

**USTA LEAGUE TENNIS
INTERMOUNTAIN TENNIS ASSOCIATION
2009 REGULATIONS**

18. Applicability

This Regulation establishes the administrative structure, procedures and rules under which USTA League Tennis competition is conducted within the Section, including those for wheelchair play. All USTA League regulations as stated in the USTA League Tennis Regulations shall apply except as modified herein.

The Rules of Tennis and Tournament Regulations shall apply to all matches played in the Intermountain Tennis Association (ITA) League Tennis Program except as modified herein. All matches played without officials shall observe the USTA official publication THE CODE. The USTA Point Penalty System shall be used at all championship levels and is recommended for local league.

A. Section Adult Recreation and Competition Committee

The Section Adult Recreation and Competition Committee shall consist of a Chairman, appointed by the ITA President, and committee members, which includes a District League Coordinator that is recommended by the Chairman, and approved by the ITA President

B. Section League Coordinator

The Executive Director shall, with the approval of the President, hire a Section League Coordinator to implement and administer the USTA League Tennis Program. The Section League Coordinator shall be responsible for: promoting league activity throughout the Section at all levels of play; building and maintaining a strong and competitive USTA League Tennis Program which is in compliance with all USTA guidelines and regulations; communicating with the Section Adult Recreation and Competition Committee, District League Coordinators and District NTRP Oversight Group regarding USTA League Tennis matters; assisting Districts with local leagues; conducting the USTA League Tennis Section Championships; representing the Section to the USTA regarding league matters; reporting to the ITA at its Annual Meeting; engaging in additional activities at the direction of the Executive Director; and performing other duties specified elsewhere in this Standing Order.

C. District and Local League Coordinators

Districts may, with the approval of the Section League Coordinator, designate District and Local League Coordinators, who may be either District employees or volunteers, to implement and administer the USTA League Tennis Program.

D. Local/District League Competition

1) Eligibility

a) USTA Membership

All individuals who compete in the USTA League Tennis Program must be current members in good standing for the local league season as defined by the District. Any individual who progresses to championship level in the USTA League Tennis Program must be a current member through each championship progression.

b) Organizational Membership

Any team which competes in the USTA League Tennis Program in the Intermountain Section must be affiliated with a club or organization of the USTA in good standing. An independent team may itself become a member organization for this purpose.

2) Reporting of District Participation

District League Coordinators must review a report of player participation in their District showing numbers of teams and numbers of players at each level for men and women containing both state totals and breakdowns for geographic areas. This report must be reconciled with the Section League Coordinator.

3) Local League Regulations and Operating Procedures

- a) Each local league shall have a written set of operating procedures that are consistent with and reflective of those set forth in this Standing Order; they may include rules specific to the needs of the league provided that they do not conflict with the USTA League Tennis Regulations or this Standing Order.
- b) Each District League Coordinator shall submit to the Section League Coordinator, for review prior to the start of the league season, copies of all such operating procedures applicable to league competition within his/her District.
- c) The District League Coordinators shall ensure that every player who participates in USTA League Tennis competition is given an opportunity to read all operating procedures, USTA League Regulations and ITA league regulations, which apply to him/her. They shall do so either through direct distribution of said materials to all players or by written provision in those operating procedures requiring each team captain to distribute them to all team members.

E. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

(Refer to ITA Governance Grievance Procedures p.26 -30)

1.)Section League Grievance and Appeal Committees (Self-Rate)

The Section League Coordinator shall appoint a grievance committee consisting of no less than three members, including a chairperson. The committee shall be responsible for grievances in accordance with USTA League Tennis Regulation 2.02E. The Section League Coordinator shall also appoint a League Grievance Appeal Committee, composed of not less than three members including a chair person, to hear appeals of decisions made by the League Grievance Committee. An individual may not simultaneously serve on both committees. All grievances must be filed in writing and forwarded to the Intermountain Tennis Association. In addition, an administration fee of \$25 shall be simultaneously sent to the Intermountain Tennis Association c/o the Section League Coordinator. The fee shall be refunded if the grievance is affirmed.

2) Local and District League Grievance Committee. Each local league may, subject to the approval of the Section League Coordinator, appoint a Local League Grievance Committee consisting of no less than three persons, including a Chair. The Committee shall be responsible for adjudicating grievances. Each District shall, subject to the approval of the Section League Coordinator, appoint a District League Grievance Committee, consisting of no less than three persons, including a Chair, to adjudicate grievances arising at District Championship. The members thereof may be the same as, or different in whole or in part from, the members of the Championship Committee for the District Championship.

3) Local and District League Appeal Committees. Subject to the approval of the Section League Coordinator, each local league may appoint a Local League Appeal Committee consisting of no less than three persons, including a Chair, to consider appeals from rulings of the Local League Grievance Committee. Each district shall, subject to the approval of the Section League Coordinator, appoint a District League Appeal Committee, consisting of no less than three persons, including a Chair, to consider appeals from rulings of the District League Grievance Committee. No member of an appeal committee may be a member of a Grievance Committee.

