

69th ANNUAL ULSTER COUNTY OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT
*****DICK SMITH MEMORIAL, July 12-22, 2018 *****

Application Information

**Sponsored and run by the *Mid-Hudson Valley Tennis Association (MHVTA)*
*in cooperation with the City of Kingston Parks and Recreation Department***

When? Thursday, July 12th-15th for all doubles events, and July 19th-22nd for all singles events.

Where? Our intent is to play as many matches as possible at Forsyth Park. If we need to use other courts, we'll use Kingston High School (401 Broadway, Kingston) and Ulster County Community College (Stone Ridge). If we have more than 16 singles players or 16 doubles teams in a draw, the first round (the round of 32) will be moved ahead to the Tuesday or Wednesday evening before the dates listed above.

What is important about the tournament? We are running all the doubles draws during the first week of the tournament from Thursday, July 12th to Sunday, July 15th. All singles draws will run during the second week from Thursday, July 19th to Sunday, July 22nd. All open draws are for anyone. Sr. draws require each participant to be 45 or over. Super senior draws require each participant to be 60 or over. 3.5 Level draws are limited to players at or below the USTA NTRP 3.5 level. Even if you do not have an official rating from the USTA, you can self-rate yourself to be part of the 3.5 Level draws if you feel that this is the right level for you. The tournament directors reserve the right not to accept a 3.5 level applicant if it is determined that the applicant's skill level is too high. There are no age restrictions for the 3.5 level draws, so if you are a new player in your 20s or older, you qualify as long as your skill level fits the description above.

If you think you should be seeded for a draw, what should you do? We ask everyone to put their USTA NTRP rating on the application as well as any other relevant information that will help the tournament directors assign accurate seeds for each draw. If we do not know this information, we cannot accurately seed people. We will consider your NTRP rating as well as previous tournament results in our seeding decisions.

What happens if there are more than 16 people in a draw? How will you get that completed in four days? If this happens, early rounds will begin on Tuesday or Wednesday, which is July 10th-11th for doubles, and July 17th-18th for singles.

How many participants must there be for a draw to run? For singles there must be a minimum 6 entrants for that draw to run. For Doubles, there must be four entrants for the draw to run. If need be, we may combine several draws into one tournament draw to meet the criteria above.

When are entries due by? July 4th. The draws for all doubles' events will be started Thursday, July 6th and completed no later than July 9th. That's why we need your entries by July 4th.

Where can I find the Official Draws once they are completed? They will be posted no later than July 9th at Forsyth Tennis Courts, emailed to all participants who provide an email address, and at the following websites:
www.midhudsontennis.blogspot.com or www.kingston-ny.gov/content/120/1112/default.aspx (click on parks and recreation and find tennis).

What is the entry fee? \$25 per singles event; \$50 per doubles team event. Your entry fee is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. **EARLY BIRD SPECIAL** – \$15 for each singles event and \$30 for each doubles event if paid and signed up by June 15th. **NOTE** – in doubles events there is the option of only one person from a doubles team who needs to pay for a doubles event and that person will register both players on that team.

How do I sign up? Fill out your registration form with a check made payable to MHVTA to *MHVTA, 48 Dewitt Mills Road, Hurley, NY 12443*. **NOTE:** *The entry must include the check or else it is not an entry.*

Who is the Mid-Hudson Valley Tennis Association? The Purpose of the Mid-Hudson Valley Tennis Association is to grow and enhance the development of tennis in New York's Mid-Hudson Valley and surrounding areas by providing community tennis programs and services to adults and youths and to support organizations and programs that enhance the lives of people through tennis and education programs that are based on health, fitness, character-building, and self-improvement. It is dedicated to building, improving and maintaining public tennis courts and facilities in order to improve the quality of life of children and adults through tennis. *MHVTA was formed in 2011 as a not-for-profit corporation to raise funds to repair these public courts and to promote tennis programs for players of all ages in the Mid-Hudson Valley.*

Who benefits from the proceeds? All proceeds will benefit the NJTL program to develop Jr. Tennis players as well as make improvements for the tennis courts at Forsyth Park.

What is the maximum # of events per player? Three doubles events and one singles event. If you sign up for two or three doubles events, expect to play multiple doubles matches in one day. Use discretion. A minimum 30-minute rest period between matches will be granted unless waved by the players who have to play more than one match in a day.

What is the time commitment expected from the participants? You must be able to play Thursday or Friday evenings from 5:30 P.M. on and all day and evenings on Saturdays and Sundays if you play singles or doubles. **You must be able to play when assigned or risk forfeiting at these times.** You must bend to our time frames. We cannot run a tournament around your schedules. If you are scheduled for a morning match, and it rains, it will be rescheduled in the afternoon or evening if the weather clears. If you fill up your Saturday afternoon or evening with activities and cannot make the rescheduled time, you will have to forfeit the match. If there are more than 16 entrants in a draw, you must be able to play Tuesday and Wednesday of the respective week we are running the singles or doubles draws.

Tentative schedule: Thursday and Friday evenings will be early round matches with the semi-finals and finals planned for Saturday and Sunday on the respective weeks for the doubles and singles events. The awards ceremony and picnic for ALL events will conclude after the singles finals on July 22nd at Forsyth Park. The awards ceremony and picnic will happen on Sunday, July 22nd.

