

USTA JUNIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, RANKING, AND SANCTIONING REGULATIONS

Summary of Significant Changes Effective January 1, 2020:

- The number of USTA National Level 3 Tournaments the USTA may sanction in each division has been decreased from up to six times per year to up to four times per year.
- No-ad scoring has been mandated for doubles in all National Tournaments—See Table 2

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I. GENERAL

These Regulations shall apply to USTA Junior National Tournaments. Any authority delegated by these Regulations to the USTA Junior Competition Committee, the Director of Competitive Play - Juniors, the USTA Junior Competition Department, the Player Development Department, or any other entity stated herein, unless otherwise stated, may not be delegated to a different authority.

A. Name. The USTA Board of Directors has approved the adoption of these rules and regulations that shall be known as the USTA JUNIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, RANKING, AND SANCTIONING REGULATIONS.

B. Governance. The USTA JUNIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, RANKING, AND SANCTIONING REGULATIONS shall apply to all USTA Junior National Tournaments, the process by which these tournaments are sanctioned, and junior national rankings. USTA Constitution and Bylaws, FRIEND AT COURT - The USTA Handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations, shall apply to all matches played in USTA Junior National Tournaments (unless modified by these USTA JUNIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, RANKING, AND SANCTIONING REGULATIONS). In any match played without officials, the USTA official publication, THE CODE, shall be observed. The USTA Point Penalty System and the USTA Junior Suspension Point System shall be used.

C. Waiver of Regulations. Except where a waiver is specifically permitted herein or by USTA Regulation XX. no USTA JUNIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, RANKING, AND SANCTIONING REGULATION may be waived.

D. Amendments. These USTA JUNIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, RANKING, AND SANCTIONING REGULATIONS may be amended by the USTA Junior Competition Committee with the approval of a Junior National Regulations Subcommittee.

The Junior National Regulations Subcommittee shall be comprised of the Chair, Vice Chair, and Staff Member of the USTA Junior Competition Committee, the Player Development Manager of at least one Sectional Association, and such other members appointed by the Chair. The Chair of the USTA Junior Competition Committee shall serve as Chair of the Subcommittee.

Proposed amendments shall be subject to review and comment by the Office of General Counsel and Chair of the Constitution and Rules Committee prior to adoption.

Each amendment shall be in writing and shall be forwarded to the USTA Junior Competition Committee and the Sectional Player Development Managers at least 21 days before any meeting of the USTA Junior Competition Committee at which the amendment will be considered.

Unless otherwise specified, amendments shall become effective on January 1 following the year of adoption.

E. Conforming Changes. If the Chair and the Staff Member of the Junior Competition Committee jointly request that a change be made to the USTA JUNIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, RANKING, AND SANCTIONING REGULATIONS, the Office of General Counsel may authorize the change if it:

- Conforms with the USTA Constitution, USTA Bylaws, ITF Rules of Tennis, and USTA Regulations;
- Makes language and stylistic changes;
- Promotes clarity;
- Eliminates ambiguity;
- Corrects a mistake; or
- Provides additional guidance.

F. Glossary of Terms. For purposes of these Regulations, certain words and phrases are defined in a glossary included herein. This glossary has been prepared as a reference to many terms included in these Regulations. The definitions provided have been drawn from these Regulations and, in some cases, other documents published by the USTA.

G. Non-Discrimination. Discrimination in USTA Junior National Tournaments is prohibited as specified in the USTA Constitution, USTA Bylaws and USTA Regulations, except that participation may be limited to U.S. Citizens and other aliens as set forth in the eligibility requirements of USTA Regulation IX.C.

II. AUTHORIZED USTA NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Annually the USTA shall hold the following USTA Junior National Tournaments, some of which may be held concurrently:

A. USTA National Championships. Annually the USTA shall hold USTA National Championships for boys and girls in each age division (18, 16, 14, 12) as follows:

- USTA National Spring Championships
- USTA National Clay Court Championships
- The USTA National Championships
- USTA National Indoor Championships
- USTA National Winter Championships.

B. USTA National Doubles Championships. Annually the USTA shall hold USTA National Doubles Championships for boys and girls in the 16 and 14 divisions.

C. USTA National Level 2 Tournaments. Four times annually the USTA shall hold four concurrent USTA National Level 2 Tournaments for boys and girls in each age division at different sites.

D. USTA Team Championships. Annually, the USTA shall hold the following USTA Team Championships:

- USTA Boys' 18 National Team Championships
- USTA Girls' 18 National Team Championships
- USTA National Spring Team Championships
- USTA Boys' and Girls' 16 and 14 Intersectional Team Championships
- USTA Boys' and Girls' 16, 14, and 12 Zone Team Championships

E. USTA National Level 3 Tournaments. Annually the USTA shall sanction USTA National Level 3 Tournaments with up to 192 draw spots up to four times per year in each division.

F. Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments. Annually the USTA may hold one or more Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments.

Regulation II.G. Comment: There are currently two Additional USTA Junior National Tournament authorized:

- Cary Tennis Championships - BG18, 16, 14, and 12 Divisions
- Sugar Bowl - BG18, 16, 14, and 12 Divisions

G. USTA International Tournaments. USTA International Tournaments are USTA sanctioned tournaments played under ITF tournament regulations, but not sanctioned by the ITF. The eligibility requirements of Regulation III.A.3. do not apply to USTA International Tournaments. The USTA Junior Competition Committee in consultation with the USTA Junior Competition Department shall determine criteria for sanctioning USTA International Tournaments pursuant to Regulation V. to be placed on the National Junior Tournament Schedule.

III. JUNIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

A. Player Eligibility.

1. Membership. All players, including non-U.S. citizens, are required to be members of the USTA in order to play in USTA Junior National Tournaments.
2. Age. The USTA month-of-birth age eligibility requirements shall apply to all USTA Junior National Tournaments, except USTA International Tournaments that are governed by the ITF age eligibility rules.

3. U.S. Citizens and Other Aliens. USTA Regulation IX.C. shall determine the citizenship or other alien eligibility for playing in USTA Junior National Tournaments, except USTA International Tournaments

B. National Junior Tournament Schedule. Annually the USTA shall publish the National Junior Tournament Schedule, which shall include the tournaments listed in Regulation II. The National Junior Tournament Schedule may also include ITF junior tournaments that are selected for inclusion based on criteria determined by the USTA Junior Competition Committee. ITF junior tournaments are governed by ITF tournament regulations and not by these Regulations.

REGULATION III.B. COMMENT: The Committee has determined that all ITF Junior Tournaments played in the geographic boundaries of the USTA shall be included on the National Junior Tournament Schedule.

C. Gold, Silver, and Bronze Balls. Gold balls shall be awarded to the winners, silver balls to the runners-up, and bronze balls to the third place playoff winners USTA National Championships and the USTA National Doubles Championships.

D. National Standings List. At least monthly, the USTA shall publish National Standings Lists for individual players in each junior division. The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall determine the dates on which the lists are published and the criteria for inclusion on the lists. Annually it shall publish the criteria.

REGULATION III.D. COMMENT:

National Standings List (NSL) Criteria

- Player shall meet the age eligibility requirements of the division;
- Player shall meet the citizenship/certain alien eligibility requirements;
- Player shall have played at least one National Ranking Tournament in the division or the next-younger division (see Regulation IV.D. for list of National Ranking Tournaments); and
- Player shall 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.

Results Used to Calculate NSLs

- 100% of the singles ranking points from a players' 6 best National Ranking Tournaments
- 100% of the singles bonus points earned at BG18 ITF Bonus-Point Only Events on the National Junior Tournament Schedule
- 15% of the doubles ranking points from a player's best National Ranking Tournaments.
- Ranking Points at the percentages listed above earned in an older age division tournament count towards a player's standing in one or more younger age divisions provided that a National Ranking Tournament has been played in the division and they are among the player's best 6 singles or doubles results.
- 20% of the Ranking Points earned in a younger age division tournament count towards a player's standing in the next-older age division if they are among the player's best 6 singles or doubles results, regardless of whether a National Ranking Tournament has been played in that division.

The order of the NSL is based on Ranking Points earned during the previous 12-month rolling period. 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

National Seeding Lists

The USTA publishes National Singles Seeding Lists that are used to seed national junior singles events and National Individual Doubles Seeding Lists that are used to select teams in to the USTA National Doubles Championships and to seed national junior doubles events - see Table 1 for seeding criteria. These lists are created using the same criteria as the NSLs, except that only the 6 best singles results are used for the National Singles Seeding Lists and only the best 6 doubles results are used for the National Individual Doubles Seeding Lists.

E. Seeding Criteria and Procedure. The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall determine the seeding criteria and procedure for USTA Junior National Tournaments (except USTA International Tournaments and the USTA Boys' and Girls' 18 National Spring Championships, which shall be governed by ITF tournament regulations). The seeding criteria and procedure, which shall be based on the standing, ranking, and selection systems, is published in Table 1. The Director of Competitive Pathway - Juniors or the Director's designee shall seed each tournament after consulting with the Tournament Committee.

