

Directors Present: Andrea Barnes, Christine Costamagna (Vice President), Martha Ehrenfeld, Michelle Nicholson, Andrea Norman (Secretary), Craig Pasqua, Mary Ryniewicz, Pam Sloan (President), Jack Walker (Treasurer), Keith Wheeler (elected Parliamentarian)

Directors Absent: Nancy DeSchane, Jack Hesotian, Larry Olmstead, Jason Scalese (Delegate), Caroline Sheu, Scott Winn

Advisory Director Present: Suzy Cossette

Legal Counsel Present by Video Conference: Jonathan Madison

USTA NorCal Staff Present: Summer Verhoeven (Executive Director)

1. Call to Order

President Pam Sloan called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm and roll call was conducted. President Sloan then asked Craig Pasqua to read the NorCal Mission Statement and Vision.

2. Approval of Agenda

There being no persons present to make public comments and no public comments submitted in advance of the meeting, the Board considered approval of the agenda, a copy of which was distributed with the meeting packet. There being no recommended changes, the agenda was announced approved as distributed to the Board.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Board considered approval of the minutes of the meeting held May 17, 2023. Following discussion, the following motion was duly made by Ms. Norman, seconded by Ms. Costamagna, and **approved** by a vote of 9 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the USTA NorCal Board of Directors held May 17, 2023 be approved as corrected.

4. Executive Committee Report

On June 2 and by unanimous written consent, the Executive Committee approved the following sanction applications for Junior and Adult Tournaments. All have start dates before September 1 and increase the number of much-needed Level 6 and Level 7 Tournaments. The Executive Committee made these approvals so as to best meet the needs of the organizers and the players, by having entries open before or shortly this meeting.

Junior Tournaments								
Date	Level	Junior Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Court	Limit
June 24-25	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Temelpa Tennis & Sports Academy	Jackie Byrne	Mill Valley	11	8
June 25	Level 7	BG12-16	Singles	Tenacious Tennis Academy	Jesse Inghelram	San Francisco	12	12
July 2	Level 7	BG12-16	Singles	Tenacious Tennis Academy	Jesse Inghelram	San Francisco	12	12
July 3	Level 7	BG12	Singles	Bay Club South SF	Steven Gilliam	Daly City	10	16
July 4	Level 7	BG14-16	Singles	Bay Club South SF	Steven Gilliam	Daly City	10	12
July 9	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Temelpa Tennis & Sports Academy	Jackie Byrne	Mill Valley	11	8
July 9	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Lifetime Activities – Heather Farm	David Resnick-Dunn	Walnut Creek	7	8
July 15	Level 7	BG12	Singles	Bay Club South SF	Steven Gilliam	Daly City	10	16
July 16	Level 7	BG12-16	Singles	Tenacious Tennis Academy	Jesse Inghelram	San Francisco	12	12

Junior Tournaments								
Date	Level	Junior Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Court	Limit
July 22	Level 7	2 Age Divisions	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Jose	6	8
July 30	Level 7	BG12-16	Singles	Tenacious Tennis Academy	Jesse Inghelram	San Francisco	12	12
July 30	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
August 6	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
August 12-13	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	8
August 13	Level 7	BG12-16	Singles	Tenacious Tennis Academy	Jesse Inghelram	San Francisco	12	12
August 13	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
August 15	Level 7	BG12	Singles	Bay Club South SF	Steven Gilliam	Daly City	10	16
August 19	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Bruno	8	8
August 20	Level 7	2 Age Divisions	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Jose	6	8
August 20	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	8
August 26-27	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Temelpa Tennis & Sports Academy	Jackie Byrne	Mill Valley	11	8
August 27	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8

Adult Tournaments								
Date	Level	Adult Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Courts	Draw Limit
July 15-16	Level 6	NTRP 18+ Open	MS, WS, MD, WS, MX	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	32
Aug 5-6	Level 6	NTRP 18+ Open	MS, WS, MD, WS, MX	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	32

Following the report of the actions taken at these two meetings, the Directors had neither questions, comments, nor objections to the actions taken by the Executive Committee.

Martha Ehrenfeld joined the meeting following the Executive Committee Report.

5. Closed Session

President Sloan announced that the Board would be going into closed session. Following the conclusion of the closed session, President Sloan announced all discussion held during the session was to remain confidential; however, it was agreed that the following would be reported in the public minutes:

- Approval of Junior and Adult Tournament Sanctions. The following sanctions were **approved** following a motion duly made by Ms. Norman and seconded by Mr. Wheeler. The vote was 9 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, and 1 recusal by Mr. Walker.

Junior Tournaments								
Date	Level	Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Court	Draw Limit
September 2	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Bruno	8	8
September 3	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
September 9	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Bruno	8	8

Junior Tournaments								
Date	Level	Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Court	Draw Limit
September 10	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
September 16	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Bruno	8	8
September 16	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	8
September 17	Level 7	2 Age Divisions	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Jose	6	8
September 17	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	8
September 24	Level 7	2 Age Divisions	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Jose	6	8
September 24	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	8
September 30	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Bruno	8	8
October 1	Level 7	2 Age Divisions	Singles	Kim Grant Tennis Academy	Kim Grant	San Jose	6	8
November 4-5	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	8
December 10	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	8

Adult Tournaments								
Date	Level	Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Court	Draw Limit
Sept 30 - Oct 1	Level 6	NTRP 18+ Open	MS, WS, MD, WS, MX	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	32
Nov 18-19	Level 6	NTRP 18+	MS, WS, MD, WS, MX	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	32
Dec 16-17	Level 6	NTRP 18+	MS, WS, MD, WS, MX	Arora Tennis	Akshay Arora	Livermore	10	32

Legal Counsel Jonathan Madison arrived at the meeting during the Closed Session following the approval of the Sanctions.

- Sanction & Schedule Report. The Board heard a report of the Sanction & Schedule Committee related to infractions of regulations by tournament organizers.
- Legal Updates. The Board heard updates on outstanding legal issues.

Legal Counsel Jonathan Madison left the meeting following Closed Session.

Keith Wheeler left the meeting during the Consent Calendar presentation and vote.

6. Consent Calendar

President Sloan directed the Board's attention to the Consent Calendar that was distributed with the meeting packet and noted that there are:

- 1 recommendation being made by the Junior Council;
- 4 recommendations being made by the Adult Tournament Committee;
- 3 recommendations being made by the Adult League Committee; and
- 2 recommendations being made by the Sanction & Schedule Committee.

