

2025-26 Committee Structure, Volunteers and Liaisons



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

Constitution & Rules Committee
Finance & Budget Review Committee
Grievance Committee
Investment Committee

DIRECT REPORT COMMITTEES

Audit Committee
Human Resources Committee
Nominating Committee
State Presidents Group

ADULT DIVISION

Adult Age Group Tournament Committee
Adult League Committee
Adult Rating-Based & Entry Level Play
Committee
High School, Tennis On Campus & Collegiate
Committee

COMMUNITY TENNIS DIVISION

Adaptive Tennis Committee
Community Development Committee
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee
Parks Committee
Tennis Officials Committee
Wheelchair Tennis Committee

JUNIOR DIVISION

Junior Competition Committee
Junior Play Committee
NJTL Committee
Schools & After School Committee

MARKETING DIVISION

Awards Committee
Marketing & Communications Committee
Tennis Pro Relations Committee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ted Reese - President & CEO

Drew Meyers - Executive Vice President
John Cox - Vice President
Ashley Massengale - Vice President
Jenifer Tucker - Vice President
Carol Alan - Secretary
John Herring - Treasurer
Sara Barnett - Director at Large
Ernie James - Director at Large
Eric Schmook - Director at Large
Brett Schwartz - USTA Delegate

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

Constitution & Rules Committee

The USTA Southern Constitution & Rules Committee is responsible for: 1) Safekeeping of the original Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and all amendments, changes and deletions thereof; 2) Reviewing the Constitution, Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of each State Association; 3) Reviewing the form of proposed new provisions or amendments to the USTA Southern Constitution, Bylaws and Regulations to reduce ambiguity, promote clarity and keep all provisions of the same in conformity with each other and insure proper conformity with the USTA Constitution and Bylaws; 4) Providing advice to the Board of Directors on matters concerning the Committee's areas of responsibility.

Cindy Presto - Chair

Linda Paige - Vice Chair
Sara Barnett - Board Liaison
Annette Butler
Robert Peiffer
Carolyn Roach

Finance & Budget Review Committee

The USTA Southern Finance & Budget Review Committee is responsible for preparing the annual proposed budgets for the Board of Directors.

John Herring - Chair

Jay Boyd - Vice Chair
Matt Olson - Staff Liaison
Russell Dendy - ED Liaison
Mark Botsch
Donna Gast
Drew Meyers
Ted Reese
RC Scheinler
Eric Schmook

Grievance Committee

The USTA Southern Grievance Committee is responsible for duties set forth in the USTA Southern By-laws and Grievance Procedures, including enforcement of the Standards of Conduct and the USTA Southern Rules and Regulations and investigation of all program-related complaints. All grievance actions arising out of USTA Adult League or USTA Southern Adult League Programs will be administered according to appropriate League Regulations.

Bruce Kingsdorf - Chair

Mike Terrell - Vice Chair
Drew Meyers - Board Liaison
Maria Cercone - Staff Liaison
Donald Bradley
Jimmie Coins
Deborah Foster-Smith

Investment Committee

The USTA Southern Investment Committee is responsible for overseeing the investments of the Association and for making recommendations to the Board of Directors on related financial matters.

Mark Dillon - Chair

Dom Masciantonio - Vice Chair
John Herring - Board Liaison
Matt Olson - Staff Liaison
Emily Becker
Terry Bunnell
James McKissick

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

DIRECT REPORT COMMITTEES

Audit Committee

The USTA Southern Audit Committee is responsible for assisting the Board of Directors in its oversight of financial statements of the Association. It oversees the engagement of the independent auditors to assure association compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. The committee recommends policy standards for, and is involved in, risk assessment and risk management.

John Herring - Chair

Ashley Massengale
Drew Meyers
Ted Reese

Human Resources Committee

The USTA Southern Human Resources Committee is responsible for oversight of personnel and compensation matters of the Association and recommends actions to the Board of Directors for approval and implementation.

