



2019 Award Criteria

Please, review the list of awards and criteria. Click the link to submit your nomination. Supporting information is extremely useful to the committee and will further your candidate's possible selection as an award recipient. Unless otherwise noted, all nominees must be current USTA members. Additional comments or questions should be sent to director@ustastl.com.

All nominations must be received by noon on **August 19, 2019**.

USTA St. Louis 2019 Awards Dinner

Saturday, November 16, Probstein Golf Center in Forest Park
Email director@ustastl.com by November 8, to reserve a table or seat

2019 USTA St. Louis Awards

*indicates the District award winner will be nominated to win the Missouri Valley Section Award

PLAYER AWARDS

ADULT PLAYER OF THE YEAR* (1 female and 1 male) [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Adult Player of the Year award is based on performance, current accomplishments, sportsmanship and the promotion of tennis in general, raising the standard of play to its highest level. Include ranking information. Player will be 4.5 and above.
- Note: Players 4.0 and lower should be nominated for the Recreational Player Award.
- Must be a current USTA member.

ADULT RECREATIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR* (1 female and 1 male) [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Recognition of an Adult player (4.0 and below) who participates in USTA League Tennis or USTA tournaments on a regular basis. Recipient should demonstrate good sportsmanship and a love of the game.
- Must be a current USTA member.

JUDY DIPPOLD JUNIOR PLAYER (S) OF THE YEAR* (1 female and 1 male) [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Junior Player(s) of the Year award is based on **high performance** results at USTA St. Louis, USTA Missouri Valley and USTA National tournaments. Equally important is sportsmanship and a demonstration of raising the game to its highest level.
- Please list by year all accomplishments that highlight the nominees' careers, including ranking information. Emphasis should be placed on the last 12 months, but previous performance could also be considered. Examples of accomplishments could include tournaments, invitation to special camps or events, or selection to participate on special teams etc.
- Must not have received a Code of Conduct for last 12 months. Check Suspension Points Record in TennisLink.
- Must be a current USTA member.

EMERGING JUNIOR PLAYERS OF THE YEAR* (1 female and 1 male) [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Recognition of a junior player who participates in USTA Team Challenges, Team Tournaments, Junior Team Tennis or recreational events including NET and Smasher tournaments. Recipients should demonstrate good sportsmanship and a love of the game.
- Must be a current USTA member.

JUNIOR SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- The USTA Missouri Valley Junior Sportsmanship award is given to a male and female player in each age group, boys and girls 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18's who best exemplifies the finest qualities of sportsmanship in competitive play including tournaments, USTA Junior Team Tennis and 10 and Under Smasher Tennis tournaments. Good sportsmanship is an essential element of all junior sports and junior development.
- The junior player is ineligible if he or she had a code of conduct reported in the last 12 months.
- The nomination must have a minimum of two instances (in detail) where the nominee exemplified the finest qualities of sportsmanship on and/or off the court (quotes from coaches, parents or players are acceptable).
- Must be a current USTA member.

TENNIS FAMILY OF THE YEAR* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- This award is made annually to the family who in recent years has done the most to promote amateur tennis - primarily on a volunteer basis. Ideally, all nominated members of the family should participate in some way, either as players or by running programs or tournaments or in junior development activities. The section winner will be submitted for consideration of the USTA Tennis Family of the Year national award that is presented at the USTA Annual Meeting.
- Criteria: The family must be active and volunteering in some, or all, of the following:
 - Fosters tennis at any USTA level (national, section, district) adult and/or junior programs.
 - Developing and/or sustaining junior and adult programs
 - Holding office(s) at any level of the USTA, board or adult/junior committee member.
 - Volunteer coaching
 - Competing in tennis, including any youth program or tournament, high school, Tennis on Campus or college varsity, tournaments (include age category rankings), League or other organized play, including social/recreational
 - Enriching the game of tennis in other related activities (i.e. non-tennis activity, honors and/or achievements.)
- Please, include the years of service for each activity for each nominated family member.
- All family members listed in the nomination must be current USTA Individual or Family Members.