TABLE 1 • Seeding Criteria

Tournament Committees shall use the criteria in this table to submit their proposed seeding to the Director of Competitive Pathway - Juniors.

A. Number of Seeds in Singles and Doubles Draws

| Draw Size | Required Number of Seeds |
|------------|---|
| 192 or 224 | 64 seeds: top 16 seeded numerically; next 48 seeded alphabetically by group (17-32, 33-64)* |
| 112 or 128 | 32 seeds: top 16 seeded numerically; next 16 seeded alphabetically* |
| 64 or 96 | 16 seeds: top 8 seeded numerically; next 8 seeded alphabetically* |
| 32 | 8 seeds: all seeded numerically |
| 16 | 4 seeds: all seeded numerically |
| 8 | 2 seeds: all seeded numerically |

*USTA National Championships may seed all players and teams numerically

B. Singles Seeding Criteria for USTA Boys' and Girls' 18 and 16 National Championships*

1. Seeding shall be done using the most recently published National Singles Seeding List of the division.
 - Players may be moved within major groups (1-4, 5-8, 9-16, 17-32) due to direct wins if players are separated by less than 100 ranking points.
 - Players may be moved between major groups due to direct wins if players are separated by less than 50 ranking points.
2. Players with ATP, WTA, ITF, and WTA rankings shall also be considered.
 1. Players not yet considered for seeding who have ratings within the competitive range of those being considered for seeding, may also be considered for seeding. Additionally a player already under consideration for seeding may be seeded higher or lower if justified by the competitive range of the ratings.

*The USTA Boys' and Girls' National Spring Championships are also an ITF junior tournament and seeding shall be done according to the ITF tournament regulations.

C. Singles Seeding Criteria for USTA Boys' and Girls' 14 and 12 National Championships

Seeding shall be done using the most recently published National Singles Seeding List of the division in the order in which players appear.

- Players may be moved within major groups (1-4, 5-8, 9-16, 17-32) due to direct wins if players are separated by fewer than 100 ranking points.
- Players may be moved between major groups due to direct wins if players are separated by fewer than 50 ranking points.
- Players not yet considered for seeding who have ratings within the competitive range of those being considered for seeding, may also be considered for seeding. Additionally a player already under consideration for seeding may be seeded higher or lower if justified by the competitive range of the ratings.

D. Singles Seeding Criteria for USTA National Level 2 Tournaments, USTA National Level 3 Tournaments, and Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments

Seeding shall be done using the most recently published National Singles Seeding List of the division in the order in which players appear.

- Players from the National Singles Seeding List of the division may be moved within major groups (1-4, 5-8, 9-16, 17-32) due to direct wins if players are separated by fewer than 100 ranking points.
- Players from the National Singles Seeding List of the division may be moved between major groups due to direct wins if players are separated by fewer than 50 ranking points.
- Players not yet considered for seeding who have ratings within the competitive range of those being considered for seeding, may also be considered for seeding. Additionally a player already under consideration for seeding may be seeded higher or lower if justified by the competitive range of the ratings.

E. Doubles Seeding Criteria

Seeding shall be done using the most recently published National Individual Doubles Seeding List of the division.

- Teams shall be seeded in the order of their combined standings (For example, Player A holds the #1 standing and Player B holds the #10 standing. The Team of A&B would have the combined standing of 11). If there is a tie, the team with the player that has the highest doubles standing on the list shall be seeded in the higher position.
- Tournament Committees of 18-and-under tournaments and the USTA may consider for seeding teams with players who have ATP/WTA rankings, ITF rankings, or ITA rankings.
- The Tournament Committee of the USTA National Doubles Championship may consider for seeding teams with players who have ITF rankings.
- Teams may be moved within major groups (1-4, 5-8, 9-16, 17-32) due to direct wins if the teams are separated by fewer than 100 ranking points.
- Teams may be moved between major groups due to direct wins if teams are separated by fewer than 50 ranking points.

F. Match and Scoring Formats.

1. No-Ad Scoring. No-Ad scoring may be used:
 - In USTA National Level 3 Tournaments;
 - When authorized in Table 2; and
 - When there is inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns (see Regulation III.H.1).
2. USTA National Championships. All main draw singles matches, third place singles playoffs, and main draw matches in compass draws shall be the best of three tiebreak sets, except that the final round of singles in The USTA Boys' 18 National Championships may be the best of five tiebreak sets. The 7-Point Tiebreak shall be used in all tiebreak sets of these matches. The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall determine the match formats for all other matches and shall publish them on the USTA website and in Table 2.
3. USTA National Level 3 Tournaments and Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments. Any format approved by the Committee may be played.

4. Other USTA Junior National Tournaments. The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall determine the match formats to be used in:
 - USTA National Doubles Championship;
 - USTA National Level 2 Tournaments; and
 - USTA Team Championships.

These formats shall be published on the USTA website and in Table 2. The match formats for USTA International Tournaments are governed by ITF tournament regulations.

G. Scheduling Guidelines are Mandatory. The scheduling guidelines set forth in USTA Regulation II.D.9. and Table 8 in Friend at Court are mandatory for USTA Junior National Tournaments, except that USTA International Tournaments that are governed by ITF tournament regulations.

H. Shortening Tournaments. When inclement weather, health concerns or safety concerns may require a Referee to take steps to shorten the tournament to keep the tournament on schedule, as follows:

1. **Shortening match formats.** The Director of Competitive Pathway - Juniors or the Director's designee may authorize the Referee of a USTA Junior National Tournament (except USTA International Tournaments that are governed by ITF tournament regulations) to use any match format not previously authorized (including No-Ad scoring) provided that all matches in each round shall be played with the same format.

TABLE 2 • Match Formats for Tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule

| TABLE 2 • Match Formats for Tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule | | The USTA National Champ. USTA National Clay Court & Winter Champ. BG 16 & 14 National Spring Championships | BG 12 USTA National Spring Championships | BG 18, 16 & 14 USTA National Indoor Championships | BG 12 USTA Indoor Champ. USTA National Level 2 Tournaments USTA Zone Team Champ. | USTA National Team Champ. USTA Intersectional Team Championships USTA National Spring Team Championships | USTA National Doubles Championships |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| Main Draw Singles Formats ¹ | | Best of 3 tiebreak sets | X | | X | | X |
| Main Draw Singles Formats ¹ | | Best of 5 tiebreak sets - The USTA Boys' 18 National Championships Only (Kalamazoo) | X | | | | |
| Main Draw Singles Formats ¹ | | Best of 3 tiebreak sets with 10-Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of 3rd set | | X | | X | |
| Consolation Singles ² : Best of 3 tiebreak sets with 10-Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of 3rd set | | | X | X | X | X ⁴ | |
| Doubles Formats | | Best of 3 tiebreak, No-Ad Scoring | X ³ | | | | X |
| Doubles Formats | | Best of 3 tiebreak sets with 10-Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of 3rd set, No-Ad Scoring | X ³ | X | | | |
| Doubles Formats | | 8-game pro set with 7-point Tiebreak at 8 games all, No-Ad Scoring | | | X | X | X |

1. Playoff for third place is considered a main draw singles match.
2. Consolation Singles includes: All Feed-In Championship matches, quarterfinal playoff matches, and non-East Draw matches in a Compass Draw
3. The best of 3 tiebreak sets shall be used in the semifinal, final, and playoff for third place doubles matches. The match format for all other doubles matches shall be the best of 3 tiebreak sets with a 10-Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of a 3rd Set.
4. There are no consolation matches in the USTA Zone Team Championships

USTA International Tournaments and ITF Tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule:

ITF tournament regulations are used to determine the match formats for USTA International Tournaments and ITF tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule.

2. **Cancel matches.** When matches are canceled, they shall be cancelled in the following order:
 - consolation doubles;
 - consolation singles;
 - main draw doubles; and
 - main draw singles.

I. Refund of Entry Fees. The Tournament Committee shall refund a player's entire entry fee if:

- The player withdraws before the entry deadline;
- The entry is not accepted; or
- The withdrawal is for previously authorized entry into another tournament.

In all other cases, a refund is not required. The Tournament Committee shall not charge any fee (such as processing, service, or handling fee) for refunding the entry fee.

J. Withdrawals.

1. Written verification and description mandatory when withdrawal is for injury, illness, or personal circumstance. When a player withdraws for reason of illness, injury or personal circumstance, the written verification and written description requirements set forth in **USTA Regulation IV.C.16.** are mandatory for all USTA Junior National Tournaments, except USTA International Tournaments that are governed by ITF tournament regulations.
2. Withdrawals subject to USTA Junior Suspension Point System. A player who withdraws before the draw is made or who withdraws after the draw is made, but is replaced with an alternate, and:
 - the reason for the withdrawal is not for injury, illness, personal circumstance;
 - the withdrawal is for injury or illness, but written verification is not received pursuant to **USTA Regulation IV.C.16.;**
 - the withdrawal is for personal circumstance, but the written verification is not received or accepted pursuant to **USTA Regulation IV.C.16.;** or
 - the withdrawal is not for previously authorized entry into another tournament, is subject to the USTA Junior Suspension Point System.

