

USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event Regulations



Index of Regulations

Regulation 1..... Overview of USTA Net Generation Pathway and the USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event Regulations	Page 1	
Regulation 2..... Rules of Play	Page 1	
Regulation 3..... Player Eligibility.....	Page 1	
Regulation 4..... Player Entry.....	Page 2	
Regulation 5..... USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event Descriptions.....	Page 2	
Regulation 6..... Rules Applicable to All USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Events	Page 3	
Regulation 7..... Sanctioning of USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Events	Page 6	
Appendix 1	Penalties for Lateness	Page 7

SUMMARY OF CHANGES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2023

- Submitting a Participation Waiver is now mandatory to play a USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event. See Regulation 3.B. and 7.K.

1. Overview of USTA Net Generation Pathway and the USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event Regulations.

The USTA Net Generation Pathway is comprised of programs offered by the USTA to introduce youth aged 5-18 to competition. These Net Generation Programs focus on fun, teamwork, decision-making, and learning to compete. The USTA Net Generation Pathway is aligned with the long-term athletic development principles of the American Development Model (ADM), which guide parents and coaches as their players develop and mature. The ADM framework is intended to improve the health and well-being of tennis participants for a lifetime.

Depending on a player's age and skill level, Red, Orange, Green, and Yellow Ball Tennis will be played, and the format will range from a more informal and low-pressure team environment to non-elimination events. These programs are called USTA Team Challenge, USTA Junior Team Tennis (Local Track), and USTA Junior Circuit. As players progress, their training and play experiences will evolve, and the Pathway will provide the opportunity to play more competitively, if desired. Net Generation Programs do not count for junior ranking; *however*, participation and results will be recorded in the Net Generation PlayTracker and will control, along with age and in some cases an assessment, when a player can progress from Red to Orange to Green to Yellow Ball Tennis, and also when a player may begin competing in tournaments that count for ranking.

The USTA Junior Circuit offers non-elimination competitions to develop skills by playing matches against other juniors of similar ability. It is intended for players who can serve and keep score and the focus is on introducing the concept of individual results and on good sportsmanship.

The USTA Junior Circuit is an important transition point in the Net Generation Pathway. Orange, Green, and Yellow Ball players with different skill levels, experience, and goals are in the process of determining a direction to take in the game, whether it be for recreation or higher levels of competition. The USTA Junior Circuit is designed to help a players make this decision in an encouraging, supportive environment.

These Regulations describe how USTA Junior Circuit Events are run in USTA NorCal.

2. **Rules of Play.** The USTA Regulations set forth in *Friend at Court* and the USTA Net Generation Pathway Regulations will govern all aspects of USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Events *except that* when a USTA NorCal Regulation is different than a USTA Regulation set forth in *Friend at Court*, the USTA NorCal Regulation will govern play. These USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event Regulations are in conformity with the USTA Net Generation Pathway Regulations as required by the USTA.

3. Player Eligibility.

A. USTA Membership Required. USTA Membership is required to play in USTA Junior Circuit Events.

B. Mandatory Participation Waiver. At least annually, a Participation Waiver in the form determined by USTA NorCal, must be submitted to USTA NorCal in order for a player to participate in a USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event. A player who does not have a current Participation Waiver on file with USTA NorCal before the start the player's first match will be withdrawn from the Event.

C. Net Generation PlayTracker. The Net Generation PlayTracker sets the requirements to be met by a player under the age of 11 to progress from participating in Red Ball Tennis to Orange Ball Tennis to Green Ball Tennis to Yellow Ball Tennis. The requirements will be determined by the USTA in consultation with the Local Play and Competition Committee.

A player that advances to a new ball color may choose to continue to play in the previous ball color in addition to the new one in order to continue to fully develop their skills.

Regulation 3.C. Comment: The USTA Net Generation Pathway Regulations set forth the requirements that must be met in the Net Generation PlayTracker for advancement from Red to Orange to Green to

Yellow Ball Tennis.

<https://netgeneration.usta.com/us-en/the-net-generation-playtracker.html>

Players aged 10 and under must be grouped in a sanctioned Orange 10 and under event, a Green 10 and under, or a Green 12 and under Junior Circuit Event to count in the Net Generation PlayTracker.

- D. Age Eligibility.** The USTA has adopted a “month of birth” age eligibility rule for junior players competing in USTA Junior Circuit Events that have an age limit. Junior players may continue to play in the 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 age divisions until the month they turn 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, or 19, respectively.

