

For a printable version of the USTA Friend at Court, please visit the USTA/Midwest Section at www.midwest.usta.com and select the Juniors or Adults Tennis navigation. Please note the following regulations are specific to the USTA/Midwest Section. The USTA Friend at Court contains the complete listing of USTA Regulations for tournaments.

I. PRE-TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

A. Applicability of USTA Regulations

See USTA Friend at Court

B. Application for Sanction and Appointment of Tournament Committee

See USTA Friend at Court

C. Tournament Committee

See USTA Friend at Court

D. Tournament Appeals Committee

See USTA Friend at Court

E. Match Formats and Scoring

See USTA Friend at Court

F. Balls and Ball Change Pattern

See USTA Friend at Court

G. Player Eligibility

See USTA Friend at Court

H. Entry Process

See USTA Friend at Court

II. DRAW REGULATIONS

A. Seeding

While there is no requirement that every tournament have seedings, most tournaments of the elimination and compass draw types, as distinguished from round robins, use seedings to ensure that players of recognized outstanding ability do not confront each other in the early rounds. See USTA Friend at Court and USTA/Midwest Section Web Site for Criteria.

B. Making the Draw

See USTA Friend at Court

C. Changes in Draw

See USTA Friend at Court

D. Scheduling Matches

See USTA Friend at Court

III. CONDUCTING THE TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Committee Responsibilities Once Tournament Starts

See USTA Friend at Court

B. Referee Responsibilities After Draw Has Been Made

1. Generally supervise all aspects of play. The Referee (or in the Referee's absence the Deputy Referee) shall be present during play. The Referee exercises general supervision over all aspects of play, including, but not limited to, the conduct and actions of players, coaches, parents, spectators, officials, ballpersons, groundskeepers, and the administrative crew. The Referee shall use judgment in all situations not specifically covered by the ITF Rules of Tennis or USTA Regulations.

2. Schedule matches. The Referee is responsible for scheduling matches and assigning courts (including moving a match in progress to another court at any time). Normally a player's singles match will precede the player's doubles match, but this is not mandatory. A player's request for information as to the scheduled time of the player's first match shall be honored. (See USTA Regulation II.D.6.) The Referee shall not schedule any division to play on more than one surface type, except that the Referee may do so when necessary to complete the tournament on time.

- a. In junior tournaments when evening matches are planned, the younger age groups should be scheduled before the older age groups.

- b. Players may not be required to play more than two singles matches per day in any event in all USTA/Midwest Section sanctioned junior tournaments, except when a tiebreaker is used in lieu of a third set, in which case a player would be allowed to play three (3) singles matches in one day.

- c. Players may participate in more than one age group in the event in the same tournament, if permitted by the tournament committee. If due to rain or other unforeseen circumstances, dual participation results in the delay of the tournament, in the opinion of the Referee, the player may be defaulted from one of the events.

- d. A junior player should not be required to start the days' matches before 8:00 a.m.

- A junior player should be given at least 12 hours of rest between the completion of their last match of any day and the start of play of their first match of the following day;
- In the 10 and Under divisions, no match shall start nor shall a suspended match resume after 9 p.m. *However it is strongly recommended for 10 and Under divisions, no match should start, nor should a suspended match resume after 8:00 p.m.;
- In the 12 and 14 divisions, no match should start nor should a suspended match resume after 9 p.m.; and
- In the 16 and 18 divisions no match should start nor should a suspended match resume after 10 p.m.

(This does not apply to a player who enters more than one singles age division.) See USTA Regulation II.D. For additional information on scheduling matches, refer to the USTA Friend at Court.

IV. PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONDUCT

A. Checking in at Tournament

See USTA Friend at Court

B. Player Responsibilities Under The Code

See USTA Friend at Court

C. Standards of Conduct

See USTA Friend at Court

D. USTA Point Penalty System

POINT PENALTY SYSTEM (PPS) Code Violations and Penalties Tables

See USTA Friend at Court

E. USTA/Midwest Section Suspension Point System

See USTA Friend at Court for USTA Suspension Point System.

