

# Summer Ladder Tournament

July 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31<sup>th</sup>

## WHAT IS A LADDER TOURNAMENT?

A ladder tournament is a way for individuals to play regular matches against other similarly skilled players at mutually convenient times throughout the summer.

## ABILITY LEVELS:

**This is an advanced level ladder tournament for players at a 3.5-4.5 skill level.** Not sure of your skill level? Contact Erin Morrison to confirm: [emorrison@acafvt.org](mailto:emorrison@acafvt.org)

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The ladder tournament is open to members of Middlebury Indoor Tennis (MIT) and non-members.

## REGISTRATION & INITIAL RANKINGS:

Registration can be done online by visiting [acafvt.org](http://acafvt.org) and clicking on Play Tennis > Adult Tennis.

Individuals will be ranked in the order of their registration. So, the earlier you register your team, the higher your ranking will be. You can register after the ladder begins but you will be placed at the bottom.

## COST & LOCATION:

The Ladder Tournament is open to the public and free for MIT members. Non-members pay \$25/person and includes one free match at MIT. Additional matches played at MIT will require standard court fee of \$23.00/person. Matches can be played anywhere but must be mutually agreed upon.

## PLAYING MATCHES & CHALLENGING PLAYERS:

You may challenge an individual up to 2 spots above yours. You should specify the place and time for the match. Before the Ladder Tournament begins, all participants will receive a contact list of teams. Email or call the player being challenged who may accept, decline, or modify the challenge.

If you win your match, you take the place of the individual you defeated and they take your spot. **Scores should be reported to Erin Morrison via email after each match: [emorrison@acafvt.org](mailto:emorrison@acafvt.org).**

## IF YOU ARE CHALLENGED:

If you are challenged, you will receive the challenge email or phone call directly from the teams. You then have three options:

- **ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE:** Confirm the challenge. You have 48 hours from the moment you are challenged to respond and 72 hours from the moment you are challenged to play the match.
- **MODIFY THE CHALLENGE:** As the person being challenged, you have the responsibility to find an acceptable match time and location within 72 hours from the moment you are challenged or else you will forfeit the match and your opponent will take your place on the ladder and your team will move to their spot.
- **DECLINE THE CHALLENGE:** This is the option you should choose if you cannot accept the challenge due to illness, vacation, busy schedule, etc. Although you forfeit matches you decline, this process will keep the ladder moving and allow players to participate in more matches. This option is also the default if you do not response to a challenge within 48 hours.

## MATCH RULES:

- **BEST TWO OUT OF THREE SETS:** All challenge matches must be played in the best two out of three sets format, with a seven-point tiebreaker played if any set is tied at 6-6. A ten point tie breaker will be played for the third set. Players will spin a racket or flip a coin to determine the initial serve or side of the court. Additional rules such as FBI (first ball in) on the serve or no ad scoring must be agreed upon by both teams/all players before match begins. See additional links on website for instructions on tie breakers and tennis rules.