



DATE	COMMITTEE	ACTION
5/11/2017	ADULT LEAGUES	<b>1. <u>2018 Adult League Calendar (attached at the end of this report)</u></b>

The Budget and Calendar sub-committee (comprised of ALC members and one board member/facility representative) proposed the appended 2018 Adult League Calendar which includes moving Mixed 55 & Over from the fall to the winter and moving Mixed 40 & Over from the winter to the fall. This move will take effect fall of 2017. Mixed 55 will be postponed by 4 months, Mixed 40 will begin 4 months earlier.

These changes allow for the expansion of Adult 40 matches from three lines to five lines without significantly impacting court usage. Expansion to five lines is consistent with USTA Nationals.

All leagues will receive approximately 10 matches in a 12 week local league season with the exception of Mixed 55 which will remain a 10 week season with 8 matches.

**Approved 8-0**

**2. Rule Change: 1.04A USTA League Program. League Format**

The Budget and Calendar sub-committee proposed a change to the local league format for Adult 40 & Over local league be consistent with playoffs, Districts, Sectionals and Nationals. The change increases the local league format to 2 Singles, 3 Doubles.

Current rule:

USTA LEAGUE PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AT THE NORCAL SECTION			
DIVISION	AGE GROUP	LEAGUE FORMAT	NTRP LEVELS
Adult	18 & Over	1 – Singles 2 – Doubles	2.5 men, 5.5+, Open
	40 & Over*	1 – Singles 2 – Doubles	2.5, 2.5+, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0,
	NorCal 65 & Over	3 – Doubles	3.5,
	NorCal 70 & Over	3 – Doubles	7.0,
	NorCal Combo	3 – Doubles	5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5,
	NorCal 55 & Over	3 – Doubles	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0

\*40 & Over Playoffs and beyond use the National format (5 lines) for the following levels:  
3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+

When National introduced the 5-line Adult 40 & Over league in 2013, it gave sections the option to select a different format for local league. The ALC and Board opted for 3 lines through playoffs; then teams must increase to 5 lines at Districts. For the past 4 years at District Championships, the number of defaults has continued to increase, as the smaller teams built for a three-line league (five players per match) struggled to consistently field bigger lineups (eight players per match).

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In 2016, the board approved ALC's decision to increase to 5 lines at playoffs. ALC and staff hoped the change would decrease defaults at Districts by weeding out the smaller teams more likely to default. Despite this change, defaults at Districts increased again.

Total number of individual match defaults at Adult 40 & Over District Championships:

2014 – 43                      2015 – 41                      2016 – 70                      2017 - 85

During the 2017 Adult 40 & Over District championships, April 28-30, NorCal received dozens of in-person complaints and emails from captains and players who took time from work, drove for hours, paid for hotels and the USTA District fee, to find out that they would not get to play because of a default. Most defaulting captains gave advance notice, some did not. Regardless, the reward of qualifying to compete at a District Championship is tarnished by defaults.

NorCal receives very few defaults at championship for other leagues. The average team size for the Adult 40 league is 13.6 players compared to Adult 18 which is 17.6 yet both leagues are expected to field 5 lines at championship.

Adult 40 rosters are smaller because captains state that with only 3 lines at local league and 10 matches, it is extremely difficult to qualify enough players (min. 2 matches) to field full line-ups at Districts. Adult 40 & Over local league matches require only 5 players, fewer than any other league.

The Budget and Calendar sub-committee proposed increasing the match format to 5 lines for local league to create a consistent league experience; to ease the stress on captains trying to manage their roster and schedule; to improve the championship experience by minimizing defaults; to even the playing field for our NorCal Section champion teams who compete at nationals against teams with larger rosters who have played 5 lines throughout the league.

**Revision:**

Adult 40 & Over	3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+	2 Singles and 3 Doubles
Adult 40 & Over	2.5, 2.5+, 5.0+	1 Singles and 2 Doubles

**Rationale:** Teams pay a fee to come to all championship events; they expect to play matches. Defaults are disappointing to the players who receive them. Defaults create an uneven playing field for all of the teams in a flight.

We must support our captains who are increasingly expressing dissatisfaction with the Adult 40 & Over league.

With 5 lines and more opportunity to play, the ALC expects that unique participation will remain the same but team rosters will be larger, with fewer teams registered. The 2018 calendar places the smallest NorCal league, Mixed 55 & Over with Adult 40 & Over. With fewer than 2,000 players, Mixed 55 is the smallest league with only 8 matches, 10 week season. (Excluding the daytime 65s and 70s)

**Approved 8-0**

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10/12/2017

ADULT  
TOURNAMENTS

## **NTRP National Championships**

The Chair gave the ATC an overview of the new NTRP National Championships that are going to be held in April 2018. The NTRP Championships will include Men's and Women's 18 and over 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Singles and Doubles and Men's and Women's 50 and over 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Singles and Doubles.

Each section is given a base quota of one spot in each 32-draw. The remaining 15 spots are given out to sections based on their percentage of the country's total adult competition participation. Based on USTA NorCal's percentage of the country's adult competition participation, USTA NorCal has been awarded two spots in each event for 2018.

The Committee discussed the two spots and ideas on how the two spots were going to be awarded.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective immediately the champion and finalist of the NTRP Grand Prix will be awarded the two spots for the NTRP National Championships. If the NTRP Grand Prix champion and finalist do not accept their spots, the USTA NorCal Final Ranking Lists will then be used to select the players. If there are any spots remaining, the Adult Tournament Committee will determine the remaining spots.

The motion was approved by a vote of **5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.**

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6/5/2017

ADULT  
TOURNAMENTS

### **1. Rule Changes**

#### **A. Generation Gap Tournaments**

The ATC discussed the rules regarding sanctioning a Generation Gap Tournament such as how many days a Generation Gap Tournament would be, the draw formats, match formats, player selection and entry fees.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective with 2018 Generation Gap tournaments, the following adult tournament rule regarding Generation Gap tournaments be approved:

**29. Generation Gap Tournaments.** Generation Gap Tournaments are ratings-based tournaments that group adult and junior players with similar ability into 4-player round robins. Tournaments are intended for intermediate to advanced players. Generation Gap Tournaments will take place over a 2-day sanction period.

Below are special provisions for Generation Gap tournaments. Except as provided below, these tournaments shall comply with all other Adult Tournament Rules and Sanction Rules:

**a. Eligibility.** Juniors who have fulfilled the junior pathway requirements listed in the USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rules and adults may enter.

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**b. Draw Type.**

**i. Draw Size.** There is no maximum or minimum draw size (although a maximum draw size can be set by the Tournament Committee), except that the total number of accepted players must be divisible by 4.