- a. Application. The Suspension Point System shall apply to all singles and doubles matches (main draw, consolation, and qualifying) in a District Qualifier for the USTA/Midwest Section Junior Closed Outdoor Championships, USTA/Midwest Section Championships, Designated

Violation	Midwest Suspension Points
i. Point Penalty System. For each violation under the Point Penalty System (USTA Regulation IV.D.) (excluding Time Violations for delay between points, after warm-up, after 90-second changeover, after a Set Break), two points shall be assessed for the following:	
• Point	2
• Game.....	2
• Default.....	2
ii. Defaults. In addition to the suspension points assessed under USTA Regulation III.A.12.b., suspension points shall be assessed for the following:	
• Default for a flagrantly unsportsmanlike act on or off the court	8
• Default for refusal to play or continue to play for any reason other than illness, injury, or personal gency	5
• Default because of an adult decision	5
• Default for no-show	5
• Default due to later arrival for a match	1
• Disqualification for ineligibility.....	3
iii. Withdrawals.	
• Entering two or more tournaments, matches or exhibitions scheduled to take place at the same time, in whole or in part, unless each Tournament Committee involved approves the multiple entries in writing	5
• Withdrawal from a tournament (singles or doubles) after entries have closed for any reason other than injury, illness or personal emergency....	4
iv. Unsportsmanlike conduct.	
• Unsportsmanlike or inappropriate conduct off court at locations such as the tournament site, hotel or housing	5
• Not using best efforts to win	2
v. Gross misconduct.	
• Physical act of violence against another person on or off the court by a player, parent, relative, coach or other person associated with a player ...	10
• Illegal use of drugs or possession of illegal drugs	8
• Possession or consumption of alcohol beverages	8
• Gambling activity (as defined in USTA Regulation IV.C.20)	8
• Destruction of property	8
vi. Playing while under suspension. Competing in any sanctioned tournament while under suspension by the USTA or one of its Sectional Associations.....	10
vii. Suspension points received at international tournaments. Each suspension point assessed a player by the International Tennis Federation at tournaments not on the National Junior Schedule.....	1

requested, the suspension will begin on the day following the ten (10) day period within which the player had the right to appeal.

ii. If an appeal to the USTA/Midwest Section Grievance Committee is requested, and if the Grievance Committee affirms the suspension, then the suspension will begin one day after the date of the decision of the Grievance Committee affirming the suspension. However, the suspension will be stayed if the player timely files an appeal of the decision to the USTA/Midwest Section Board of Directors.

iii. If any appeal from a decision of the USTA/Midwest Section Grievance Committee is made to the USTA/Midwest Section Board of Directors, and if the Board of Directors affirms the suspension, then the suspension will begin on the date of the decision of the USTA/Midwest Section Board of Directors affirming the suspension. All District Associations in the USTA/Midwest Section will also be notified in writing when the suspension becomes effective. The USTA will be notified of the suspension and other Sections may be notified of the suspension.

m. No Suspension Points assessed for withdrawals due to illness, injury, or personal emergency. No suspension points shall be assessed for a default or withdrawal that is due to illness, injury or personal emergency.

n. The USTA/Midwest Section Board of Directors shall adopt such rules as may be appropriate for the implementation of the Suspension Point System.

o. USTA/Midwest Section Recognition of Suspended Players. The USTA/Midwest Section shall maintain a record of suspended players. The sharing of information regarding player suspensions includes, but it is not limited to, tournament directors, tournament referees, tournament committees, districts, sections, and the USTA.

p. USTA/Midwest Section Recognition of a Suspension From Another Section. The USTA/Midwest Section shall recognize a suspension of a player from another section provided that the affected player has exhausted all appeals in connection with the suspension.

F. Defaults and Disqualifications

See USTA Friend at Court

POST-TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

A. Responsibilities of Tournament Committee and Referee After Completion of Tournament

See USTA Friend at Court

B. Grievances

Any official, volunteer, player, or person associated with a player (including, but not limited to, a parent or coach) who observes a violation of USTA Regulations, Tournament Regulations for the USTA/Midwest Section, standards of conduct, fair play, or good sportsmanship in any tournament sanctioned by the USTA/Midwest Section may file a written grievance with the Chairman of the Grievance (or comparable) Committee of the USTA/Midwest Section.

