

Welcome Coaches & Captains!

WINTER CLASSIC 2024

January 13-14, 2024
HOUSTON, TX



AGENDA

► Welcome

- • Division Structure
- Tournament Schedule
- Tournament Format
- Rules & Regulations
- Policies
- Housekeeping
- Code of Conduct
- Q & A



Tournament Site:

Absolute Sports Complex
(Absolute Volleyball Academy)
380 Green Wing Street
Webster, TX 77598

Division Structure (Currently 14 teams)

(Superwoman 7 teams - Wonder Woman 7 teams)

Superwoman Division

1. Superwoman Team 1
2. Superwoman Team 2
3. Superwoman Team 3
4. Superwoman Team 4
5. Superwoman Team 5
6. Superwoman Team 6
7. Superwoman Team 7

Wonder Woman Division

1. Wonder Woman Team 1
2. Wonder Woman Team 2
3. Wonder Woman Team 3
4. Wonder Woman Team 4
5. Wonder Woman Team 5
6. Wonder Woman Team 6
7. Wonder Woman Team 7

If a team drops from either division,
the schedule can be modified at the
discretion of USTA

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

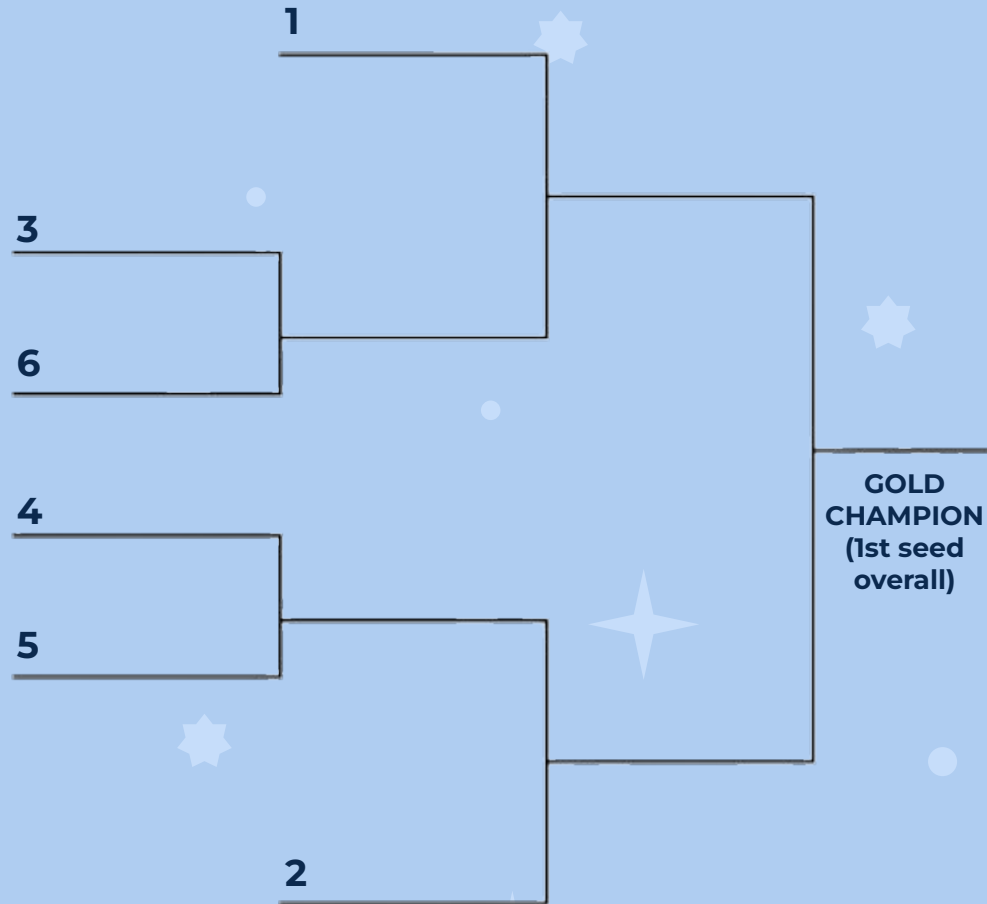
- 8 regular season games on Saturday and Sunday
 - 6 on Saturday, 2 on Sunday morning
- All teams are seeded at the conclusion of Saturday regular season games and similar seeds will play each other Sunday morning
 - i.e. WW Seed 1 vs SW Seed 1, WW Seed 2 vs SW Seed 2, etc
- After all regular season games are over on Sunday, all teams will be seeded 1-14
- Seeds 1-6 will compete in **GOLD** playoff bracket
- Seeds 7-14 will compete in **SILVER** playoff bracket
- Both playoff brackets will have a champion and runner-up
 - Please note: winner of SILVER playoff bracket will be 7th seed overall and SILVER runner-up will be 8th seed overall
- This is a qualifying tournament for **Invitational Tournament 2024!**

