

CDTA Level 6 - 7 Tournament Director Guide



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About this Document

This Tournament Directors' Guide is intended to be a resource to Tournament Directors who are running Level 6 and 7 tournaments in the Chicago District.

Beginning in 2021, the USTA junior competitive path will consist of 7 levels of sanctioned tournaments with consistent formats throughout the country. The Chicago District approves and controls the more, local events, categorized as Level 6 and Level 7.

This guide provides different scenarios for running these events based on the number of courts, draw size, and estimated time required. It also defines the different types of draw and scoring formats available to run the competitions.

The high-level differences between the Level 6 and Level 7 tournaments are:

	Skill level	Duration	Ball Color	Age
Level 6	Intermediate	1-2 days	Yellow	12-18
Level 7	Lower-Level Intermediate	1 day	Yellow or Green	12-18



Level 6 Tournaments

Level 6 tournaments can be run as either 1 or 2-day events. The application period for a tournament can be 3 days; but an individual event must be no more than 2 days. For example, you could run a Boys 14s on Friday-Saturday and a Girls 14s on Saturday-Sunday under the same Serve Tennis Tournament Application.

The maximum number of matches that can be played in a day is 4. This is also the maximum number of matches that count on the points per round table for a Level 6 event.

Level 6 1-Day Event Guidelines

Below are guidelines for planning your 1-day tournament.

# of days	# of Players	Draw Size**	Draw Format	# of Courts	Scoring Formats Ad or No-Ad
1	3-4	4	Round Robin	2	2 out of 3 full sets, 10 pt. tiebreak 3rd set
1	5-6	6	8	2-3	2 out of 3 short sets, 7 pt. tiebreak at 4-4 and for 3rd set
1	7-8	8	8	3-4	2 out of 3 short sets, 7 pt. tiebreak at 4-4 and for 3rd set
1	9-16	16	16	4-8	2 out of 3 short sets, 7 pt. tiebreak at 4-4 and for 3rd set

** Maximum number of matches is 4



Level 6 2-Day Event Guidelines

Below are guidelines for planning your 2-day tournament.

# of days	# of Players	Draw Size**	Draw Format	# of Courts	Scoring Formats Ad or No-Ad
1	3-4	4	Round Robin	2	2 out of 3 full sets, 10 pt. tiebreak 3rd set
1	5-6	6	8	2-3	2 out of 3 short sets, 7 pt. tiebreak at 4-4 and for 3rd set
2	7-8	8	8	3-4	2 out of 3 short sets, 7 pt. tiebreak at 4-4 and for 3rd set OR 2 out of 3 full sets, 10 pt. tiebreak 3rd set
2	9-16	16	16	4-8	2 out of 3 short sets, 7 pt. tiebreak at 4-4 and for 3rd set OR 2 out of 3 full sets, 10 pt. tiebreak 3rd set

** Maximum number of matches is 4

Level 6 Match Scheduling Guidelines

Below are guidelines for planning your 1 or 2-day tournament.

	Short Sets - 4 Games	Full Sets - 6 Games
Estimated Match Length	45 minutes	90 minutes
Rest Period	Up to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour



Level 6 Scoring Options

Below are guidelines for planning your 1 or 2-day tournament.

1-Day Events	2-Day Events (2 options)
2 out of 3 short sets Ad or No-ad scoring 7-point tiebreak at 4 all 7-point tiebreak for third set	2 out of 3 shorts sets Ad scoring 7-point tiebreak at 4 all 10-point tiebreak for third set OR 2 out of 3 short sets Ad scoring 10-point tiebreak for third set

Level 6 Draw Format Options

Following are the draw formats available for Level 6 events. Descriptions of each format can be found in the draw format section of this document.

- Round Robin
- Round Robin with playoff
- Compass
- Team (Dominant Duo)
- FICQ (feed in champs thru quarterfinals)
- MFIC (modified feed-in consolation)



Level 7 Tournaments

Level 7 tournaments are 1-day events typically running for 3-4 hours. The maximum number of matches that can be played in a day is 4. This is also the maximum number of matches that count on the points per round table for a Level 7 event.

