

## USTA District Junior Tournament Regulations January 1, 2024

**Regulation 1: Junior USTA Missouri Tournaments.** The Junior USTA Missouri Tournaments consist of the Missouri Level 6 tournaments and Missouri Level 7 tournaments. Other section-level tournaments, Level 3, Level 4, and Level 5 are **not** Junior USTA Missouri Tournaments, even if they are included in the USTA National Standings List.

**Regulation 2: Applicable Rules and Regulations.** These regulations, the ITF Rules of Tennis, USTA Regulations, and The Code are in effect at all Junior Section Tournaments. It is a player's responsibility to know and understand them.

**Regulation 3: Junior USTA Missouri Tournaments Committee.**

### *Eligibility Requirements*

[Refer to USTA Missouri Valley Regulations 4-8.](#)

### *Selection for Tournaments*

**Regulation 4: District Tournaments:** The Districts determine the selection process for district tournaments. The Districts sanction and administer these tournaments even though district tournaments that follow [USTA Missouri Regulations 38-41](#) are included in the USTA National Standings List, *unless* the district notifies USTA Missouri Valley that the tournament should not be included.

### *Selection for Tournaments*

**Regulation 5: District Tournaments Designated for Section Points.** The Districts determine the selection process for District Championships and other district tournaments designated for section points. The Districts sanction and administer these tournaments even though district tournaments that follow USTA Missouri [Regulations 38-41](#) are included in the USTA National Standings List, *unless* the district notifies USTA Missouri Valley that the tournament should not be included.

**Regulation 6: USTA Missouri Level 6 Tournaments.** Annually, the USTA Missouri sanctions Level 6 tournaments for boys and girls in the 18, 16, 14, and 12 divisions. USTA Missouri Level 6 tournaments are open to all eligible players of USTA sections.

a) *Maximum Draw Size.* The maximum draw size is 16 for singles and 16 for doubles.

b) *Singles.* Players will be selected based on the Hybrid System using the most recent National Standings List and the World Tennis Number published at the time of the entry deadline. Players will be selected in the following order:

16 Player Draw:

Top 12 players off the National Standings List (NSL);

Top 4 World Tennis Number (WTN) rated players. High confidence players will be chosen first, followed by medium and then low level confidence.

Alternates will be ordered by the NSL

c) *Doubles.* Players are selected into the doubles draw based on the combined singles rankings of the teams. Before the singles entry deadline, a team is paired in the doubles draw only after;

- accepting an invitation to play from the other player through Serve Tennis; or

- the tournament director receives confirmation from both players that they wish to be paired in the doubles draw before the doubles deadline.

If both players do not confirm with the tournament director, the team is not accepted into the doubles draw.

If a player is signed up for doubles and does not have a partner, the player will be placed in the blind draw. If a player is signed up for doubles and does not have a partner, the player will be placed in the blind draw unless the player withdraws from doubles prior to the doubles entry deadline. All doubles pairings must be confirmed by noon on the Friday after the Singles online entry deadline.

- Players do not have to be in the singles draw to play doubles. If a player is not in the singles draw and wishes to play doubles, the player must still have applied for entry in the tournament and appear on the alternates list. Any player who was not selected for singles will be considered for the doubles draw only if the player informs the Tournament Director that the player still wants to play in the doubles draw.
- A player has the responsibility to communicate with his or her partner about doubles at the tournament. If a player's partner does not make the singles draw or no longer wishes to play doubles, the player has the responsibility to communicate with the Tournament Director and find a new partner before the doubles deadline.
- If a player in the doubles draw withdraws and the player's partner still wants to play doubles, the partner may play with any other player who applied for entry in the tournament and is on the alternate list or any other player who is on the singles alternate so long as the new team does not affect seeding. The player who seeks to play with a new partner is responsible for finding the partner and providing this information to the Referee. The Referee is not required to substitute the new partner into the draw if the Referee learns of the substitution less than one hour before the scheduled start of the first match in the doubles draw.
- The entry deadline for doubles is at noon on the Friday after the singles online entry deadline unless otherwise specified on the tournament homepage.

d) *Player must play in the same division in singles and doubles.* A player must play in the same age division in singles and doubles.