K. USTA National Championships.

1. **USTA National Spring Championships - 18 Divisions.** The USTA National Spring Championships in the 18 Divisions is sanctioned as an ITF tournament. Players must meet the eligibility for a USTA National Championships pursuant to USTA Regulation IX.C. The age eligibility, entry procedures, the selection process, wild card criteria and procedure, and all other rules related to this tournament are governed by the ITF tournament regulations.
2. **Entry.**
 - a. **Means of entry.** A player submits an entry and entry fee to the USTA by the date stated in the published entry information.
 - b. **Multiple entries allowed in USTA National Championships.** When entries close, a player may be entered in up to two age divisions of USTA National Championships. The USTA selects players for the singles main draws in the following order: 18; 16; 14; and 12. If a player is entered in two age divisions and is selected into the older division, that player shall not be eligible for selection into the younger division. If a player is not selected for the older division, that player is eligible for selection in the younger division and is eligible to be an alternate in the younger division but not in the older division.

REGULATION III.K.2.B. COMMENT: The USTA National Spring Championships in the 18 Divisions is an ITF tournament with a 64-player qualifier. Players that enter and are accepted into the 18 Division qualifier are not eligible for selection into the USTA National Spring Championships in the 16 Division.

- c. **Player may play in only one age division.** A player may play in only one age division in concurrent USTA National Championships. If a player plays in singles and doubles, the player shall play in the same age division.
3. **Draw size.** The draw sizes shall be as set forth in Table 3:

TABLE 3 • USTA National Championship Draw Sizes

| Tournament | 18 Divisions | 16 Divisions | 14 Divisions | 12 Divisions |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| USTA National Spring Championships and USTA National Indoor Championships | 64* | 64 | 64 | 64 |
| USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships | 224 | 224 | 192 | 128 |
| USTA National Winter Championships | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 |

The USTA National Spring Championships in the 18 Divisions is also sanctioned as an ITF tournament. The draw size is dictated by the ITF tournament regulations, is not governed by these Regulations, and is being included for informational purposes only.

4. **Direct Acceptance List.** The USTA shall publish Direct Acceptance Lists in the 18,16 and 14 Divisions for:
- the USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships with an effective date of May 1; and
 - the USTA National Winter Championships with an effective date of October 1.
- Each list shall consist of players who are eligible for the applicable USTA National Championship and shall be ordered as follows:
- a. **May 1 list for 18 Divisions.**
- Players listed in positions 1 through 16 on a National Standings List of the division that shall be published on May 1;
 - Players not previously listed who have an ATP singles ranking of 800 or better or who have a WTA singles ranking of 600 or better as of May 1, which players shall be listed in the order of their ranking; and
 - Players not previously listed who have an ITF ranking of 100 or better as of May 1, which players shall be listed in the order of their ranking.
- b. **October 1 list for 18 Divisions.** Players listed in positions 1 through 16 on a National Standings List of the division that shall be published on October 1.
- c. **May 1 and October 1 list for 16 and 14 Divisions.** Players listed in positions 1 through 16 on a National Standings List of the division that shall be published on May 1 and October 1, respectively.
- Shortly after selection for the USTA National Clay Court Championships is done, the Direct Acceptance List is republished and any player who is not age eligible for The USTA National Championships is removed and replaced with the next-highest eligible player.
5. **Selection process for USTA National Clay Court Championships, The USTA National Championships, and USTA National Winter Championships.**
- a. **Order of selection for singles main draw.** Each Tournament Committee shall accept players who have submitted timely entries and successful wild card applicants into the singles main draw in the following order:
- Players on Direct Acceptance List for the 18, 16, and 14 Divisions only.*
 - *18 Divisions - May 1 List for USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships.* Up to 32 players shall be accepted in the order in which their names appear on the list.
 - *18 Divisions - October List for USTA National Winter Championships.* Up to 16 players shall be accepted in the order in which their names appear on the list.
 - *16 and 14 Divisions.* Up to 16 players shall be accepted in the order in which their names appear on the list.
 - Players who qualified from USTA National Level 2 Tournaments.* Players not previously selected who are the top two singles finishers in each of the four immediately preceding USTA National Level 2 Tournaments shall be accepted, if otherwise eligible. A player who has been defaulted for any reason from the player's final scheduled singles match shall not be eligible. A player whose doubles team has been defaulted for any reason in the player's final scheduled doubles match shall not be eligible if, in the judgment of the Referee, the conduct of that player contributed to the default.

TABLE 4 • Endorsed Players Selected for USTA National Clay Court Championships, The USTA National Championships, and USTA National Winter Championships from National Standings List

| Tournament | 18 Divisions | 16 Divisions | 14 Divisions | 12 Divisions |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships | 42 | 58 | 46 | 14 |
| USTA National Winter Championships | 23 | 23 | 23 | 14 |

- iii. *Players within Sectional Associations’ quotas.* Players not previously selected who are on the Sectional Endorsement Lists and within the quota established by **Regulation III.K.5.d.** shall be accepted in order as determined by their Sectional Endorsers. A Sectional Association’s quota is never reduced because of players selected into the draw by any other method under **Regulation III.K.5.a.**

REGULATION III.K.5.A.IV. COMMENT: The number of players that a Sectional Association receives into a draw may be reduced. For example, if a player within the quota withdraws after the draw has been made, the player is replaced by the highest listed player on the Alternate List. (See Regulation III.K.6.b.)

- iv. *Endorsed players on National Standings List.* Up to the number of Sectionally-endorsed players listed in **Table 4** shall be accepted in the order in which their names appear on the most recently published National Standings List.
 - v. *Remaining vacancies filled with endorsed players on National Standings List.* The Tournament Committee shall fill the remaining spots in the draw, except for those spots reserved for wild card recipients, with Sectionally-endorsed players remaining on the National Standings List used to accept players into the draw pursuant to **Regulation III.K.5.a.iv.** in the order in which their names appear.
 - vi. *Wild cards.* As soon as practicable after the deadline for accepting wild card applications, the Wild Card Committee shall award no more than 8 wild cards in a draw of 224, no more than 6 wild cards in a draw of 192, and no more than 4 wild cards in a draw of 128.
 - vii. *Additional players on National Standings List.* If the Wild Card Committee awards fewer than the maximum number of wild cards, the Tournament Committee shall fill the remaining spots in the draw with Sectionally-endorsed players remaining on the National Standings List used to accept players into the draw pursuant to **Regulation III.K.5.a.iv.**
- b. **Alternates.** The Tournament Committee shall prepare an alternate list of Sectionally-endorsed players not accepted into the singles main draw. The National Standings List used to accept players into the singles main draw pursuant to Regulation III.K.5.a.iv. shall be used to order players on the alternate list.

REGULATION III.K.5.B. COMMENT: Only players who appear on a Sectional Endorsement List may submit late entries. Late entrants shall be placed on the alternate list in the order received after the timely entries. Late entries received at the same time shall be ordered by lot. (See USTA Regulation I.H.4.)

- c. **Replacement of withdrawing player.**
 - i. *Replacement of player before draw made.* The Tournament Committee shall replace a player who withdraws or is otherwise removed from the draw before it has been made as follows:
 - A. *Player within Sectional Association quota.* The Tournament Committee shall replace a player who was accepted as part of a Sectional Association’s quota with the next player on the Sectional Endorsement List from that player’s Sectional Association. If no players remain on a Sectional Endorsement List, the player shall be replaced with the highest remaining alternate.

- B. *All other players.* The Tournament Committee shall replace
- a player accepted from a Direct Acceptance List;
 - a player who qualified from a USTA National Level 2 Tournament;
 - a wild card recipient;
 - an endorsed player accepted from the National Standings List used to accept players into the draw pursuant to [Regulation III.K.5.a.iv.](#); and
 - a player accepted from the alternate list for one of the reasons listed in [Regulation III.K.5.c.i.\(B\)](#) with the highest listed remaining alternate.
- ii. *Replacement of player after draw made but before start of player’s first match.* The Tournament Committee shall replace a player who withdraws, is defaulted, or is otherwise removed from the draw after the draw has been made but before the start of the player’s first match with the highest listed remaining alternate, unless the Tournament Committee determines the player may remain in the draw (see [USTA Regulations II.B.5.d.](#) and [IV.E.6](#)).
- d. **Sectional Associations’ quotas.** Each Sectional Association shall be entitled to a quota of players as follows:
- i. *Portion of quota based on Section Association membership.* Forty (40%) of the quota shall be based on the ratio of the Sectional Association’s junior membership enrollment to the total junior membership. Membership shall be based on the aggregate totals as of December 31, 2013. The USTA shall calculate this portion of a Sectional Association’s quota by multiplying this ratio by the total quota in [Table 5](#).
- ii. *Portion of quota based on overall junior player strength.* Sixty (60%) of the quota shall be based upon the ratio of total junior players ranked in the top 150 of the boys and girls 18, 16, 14, and 12 Divisions in a Sectional Association to all junior players ranked in the top 150 of these divisions. Rankings shall be based on the national combined junior rankings as of December 31 of the preceding year. The USTA shall calculate this portion of a Sectional Association’s quota by multiplying this ratio by the total quota in [Table 5](#).