COMPLAINTS MUST BE MADE ON THE OFFICIAL USTA/MIDWEST SECTION GRIEVANCE FORM. THE FORM, AS WELL AS A COPY OF THE USTA/MIDWEST SECTION GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE, MAY BE OBTAINED FROM:

USTA/MIDWEST SECTION GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
1310 EAST 96TH STREET, SUITE 100,
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46240
TELEPHONE: 317-577-5130
WEBSITE: WWW.MIDWEST.USTA.COM

If the grievance involves conduct arising out of any of the following tournaments, the grievance shall be filed with the Chairperson of the USTA Grievance Committee, c/o USTA Executive Director, 70 West Red Oak Lane, White Plains, New York 10604:

- Junior tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule;
- Adult, Senior, and Family tournaments on the National Adult, Senior, and Family Tournament Schedule;
- USTA National Intersectional Team events;
- Category I USTA Wheelchair National Championships, or
- International competitions in which USTA players participate. (See USTA Bylaw 43 for procedures and time frames for the filing of grievances and appeals.)

C. Suspensions by Sectional Associations

A Sectional Association that imposes a suspension from participation in tournaments as the result of a grievance arising out of a sectional matter or as a result of a suspension imposed under its Suspension Point System shall report the suspension to the USTA National office within seven days of the suspension becoming final under the Sectional Association's procedures. If the suspension involves Adult, Senior, Family, or Wheelchair tournaments, the Sectional Association shall forward a copy of the notice of suspension to the USTA National Competitive Play Department. If the suspension involves Junior tournaments, the Sectional Association shall forward a copy of the notice of suspension to the USTA Junior and Collegiate Competition Department. The failure to forward the notice of suspension within seven days after the suspension becomes final shall not invalidate the suspension.

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tournaments, USTA/Midwest Section Level 4 and 5 events for the USTA National Rankings, and USTA National Junior Scheduled events. Suspension points will not be assessed against a player for the action of that player's doubles partner.

b. Suspension Points. Suspension Points will be assessed against a player for the following:

c. Persons authorized to file suspension point reports with the Referee.

The following persons are authorized to file suspension point reports with the referee for offenses they personally witness:

- Tournament Committee members;
- Chief Umpire;
- Deputy Referees;
- on-court officials (including Roving Officials);
- Court Monitors, is specifically authorized by the Referee;
- club or facility managers;
- hotel or dormitory managers
- families housing players; and
- player development staff.

d. Reporting of suspension points assessed. The tournament director or tournament referee of a District Qualifier for the USTA/Midwest Section Junior Closed Outdoor Championships, USTA/Midwest Section Championships, Designated tournaments, USTA/Midwest Section Level 4 and 5 events for the USTA National Rankings, and USTA National Junior Scheduled events shall, within three days after the end of the tournament, promptly submit to the USTA/Midwest Section copies of any USTA/Midwest Section Code of Conduct Reports assessing suspension points against any player.

e. Notice to player and request for reconsideration. The USTA/Midwest Section shall forward a copy of the Code of Conduct Report to each player assessed suspension points and written notice of the player's right to request reconsideration of the assessment by the Officials Committee. This notice shall be sent to the player's parent or guardian, by certified mail, return receipt requested or by any other means capable of providing proof of receipt of the notice. The assessment of the suspension points shall become final unless a written request for reconsideration, is received at the USTA/Midwest Section within ten (10) days after notice of the assessment of suspension points. The player shall state the grounds for rescinding the decision to assess the suspension points.

f. Reconsideration decision. Upon receipt of a timely request for reconsideration, the Officials Committee shall review the decision to assess the suspension points. If the Officials Committee disagrees with the decision to assess the suspension points, the assessment of suspension points shall be rescinded. The USTA/Midwest Section shall notify the player's parent or guardian of the rescission of the decision to assess suspension points. The decision of the Officials Committee to rescind the assessment of suspension points is final and cannot be appealed. If the Officials Committee agrees with the decision to assess the suspension points, the USTA/Midwest Section shall finalize the assessment of the suspension points against the player.

