

# 2026 NTRP National Championships Selection Criteria

## Selection

- USTA Sections are given a “quota” which is a certain number of spots per division (i.e. 18+ 3.5 Women’s Doubles, 40+ 4.0 Men’s Singles, etc) which can represent their Section at the NTRP National Championships. These quota spots are determined based on the approximate percentage of NTRP Tournament participation compared to the whole country with sections having no fewer than 1 quota spot and no more than 4 quota spots. Sections can choose one of two options for selecting their player: Automatic Qualifier (AQ) or National Standings List (NSL). Sections may also have additional criteria they require for selection. See below for the breakdown by Section as well as any additional criteria sections may have:

Section	Quota Spots	AQ or NSL?	Additional Criteria
Caribbean	1	AQ (1)	N/A
Eastern	2	NSL (2) Except what is listed in next column is 1 AQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eastern Resident*</li> <li>• Must be in good standing with Eastern</li> <li>• Played in at least 1 in section NTRP in 12 months prior to NTRP National entry close date</li> <li>• The following is 1 AQ:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 40 &amp; Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Women (<i>Singles + Doubles</i>)</li> <li>○ 40 &amp; Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Men (<i>Singles + Doubles</i>)</li> <li>○ 18 &amp; Over 2.5 and 55 &amp; Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Women (<i>Singles + Doubles</i>)</li> <li>○ 18 &amp; Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0 Mixed</li> <li>○ 55 &amp; Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Men (<i>Singles + Doubles</i>)</li> <li>○ If no AQ available then use NSL</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Florida	2	AQ (2)	N/A
Hawaii	1	NSL (1)	Hawaii Pacific residency*
Intermountain	3	NSL (3)	N/A
Mid-Atlantic	1	NSL (1)	N/A
Middle States	1	AQ (1)	Must Be Middle States residents in good standing, players will advance from the Sectional Qualifier

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			Tournament (s) (January). If any event is not contested players must have played in at least two Sectional tournaments and be listed in the section top 10 on the SSL (Sectional Standings List). All players will advance at the discretion of the Section.
Midwest	2	AQ (1), NSL (1)	Must be in good standing with the Midwest
Missouri Valley	1	NSL (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be Missouri Valley resident*</li> <li>• Must play in at least one L4 Missouri Valley Adult Tournament</li> </ul>
New England	1	NSL (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be New England resident*</li> <li>• Played in at least 1 in section NTRP in 12 months prior to NTRP National entry close date</li> <li>• Must be in good standing in New England</li> </ul>
Northern	1	NSL (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Played in at least 1 in section NTRP in 12 months prior to NTRP National entry close date</li> <li>• Must be in good standing in Northern</li> </ul>
Northern California	2	AQ (1) NSL (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The player needs to be a NorCal resident</li> <li>• Players must have played at least one (1) tournament in the NorCal section in the respective division within the 52-week rolling period</li> </ul>
Pacific Northwest	2	AQ (1) NSL (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be a USTA PNW resident*</li> <li>• Must be in good standing with PNW</li> </ul>
Southern	4	NSL (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must play at least one NTRP Tournament in Southern Section</li> <li>• Must be a USTA Southern resident</li> </ul>
Southern California	3	AQ (1), NSL (2)	N/A
Southwest	2	NSL (2)	N/A
Texas	3	NSL (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USTA Texas Resident*</li> <li>• Must be in good standing with USTA Texas</li> <li>• Player must have played 50% or more of the registrant's total tournament play in the past 12 months</li> </ul>

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\*Residency requirements based on USTA Membership or USTA Declaration of Residency