President Sloan explained that any Director may unilaterally request that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for individual consideration apart from the Consent Calendar. She also noted that simple questions, clarifications, or short amounts of dialogue relative to an item on the Consent Calendar may be discussed after the motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

President Sloan asked if any Director intended to pull a recommendation. There being no interest in doing so, a motion to adopt the Consent Calendar was duly made by Ms. Barnes and seconded by Ms. Nicholson. Following discussion, the following motion was **approved** by a vote of 9 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That items listed on the Consent Calendar attached as Exhibit A are hereby approved.

Keith Wheeler returned to the meeting following the Consent Calendar presentation and vote.

7. Delegated Authority Decision Report

Ms. Norman directed the Board's attention to the report of decisions made by Committees that were within the clearly defined scope of authority that the Board has delegated to the Committees in the applicable Committee Charters, a copy of which was distributed with the meeting packet and noted that there are:

- 1 decision made by the Junior Council to select Dylan Tsoi as NorCal's nominee for the USTA Bill Talbert Junior Sportsmanship Award; and
- 1 decision made by the Awards Committee to select Chrissie Costamagna as NorCal's nominee for the USTA Barbara Williams Award.

President Sloan explained that if the Board disagrees with any action, it may consider taking further action as it deems appropriate. Following presentation of the Report, the Directors had neither questions, comments, nor objections to the actions taken by the Committees.

8. Action Item: 2024 Adult League Calendar

Ms. Costamagna presented the Adult League Committee's Action Item. She noted the only significant change is to the Mixed 18 and Adult 40 Leagues. The initial 2024 Mixed 18 and Adult 40 League will be scheduled as a 10-match/10-week season similar to the other 2024 leagues, but the calendar permits the rescheduling of any matches during an additional 2-week period if there is inclement weather. The adjustment was made based on the experience in 2023 when the Adult 40 League season needed to be extended at the end of the season due to the number of matches that were not played because of the weather. Ms. Costamagna also reported that:

- In general, when planning the yearly calendar, the Committee attempts to make few changes as both players and Organizations become accustomed to the leagues running during the same timeframes each year; and
- The Committee is working with staff to develop League participant surveys following each season, so the feedback received is relevant to the most-recently played season.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made by Ms. Costamagna, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and **approved** by a vote of 10 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the 2024 Adult League Calendar be approved as set forth on Exhibit B.

9. Strategic Plan Update

Ms. Verhoeven reported that staff is working on the various Strategic Plan initiatives previously presented to and endorsed by the Board. While developing various programs and pilots staff is being mindful to ensure that they are consistent with our Strategic Plan and the approved initiatives.

- Red Ball Pop Up at Breweries. - Troy Rondeau, Senior Manager of Community Programs, is currently developing partnerships in connection with this program, what staff believes is key to its success. The intent is to have up to 6 pop ups in 2023, with the first to be held in Alameda in mid-July. Following the end of the series of events, the goal is to have US Open watch parties that are tied to the brewery. Staff is purposefully looking for brewery locations that have tennis courts nearby. Staff is also developing plans for leagues so that if ample interest is generated, there will be a continuation program for the players.
- Play Your Court Software System. At the request of the USTA, NorCal is piloting the Play Your Court software system, a product intended to bring awareness of USTA programming to a new audience of players, and assist the USTA in measuring the success of those programs. NorCal will be putting its events in this system as part of this initiative.
- Tennis Champions Program. This discontinued national USTA ambassador program is being re-developed by NorCal with the goal of it bringing people together to share their passion and experience of tennis with their local communities.
- Tennis Fests. NorCal will soon be launching its park play days and plans on capitalizing on the success experienced in other Sections, such as SoCal, with its tennis festivals. Currently staff is scouting locations in public facilities.
- E-Commerce Store. NorCal is conducting research, in collaboration with the Marketing Committee, on the best strategy to launch its E-Commerce Store. The goal is to build awareness of NorCal's brand. The hope is to launch it in conjunction with a NorCal website. Ms. Nicholson reported that the Marketing Committee is currently in the RFP process to secure a vendor for the website project. In the interim, NorCal is considering offering credits to the E-Commerce Store in lieu of the traditional gifts it gives to participants in League playoffs.

10. Pickleball Sanction Play & Court Lines

Ms. Verhoeven asked for the Directors feedback on tennis being played on courts with pickleball lines. She has also asked the various committee chairs to solicit feedback from their members. Feedback received during the meeting included:

- Developing and proactively sharing guidelines for facilities interested in adding pickleball lines to tennis courts that are consistent with the ITF's requirements for "blended" lines.
- Creation of an event to promote the idea that pickleball lines on tennis courts can be a success.
- Collaborate with a pickleball association to offer grants to add pickleball lines to reduce the loss of tennis courts, and to promote the dual use of a court.

President Sloan also reported that a number of municipalities across the US have put a halt to pickleball play in neighborhoods and/or communities so that the noise generated by the sport can be studied.

11. New & Returning Organization Members

Mr. Wenger presented the report of one returning Organization Member since the last time the Board met on May 17, 2023, so that the Board may fulfill its obligation to review such report pursuant to USTA NorCal Bylaw III.D. He also reported that the USTA has appeared to have solved the issue with the fake Organization Memberships being activated. He also reported on the ongoing work being done by staff to clean up the Organization Membership database. Finally, he reported that NorCal is going to start tracking the location and number of pickleball courts. No concerns were raised by Directors.

12. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Walker directed the Board's attention to the April 30 financial statements distributed with the meeting packet. He reported on the following:

- Net income year-to-date was \$507,657, \$187,050 better than budget. Mr. Walker noted that the USTA Network Section Funding was \$249,756 over budget due to the USTA funding two payments in January. It is anticipated that this overage will correct itself by year-end as NorCal will likely not receive a payment in December.
- Adult League Fees are \$181,098 behind budget due to 2023 registrations that were collected in December 2022 and some league fees budgeted for April that will be collected in May and June. It is anticipated that 2023 Adult League Fees will exceed budget in December of this year if early 2024 league fees are collected as they were in December 2022, and will put NorCal back on budget.
- Mr. Walker reported that the Adaptive software is being implemented and it is anticipated that it will be used to report projections for the year in next month's financial reports.
- The Balance Sheet shows a cash balance of \$4,466,700 and Total Equity of \$6,271,966. \$3.5 million of cash has been invested in a Charles Schwab treasury money market fund that is currently earning just under 5%. This will yield approximately \$175,000 per year in interest earnings.
- The Statement of Cash Flows shows a net increase of cash for the month of \$84,537 and an ending cash balance of \$4,466,700.