**ii. Round Robin Singles Draw.** All singles draws will be 4-player round robin draws providing players 3 singles matches.

**c. Player Selection and Flighting.** Players will be selected using a combination of both the most recently available weekly average Universal Tennis Ratings and Adult NTRP Ratings. If no weekly UTR average rating is available for a player, that player's daily rating shall be used. These same ratings will be used to flight players into 4-player round robin draws so that players with similar ratings are in each round robin draw.

**d. Doubles Optional.** A Tournament Committee may decide to offer doubles. If a Tournament Committee decides to offer doubles, the doubles events should be listed on the tournament homepage before entries open. Players wanting to play doubles must enter in doubles.

**e. Match and Scoring Formats.**

**i. Singles.** The singles match format will be the best of 3 tiebreak sets or the best of 3 tiebreak sets with a 10-Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of the 3rd set

**ii. Doubles.** The doubles match format will be an 8-game pro set.

**f. Entry Fee.** The entry fee for a Generation Gap Tournament shall be a flat fee. The maximum entry fee for a Generation Gap Tournament shall be \$60 per player.

The motion was approved by a vote of **4 in favor, 0 opposed, and no abstentions.**

Rationale: Adding the Generation Gap tournament rules to the USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Rules gives sanctioned Generation Gap tournaments structure on how these tournaments should be run.

**B. Age Eligible Junior Players May Not Play in NTRP Tournaments**

The ATC discussed the current rule that does not allow age eligible players to play in NTRP tournaments and how that relates to Generation Gap tournaments.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective with 2018 Generation Gap tournaments, the adult Tournament Age Eligible Junior Players May Not Play in NTRP Tournaments rule be amended as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

**25. Age Eligible Junior Players May Not Play in NTRP Tournaments.** Players who are age eligible to enter junior tournaments may not enter NTRP tournaments, except that junior players may enter and play in NTRP tournaments designated as pilots for adult and junior level-based competition~~Generation Gap tournaments.~~

The motion was approved by a vote of **4 in favor, 0 opposed, and no abstentions.**

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Rationale: The amendment clarifies that juniors may play in Generation Gap tournaments.

### C. Awards

The Committee discussed the current adult tournament awards rule and the proposed change regarding Generation Gap tournaments. Under the current awards rule, tournaments are required to give awards to all finalists in events that have 3 or more entrants. It was proposed to only require that awards be given to the 1<sup>st</sup> place finishers in each singles round robin for Generation Gap Tournaments.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective immediately, the adult tournament awards rule be amended as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

**24. Awards.** ~~Adult Awards must be given to all tournament finalists regardless of the number of entrants. Suggested value of 1st place award should be equal to or greater than 50% of entry fee. Prizes requiring additional money for redemption will not be allowed, unless players have the option of receiving said prize or equivalent certificate value in cash. Prizes with a cash value should be at minimum equal to the entry fee for 1st place, 50% for 2nd place. Tournaments held with only 2 entrants are not required to award second 2nd place awards. Tournaments that hold a playoff for 3rd and 4th place are not required to award 3rd or 4th place awards.~~

**a. Generation Gap Tournaments.** Awards must be given to the 1st place finishers in each singles round robin.

**b. All Other Tournaments.** Awards must be given to all tournament finalists in events that have 3 or more entrants. Suggested value of 1st place award should be equal to or greater than 50% of entry fee. Prizes requiring additional money for redemption will not be allowed, unless players have the option of receiving said prize or equivalent certificate value in cash. Prizes with a cash value should be at minimum equal to the entry fee for 1st place, 50% for 2nd place. Events held with only 2 entrants are not required to award second 2nd place awards. Tournaments that hold a playoff for 3rd and 4th place are not required to award 3rd or 4th place awards.

The motion was approved by a vote of **4 in favor, 0 opposed, and no abstentions.**

Rationale: The draw format for Generation Gap Tournaments is round robins of four. Requiring a tournament to give an award to all champions and finalists of each round robin draw would be an impact on their budget.

### D. Mileage Rule when sanctioning Generation Gap Tournaments

It was reported to the ATC that the Junior Council requested that Generation Gap Tournaments not be sanctioned at the same time as junior UTR tournaments because the two tournaments could be marketing to the same group of people. The ATC discussed the request and agreed to the request but may want to revisit this again in the future.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective with the 2018 sanctioning process, the Mileage and Concurrent

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Tournaments rule in the Sanction Rules be amended to include the following:

**Generation Gap tournaments.** Generation Gap tournaments will be sanctioned on different date blocks than junior UTR tournaments.

The motion was approved by a vote of 4 **in favor, 0 opposed, and no abstentions.**

Rationale: Generation Gap and Junior UTR Tournaments could draw from the same market of players.

#### **E. Ranking Rule regarding Generation Gap Tournaments**

It was proposed to award Adult Tournament ranking points for Generation Gap tournaments as a way to encourage players to play in Generation Gap Tournaments. Because in Generation Gap Tournaments players are grouped into round robins of four based on their UTR and NTRP rating and players with different NTRP could be in the same round robin draw, the proposal was to award ranking points in the NTRP division of the highest rated adult player in the draw. Staff informed the Committee that there has been good communication for with the players thus far and that it could be communicated to players if there was a draw that had players with different NTRP ratings.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective with 2018 Generation Gap tournaments, the adult tournament ranking rules for Divisions Ranked be amended as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

**2. Divisions Ranked.** Rankings shall be published in all of the following divisions for which tournaments are held and at least one player meets the ranking eligibility and/or participation requirements.

A. *Adult Divisions.* Men's, Women's, and Mixed Open and 30 Divisions.

B. *Senior Divisions.* Men's, Women's, and Mixed 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, and 90 divisions.

C. *Family Divisions.*

- Father-Son, Father (60 & Over)-Son, Father (70 & Over)-Son;
- Father-Daughter, Father (60 & Over)-Daughter, Father (70 & Over)-Daughter, Father (80 & Over)-Daughter;
- Mother-Son;
- Mother-Daughter, Mother (60 & Over)-Daughter, Mother (70 & Over)-Daughter;
- Husband-Wife Mixed, Husband-Wife Mixed (Combined Ages 100 Years), Husband-Wife Mixed (Combined Ages 120 Years), Husband-Wife Mixed (Combined Ages 140 Years); and
- Grandfather-Grandson.

D. *NTRP Divisions.* ~~Men's, Women's and Mixed 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0 and 5.5.~~

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- Men's, Women's and Mixed 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0 and 5.5.
- Generation Gap Tournaments. Adult Tournament players will receive ranking points in the NTRP division of the highest rated adult player in the draw. For example if there is a 4.0 and a 4.5 rated player in the draw, players would receive rankings points in the 4.5 division.