4. Player Entry.

- A. Method of Event Registration.** Players will enter USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Events by the registration deadline using the online Serve Tennis Registration System. Players enter a USTA Junior Circuit Event based on ball color. Players must play in the ball color they have achieved or lower as determined by the Net Generation PlayTracker.
- B. Registration In Concurrent Junior Circuit Events Not Permitted.** When registration closes, a player cannot be registered for two or more Junior Circuit Events scheduled for the same day. A player can play in two divisions of the same Junior Circuit Event if it is permitted by the Event Director.
- C. Registration Fees.** Each player’s registration fee includes the following:
- The entry fee paid to the organizer;
 - A USTA NorCal fee (“Head Tax”) of \$1.00 per player that is paid to USTA NorCal; and
 - A Serve Tennis administrative fee (“Serve Tennis Fee”) paid to the service provider for processing the online entry.
- i. Singles-Only Events.** A maximum fee of \$45.00 will be charged for registering (\$41.93 entry fee; \$1.00 Head Tax; \$2.08 Serve Tennis Fee).
- ii. Doubles-Only Events.** A maximum fee of \$35.00 per player (\$70.00 per team) will be charged for registering (\$32.28 entry fee; \$1.00 Head Tax; \$1.73 Serve Tennis Fee).
- iii. Doubles Entry Fee Per Player When Held with Singles.** A maximum fee of \$10.00 will be charged for registering (\$9.15 entry fee; \$0.85 Serve Tennis Fee).
- D. Registration Deadline.** The registration deadline is 2:59 pm five (5) days before the start of the Event; however, the registration deadline may be extended with the approval of USTA NorCal. If an Event will be accepting a limited number of players and has exceeded its maximum entries before the registration deadline, the deadline may be moved to an earlier date with the permission of USTA NorCal.
- E. Doubles Partner Not Required by Registration Deadline in Doubles-Only Events.** Entry with a partner into a doubles event is not required by the entry deadline. Players without partners will be randomly paired with a partner by the Event Director.
- F. Late Registration.** An Event registration received after the registration deadline is considered late. Although there is a registration deadline, Event Directors are encouraged to accept late registrants to the extent the additional players can be accommodated. Late registrants are accepted in the order received. Late registrations received at the same time are ordered by random draw.
- G. 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, the USTA Zero Tolerance Policy, 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 this will be classified as a tournament administrative error. Some draws may be limited.

5. USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event Descriptions.

A. Orange Ball Junior Circuit Events.

- i. Use of Orange Ball Tennis.** Orange Ball Junior Circuit Events use Orange Ball Tennis. The USTA defines Orange Ball Tennis as follows:
- It is played on a 60-foot court with a net that is 36 inches (0.914m) high at center;
 - The ball must be a stage 2 (orange) ball; and
 - Players must use a racket that is no longer than 25 inches (63.5 cm).
- ii. Minimum Age.** Players must be at least 5 years of age to participate in a Net Generation Program that uses Orange Ball Tennis; *however*, it is strongly recommended players do not advance to Orange Ball before the age of 7.
- iii. Round Robin Draw Size.** Players will be grouped into round robins of 3, 4, or 5 players. Groups of 2 players and groups of 6 or more players are not permitted.

iv. Match Format. No Ad Scoring is recommended, but not required.

a. Groups with 4, or 5 Players. One Short Set to 4 games (no Tiebreak is played; one game is played at 3-games all to determine the winner).

b. Groups with 3 Players. One 6-game set (no Tiebreak is played); one game is played at 5-games all to determine the winner.

See Regulation 6.N. for information on shortening match formats in the event of inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns.

B. Green Ball Junior Circuit Events.

i. Use of Green Ball Tennis. Green Ball Junior Circuit Events use Green Ball Tennis. The USTA defines Green Ball Tennis as follows:

- It is played on a 78-foot court with a net that is be 36 inches (0.914m) high at center;
- The ball must be a stage 1 (green) ball;
- Players must use a racket that is no longer than 27 inches (68.58 cm).

ii. Minimum Age. Only players who are:

- 9 years old; or
- 7 years old and have met the requirements of the Net Generation PlayTracker may play in a Net Generation Program that uses Green Ball Tennis.

iii. Round Robin Draw Size. Players will be grouped into round robins of 3, 4, or 5 players. Groups of 2 players and groups of 6 or more players are not permitted.

iv. Match Format. No Ad Scoring is recommended, but not required.

a. Groups with 5 Players. One Short Set to 4 games (no Tiebreak is played; one game is played at 3-games all to determine the winner).

b. Groups with 4 Players. One 6-game set (no Tiebreak is played); one game is played at 5-games all to determine the winner.

c. Groups with 3 Players. Best of 3 Short Sets with a 7-Point Match Tiebreak played in lieu of a 3rd set. If the score in a Short Set is 3-games all, one additional game is played to determine the winner.