Each Sectional Association shall have the minimum quota in [Table 5](#). Fractional values obtained shall be rounded up in decreasing order until the total quota in [Table 5](#) is filled.

TABLE 5 • Sectional Associations’ Minimum Quota and Total Quota for USTA National Spring Championships, The USTA National Championships, and USTA National Winter Championships

| Tournament | Minimum Quota | Total Quota |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships - 18 and 16 Divisions | 2 | 134 |
| USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships - 14 Divisions | 2 | 116 |
| USTA National Clay Court Championships, The USTA National Championships, and USTA National Winter Championships - 12 Divisions | 2 | 102 |
| USTA National Winter Championships - 18, 16, and 14 Divisions | 2 | 77 |

- e. **Sectional Associations’ endorsement procedures.**
- i. *Sectional Endorsers.* Each Sectional Association shall designate Sectional Endorsers who shall be familiar with the playing records of the junior players within their Sectional Associations.
- ii. *Sectional Endorsement List.* Sectional Endorsers shall provide each Tournament Committee with a Sectional Endorsement List of the best-qualified, eligible players who are available, reside within the Sectional Association, and are recommended by the Sectional Association. USTA members who reside in British Columbia and who meet the eligibility criteria of [USTA Regulation IX.C.1.b.](#) shall be deemed to be residents of the USTA Pacific Northwest Section. The Sectional Endorsement List shall rank the players in the order in which the Sectional Association believes their records place them. Sectional Endorsers may change the order of the endorsed players at any time before the entry deadline.

- iii. **Doubles-only endorsements.** Each Sectional Endorser may provide each Tournament Committee with a list of doubles players or teams that are endorsed solely to play in the doubles draw. The list shall rank the players or teams in the order in which the Sectional Association believes their records place them. Sectional Endorsers may change the order of the endorsed players or teams before the entry deadline.
- iv. **Playing up.** Sectional Associations shall allow a player to compete and be endorsed in any age division for which the player satisfies the age eligibility requirement.

REGULATION III.K.4.E. COMMENT: The residence of all players is based on domicile.

- f. **Separating players from same Sectional Association.** The singles draw shall avoid the presence in the same quarter of more than one of the four players with the highest standing from the same Sectional Association who are in the tournament, which standing shall be determined using the most recently published National Standings List. This regulation does not apply to wild card entries.
6. **Singles selection Process for USTA National Spring Championships - 16, 14 and 12 Divisions.**
 - a. **Order of selection for singles main draw.** Each Tournament Committee shall accept players who have submitted timely entries and successful wild card applicants into the singles main draw in the following order:
 - i. **Players who qualified from USTA National Level 2 Tournaments.** Players not previously selected who are the top two singles finishers in each of the four immediately preceding USTA National Level 2 Tournaments shall be accepted, if otherwise eligible. A player who has been defaulted for any reason from the player's final scheduled singles match shall not be eligible. A player whose doubles team has been defaulted for any reason in the player's final scheduled doubles match shall not be eligible if, in the judgment of the Referee, the conduct of that player contributed to the default.
 - ii. **Players on National Standings List.** 52 players in the order in which their names appear on the most recently published National Standings List.
 - iii. **Wild cards.** As soon as practicable after the deadline for accepting wild card applications, the Wild Card Committee shall award no more than 4 wild cards.
 - b. **Alternates.** The Tournament Committee shall prepare an alternate list of players not accepted into the singles main draw that shall be used to replace withdrawing players. The National Standings List used to accept players into the singles main draw pursuant to **Regulation III.K.6.a.ii.** shall be used to order players on the alternate list.
 7. **Selection Process for USTA National Spring Championships - 18 Divisions. The selection process is dictated by the ITF tournament regulations.**

REGULATION III.K.7. COMMENT: The selection process for the USTA National Spring Championships, which is sanctioned as an ITF tournament and governed by the ITF, is as follows:

- A list of the top 40 players eligible for the USTA National Championships pursuant to **USTA Regulation IX.C.** on the ITF junior ranking list is created. If any of these players submit a timely entry, they are accepted;
- 6 players from the most recently published National Standings List of the 18 Division;
- The 2 finalists of the ITF International Spring Championships if they are eligible and not previously selected;
- 8 qualifiers shall qualify from a 64-player qualifying draw;
- Up to 8 wild cards;
- Remaining vacancies are filled before the qualifier starts with players from the National Standings List of the 18 Division; remaining vacancies are filled after the qualifier starts filled with lucky losers from the qualifier.

Players are selected for the qualifier from the most National Standings List of the 18 Division used to select players into the main draw.

8. **Singles selection Process for USTA National Indoor Championships.**
- a. **Order of selection for singles main draw.** Each Tournament Committee will accept players who have submitted timely entries and successful wild card applicants into the singles main draw in the following order:
 - i. **Players on National Standings List.** 33 players in the order in which their names appear on the most recently published National Standings List.
 - ii. **Players within Sectional Associations' quotas.** 27 players not previously selected who are on the Sectional Endorsement Lists and within the quota established by **Regulation III.K.5.d.** shall be accepted in order as determined by their Sectional Endorsers, except that the minimum quota shall be 1. A Sectional Association's quota is never reduced because of players selected into the draw by any other method under **Regulation III.K.8.a.**
 - iii. **Wild cards.** As soon as practicable after the deadline for accepting wild card applications, the Wild Card Committee shall award no more than 4 wild cards.
 - iv. **Remaining vacancies filled with players on National Standings List.** The Tournament Committee shall fill the remaining spots in the draw, except for those spots reserved for wild card recipients, with players remaining on the National Standings List used to accept players into the draw pursuant to **Regulation III.K.8.a.i.** in the order in which their names appear.
 - b. **Alternates.** The Tournament Committee shall prepare an alternate list of players not accepted into the singles main draw that shall be used to replace withdrawing players. The National Standings List used to accept players into the singles main draw pursuant to **Regulation III.K.8.a.ii.** shall be used to order players on the alternate list.
 - c. **Separating players from same Sectional Association.** The singles draw shall avoid the presence in the same quarter of more than one of the four players with the highest standing from the same Sectional Association who are in the tournament, which standing shall be determined using the most recently published National Standings List. This regulation does not apply to wild card entries.
9. **Wild cards.**
- a. **Eligibility for wild cards.** Each wild card applicant must be in good standing with the applicant's Sectional Association and submit a timely wild card application. A player may be in good standing without being endorsed.
 - b. **Application deadline.** Players shall submit wild card applications and supporting documents to the Director of Competitive Pathway - Juniors for receipt no later than five days after the entry deadline for the USTA National Championship.
 - c. **Wild Card Committee.** The Wild Card Committee shall be comprised of the Coordinator of Junior Rankings, the Chairperson of the USTA Junior Competition Committee, the Director of Competitive Pathway - Juniors, the Director of Player Development or the Director's designee, and the Tournament Director of the applicable USTA National Championship. The Wild Card Committee shall consult with USTA Player Development staff and the player's Sectional Association before granting a wild card.
 - d. **Criteria.** Criteria for selecting wild cards shall be determined by the USTA Junior Competition Committee in consultation with the USTA Player Development Department and published in **Table 6.**

REGULATION III.K.9. COMMENT: These wild card regulations do not apply to the USTA National Spring Championships in the 18 Divisions. This tournament is sanctioned by the ITF and governed by the ITF tournament regulations.

TABLE 6 • Wild Card Criteria

The Wild Card Committee shall use the following criteria to select wild cards:

- No player that is under suspension by the USTA, a Sectional Association, the ITF, the ITA, the WTA, or the ATP may be awarded a wild card.
- No player who has a national standing below the standing of the first alternate may be awarded a wild card unless, in the opinion of the Wild Card Committee, the player will improve the overall strength of field of the tournament.
- No player who submits a late wild card application may be considered. Timely entries into the tournament are recommended, but are not required.
- A player with an established record in international, professional, or collegiate competition may be considered.
- A player whose ability to qualify has been affected by injury, illness, or other personal circumstance may be considered.
- A player's rating may be considered.
- A player with a high standing in a younger age division of the event may be considered.
- A player with a high standing in the division of the event who was not endorsed by their Sectional Association may be considered, provided that the player has been recommended for a wild card by their Sectional Association.
- A player who has been recommended for a wild card by the USTA National Coaching Staff may be considered.
- USTA Player Development may hold invitational wild card playoff competitions for players identified jointly by NJTLs and USTA Player Development to which the best finishers shall be awarded wild cards into the Boys' and Girls' 14 and 12 Divisions of the USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships. A total of 2 wild cards will be available for this purpose in each of the Boys' and Girls' 14 and 12 Divisions.
- USTA Player Development may hold an invitational wild card playoff competition to which the winner shall be awarded a wild card, provided that the Junior Competition Committee has approved the competition in advance.

10. **Singles draw formats.**

- a. A compass draw with a playoff for third place;
- b. A draw with a Feed-In Championship and a playoff for third place; or
- c. A modified Feed-In Championship.