E. *Wheelchair Divisions.*

- Men's, Women's, and Quad Open;
- Men's, Women's, and Quad A,
- Men's and Women's B,
- Men's C;
- Junior Open/A (18 & Under);
- Senior Open/A (40 & Over) Doubles; and
- Senior B/C (40 & Over) Doubles.

The motion was approved by a vote of **4 in favor, 0 opposed, and no abstentions.**

Rationale: Awarding adult tournament ranking points for Generation Gap tournaments would help encourage more players to play.

**2. Umpire Requirement for Generation Gap Tournaments**

The Committee discussed the requirement of umpires for Generation Gap Tournaments. They discussed that if Generation Gap tournaments are going to count for ranking points it is a good idea to have a referee at the tournament to help enforce the rules and help with situations that may arise.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective with 2018 Generation Gap tournaments, the following adult tournament umpire rule regarding certified officials would apply to Generation Gap Tournaments

**22.Certified Officials.** The Referee of each USTA NorCal sanctioned adult tournament shall be a referee certified by the USTA. A Certified Official is recommended at each satellite site and for each 8 courts of play. One Day Tournaments are exempt from this rule.

The motion was approved by a vote of **4 in favor, 0 opposed, and no abstentions.**

Rationale: This is the current certified officials rule in place for USTA NorCal Sanctioned Adult Tournaments. Sanctioned Generation Gap Tournaments would now fall under this rule.

4/06/2017

ADULT  
TOURNAMENTS

**1. Mission Statement**

Steve Cornell proposed that the Adult Tournament Committee have a mission statement. It was noted that the primary mission and purpose of the department, which is stated in the 2017 Adult Tournament Operating plan, is to promote the growth of adult tournament tennis in NorCal.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded: RESOLVED, the following be the Mission Statement of the Adult Tournament committee.

"Increase tournament participation and provide participants a better tournament experience"

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This motion was **approved 6-0**.

## 2. Rule Changes

### F. Adult Tournament Seeding Criteria for NorCal Open and Senior Tournaments

The ATC was informed that the current USTA NorCal seeding coordinators are proposing to remove the order of importance line from the seeding criteria because when the seeding coordinators seed the tournaments there are a number of factors that take part in coming to the decision regarding the seeding.

The seeding coordinators would also like to add Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) as a criterion. The Men's and Women's seeding coordinators are now using the Universal Tennis Ratings for determining the seeds.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective immediately, the Adult Tournament seeding criteria for NorCal Open and Senior Tournaments be amended as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

Seeding Criteria:

Each seeding coordinator will look at all applicants in their division and seed using the following criteria ~~in this order of importance~~; head to head records, indirect wins and losses, national rankings, sectional rankings, Universal Tennis Ratings (UTR) and any additional information available ~~(standings list, player e-mails, etc...)~~.

This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: By removing the order of importance it removes the notion that one criterion is more important than another when determining seeding when there are a number of factors that go into determining seeds. Adding the Universal Tennis Ratings (UTR) as a criterion informs players that Universal Tennis Ratings (UTR) is a criterion that is used when seeding.

### G. Mileage Rule when sanctioning Adult Open Tournaments

The 150 Mile Rule when sanctioning Adult Open Tournaments was also discussed by the Adult Tournament Committee. Under the current rule if there is already one adult open tournament sanctioned in a date block, a second open tournament cannot be sanctioned if it is 150 miles away from the first. The ATC discussed the possibility of lowering or eliminating the mileage rule. While having their discussion they looked at many factors such as the number of players currently participating in Adult Open tournaments, the accessibility of Adult Open Tournaments to players, the potential of how lowering or eliminating the 150 mile rule would help grow overall tournament participation, and how having more than one Adult Open Tournament in a date block might affect Adult Open Tournaments in terms of participation.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective with the 2018 sanctioning process, the mileage rule when sanctioning Adult Open Tournaments be amended as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

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## 24. Mileage and Concurrent Tournaments.

### A. Adult tournaments.

- i. **NTRP tournaments.** Where 4 events within a class have been applied for, the tournament will be requested to hold the fifth event also, if holding such event is within the limits of the number of available courts.
- ii. **Senior tournaments**
  - a. Senior events ages 30-55 follow date block procedures, for Senior ages 60 and over, there are no date blocks. There will be no date conflicts with respect to tournaments holding the same event (s) without written approval from both tournaments that the conflict is agreed upon.
  - b. Consolation events in designated senior tournaments are optional.
- iii. **Adult Open tournaments.** A second men's Open event may be sanctioned if it is at least 75~~150~~ miles away from the first. A second women's Open event may be sanctioned if it is at least 75~~150~~ miles from the first.

This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: Reducing the 150 rule to 75 miles for Adult Open Tournaments would help work towards increasing adult tournament participation which would be in line with the Adult Tournament Committee mission statement and goals while being mindful of not over saturating the adult open tournaments.

## H. Certified Officials of One Day Singles Tournaments

The ATC discussed the rule regarding certified officials as it relates to one day tournaments. It was pointed out that the wording of the current rule required a certified official for one day singles tournaments but not one day tournaments.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective immediately, the adult tournament certified officials rule be amended as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

**22. Certified Officials.** The Referee of each USTA NorCal sanctioned adult tournament ~~with the exception of One Day Doubles Tournaments~~ shall be a referee certified by the USTA. A Certified Official is recommended at each satellite site and for each 8 courts of play. One Day Tournaments are exempt from this rule.

This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: Amending the adult tournament certified officials rule would make the requirement for certified officials for one day singles tournament the same as one day doubles tournaments. There have been no issues with not having a USTA certified referee at one day doubles tournaments. Not requiring a referee at one day tournaments will help make it more cost effective for organizations to host one day tournaments. It may also help keep the entry

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fee down for the players.

## I. One Day Tournament Match Format

It was proposed to the Committee to remove the match format rule under the one day tournaments rule in the Adult Tournament Rules. By removing the match format rule, it would allow the tournament to run the one day tournaments the way they want to use allowing them to run the tournament the way they want to run it and possibly allowing for more innovation. The tournament would still need to follow the USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Rules and the rules in the Friend at Court.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective immediately, the match format rule under One-Day Tournament rules in the Adult Tournament Rules be removed as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

**28. One-Day Tournaments.** Below are special provisions for one-day singles and/or doubles tournaments. Except as provided below, these tournaments shall comply with all other Adult Tournament Rules and Sanction Rules:

a. Maximum Entry Fee. The maximum entry fee for a one-day tournament shall be \$30 per player in doubles and \$35 per player in singles.

