

# Welcome to the Winter Singles Ladder!



Winter Season - October 9 - March 11, 2017

Price: \$15

Ladder Tournament - March 22 - March 26  
(Must play at least 5 matches to qualify)

*Free entry into Spring Ladder if at least 7 matches played at Gates.*

Have you ever participated in the optional  
"PICK-UP" Match Times?

## "PICK UP" MATCH TIMES!

Wednesday at 12noon

Friday at 5pm

Saturday 5pm

*"The fun and easy way to play matches!"*

### All Ladder Levels invited!

- Men 5.0 and below
- Women 4.5 and below

### What are "Pick-up" Match Times?

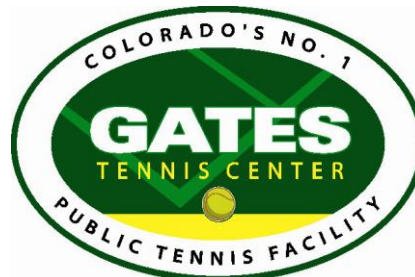
- It is an optional way to line up matches – without the time-consuming task of lining up opponents and/or courts. Just show up!
- If someone else shows up at your level, split the court cost (\$6/hr) and play a match.
- If there is no match available, the ball machine is available at a discounted price.

The Ladder Tournament is open to anyone who has played at least 5 matches on the Gates Ladder.

Top 8 Players in each division will be seeded. Additional entries will be randomly placed.

Divisions 3.5 and above will be USTA-Sanctioned events and count toward State Rankings.

Winter Ladder Tournament  
March 22 – March 26  
(See Rules sheet for more details)



GATES TENNIS CENTER

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# Winter Ladder Rules

Twenty Two Weeks: October 9, 2017 – March 11, 2018

1. **CHALLENGE MATCHES:** Arrange your matches following these guidelines:
  - October 9 - December 18: First ten weeks, Open Challenge, play anyone in your division.
  - December 19 - February 26: Middle ten weeks, 20 Spot Challenge, play anyone within 20 spots.
  - February 27 - March 11: Final two weeks, 10 Spot Challenge, play anyone within 10 spots.
  - March 12 - March 26: When the ladder season concludes we will hold a Tournament for each division. Anyone who has played at least 5 matches qualifies to play in the tournament. Top 8 players in each division will be seeded. Division 3.5 and above will be USTA Sanctioned.
2. **NTRP:** Players MUST play at their official published NTRP level. Any player wishing to play up a ½ level must pay an additional entry fee to enter that ladder. Additionally, when playing up a ½ level, you must maintain a winning percentage of at least 35% to stay at that level. The ladder coordinator will make determinations after each ladder season. The spirit of this rule is to have all ladder players playing at level, but give the ability of players who are between levels the chance to compete up a level without compromising the quality of matches. (IE: A 3.0 player who is playing on the 3.0 and 3.5 ladders but finishes on the 3.5 ladder with a 1-9 record will only be permitted to enter the 3.0 ladder in the next season)
3. **RANDOM DRAW:** Initial position on the ladder will be determined by a random draw. Players added after the application due will start at the bottom of the ladder.
4. **SCORING:** Matches will be best two out of three sets; 7 point tie-breaker at six all unless both players agree before the match starts to play with a different scoring format. Official U.S.T.A. Rules apply to all matches.
5. **BALLS:** Both parties bring a new can of balls for the match. Winner keeps the unopened can.
6. **CHALLENGER WINS:** If the lower-ranked player wins, he/she takes the position of the higher-ranked player. All other players in between those positions move down a notch.
7. **CHALLENGER LOSES:** If the lower-ranked player loses, both players remain at their same position on the ladder.
8. **SPIRIT OF THE LADDER:** A challenged player should offer two reasonable days and times for the match within a 14 day period. No shows, inabilities to play and/or cancelled matches may be considered defaults. The spirit of the ladder is to accept as many challenges as you can within reason, play lots of different opponents; to have fun and meet people in the community. The ladder Coordinator has the final word on any complaints or disputes.
9. **PLAY EVERY 2 WEEKS:** Players must play a match every two weeks from the start of the ladder or they will drop below those who have played a match during that two week period.
10. **RESERVATIONS:** It is recommended to reserve two hours of court time to ensure enough time for the match. Incomplete match scores will not count. All matches should be played at the Gates Tennis Center.
11. **SCORE REPORTING:** Scores must be posted in the Ladder Results Book at the front desk immediately after a match. Sorry, we cannot accept phone results.
12. **UPDATES:** The ladder is updated every 2 weeks. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday evening at close is the deadline for matches. The ladder will be updated during the following Tuesday. New standings will be available by Tuesday evening.
13. **NEW TOURNAMENT RULES:** Anyone who has played at least 5 matches qualifies to play in the tournament. Top 8 players in each division will be seeded. Divisions 3.5 and above will be USTA Sanctioned. Divisions 3.5 and above will be registered with the USTA Colorado and will count toward your NTRP rating. There is a \$25 tournament entry fee which covers fees for courts and balls.