4) Appeals. An appeal from a decision of a Local League Grievance Committee shall be filed with the Local League Appeal Committee. An appeal from a decision of a District League Grievance Committee shall be filed with the District League Committee through the District league coordinator.

5) Reporting of Grievance and Appeal Proceedings District League Coordinators must file copies of all local and District league

grievance and appeal proceedings with the Section League Coordinator.

F. Section Championships

- 1) Section Championships Committee
The Section Championships shall be directed by the Section Championships Committee consisting of a USTA certified referee or umpire, the ITA Adult Recreation and Competition Committee Chairman and the Section League Coordinator.

- 2) Site Selection
 - a) The Section League Coordinator shall select the site for the Section League Championships and shall ensure that adequate courts, hotel accommodation, banquet facilities and transportation are secured.

 - b) Each year the Section League Coordinator will schedule and conduct a discussion of possible sites for the following year's Section Championships with the Adult Recreation & Competition Committee.

- 3) Conducting the Section Championship(s)
The Section League Championship is conducted by the Section League Coordinator or appointed designee.

- 4) Scoring
For the USTA League Tennis Section Championships (Adult, Senior, Super Senior and Mixed Doubles Division) and the ITA Fall Mixed Doubles Section Championship all matches will be the best of two sets, with regular scoring and a set (formerly 12 Point) tiebreak at 6-all in each set. In the event of split sets, a match tiebreak shall be played in lieu of a third set with no rest period or coaching allowed.

- 5) District League Coordinator Attendance Required
All District League Coordinators must attend the Adult Section Championship to assist the Section League Coordinator in conducting the Championship. The ITA will pay a per diem allowance plus travel and lodging expenses for the District League Coordinators.

- 6) Eligibility
 - a) Each team participating in the Section Championships must have been the champion of the preceding level of competition in its NTRP rating category. However, if, for any reason, that

winning team does not compete in this Championship, the District League Coordinator may designate the second place team to compete in its place. At the Open/5.5 levels of play, districts with only one team may advance that team directly to the Section Championships.

- b) No individual player is eligible to compete for a team participating in the Section Championships unless he/she has met the minimum participation requirements specified.
- c) Each team participating in the Championship must have available and eligible to play a minimum of eight qualified players (five for Open, 5.5, 5.0 and 2.5 teams) who were on the team's final roster. The Section Championships Committee has the authority, by majority vote, to reduce that number to not less than six (three for Open, 5.5, 5.0 and 2.5 teams).
- d) A player who competes in two separate local league seasons at different levels, e.g. a 3.5 winter league and a 4.0 summer league, may advance to this Championship at only one level of play.
- e) Prior to the tournament, each District League Coordinator must forward to the Section League Coordinator the following for each team participating in the Tournament from his/her District:
 - (1) A roster indicating the number of matches required for eligibility for the team and the number of matches played during the local league season by each individual on the roster.
 - (2) The USTA Expiration Dates of all players on the roster.
 - (3) Captain contact information including phone and e-mail address.

7) Team Notice of Intent to Play

Ten days prior to the Section Championships, each team which qualifies to compete in the tournament must notify the District League Coordinator that it will or will not participate in the tournament. District League Coordinator must in turn, notify the Section League Coordinator of teams attending Section Championship. If a team gives notice that it will participate but then fails to do so, penalties may be administered with the maximum penalty being disqualification of all of its members who had agreed to participate from all league play for the following year. The tournament committee named for the event where the violation occurs shall decide upon the penalty. This decision may be appealed to the ITA Grievance Committee.

- 8) Roving Officials
Roving USTA certified referees or umpires, appointed by the Tournament Director, shall be present throughout the Championship to ensure fairness of play and may apply the USTA Point Penalty System and may call foot faults, as may any Tournament official whom they deputize.
- 9) Rain Schedule
The Section Championships Committee may make alternative plans to which it may resort in order to complete the Tournament on schedule in the event that weather or other conditions interfere. Such plans may include set tie-break in lieu of a third set, pro sets and no-ad scoring.
- 10) Section League Championship Grievance Committee
The Section Championships Committee shall appoint a Section League Grievance Committee, which shall adjudicate grievances arising during the Championship. The membership of the Committee may be the same as, or different in whole or in part from, that of the Section Championships Committee.
- 11) Section League Championship Appeal Committee
The Section Championships Committee shall appoint a Section League Appeal Committee, which shall rule on appeals from the Section League Grievance Committee. No member of the Section League Appeal Committee may be a member of the Section League Grievance Committee.

G. NTRP Procedures

1. District NTRP Committees

Each District may appoint a committee to review NTRP issues in leagues district leagues not included in the Dynamic rating and disqualification processes.