~~b. Match Format. When a draw offers more than three matches, one 6-game set shall be played. When a draw offers three matches, an 8-game pro set shall be played. When a draw offers one or two matches, either the best of 3 tiebreak sets format or the best of 3 tiebreak sets with a Match Tiebreak in lieu of the 3rd set shall be played.~~

~~e-b.~~ Multiple Flights Permitted. The tournament may hold more than one flight per division. For example instead of holding one draw in a division with 16 entries, a tournament may hold 2 draws in a division of 8 entries each. Teams should be water-falled by rank into flights (see example below). If no ranking information is available, teams are drawn to flights by lot.

Waterfall Example: If 16 players, ranked 1-16 are entered, players 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15 are water-falled into one flight and players 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16 are water-falled into the other flight.

~~e-c.~~ Cancellation of a One Day Tournament. In the case of inclement weather, no earlier than two days before the tournament start date, the tournament may contact the USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Coordinator to request a waiver to the cancellation of tournaments rule. Waivers will be determined on a case by case basis.

This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: Removing the match format rule under one day tournaments would give more flexibility to the organization running the tournament to determine what match format they want to use for their one day tournament. The tournament would still need to be in line with one the USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Rules and Friend at Court. Although there would not be a specific match format listed in the rules under the one day tournament rules, there is still a list of approved alternative formats that are listed in Adult Tournament Rule 8 for the

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organizations to choose from.

#### **J. Alternative Match Formats**

The ATC discussed the approved alternative match formats rule and discussed adding some alternative match formats to the list.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective immediately, the approve alternative match format rule in the Adult Tournaments Rules be amended as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

8. Match, Scoring and Draw Formats. All match and draw formats must be announced on the tournament home page before entries open.

a. Match Formats. All matches will be the best two out of three sets unless an alternative scoring format is approved by the USTA NorCal for adult events. The 7-Point Tiebreak will be used at 6 games all.

b. Approved Alternative Formats. The following alternative scoring formats may be used:

- All approved formats in Friend at Court;
- Best of Three Tiebreak Sets with a 10-Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of the 3rd set;
- ~~Best of 5 short sets;~~
- One set match;
- 6, 8 or 10 game pro set;
- Best of Three Match Tiebreaks;
- No-ad scoring.

The tournament announcement must state which alternative scoring format will be utilized on the tournament home page before the entries open.

This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: Adding "All approved formats in Friend at Court" clarifies that if the match format is in Friend at Court, it could be used. "Best of 3 short sets" and "Best of 5 short sets" is being removed because it is in the Friend at Court. Regardless of what approved alternative match format a tournament chooses, it is a rule that the tournament announcement must state which alternative scoring format will be utilized on the tournament homepage before entries open so players will know what format is being used when signing up for the tournament.

#### **K. Entry Fee Rule Regarding Inclement Weather**

It was proposed to the ATC to amend the entry fee rule regarding rained out tournaments to clarify when the player is entitled a refund and also to be in line with the USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rules.

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After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective immediately, the Entry Fee Refunds rule in the Adult Tournaments Rules be amended as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

18. Entry Fees.

- a. Processing Fee May Not be Charged by Tournament Committee to Accept Entries. Tournament Committees may not collect the Active.com fee when a player does not register online.
- b. Nonpayment of Entry Fee. The tournament may charge a collection fee for returned entry fee checks or nonpayment of outstanding fees at the tournament. Nonpayment of entry fees or cancellation of payment after the entry deadline will result in player suspension until such payment is received by the involved tournament.
- c. Entry Fee Refunds. The Tournament Committee shall refund a player's entire entry fee (minus the Tennis Link non-refundable registration fee) if the entry is not accepted, if the player withdraws before the draw has been published or no later than seven days before the start date of the tournament, whichever date is sooner. The Tournament Committee may not issue a credit for the entry fee in lieu of an entry fee refund.

The Tournament Committee shall not charge any fee (such as a processing, service, or handling fee) for refunding the entry fee. ~~No refund will be given if a player plays 1 match and then the tournament is rained out. No refund is required beginning 6 days before the start date of the tournament. In the case where the tournament is rained out before the player starts a match, the tournament may withhold an administrative fee of \$2.00 per event. However, in the case where the tournament is rained out before a match is played, the tournament may withhold an administrative fee of \$2.00 per entry in the case of a tournament that charges a per-entry fee or a total of \$2.00 in the case of a tournament that charges a base fee.~~

d. Partial Rain Out Policy.

- i. When Per Event Fee Charged. No refund of the per event fee will be required to be made to a player if that player finishes one match in an event and the event is subsequently rained out.
- ii. When Base Fee Charged. No refund of the base fee will be required to be made to a player if that player finishes one match in the tournament, regardless of whether it is a singles or doubles match. A finished match is a match that takes place on court and is played to completion, meaning a player has either won a match point or has won after the start of the match because their opponent has retired or been defaulted.

This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: The amended rule is in line with the USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rules. It also clarifies that no refund will be required to be made to a player if that player finishes one match in an event (or tournament when a base fee is charged) and the event is subsequently rained out.

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### 3. Pete Sharkey Award Criteria

The ATC discussed the Pete Sharkey Award and confirmed the criteria for the award.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective with the award recipients selected starting in 2017, the criteria for the Pete Sharkey Award is as follows:

<p><b>Peter Sharkey Award:</b></p> <p>Monetary award given annually to a man aged 55 and over who has won his first NorCal senior singles tournament in the preceding calendar year.</p> <p><i>Award amount is determined by the number of recipients and the amount in the bank account.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recipient must be current USTA member.</li><li>• For tournament to qualify as a player's first win, it must have at least 5 players in the draw.</li><li>• Player must apply for the award by the end of the tournament season.</li><li>• Player must be a man aged 55 and over who has won his first NorCal senior singles tournament in the preceding calendar year.</li></ul>	<p><i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i></p>
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This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: The award criteria list has been the award criteria for this award for many years. When an Adult Awards Criteria document listing all adult tournament awards and criteria was created last year and passed by the Adult Tournament Committee and the Board, the criteria specifying that the first tournament won needed to be a senior singles tournament was inadvertently omitted.

### 4. Player of the Year Award Criteria

The Committee also discussed the criteria for the NTRP, Senior, Open, and Family Player of the Year. They discussed that a recipient of the USTA NorCal Player of the Year award should be a NorCal resident.

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective with the award recipients selected starting in 2017, "Recipient must be a NorCal resident" be added to the eligibility criteria for the NTRP, Senior, Open, and Family Player of the Year Award.

This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: Since the award is the USTA NorCal Player of the Year Award, it should be awarded to a USTA member that resides in the NorCal section.

