

OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL JUNIOR RANKING SYSTEM

The USTA uses a Points Per Round Combined Ranking System (PPR) to annually rank junior players and publish weekly National Standings Lists. Ranking Points are earned by winning singles and doubles matches at various types of USTA national tournaments, sectional tournaments, and designated ITF tournaments. Extra Ranking Points are earned for winning singles matches over highly ranked players. Ranking Points earned by winning singles and doubles matches are combined (with greater weight placed on Ranking Points earned in singles) for a player's Ranking Point total and players are ordered based on this total.

DEFINITIONS

Several terms are used in the description of PPR, and the knowledge of these terms is helpful to understanding how the system works:

- **National Ranking Tournaments:** National Ranking Tournaments are all tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule (NJTS) and these tournaments are designated as Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Open tournaments.
- **Sectional Ranking Tournaments:** Sectional Ranking Tournaments consist of the following tournament levels: Level 3 Closed, Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 and Level 7.
- **Points Per Round:** These are the Ranking Points assigned to winning singles and doubles matches at National and Sectional Ranking Tournaments.
- **Bonus Points:** These are the Ranking Points assigned to winning singles matches over top-500 players. Bonus Points are not earned for winning doubles matches. Bonus Points earned at all other National Ranking Tournaments are "attached" to the event at which they are earned; if a tournament is not among a player's best 6 singles tournaments, the Bonus Points for that tournament will not be part of the PPR Calculation.
- **Ranking Points:** This term is used in two ways. It generally refers to both types of Points - Points Per Round and Bonus Points. It is also used as a term for the total Ranking Points a player has based on the PPR Calculation.
- **PPR Calculation:** This is the mathematical calculation of Ranking Points used to determine a player's Standing or Ranking.
- **Ranking Levels:** Every National Ranking and Sectional Ranking Tournament is assigned a ranking level. The Level of a tournament determines the number of Points Per Round earned by winning matches at tournaments.
- **Point Tables:** The Point Tables show the Points Per Round assigned to each National Ranking Level. There are various tables for the different draw and consolation types used at National and Sectional Ranking Tournaments. For

example, a Feed-In Championship Draw has a different point table than a Compass Draw.

- **National Standings Lists (NSLs):** These are the lists, published weekly by the USTA, that order the players based on their Ranking Point total. NSLs are used for player selection at most tournaments.
- **National Ranking Lists:** Also called "Year End Rank Lists," These lists are published shortly after the end of a year and are the official national rankings for a calendar year. This list is used to determine the number of Sectional Quota - the number of players each Sectional Association is entitled to have in designated USTA National Championships.
- **Seeding Lists:** The USTA publishes Singles Seeding Lists that are used to seed junior singles events and Individual Doubles Seeding Lists that are used to select teams into the USTA National Doubles Championships and other designated tournaments, and to seed junior doubles and mixed doubles tournaments. These lists are created using the same criteria as the NSLs, except that: only the 6 best singles results are used for the Singles Seeding Lists; and only the best 6 doubles and/or mixed doubles results are used for the Individual Doubles Seeding Lists.
- **Best 6:** This term refers to the number of singles tournaments and doubles tournaments that count for standing and ranking (effectively 12 total tournaments). A player may have more than 6 singles and 6 doubles tournaments on their player record, but only the results from the best 6 of each will be used in the PPR Calculation.
- **Player Record:** Each time the USTA publishes a National Standings List, new Player Records are also published for each player. A Player Record shows all results and Ranking Points earned from the previous 12-month period and indicates which of these are a player's Best 6.

STANDINGS & RANKINGS: IS THERE A DIFFERENCE?

The term "ranking" is generally used to refer to a player's position on any published ranking or standing list; however, the terms "standing" and "ranking" actually refer to two different things. All PPR Calculations are based on Ranking Points earned in the previous 12-month period, however:

- **Standings** are based on Ranking Points earned during the previous rolling 12-month period, and they include Ranking Points earned by a player in the division and any older division as well as 20% of the points earned in the next-younger division; and
- **Rankings** are based on Ranking Points earned in one division during a January to December calendar year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL RANKING

The USTA has citizenship/alien eligibility requirements for earning a national ranking. These requirements also must be met to enter USTA tournament levels 1-4 and 5 Closed. Consequently, only players that meet these eligibility requirements appear on the National Standings Lists.