Sunday Regular Season Cross Division Games

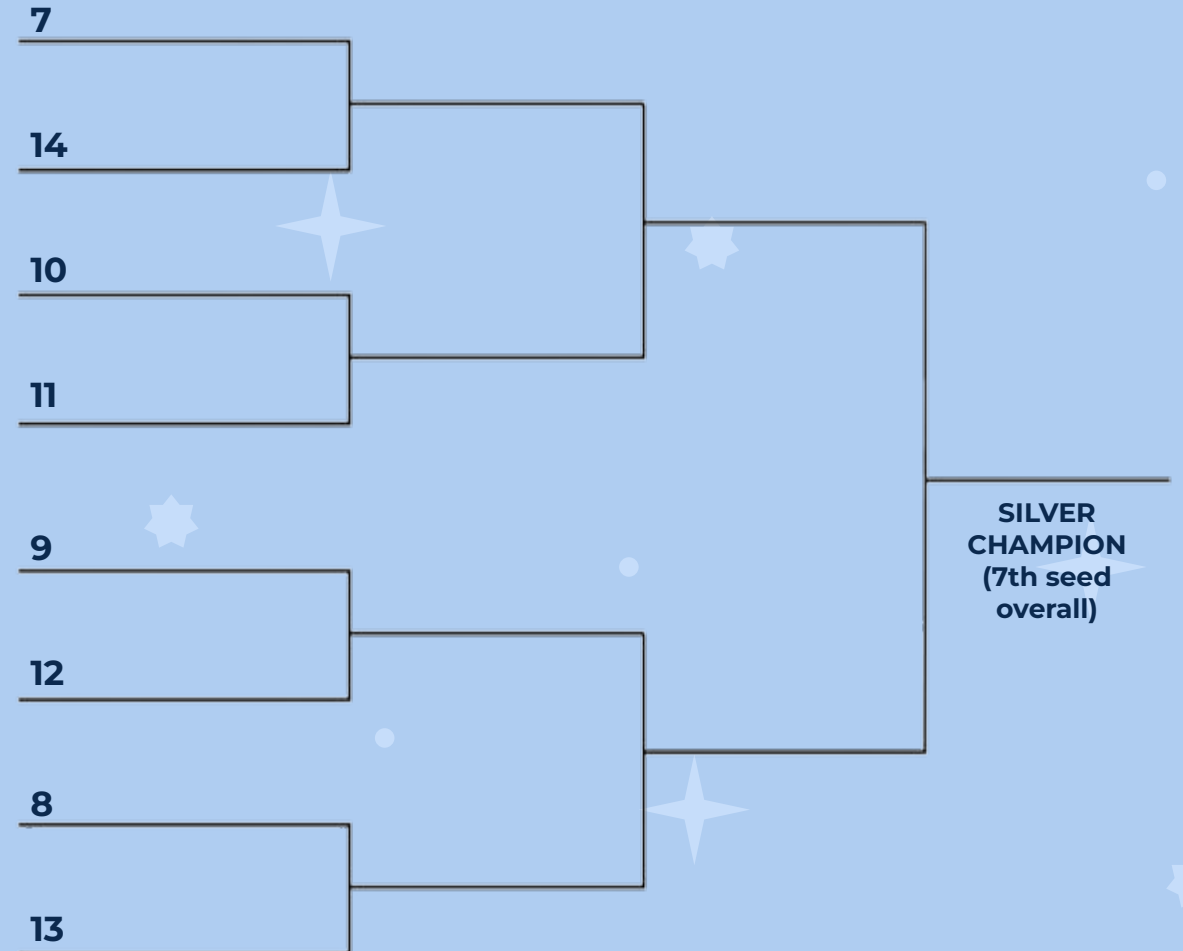
USTA Winter Classic 2024 SCHEDULE (Sunday Jan 14th 2024)

Time	Court	Home Team		Away Team	Bye/Work
8:00 AM	1	Seed 1 SW	vs	Seed 1 WW	
8:00 AM	2	Seed 2 SW	vs	Seed 2 WW	
8:00 AM	3	Seed 3 SW	vs	Seed 3 WW	
8:00 AM	4	Seed 4 SW	vs	Seed 4 WW	
8:00 AM	5	Seed 5 SW	vs	Seed 5 WW	
8:00 AM	6	Seed 6 SW	vs	Seed 6 WW	
8:00 AM	7	Seed 7 SW	vs	Seed 7 WW	
Time	Court	Home Team		Away Team	Bye/Work
9:15 AM	1	Seed 1 SW	vs	Seed 2 WW	
9:15 AM	2	Seed 2 SW	vs	Seed 1 WW	
9:15 AM	3	Seed 3 SW	vs	Seed 4 WW	
9:15 AM	4	Seed 4 SW	vs	Seed 3 WW	
9:15 AM	5	Seed 5 SW	vs	Seed 7 WW	
9:15 AM	6	Seed 7 SW	vs	Seed 6 WW	
9:15 AM	7	Seed 6 SW	vs	Seed 5 WW	

GOLD Playoff Bracket
Seeds 1-6



SILVER Playoff Bracket
Seeds 7-14



Playoff seeding will occur at the conclusion of Sunday regular season games - all teams will be ranked 1-14