### 5. Fast4 Pilots

Michelle informed the ATC that USTA NorCal is going to start piloting Fast4 tournaments. It was proposed to the Committee to give ranking points for these tournaments to help draw player to come and try the Fast4 Tournaments.

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After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that, effective immediately, ranking points will be awarded to USTA members playing Fast4 tournaments in accordance with the USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Ranking Rules.

This motion was **approved 6-0**.

Rationale: Awarding ranking points to USTA members playing Fast4 tournaments may encourage current USTA tournament players to try the Fast4 format and give feedback on their experience with the format.

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9/26/2017 BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Budget and Finance Committee convened on September 26, 2017 to review the status of the 2018 Budget, and to meet individually with the USTA Northern California department managers and the chairpersons of the major committees aligned with each department to review their 2018 Operating Plans and 2018 proposed Budgets.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget, with certain provisions regarding presentation of the proposed budget to the Board for approval at the next Board meeting. The motion **passed 5-0**.

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5/2/2017 JUNIOR COUNCIL

**1. NorCal Ranking Points for USTA National Level 3 Team Tournaments: Passed 5-0-0**

**RESOLVED:** That players shall earn 125 points per win at all USTA National Level 3 Tournaments played with a team format; and

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That because one USTA National Level 3 Tournament has been played in 2017, upon approval by the USTA NorCal Board, these points shall be added to any NorCal player's record who competed in such tournament.

Rationale: USTA National Level 3 Tournaments count for NorCal ranking. Several USTA National Level 3 Tournaments now have team formats and already NorCal players have competed in at least one of these tournaments. At this time NorCal has no points for these tournaments. These resolutions adopt points for NorCal players to earn and permits staff to assign the points to the tournament already played once the resolutions are adopted by the Board.

**2. NorCal Ranking Points for USTA National Level 3 Tournaments with Round Robin Preliminary Rounds and First Match Consolation Playoffs: Passed 5-0-0**

**RESOLVED:** That players shall earn the following points per at all USTA National Level 3 Tournaments played with a Round Robin preliminary round format and a First Match Consolation Playoff.

Round	Points Per Win	Max Points	Notes (BP = bonus points)
Round Robin Rounds	50	150	150 is the maximum won in the RR for going 3-0
Champion Bracket	165	495	Champion gets max of 645 points + BP (compares

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MD			to 650) 2nd Place gets max of 480 points + BP (compares to 488) 3rd/4th gets max of 315 points + BP (compares to 325/228)
Champion Bracket Cons	50	150	FMLC winner gets max of 250 (100 RR + 150 FMLC) + BP FMLC 2nd gets max of 200 (100 RR + 100 FMLC) + BP
2nd Place RR Bracket	30	90	Winner gets max of 190 (100 RR + 90 FMLC) + BP
3rd Place RR Bracket	25	75	Winner gets max of 125 (50 RR + 75 FMLC) + BP
4th Place RR Bracket	20	60	Winner gets max of 110 (50 RR + 60 FMLC) + BP

Rationale: USTA National Level 3 Tournaments count for NorCal ranking. Another new L3 format is one that is similar to NorCal's Grand Prix Invitational and Year End Masters, whereby players play a round robin. The National tournament advances not only the top finishers, but all finishers to a First Match Consolation playoff as follows: 32 players divided into 8 round robins. Players waterfalled by rank; players without a rank are randomly drawn. Round Robin rules for determining the order of finish used. Once Round Robin play is complete the players go to 8-player FMLC draw with 3 rounds. There is only one national tournament with this format; however there is the possibility that a NorCal player could compete in it. This resolution adopts points for these types of tournaments

**3. NorCal Ranking Points for Consolation Draw at BG14 USTA National Championship 192 FIC Draws: Passed 5-0-0**

**RESOLVED:** That players in a USTA National Championship FIC draw of 192 that includes an additional single elimination consolation draw to guarantee three singles matches shall earn 13 points per win in this new draw.

Rationale: Beginning in 2017, the BG14 National Hard Court and Clay Court Championships provide an additional single elimination consolation draw to guarantee three singles matches to all players. Any player losing their first two rounds will be fed into a separate consolation draw. The number of points earned by players that lose in the Main Draw Round 1, win one FIC match, and then lose, is 77 points. This point value was used to determine a recommended number of points per win in this new consolation draw. Council concluded 13 was an appropriate number as it will ensure the person that wins the new consolation draw will not earn more points than a player that wins one main draw match. This resolution adopts these points for the new draw.

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#### 4. UTR Round Robin Points and the Grand Prix: Passed 5-0-0

**RESOLVED:** That for 2017 only the Grand Prix Points List procedure shall be amended effective immediately to be based on a player's best 8 singles and 8 best doubles results in Open Tournaments and UTR Round Robins; and

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That beginning in 2018, the Grand Prix Points List procedure shall be changed back to a player's best 4 singles and 4 best doubles results, and that only Open Tournaments will count toward the Grand Prix Points List; UTR Round Robins shall no longer count towards the Grand Prix Points Race.

Rationale: The Grand Prix Invitational is a summer-ending tournament intended to provide an aspirational goal for the player most commonly competing in Open Level tournaments. Results from a player's best four singles and four best doubles Open Tournaments and UTR Round Robins from January 1 to late July are used to calculate a Grand Prix Points Race List. This date period includes 4 possible UTR Round Robins that count toward the Grand Prix Points Race. The top 8 players that enter compete in a round robin with a playoff format.

Council reviewed data provided by staff and determined that inclusion of the UTR Round Robin points is having an impact on the Grand Prix Points Lists. UTR Round Robins are making up a significant majority of the points earned towards selection for the Grand Prix Invitational and the designation of the UTR Round Robins as 18 division tournaments to allow for level based play is putting players on rank lists outside of the division they are competing in when they play Open tournaments. The latter creates confusion among players as to their reasonable expectation of being selected, if they enter, for the season-ending Grand Prix Invitational.

These resolutions eliminate UTR Round Robins from the Grand Prix Lists, but out of fairness to players who have competed in them already this year, eliminating them retroactively was not appropriate.

#### 5. Challenger Singles Consolation Match Format: Passed 5-0-0

**RESOLVED:** That effective with tournaments having start dates on or after July 1, 2017 USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rule 11.D.iv. shall be amended as follows (stricken through language is to be deleted, underlined language is to be added):

##### 11. Junior Tournament Descriptions

##### D. Challenger Tournaments.

iv. **Match and Scoring Formats.** The match formats ~~will be~~ are as follows:

- a. **Main Draw Singles and Round Robin Singles.** The singles match format ~~and round robin singles format are~~ will be the best of 3 tiebreak sets with a 10-Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of the 3rd set.
- b. **Consolation Singles and Doubles.** The ~~consolation singles format and~~ doubles match format will be are an 8-game pro set.