**PLAYERS WHO DO NOT MEET THE NTRP, TOURNAMENT RANKING, OR SECTION CRITERIA WILL NOT BE SELECTED.**

**a. Automatic Qualifier (AQ) Criteria**

- i. Sections may establish specific criteria for qualifying for a Section Automatic Qualifier. See chart on page 1 for additional criteria by section (if any).
- ii. Players may only play at their level or up one level as of the entry close date (players MAY NOT play at their lower level if they were moved up at Year End 2024).
- iii. All AQ players must register for the NTRP National Championships. AQ players who do not register before the entry deadline will be placed on the alternate list per Friend at Court regulations. Entry deadlines are as follows:
  1. 18+ Men's/Women's Singles - February 27, 2026
  2. 40+ Men's/Women's Singles - February 27, 2026
  3. 55+ Men's/Women's Singles - February 27, 2026
  4. 18+ Men's/Women's Doubles - March 6, 2026
  5. 40+ Men's/Women's Doubles - March 6, 2026
  6. 55+ Men's/Women's Doubles - March 6, 2026
  7. 18+ Mixed Doubles - March 15, 2026
- iv. If a division is not offered or does not fill at an AQ, the Section may reschedule the AQ. If the AQ does not happen for a specific division, the quota spot will be selected using the NSL (see Section 1.b). Single players/doubles teams from divisions that do not play any matches in the AQ will not be allowed to be selected using the AQ option.

**b. National Standings List (NSL)**

- i. The last-published NSL prior to the entry deadline will be used for selection of all players who are not selected by AQ.
- ii. Sections may establish specific criteria for being selected off the NSL. See chart on page 1 for additional criteria by section (if any).
- iii. The top registered player from each Section will be selected based on the quota.
- iv. If a player is not on the NSL, but is Computer rated, the player may be selected in order to complete a draw after all players and alternates on the NSL have been selected.

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- v. For doubles the top combined NSL will be selected. For example, if Player A is ranked #1/Player B is Ranked #74 and Player C is ranked #5/Player D is ranked #10 then Player C/D will be selected first because their combined NSL ranking is 15 as opposed to Player A/B which has a combined NSL ranking of 75. For Mixed Doubles, the top combined NSL will also be listed using the NSL from the Men's and Women's Mixed Doubles lists.

## NTRP Rating Qualification

1. Players must have a valid NTRP (C, A, T, or D) at the time of entries closing. Players with a valid Mixed Exclusive (M) rating may use this rating for Mixed Doubles only. Players with a Self (S) rating will not be accepted. If a player with a T or M rating is required to Self Rate to play in USTA League, these players may still register if their T or M rating was valid when they self-rated.
2. Players may only participate at their current level or up one level as of the entry close date.
  - a. AQ - If a player wins an AQ in 2025 and is moved up, they may participate at their new higher level and this player will not count against a Section's quota. This player must register at their current level otherwise they will be considered an alternate.
  - b. NSL - If a player is moved up in 2025 and would have been selected at the lower level based on the last NSL prior to entries closing, then the player may participate at the higher level and this player will not count against a Section's quota. This player must register at their current level otherwise they will be considered an alternate.

## Tournament Ranking Qualification

1. 18+ - Players must be on the last National Standings List before entries close for the division (i.e. 18+ 3.5 Women's Doubles, 40+ 4.0 Men's Singles, etc) they are registering for in order to be selected.
2. 40+/55+ - Players must be on the last National Standings List before entries close for the division they are registering for in order to be selected. If no registered players are listed on the respective NSL the player can be selected as long as the player is on the 18+ list for the 40+/55+ division (i.e. 18+ 3.5 Women's Doubles, 18+ 4.0 Men's Singles, etc) they are applying for.
3. 18+ 5.5, 40+ 5.0, 55+ 5.0 - Players must be on the last National Standings List before entries close for the division they are registering for in order to be selected. If no registered players are listed on the respective NSL the player can be selected as long as the player is on the 18+ list for the 40+/55+ division (i.e. 18+ 3.5

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Women's Doubles, 18+ 4.0 Men's Singles, etc) they are applying for or any Open/Age Division National Standings List.

## **Alternates**

1. Players who meet all NTRP and Tournament Ranking but are not selected due to the Section quota being full will be added to the alternate list for that division and ordered based on NSL. Doubles teams will be ordered based on combined NSL.

**PLAYERS WHO DO NOT MEET THE NTRP, TOURNAMENT RANKING, OR SECTION CRITERIA WILL NOT BE SELECTED.**