See Regulation 6.N. for information on shortening match formats in the event of inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns.

C. Yellow Ball Junior Circuit Events.

i. Use of Yellow Ball Tennis. Yellow Ball Junior Circuit Events use Yellow Ball Tennis. The ITF Rules of Tennis govern the court, racket, and ball used in Net Generation Program Events that use Yellow Ball Tennis.

ii. Minimum Age. Only players who are 11 years old or who have met the requirements of the Net Generation PlayTracker may play in a Net Generation Program that uses Yellow Ball Tennis.

iii. Round Robin Draw Size. Players will be grouped into round robins of 3, 4, or 5 players. Groups of 2 players and groups of 6 or more players are not permitted.

iv. Match Format. No Ad Scoring is recommended, but not required.

a. Groups with 5 Players. One Short Set to 4 games (no Tiebreak is played; one game is played at 3-games all to determine the winner).

b. Groups with 4 Players. One 6-game set (no Tiebreak is played); one game is played at 5-games all to determine the winner.

c. Groups with 3 Players. Best of 3 Short Sets with a 7-Point Match Tiebreak played in lieu of a 3rd set. If the score in a Short Set is 3-games all, one additional game is played to determine the winner.

See Regulation 6.N. for information on shortening match formats in the event of inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns.

D. Junior Circuit Event Pilots and Sectional Championships. The USTA Local Play and Competition Committee may pilot or authorize for use other formats in USTA Junior Circuit Events. Nothing in these Regulations will prevent USTA NorCal from organizing a USTA Junior Circuit Event that pilots such new formats.

Additionally, USTA NorCal may host a Sectional Championship that deviates from the Event descriptions above and/or other policies set forth in these Regulations, so long as a full description of the Sectional Championship is made available to participants at the time of registration.

6. Rules Applicable to All USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Events.

A. Duration. The duration of Events should last no more than four hours for each player.

B. Ball Usage. Events must start with new balls. The balls may be reused, but should not be used for more than four hours.

C. Coed Events. Boys and girls may be grouped into a coed event if this is needed to accept all players and/or so that players are better grouped by ability.

D. Limited Capacity Events. When entries are limited or the total entries must be divisible by a specific number, players are selected and alternates are ordered based on the time the entry is received, *unless* USTA NorCal has specifically authorized a different selection process for use in a Junior Circuit Event pilot

or Sectional Championship.

- E. Minimum Required Entries.** An Event, and any Round Robin draw in an Event, must have at least 3 players. Regardless of whether there is a draw limit, if the number of entered players cannot be grouped into the required group size(s), not all players that enter will be accepted.
- F. Method of Grouping Players into Round Robins.** Players may be grouped based on ratings, the number of Net Generation PlayTracker points or a visual evaluation. Consideration may also be given to a player's age, physical maturity, or other pertinent information.
- G. Special Requirements for Events with Both Singles and Doubles.** When Junior Circuit Events offer both singles and doubles:
 - Participation in doubles is required;
 - All singles draws will be 4-player round robins; and
 - The four players in each round robin draw will be randomly paired into two doubles teams and will play one doubles match.It is recommended that the doubles match be scheduled before the singles matches.
- H. Latest Start Time Guideline.** No match should start, nor suspended match be resumed:
 - after 8:00 pm in the 18 and 16 divisions; and
 - after 7:00 pm in all younger junior divisions, *except that* no match should start, nor suspended match be resumed after 6:00 pm on a school night.
- I. Publication of Draws with Start Times.** The Event Director will publish all event draws with start times no later than 48 hours before the start of the Event.
- J. Responsibility for Communication About Start Times.**
 - i. Notice of Publication of Draws with Start Times.** The Event Director will notify the participants that the match times are available, but it is the responsibility of the participant to learn their start time.
 - ii. When Published Match Time Changes or Omitted Match Time is Added.** If a published match time is changed, or an omitted match time is added, the Event Director has the sole responsibility of ensuring that the affected players are notified of the new start time.
 - iii. Delays.** If the Event is delayed due to inclement weather or other safety reasons, information must be posted to the Event website. Additionally, it is recommended that the Event Director communicate this information by email and/or text message to all players using the Serve Tennis communication system.
- K. Parent and Player Meeting.** The Event Director will conduct an educational meeting for parents and players before the start of play.

