



Minutes of the USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Committee Meeting Sunday, Feb. 11th 2018

NOTE: *All minutes are final after approval by the committee and all committee decisions are subject to final approval by the USTA NorCal Board*

Andrea Barnes, chair of the JTT Committee called the meeting to order.

Committee Members Present: Andrea Barnes (chair), Rosie Bareis, Caryn Cranston, Carl Mendoza, Bill Weber, Tan Truong, Dan Klement

USTA Staff Present: Darren Wenger, Junior Team Tennis Specialist

Committee Members Absent: None

1. USTA NorCal JTT Section Championships Rules – Roster Size Requirements

The committee chair proposed a rule change via email regarding the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Championship Rules - Same Gender Advanced Division roster size minimums.

Following a full committee email vote, the following motion was approved by a vote of 6 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

RESOLVED: Modify the roster requirement rule in the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Championship Rules to read as follows:

Roster Requirements:

- Minimum roster for the USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Section Championships:
- Same Gender Division (Advanced)
 - Team rosters must have a minimum of 4 players
 - If a team does not have 4 eligible boys or girls, then the #4 singles line is defaulted as well as the #2 doubles match. That team will start the match down 2-0.
 - Note: If a player(s) is injured during the tournament and a team does not have 3 eligible players for a match, the entire team match is defaulted

Rationale: The change would allow for teams of 4 players to compete at the JTT Same Gender Section Championships and will be consistent with minimum roster requirements for JTT league play and other JTT team tournament and regional events.



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2. USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – Eligibility for JTT Team Tournaments

The committee discussed adding a rule to the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations regarding player eligibility for JTT Team Tournaments.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

RESOLVED: Create rule 2g. in the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations to read as follows:

- **2g. Eligibility for JTT Team Tournaments**

- A player is eligible to play in a JTT Team Tournament if they are a current USTA member and are age eligible through the end of the month in which the tournament occurs. The same participation rules apply as if the player was competing on a JTT league team.
 - Players may only play on one team per JTT Team Tournament

Rationale: Create a rule to define player eligibility at JTT Team Tournaments since these are new events in 2018. For consistency with individual USTA tournaments, the same age and membership rules will be adopted for JTT Team Tournaments.

3. USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – Eligibility for JTT Regionals

The committee discussed adding a rule to the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations regarding player eligibility for JTT Regionals.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

RESOLVED: Create rule 2h. in the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations to read as follows:

- **Rule 2h. Eligibility for JTT Regionals**

A player is eligible to play at a NorCal JTT Regional event if they are a current USTA member and are age eligible through the end of the month in which the tournament occurs, as well as satisfy the following requirements:

- Played at least 2 team matches to completion for the specific advancing team
 - 2 team matches are defined as 2 different team opponents, not 2 individual matches within 1 team match
 - A maximum of 1 default match may count as a team match played
 - Only matches recorded online in TennisLink count towards eligibility

Rationale: Create a rule to define player eligibility at JTT Regionals since these are new events in 2018. For consistency with individual tournaments, the same age and membership rules will be adopted for JTT Regionals.



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4. **USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – Coaching**

The committee discussed a rule change to the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations regarding coaching certification and requirements.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

RESOLVED: Add additional PCA requirements to the current coaching regulation (Rule 16) in the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations. The PCA regulation will read as follows:

- **Rule 16. Coaching**

Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA): All JTT captains and co-captains must complete a PCA training in order to register a team for any season and/or JTT event. Completion of the PCA training program will remain valid for two years

Rationale: In order to improve sportsmanship issues that occur in JTT league play, NorCal has partnered with the PCA and going forward, will require that all JTT captains and co-captains complete a PCA training every two years. USTA NorCal will pay for the online PCA courses.

5. **USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – JTT Team Tournaments**

The committee discussed adding a rule to the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations to define JTT Team Tennis events and advancement criteria from JTT Team Tournaments to Regional events.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

RESOLVED: Create rule 20 in the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations to read as follows:

- **Rule 20. JTT Team Tournaments**

- Open to all teams in regards to participation and registration
- Teams that compete in a JTT Team Tournament have the opportunity to advance to JTT Regionals based on their finish in the event. Teams that win their division at a Team Tournament will advance to a JTT Regional event.

- **Exception - Summer season:**

- Same Gender division teams that win their division advance directly to the summer JTT Same Gender Section Championships.

Rationale: Advancement criteria needed to be established for teams that compete in the new JTT Team Tournaments. The exception for summer season is needed, for now, as there are not enough available weeks in the summer season to run Regionals prior to Sectionals. Teams that win at a summer season team tournament will advance directly to the Same Gender Section Championships, while spring and fall season Team Tournament winners will advance to Regional events.



