

## IDLE HOUR LADIES' LADDER CHALLENGE RULES

1	The challenge ladder will run from the end of Philly cup season to September 30th. This date will be extended the number of days the courts are unusable.
2	Challenge matches must be played only at Idle Hour Tennis Club.
3	Players must be a member of the club and in good standing (not standby status).
4	A new team may challenge any position on the continuous ladder. If the new team wins, that team assumes the position and the existing team moves down one position. If the new team loses, they may issue one more challenge to a lower position team. If they lose again, their position will be at the bottom of the ladder.
5	Existing teams may challenge two positions above their ladder position. If the challenger wins, they move to the new position and the losing team moves down one position. If the challenger loses, they retain their original position (prior to the challenge).
6	Existing teams that split: the newly formed teams will play a challenge match to determine which team remains on the current court and which team will move to the bottom of the cup (not the ladder).
7	If an existing team breaks up and a new team is formed with one original player remaining, that team will remain in the original position and be vulnerable to challenges.
8	Teams must accept valid challenges or accept a loss by default. Teams are not required to play more than one challenge per week.
9	When a team initiates a challenge, it must at the same time notify the ladder coordinator of the challenge.
10	The challenging team may select the time and date of the match, but it must be agreeable to the challenged team.
11	A challenge match should be completed within 14 days of the challenge. If the challenged team withdraws or cancels the challenge match, it is a default loss for the challenged team. If the challenger withdraws or cancels, there is no penalty.
12	If a challenged player or team is on vacation (out of state or country), the challenge match will be played within the 14-day timeframe established. The clock starts when all players are available (in the area, returned from vacation).
13	If a player on an established team is injured or recovering from surgery, the challenge match will be directed to another court (the next position up).
14	The challenging team is responsible for providing new balls for the match.
15	A match is the best of three sets. USTA rules apply to all matches.
16	The winner of the match is responsible for reporting the score to the ladder coordinator via text or email, and must include the losing team in the same text or email.
17	The rules will be interpreted and disputes will be settled at the sole discretion of the ladder coordinator.
18	These rules pertain to singles and doubles cup players.