Drew Meyers - Chair

John Herring
Ashley Massengale
Ted Reese

Legal Advisor

The USTA Southern Legal Counsel advises the Association on all legal matters.

Cheri Grosvenor

Nominating Committee

The USTA Southern Nominating Committee nominates future officers of the Association. Composition and responsibilities are specified in the USTA Southern Bylaws.

Brett Schwartz - Chair

Jorge Andrew
Mark Botsch
Donna Gast
Rainey Johns

State Presidents Group

The USTA Southern State Presidents Group provides a forum for State Association Presidents to discuss issues of common interest and develop recommendations for the USTA Southern Board of Directors to enhance the overall operations of the Section and State Associations.

RC Scheinler - Kentucky - Chair

Kim Coston - North Carolina
Michelle Fields - Georgia
David Kimball - Mississippi
Joel Mulkin - Alabama
Linda Paige - South Carolina
Kathryn Ruckstuhl - Louisiana
Kami Tucker - Arkansas
Carol Winn - Tennessee

ADULT DIVISION

Adult Age Group Tournament Committee

The USTA Southern Adult Age Group Tournament Committee is responsible for: 1) Supporting the promotion and growth of adult and senior age-division tournament participation throughout USTA Southern including the use of traditional and innovative formats; 2) Studying all adult age-division tournament activities and making recommendations on all policies relating to adult age-division competitive tournament tennis; 3) Soliciting sites for USTA and USTA Southern Adult Age-division Championships, including The Callen Cup and recommending to the USTA Southern Board of Directors the appropriate tournament sanction levels and schedules; 4) Assigning captains annually to coordinate Intersectional team play and logistics; 5) Determining enhancements for USTA Southern age-division L4 events; 6) Creating avenues to recognize accomplished adult tournament age-division players in the South.

Brenda Carter - Chair

Joe Rasgado Jr. - Vice Chair
Drew Meyers - Board Liaison
Adam Dalton - Staff Liaison
Jennifer Gregg - ED Liaison
Roy Barth
John Chesworth
Brad Sceney
Ged Schwing

Adult League Committee

The USTA Southern Adult League Committee is responsible for: 1) Promote the USTA Adult League program, focusing on opportunities for growth by retaining existing players and attracting new players; 2) Secure host sites for Southern League Championships and staff and run successful Championships (Committee members agree to attend one Adult League Committee meeting outside of January, work at least one Sectional Championship per year and serve on at least one subcommittee); 3) Review and modify current/proposed League regulations/procedures for compliance and consistency and to uphold the integrity and quality of the League program; 4) Administer League programs in accordance with regulations and procedures and fulfill regulatory requirements and responsibilities (including grievances, grievance appeals, self-rate appeals and medical appeals).

Nan Smith - Chair

Elizabeth Walker - Vice Chair
Jenifer Tucker - Board Liaison
Chris Walling - Staff Liaison
Deanna Garretson - ED Liaison
Danielle Broadstreet
Carla Catalano
Megan Cooper
Dustin Ingram
Lacey Mitchell
Paul Narula
Kim Raley
Whit Rayner
Sean Vergara

Adult Rating-Based & Entry Level Play Committee

The USTA Southern Adult Rating-Based & Entry Level Committee is responsible for: 1) Supporting the promotion and growth of adult and senior NTRP and WTN tournament participation throughout USTA Southern including the use of traditional and innovative formats; 2) Studying all adult rating-based tournament activities and making recommendations on all policies relating to adult ratings-based competitive tournament tennis; 3) Creating avenues to recognize accomplished adult rating-based tournament players in the South; 4) Soliciting sites for USTA Southern NTRP and WTN Adult Championships; 5) Researching and promoting entry level and learn to play programs to attract more players and provide a variety of opportunities to play.