What happens if it rains? How will that change the schedule? Rescheduling due to rain is at the sole discretion of the tournament director(s). All decisions by the tournament director(s) are final. For example, if it rains on Thursday, July 19th, those matches might be transferred to Friday, with a second match played Friday or two matches played Saturday to catch up. YOU must be flexible to our schedule, as we cannot run a tournament around everyone's individual schedules. We also may have the opportunity to play indoors. If we use indoor courts, we ask those assigned to play indoors to make a small donation of \$10-15 to cover the costs and be flexible when playing as there are limited available indoor courts to play at.

Can you change a scheduled match in the early rounds? Yes but **ONLY** for matches before the semi-finals and finals if you can play your match before the scheduled time and as long as all participants agree when and where to play. **You** are responsible to set up the match time with your opponent(s) and complete it before the scheduled date and time by the tournament director. It's up to you and your opponent to do that and inform the tournament director of this. However, for all semi-final and final matches in all tournaments, you must adhere to the tournament schedule, as we want spectators to be able to come see those matches and know when they are played. No changes in the schedule and place of matches can be made without prior permission of the tournament directors.

What are players responsible for? One can of championship USTA approved tennis balls per event (winner gets the new can); each player is responsible to bring enough water for proper hydration in the summer months. Finding out their starting times; players will be defaulted for arriving more than 15 minutes late of an assigned match. Only the tournament director(s) can default a player. The winning player or team must immediately report the score to appropriate personnel to find out the next scheduled match. This is important in order to keep the tournament running smoothly.

What is the scoring? For all open events, two out of three sets with a 12-point tiebreak at 6 all. For all Senior events, 3.5 level events, and Super Senior doubles best of three sets with a super tiebreaker (first one to 10 points) in lieu of a third set. Scoring may be changed or modified at the sole discretion of the tournament director(s) for all rounds.

A polite request for tennis etiquette: We remind all participants that this is a public event, and even in competitive situations appropriate sportsmanship and behavior is expected. We will (if necessary) impose penalties for infractions for ball and racquet abuse, obscenities, or unsportsmanlike behavior. We ask that all participants follow the USTA code of conduct, be fair in line calls, not foot fault, and ask for help if there is an unclear situation.

Who can I call or email for more information? Scott Taylor at 845-750-8542 or taylor_tennis1@gmail.com or Tom Turco at 845-706-1331 or ttur73@yahoo.com (Co-directors) or email mhvtennisassociation@gmail.com.

NOTE: ALL decisions regarding the Tournament are the sole discretion of the Tournament Director(s).

T-Shirts – They will be sold at the tournament. They are not being given out to Early Bird registrants like last year. Instead, we lowered the early bird registration amount from last year, and anyone can purchase one at the tournament (based on availability).

69th Ulster County Open Tennis Tournament/Dick Smith Memorial 2018 Application Form ***

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in cooperation with the City of Kingston Parks and Recreation Department*

Please Print VERY clearly and return by **July 4th** to **MHVTA, 48 Dewitt Mills Road, Hurley, NY 12443:**

Entry Fees: \$25 for each singles event; \$50 for each doubles event. **EARLY BIRD SPECIAL** if paid by June 15th – \$15 for each singles event; \$30 for each doubles event.

Name _____ Phone: Home _____ Cell/Work _____
Address _____
Email Address _____ @ _____

Tennis Rating based on the USTA rating scale 1-7 (for seeding purposes) and other information that would help us accurately seed you in this tournament: _____

Doubles Events (held from July 12-15); Check up to three doubles events

- Open Men's Doubles name and partner _____ and _____
- Open Women's Doubles name and Partner _____ and _____
- Open Mixed Doubles name and partner _____ and _____
- Sr. Men's Doubles (both 45 and older) name and partner _____ and _____
- Sr. Women's Doubles (both 45 and older) name and partner _____ and _____
- Sr. Mixed Doubles (both 45 and older) name and partner _____ and _____
- Super Senior Doubles (each person must be 60 or older) _____ and _____
- 3.5 Level Men's Doubles name and partner _____ and _____
- 3.5 Level Women's Doubles name and partner _____ and _____
- 3.5 Level Mixed Doubles name and partner _____ and _____

Singles Events (held from July 19-22); Check one singles event

- Open Men's Singles name _____
- Open Women's Singles name _____
- Sr. Men's Singles (45 and over) name _____
- Sr. Women's Singles (45 and over) name _____
- 3.5 Level Men's Singles _____
- 3.5 Level Women's Singles _____

Liability release: In consideration of my participation in the Ulster County Open Tennis Tournament/Dick Smith Memorial and its related events and activities, I the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

1. By condition of this release, I acknowledge the inherent risk of playing in an athletic event (including but not limited to heat exhaustion, heat stroke, heart attack, physical injuries, and in extreme cases even death) and declare that I am in good physical health and have had a physical check-up by a certified physician within the last calendar year.
2. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of the releases, or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation.
3. I willingly agree to comply with terms and conditions for participation. If I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately.
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby release, indemnify, and hold harmless The Mid-Hudson Valley Tennis Association, its members, officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event (releasees), The City of Kingston, Kingston City School District, Ulster County Community College, Saugerties Central School District, and Hudson Valley Indoor Tennis from any and all claims, demands, losses, and liability arising out of or related to any injury, disability, or death, I may suffer, or loss or damage to person or property, whether arising from the negligence of the releases or otherwise, , to the fullest extent permitted by law. I have read this release of liability and assumption of risk agreement, fully understand its terms, understand that I have given up substantial rights by signing it, and sign it freely and voluntarily without any inducement.
5. I acknowledge that I have read the application information and agree with its contents.

Participant's Signature _____ Age _____ Date _____

Parent's Signature if participant is under 18 _____