match procedures. All previous procedures in the Section were reviewed, and some outside of our region. Below is what will be used in all areas in 2023.

As a note, the minimum allowable time for a USTA League Match is 90 minutes. Each court shall agree to a timepiece prior to the match starting. Alarms are suggested and should be set for the end time. Warmups are included in the total match time. Any medical timeout taken within the last 3 minutes of the match will constitute a retirement. **When the end time is reached on a court, any point in progress shall be finished, including a second serve if a first service attempt was a fault.**

If a match “Times Out” the winner shall be determined by the following:

1. The total number of completed games won in the entire match will determine the winner of the match if the 3rd set tiebreak has not been started; see #6 & #7 below.
2. If the total number of completed games are equal, a final Decider Point is played to determine the winner of the match. See below for Decider Point procedures.
3. If the first or second set tiebreak is in progress, the team that is ahead by one point or more, wins the tiebreak and then the total number of completed games won will determine the winner of the match.
4. If tied in either set tiebreak, the next point in normal rotation of serving shall be played to determine the winner of the set. The total number of games won will determine the winner of the match.
5. If the third set tiebreak has not started and the total number of games is equal, a final Decider Point is played to determine the winner of the match. This Decider Point is not a third set tiebreak and is not entered in Tennislink as 1-0. See below for Decider Point procedures.
6. If the third set tiebreak has started, the team that is ahead by one point or more, wins the tiebreak and the match. The score shall be entered into Tennislink with the third set recorded as 1-0.
7. If the third set tiebreak is tied, a final Decider Point is played to determine the winner of the match. The match shall be entered into Tennislink as the actual match score with the third set recorded as 1-0. See below for Decider Point procedures.

Decider Point Procedures:

- The home team spins a racquet, the winner of the spin selects serve or receive (no option to defer) & in doubles states the player who will serve or receive. If the winner of the spin decides to serve, the opponent chooses to receive on the ad or deuce side, regardless of gender, and does not change court position.
- If not in the 3rd set tiebreak, this Decider Point is not a third set tiebreak and is NOT entered in Tennislink as 1-0.

Note: “1.04C(2) TennisLink is the official system for reporting scores and providing standings for the USTA League.” As match results are entered for Timed Out matches, Tennislink will continue to factor standings based on scores entered.