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6. **USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – JTT Regionals**

The committee discussed adding a rule to the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations to define JTT Regional event qualification and advancement criteria to JTT Sectionals.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

RESOLVED: Create rule 21 in the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations to read as follows:

- **Rule 21. JTT Regionals**
 - Closed events in which prior qualification through league play or JTT Team Tournaments is required
 - In addition to teams that qualify from JTT Team Tournaments, Championship eligible leagues will qualify teams directly to Regionals based on final league standings. The standings will be determined by a team's win/loss record at the end of the season. Teams with a winning record or better will automatically advance to their respective JTT Regional (win/loss record percentage of .500 or better). Teams that win their division at Regionals will advance to a JTT Section Championship event.
 - **Exception - Summer Season:**
 1. **Same Gender Sectionals:** The 2018 summer season will not hold Regional events prior to Sectionals. Same Gender division teams will advance directly from league play to the summer JTT Same Gender Section Championships based on finish. The winning team from each eligible division will automatically advance to the Same Gender Section Championships.
 2. **Coed Sectionals:** The 2018 summer JTT Coed Section Championships is an open team registration process and a specific coed team/roster will not need to qualify from Regionals in order to participate at Coed Sectionals. Players can register for a summer Coed Section Championships team if they meet player eligibility requirements (see Rule 2c for more info.).
 3. **10U and 12U Gender Neutral Leagues:** Teams in these divisions do not advance to Regional or Section Championship events in the summer season.

Rationale: Advancement criteria needed to be established for teams to qualify for new JTT Regional events. The goal is to take the top teams from JTT Team Tournaments and combine them with the top teams from JTT travel leagues at a Regional Championship. The exception for summer season is needed, for now, as there are not enough available weeks in the summer season to run Regionals prior to Sectionals. Same Gender teams that win their travel league area during the summer season will advance directly to the Same Gender Section Championships, while coed and gender neutral divisions will not have official advancement opportunities during the summer season.



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7. USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations – JTT Section Championships

The committee discussed modifying a rule in the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations that defines advancement criteria for JTT Section Championship events.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions:

RESOLVED: Create rule 22 in the 2018 USTA NorCal JTT Section Regulations to read as follows:

- **Rule 22. JTT Section Championships**
 - Closed events in which prior qualification through league play or Regionals is required
 - Teams that win their division at a JTT Regional event will advance to the JTT Section Championships for that designated season.
 - **Exception - Summer Season:**
 - **Same Gender Summer Sectionals:** Teams will advance to Same Gender Sectionals from summer season leagues (1st place teams only) as well as teams that win their division at JTT Team Tournament in the summer.
 - **Coed Summer Sectionals:** Teams do not need to qualify directly through league play or regional events. Players can register for a JTT Coed Section Championships team if they meet player eligibility requirements (see Rule 2c for more info.).

Rationale: JTT Section Championship criteria will need to be modified in order to adopt the new JTT Team Tournament and Regional event structure. The goal is to take the different winning teams from Regional events and have them compete at the Section Championships. The exception for summer season is needed, for now, as there are not enough available weeks in the summer season to run Regionals prior to Sectionals. Same Gender teams that win their travel league during the summer season will advance directly to the Same Gender Section Championships to compete against teams that qualified via a summer JTT Team Tournament.

8. Team Fee and Team Deposits

There was a discussion regarding the current per player fee structure and adding a team fee or team deposit starting with the 2018 summer season. This would be implemented for a number of reasons, but mainly as an effort to reduce the number of teams that pull a team out after schedules have been published and/or teams that don't register all of their players in Tennislink. If a team fee option is chosen, the per player fee would be lowered, which may lead to higher participation and membership numbers. Further discussion will take place on the next call regarding a formal proposal after staff reviews the budget implications for such a change.

9. Staff Report

- Staff updated committee regarding the 2018 Gar Glenney Cup discussion with the SoCal section. In an effort to grow the event and focus on level based play, it was mutually agreed upon to begin including a same gender intermediate division. In addition to advanced division teams, Same Gender Intermediate Division Section Champions will qualify for the Gar Glenney Cup starting in 2018. Each section will send 8 total teams to the event: Boys & Girls 18U Advanced and Intermediate teams along with Boys & Girls



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15U Advanced and Intermediate teams. There will be no 12U division as SoCal does not offer a same gender division in their section. The minimum number of players for each team/division will be lowered from 6 players to 4 players. Formats of play and the intermediate division level of play benchmark for the event will be determined in future conversations with SoCal.

Call Ended at 1:15pm