The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall specify which format shall be used and publish it in [Table 7](#).

If a draw with a Feed-In Championship is used, the USTA Junior Competition Department and USTA Junior Competition Committee shall specify the round through which the losing players are fed into the Feed-In Championship and any additional playoff matches required.

If a draw with a modified Feed-In Championship is used, the USTA Junior Competition Department and USTA Junior Competition Committee shall specify the rounds that are fed into the modified Feed-In Championship and any additional playoff matches required.

Each player shall play all matches unless the failure to do so is attributable to illness, injury, or personal circumstance.

11. **Doubles events.**

- a. **Players eligible.** All players selected for singles shall be eligible to enter doubles. Vacancies in the doubles draw may be filled by the Tournament Committee with alternates. At the USTA National Clay Court Championships, The USTA National Championships, and the USTA National Winter Championships, the Tournament Committee may also fill vacancies in the draw with players or teams receiving doubles-only endorsements pursuant to [Regulation III.K.5.e.iii](#).

TABLE 7 • Sectional Associations’ Minimum Quota and Total Quota for USTA National Spring Championships, The USTA National Championships, and USTA National Winter Championships

| Tournament | 18 Divisions | 16 Divisions | 14 Divisions | 12 Divisions |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| USTA National Spring Championships | Single Elimination* | Feed-In Championship, which includes the losers through the quarterfinals and a playoff for 3rd place | | |
| USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships | Feed-In Championship, which includes the losers through the quarterfinals and a playoff for 3rd place | | Feed-In Championship, which includes the losers through the quarterfinals and a playoff for 3rd place. The losers of the first round of the Feed-In Championship will be fed into a separate single elimination draw (bronze) | Compass draw that guarantees each player at least four matches and with round-of-16 losers fed into a separate single elimination draw (silver) and the quarterfinal losers fed into another separate single elimination draw (gold) |
| USTA National Indoor Championships | Modified Feed-In Championship whereby the losers of the Round of 64 and Round of 32 are fed into a separate single elimination draw and the losers of the Round of 16 and quarterfinals are fed into another separate single elimination draw, and there is a playoff for 3rd place | | | |
| USTA National Winter Championships | Feed-In Championship, which includes the losers through the quarterfinals and a playoff for 3rd place | | Compass draw that guarantees each player at least four matches and with round-of-16 losers fed into a separate single elimination draw (silver) and the quarterfinal losers fed into another separate single elimination draw (gold) | |
| When a Feed-In Championship is held, the standard bye placement method described in USTA Regulation II.B.4.d.i. shall be used. | | | | |

*The USTA National Spring Championships in the 18 Divisions is also sanctioned as an ITF tournament. The draw format is dictated by the ITF tournament regulations, is not governed by these Regulations, and is being included for informational purposes only.

REGULATION III.K.11.A. COMMENT: In a USTA National Championship, the doubles entry deadline is not the singles entry deadline referred to in [Regulation III.K.1.a.](#) The doubles entry deadline is a later date set by the Tournament Committee.

b. **Doubles draw format.** The USTA National Clay Court Championships and The USTA National Championships in the 14 divisions shall run a First Match Consolation draw. All other tournaments shall run a single elimination draw with a playoff for third place, except that the Junior Competition Committee may authorize a consolation draw at the request of the Tournament Committee. Each player shall play all matches, unless the failure to do so is attributable to illness, injury, or personal circumstance.

12. **Time when draws made. The draws shall not be made more than seven days before the start of the tournament.**
13. **Remaking draws. If play has not begun, a draw may be remade:**
 - If any one of the top four seeds withdraws; or
 - If two or more seeds withdraw.

L. USTA National Level 2 Tournaments.

1. **Tournament overview.** Four times annually the USTA shall hold four concurrent USTA National Level 2 Tournaments for boys and girls in each age division at different sites.
2. **Draw size.** The draw sizes shall be as set forth in [Table 8:](#)

TABLE 8 • Sectional Associations' Minimum Quota and Total Quota for USTA National Spring Championships, The USTA National Championships, and USTA National Winter Championships

| Tournament | 18 Divisions | 16 Divisions | 14 Divisions | 12 Divisions |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| USTA National Spring Championships | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 |
| USTA National Clay Court Championships | 64 | 64 | 32 | 32 |
| The USTA National Championships | 64 | 64 | 32 | 32 |
| USTA National Winter Championships | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 |

3. **Entry.**
 - a. **Means of entry.** A player submits an entry and entry fee to the USTA by the date stated in the published entry information and designates the player's order of preference among the four USTA National Level 2 Tournament sites.
 - b. **Multiple entries allowed.** When entries close, a player may be entered in two age divisions of USTA National Level 2 Tournaments.
 - c. **Player may play in only one age division.** If a player plays in singles and doubles, the player shall play in the same age division.
4. **Selection in descending division order.** The USTA shall select players who have submitted timely entries for USTA National Level 2 Tournaments in descending age division order: 18; 16; 14; and 12. If a player is entered in two age divisions of a USTA National Level 2 Tournament and is selected into the older division, that player shall not be eligible for selection into the younger division. If a player is not selected for the older division, that player is eligible for selection in the younger division and is eligible to be an alternate in the younger division but not in the older division.
5. **Selection process and alternates.** Players shall be selected and alternates shall be ordered using the most recently published National Standings List of the division as set forth in **Table 9**.

TABLE 9 • Selection Process for USTA National Level 2 Tournaments

Selection of Players: Players shall be selected in the order in which their names appear on the most recently published National Standings List of the division.

Alternates: Those players who have not been selected after all four USTA National Level 2 Tournaments draws have been filled shall be placed on the alternate lists at all concurrent USTA National Level 2 Tournaments for which the players indicated a preference. The players shall be ordered based on the players' standing on the National Selection List used to select players.

Late Entries: Late entries shall be placed on the alternate list in the order received after timely entries. Late entries received at the same time shall be ordered by lot. (See **USTA Regulation I.H.4.**)

6. **Acceptance into USTA National Level 2 Tournament makes player ineligible for play in concurrent USTA National Level 2 Tournament.** A player who has been accepted into a USTA National Level 2 Tournament, shall not be eligible for play in any concurrent USTA National Level 2 Tournament, except that a player may submit a written request to move to another site within the same age division if the draw at the requested site is not full, the request is received by each Tournament Director no later than 10 days before the start date of the tournament, and each Tournament Director involved understands the circumstances and concurs in writing.
7. **Singles draw format.** In singles each tournament shall run a Feed-In Championship and playoff for third place. The USTA Junior Competition Department and Junior Competition Committee shall specify any additional playoff matches required, the round through which the losing players are fed into the Feed-In Championship, and the round through which the Feed-In Championship is played. Each player shall play all matches unless the failure to do so is attributable to illness, injury, or personal circumstance.
8. **Doubles draw format.** In doubles each tournament shall run a single elimination draw and playoff for third place. Each player shall play all matches unless the failure to do so is attributable to illness, injury, or personal circumstance.

REGULATION III.L.7. COMMENT: Each USTA National Level 2 Tournament shall run a Feed-In Championship that includes the losers through the Round of 16, a playoff for 3rd and 4th place, and a playoff of the losing quarterfinalists that determine 5th, 6th and 8th places (there is no playoff for 7th place). The Feed-In Championship uses the standard bye placement method described in **USTA Regulation II.B.4.d.i.**

9. **Time when draws made.** The draws shall not be made more than seven days before the start of the tournament.
10. **Remaking draws.** If play has not begun, a draw may be remade:
 - If any one of the top four seeds withdraws; or
 - If two or more seeds withdraw.

M. USTA National Level 3 Tournaments.

1. **Number of tournaments.** The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall sanction one or more tournaments with up to 192 total draw spots up to 4 times per year in each division.
2. **Draw size, draw formats, and match formats.** The USTA Junior Competition Department shall specify the draw size, draw formats, and match formats at the time the sanction for each USTA National Level 3 Tournament is approved.
3. **Entry into concurrent USTA National Level 3 Tournaments.** When entries close, a player shall not be entered in two or more concurrent USTA National Level 3 Tournaments unless each Tournament Committee involved understands the situation and concurs in writing.
4. **Tournament regulations for USTA National Level 3 Tournaments.** Regulations for USTA National Level 3 Tournaments shall be prepared by the USTA Junior Competition Committee and shall be published.

REGULATION III.M. COMMENT: THE FOLLOWING POLICY FOR PERMITTING MULTIPLE ENTRIES AND SELECTION PROCESS FOR USTA NATIONAL LEVEL 3 TOURNAMENTS SHALL BE USED:

MULTIPLE ENTRIES: Players Have TWO Options

Players Choose ONE of the Following Options, but NOT Both:

- **OPTION 1:** Enter any ONE Division of TWO Concurrent USTA National Level 3 Tournaments (this may be a different division in each tournament); OR
- **OPTION 2:** Enter TWO Divisions of ONE USTA National Level 3 Tournament

Players may PLAY in only ONE division of ONE tournament.