Rationale: Staff received a request for Junior Council to consider changing the consolation singles match format from the Match Tiebreak format to an 8-game pro set. The requirements placed on Challengers are greater than Opens - a minimum of 3 matches must be offered as

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compared to 2 matches at the Open level. Most typically a tournament fulfills this requirement by offering a singles draw format with a consolation and a single elimination doubles format. If approved, it is hoped that easing the match format requirement will allow for more players to be accepted into limited draws and encourage interest in hosting this level of tournament.

**6. Challenger Three Match Requirement: Passed 4-1-0**

**RESOLVED:** That effective with tournaments having start dates on or after July 1, 2017 USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rule 11.D.ii.a. shall be amended as follows (stricken through language is to be deleted, underlined language is to be added):

**11. Junior Tournament Descriptions**

**D. Challenger Tournaments.**

**ii. Traditional Draw Format.**

**a. Events and Draws Must Offer Minimum of 3 Matches.** Challenger Tournaments will offer a combination of draws and/or draw formats that offer each entered player a minimum of 3 matches, 2 of which must be singles. The following are examples:

- singles with a consolation format (First Match Loser Consolation, Compass Draw, Feed-In Championship, Round Robin) and single elimination doubles. When a non-Round Robin format is played in singles, there will be a playoff for 3rd and 4th place;
- singles ONLY with a Round Robin or Compass Draw format.

***While the draw offerings must offer a minimum of 3 matches, the number of entrants received in an event may result in a player having 2 matches.***

Rationale: The Junior Tournament Rules state a minimum of three matches is required to be offered, but doesn't state whether 2 of the 3 can be doubles, resulting in a single elimination singles event and a consolation doubles event. This resolution clarifies the intent of the three match minimum requirement, that it include at least 2 singles matches.

**7. Selection of Doubles Teams at Doubles-Only Sectional Championships: Passed 5-0-0**

**RESOLVED:** That effective with the 2017 Doubles-Only Sectional Championship, USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rule 11.J.v. shall be amended as follows (stricken through language is to be deleted, underlined language is to be added):

**11. Junior Tournament Descriptions**

**J. Sectional Championships.** The Sectional Championships offer the highest tier of competition for the

**v. Doubles-Only Sectional Championships.**

**a. Draw Size and Format.** [unchanged]

**b. Sanction Periods.** [unchanged]

**~~c.~~ Doubles Partner Notification Deadline; Paring of Players Without**

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**Partners.** No later than the end of the day on Monday prior to the Saturday start date of the tournament, any doubles players that have not previously entered as a team must notify the Tournament Committee of the partnership.

A Tournament Committee may elect to randomly pair any player entered in doubles without a partner after the Monday deadline provided a statement that this will take place is published on the tournament website by the time entries open. If random pairings will take place, players entered in doubles without a partner that do not desire to play doubles must notify the Tournament Committee of their desire to withdraw from doubles (without penalty) by the Monday deadline.

~~If random pairings are made, players in the singles draw will be paired with other players in the singles draw first.~~

**ed. Selection Process.** Teams will be selected in the order of their combined standings using the most recently published Doubles Seeding List of the division. 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. A team with a combined standing greater than 11 is selected after Team A&B. If there is a tie, the team with the player that has the highest doubles standing on the list will be selected first.

All teams not selected will be placed on Alternate Lists that are ordered using the same methods of selecting players or teams into the tournament described in above. The Alternate Lists will be used to replace withdrawing players and teams, *except* that a Late Entry may not be accepted into the draw if it invalidates the seeding.

**e. Team Selection and Alternate Publication Requirement.** The doubles team selection and alternate lists will be published no later than 10:00 am on the Wednesday before the start of the tournament.

**f. Replacement of Withdrawing Teams.** Because players are selected for the tournament as part of a team, the withdrawal of one player after the entry deadline is effectively the withdrawal of a team. When there are no alternate teams, the remaining player may find another partner provided if this happens after the draws are published, the new team may not affect the seedings. When there is an alternate team, the withdrawing team is replaced with the first alternate.

**fg. Entry Fee.** [unchanged]

Rationale: For the first time, in 2016, the Doubles-Only Sectional Championships experienced a number of withdrawals of players and it was discovered that the Tournament Rules did not provide good guidance on what to do if one of the partners could still play and wanted to find a replacement partner. Council weighed the pros and cons of permitting a remaining partner to find a replacement when there was an alternate list and ultimately determined that because this was a doubles-only tournament, the alternate list had to be respected. This resolution adopts this procedure

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## 8. Restriction on Replacing Withdrawing Players with Byes: Passed 5-0-0

**RESOLVED:** That effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rule 18 shall be amended as follows (stricken through language is to be deleted, underlined language is to be added):

**18. Restriction on Replacing Withdrawing Players with Byes.** After a draw has been published, the Referee will not make changes in the draw as described in USTA Regulation II.C.i.b.iii. and iv. as follows: when a player who is not seeded withdraws from a tournament after the draw is published and there are no alternates awaiting entry, a Referee may not replace the withdrawing player with a Bye. If there are no alternates awaiting entry, the Referee is required to leave the unseeded withdrawing player in the draw and advance the opponent by means of a Withdrawal or Default, whichever describes the circumstances of the withdrawal.

Rationale: In 2005, NorCal placed a restriction on tournaments that no longer permitted a Referee to replace a withdrawing player with a bye when there was no alternate. This was done out of fairness to a player who had planned on a first round match because advancing because of a bye resulted in no ranking points, while advancing due to a walkover resulted in points earned. Council discussed changing this restriction to only apply after the draw has been published, which in the case of most draws is by 10:00 am on Wednesday before a Saturday start to a tournament. Permitting a player to be replaced with a bye before publication of the draw will allow for a seed to advance without a match (if there are any seeds with a first round opponent), while at the same time causing no "harm" to the opponent of the withdrawing player because the opponent hasn't yet seen the draw. Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded, and unanimously **approved** by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions:

## 9. Super Series and UTR Round Robin Entry Deadlines: Passed 5-0-0

**RESOLVED:** That effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rule 7. shall be amended as follows (stricken through language is to be deleted, underlined language is to be added):

### 7. Entry Deadlines.

- A. Entry Deadlines for Sectional Championships, Excellence Tournaments, Championship Tournaments, ~~Super Series,~~ and UTR Round Robins.** The entry deadline for Sectional Championships, Excellence Tournaments, Championship Tournaments, and ~~Super Series~~ UTR Round Robins is 11:59 pm (one minute before midnight) two Mondays before the start date of the tournament.
- B. Entry Deadline for Super Series.** The entry deadline Super Series is 11:59 pm (one minute before midnight) three Mondays before the start date of the tournament.
- BC. Entry Deadlines for ~~UTR Round Robins,~~ Open Tournaments and Challenger Tournaments.** The entry deadline for UTR Round Robins, Open Tournaments, and Challenger Tournaments is 11:59 pm (one minute before midnight) six days prior to the start date of the tournament. For example, if a tournament starts on a Saturday, the entry deadline is 11:59 pm the previous
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Sunday.