Level 7 Event Guidelines

Below are guidelines for planning your 1-day tournament.

# of Players	Draw Size	# of Courts	Rest Time
2-4	4	2	none
5-6	6	2-3	none
7-8	8	3-4	up to 20 minutes
9-16	16	3-8	up to 20 minutes

Level 7 Rest Between Match Options

Below are rest options for players at your 1-day tournament.

- Players play 2 rounds rest 1
- 1/2 of the draw plays 1 round, 1/2 rests and alternates
- Girls play first, boys follow and rotate depending on match length
- Age divisions rotate like above format

Level 7 Match Scoring Options

Below are some scoring guidelines for your 1-day tournament. No-ad scoring is recommended.

- Single 4-game short set, 7 point tiebreak at 4-4
- Single regular 6-game set, 7 point tiebreak at 6-6
- Best of 3 short sets with 7 point tiebreak at 4-4 and for 3rd set
- Best of 3 match tiebreaks (first to 10 points)
- Timed matches ending with number of games played, one point tiebreak for winner if tied
- 1 match tiebreak for doubles only

Level 7 Draw Format Options

Below are format options for your 1-day tournament.

- 20-30 Minute Timed Matches
- Round Robin
- Round Robin with playoff
- Compass
- Team (Dominant Duo)



Draw Format Descriptions

Round Robin

Each player will play against all the other players in the group. Below are recommended groupings:

- 3-5 players: one round robin flight
- 6-10 players: two round robin flights
- 11-13 players: three round robin flights
- 14-16 players: 4 round robin flights

Round Robin with Playoff

At the completion of the round robin flights, a play-off with the winners can provide additional matches and determine a winner.

Compass Draw

Compass draws are divided into 8 brackets, each bracket representing a point on a compass (East, West, North, South, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest). Winners advance in their current bracket. When a player loses a match he or she moves into a new bracket. All players start in the middle column of the draw. These tournaments work best with 8, 16, 32, or 64 players/teams.

Round 1

The first round lists the player name in the middle column of the draw. The winners of the first round move to the right or the East bracket, the losers move to the left or the West bracket.

Round 2

The losers in the second round from the East bracket move up to the North bracket and the losers of the West bracket drop down to the South bracket. The winners move forward in the current bracket. The movement above refers to the 16 and 32-player brackets, for an 8-player bracket, the losers from the East bracket drop down to the Southeast bracket and the losers from the West bracket drop down to the Southwest bracket.

Round 3 – for 16 and 32 draws

At the end of round 3, the losers of the West bracket drop down to the Southwest bracket and the losers from the East bracket will move up to the Southeast bracket. The losers of the South bracket will move over to the Southeast bracket and the losers of the North bracket will move over to the Northwest bracket.

Round 4

At the end of round 4 of a 16-player bracket, the winner of each match is the winner of that particular bracket. In a 32-player bracket, all losers are eliminated and the winners of each match advance to the finals of each bracket.



Dominant Duo

The Dominant Duo is a team tournament format consisting of 2-player teams. The ideal draw size is 16 teams (32 players/2 entrants per team).

Court needs per match

- 1-2 courts

Draw Selection/Seeding

- The draw is created by using Midwest Standings List and based on the combined ranking of the two players.
- The players on each team are ranked Player 1 and Player 2 based on the Standings List.
- Currently, these draws will need to be hand done. The top two seeds will be drawn for top and bottom and then 3 and 4 would be drawn for the same.
- The rest of draw will need to be hand drawn and placed according to their draw spot.

Scoring Format

- Each round uses the short set format for singles and doubles.

Order of Play - Always start with the doubles match followed by singles!