Players who enter three (3) or more divisions will be given 5 suspension points for being improperly entered in concurrent tournaments and will only be selected into a maximum of two divisions.

OPTION 1: ONE Division of TWO Concurrent Tournaments

- Prior written permission of both Tournament Committees is NOT required to enter TWO concurrent USTA National Level 3 Tournaments.
- Tournament Committees will publish the selection and alternate lists no later than 2 days after entries close.
- A player accepted into both tournaments must notify both tournaments no later than 5 days after entries close (Tuesday following entry deadline) as to which tournament they will be playing and the player shall be refunded their entry fee (but not the TennisLink administrative fee). Failure to withdraw by the deadline absolves the tournament from which the player is withdrawing from their obligation to refund the entry fee. If a player remains on more than one competitor list 12 days following the entry deadline (second Tuesday after entry deadline), that player will be removed from BOTH events.
- If a player has not been accepted into any tournament, the player may remain on the alternate lists of both tournaments, but upon acceptance into one, they may not withdraw from that tournament to play in another.
- Under no circumstances may a player after being accepted into one concurrent tournament withdraw and play in another. Doing so shall result in the assessment of 4 suspension points for withdrawing for reason other than injury, illness, or personal circumstance.

Option 2 Procedure: TWO Divisions of ONE Tournament

- When a USTA National Level 3 Tournament includes more than one age division, a player may enter up to two age divisions of that tournament.
- The Tournament Committee shall select players who have entered two divisions in descending age division order: 18; 16; 14; and 12. If a player is entered in two age divisions of a USTA National Level 3 Tournament and is selected into the older division, that player shall not be eligible for selection into the younger age division, even if there are openings in the younger age division at the time of selection or thereafter. If a player is not selected for the older age division, that player is only eligible for selection in the younger age division.
- If a player is not selected for either age division, that player is only eligible to be an alternate for the younger age division.

SELECTION PROCESS

- **Selection:** Players are accepted into a USTA National Level 3 Tournament using the most recently published National Standings List as of the date entries close.
- **Alternates:** Alternates are ordered using the same National Standings List used to select players into the tournament. Players with no National Standing are ordered after players with standing by random drawing. Late entries are placed on the bottom of the alternate list in the order received. Late entries received at the same time are ordered randomly.

N. USTA National Doubles Championships, Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments, USTA Team Championships, and USTA International Tournaments.

1. **Tournament regulations for USTA National Doubles Championships and Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments.** Regulations for USTA National Doubles Championships and Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments shall be prepared by the USTA Junior Competition Committee and the USTA Junior Competition Department and shall be published.
2. **Tournament regulations for USTA Team Championships.** Regulations for USTA Team Championships shall be prepared by the USTA Junior Competition Committee and the USTA Junior Competition Department, including the selection process for the USTA National Spring Team Championships which shall be published in **Table 10** (on next page).

TABLE 10 • Selection Process for USTA National Spring Team Championships

USTA National Spring Team Championships - 18, 16 and 14 Divisions

Separate USTA National Spring Championships shall be held for boys and girls. Each Tournament Committee shall accept 32 players from each division into the draw as follows:

- Up to 4 wild cards using the same process established in [Regulation III.K.9.d](#).
- The remaining players from most recently published National Standings List from each age division, provided they have submitted timely entries, in the order in which their names appear.

The Tournament Committee shall prepare an alternate list for each division of those players with timely entries not accepted into the draw in the order in which their names appear on the same National Standings List used to accept players into the draw. Late entrants shall be placed on the alternate list in the order received after timely entries. Late entries received at the same time shall be ordered by lot. (See [USTA Regulation I.H.4.](#))

USTA National Spring Team Championships - 12 Divisions

Separate USTA National Spring Championships shall be held for boys and girls. Each Tournament Committee shall accept 48 players from each division into the draw as follows:

- Up to 4 wild cards using the same process established in [Regulation III.K.9.d](#).
- The remaining players from most recently published National Standings List of the division, provided they have submitted timely entries, in the order in which their names appear.

The Tournament Committee shall prepare an alternate list of those players with timely entries not accepted into the draw in the order in which their names appear on the same National Standings List used to accept players into the draw. Late entrants shall be placed on the alternate list in the order received after timely entries. Late entries received at the same time shall be ordered by lot. (See [USTA Regulation I.H.4.](#))

3. **Use of ITF tournament regulations at USTA International Tournaments.** USTA International Tournaments shall use ITF tournament regulations. The list of USTA International Tournaments shall be published. (See [Table 11.](#))
4. **Coaching in USTA Team Championships.** The designated team coach may coach a player who remains on court during set breaks or changeovers, except during the first changeover of a set and a tiebreak.

TABLE 11 • USTA International Tournaments

- Eddie Herr International Junior Tennis Championship - 16, 14, & 12 Divisions
- USTA National Tournament at Stanford University - 18, 16, 14, & 12 Divisions
- Orange Bowl International Championships - 16 Divisions
- Junior Orange Bowl International Championships - 14 & 12 Divisions

5. **Alternate method of coaching in USTA Team Championships.** The USTA Junior Competition Committee, in consultation with the USTA Junior Competition Department, may authorize the designated team coach to coach a player at any time during the match so long as the coach does not interfere with play. The list of tournaments at which this alternate method of coaching is authorized shall be published annually in [Table 12.](#)

TABLE 12 • USTA Team Championships that Use Alternate Method of Coaching

- USTA Boys' 18 National Team Championships
- USTA Girls' 18 National Team Championships

IV. JUNIOR NATIONAL RANKINGS

- A. Divisions Ranked.** The USTA shall publish rankings in the Boys' and Girls' 18, 16, 14, and 12 Divisions.
- B. Ranking Period.** The ranking period for all players shall be January 1 through December 31.
- C. Eligibility for National Rankings.** Players eligible to play in USTA Junior National Championships are eligible for a national ranking. (See **USTA Regulation IX.C.1.** for these requirements.)
- D. National Ranking Tournaments.** The following tournaments shall be known as National Ranking Tournaments and only results from these tournaments shall be considered for junior national rankings:
- USTA National Championships;
 - USTA National Doubles Championships;
 - USTA National Level 2 Tournaments;
 - USTA Team Championships;
 - USTA National Level 3 Tournaments;
 - Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments;
 - USTA International Tournaments;
 - ITF tournaments listed on the National Junior Tournament Schedule;
 - Sectional Ranking Tournaments (as defined in **Regulation IV.E.**); and
 - Additional tournaments authorized by the USTA Junior Competition Committee in consultation with the USTA Junior Competition Department. (See **Table 13**)

TABLE 13 • Additional National Ranking Tournaments

- USTA Jr. Team Tennis Advanced Division National Championships
- Australian Open Junior Championships*
- French Open Junior Championships*
- Wimbledon Junior Championships
- Canadian Junior International Championships*

* Players earn only bonus points in the 18s Divisions.

- E. Sectional Ranking Tournaments.** Each Sectional Association shall designate six Sectional Ranking Tournaments during the year. The national ranking levels that determine the ranking points earned these tournaments shall be determined as set forth in **Regulation IV.G.** and shall be published in **Table 14.**

TABLE 14 • Ranking Levels of Sectional Ranking Tournaments

Level 3: Each Sectional Association shall be assigned two singles tournaments and two doubles tournaments with Level 3 national ranking points, provided, however, that one singles tournament and one doubles tournament be held in May or June.

Level 4: Each Sectional Association shall be assigned four singles tournaments and four doubles tournaments with Level 4 national ranking points.

- F. Ranking Points.** Players shall earn ranking points in singles and doubles as follows:
1. **Points Per Round.** Points Per Round are those points that are awarded based on the round that the player or team reached.
 2. **Bonus points.** Bonus points are those points that are awarded based on wins over highly ranked players.
- G. Assignment of Ranking Points.** Annually the USTA Junior Competition Committee and the USTA Junior Competition Department shall determine:
- The Points Per Round that shall be assigned to each round in each National Ranking Tournament; and
 - The bonus points awarded, if any, for wins over highly ranked players.
 - The assigned ranking points shall be published on the USTA website.

H. Combined Rankings. Junior national rankings are based on singles and doubles ranking points. A player's junior national ranking shall be calculated by adding:

- 100% of the ranking points earned in singles from the six National Ranking Tournaments which the player received the most singles ranking points; and
- A percentage of the ranking points earned in doubles from the six National Ranking Tournaments in which the player received the most doubles ranking points, which percentage shall be determined by the USTA Junior Competition Committee. The percentage shall be published on the USTA website.

REGULATION IV.H. COMMENT: The percentage assigned to doubles is 15%.