Rationale: On January 1, 2017, the following new rules went into effect related to the Super Series and UTR Round Robins:

- The UTR Round Robin deadline was changed from the same day as for a concurrent Super Series to the Sunday before the start of the tournament; Super Series deadlines remained at two Mondays before the start of the tournament.
- *Without prior written permission*, concurrent entry in multiple UTR Round Robins or a UTR Round Robin and a Super Series was prohibited, except that concurrent entry in 18 and 14 division of a Super Series when both divisions are part of the same tournament.
- The responsibility for managing the selection for Super Series and Round Robins was put in the hands of the Tournament Committee.

At the first concurrent Super Series and UTR Round Robin of the year, there was significant confusion reported with respect to these new rules, with players withdrawing from one tournament to play the other, a violation of the Concurrent Tournament Rule.

This resolution gives players more time to withdraw when they've been accepted into a Super Series before entries close for a UTR Round Robin, and also builds in more time for both the Super Series and UTR Round Robin administrators to manage the flighting of players into the various draws.

#### **10. Entry Refund When There is a Concurrent Tournament Rule Violation: Passed 4-0-1**

**RESOLVED:** That effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rule 24.C. shall be amended as follows (stricken through language is to be deleted, underlined language is to be added):

#### **24. Entry Fees.**

**C. Refunds.** Pursuant to this section, when an entry fee refund is required the Tournament Committee will not be obligated to refund the Tennis Link non-refundable registration fee.

**i. Withdrawals in Violation of Concurrent Tournament Rule.** When a player withdraws from a tournament in violation of the Concurrent Tournament Rule (Rule 6), a player is not entitled to a refund, regardless of when the withdrawal occurs.

**ii. Withdrawals No Later than 7 Days Before Start of Tournament.** [unchanged]

**iii. Entries Not Accepted.** [unchanged]

**~~iiiv.~~ Credits Not Permitted.** [unchanged]

**iv. Fees for Refunding Not Permitted; Administrative Fee for Full Rain Out Permitted.** [unchanged]

**vi. Partial Rain Out Policy.** [unchanged]

Rationale: As part of the discussion related to concurrent entry problems, Council also determined when reviewing the entry fee refund rules that players should not be entitled to a

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refund when they violate the concurrent tournament rule. This resolution no longer requires a refund when this happens.

**11. 2018 NorCal Junior Tournament Calendar: Passed 5-0-0**

**RESOLVED:** That the 2018 NorCal Junior Tournament Calendar be approved as attached as Exhibit A, which includes one change, to move the April Championship later by one week so that it does not fall on Easter.

Rationale: This resolution adopts the schedule of NorCal junior tournaments assigned specific dates. In addition to the change previously approved by the Board in April to add one additional weekend as part of the January Excellence date block, this schedule has one change to adjust a Championship date block so that it does not fall on Easter.

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4/3/2017

JUNIOR  
COUNCIL

**1. USTA Junior Player Oath & Parent/Guardian Pledge: Passed 5-0-0**

**RESOLVED:** Effective June 1, 2017, players in all USTA NorCal Junior Tournaments will be required to read and sign the USTA Junior Player Oath prior to taking the court for their first match of the tournament, and

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** Effective June 1, 2017, the parents or guardians of players in all USTA NorCal Junior Tournaments will be required to read and sign a Pledge to support good sportsmanship prior to their player taking the court for his/her first match of the tournament, and

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** A combined Oath and Pledge form will be developed so that it can be made available by Tournament Directors following the close of entries to all participants, and collected prior to each player taking the court, similar to how the USTA requires a waiver form to be signed by players and parents prior to taking the court in all national junior tournaments, and

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** Use of the Post-Match Peer and Self Evaluation is no longer required at Sectional Championships and Excellence Tournaments; however, Tournament Committees are encouraged to use these forms to promote good sportsmanship.

Rationale: Junior Council desires to replace the current policy related to the use of the USTA Junior Player Oath (which is now only required at the Sectionals and Excellence) with a new policy for its use at all tournaments. The new policy also includes a pledge that will be signed by parents/guardians. This new policy is consistent with the Zero Tolerance Policy implemented in January 2017 that requires adherence to the principals of the Oath.

**2. Sanction Date Block for January Excellence Tournament: Passed 5-0-0**

**RESOLVED:** Effective with the 2018 NorCal Junior Tournament Calendar, the Excellence Tournament that is held in January and includes the Martin Luther King Holiday Weekend, shall have one additional weekend as part of the date block ("Additional Weekend"); and

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** The tournament shall be scheduled to not include the Additional Weekend and, in the event of inclement weather, a decision to use the Additional Weekend shall be made in collaboration with USTA NorCal staff.

Rationale: The January Excellence tournament has historically been impacted by rain. In some

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years, events did not finish and in others match formats were significantly reduced. To maintain the integrity of the tournament, which not only is a high level NorCal tournament, but a USTA National Level 4 Ranking Tournament, Council concluded sanctioning an extra weekend for the tournament to finish is appropriate, and that use of this weekend will be made in collaboration with the USTA NorCal staff.

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5/5/2017

JUNIOR TEAM  
TENNIS

1. **USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – 12U Participation Rule Change**

The committee discussed a rule change to the 2017 USTA NorCal JTT Section Rules and Regulations regarding 10U Youth Progression participation. After discussion, committee felt necessary to address the rule regarding 10 and under JTT players that are still at the Orange or Green ball level in the Youth Progression system. A current rule limits their participation in JTT Section Championship events at the 12U division level.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

**RESOLVED:** Modify rule 2b. in the 2017 USTA NorCal JTT Section Rules and Regulations to read as follows:

- **2b. Youth Progression Tracking System – (10 and Under Players)**
  - 12U Green Ball and/or 12U Yellow Ball Leagues
    - Any player 10 and under player can participate in a 12U division locally and/or at USTA NorCal JTT Section Championship events, regardless of their Youth Progression status. Players will not earn participation Youth Progression stars or trophies for 12U division participation.

**Rationale:** During past JTT Section Championship events, there have been a number of situations in the 12U division where teams were not eligible to advance to JTT Sectionals due to individual player levels in the Youth Progression system. Many JTT coaches expressed that this rule limited participation growth at both the local level and at Section Championship events. By voting to change the rule, this should lead to an increase in the number of players and teams that will be able to participate in 12U divisions.