All players who are US Citizens meet the citizenship eligibility requirements. Additionally, the following Aliens also meet the eligibility requirements:

- Permanent resident aliens of the United States.
- Aliens who have resided in the United States continuously for more than one year and who are members of families of persons in the diplomatic or consular corps
- Aliens who have been granted Refugee Status
- Aliens who have been granted Asylee Status
- Aliens who have been granted Temporary Protected Status
- Aliens with Adjustment Status - e.g. aliens whose I-485 (Application to Register Permanent Resident or Adjust Status) has been accepted for filing
- Canadian citizens and landed Canadian immigrants who reside in British Columbia provided that they were USTA members for at least one month during 2010 and so long as they do not allow their USTA memberships to lapse for a period of more than six months.

Documents commonly used to support a particular alien status include a permanent resident alien card (green card), Form I-94, or a receipt confirming the acceptance for filing of the I-485.

PPR RULES & REGULATIONS

- A player must win a round to receive any Ranking Points for the tournament. Players do not receive any points until they have won a round. Byes do not qualify as wins.
- Withdrawals and walkovers qualify as wins for the advancing player and earn Points Per Round, but do not earn Bonus Points.
- Retirements qualify as wins for the advancing player and earn Points Per Round and, if applicable, Bonus Points.
- A player who advances because of a default that takes place before the commencement of the first point in the match or because the opponent is disqualified shall receive Points Per Round for advancing, but shall not receive any Bonus Points.
- A player who advances because of a default that takes place after the commencement of the first point in the match shall receive Points Per Round for advancing and, if eligible, Bonus Points.
- A player who is defaulted from a match for code violations under the

Point Penalty System or misconduct forfeits Ranking Points accumulated during the entire tournament, except that a doubles player who was not responsible for a default or any of the code violations shall not be penalized as the result of the behavior of their partner.

- No Points Per Round will be earned in the qualifying rounds of tournaments when the qualifying draw and main draw are covered in a single sanction.

CALCULATING STANDINGS & RANKINGS

Each player's standing and ranking is based on the accumulation of Ranking Points at National and Sectional Ranking Tournaments for:

- Winning rounds in singles and doubles; and
- Having wins in singles over top 500 players (Bonus Points).

On a Standings List, the points earned during the previous 12-month period are used; on a Ranking List, the points earned during the previous calendar year are used.

The PPR Calculation: National Standings Lists and Ranking Lists order players based on the following PPR Calculation. This list is often called a "Combined List"

100% of the Ranking Points earned at 6 best singles Tournaments	
+	15% of the Ranking Points earned at 6 best doubles Tournaments
+	100% of the singles Bonus Points earned at Bonus Point Only Events
=	Total Ranking Points

Criteria for Receiving a National Ranking: Annually, the USTA nationally ranks players in the Boys' and Girls' 18, 16, 14, and 12 divisions. The final rankings for a junior age division shall include all players who:

- Meet the citizenship/certain alien eligibility requirements;
- Have been age eligible for play in the division at any time during the calendar year; and
- Who have accumulated at least 200 points in the division.

Only points earned in the age division will count towards ranking in that division. Players may be ranked in more than one age division if they have been age eligible in more than one division during the year and have met the minimum point requirement for each age division. The order of the National Ranking List is based on Ranking Points earned in a previous calendar year. If more than one player has

the same number of Ranking Points, both shall have the same National Ranking.

Criteria for Inclusion on a National Standings List (NSL): An NSL for a division will include all players who:

- Meet the age eligibility requirements of the division;
- Meet the citizenship/certain alien eligibility requirements;
- Have played at least one National or Sectional Ranking Tournament in the division or the next-younger division; and
- Have accumulated at least 1 Ranking Point as the result of an on-court win.

An on-court win is one that takes place on-court after the start of the match. Matches won by withdrawal, walkover, default, or disqualification prior to the start of the match are not considered on-court wins. Matches won by winning a match point, or if the opponent retires or is defaulted after the start of the match are considered on-court wins.

Points that Count for Standing that Do Not Count for Ranking:

- Points Counting Down: Ranking Points earned in an older age division tournament count towards a player's standing in one or more younger age divisions so long as the player has played a National Ranking Tournament in the younger division. The events at which the points are earned will be part of the PPR Calculation in the younger division if they are among the best six results in either singles or doubles in that division.
- Points Counting Up: 20% of the Ranking Points earned in a division count towards a player's standing in the next-older division. The events at which the points are earned will part be of the PPR Calculation in the next-older division if they are among the best six results in either singles or doubles in that division.