13. President's Report

President Sloan's report focused on the topics recently covered at the USTA President's Committee Meeting:

- Section Foundations & Tax Status of Sectional Associations: She reported that there is a wide variety of organizational types and NorCal is one of the only Section to have both its corporation and its foundation organized as 501(c)(3)s.
- Section Financial Reserve Policies: While it varies from Section to Section as to whether reserve policies are in place, most Sections have a written or unwritten policy of one year. NorCal has a reserve, but has no written policy, and will begin to propose one to the Board for approval.
- Staff Compensation Practices & Data: In the last 12 months, NorCal underwent a complete review of all compensation with its HR consultant. Many Sections are working on the same. The last collection of data by the USTA of the Sections' practices was done many years ago and only focused on Executive Director compensation.
- Resumption of Full USTA Annual Meeting: Some Section Presidents have expressed an interest in resuming the full USTA Annual Meeting at which the USTA family of volunteers gathers and meetings of all national committees are held. President Sloan noted she believes it is one of the few thank yous the USTA can give to those individuals who have done so much for tennis. There are time and cost factors for the USTA and the Sections to consider, and it was reported that not all Sections pay for or assist their volunteers with the costs of attending.

- **National Call Items.** President Sloan reported that there are at least two national call items, proposal to amend the USTA Regulations and/or Bylaws, that will require the vote of the Board in July. Once received they will be distributed to the Board for review as part of the next meeting packet.

President Sloan encouraged the Directors to review her full report in greater detail.

She concluded her report by announcing the desire to change the overall purpose and profile of the NorCal Annual Meeting. It is currently only focused on the election of Directors and any Bylaw amendments under consideration, but she believes there is potential to have workshops and other learning experiences that a variety of stakeholders can appreciate and participate in. She asked any Director interested in working on this project to contact her or Ms. Verhoeven.

13. Executive Director's Report

In addition to the NorCal program statistics and written report included in the meeting packet, Ms. Verhoeven's in-meeting presentation included the following:

- The program statistics look good and steady. If not showing positive growth, they are close to it in most categories. In particular Adult League participation is strong, a program that is key to the NorCal budget.
- Plans for volunteers attending the US Open are ongoing and NorCal box tickets will soon be open to Committee Chairs, volunteers, and staff to request. The costs of NorCal volunteers to attend are not covered, unless the volunteer's expenses are being paid for by the USTA - this is only extended to Section Presidents, Delegates, and certain national committee volunteers. She also reminded the Directors NorCal will be hosting a volunteer dinner in New York on Friday, September 1.
- Nine NorCal facilities were selected to participate in an evaluation to determine whether they will be participants in a new Premier Facilities Pilot offered by the USTA. If selected, they will receive a \$2,500 grant and be promoted as an outstanding facility that supports the programming and other initiatives of the USTA. To participate, a selected facility will have to have its staff Safe Play Approved and have a minimum number of coaches participate in coaching education certification. The USTA will be announcing the selected facilities once it conducts the evaluations in all 17 Sections.
- NorCal will participate in a national pilot using Scala, an App designed for flexible league racquet sports, for its upcoming WTN Flex Leagues.

Ms. Verhoeven asked the Directors to review her written report for other key information.

15. Adjournment

Prior to adjourning, members shared the following:

- Ms. Cossette reminded Directors that sanctioning application period for 2024 tournaments will open July 1
- Ms. Ehrenfeld announced she attended the New England Hall of Fame and while there met Avis Murray, the first women inducted into USPTA Hall of Fame in 2013. Ms. Murry shared that she was aware of good things coming out of NorCal.

Following an announcement that the next meeting will be on July 19, 2023, and with no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Norman
Secretary

This document contains all committee recommendations made (or not included) since the previous board meeting on May 17, 2023.

Junior Council

- 1. Match Formats for Level 4, 5 and 6 Team Tournaments.** Approved at a meeting held on May 24, 2023 by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Regulations 8.B, 8.C. and 8.D. are hereby amended as set forth below to permit shorter formats in Level 6 Team Events, and to permit the use of a non-Dominant Duo team format at Level 5 and Level 4 Tournaments (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted):

8. USTA NorCal Junior Ranking Tournament Descriptions.

B. Open Level 6 Tournaments.

iii. Traditional Draw Format.

d. Match Formats. Ad scoring will be used.

- (1) Singles Main Draw and Round Robin; Doubles Main Draw and Round Robin in Doubles-Only Tournaments:** Best of 3 Tiebreak Sets (6 game sets) with a 10-Point Match Tiebreak played in lieu of the 3rd set. If the score in the set reached 6 games all, a 7-point Set Tiebreak will be played.
- (2) Singles Consolation, Doubles Consolation in Doubles-Only Tournaments, and All Doubles Matches in Tournaments when Singles Also Held:** Best of 3 Short Sets (4-game sets) with a 7-point Match Tiebreak played in lieu of a 3rd Set. If the score in the Short Set reaches 4 games all, a 7-point Set Tiebreak will be played.
- (3) Special Provision for Team Tournament Match Formats. Shorter match formats than are described in Regulation 8.B.iii.d.(1) and (2) above may be used, provided that the formats are approved by USTA NorCal at the time the tournament is sanctioned, and the format is permitted by the USTA.**

See Regulation 21 for information on shortening match formats in the event of inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns.

8. USTA NorCal Junior Ranking Tournament Descriptions.

C. Level 5 Tournaments.

iv. Level 5 Team Tournaments.

- a. Sanction Period.** Level 5 Team Tournaments will be held over a 2 or 3-day sanction period.
- b. Draw Size.** The draw size will be determined at the time the tournament is sanctioned.
- c. Draw Type.** The Round Robin or the Round Robin with a Playoff format will be used. The number of teams participating in the playoff matches will be determined at the time the tournament is sanctioned.
- d. Selection Process and Alternate List.** Players will be selected and ordered onto alternate lists using the most recently published National Standings List of the division.
- e. Waterfall of Players onto Teams.** Players will be waterfalled onto teams using the most recently published National Standings List of the division.
- f. Waterfall of Teams.** If the Round Robin with a Playoff is used, teams will be waterfalled into two or more Round Robins based on the combined rank of all players on the team using the most recently published National Standings List of the division.
- g. Match Format.** No-Ad Scoring is not permitted. The match format will be determined at the time the tournament is sanctioned, *except that it must be a format permitted by the USTA.* See Regulation 21 for information on shortening match formats in the event of inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns.

8. USTA NorCal Junior Ranking Tournament Descriptions.

D. Level 4 Tournaments.

v. Level 4 Team Tournaments.