I. Treatment of Byes, Withdrawals, Walkovers, Disqualifications, Defaults, and Retirements.

1. **Byes.** A player who advances because of a bye does not receive Points Per Round for advancing.
2. **Withdrawals, walkovers, and disqualifications.** A player who advances because of a withdrawal, walkover, or disqualification shall receive Points Per Round for advancing but shall not receive any bonus points.
3. **Defaults before first point of match.** A player who advances because of a default before first point of a match shall receive Points Per Round for advancing but shall not receive any bonus points. Examples of these defaults include, but are not necessarily limited to, defaults for:
 - Lateness for the start of a match;
 - Failure to show up for a match;
 - Refusal to start a match;
 - Code violations under the Point Penalty System occurring during the warm-up; and
 - Misconduct before a match or between matches.
4. **Defaults after first point of match.** A player who advances because of a default after the first point of the match receives Points Per Round and any bonus points that apply to the match. Examples of these defaults include, but are not necessarily limited to, defaults for:
 - Code violations under the Point Penalty System;
 - Lateness after a rest period;
 - Lateness for resumption of a suspended match; and
 - Refusal to continue to play a match.
5. **Player defaulted for misconduct or code violations receives no ranking points.** A player who has been defaulted for misconduct or code violations under the Point Penalty System shall not receive any ranking points that the player had accumulated in the tournament, provided that a doubles player who was not responsible for the default or any of the code violations shall not be penalized.

REGULATION IV.I. COMMENT: A player who is defaulted because of a code violation for delay caused by obvious cramping (or another medical condition that makes it difficult to resume play), normally should not lose ranking points.

6. **Retirements.** A player who advances because of the opponent's retirement shall receive Points Per Round for advancing and any bonus points.

J. Matches Generally May Count in Only One Division. No match may count for ranking in more than one division, except that results in the Boys' and Girls' 18 Divisions from the USTA National Championships shall be considered in the Boys' and Girls' 18 Divisions, the Adult Open Men's and Women's ranking categories, and the Professional/Adult Open Men's and Women's ranking categories.

K. Players Ranked. All players, regardless of age at the time the final rankings are published, who received at least 200 ranking points in a division in tournaments that start during the Ranking Period shall be ranked in that division.

L. Responsibilities of Junior Players Seeking National Ranking. Players shall be responsible for regularly reviewing their player records and shall promptly submit corrections to their player records to the USTA Junior Competition Department. All corrections must be submitted no later than January 15.

M. Junior National Ranking Committee. The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall have a subcommittee charged with overseeing national junior rankings. The USTA President may appoint a Junior Ranking Coordinator to serve as chair of this subcommittee. Subject to the approval of the USTA President and if a Coordinator is appointed, vacancies in the Junior Ranking Coordinator position may be filled by the chair of the USTA Junior Competition Committee.

N. Publication of Rankings.

1. **Tentative rankings published by January 5.** 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.
2. **Corrections must be received no later than January 15.** Any corrections to a player's record must be received by the USTA Junior Competition Department no later than January 15 of each year.
3. **Final rankings published by January 20.** These final junior rankings are published after corrected data have been received and acted upon by the USTA and no later than January 20. Final junior rankings are not subject to appeal.

V. JUNIOR NATIONAL SANCTIONING REGULATIONS

A. Discrimination Not Allowed. Tournament sanctions shall be awarded and sanctioned tournaments shall be conducted without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, or sexual orientation. By submitting an application to sanction a tournament, the applicant agrees that it will not discriminate against any participant because of the participant's race, creed, color, national origin, or sexual orientation, except that entries into the tournaments listed in Regulation II.A.-F. are limited to U.S. citizens and certain aliens (see USTA Regulation IX.C.1.). A violation of this provision may result in a refusal to issue any further sanctions to the applicant.

B. Primary Host Site Shall be Organization Member. The primary host site of each tournament listed in Regulation II shall be an Organization Member.

C. Sanctioning Process. This process shall apply to all tournaments listed in Regulation II., except those tournaments that the USTA Junior Competition Committee has determined shall not be put out for bid and shall instead be assigned to a sanction holder by the Committee.

1. **Application deadlines.** The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall set the application deadlines and shall notify the Sectional Associations and current sanction holders of these deadlines.

REGULATION V.C. COMMENT: THE JUNIOR COMPETITION COMMITTEE HAS SET THE FOLLOWING DEADLINES FOR SANCTION APPLICATIONS:

- USTA National Championships, USTA National Team Championships, USTA Intersectional Team Championships, and USTA National Spring Team Championships: January 15 of the year prior to the tournament. These tournaments are awarded 3-year sanctions and are sanctioned through 2020.
- USTA National Level 2 Tournaments (including the USTA National Tournament at Stanford designated as an L2), USTA Zone Team Championships and USTA International Tournaments: January 15 of the year prior to the tournament. These tournaments are awarded 2-year sanctions and are sanctioned through 2019.

- USTA National Level 3 Tournaments and Additional USTA National Tournaments: May 1 of the year prior to the tournament. Bids for tournament held January - June will be awarded by July of the year prior to the tournament; bids for tournaments held July-December will be awarded by November of the year prior to the tournament.

2. **Submission of application.** The applicant shall submit the application on the USTA-approved sanction form to the USTA Junior Competition Committee. An applicant may submit or be asked to submit other information in support of their applications.
3. **Approval by Sectional Associations.** Each Sectional Association shall approve or disapprove the applicants from its Sectional Association, except as set forth in Regulation V.C.5. below. If a Sectional Association disapproves an applicant, the USTA Junior Competition Committee shall not consider that particular application.
4. **Sectional Association approval not required when it submits competing application.** When a Sectional Association has submitted a competing application for a tournament, the USTA Junior Competition Committee shall approve or disapprove all applicants from that Sectional Association for that tournament.
5. **Notice to competing applicants of USTA National Championships of their right to appear before Committee.** The chairperson or the chairperson's designee shall inform all applicants of competing applications for the USTA National Championships listed in Regulation II.A. and B. and may require them to submit additional information in order to consider the competing applications. Representatives of all applicants shall be permitted to appear in person, by proxy, or by electronic means to make presentations to the committee in support of their applications at all meetings in which applications are considered.
6. **Approval of sanctions.** The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall review only the applications from:
 - Applicants approved by Sectional Associations;
 - Sectional Associations; and
 - Applicants that are not subject to approval or disapproval by a Sectional Association because the Sectional Association submitted a competing application.

The committee shall approve or disapprove applications as soon as possible after the application deadline. Upon approval of a sanction, the chairperson or the chairperson's designee shall notify the successful applicant. If the committee does not approve any application, or any approved applicant declines or is unable to host the tournament, then the committee may select a sanction holder to host the tournament.
7. **Tournament contract.** No sanction approval shall be considered final until the applicant completes and returns a tournament contract in the form approved by the USTA Junior Competition Committee and payment of the sanction fee (see Regulation V.D.) has been received.

D. Sanction Fees. The sanction fee for:

- USTA National Championships;
- USTA National Doubles Championships;
- USTA National Level 2 Tournaments;
- USTA Team Championships;

shall be \$100 per age and gender division. The sanction fee for all other tournaments sanctioned by the USTA Junior Competition Committee shall be \$100 per tournament.

E. Tournament Titles. The USTA Junior Competition Committee establishes the titles for tournaments under its jurisdiction. The title shall include, where applicable, the age, sex, surface, and any other divisions of the tournament. The initials "USTA" shall be used in identifying:

- USTA National Championships;
- USTA National Doubles Championships;
- USTA National Level 2 Tournaments;
- USTA Team Championships.

The titles of USTA International Tournaments may include the initials "USTA." The titles of USTA National Level 3 Tournaments, Additional USTA Junior National Tournaments, and USTA International Tournaments are subject to the approval of the USTA Junior Competition Committee.

F. Television, Cable, Satellite, Internet, Radio, Film and Video Rights. The USTA reserves all television, cable, satellite, internet, radio, film, and video rights for all tournaments sanctioned by the USTA Junior Competition Committee as set forth in USTA Regulation XVII.F.

G. ITF Junior Tournaments. The ITF regulations require that ITF junior tournaments played in the United States be either organized by the USTA or sanctioned by the USTA. The USTA Junior Competition Committee shall be notified of all applicants for tournaments requiring sanction approval.

