

2021 US Open Umpires Selection Guidelines

US Open Officials Selection Committee:

The US Open Officials Selection Committee (“Committee”) is responsible for the selection of all Match Assistants for the US Open. Review Officials and Assistant Referees are not selected by the US Open Officials Selection Committee. The process for selecting Gold and Silver Badge Chair Umpires is stated below.

Committee Members:

Tracy Crossland
Jake Garner, Chief Umpire, US Open
Andrew Walker, Deputy Chief Umpire, US Open

The general selection process for the US Open:

1. A list of all Match Assistants who timely applied to the US Open is considered by the Selection Committee. The following information may be reviewed (listed in no particular order):
 - USTA certification
 - Availability
 - Daily Tournament Needs
 - Gender Balance to be able to service Men’s and Women’s matches equally
 - ITF and Joint Certification badge level
 - Previous positive performance at the US Open
 - Good standing with Official’s National Association, ITF, ATP, WTA, and Grand Slam Board

2. A chart is created that provides the anticipated number of Officials required for each day of the US Open Qualifying Event and Main Draw. This is based on the following information:
 - The Match Schedule Plan (MSP) issued by the Referee Staff of the US Open
 - The projected number of courts used each day
 - The crew configuration needed for the type of matches being played
 - Number of spare Match Assistants needed
 - Number of Chair Umpires required for all matches

3. The Committee meets to make selections for Match Assistants. Applicants who applied after the application deadline are added to the list of Officials not selected to create an “alternates list” should positions become available at a later date.

4. The Committee seeks an overall consensus in order to select a Match Assistant. No one member of the Committee can select or reject a Match Assistant.

The selection process for Chair Umpire positions at the US Open:

The primary, but not exclusive, criteria for Gold Badge and Silver Badge Chair Umpire selections for the US Open (in no particular order):

- Competency on both Men's and Women's singles matches
- Evaluations from the ITF/ATP/WTA
- Grand Slam and ATP/WTA Tour Experience using Electronic Line Calling
- Past performance at the US Open
- Selection of Gold/Silver Badge Chair Umpires will be in accordance with the USTA's Diversity and Inclusion policies
- Feedback provided to the Referee and Chief Umpire by Grand Slam Supervisors and ATP/WTA representatives
- Provisional selections are made by the US Open Chief Umpire and US Open Referee with final approval by the US Open Referee as per the Grand Slam Rulebook

Assignments for the final days of the US Open

1. All Chair Umpire assignments for Qualifying and Main Draw Men's and Women's Singles/Doubles and Mixed Doubles matches (including the final days of the US Open) are determined by the US Open Referee in consultation with the US Open Chief Umpire. Chair Umpire Assignments for Juniors, Wheelchair and Legends events are determined by:
 - Chair Umpire evaluations
 - Overall Chair Umpire experience
 - USTA Pro Circuit Supervisor feedback
 - Level and quantity of events worked during the current year

The US Open Referee, in consultation with the US Open Chief Umpire, is the final authority on all daily assignments, as per the Grand Slam rulebook.

These US Open Officials Selection Guidelines are subject to change at the discretion of the USTA. Any changes will be posted accordingly.

The USTA recognizes diversity as essential to achieving our mission to promote and develop the growth of tennis. We are committed to achieving greater diversity throughout the sport and fostering a tennis environment that is more inclusive.

The USTA does not permit discrimination on the basis of gender, race, or any other prohibited basis in the selection and assignment of Umpires to tournaments and matches.

All qualified Umpires will be afforded equal opportunities to officiate both men's and women's matches. The USTA Officiating Department, where it has the authority to do so, will seek to assign qualified



As of July 1, 2021

Umpires to matches, including late round matches, in numbers approximating their demographic representation (e.g. gender, race) in the qualified pool of applicants available for such matches.