

## 2020 US Open Umpires Selection Guidelines

### **US Open Officials Selection Committee:**

The US Open Officials Selection Committee (“Committee”) is responsible for the selection of all Line Umpires for the US Open. The Committee shall advise the USTA on pre-tournament assignments of Line Umpires. 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:**

Greg Allensworth  
Tracy Crossland  
Jake Garner, Chief Umpire, US Open  
Roberta Kaylie  
Larry Mulligan Gibbs  
Ali Nili  
Sandi Pardon  
Andrew Walker, Deputy Chief Umpire, US Open

### **Consultants to Committee:**

Soeren Friemel, Referee, US Open  
Bill Leong, Senior Director, Diversity and Inclusion, USTA

### **The general selection process for the US Open:**

1. A list of all Line Umpires who timely applied to the US Open is sent to the Selection Committee. The following additional information may be reviewed (listed in no particular order):
  - USTA certification
  - ITF and Joint Certification badge level
  - ATP rating average for the previous two years
  - ATP rating average for the current year which also shows number of evaluations
  - The US Open Chief Umpire (TUMPS) rating that was used for assigning Umpires at the previous year’s US Open. This rating determines a Line Umpire’s assignment each day based on evaluations from the US Open Technical Advisors, feedback from the Chair Umpires, and previous work record.
  - Previous US Open evaluations
  - USTA Pro Circuit Evaluations
  - Work Record as a Line Umpire
  - Good standing with Official’s National Association, ITF, ATP, WTA, and Grand Slam Board

Prior to the Committee meeting, additional information on Line Umpires from the United States may be collected from:

- Section Chairpersons
- US Open Chief Umpire’s Staff

Prior to the Committee meeting, additional information on International Line Umpire applicants will be collected based on:

- Grand Slam work record within the last two Grand Slam cycles
  - Recommendations by the ITF Officiating Department, National Federations, and Chief Umpires from the Australian Open, French Open, and Wimbledon
  - ATP ratings for those who have worked ATP tournaments in the United States
  - Recommendations from selected ITF and ATP Chair Umpires
  - Recommendations from the US Open Chief Umpire's Staff who hold an ITF Chief Umpire certification
2. A chart is created that provides the anticipated number of Officials required for each day of the US Open 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 Line Umpires needed
    - Number of Chair Umpires required for all matches
  3. The Committee meets in April/May to make selections for Line Umpires. 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 Line Umpire. No one member of the Committee can select or reject a Line Umpire.

**Initial assignments of selected Line Umpires:**

1. During the assignment process in June/July, provisional assignments for the US Open are determined by ratings from the previous year's US Open and recent USTA and ATP evaluations/ratings.
2. Provisional assignments for all Line Umpires are submitted to the US Open Referee for final approval as per the Grand Slam Rulebook.

**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. Daily Line Umpire assignments for the final days of the US Open are based on that year's US Open Line Umpire evaluations Open from:
  - Chair Umpire evaluations
  - Hawk-Eye evaluation information
  - US Open Chief Umpire's Staff

There is no guarantee that any individual Line Umpire (either previously assigned or extended) will be assigned to any match in Arthur Ashe Stadium.

2. All Chair Umpire assignments for Qualifying and Main Draw Men's and Women's Singles/Doubles are determined by the US Open Referee in consultation with the US Open Chief Umpire. Chair Umpire Assignments for Wheelchair 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.*

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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 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.