

**NOTE:** *These minutes were approved by the committee on September 9, 2024 and are the final version. The USTA NorCal Board reviewed and voted on the Committee Recommendations included in these minutes at its meeting on August 21, 2024.*

---

Luis Reis, chair of the Adult Tournament Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:10pm and roll call was conducted. The meeting was held by Google Meet video conference.

**Committee Members Present:** *Luis Reis (Chair), Christopher Aria, Steven Cornell, Andie Mouzes, Wendell Pierce, Marina Wills, Craig Pasqua*

**USTA NorCal Staff Present:** *Michelle Wilson, Joanna Broda-Schunck*

**Guests Present:** n/a

- 1. Approval of Minutes.** The Committee considered approval of the minutes of the meeting held June 25, 2024. The following motion was duly made by Craig Pasqua, seconded by Marina Wills and **approved** by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions:

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Adult Tournament Committee meeting held April, 2024 be approved as presented.

## **2. Staff Report**

- Item 1: Joanna Broda-Schunck informed to the Committee that per the unanimous written consent Steven Cornell's nomination for the Senior Service Award was submitted
- Item 2: Joanna Broda-Schunck reported to the Committee that WTN Parent/Child Green Ball Doubles tournament was a big success with a lot of positive feedback from parents. USTA NorCal also hosted a Parent/Child Orange Ball Doubles event and also received positive feedback. Staff will be recommending these options to potential hosts.

## **3. Issue #1 Conforming Change to USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Regulation #19 – Concurrent Tournaments**

Staff was recently noticed that the current regulation #19 refers to the Grand Prix Points Race, which does not exist anymore. In addition, after confirming with USTA National, staff learned that removal of ranking points earned by a player is not possible in the system, However, the player earns suspension points.

After a discussion, the following motion was duly made by Marina Wills, seconded by Steve Cornell, and **approved** by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

**RESOLVED:** That effective immediately, USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Regulation #19 is amended to read as follows (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken through language is proposed to be deleted).

**19. Concurrent Tournaments.** A player shall not be entered at the time entries close in two or more USTA sanctioned tournaments scheduled to take place at the same time, in whole or in part, unless each Tournament Committee involved understands the situation, concurs in writing, and each agrees to accommodate the player's schedule. The final decision rests with each tournament committee. If one tournament agrees to accept concurrent entries and accommodate the player's schedule but the concurrent tournament does not, the player may not enter both.

If entries for the overlapping tournaments close on different dates, approval must be received from all Tournament Committees no later than the entry closing date that occurs last.

Players who enter a tournament and play it to completion, may then enter another tournament with overlapping dates without permission.

If a player violates this concurrent tournament rule, ~~ranking points earned in any concurrent tournament played will not count toward ranking or the Grand Prix Points Race and~~ the concurrent tournaments will not count toward the minimum tournament requirement to qualify for the Grand Prix.

Rationale: The current regulation refers to the Grand Prix Points Race, which no longer exists. In addition, there currently is no way to remove ranking points from a player's profile.

#### **4. Issue #2 – Right of Refusal**

Staff informed the Committee about the review of USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Regulation and comparison with Junior regulations in order to bring more consistency between Junior and Adult Tournament.

**16. Right of Refusal.** After reasonable notice is provided to USTA NorCal stating good cause shown, and subject to the Tournament Committee's exhaustion of all reasonable measures to address the cause including, but not limited to the USTA Suspension Point System and the USTA NorCal grievance procedures, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to:

- Refuse to accept a player's entry; or
- After selection of an entry, remove a player from the list of accepted entries or from the draw before the tournament starts,

except that an entry may not be refused based on the basis of race, creed, sexual orientation, color, or national origin, or any other unlawful criteria under federal, state and local law. The removal of a player from the list of accepted entries or a withdrawal of a player in these circumstances will be classified as a tournament administrative error. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decline any

~~entry either before or after the draws have been published.~~ Some draws may be limited.