- a. Sanction Period.** Level 4 Team Tournaments will be held over a 2 to 4-day sanction period.
- b. Draw Size.** The draw size will be determined at the time the tournament is sanctioned.

- c. Draw Type.** The Round Robin or the Round Robin with a Playoff format will be used. The number of teams participating in the playoff matches will be determined at the time the tournament is sanctioned.
- d. Selection Process and Alternate List.** Players will be selected and ordered onto alternate lists using the most recently published National Standings List of the division.
- e. Waterfall of Players onto Teams.** Players will be waterfalled onto teams using the most recently published National Standings List of the division.
- f. Waterfall of Teams.** If the Round Robin with a Playoff is used, teams will be waterfalled into two or more Round Robins based on the combined rank of all players on the team using the most recently published National Standings List of the division.
- g. Match Format.** No-Ad Scoring is not permitted. The match format will be determined at the time the tournament is sanctioned, *except that* it must be a format permitted by the USTA. See Regulation 21 for information on shortening match formats in the event of inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Regulation 6.E. is hereby amended as set forth below to permit entry fees for Level 4, 5 and 6 Team Tournaments to be set at the time of sanctioning (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted):

6. Player Entry.
E. Maximum Entry Fees.

Table 1: Maximum Entry Fees			
The fees in parentheses are the actual fees that will appear on the Serve Tennis Tournament Home Page when the maximum fee is charged. These fees include the administration fee charged by Serve Tennis for processing the entry.			
Level	Singles Entry Fee	Doubles Entry Fee Per Player (When Held with Singles)	Doubles-Only Tournament Entry Fee Per Player
Level 7	\$63.00 (\$65.80)	\$6.00 (\$6.74)	\$27.00 (\$28.50)
Level 6 Ratings Round Robins	\$80.00 (\$83.42)	n/a	n/a
All Other Level 6	\$73.00 (\$76.17)	\$7.00 (\$7.77)	\$36.00 (\$37.82)
Level 5 Super Series	\$86.00 (\$89.64)	n/a	n/a
Level 5 Dominant Duo	\$97.00 (\$101.04)	n/a	n/a
All Other Level 5	\$81.00 (\$84.46)	\$7.00 (\$7.77)	\$40.00 (\$41.97)
Level 4 Super Series	\$96.00 (\$100.00)	n/a	n/a
Level 4 Dominant Duo	\$105.00 (\$112.44)	n/a	n/a
All Other Level 4	\$91.00 (\$94.82)	\$8.00 (\$8.81)	\$45.00 (\$47.15)
Level 3	\$102.00 (\$106.22)	\$8.00 (\$8.81)	\$50.00 (\$52.33)
<u>Level 4, 5 and 6 Team Tournaments</u>	<u>Entry Fee to be determined at the time of sanctioning.</u>		

Rationale: The NorCal staff is currently working on developing a format for an upcoming Level 6 Team Tournament, a tournament with more than two players competing on each team (a non-Dominant Duo format). Given the limit on the number of days Level 6 tournaments can be played, having shorter formats is necessary from both a court requirement and sanction period perspective. Council considered a proposal to have flexibility in selecting match formats for the Team Tournaments at Level 6. This proposal gives flexibility when selecting the match formats for the Team Tournaments at Level 6, by permitting it to be set at the time of sanctioning. The proposal also gives the ability to sanction these types of tournaments at Level 4 and Level 5, with flexibility for formats. Level 5 events have been added for 2024, and there is a possibility they could be added at Level 4 in the future. Team Tournaments offer multiple matches in singles and doubles, so shortening the formats to be able to run the event doesn't mean less tennis overall, just an accommodation of the format within the required and/or our preferred sanction periods. Finally, the proposal permits the entry fee for team tournaments to be set at the time of sanctioning. Initially these tournaments will be run by NorCal and once a better understanding of the expenses associated with the events is established, NorCal can opt to set a specific fee for each Level if it so desires.

Adult Tournament Committee

- 1. Entry Fees & Refunds.** Approved at a meeting held on May 16, 2023 by a vote of 6 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Rules # 29 is amended to read as follows (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken through language is proposed to be deleted).

21. Entry Fees.

Players are charged the following fees when accepted into a USTA NorCal tournament:

- the entry fee for each event;
- a one-time USTA NorCal fee ("Head Tax") that is included in the entry fee, but is paid to USTA NorCal per tournament (not per entry); and
- a Serve Tennis administrative fee ("Serve Tennis Fee") paid to the service provider for processing the online entry.

- Processing Fee May Not be Charged by Tournament Committee to Accept Entries.* Tournament Committees may not collect the ~~Active.com~~ Serve Tennis Fee when a player does not register online.
- Collection of Head Tax for Entries Not Paid for in Serve Tennis.* When a player competes in a tournament without making payment in the Serve Tennis system, within 30 days of the completion of the tournament, the organizer must pay the Head Tax to USTA NorCal. Failure to pay an outstanding Head Tax may result in the loss of future sanctioned tournaments and/or consideration of future sanctioned tournaments.
- 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.
- Entry Fee Refunds.* ~~The Tournament Committee shall refund a player's entire entry fee (minus the Tennis Link Serve Tennis 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 is not required to refund the Serve Tennis administrative fee, except that if an entry is accepted because of an administrative error by the Tournament Committee. 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. However, in the case where the tournament is canceled due to inclement weather (or other reason approved by USTA NorCal staff to protect the health and safety of players) 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.~~

~~When an entry fee refund is issued, the refund is required to be postmarked no later than 30 days following the last day of the tournament.~~

- Refund Method and Deadline.* When a refund is required, the refund is required to be postmarked, or sent digitally through Serve Tennis or other electronic transfer of funds, no later than 30 days following the last day of the tournament.
- Circumstances Requiring a Refund.* The following circumstances require a refund:
 - Tournament Administrative Error.*
 - Error in Accepting Player into Tournament.* When a player is accepted due to a tournament administrative error, the entire fee paid must be refunded (entry fee, Head Tax, and Serve Tennis Fee).
 - Failure to Communicate a Change in Start Time or Omitted Time is Added.* When a Tournament Committee fails to communicate a change in a start time or an omitted start time is added, and the player's opponent is advanced by walkover,
 - The entire fee paid for the event (entry fee; Head Tax, if applicable; and Serve Tennis Fee) must be refunded if no match has been played in the tournament; or
 - 50% of the player's fee paid for the event (entry fee; Head Tax, if applicable; and Serve Tennis Fee) must be refunded if at least one match has been played in the tournament.
 - Full Cancellation of Tournament or Event.* See Regulation 21.d.vi.a
 - Partial Cancellation of Tournament or Event.* See Regulation 21.C.vii.b
 - Withdrawal for an Approved Concurrent Entry into Another NorCal Tournament.* When a player who has received the proper prior written approval to enter a concurrent tournament (see Rule #19 withdraws to play in that current tournament, the fee paid, minus the Head Tax and Serve Tennis Fee, will be refunded.
 - Player Who Declines to Play in at a different level.* When a player, by the deadline set by the Tournament Committee, declines the opportunity to play in an event at a higher level or lower