Chaney Mills - Chair

Cheryl Thompson - Vice Chair
Eric Schmook - Board Liaison
Adam Dalton - Staff Liaison
Deanna Garretson - ED Liaison
Katie Boykin
Jennifer Milton
Olivia Spencer
Robert Washington

High School, Tennis On Campus & Collegiate Committee

The USTA Southern Collegiate, Tennis On Campus & High School Committee is responsible for: 1) Overseeing campus recreation programs, including intramurals and tennis clubs; 2) Finding innovative marketing strategies to promote the Tennis On Campus program to players at colleges and universities; 3) Aligning college players with community efforts to encourage all ages to play tennis; 4) Scheduling and organizing the Tennis On Campus Southern Championship; 5) Helping to promote high school team tennis and provide a pathway for high school players to stay in the game from juniors to adults; 6) Work to strengthen the relationship between the USTA Southern Collegiate, Tennis On Campus & High School Committee and campus recreation professionals at colleges and universities; 7) Promote the opportunities for Collegiate hubs; 8) Collaborate with Varsity teams for growth, promotion and integration with high school and college age players.

Debbie Southern - Chair

Shelby Akin - Vice Chair
Carol Alan - Board Liaison
Devin Crotzer - Staff Liaison
Kelly Gaines - ED Liaison
Ashleigh Antal
Jay Atwill
Mark Barrow
John Hankinson
Christy Herring
Lane Hinson
John Kim
Charles Matthews
Bill Oakes
Amy O'Connell
Brooke Turner

COMMUNITY TENNIS DIVISION

Adaptive Tennis Committee

The USTA Southern Adaptive Tennis Committee serves the mission to provide all populations including those with intellectual and/or physical disabilities the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the game of tennis. The goal is to promote and develop recreational tennis opportunities for individuals through inclusion and support by providing programming, equipment and teaching techniques. This Committee will also facilitate the grant process while working in concert with the Southern Tennis Foundation.

Jim Hamm - Chair

Jessie Taliaferro – Vice Chair
John Cox – Board Liaison
Bill Phillips – ED Liaison
Amy Franklin
Marcy Hirshberg
Toni Jackson
Melinda Leftwich
Susan Sullivan
Lou Welch

Community Development Committee

The USTA Southern Community Development Committee is responsible for: 1) The promotion and development of USTA Southern Community Tennis Associations and related services (education of local leaders and networking); 2) Providing advice, service and guidance to states and communities in relation to advocacy, facility development, grants and parks; 3) Collaborate with the Schools & After School and Parks Committees; 4) Provide guidance on CGPG funding.

Holly Haney - Chair

Karen Newman - Vice Chair
Sara Barnett - Board Liaison
Andrew Feldman - Staff Liaison
Jerrie Burns - ED Liaison
Alfie Cheng
Michelle Fields
Heidi Hulon
Kathryn Ruckstuhl
Malinda Warren
JD Weber

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

The USTA Southern Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee is responsible for: 1) Growing the game through support and engagement with State and CTA boards, committees and their staffs with strategic DE&I initiatives such as: increasing representation of emerging market populations on boards, committees and staff to attract and retain USTA members and players from those populations; building effective, self-sustaining State and CTA DE&I Committees; 2) Working with other USTA Southern Committees to develop program awareness, new initiatives and program continuity, which will substantially grow emerging market population participation in all USTA Southern programs and activities; 3) Special emphasis on Hispanic engagement and the millennial population.

Nomi Cosby - Chair

Dan Santorum - Vice Chair
Jenifer Tucker - Board Liaison
Cee Jai Jones - Staff Liaison
Jennifer Gregg - ED Liaison
Christopher Adams
Leony Barroso
Beth Beam
Adrienne Charleston
Gerard Dash
Calvin Davis
J. E. DuBois
Sonya Harward
David Marquina
Kimberly Salama

Parks Committee

The USTA Southern Parks Committee is responsible for: 1) Promotion and development of strategies to increase tennis participation & integration of USTA programs in public parks; 2) Strategies to recruit new tennis professionals, trained instructors and volunteers with tennis experience to assist in public parks; 3) Promotion and administration of the Parks and Recreation State Conference initiative and grants; 4) Promotion and administration of grants designed specifically for public parks.