**Regulation 7: USTA Missouri Level 7 Tournaments.** Annually, the USTA Missouri sanctions Level 7 tournaments for boys and girls in the 18, 16, 14, and 12 divisions. USTA Missouri Level 7 tournaments are open to players who reside outside of the USTA Missouri Valley.

- a) *Maximum Draw Size.* The maximum draw size is determined by the host facility but must be a minimum of 16 players.
- b) *Singles.* When National Standings Lists are used for selection in a limited draw tournament, players shall be selected from the bottom up.
- c) *Doubles.* Players are selected into the doubles draw based on the combined singles rankings of the teams. Before the singles entry deadline, a team is paired in the doubles draw only after;
  - accepting an invitation to play from the other player through Serve Tennis; or
  - the tournament director receives confirmation from both players that they wish to be paired in the doubles draw before the doubles deadline.

If both players do not confirm with the tournament director, the team is not accepted into the doubles draw.

If a player is signed up for doubles and does not have a partner, the player will be placed in the blind draw. If a player is signed up for doubles and does not have a partner, the player will be

placed in the blind draw unless the player withdraws from doubles prior to the doubles entry deadline. All doubles pairings must be confirmed by noon on the Friday after the Singles online entry deadline.

- Players do not have to be in the singles draw to play doubles. If a player is not in the singles draw and wishes to play doubles, the player must still have applied for entry in the tournament and appear on the alternates list. Any player who was not selected for singles will be considered for the doubles draw only if the player informs the Tournament Director that the player still wants to play in the doubles draw.
- A player has the responsibility to communicate with his or her partner about doubles at the tournament. If a player's partner does not make the singles draw or no longer wishes to play doubles, the player has the responsibility to communicate with the Tournament Director and find a new partner before the doubles deadline.
- If a player in the doubles draw withdraws and the player's partner still wants to play doubles, the partner may play with any other player who applied for entry in the tournament and is on the alternate list or any other player who is on the singles alternate so long as the new team does not affect seeding. The player who seeks to play with a new partner is responsible for finding the partner and providing this information to the Referee. The Referee is not required to substitute the new partner into the draw if the Referee learns of the substitution less than one hour before the scheduled start of the first match in the doubles draw.
- The entry deadline for doubles is at noon on the Friday after the singles online entry deadline unless otherwise specified on the tournament homepage.

d) *Player must play in the same division in singles and doubles.* A player must play in the same age division in singles and doubles.

### *Entry and Withdrawal Process*

**Regulation 8: Submission of Entries.** On-line application for entry is required for each tournament. The application must be completed before the entry deadline. In case of a problem with an on-line application, contact the District Junior Competition Coordinator via phone or email before the entry deadline. If you reach voicemail, leave a message so that the District Junior Competition Coordinator can verify that your call was received before the entry deadline. No late applications are permitted.

**Regulation 9: Entry Restrictions and Order of Selection.**

- a) *Restrictions on division in which player may play.* A player may play in only one singles and one doubles division per tournament. A player must play in the same age division for singles and doubles.
- b) *Order in which draws are filled.* The USTA Missouri fills the draws in its tournaments in the following order: 18, 16, 14, and 12 divisions.
- c) *Player who enters two age divisions.* For USTA Missouri Valley Junior Section Tournaments that have limited draws, players may apply for entry in up to two age divisions. Unless notified to the contrary, the USTA Missouri assumes that a player who applies for two age divisions prefers to play in the older division. A player who applied for entry in two age divisions and who is selected for the older age division is removed from the entry list for the younger division unless the player previously notified the USTA Missouri that the player prefers to play in the younger division. A player who applied for entry into two age divisions and who was not selected for entry into the older age division is then considered for entry into the younger age division. If the player is not

selected for the younger age division, the player is placed on the alternate list for the younger age division only. A player is not allowed to appear on two alternate lists.

**Regulation 10: Late Entries.** The Tournament Committee shall not accept late entries or add players to the alternates list.

