

THALHIMER CHALLENGE EVENT RULES

1. The main focus of the event is to have fun and raise money for the RTA and their many activities to promote tennis in the Richmond Metropolitan Area. While winning is important, all should focus on sportsmanship and strictly adhering to these Rules.
2. Team rosters are due by the captains meeting in September, and will be distributed as soon as possible after that time. All team rosters should be reviewed by the Captain, which certifies that all players are participating at their rated level. It is the responsibility of the Team Captain to notify the desk of any change in line up, and failure to do so will result in the loss of a point.
3. A player cannot play at the same rated level twice in the same round of play (i.e., on the same day), but a player may play up at a higher level if that level is not in the same time slot.
4. No player can participate who is not listed on a team roster at the start of the Challenge. If a player does so – that team will receive only one point.
5. Defaults and zero points will occur only when a team does not field a Doubles team in a particular category or if there is improper conduct. The tournament desk has the ability to default a team due to unsportsmanlike conduct. Dress code violations – running shoes, or other obvious improper dress – will result in penalty of one game as soon as discovered. If the violation is not addressed, then a default will result.
6. All doubles teams will receive 1 point for playing the match and ½ point for each set that is won. (The winning team will always receive 2 points, but in matches going to a 3rd set tie-breaker the losing team will receive 1.5 points)
7. All players 4.5 and below must have a valid NTRP rating. Players who are Self-Rated must be marked on the team rosters with a (SR) next to their name.
8. Juniors, pros and adult players rated at any level will be allowed to play in the open division. Rated players 18 years and older can play at 4.5 and below in accordance with their current NTRP rating or self-rating. All players must be a dues-paying member of the club or permanent full-time employee. For purposes of this rule, the spouse of a full-time teaching professional at a participating club shall be eligible to participate on behalf of that team.
9. Teams scheduled to play should stay within immediate area of desk starting within five minutes of schedule. Time violations will be enforced in accordance with applicable USTA Regulations. A five minute warm-up will be enforced.
10. Teams must play on the next scheduled court – they cannot wait for a court of preference. Matches will be placed on court based on times both teams signed in.
11. Warm-up courts will be provided at both sites. Please check in with the front desk at each site to inquire about availability.
12. If two or more teams are tied after Saturday or Sunday, the tiebreaker will be as follows: 1) head to head wins 2) sets lost 3) games lost.
13. Once Saturday matches are completed, the top 3 teams from each location will advance to Sunday play at Westwood. An updated schedule will be distributed to the applicable teams as soon as possible on Saturday night and all match times will remain the same as they have been on Friday and Saturday.
14. All scores will be reset on Sunday and the winner of the Thalhimer Challenge will be decided by whichever team earns the most points from Sunday's matches.