PROVIDER/CONTRIBUTOR AWARDS

FACILITY OF THE YEAR* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Recognition will be awarded to outstanding tennis facilities under the jurisdiction of:
 - A parks and recreation department
 - An educational institution
 - Non-profit entities, or
 - Private and/or commercially owned and operated facilities with USTA and other 'growth of tennis' programs
- Criteria to be considered when nominating a facility are:
 - Quality of each court area and surface
 - Quality of the court enclosure and lighting
 - Overall layout and adaptation to the site
 - Accessories and amenities
 - Evidence of good and green maintenance
 - Must be a current USTA Organizational Member
 - Quality 10 and Under Tennis guidelines met
 - Includes Youth Progression (red to orange to green to yellow)
 - Host Youth Progression tournaments, Play Days and Junior Team Tennis
 - Facility has blended lines or permanent 36' or 60' courts
 - 10U staff has completed 10U training
 - Bonus – Completed Net Generation registration (listed on site and completed program offerings)
- Tennis programs held should include:
 - USTA programs
 - 10 and Under Tennis programs
 - Other tennis-related programs

- Important contributions to the game of tennis

MEMBER ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Recognition of outstanding service by USTA Missouri Valley Member Organizations
- Service and impact to the community
- Donating facilities for amateur tournaments of all types
- Providing courts for free clinics or seminars for the general public
- Providing facilities for interscholastic play for high school and college tennis
- Providing facilities for USTA programs (tournaments, Leagues, High Performance, etc.)
- Allowing promising non-member juniors the use of the courts
- Taking active role in district affairs
- Allowing use of facilities for special event (e.g. charities, wheelchair, etc.)
- Involvement and support of diversity and inclusion initiatives and programs
- Allowing use of facilities for district and/or section events or training
- Service to organization's members which demonstrates support of the USTA Mission and may include the following:
 - Maintaining an active tennis program including:
 - Tennis ladders and other recreational programs including intersectional/inter-organizational play
 - Adult and junior tournaments in various categories, especially USTA Sanctioned Tournaments
 - Encouraging and promoting play in USTA Leagues and USTA Junior Team Tennis
 - 10 and Under Tennis programs, Schools Tennis and NJTL programs
 - Adaptive tennis programs
 - Senior initiatives
- Maintaining effective systems for keeping membership informed of USTA section and district tournaments and activities, and of pertinent changes in USTA district and section rules and regulations
- Encouraging and assisting junior players
- General service to the game of tennis
- Activities that promote and strengthen tennis within the member organizations and in the community
- Activities promoting the benefits of individual membership in the USTA
- Must be a current USTA Organizational Member

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Awarded to a local CTA that provides programs to promote and develop the growth of tennis.
- Criteria to consider:
 - Must be an approved Net Generation provider
 - Follows USTA youth progression (red to orange to green to yellow)
 - Hosts Team Challenges or Team Tournaments
 - Partners with schools for in school/after school programs
- Must be a tax exempt, not-for-profit

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR TO YOUTH TENNIS PROGRAMS* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- The award is given to an individual or member organization that is providing a full-service USTA 10 and Under Tennis program.
- Criteria to consider:
 - Must be an approved provider on Net Generation
 - Follows USTA Missouri Valley Youth Pathway competition progression (red to orange to green to yellow)
 - Organizes and runs Youth Progression tournaments
 - Hosts Tennis Play Days or Tennis Play Events
- Organizes USTA Junior Team Tennis
- Partners with schools for in school/after school tennis
- Must be a current USTA individual or family member

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR TO YOUTH HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- This person has done the most to advance High Performance programs. He/she has assisted in searching for new talented junior players, 10 and Under Tennis, involvement with Team USA camps and/or is a Regional Training Center Coach working with a highly successful junior(s).
- Junior successes to be considered include:
 - Players with high national rank
 - Players making it to the Quarters and beyond in national tournaments

- Players are top finishers in top Section events
- Players who earn sportsmanship awards
- Players who are invited to national camps
- Bonus factors:
 - USPTA or PTR certified
 - Completed Net Generation registration process
 - Completed a USTA High Performance program
- Must be a current USTA Individual Member.

USTA JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS ORGANIZER [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- This award will be presented to one USTA Junior Team Tennis Organizer who has managed teams in the local league and promoted fair play and good sportsmanship.
- Criteria to consider when nominating are:
 - Followed the USTA Junior Team Tennis rules
 - Communicated well with parents, players and USTA program officials
 - Expanded USTA Junior Team Tennis programs in their club/community
- Must be a current USTA Member

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR TO THE USTA LEAGUE TENNIS PROGRAM* (1 female and 1 male) [NOMINATE](#)

- This person(s) has made significant contributions to the USTA League Tennis program. He/she has participated on teams, assisted in the promotion of the program, assisted in the administration of the leagues and/or volunteered at district and section championships. Recipient should demonstrate good sportsmanship and a love of the game.
- Please provide years of service, type of service provided and community activity. Documented information showing how, through their efforts, the league player experience has been enhanced, program was developed and implemented, and/or has increased league participation or retention in the district.
- Bonus factors: long-time service, and participation on district committees.
- Must not be anyone who receives a stipend or monetary remuneration.
- Must be a current USTA Member