2. **USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – Same Gender Player Benchmark (Advanced/Intermediate)**

The committee discussed the same gender division advanced/intermediate player benchmark and decided to adopt the same player benchmark used in 2016.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

**RESOLVED:** Adopt the 2017 Same Gender Division – Advanced/Intermediate Player Benchmark

*[See page 3 of minutes for official benchmark language  
(Exhibit B, attached at the end of this report)]*

**Rationale:** Our section must approve a JTT Same Gender Division Advanced/Intermediate player benchmark each year prior to the summer season. The decision was made to continue

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using the previous year's JTT Same Gender division benchmark, no change seemed necessary.

**3. USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – Coed Player Benchmark (Advanced/Intermediate)**

Committee discussed the Coed Division advanced/intermediate player benchmark and decided to adopt the USTA JTT National Championship rules/regulations. This means the implementation and use of USTA Junior NTRP ratings for the 2017 USTA NorCal JTT Coed Section Championships. By adopting this benchmark, USTA NorCal will be allowed to advance teams to the 2017 USTA JTT National Championships.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

**RESOLVED:** Adopt the 2017 Coed Division – Advanced/Intermediate Player Benchmark

*[See page 4 of minutes for official benchmark language (Exhibit C, attached at the end of this report)]*

**Rationale:** Our section must approve a Coed Division Advanced/Intermediate player benchmark each year prior to the summer season. Committee made the decision to adopt the USTA National JTT player benchmark in order to be eligible to compliant with USTA JTT National Championships rules and regulations.

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8/8/2017

Marketing &  
Communications

**NorCal's Marketing Dept. Resources with Focus on its Allocation to Inside Tennis**

The USTA NorCal Marketing Advisory Committee has determined that by redirecting resources devoted to Inside Tennis magazine – reduction of \$42K, we can better reach our target audiences and serve our mission. The Committee has laid out options for discontinuing and/or continuing our advertising program with IT.

The motion was approved by a vote of **6 in favor, 0 opposed, and no abstentions.**

RATIONALE: These funds will be used in various digital marketing projects, advertising campaigns, in sponsorship activities, and in more appearances at events.

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5/23/2017

SANCTION &  
SCHEDULE

**1. Consideration of Applications for Junior Tournaments**

**RESOLVED:** That the following Junior tournaments are hereby approved.

<u>Date Block</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Divisions</u>	<u>Location</u>
August 26-27	Orinda Tennis Academy	Open (18-12)	Moraga
September 9-10	Longs Tennis Academy	Open (18-12)	San Jose
September 9-10	Sleepy Hollow Swim & Tennis Club	Open (16-12)	Orinda
October 14-15	Longs Tennis Academy	Open (18-12)	San Jose
October 14-15, 21-22	Erwin Tennis	Excellence (14-12)sd	Stockton
November 25-26	Orinda Tennis Academy	Challenger (18-12)sd	Moraga
December 16-17	Orinda Tennis Academy	Open (18-12)sd	Moraga
December 30-31	Orinda Tennis Academy	Challenger (18-12)sd	Moraga

**2. Consideration of Applications for Adult Tournaments**

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**RESOLVED:** That the following Adult tournaments are hereby approved.

<u>Date Block</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Divisions</u>	<u>Location</u>
August 12-13	Gripfast Tennis	NTRP	Redwood City

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4/3/2017 SANCTION AND SCHEDULE

**1. Non-Sanction Fee Rule Amendment**

It has been proposed to the Committee to change the fee for a non-sanctioned tournament from \$150 to \$25. Currently, the fee for a non-sanctioned tournament to appear on the Tennislink online schedule and use Tennislink for online entries is \$150. Reducing the fee for non-sanctioned tournaments may encourage tournament directors and organizations to use the Tennislink program to host their non-sanctioned tournaments. It would also give USTA NorCal a way to track non-sanctioned tournaments and players.

- Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded, and unanimously approved by a vote of **3 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions:**

**RESOLVED:** That effective immediately, the Committee hereby approves amending the rule as follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is stricken through):

**2. Sanction Deadlines and Fees.**

**B. Fees for Non-Sanctioned Tournaments to Appear on TennisLink.** The fee for an approved non-sanctioned tournament that desires to appear on the TennisLink online schedule and use TennisLink for online entries shall be ~~\$150~~\$25, *except that*

- schools hosting tournaments, such as end-of-season tournaments or college team tournaments, shall not be charged the fee; and
- non-profit organizations hosting non-profit tournaments may have the fee waived by USTA NorCal. Waivers shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.

This motion was **approved 3-0**.

Rationale: By lowering the non-sanction fee, it may encourage tournament directors and organizations to use the Tennislink program to host their non-sanctioned tournaments. This would also give USTA NorCal a way to track the non-sanction tournaments and players playing in the tournaments. The non-sanction tournament numbers would also count for the dashboard numbers and the goals.

**2. Sanction Rule Changes**

It was reported that the Adult Tournament Committee will be reviewing the 150 mile rule for Adult Open Tournaments. The Sanction and Schedule Committee discussed the impact this potential rule change may have on sanctioning depending on the time an approved rule change would go into effect. The Committee not only discussed the impact of a change to the 150 mile rule mid-season but all rules affect sanctioning.

- Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded, and unanimously approved by a vote of 4 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions:

**RESOLVED:** Any change in sanction rules should be implemented as part of the annual sanctioning process for the next calendar year. Effective immediately.

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This motion was **approved 4-0**.

This committee also recommends to the adult committee that if changes are made to this rule, they become effective the next calendar year.

Rationale: If a rule change regarding sanctioned tournaments is implemented at the start of the sanctioning process for the next calendar year, organizations will be aware of the rule change when applying for a tournament. Implementing a rule change mid-season would have a negative impact as sanctioning decisions would have been made that did not take into consideration the rule change.

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4/18/2017

SPORTSMANSHIP  
COMMITTEE

**Review of Sportsmanship Committee Procedures**

The Committee reviewed the proposal changes to the USTA NorCal Sportsmanship Committee Procedures

After discussion, the following motion was duly made and seconded:

**RESOLVED:** that effective immediately, the Committee hereby approves the USTA NorCal Sportsmanship Committee Procedures attached as Exhibit A.

The motion was **approved 8-0**.

Rationale: The majority of the changes are conforming changes adding, "A Grievance Review Panel shall be named by the Sportsmanship Committee Chairperson, to review the validity of the charges or claims of any grievance, and report a finding as to whether or not a hearing is warranted."

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