Regulation 5.J. Comment: The parent and player meeting is an important part of the educational process. Meetings held just prior to play are most effective. Meetings can be virtual or in person. Topics such as an orientation on how the event will be run, character development, sportsmanship, Safe Play education and training, how a player progresses through the pathway, upcoming events, and other relevant information may be presented.

- L. USTA NorCal Play Monitors.** USTA-certified officials are not required at Junior Circuit Events; *however*, USTA NorCal Play Monitors are recommended to help facilitate play.
- M. Rest Between Matches.** The Event Director will offer reasonable rest to players between matches which in many cases will be no more than 15 minutes.

Regulation 5.K. Comment: Additional rest should be offered when the length of a match, heat, humidity, total time on court during the day, or other conditions justify more rest. See also Rest Table in USTA Regulations.

- N. Shortening Match Formats.** The Event Director may shorten the match format when in the Event Director's discretion, it is necessary to complete the draw after inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns causes the Event to fall behind its published schedule, *provided* it is a match format permitted in the table below.

Permitted Shorter Match Formats	
Match Format	Permitted Shorter Format(s)*
Best of 3 Short Sets with a 7-point Match Tiebreak played in lieu of a 3rd Set. If the score in a Short Set is 3-games all, one additional game is played to determine the winner.	One 6-game Set (no Tiebreak is played); one game is played at 5-games all to determine the winner.

Permitted Shorter Match Formats	
Match Format	Permitted Shorter Format(s)*
One 6-game Set (no Tiebreak is played); one game is played at 5-games all to determine the winner.	One Short Set to 4 games (no Tiebreak is played; one game is played at 3-games all to determine the winner).
One Short Set to 4 games (no Tiebreak is played; one game is played at 3-games all to determine the winner).	Timed Match of 15 or 20 minutes (Game Format)
Switch to No-Ad Scoring	Permitted Regardless of Format
* Written permission of USTA NorCal Staff is required to shorten the match format beyond what is permitted in this table.	

- O. Penalty for Lateness.** Players are expected to check and comply with all scheduling done by the Event Director. A player is deemed to have arrived when the player checks in at the place designated for checking in and is properly clothed, equipped, and ready to play. The lateness penalty clock starts at the scheduled match time regardless of court availability. When a player or team has not checked in by the scheduled match time, penalties for lateness will be assessed as set forth in Appendix 1.
- P. Point Penalty System and USTA Suspension Point System Not Used.** The Point Penalty System and the USTA Suspension Point System set forth in USTA Regulations is not used in USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Events.
- Q. Singles Sticks and Scoring Devices.** Singles sticks are recommended, but not required on nets during Green and Yellow Ball singles matches. Scoring devices are recommended, but not required on all event courts.
- R. Determining Round Robin Order of Finish.** If the Event Director will be recognizing the winners of each round robin, the player who wins the most matches is the winner. If two or more players are tied, the Event Director will use the Serve Tennis application for breaking ties. If Serve Tennis is unavailable, the Event Director will use these steps in the following order to break ties:
1. The head-to-head win-loss record in matches involving just the tied players.
 2. The player with the highest percentage of sets won of all sets completed.
 3. The head-to-head win-loss record in matches involving the players who remain tied.
 4. The player with the highest percentage of games won of all games completed.
- S. Awards.** Awards will go to at least the 1st place finishers in each Round Robin. Medals are acceptable awards for Junior Circuit Events.
- T. Cancellation of Event Due to Inclement Weather or Safety Reasons.** The Event Director may make the decision to cancel all matches in an individual event or the entire Event, no more than 24 hours prior to the start of the Event when it is believed that inclement weather or health and safety concerns will prevent the Event from taking place. The Event Director is responsible for notifying all registrants about the cancellation and processing refunds per the refund guidelines. The Event Director may coordinate with USTA NorCal to reschedule the Event.
- U. Unfinished Events.** Event Directors may permit players to make up matches for up to two days after the date of the Event.
- V. Payment of Registration Fees and Refunds.**
- i. **Payment of Registration Fees Outside of Serve Tennis System.**
 - a. **Serve Tennis Fee May Not be Charged to Accept Entries Not Paid for in Serve Tennis.**
The Event Director may not collect the Serve Tennis Fee when it selects a player that has not been electronically charged fees in Serve Tennis.
 - b. **Collection of Head Tax for Entries Not Paid for in Serve Tennis.** When a player competes in an Event without making payment in the Serve Tennis system, within 30 days of the completion of the Event, the organizer must pay the Head Tax to USTA NorCal. Failure to pay an outstanding Head Tax invoice may result in the loss of future sanctioned Events or tournaments and/or consideration of future sanctioned Events or tournaments.
 - ii. **Refunds.**
 - a. **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 15 days following the last day of the Event.
 - b. **Circumstances Requiring a Refund.** The circumstances below require a refund. In all other circumstances a refund is not required.
 - (1) **Administrative Error by Event Director.**
 - **Error in Accepting Player Into Event.** When a player is accepted due to an administrative error by the Event Director, 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 an Event Director 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 Registration Fee paid for the Event (entry fee; Head Tax; and Serve Tennis Fee) must be refunded if no match has been played in the Event; or
 - 50% of the entire Registration Fee paid for the Event (entry fee; Head Tax; and Serve Tennis Fee) must be refunded if at least one match has been played in the Event.
- (2) Full Cancellation of Event.** When an Event is cancelled before a match is played, the Event Director may withhold an Administrative Fee of \$1.00 per player to cover expenses that are not recoverable. When making the refund, the player will receive the registration fee paid, net of the Administrative Fee, the Head Tax, and the Serve Tennis Fee.
- (3) Partial Cancellation of Event.** If only one match is played, a player is entitled to a 50% refund that is calculated after deducting from the registration fee, the Head Tax and the Serve Tennis Fee. If a player completes two or more matches no refund is required.
- c. Credits Not Permitted.** The Event Director may not issue a credit for the registration fee in lieu of a refund.