OUTSTANDING ADULT/SENIOR TOURNAMENT* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- An outstanding sanctioned adult/senior tournament will include most of the following criteria:
 - Excellent tournament organization
 - Fair and proper seeding
 - Fair and equitable scheduling
 - Adequate staffing for tournaments (e.g., officials, monitors, desk staff and other volunteers)
 - Amenities such as water and ice, concessions, towels, spectator viewing area, shade (outdoors)
 - Information dissemination, the use of technology to improve tournament
 - Good site conditions with adequate indoor backup if needed
 - Multiple matches and/or creative formats (e.g. 1 day tournaments)
- Rules and regulations followed as outlined in Friend at Court

OUTSTANDING JUNIOR TOURNAMENT* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- An outstanding sanctioned junior tournament will include most of the following criteria:
 - Excellent tournament organization
 - Fair and proper seeding
 - Fair and equitable scheduling
 - Adequate staffing for tournaments (referees and umpires, monitors, desk staff and other volunteers)
 - Amenities such as water and ice or concessions, towels, spectator viewing area, shade (outdoors)
 - Information dissemination, the use of technology to improve tournament
 - Good site conditions with adequate indoor backup if needed
 - Applicable rules and regulations followed
 - Efforts to promote and reward good sportsmanship
- Please include details on what distinguishes this event as an outstanding tournament (number of participants, exemplary use of technology, organization of volunteers, tournament survey results, etc.)

OUTSTANDING OFFICIAL* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- The USTA Missouri Valley Officials Award shall recognize dedication, service, and expertise, and be based upon a high standard of officiating and providing appropriate leadership, on and off the court, in the pursuit of umpiring in the USTA Missouri Valley.
- The umpire shall have worked at district/section/amateur and professional USTA events, have a current certification based at least in part on chair or line umpiring, be a positive role model, and have a supportive attitude toward the grassroots program.
- The USTA database will be used as the source of the current work record.
- The recipient shall be selected in consultation with the St. Louis Association of Tennis Officials (SLATO).
- Bonus factor: Referee or Roving certification.
- Note: an official who is working predominately ITA and/or professional events will not be considered.

HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Recognition of a high school coach who meets the following criteria:
 - Supports and promotes USTA programs
 - High school team had a record of success in win-loss and/or in improvement of players during the season
 - Develops players' physical, mental and emotional abilities during the season
 - Promotes personal development of players throughout the rest of the year
 - Maintains high ethical and sportsmanship standards
 - Promotes a passion for tennis in the team, school and community
- Please include in the nomination one to two specific examples of how the nominee promotes play and supports USTA programming outside of the high school.
- Must currently be coaching a team (not retired).
- Bonus factor: Registered USTA No-Cut Coaches who meet the above-mentioned criteria.
- Must be a current USTA Individual Member or school must be a current USTA Organization Member.

OUTSTANDING DIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Given to an outstanding USTA Missouri Valley program leader, athlete, organization or administrator for success in providing outreach to the diverse tennis community
- This award may include NJTL chapters and/or leaders
- This award is presented to an individual or organization that has championed the cause for diversity both on and off the tennis court
- Through hard work, persistence, and unwavering dedication, the nominee has helped to expand the image of tennis to be inclusive of diverse populations.
- Other considerations are:
 - Demonstrating a high degree of organizational ability
 - Success in serving all players in the area
 - Quality off and on court programs
 - Management structure
 - Involvement with the tennis community
- Must be a current USTA Individual Member or organization must be a current USTA Organization Member.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE* [NOMINATE HERE](#)

- Distinguished Service Award recognizes outstanding, long-time performance, dedication and accomplishment of an individual's effort in service to the USTA St. Louis.
- Criteria to consider when nominating are:
 - Must be a current USTA member
 - Outstanding and sustained service to the sport through active participation, advocacy, or leadership at the district and/or section level of the USTA Missouri Valley, in a manner consistent with the highest standards of the field. These standards may be met in a variety of ways, including activity which involves exceptional creativity, innovation, intellectual, moral courage and leadership.
 - A willingness to work with others to improve the game of tennis
 - Candidate should have a minimum of 10 years of service to the district (e.g., long term service on district committees, work with section committee(s), or USTA St. Louis board of directors)
 - The award may be given posthumously

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

This award winner is chosen by the USTA St. Louis President, for outstanding service to tennis in our community. It is kept secret and presented at our Annual Awards Dinner.