1 court

- Start with doubles match, followed by singles 1 vs. 1, and then singles 2 vs. 2
- Next round would start with doubles followed by singles 2 vs. 2, and then singles 1 vs. 1

2 courts

- Start with doubles and then both singles 1 vs. 1 and singles 2 vs. 2

Winner/Points Calculation

- Each singles match and each doubles match counts on an individual player's record based on the points per round table
- The team that wins 2 out of the 3 matches moves ahead in the draw
- The losing team moves into the consolation bracket

FICQ – Feed-In Consolation thru the Quarterfinals

The Feed-In Championship (FIC) is a "consolation" tournament that "feeds in" losers from the main draw from the first through the quarter-final rounds. The FIC winner is the 5th best finishing player in the tournament. NOTE: Remember that a 3rd/4th place playoff is needed also whenever conducting a FIC tournament.

The FIC winner is the 5th best finishing player in the tournament. (NOTE: Remember that a 3rd/4th place playoff is needed also, whenever conducting a FIC tournament.)

Modified Feed-in Consolation (MFIC)

MFIC is a consolation draw in which the losers from the main draw are fed back into another draw against players who lost in earlier rounds of the tournament



Frequently asked Questions

For the Level 6 tournaments, does the requirement to finish in 2 days mean we will have to limit draw size? Is there a time limit or number of matches each player can play in a day?

Yes, draws will be limited to 16 players. 16-player 1-day tournaments will utilize 4-game short sets, no ad scoring with a 7-point tiebreak at 4 games all. Instead of a third set, a 7-point tiebreak will be played. 16-player 2-day tournaments will utilize 4 game short sets, ad scoring with a 7-point tiebreak at 4 games all. Instead of a third set, a 10-point match tiebreak will be played.

If a tournament cannot play 4 matches in 1 or 2 days then they can split the draw and offer two 8-player tournaments. All 2-day tournaments will be played using ad scoring. The tournament may choose to play sets to 6 games, with a 7-point tiebreak at 6 games all. Instead of a third set, a 10-point match tiebreak will be played.

With short sets, 4 matches can be played in a day. When using full sets, with a match tiebreak instead of a third set, players are allowed to play 3 matches in 1 day.

Remember, the application period for a tournament can be 3 days; but an individual event must be 2 days. So, for example, you could run a Boys 14s on Friday-Saturday and 14s on Saturday-Sunday under the same Serve Tennis Tournament Application.

Will between match times change in Level 6 events because you can run short sets?

Yes, the rest period for short set matches is up to 30 minutes. Players have the option of taking this rest or going back on the court sooner.

Are Level 7s no-ad scoring?

Yes, no-ad scoring is recommended, once again to maximize the number of matches in the allotted time.

Can a 10-year old play a 12-year old?

If the 10-year old has advanced through the USTA Youth Progression model, they are eligible for the 12-and-under sanctioned tournaments.

Will local clubs be able to run Midwest Level 4 and 5 tournaments?

Yes, once an application form is submitted, the same approval process will be followed. The USTA Midwest Section will approve USTA Level 4 Tournaments and many USTA Level 5 Tournaments. Districts will be allowed to approve 1 or more USTA Level 5 Tournaments.

Can you clarify who will approve which level of tournament?

The District will approve Level 6 and 7 events, the Section will approve Level 3, 4, and 5 events, and National will approve Level 1, 2 and some National Level 3 events.



Additional Resources

Following are some additional resources to help you begin the tournament application process and run and manage your events:

- **Tournament Application Process (link)**

Follow the hyperlink above to ServeTennis to begin the tournament application process.

- **Tournament Home Page Information and Pre-Tournament Emails**

Having a consistent Tournament Home Page and pre-tournament emails have proven to minimize questions and pre-tournament follow up that is time consuming for you as a TD and is much appreciated by parents and players alike.

- **Sportsmanship Poster (link)**

Please display this poster at your events.

- **Post Tournament Parent/Player Survey (link)**

CDTA created this survey to send out after each tournament to obtain parent/player feedback.

- **2021 National Points per Round (PPR) Table (link)**

Follow the hyperlink above to find the PPR from the Midwest Section for your reference.

For more information, email Barb Rueth, CDTA Junior Play Director at b.rueth@chicagodistrcittennis.com.