2. NTRP Complaints at District and Section League Championships

No complaint against a player's verified NTRP rating may be filed at the championships level. During the championship, computer calculations will be run to produce ratings. Those players that meet the criteria for NTRP disqualification will be disqualified and all matches played will be recorded as forfeits.

3. NTRP Disqualification's

Players may be disqualified from their level of play if they meet the criteria for NTRP disqualification.

4. Effect of NTRP Disqualification

- a) Below the District Championships level (i.e. at the local level), any player that reaches the disqualification level three times shall be disqualified and will not progress to championship level of competition. All previous matches played shall be considered a loss or losses and that individual match or all previous matches shall be considered a win or wins for the opposing player(s) or doubles team(s) season.
- b) Dynamic ratings will be calculated during a Championship (District/Section) event. Points earned by disqualified player(s) will be removed.
- c) In the event of an NTRP disqualification during a Championship event in single elimination competition, the last individual match played by the disqualified player or doubles team shall be considered a loss for that player or team and shall be considered a win for the opponent(s). In the event of such a disqualification during a Championship event in a round robin format, all matches played by the disqualified player or doubles team shall be considered losses for that player or team and shall be considered wins for the opponent(s).
- d) Following such a disqualification, the player may not play at the disqualified NTRP level of play in either singles or doubles for the remainder of the league year and for the succeeding league year.

5. NTRP Observers at District and Section Championships

Verifiers may only be assigned as observers and administrators of the DNTRP system.

H. USTA League Tennis Adult Division

- 1) USTA League Tennis Adult Division competition will comply with all USTA and ITA League Regulations.
- 2) Participation
 - a) The District may authorize participation at more than one NTRP level within a division in the same local league in the same season.

- b) Players who qualify may advance to Section Championships on two teams at different NTRP levels within one division.
Note: No special consideration for match scheduling will be given. It is recommended that you choose a “primary” team.

- I. USTA League Tennis Senior Division

USTA League Tennis Senior Division competition will comply with all USTA and ITA League Regulations.

- 1. Format

A player may play on one team within a division (USTA League Tennis Adult, and Senior) in the same local league during the same season. In local leagues where NTRP levels are divided into flights, players may not play in more than one flight. A player may not play in more than one NTRP level within a division in the same local league during the same season. A player may not play on more than one team within a division in separate local leagues in the same district in the same season. Players advancing to the Section Championship on more than one team must declare which one team they will represent.

- J. USTA League Super Senior Division

USTA League Tennis Super Senior Division competition will comply with all USTA and ITA League regulations.

- 1. Participation

Players who qualify to advance to championships on more than one team may continue through Section Championships on any team on which they are rostered, provided those teams are at different NTRP levels. Players rostered on more than one team advancing to National Championships will be subject to national regulations.

- 2. Progression In order to advance to championship play, a player must have played on that same team at least two matches during local competition. A default received by the player during local competition shall count for advancing.

- 3. Move-Up / Split-Up The Section shall have the right to decide whether a team who competes at championship level must move up a level or disperse to form new teams for the following league year and under what conditions. The Intermountain Section does not require Super Senior Team(s) who compete at championship level to move up or disperse to form new teams.

- K. USTA Mixed Doubles League Tennis

USTA Mixed Doubles League Tennis (spring division) will comply with all USTA and ITA League regulations as outlined in the 5.00 section of the USTA League Regulation book with the following exceptions:

- 1). Levels of play for the USTA Mixed Doubles League will be combined NTRP rating of 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0 and Open.
- 2.) Players participating in both the USTA League Tennis Mixed Division and Fall ITA Mixed Doubles League may advance to the Section Championships on both teams.
- 3.) Teams who win the USTA League Tennis Mixed Division Section Championships will be invited to represent the ITA at a ~~Regional~~ National Championship if one is held.
- 4). A player may play on more than one team within this division in the same local league season provided that the teams are different NTRP levels.
- 5.) Players who qualify to advance to championships on more than one team may continue through Section Championships on any team on which they are rostered, provided those teams are at different NTRP levels. Players rostered on more than one team advancing to National Championships will be subject to national regulations.

L. ITA Fall Mixed Doubles League Tennis

ITA Fall Mixed Doubles League Tennis will comply with all USTA and ITA general regulations as well as those outlined in 5.00 in the USTA League Regulations.

- 1) Levels of play for the ITA Fall Mixed Doubles League will be 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, and 9.5.
- 2) Players participating in both the USTA League Tennis Mixed Division and the ITA Fall Mixed doubles League may advance to the Section Championships on both teams.
- 3) Teams will consist of a minimum of six players. Each player must play at least two local league matches during the local league season in order to qualify to compete with the team in the District League Championships tournament.
- 4) A player may play on more than one team within this division in the same local league season provided that the teams are different NTRP levels.
- 5) Players who qualify to advance to championships on more than one team may continue through Section Championships on any team on which they are rostered, provided those teams are at different NTRP levels.