**Regulation 11: Withdrawal from Tournament.** A withdrawal occurs when a player withdraws from a tournament after the entry deadline but before playing the first match because of injury, illness, personal circumstance (which includes a personal emergency), or an administrative error made by the tournament. A player who decides to withdraw from a tournament shall immediately notify the Tournament Director of the reason for the withdrawal. The Tournament Director shall notify the Junior Competition Program Manager of the identity of all players who withdrew from the tournament after the draw has been made. Players may be required to submit verification of the reason for the withdrawal (doctor's note, written description, and other relevant information) before the last scheduled day of the tournament. [See MV Regulation 36.](#)

**Regulation 12: Alternate List.** The Tournament Committee must prepare an alternate list of players who applied for entry into the tournament but were not accepted into the draw. The players shall be listed in the order in which their names appear on the USTA Missouri Valley Standing List that was used to accept players into the draw.

- The Tournament Committee must use the Alternate List to replace withdrawing players until 9:00 p.m. the day before the draw is scheduled to start. A tournament official shall promptly notify the player at the top of the Alternate List when there is an opening. The Tournament Director has the discretion to set the amount of time in which a player has to respond before a tournament official notifies the next player on the list or uses the on-site alternate list.
- After 9:00 p.m. of the day before the draw is scheduled to start, the On-Site Alternate List shall be used to replace withdrawing players.

**Regulation 13: On-Site Alternates.** The Tournament Committee must prepare an on-site alternate list of those on-site players who applied for entry into the tournament but were not accepted into the draw. The players must be listed in the order in which their names appear on the USTA Missouri Valley Standing List that was used to accept the players into the draw. The Tournament Committee must accept alternates into the draw in the order in which the names appear on the on-site alternate list. Only on-site alternates who are on site for the first round of the age division in which they are on-site alternates are eligible for entry into the draw.

**Regulation 14: Refund of Entry Fee.** A player is entitled to a refund of the entry fee only if the player withdraws more than six days before the start of the first event of the tournament. In those tournaments in which doubles events are held, the entry fee for singles includes the fee for the doubles event. If a doubles event is canceled, players entering the singles do not receive a refund. A player entering only a doubles event who does not get to start a match is entitled to a refund. The fee for electronic entries is not considered part of the entry fee and is non-refundable. For Team Tournaments (dominant duo), if one member of the team withdraws within six days of the start of the tournament, the team member who did not withdraw is entitled to a refund.

**Regulation 15: Playing to Completion.** To play to completion means to play all the player's matches in a tournament including the main draw, mandatory FIC, mandatory consolation, and mandatory place

play-offs. A player will be assessed suspension points for any reason besides:

- Retirement from a match because of injury, illness, or personal circumstance;
- Inability to play because of injury, illness, or personal circumstance when the player's problem becomes apparent before the match or during the warm-up; or
- Tournament administrative error.

The Tournament Director determines what constitutes a legitimate personal circumstance.

## *Tournament Administration*

**Regulation 16: Serve Tennis.** USTA Missouri Junior District Tournaments and all tournaments included in the USTA National Standings List are required to use Serve Tennis for seeding, making the draw, score entry, updating and processing withdrawals, and all other tasks associated with recording results.

**Regulation 17: Seeding.** Seeding is done to ensure that players of recognized outstanding ability do not meet each other in the early rounds.

- Singles.* Seeding for all singles events is based on the most recent World Tennis Number published before the draws are made.
- Doubles.* Seeding for all doubles events is based on the combined standing of the most recent World Tennis Number published before the draws are made. In the event of a tie, the higher seed goes to the team with the highest-rated singles player.
- Number of Seeds.* The number of seeds is determined by the number of players in the draw and the seeding ratio specified by the [Friend at Court \(Table 6\)](#).

**Regulation 18: Separating players from the same district.** Whenever possible when making the draw, players will be randomly placed in the draw to avoid meeting a player from the same district in the player's first match. Sometimes changes in the draw are necessary after the draw has been published. No attempt will be made to separate players by district after the draw has been published unless it becomes necessary to remake the entire draw.