g. Assessing suspension points and notice of right to appeal. After the denial of a player's request for reconsideration, the USTA/Midwest Section shall notify the player's parent or guardian, in writing of the reconsideration decision and that the suspension points will be assessed. The player may appeal the matter to the Grievance Committee of the USTA/Midwest Section. The notice shall be sent to the player's parent or guardian, by certified mail, return receipt requested or by any other means capable of providing proof of receipt of notice. The notice shall also state that the assessment of the suspension points shall become final unless the player's written appeal is received at the USTA/Midwest Section within ten (10) days.

h. Appeal process. After a timely appeal is filed, the Grievance Committee shall hear the appeal in accordance with Article VI, Section 5(d), of the Bylaws of the USTA/Midwest Section and render a decision. The player may submit any additional information concerning the assessment of the suspension

points to the Grievance Committee. The Grievance Committee shall not be bound by the Officials Committee's decision on reconsideration.

The player may appeal the decision of the USTA/Midwest Section Grievance Committee, to the USTA/Midwest Section Board of Directors in accordance with Article VI, Section 5(e) of the Bylaws.

The player's appeal, addressed to the President of the USTA/Midwest Section, must be received at the USTA/Midwest Section within ten (10) days after receipt of the written notice of the decision of the Grievance Committee. The appeal to the Board of Directors shall be accompanied by the filing fee of \$225.00. The filing fee shall be refunded if the player wins the appeal. The decision of the Board of Directors as to the appeal shall be final.

i. Suspension of Player. Any player who receives 10 or more suspension points (the assessment of each has become final) within a 12- month period shall be suspended for 12 consecutive weeks from competing in any USTA sanctioned events. As a consequence of being suspended:

i. If, during the period of a player's suspension, no USTA/Midwest Section Championship or Designated Tournaments are held, the player shall not be eligible to play in the next USTA/Midwest Section Championship or Designated Tournament that is held following the expiration of the suspension period.

ii. During the period of the suspension a player shall not be endorsed, and any prior endorsement shall be withdrawn, to any or all USTA National Championships that require USTA/Midwest Section endorsement and occur during the suspension period.

iii. If no USTA National Championship requiring USTA/Midwest Section endorsement is held during the period of a player's suspension, the player shall not be eligible for endorsement to the next USTA National Championship that is held following the expiration of the suspension period. At the conclusion of the suspension period, 10 suspension points shall be removed from the player's suspension point record. IT SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH PLAYER TO BE AWARE OF THE NUMBER OF SUSPENSION POINTS THE PLAYER HAS ACCUMULATED.

j. Notification of suspension. When the USTA /Midwest Section has verified that a player has accumulated 10 or more suspension points within a 12-month period, it shall notify the player's parent and/or guardian of the suspension. This notice shall be sent to the player's parent and/or guardian by certified mail, return receipt requested or by any other means capable of providing proof of receipt of notice. The notice shall also inform the player of rights to appeal the suspension.

k. Right to appeal suspension. The player may appeal the decision of suspension to the USTA/Midwest Section Grievance Committee only if the appeal, is received at the USTA/Midwest Section within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice of suspension. The player shall not be permitted to raise in the appeal any issue in connection with the suspension decision that the player previously waived or that the player did timely challenge but that was previously decided. The Grievance Committee shall hear the appeal in accordance with Article VI, Section 5(d) of the Bylaws, and shall notify the player in writing of its decision and of the player's further appeal rights. The player may appeal the decision of the USTA/Midwest Section Grievance Committee to the USTA/Midwest Section Board of Directors in accordance with Article VI, Section 5(e) of the Bylaws. The player's appeal, addressed to the President of the USTA/Midwest Section, must be received at the USTA/ Midwest Section office within ten (10) days of the player's receipt of the notice of the decision of the Grievance Committee. Only those issues that were the subject of the appeal before the USTA/Midwest Section Grievance Committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors. The appeal to the Board of Directors shall be accompanied by the filing fee of \$225.00. The filing fee shall be refunded if the player wins the appeal. The decision of the Board of Directors as to the suspension is final.

l. Effective date of suspension:

i. If an appeal to the USTA/Midwest Section Grievance Committee is not