7. Sanctioning of USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Events.

- A. Meaning of Sanctioning.** The sanctioning process for USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Events is intended to aid the public, the player, the sanction holder, and the Event Director. It helps to assure uniformity of the rules of play; it permits results to count in the Net Generation PlayTracker; it encourages an orderly schedule of Events that accommodates; and it fosters the aim of providing the public with tennis of high caliber and ethical standards. Sanctioning pursuant to these USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Regulations indicates that the Event:
- Is an official USTA NorCal-approved Event; and
 - Follows the applicable ITF, USTA and USTA NorCal regulations;
- Notwithstanding the purposes of sanctioning, nothing prohibits any tennis promoter from holding a competition in USTA NorCal without a sanction.
- B. Eligible Applicants.** Only the following may apply: USTA Organization Members and USTA NorCal.
- C. Safe Play.** The Event Director must comply with the requirements of Safe Play, including clearing USTA background screening and successfully completing Safe Play education (referred to as being "Safe Play Approved") prior to submission of a sanction application. The Event Director must be Safe Play Approved on or before the date registration opens through completion of the Event. All Event staff must be Safe Play Certified prior to the start of the Event and through completion of the Event.
- D. Discrimination Not Allowed.** Junior Circuit Event sanctions will be awarded and sanctioned Junior Circuit Events will be conducted without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, or sexual orientation.
- By submitting a sanction application, the applicant agrees that it will not discriminate against any participant because of the participant's race, creed, color, national origin, or sexual orientation. A violation of this provision may result in a refusal to issue any further sanctions for USTA Junior Circuit Events or USTA NorCal tournaments to the applicant.
- E. Sanction Application.** Applications are submitted to USTA NorCal using the USTA Serve Tennis system. An application is not considered submitted until the applicant also submits a duly executed USTA NorCal Sanctioning Agreement (see Regulation 7.G. below). Only a person who is duly authorized by the applicant may submit a sanction for an Event. Only a person authorized who is duly authorized by the applicant in Serve Tennis may be listed as the Event Director.
- F. Annual Sanctioning Agreement Required.** Before consideration of a sanction application, the applicant must have submitted a signed Sanctioning Agreement. The contract will include, but not be limited to, terms that cover the following: Safe Play Approval; facility requirements; insurance; health and safety policies; event website posting requirement(s); conflict of interest disclosure; television, film, and radio rights; collection of participant evaluation data; notice and approval of changes to sanction; tournament cancellation, revocation and probation; indemnification; and, limitation of liability, waiver of right to sue, and arbitration.
- G. Sanction Fee.** No sanction fee will be charged for organizing a USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event.
- H. Head Tax.** As referenced herein, a \$1.00 Head Tax per player will be paid to USTA NorCal.
- I. Application Deadline.** Sanction applications may be submitted on an ongoing basis and must be received no later than 30 days prior to the Event start date; *however*, at its discretion USTA NorCal may waive this 30-day requirement. It is recommended that sanction applications be submitted 45 or more days before the Event start date.
- J. Sanction Approval Process.** Applications for Junior Circuit Events will be approved by the USTA NorCal staff, *except that* when competing bids are submitted for an Event with the same date and divisions, that are in close proximity to one another, the decision on the sanction approval will be made by the USTA NorCal staff in consultation with the chair of Junior Council (and/or such other Committee chair that may assigned with this responsibility by the USTA NorCal President).