- age group when the event they registered for is cancelled the declining player is entitled to a refund of the total fee paid at the time of selection, including the Head Tax (if applicable) and the Serve Tennis Fee. Players declining after the deadline are entitled to a refund of the fee paid, minus the Head Tax (if applicable) and Serve Tennis Fee. Players who have not been selected have not paid any fee and are not entitled to any refund.
- iii. No Refund for Withdrawals in Violation of Concurrent Tournament Rule. When a player withdraws from a tournament in violation of the Concurrent Tournament Rule (Rule #19 a player is not entitled to a refund, regardless of when the withdrawal occurs.
- iv. Other Withdrawals Before Start of Tournament. No refunds are required after the entry deadline.
- v. Credits Not Permitted. The Tournament Committee may not issue a credit for the entry fee in lieu of a refund.
- vi. Fees for Refunding Not Permitted; Administrative Fee for Full Cancellation Permitted in Certain Circumstances. The Tournament Committee will not charge any fee (such as a processing, service, or handling fee) for refunding the entry fee except an Administrative Fee as follows:
- a. Cancellation of Tournament. When a tournament is cancelled before a match is played due to inclement weather, or other reason approved by the USTA NorCal staff to protect the health and safety of the players, the tournament may withhold an Administrative Fee as follows:
- \$2.00 per player for a Level 7 Tournament;
 - \$3.50 per player for a Level 4, 5 and 6 Tournament;
- When making the refund, the player will receive the fee paid for all events selected, net of the Administrative Fee, the Head Tax, and the Serve Tennis Fee.
- b. Cancellation of Event. When an event in a tournament (but not all events in the tournament) is cancelled before a match is played due to inclement weather, or other reason approved by the USTA NorCal staff to protect the health and safety of the players, the tournament may withhold an Administrative Fee as follows:
- \$1.00 per player for a Level 7 Tournament;
 - \$1.50 per player for a Level 4, 5 and 6 Tournament;
- When making the refund, the player will receive the fee paid for the event, net of the Administrative Fee, the Head Tax (if applicable), and the Serve Tennis Fee.
- As soon as possible after the completion of the tournament, and no later than 30 days after the last day of the tournament, the Tournament Committee will provide a report to USTA NorCal of all Head Taxes refunded. USTA NorCal will reimburse the organizer for this expense within 30 days of receiving the report. Failure to submit this report absolves USTA NorCal from the requirement to reimburse the refunded Head Taxes.
- vii. Partial Cancellation Policy. The refund will be determined by the number of matches played by each player in each event.
- a. Level 7 Tournaments. If only one match is played, a player is entitled to a 50% refund that is calculated after deducting from the total fee paid for the event, the Head Tax and the Serve Tennis Fee. If a player completes two or more matches in the singles or doubles event, no refund is required.
- b. Level 4, 5, and 6 Tournaments. If only one match is played in an event, the player is entitled to a refund of 25% of entry fee for event that is calculated after deducting the Head Tax and the Serve Tennis Fee. If a player(s) completes two or more matches in the event, no refund is required.
- e. Nonpayment of Entry Fee. The tournament may charge a collection fee for returned entry fee checks or nonpayment of outstanding fees. Nonpayment of entry fees or cancellation of payment after the entry deadline will result in player suspension until such payment is received by the tournament.
- e. Partial Cancellation 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 canceled due to inclement weather (or other reason approved by USTA NorCal staff to protect the health and safety of the players).
- 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.

Rationale: The amended rule clarifies the circumstances under which all or any of the different fees need to be refunded to the players. The change also increases the amount that tournament directors are allowed to withhold from the refund when a tournament is canceled due to inclement weather. This increase accounts for the inflation and the costs that the tournaments incur prior to the tournament being held.

2. **Cancellation of One Day Tournaments.** Approved at a meeting held on May 16, 2023 by a vote of 6 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Rules # 29 is amended to read as follows (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken through language is proposed to be deleted).

29. Level 7: 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 \$40 per player in singles.
- 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 waterfallled 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 waterfallled into one flight and players 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16 are waterfallled into the other flight.
- ~~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.~~

Rationale: The amendments to the rule regarding the cancellation of a One Day Tournament is being made to make the rule consistent with the cancellation rule for all other tournaments. The Sanctioning Agreement gives the NorCal staff the authority to approve an earlier cancellation of a tournament in the case of inclement weather and hazardous conditions.

3. **Proposal to Recommend Amendment to USTA Adult and Family Tournament, Ranking and Sanctioning Regulations: Wild Cards.** Approved at a meeting held on May 16, 2023 by a vote of 6 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the following proposal to amend the USTA Adult & Family Tournament, Ranking, and Sanctioning Regulations regarding the addition of wild cards to all Section and District Level 4, 5, and 6 Tournaments will be submitted to the USTA Adult Competition Committee (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken through language is proposed to be deleted).

Part 1 - Amend VII.A.5.a.

VII. SECTION AND DISTRICT ADULT AND FAMILY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

A. Section Level 4 Adult and Family Tournaments

5. *Selection.*
 - a. *Adult Open Divisions.* [unchanged]
 - b. *Adult Age Group, Family, and NTRP Divisions.*
 - i. Wild cards. The maximum numbers of wild cards that can be awarded are as follows: 8 in a draw of 64 or higher; 6 in a draw of 32; 4 in a draw of 16 or fewer.

Regulation VI.G.5.a.i. Comment: Criteria for selection of a player or team to receive a wild card is at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. Information on applying for wild cards, including the deadline, must be posted on the tournament website no later than the date entries open.

- ii. The Sectional Association determines the method of selection using either **Regulation VII.A.5.b.iii** or **VII.A.5.b.iv**
- iii. *Players from National Standings List.* [unchanged]
- iv. *Players from a rating.*
 - (A) *Open tournaments.* [unchanged]
 - (B) *Closed tournaments.* When the draw size of a Closed Adult tournament is limited, the same procedures described in **Regulation VII.A.5.a.iv.(A)** will be used *except that* the selections will be filtered to include only players who are residents of the Sectional Association. ~~Wild cards may not be awarded.~~

Part 2 - Amend VII.B.5.