**Rationale:** The current wording of the Right of Refusal regulation is very broad. The tournament director should provide a valid reason for not accepting a player into the tournament. This change also brings more consistency between junior and adult tournament regulations

During the discussion a request was made to have the new wording of the regulation reviewed by USTA NorCal's legal counsel. Awaiting the endorsement by the legal counsel, the item has been tabled.

### **5. Issue #3 – 2025 NorCal Qualifier put up for bidding.**

In order to qualify players for the 2025 NTRP National Championships in the divisions 40+ 3.0-5.0 and 55+ 3.0-5.0 (singles and doubles), USTA NorCal would like to have a NorCal Qualifying event. Due to time and staffing constraints, it is suggested that we offer this opportunity to member organizations to run this event, with the option that may be split into two events – one for the 40+ divisions and one for the 55+ divisions.

After a discussion, the following motion was duly made by Wendell Pierce, seconded by Marina Wills, and **approved** by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

**RESOLVED:** That USTA NorCal will put up for bid the opportunity to host NorCal Qualifying Tournament for the NTRP 40+ 3.0 to 5.0 divisions and 55+ 3.0 to 5.0 divisions, which shall be designated as a Closed Level 4 Tournament.

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** Applications must be submitted by September 15th, after which the Sanction & Schedule Committee will review the applications and select the events pursuant to the USTA NorCal Sanction Regulations, *except that* the Adult Tournament Committee will provide first provide its recommendations to the Sanction & Schedule Committee.

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** Sanction applications shall meet the following requirements:

- The tournament must be held in January or February, with a designated rain makeup week, and applications for a sanction period for the second week of January (with the 3rd week designated for rain makeup) will be given preferential treatment- these dates are January 6-12 and 13-19 in 2025.
- Applicants may apply for all 40+ and 55+ divisions (3.0-5.0), or may apply for only the 40+ or 55+ divisions.
- Singles and doubles must be offered.
- The registration fee shall be no more than \$60 per player for singles and \$30 per player for doubles.
- The draw limit shall be no less than 16 players for singles and 8 teams in doubles
- A playoff for 3rd place must be offered.

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** The tournament shall have the following additional requirements:

- Self-rated players are not eligible to participate as they as they do not meet the eligibility requirements of the USTA NTRP National Championships.
- Player selection will be done using the most recently published National Standings List of the division.

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** Effective immediately, \$4,000 shall be added to the 2024 Adult Tournament Budget as set forth below to pay for awards and player gifts USTA NorCal shall provide for all participants.

USTA NorCal NTRP Qualifying Tournament Expenses	
Player gifts: \$14 per player for 200 players	\$2,800
Awards: \$20 x 60 awards (1st and 2nd place)	\$1,200
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>

**Rationale:** In order to qualify players for the 2025 NTRP National Championships in the divisions 40+ 3.0-5.0 and 55+ 3.0-5.0 (singles and doubles), USTA NorCal would like to have a NorCal Qualifying tournament. Due to time and staffing constraints, it is suggested that we offer this opportunity to Organization Members to run this event, with the option that it may be split into two tournaments – one for the 40+ divisions and one for the 55+ divisions.

The deadline for the application falls outside of the Bi-Monthly Deadlines set in the Sanction Regulations and the approval of this sanction will likely need to be made by the Executive Committee in order for the organizer(s) to begin preparations for the tournament(s)

This resolution was approved by the Adult Tournament Committee at a meeting held on August 5, 2024, by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

This proposal has been submitted to the Budget & Finance Committee for review.

**Fiscal Impact:** Additional \$4,000 guaranteed to be allocated in the 2024 budget. Although this tournament will be held in 2025, its early 2025 dates require the expenditure in late 2024.

## 6. Issue #3 – National Regulation Change Proposals.

National recently sent proposed changes to the 2025 USTA Adult & Family Tournament Regulations and offered Sections to provide feedback

Proposal 1 – Remove Top 500 List

No motion was made to provide feedback

Proposal 2 – Match Format L1

No motion was made to provide feedback  
Proposal 3 – Draw Format L1  
No motion was made to provide feedback  
Proposal 4 – Age Up Rankings  
No motion was made to provide feedback

There being no further issues or discussion to come before the Committee, at 9:10pm the meeting was adjourned