Breaking Ties on a National Standings List (NSL): When more than one player has the same number of total Ranking Points, tie-breaks on an NSL will be determined as follows:

1. A player whose best event has the highest number of Ranking Points, second best, third best, etc. through sixth event
2. Total Bonus Points earned in all events played during the computation period
3. Best random draw number

Examples of How the PPR Calculation Works:

Example #1: Player with better results in singles than doubles	
Points	How Points Earned
1,500	100% of Ranking Points from Best 6 singles National Ranking Tournaments

180	15% of Ranking Points from Best 6 doubles National Ranking Tournaments (1,200 total points x 15% = 180)
= 2,080	Total Ranking Points

Example #2: Player with better results in doubles than singles	
Points	How Points Earned
1,200	100% of Ranking Points from Best 6 singles National Ranking Tournaments
300	15% of Ranking Points from Best 6 doubles National Ranking Tournaments (2,000 total points x 15% = 300)
= 1,500	Total Ranking Points

NATIONAL RANKING TOURNAMENTS & LEVELS

Level	National Ranking Tournament
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USTA National Championships • USTA National Doubles Championships: BG18/16/14 Divisions • USTA National Brewer Team Cup: All Divisions • USTA Battle of the Sections • J300 ITF Junior Tournaments (held in the United States of America) • US Open Junior Championships (Junior Grand Slam) • Orange Bowl International Tennis Championships: BG18 ITF J500 Event; BG16 USTA International Tournament • ITF Junior Davis Cup and ITF Junior Billie Jean King Cup Finals (U16) • ITF World Junior Team Finals (U14)
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USTA National Level 2 Tournaments - All Divisions • Pan American Championships ITF: BG18 ITF JB300 • J200 ITF Junior Tournaments (held in the United States of America) • ITF Junior Davis Cup and ITF Junior Billie Jean King Cup Qualifying (U16) • ITF World Junior Team Qualifying (U14)
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USTA National Level 3 Tournaments – All Divisions • All ITF Junior J100 tournaments (held in the United States of America)

BONUS POINTS: REWARDS FOR SIGNIFICANT WINS

Bonus Points are earned at Tournaments for significant wins in singles over top 500 players according to the table below. At Level 1 through Level 7 tournaments, Bonus Points are "attached" to the tournament at which they are earned. If a tournament total is not among a player's best six tournaments, neither the Points Per Round nor the Bonus Points will count toward the player's Ranking Point total.

The USTA publishes monthly Bonus Point Lists that are used to determine the top 500 players - wins against the players on the Bonus Point List result in earning Bonus Points. Bonus Point Lists have the same requirements and criteria as the National Standings Lists.

Standing of Player Defeated	Bonus Points Earned for Win
Top 10	225
#11 through #25	203
#26 through #50	169
#51 through #75	135
#76 through #100	101
#101 through #150	68
#151 through #250	45
#251 through #350	23
#351 through #500	11

SINGLES SEEDING LIST

These are lists published weekly by the USTA that order players based on each player's singles ranking point total for the previous 52-week period. The lists are calculated in the same manner as the National Standings Lists, except that they only include singles results. These lists are used for singles seeding purposes at USTA National Tournaments (Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Open).

DOUBLES SEEDING LIST

These are individual doubles standings lists published weekly by the USTA that order players in doubles based on each player's doubles point total for the previous 52-week period. The lists are calculated in the same manner as the National Standings Lists, except that they only include doubles results. These lists are used for selection into the USTA National Doubles Championships and for seeding at doubles events in USTA National Tournaments (Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 Open).

PLAYER RECORDS: REVIEWING & SUBMITTING CORRECTIONS

Players are responsible for regularly reviewing their player records and should promptly submit corrections to the USTA. It is recommended that players review their records after each tournament they play – tournament results are typically posted on the Wednesday following the tournament completion date.

PUBLICATION OF TENTATIVE & FINAL JUNIOR RANKINGS

Tentative Rankings: This is the first ranking published for both singles and doubles.

The tentative rankings and the individual player records shall be published by January 5 of each year. Any corrections to a player's record must be submitted no later than January 15th.

Final Rankings: These are the National Rankings in all divisions that are published after corrected data have been received and acted upon by the USTA and no later than January 20. Final Rankings are not subject to appeal.