VII. SECTION AND DISTRICT ADULT AND FAMILY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

B. Section and District Level 5 Adult and Family Tournaments.

5. *Selection.*

- a. *Adult Open Divisions.*
 - i. *Open Adult tournaments.* The Selection process must follow the options set forth in **Regulation VII.A.5.a.ii** ~~Wild cards may not be awarded.~~
 - ii. *Closed Section Adult tournaments.* The Selection process must follow the options set forth in **Regulation VII.A.5.a.ii** Wild cards may not be awarded.
 - iii. *Closed District Adult tournaments.* When the draw size of a Closed District Adult tournament is limited the same procedures described in **Regulation VII.A.5.a.ii** will be used except that the National Standings List or most recent published rating will be filtered to include only players who are residents of the District Association.
- b. *Adult Age Group, Adult NTRP, and Family Divisions.*
 - ~~i. *Open Family tournaments.* The Selection process must follow the options set forth in **Regulation VII.A.5.a.ii** Wild cards may not be awarded.~~
 - ~~ii. *Closed Section Family tournaments.* The Selection process must follow the options set forth in **Regulation VII.A.5.a.ii** Wild cards may not be awarded.~~
 - ~~iii. *Closed District Family tournaments.* When the draw size of a Closed District Adult tournament is limited the same procedures described in **Regulation VII.A.5.a.ii** will be used except that the National Standings List or most recent published rating will be filtered to include only players who are residents of the District Association.~~

Part 3 - Amend VII.C.5.

VII. SECTION AND DISTRICT ADULT AND FAMILY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

C. Section and District Level 6 Adult and Family Tournaments.

5. *Selection.*
 - a. *Adult Open Divisions.* The Selection process must follow the options set forth in **Regulation VII.A.5.a.ii** ~~Wild cards may not be awarded.~~
 - b. *Adult Age Group, Adult NTRP, and Family Divisions.* ~~The selection process must follow the options set forth in **Regulation VII.A.5.b.** When a draw size is limited in a Family Division, teams will be selected (and alternates will be ordered) using the most recently published team National Standing List of the Division. Wild cards may not be awarded.~~

Rationale: Currently Tournament Directors are not given the option to award wild cards. This makes it hard for them to host tournaments, as they are taking away courts from their members. Many players play only at very local tournaments and thus will not have enough ranking points to qualify for the event if only the National Standings List is used. Similarly, they may not play enough matches to have a reliable WTN number, which would put them at the bottom of the list. Awarding wildcards to their members would make it possible for tournament directors to advertise the event to their club members and justify the usage of the courts over an extended period of time.

Note: Although the regulation related to the selection of player sin L7 tournaments is not included in this proposal, that regulation requires the L6 procedure to be used such that any amendment to VII.C.5 also impacts L7 tournaments.

4. **Proposal to Recommend Amendment to USTA Adult and Family Tournament, Ranking and Sanctioning Regulations: Bottom-Up Selection for Level 7 Tournaments.** Approved at a meeting held on May 16, 2023 by a vote of 6 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the following proposal to amend the USTA Adult & Family Tournament, Ranking and Sanctioning Regulations regarding the bottom-up selection of players for Section and District Level 7 Tournaments will be submitted to the USTA Adult Competition Committee (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken through language is proposed to be deleted).

VII. SECTION AND DISTRICT ADULT AND FAMILY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

D. Section and District Level 7 Adult and Family Tournaments.

6. *Selection.* When a draw size is limited, selection will be done as described in **Regulation VII.A.5.**, except that when National Standings Lists and/or ratings are used for selection in a limited draw tournament, players shall be selected from the bottom up.

Rationale: Level 7s are supposed to be "Entry Level" tournaments. This means that priority should be given to those players that have no ranking points yet, as they are trying to get started in the tournaments and often cannot get into any other tournament.

Adult League Committee

- 1. USTA League 40&Over Format.** Approved at a meeting held on June 5, 2023 by a vote of 5 in favor, 1 oppose and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately the format for the Adult 40 & Over League from local league through the Sectional Championship be a 4- line (1 Singles, 3 Doubles) league using the weighted format to determine the match winner where a win in the #1 doubles position is worth 2 points and match wins in the other positions—#1 singles, #2 doubles, and #3 doubles—is worth 1 point each. The National & NorCal Local League Area Regulations (LLAR) would be amended as follows to reflect this change (underlined language is proposed addition):

2.03H Procedures in the Event of a Tie. In the event of a tie, whether in round robin or single elimination competition, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so:

2.03H(1) For Sectional Championships and below, in the event of a tie, the Sectional Association has the authority to determine the order of the following procedures that will be used to break the tie. The tiebreak procedure order will be published by the Sectional Association. If a Section, District/Area or Local League does not have a regulation in place to address a tie, the Section, District/Area or Local League must follow the national regulation.

(NorCal LLAR) Adult 40 & Over Tie-Break Procedure for a 4-line Format. Points per Position will be used to determine a match winner and Section Championship standings. A win in the #1 doubles position will be worth 2 points. Match wins in the other positions—#1 singles, #2 doubles, and #3 doubles—will be worth 1 point each. The team with the most cumulative points in local league play will be in first place in the flight. In the event of a tie in total number of points won at the end of the local league season, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so:

1. Fewest number of sets lost
2. Fewest number of games lost
3. Winner of head-to-head matches
4. Coin toss

2.03H(2) For National Championships, in the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following procedures that does so:

2.03H(2)a Individual Matches. Winner of the most individual matches in the entire competition.

2.03H(2)b Head-to-Head. Winner of head-to-head match only if all tied teams have played each other and one team defeated all the teams that are tied.

2.03H(2)c Sets. Loser of the fewest number of sets.

2.03H(2)d Games. Loser of the fewest number of games.

2.03H(2)e Game Winning Percentage: Total games won divided by total games played.

2.03H(2)f A Method to be Determined by the Championships Committee. Procedure to be announced prior to commencement of championship competition.

Rationale: The 4-line format (1 Singles, 3 Doubles) is the format that NorCal is currently using. NorCal is also currently using the weighted format to determine the match winners in local league. The only change to the current rules with this resolution is the change in determining winners at Sectionals going from using the National procedures to the NorCal weighted procedures that we already use in local league. NorCal has used the National tie-break rules at Adult 40 & Over Sectionals so that Adult 40 & Over Sectionals would be the same format as Adult 40 & Over Nationals. Now that National is changing to a 5-line format, changing the tie-break rules for Sectionals would make the format for Sectionals the same a local league. The players will go into Sectionals better knowing the format. It is also easier and quicker for players and staff to determine the winners.