Laura Weygandt - Chair

Rainey Johns - Vice Chair
Eric Schmook - Board Liaison
Issac Pearlstone - Staff Liaison
Bill Phillips - ED Liaison
Jeff Joyce
David Kimball
Scott Laakso
Scott Novak
Linda Swope
Kami Tucker

COMMUNITY TENNIS DIVISION

Tennis Officials Committee

The USTA Southern Tennis Officials Committee is responsible for: 1) Soliciting prospective umpires and referees; 2) Teaching, training and developing umpires and referees through online courses and in-person workshops; 3) Recommending qualified directors/referees that can give assistance to tournaments upon request; 4) Developing materials and information that might be helpful to tournament directors relating to tournament draws, scheduling and other related areas.

Donna Mille - Chair

Thomas Massey - Vice Chair
Ernie James - Board Liaison
Adam Dalton - Staff Liaison
Darren Potkey - ED Liaison
Jonetta Bonds
Cookie Guarini
Julie Kozyreva
Kenny Martin

Wheelchair Tennis Committee

The USTA Southern Wheelchair Tennis Committee promotes wheelchair tennis by 1) Supporting clinics, camps, instructional programs, tournaments and collegiate wheelchair tennis; 2) Assisting with coordinating the USTA Southern Wheelchair Tennis Tournaments; 3) Facilitating the grant process while working in concert with the Southern Tennis Foundation.

Jennifer Edmonson - Chair

Helen Leonard - Vice Chair
John Cox - Board Liaison
Francie Barragan - Staff Liaison
Jerrie Burns - ED Liaison
Avery Camp
Greg Edwards
Yasmine Osborn
Rob Popelka
Amy Saffell

JUNIOR DIVISION

Junior Competition Committee

The USTA Southern Junior Competition Committee is responsible for: 1) Studying all junior Ranked & Grand Prix tournament activities and making recommendations on all policies and programs relating to this area of junior tennis; 2) Developing uniform guidelines for the ranking of junior players; 3) Coordination of special events relating to Ranked & Grand Prix junior tennis; 4) Organization of USTA Southern Junior Intersectional Teams and Southern Ozaki Junior Cup Championships; 5) Managing the Junior waiver program; 6) Solicitation of sites for USTA and USTA Southern Junior Championships; 7) Communicating & promoting collegiate varsity & TOC play opportunities to juniors.

Chris Stearns - Chair

Matt Cozad - Vice Chair
Eric Schmook - Board Liaison
Maria Cercone - Staff Liaison
Kelly Gaines - ED Liaison
Jonathan Barth
Sean Ferreira
Eddie Jacques
Shahbaz Munawar
Melanie Oudin
Walker Sahag
Robert Sasseville
Noel Wadawu

Junior Play Committee

The USTA Southern Junior Play Committee is responsible for: 1) Promotion and growth efforts of Junior entry level, learn to play, programs, non-ranked individual (not including Grand Prix) & league play including JTT, Junior Circuits and Team Challenges; 2) Review and approval of regulations; 3) Selection of championship sites; 4) Review and approval of grant applications for these programs.

Bill Reynolds - Chair

Karen Fralick - Vice Chair
Ashley Massengale - Board Liaison
Adam Dalton - Staff Liaison
Russell Dendy - ED Liaison
David Bell
Christian Burns
Chris Canter
Janice Crawford
Oscar Deleon
Brenton James
Sam Kennedy
Cheri Kohan

NJTL Committee

The USTA Southern NJTL Committee is responsible for serving as a resource to the network of NJTL chapters and programs by supporting efforts to provide a pathway aimed at growing the number of tennis, life skills and educational opportunities for underserved youth. Special emphasis is placed on the USTA Foundation NJTL Essay Contest, the ACE (Academic Creative Engagement) Curriculum and the Regional Leadership Camp. This Committee will also facilitate the grant process while working in concert with the Southern Tennis Foundation.

