

2026 Sanctioning Procedures Letter to All Current and Prospective Level 2 and 3 Championships

Due to an agreement between the USTA and the ITF, the USTA can only sanction a certain number of Level 2 and Level 3 Tournaments. Naturally, the ITF expects them to be better and larger (more player amenities) tournaments, worthy of ITF points. The ITF also encourages having men's and women's events at the same tournament.

Therefore, for the 2026 sanctioning process, the following will apply:

Level 2 Tournaments with ITF Level 2 sanction or without any ITF sanction should have a minimum of 225 total participants to keep that status.

Level 2 Tournaments with ITF Level 3 sanction should have a minimum of 125 total participants to keep that status. They should also have men's and women's divisions.

Level 3 Tournaments with no ITF sanction should have a minimum of 100 total participants to keep that status. status.

Exceptions: Doubles only Level 2 and 3 tournaments are exempt from these requirements, as are indoors and grass court tournaments.

Starting in 2026, the Subcommittee will prioritize requests to become a Level 3 tournament from Level 4 tournaments that reach 125 total participants, or current tournaments in "underserved" areas.

Unlike Level 2 tournaments where all events, except stand alone Open divisions and Family divisions, must be ITF sanctioned, not all Level 3 tournaments qualify to be ITF sanctioned. This decision is made yearly by the Subcommittee, since the ITF allows the USTA only 12 Level 3 sanctions.

Best to all,

Joaquim "Joe" Rasgado

USTA Adult Competition Committee Chair

Michael Bumgarner

Manager, Adult Tournament