- 2. Seeding-Placing Teams at USTA NorCal Adult Leagues Sectional Events.** Approved at a meeting held on June 5, 2023 by a vote of 6 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, for the single elimination playoff rounds at league Sectional events, if the single elimination draw starts in the semi-finals, the team that has the best record will play the team that has the fourth best record; the team that has the second best record will play the team that has the third best

record. In an event where there is a wildcard, the draw may be adjusted so the wildcard team will not play the same team they have already played in the first round of the single elimination playoff round.

Rationale: Having the team with the best record playing the team with the 4th best record and the team with the 2nd best record playing the team with the third best record is a common practice in playoff scenarios.

- 3. No Playoff for Local League with only two teams.** Approved at a meeting held on June 5, 2023 by a vote of 5 in favor, 1 opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, the following fighting process shall be used for 2-team leagues:

In a two-team league, the captains will have the option of working together to agree upon the number of matches (up to 10) they would like to play against each other in the season. If the captains do not agree to the number of matches played in the local league season, the number of matches played will default to 10 matches. A playoff match will not be played unless both captains agree to play a playoff match. If a playoff match is not played, the highest team in standings will advance to playoffs.

Rationale: With a two-team league, both teams play each other many times in the season. With only two teams and the number of times the two teams will already play each other during the season, teams should have the ability to decide and agree if they would like to have a playoff. There may already be a clear winner determined within the local league. Teams could be playing the entire season with a clearly stronger team winning all matches. Requiring a playoff then gives the team with the losing record another chance to advance to Sectionals based on one match at the end of the season.

Sanction & Schedule Committee

- 1. Sanctioning Guidelines.** Approved at a meeting held on May 25, 2023 by a vote of 6 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, the Sanctioning Guidelines as set forth on **Exhibit 2** are hereby approved.

Rationale: This recommendation is part of the Committee's annual review of the guidelines it uses when selecting tournaments to sanction. This proposal includes several minor adjustments related to junior tournaments:

- specific consideration of geographic distribution when sanctioning concurrent Level 5 tournaments, something that occurs multiple times on the Junior Council recommended, and Board-approved calendar; and
- permits the sanctioning of traditional Level 6 tournaments concurrently with Level 6 Ratings Round Robins in date blocks that do not also have Level 5 Super Series.

- 2. Refund of Sanction Fees.** Approved at a meeting held on May 25, 2023 by a vote of 6 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective with the sanctioning of 2024 Junior, Adult, Family and Wheelchair Tournaments and Junior Circuit Events, Section 15 of the USTA NorCal Sanction Agreement is hereby amended as set forth below to require the refund of the sanctioning fee when a tournament is cancelled, and certain other requirements are met by the sanction holder (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted):

- 15. Cancellation of Tournament.** Organizer agrees that if awarded a sanction for an Event or Tournament, that Event or Tournament will be held unless prior written approval of NorCal is received, *except that* approval is not required when an Event or Tournament is cancelled due to inclement weather pursuant to the applicable USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Regulations, USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Regulations, or USTA NorCal Adult, Family & Wheelchair Rules.

If, after players have been selected for the Event or Tournament and registration fees have been paid:

- The Event or Tournament is cancelled with prior written authorization by NorCal due to inclement weather or to protect the health and safety of players; or
- The Event or Tournament is unilaterally cancelled by NorCal for a reason that is not the fault of the Organizer,

NorCal will make a payment to the Organizer equivalent to the Sanction Fee plus the Head Tax collected by NorCal for all players who were selected and paid registration fees, *provided that* a completed W-9 is delivered to NorCal no later than 30 days following the date of cancellation. If no Sanction Fee and/or Head Tax has been collected, no payment will be made.

If an Event or Tournament is cancelled without prior authorization, Organizer must refund all registration fees paid by each player including the Head Tax and any fee paid for processing the entry ("Serve Tennis Fee").

Additionally, if an Event or Tournament is cancelled without prior authorization, Organizer agrees to post a performance bond in the amount of \$500 if requested as a condition to be approved for the next future sanction. The bond will be fully refunded upon successful completion of the next 202~~43~~ Event or Tournament. If a future 202~~43~~ Event or Tournament is not held, the performance bond will be forfeited.

Rationale: This recommendation requires the refunding of sanction fees when a tournament has been properly cancelled. While it has been the practice of NorCal staff to refund the sanction fee of a tournament that has been cancelled with the approval of NorCal, nowhere do our policies state this is to happen. This proposal seeks to formalize this process in the Sanction Agreement that will be used starting with the sanctioning of 2024 tournaments.

Meetings Held: Following the application deadlines the Sanction & Schedule Committee ("Committee") will meet to review applications for the calendar of USTA NorCal Tournaments and approve sanctions as soon as practical after the deadlines, which shall include time for the USTA NorCal staff to assemble the applications for the Committee.

Information Available: During the Sanctions & Schedule Committee meetings, USTA NorCal staff shall make available the following information:

- Sanction applications received by the deadlines.
- Spreadsheets showing all applicants by date block. The spreadsheet showed the applicant name, city in which the tournament is to be held, events applied for, and entry fee(s). The spreadsheet indicated when the applicant submitted a late and/or incomplete application.
- Consumer feedback on all previous-year's sanction holders and sanction holders of tournaments held year-to-date.
- Records from any tournament cancellations, probations and sanction revocations.
- Records regarding problems addressed by USTA NorCal staff on the previous-year's tournaments and tournaments held year-to-date.

Sanctioning Process: The Committee will follow all procedures set forth in the USTA NorCal Tournament Sanctioning Regulations ("Regulations") as approved by the USTA NorCal Board. At all times during discussion, members will have access to all supporting materials and records related to the applicant.

The Committee will not vote in favor of a sanction if the application does not have the requisite number of courts needed to hold the tournament.

The Committee has the authority to make requests of applicants including, but not limited to:

- Ask an applicant to consider taking an alternate date or different or additional divisions it applied for; and
- Request or suggest an applicant add events, such as doubles events, to the sanction application, which may be a condition of approval.