REGULATION V.G. COMMENT: The Committee has determined that all ITF Junior Tournaments played in the geographic boundaries of the USTA shall be sanctioned by the USTA.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR USTA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The information below summarizes the selection processes set forth in the Regulations.

| Method of Acceptance (In order of acceptance) | USTA National Spring Championships | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| | BG18* | BG16 | BG14 | BG12 |
| ITF List | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| National Standing List (endorsement not required) | 6 | 52 | 52 | 52 |
| BG18 ITF Qualifier Players | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| L2 Qualifiers | 0 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| International Spring Championship Finalists | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wild Cards | 8 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Vacancies are filled with players from the National Standings List (endorsement not required) | 64 | 64 | 64 | 64 |

*The USTA National Spring Championships in the 18 Divisions is also sanctioned as an ITF tournament. The draw size, selection process, and other tournament regulations are dictated by the ITF tournament regulations.

| Method of Acceptance (In order of acceptance) | USTA National Spring Championships | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| | BG18 | BG16 | BG14 | BG12 |
| Direct Acceptance List | 32 | 16 | 16 | 0 |
| L2 Qualifiers | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Sectional Quota (minimum quota of 2) | 134 | 134 | 116 | 102 |
| Endorsed Players from National Standing List | 42 | 58 | 46 | 14 |
| Wild Cards | 8 | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| Vacancies are filled with players from the National Standings List (endorsement not required) | 224 | 224 | 192 | 128 |

| Method of Acceptance (In order of acceptance) | USTA National Spring Championships | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| | BG18 | BG16 | BG14 | BG12 |
| National Standing List (endorsement not required) | 33 | 33 | 33 | 33 |
| Sectional Quota (minimum quota of 1) | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 |
| Wild Cards | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Vacancies are filled with players from the National Standings List (endorsement not required) | 64 | 64 | 64 | 64 |

| Method of Acceptance (In order of acceptance) | USTA National Spring Championships | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| | BG18 | BG16 | BG14 | BG12 |
| Direct Acceptance List | 16 | 16 | 16 | 0 |
| L2 Qualifiers | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Sectional Quota (minimum quota of 2) | 77 | 77 | 77 | 102 |
| Endorsed Players from National Standing List | 23 | 23 | 23 | 14 |
| Wild Cards | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Vacancies are filled with players from the National Standings List (endorsement not required) | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 |

GLOSSARY

8-Game Pro Set. An 8-game pro set is a scoring system that consists of one set in which the first player to eight games wins the match. A 7-Point Tiebreak is played if the score reaches 8 games all.

10-Point Match Tiebreak. The 10-Point Match Tiebreak is played in some matches in lieu of the deciding final set. The first player or team to win 10 points by a margin of at least 2 wins the final set 1-0 and the match.

Additional USTA National Tournaments. These are additional tournaments sanctioned by the USTA Junior Competition Committee that count for national ranking.

Alphabetical Seeding. In some cases the Tournament Committee may group seeded players together and assign each of them the same seed (for example, in the group 5-8, each player in the group would be assigned the fifth seed).

Alternate. An alternate is a player who did not make it into the draw but requests that the tournament consider the player for entry into the draw if an opening in the draw develops.

Alternate List. The alternate list is a list of players not accepted into a tournament. After entries close, the Tournament Committee will typically publish an ordered alternate list showing the order in which the alternates will be accepted if there is a withdrawal.

Back Draw. This term is commonly used to describe the consolation part of a Feed-In Championship draw.

Bonus Points. Bonus points are additional ranking points that are awarded for wins over highly ranked players.

Combined Ranking. A combined ranking is a ranking that is based on both singles and doubles Ranking Points.

Compass Draw. This is a non-elimination format that is so named because players advance in four to eight different directions depending upon when they lose their first match and when they lose their subsequent matches.

Computerized List Method of Seeding. This seeding method is based on a computerized system of rankings or standings.

Consolation Draw. A consolation draw describes a group of different types of draws in which losers in the main draw play an additional match or matches against other players who have lost a match in the main draw.

Direct Acceptance List. This is a list of the standings of the top players that is used to determine which junior players are automatically selected for the USTA National Championships.

Division. Division refers to one or two events in a tournament in which the eligibility criteria are identical. For example, the Girls' 16 Singles and Girls' 16 Doubles are two events but only one division because their eligibility criteria are identical.

Endorsement. Endorsement refers to the process used by Sectional Associations to list their players in the order in which they want the players accepted into tournaments such as the USTA National Championships, Intersectionals, and Zonals.

Feed-In Championship (FIC). This term refers to a special form of consolation draw in which the losers from the main draw are fed back into a consolation draw against players who lost in earlier rounds of the tournament. There are two types of Feed-In Championships played at national junior tournaments. An FIC that feeds players in through the Quarterfinals, and an FIC that feeds players in through the Round of 16.

Gold Ball Event. This refers to the highest level of national competition at which USTA Gold, Silver, and Bronze Balls are awarded.

Intersectionals. These are team tournaments held in the 14, 16 and 18 Divisions. Teams compete against teams from the other Sectional Associations. In the 18 divisions, these competitions are now known as the USTA Boys' 18 National Team Championships and the Girls' 18 National Team Championships.

ITF Rules of Tennis. The ITF Rules of Tennis are the rules for the sport of tennis. They are made by the International Tennis Federation (ITF). The USTA, as a member of the ITF, has agreed that the ITF Rules of Tennis apply to all USTA sanctioned tournaments.

ITF Tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule. The ITF Tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule are tournaments jointly sanctioned by the ITF and USTA that are placed on the National Junior Tournament Schedule. These tournaments are played under ITF tournament regulations.

Late Entry. A late entry is one that is received after the entry deadline. The Tournament Committee determines whether late entries will be accepted. In tournaments with limited draw sizes, late entries are placed on the alternate list after timely entries in the order received. Late entries received at the same time are ordered by lot.

Main Draw. The main draw is that part of a draw in which the remaining players have not yet lost a match.

Match Format. The match format refers to the scoring format used by a tournament.

Modified Feed-In Championship (MFIC). This term refers to a special form of consolation draw in which the losers from at least two rounds of the main draw are fed into the consolation draw. One form of a MFIC is played at the USTA National Indoor Championships that takes the losers of the rounds of 64 and 32 and feeds them into one separate draw, and takes the losers of the round of 16 and the quarterfinals and feeds them into another separate draw.

National Ranking Tournaments. These are the tournaments that are used for national junior rankings. A list of the tournaments is found in Regulation IV.D.

National Standings List. This is a monthly standings list of junior players in each age division used for selection and seeding.

Personal Circumstance. A bona fide reason other than illness or injury for not playing is a personal circumstance. Personal circumstance generally describes a situation in which a player has a serious or genuine reason for not playing. A Referee should give a player the benefit of the doubt when deciding whether the reason is bona fide. The inability of a junior to play because an adult who is not the junior's parent or coach decides to go home is a personal circumstance. On the other hand, wanting to get home to play in another sporting event or for the convenience of the junior or an adult who is the player's parent or coach is not a personal circumstance.

Place Playoff. A place playoff is a match that is played to determine a player's final place in the tournament such as a third place playoff or a seventh place playoff in a Feed-In Championships.

Quota. Each Sectional Association is guaranteed a minimum number of junior players who will be accepted into the USTA National Championships. This number is the Sectional Association's quota. It is based on the number and strength of junior members residing in the Sectional Association.

Points Per Round. Points Per Round are the ranking points that are awarded in a Points Per Round Ranking System.

Points Per Round Ranking System. This is a method of ranking players or teams that is based on earning ranking points for the round reached, and in some cases, for wins over highly ranked players or teams.

Ratings. Ratings are a system of categorizing or grouping players by their ability. Ratings are based on a player's match results. JNTRP is a USTA junior rating system that helps match opponents of similar skill levels. Any rating system may be used for selection, seeding, and separating players into more than one draw unless its use has been restricted by the USTA.

Sectional Endorsement. Each Sectional Association endorses players to the USTA National Championships (except the USTA National Spring Championship) and for some USTA Team Championships. Each Sectional Association determines the requirements to appear on an endorsement list, including how players are ordered, the minimum requirements for endorsement, and what tournaments count toward a players' endorsement.

Sectional Endorser. Each Sectional Association lists its junior players in the order in which the Sectional Association has decided that the players should receive entry into the USTA National Championships (except the USTA National Spring Championship) and some USTA Team Championships. The person who prepares this list for the Sectional Association is the Sectional Endorser.

Sectional Quota List. These are a lists of players from each Sectional Association used for selection into the USTA National Championships that have Section Quota. See also "Quota."

Sectional Ranking Tournaments. These are sectional tournaments that count for junior national ranking. Each Sectional Association may designate 8 junior tournaments within its section that will count toward national ranking. Up to 2 of these tournaments will earn National Level 3 Ranking Points; up to 4 of these tournament will earn National Level 4 Ranking Points.

Seeding Groups. Seeding groups refer to 1,2, 3-4, 5-8, 9-16, and 17-32 seeds.

Single Elimination Format. In this tournament format, once you lose you are out and do not get to play any additional matches.

USTA International Tournaments. USTA International Tournaments are USTA sanctioned tournaments played under ITF tournament regulations, but not sanctioned by the ITF.

USTA National Championships. These tournaments constitute the highest level of national tournaments.

USTA National Doubles Championships. This is a doubles-only Gold Ball USTA National Championship for players in the 16 and 14 Divisions.

USTA National Level 2 Tournaments. These tournaments are high level tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule with selection based primarily on the National Standings Lists.

USTA National Level 3 Tournaments. These are tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule with selection based typically on the National Standings Lists.

USTA Team Championships. The USTA Team Championships are comprised of the following tournaments:

- USTA Boys' 18 National Team Championships;
- USTA Girls' 18 National Team Championships;
- USTA National Spring Team Championships;
- USTA Boys' and Girls' 16 and 14 Intersectional Team Championships; and
- USTA Boys' and Girls' 16, 14, and 12 Zone Team Championships.

Wild Card. A wild card entry into a USTA National Championship may be awarded to a junior player based on the criteria described in Table 6.

Zonals. These are team competitions held in the 12, 14, and 16 Divisions that are held in different regions or zones. Teams represent their Sectional Associations.