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

- Courts will open at 7:00 AM for warm-ups
- Opening Ceremony at 7:30 AM
- Captains & Coaches meeting at 7:45 AM
- Games will promptly begin at 8:00 AM
- 6 regular season games
- Lunch Break at 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM
 - **Outside food is NOT allowed onsite**
 - **Concessions available for purchase**
- Coaches/Referees game during lunch if time permits at 1:30 PM
- Games are scheduled to finish around 6 PM

SUNDAY

- Courts will open at 7:30 AM for warm-ups
- 2 regular season cross division games will begin at 8:00 AM
- Lunch Break at 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
- Gold & Silver quarterfinals at 11:30 AM
- Gold & Silver semifinals at 12:45 PM
- Silver finals will be at 2:15 PM
- Gold finals will be at 2:45 PM
- Trophy presentation for both tournament brackets will follow the Gold finals



Rules & Regulations

USAThrowball.com/Rules

LEAD REFEREES: ASIF ASHIQALI & HENRY SELVAM

- All USTA tournaments are now played 7 vs 7 and upper arm throws only
- Service box is 18 feet (half of the court dimensions)
- Shifting or pushing the ball is **NOT** allowed
- Player's back facing the net while catching the ball is a foul
- 360 is not allowed - cannot throw the ball with back facing the net, no underhand throws allowed
- Hook throws are not allowed and all throws must be above the shoulder
- Once ball is thrown, second player can only catch and throw if it is a rebound off the net
- While throwing the ball, step and jump is **NOT** allowed
- Substitution on spot 7 is **NOT** allowed
- Sliding is **NOT** a foul
- Catching outside of the court is a foul - one foot has to be in contact with court while catching and throwing
- 7 players are needed for a team to play
 - If a team runs out of substitutions and 1 out of the remaining 7 players on the court gets hurt and the team cannot continue, the team will have to forfeit - a team cannot play with 6 players
 - Use your substitutions properly!

Please review all the rules on USAThrowball.com/Rules

RULES & REGULATIONS

Rotations

- ❖ The same rotation position must be maintained throughout the set that has been selected. If referee notices out of rotation:
 - 1st time - team loses 1 point and service (if they are serving) and opposing team gets a point
 - 2nd time - team loses 2 points and service (if they are serving) and opposing team gets 2 points
 - 3rd time - team loses a set 25-0
 - Team violations carry throughout the tournament, they do not reset per game

Timeouts

- ❖ There are (2) - 1 minute timeouts in each set
 - At 0:45 seconds, referee will give warning whistle
 - At 1:00 minute, the referee will whistle for end of timeout

Set Change

- ❖ Team has 2 minutes to start the next set
 - At 1:45 seconds, referee will give warning whistle
 - At 2:00 minutes, the referee will whistle for end of set change

*Handshakes between sets are not necessary and will count towards the 2 minutes of set change time.
Please wait until end of game to shake hands.*

POLICIES FOR WINTER CLASSIC 2024

Policies for teams in both divisions:

1. During each respective game, the team on BYE will be required to volunteer as linespeople.
 - 6-8 people from each team on BYE are required on Saturday
 - 1 person from each team on Sunday will volunteer on the adjacent court - coaches/captains will be allowed to substitute the volunteer (GOLD Seeds 1 and 2 will volunteer during BYE of playoffs)
 - 2 scorekeepers will be 1 person from each team that is playing
 - No-show of a volunteer will result in a first set loss of 25-0 in the team's next game
2. Only registered players and coaches from the team that is playing are allowed to be courtside. No Exceptions! Spectators can only be seated on upper observation deck or behind the glass doors in the facility. It is captains and coaches responsibility to ensure compliance of this policy.

Please note: Players/coaches volunteering will not miss any part of their games.

HOUSEKEEPING

All participants are responsible for the cleanliness of the facility

- Teams will be responsible for cleaning the courts that they play on after the 11:45 AM game (prior to lunch break).
 - If a team does NOT clean the area prior to the start of the next game, then **BOTH** teams that played on that court will start their next game in a 25-0 loss for set 1.
 - The teams that have a BYE are responsible for cleaning the bleachers/spectator common areas.
- Teams will be responsible for cleaning the courts and their respective bleachers that they play on after their last game scheduled at 4:45 PM.
 - If a team does NOT clean the area before departing the facility then **BOTH** teams that played on that court will start the next game in a 25-0 loss for set 1.
 - The teams that have a BYE are responsible for cleaning the bleachers/spectator common areas.
- On Sunday, all teams are responsible for cleaning the courts and their respective areas before the semi-finals begin.

We humbly request all teams to please keep the facility clean 😊

CODE OF CONDUCT - ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

A **Zero Tolerance Policy** will be in effect and has been sent to all of the coaches/captains in the Winter Classic 2024 chat. Please ensure all players and coaches read and understand the policy.

This is a requirement to participate in this tournament to ensure a fun, safe, and fair environment for all.

If you have any questions, please reach out to **USTA Board Members**.

Q & A