Guidelines: Generally, the following principals should guide the Committee in its role of recommending a tournament calendar that is to be presented to the Board for approval:

- When recommending sanctions for approval, the Committee will take into account NorCal's strong interest in diversity and inclusion.
- Preference will be given to applications submitted by the deadlines set for the in the Regulations and which are complete.
- Preference will be given to applicants with a history of superior tournament organization, adherence to the tournament and sanction rules, and favorable customer feedback surveys.
- When possible, geographic distribution should be optimized; however, when there are limits to the number of tournaments that may be sanctioned during the year consideration of locating these in areas of NorCal where there are concentrations of membership should be considered.
- If possible and dependent on the applications received and the performance of an applicant in the past, efforts should be made not to award an applicant a disproportionate number of tournaments as compared to the other applicants.
- When possible, tournaments should not be sanctioned to an applicant on consecutive date blocks.
- Preference should be given to tournaments that have applied for both singles and doubles.
- Preference should be given to tournaments with lower entry fees (note that junior tournament fees are mandated by the USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Regulations; this is not a factor in junior tournament applications).

Additionally, the following additional guidelines for Junior Tournaments shall be considered:

Junior Tournament Sanctioning Guidelines

The following principals should guide the development of the recommendations:

- The number of competitive matches in tournaments of all levels should be increased to improve player development.
 - The number of Level 6 and 7 Tournaments sanctioned should not dilute the number of entries at tournaments, which negatively impacts the amount of play taking place in a tournament, and therefore the value of the entry fee, and the financial viability of running a tournament, but at the same time should support the demand for tournaments in geographic areas.
 - To reduce cost, consideration shall be given to where USTA NorCal has concentrations of junior membership.
-
- USTA NorCal Junior Membership Population Centers: When possible, Level 3, 4 and 5 Tournaments should be sanctioned in areas where there is the highest concentration of USTA NorCal junior membership.
 - Number of Levels Per Tournament: The number of levels sanctioned in one tournament should not exceed 2. For example, a tournament could have Level 6 and Level 7, Level 5 and Level 6, or Level 5 and Level 7.
 - Concurrent Level 5 Tournaments: The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of Junior Council and within the limits set by the USTA, has determined the number of Level 5 Tournaments to be held on specified date blocks. When more than one Level 5 Tournament has been authorized, geographical distribution must be taken into consideration.
 - Number of Level 6 Tournaments: The number of sanctioned Level 6 Tournaments taking place on any weekend should not exceed 4, unless the demand in a geographic area supports more tournaments. Level 6 "Traditional" tournaments may not be sanctioned concurrent with Level 6 Ratings Round Robins when Level 6 Ratings Round Robins are concurrent with Level 5 Super Series. "Traditional" tournaments are those that use the National Standings List for Sselection.
 - Number of Level 7 Tournaments: Generally, the number of sanctioned Level 7 Tournaments taking place on any day should not exceed 4, *except that* more may be held if demand in a geographic area supports more tournaments. It is recommended that when applications come in for Level 7 Tournaments that are in very close proximity to each another, that one be held on a Saturday, and one be held on a Sunday.

2024 USTA NorCal League Calendar

EXHIBIT B

Early Start 2023 Adult 40 & Over Reno/Tahoe

Team registration: July 10, 2023

Season opens: August 21, 2023

P: November 30-December 3, 2023; December 7-10, 2023

S: May 31- June 2; 7-9, 2024

Closes: July 31, 2023

Season Closes: November 19, 2023

Early Start 2023 Mixed 18 & Over Reno/Tahoe **must be completed by September 29, 2024**

Team registration: July 10, 2023

Season opens: August 21, 2023

P: November 30-December 3, 2023; December 7-10, 2023

S: May 10-12, 2024

Closes: July 31, 2023

Season Closes: November 19, 2023

2024 Adult 40 & Over League **must be completed by September 14, 2024**

Team registration: November 6, 2023

Season opens: January 1, 2024

P: April 11-14; April 18-21; April 25-28, 2024

S: May 31- June 2; 7-9, 2024

Closes: December 4, 2023

Season Closes: March 24, 2024

2024 NorCal Adult 40 & Over Daytime League

Team registration: November 6, 2023

Season opens: January 1, 2024

P: April 8-12; April 15-19; April 22-26, 2024

S: May 31- June 2; June 7-9, 2024

Closes: December 4, 2023

Season Closes: March 22, 2024

2024 Mixed 18 & Over League

Team registration: November 6, 2023

Season opens: January 1, 2024

P: April 4-7; April 11-14; April 18-21, 2024

S: May 10-12, 2024

Closes: December 4, 2023

Season Closes: March 24, 2024

2024 NorCal Adult 65 & Over Daytime League

Team registration: December 4, 2023

Season opens: February 5, 2024

P: April 22-26; April 29-May 3, 2024

S: May 14-16, 2024

Closes: January 8, 2024

Season Closes: April 12, 2024

2024 Adult 18 & Over League **must be completed by September 14, 2024**

Team registration: January 22, 2024

Season opens: April 8, 2024

P: July 11-14, July 18-21; July 25-28, 2024

S: August 9-11; 16-18, 2024

Closes: February 20, 2024

Season closes: June 16, 2024

2024 NorCal Adult 18 & Over Daytime League

Team registration: January 22, 2024

Season opens: April 8, 2024

P: July 8-12, July 15-19; July 22-26, 2024

S: August 9-11; 16-18, 2024

Closes: February 20, 2024

Season closes: June 14, 2024

2024 Adult 55 & Over League **must be completed by September 29, 2024**

Team registration: January 22, 2024

Season opens: March 18, 2024

P: June 6-9; June 13-16; June 20-23, 2024

S: July 12-14, 2024

Closes: February 20, 2024

Season closes: May 26, 2024

2024 Mixed 40 & Over League **must be completed by October 6, 2024**

Team registration: April 22, 2024

Season opens: June 17, 2024

P: September 5-8; September 12-15; September 19-22, 2024

S: October 4-6, 2024

Closes: May 20, 2024

Season closes: August 25, 2024

2024 NorCal Adult 70 & Over Daytime League

Team registration: June 24, 2024

Season opens: August 19, 2024

P: November 11-15; November 18-22, 2024

S: December 10-12, 2024

Closes: July 22, 2024

Season Closes: October 25, 2024

2024 NorCal Combo League

Team registration: July 1, 2024

Season opens: August 26, 2024

P: November 14-17; November 21- 24; December 5-8, 2024

S: TBD

Closes: July 22, 2024

Season Closes: November 3, 2024

2024 NorCal Combo Daytime League

Team registration: July 1, 2024

Season opens: August 26, 2024

P: November 11-15; November 18-22; December 2-6, 2024

S: TBD

Closes: July 22, 2024

Season Closes: November 1, 2024

2024 NorCal Mixed 55 & Over League

Team registration: June 24, 2024

Season opens: August 19, 2024

P: November 7-10; November 14-17; November 21-24, 2024

S: December 6-8, 2024

Closes: July 29, 2024

Season Closes: October 27, 2024