Rudy Lewis - Chair

Anna Monhartova - Vice Chair
Carol Alan - Board Liaison
Jean Marie Simon - Staff Liaison
Michael Chamberlain - ED Liaison
LaShekia Barker
Jane Gamble
Lance Hickman
Birlette Jelks
Katrina Pinkney

Schools & After School Committee

The USTA Southern Schools & After School Committee is responsible for: 1) The promotion and development of strategies aimed at increasing tennis in physical education classes and after school programs, including elementary and middle school tennis; 2) Collaboration with the Community Development & Parks Committees.

Paul Pittman - Chair

Kim Coston - Vice Chair
Ashley Massengale - Board Liaison
Isaac Pearlstone - Staff Liaison
Jason Miller - ED Liaison
Adam Buescher
Amber Conoly
Mike Eden
Sami Nesbitt
Vanita Phinisey

MARKETING DIVISION

Awards Committee

The USTA Southern Awards Committee is responsible for: 1) Developing and administering an awards selection procedure and ceremony that will honor individuals and organizations that significantly contribute to and serve the game of tennis in USTA Southern; 2) Collaborate with the Marketing & Public Relations Committee to identify ways to promote award winners in local communities through public relations avenues; 3) Administer selection process of award winners in early October; 4) Help with set up of the awards ceremony which is held at the USTA Southern Annual Meeting; 5) Attend ceremony to support and congratulate award winners.

Shannon Rowe - Chair

Tom Ruth - Vice Chair
Carol Alan - Board Liaison
Andrew Feldman - Staff Liaison
Darren Potkey - ED Liaison
Jay Boyd
Anna Martin
Lesley Stephens
Roger Winstead

Marketing & Communications Committee

The USTA Southern Marketing & Communications Committee is responsible for: 1) Ensuring the marketing and communications efforts are aligned with the strategic direction and mission of USTA Southern; 2) Collaborating with all committees to ensure consistency in branding and messaging within the overall strategy of the Association; 3) Aiding in the targeting of prospective of sponsors; 4) Developing plans to maximize the promotion and growth of tennis and its programming in USTA Southern; 5) Providing content and information through print, digital and social media channels to enhance the player/provider experience for existing and new players/providers; 6) Identifying within USTA Southern and its States, any partnership opportunities through traditional and non-traditional avenues for the purpose of building awareness and advocating for the diversity, equality and inclusiveness of the sport; 7) Coordinating all matters relating to public relations for USTA and USTA Southern initiatives; 8) Providing marketing and public relations support and guidance to States and organizations committed to growing the sport by reaching specific audiences and their defining needs and interests; 9) Assisting in enhancing and promoting the website, podcast and social media efforts of USTA Southern aimed at capturing the attention of and informing current and new players; 10) Supporting the Southern Tennis Foundation marketing efforts as needed; 11) Serving as an advisory group.

Dru Michaels - Chair

Beth Bush - Vice Chair
Ernie James - Board Liaison
Tracy McEvoy - Staff Liaison
Jason Miller - ED Liaison
Celeste Blinston
Erin Conigliaro
Larry Isch
Ellen Li
Eleanora Mauritson
Diya Ramchandani
RC Scheinler

Tennis Pro Relations Committee

The USTA Southern Tennis Pro Relations Committee is responsible for maximizing the coordination and communication with Southern professionals and instructors to aid in their delivery of tennis and serve as a conduit through which special information concerning USTA programs may be communicated to the general tennis professional community. The committee provides a medium for debate of new ideas and concepts which may advance the mission of USTA Southern and the sport of tennis including healthy discussion between and recruitment of certified & non-certified pros & instructors who reside in USTA Southern.

Bo Gard - Chair

Stewart Atkins - Vice Chair
Brett Schwartz - Board Liaison
Bill Dopp - Staff Liaison
Michael Chamberlain - ED Liaison
Jorge Andrew
Sam Jackson
Calvin Kemp
Nathaniel Pinkney
Michael Schaff
Steve Zalinski

TASK FORCE

Advocacy Task Force

Paul Pittmann – Chair

John Herring
Rainey Johns
Ashley Massengale
Scott Novak