An appeal of a denied sanction may be made by applicant pursuant to Regulation 5.E. of the USTA NorCal Tournament Sanctioning Regulations.

Regulation 7.J. Comment: Regulation 5.E. of the USTA NorCal Tournament Sanction Regulations reads as follows:

E. Appeal of Denied Sanction.

- i. Notice of Intent to Appeal.** An applicant whose sanction application is denied may appeal the decision to the USTA NorCal Board by advising USTA NorCal of the intent to appeal within 7 calendar days of the date of the Notice of Preliminary Approvals (see Regulation 5.D.ii.). The intent to appeal may be sent by replying to the email delivering the Notice of Preliminary Approvals.
- ii. Appeal Fee.** The fee for appeal of a sanction is \$100 per appealed sanction application, which fee shall be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- iii. Filing of Appeal.** In order for an appeal to be considered by the USTA NorCal Board, appellant must deliver to USTA NorCal by certified mail, postmarked no later than 10 days after the Notice of Preliminary Approvals, a written reason for the appeal, which must be supported by specific information and/or documentation, and which must include the appeal fee. Appeals are to be sent to: USTA NorCal, Attn: Tournament Appeals, 1920 North Loop Road, Alameda, CA 94502-8018.

For the purpose of appealing a denied sanction for a USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event, the Notice of Preliminary Approvals is the communication sent by USTA NorCal staff informing the applicant the application has not been approved.

- K. Mandatory Participation Waiver Verification Required by Event Director.** At least annually, a Participation Waiver in the form determined by USTA NorCal, must be submitted to USTA NorCal in order for a player to participate in a USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event. Event Directors must verify that each player competing in a USTA NorCal Junior Circuit Event has a current Participation Waiver on file with USTA NorCal before the start of the player's first match.

Appendix 1: Penalties for Lateness

<p>Assessment of Penalties: The Event Director is responsible for assessing penalties for lateness according to the table below, including issuing a default for failure to arrive on time. After considering all relevant circumstances, the Event Director may elect to not assess a penalty, not to assess the full penalty, or not to default a player or to reverse a default for failure to arrive within 15 minutes of the time when the match was scheduled.</p>		
<p>Part 1: Lateness Before Start of Match</p>		
<p>Match Format</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Short Set to 4 Games • One 6-Game Set • Best of 3 Short Sets with 7-Point Match Tiebreak Played in Lieu of 3rd Set 	<p>Timed Matches (Game Format)</p>
<p>If one player or team is late</p>	<p>5 minutes or less: Loss of toss plus 1 game</p>	<p>5 minutes or less: Loss of toss plus 1 game</p>
	<p>5:01 - 10 minutes: Loss of toss plus 2 games</p>	<p>5:01 - 10 minutes: Loss of toss plus 1 game and 2 points</p>
	<p>10:01 - 15 minutes: Loss of toss plus 2 games</p>	<p>10:01 - 15 minutes: Loss of toss plus 2 games</p>
	<p>More than 15 minutes: default</p>	<p>More than 15 minutes: default</p>
	<p>Except for a default, the Referee must not assess more than a 3-game penalty</p>	<p>Except for a default, the Referee must not assess more than a 2-game penalty</p>
<p>Both players or teams equally late up to 15 minutes</p>	<p>No Penalty</p>	
<p>Both players more than 15 minutes late</p>	<p>The Referee may default both players, or the Referee may reinstate the match using the principle in effect when both players are late but arrive at different times.</p>	
<p>Both players late but arrive at different times</p>	<p>In singles, the penalty accrues when the first player arrives. In doubles, the penalty accrues when the first team arrives. Penalize the opponent(s) based on the difference in their arrival times.</p>	
<p>Part 2: Lateness for Resumption of Suspended Match: The same penalties are assessed, except that there is no loss of toss.</p>		