**Regulation 19: Separating players from the same section.** Whenever possible when making the draw, players will be randomly placed in the draw to avoid meeting a player from the same section in the player's first match. Sometimes changes in the draw are necessary after the draw has been published. No attempt will be made to separate players by section after the draw has been published unless it becomes necessary to remake the entire draw.

**Regulation 20: Draw Formats at USTA Missouri.** Only the following draw types may be used *unless* the USTA Missouri Junior Competition Coordinator, Chair of the USTA USTA Missouri Junior Competition Committee, and Vice-Chair of the Junior Competition Committee determine that a change of format is necessary.

- Doubles w/ singles.* All doubles events use a single elimination draw.
- Level 6-7 tournaments.* Will use the draw types listed in Regulation 32.

**Regulation 21: Starting Times and Days.** Tournaments with doubles may start no earlier than 8 am, *provided that* the Referee may set an earlier start time if the Referee determines that inclement weather requires an earlier start. Tournaments run on the following days:

**Regulation 22: Scheduling.** The scheduling guidelines in USTA Regulation II.D.9. and [Table 8](#) are mandatory.

**Regulation 23: Inclement Weather.** Indoor court backup is not required for USTA Missouri events. If indoor courts are available and the referee decides after consulting with the tournament director, players may be required to pay an additional fee, which is determined by the Tournament Director. If the Referee determines that there is inclement weather, the USTA Missouri Junior Competition Coordinator (after consulting with the Tournament Director) may change the match format (provided the format is used for an entire round) or cancel an event. When canceling events, USTA Regulation III.G.5.a. is followed. Tournaments normally do not get canceled or rescheduled due to inclement weather forecasts.

**Regulation 23: Suspension Point System.** The USTA Suspension Point System applies to all junior tournaments sanctioned by the USTA Missouri Valley including the Junior Section Tournaments. It is a player's responsibility to know and understand the suspension point system and his or her status. Every effort is made to notify the player each time a suspension point is assessed. Failure to notify the player does not invalidate any penalties or points assessed. Please refer to [Table 17 \(Suspension Points\) in Friend at Court](#).

**Regulation 24: Injury, Illness, or Personal Circumstance.** If because of illness, injury, or personal circumstance, a player withdraws from the tournament after the draw has been made or decides not to play a match, then the Referee, USTA Missouri Junior Competition District Coordinator, or Tournament Committee will require the player to provide a document that verifies the illness, injury, or personal circumstance. If the reason for the withdrawal is illness or injury, the player must deliver written verification of the illness or injury from a medical professional no later than the last scheduled day of the tournament. If the reason for the withdrawal is personal circumstance, the player must deliver a written description of the situation to the Referee before the last scheduled day of the tournament. The Referee determines whether the situation is a personal circumstance. Failure to provide the required documentation in a timely manner results in the match being treated as a default rather than a withdrawal or walkover.

**Regulation 25: Mandatory Draw Types.** Only tournaments that use the following draw types may be used:

Level	Draw Type
7	0-2 Draw Cancelled 3-5 One Round Robin bracket 6-7 Two Round Robin bracket with cross play (4th place finisher in 4-draw pool will not participate in cross play) 8-9 Two Round Robin brackets with no cross play. There will be two 1st place finishers. 10 Two Round Robin brackets with no cross play. There will be two 1st Place finishers. 11-13 Three Round Robin brackets with no cross play. There will be three 1st place

	<p>finishers and three finalists</p> <p>14-16 Compass Draw. There will be one 1st place finisher</p>
<b>6</b>	<p>0-2 Draw Cancelled</p> <p>3-5 One Round Robin Bracket</p> <p>6-12 Feed-in Championship through Quarters with 3rd/4th playoff</p> <p>13-16 Feed-in Championship through the Quarters with a 3rd/4th playoff, Consolation final will not be played</p> <p>Compass Draw, Dominant Duo</p> <p>Doubles- Single Elimination (Does not apply to doubles-only tournaments)</p>