



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS Interpretations - **2017**

*(changes/additions are in red)*

The questions and answers in this document are interpretations or clarifications of the USTA League Regulations. The Sections, District and Local Leagues are required to abide by these interpretations.

If a Section, District or Local League does not have a regulation in place to handle an issue and there is a National Championship regulation on that issue, the Section, District or Local League must follow the Championship regulation.

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**1.00 General**

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| 1/13/00<br>8/4/2016                     | Can a Section or District require play in order of strength?                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | No. A local rule requiring playing in order of strength is in violation of the National Regulations <b>except where required in the 18 &amp; Over 5.0+ and 40 &amp; Over 4.5+ leagues</b> . Any rule dealing with this issue needs to be removed from the Sectional, District, or local rules.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1/29/15                                 | 1.04B(5) states that "At least one member of the Championship Committee shall be in attendance at all times during play." Does this mean that the USTA Certified Referee or Umpire does not have to be at the championship and could be "on call" remotely to govern the event? | No, the intent of the referenced sentence was to allow the committee members to individually leave the site if necessary for meals or other errands as required. In order to govern the event the committee members should be on site at all other times. If the tournament is using multiple sites, the Referee or Umpire may be stationed at one site, but must be available to travel to an alternate site if needed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 8/9/2007<br>Updated<br>2/10/09          | Under what date and time should a match that was interrupted be entered into TennisLink (some positions completed while others were not) by rain or other situations?                                                                                                           | Use the date of the last outstanding individual match to be completed.<br><br>See Regulation: <b>1.04C(2)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>2/5/11             | What is the difference between a Local League Play-off and a District Championship?                                                                                                                                                                                             | Local League Play-Off: Part of Local League competition.<br><br>Any decision regarding whether the play-off is part of the Local League or part of the Championships is not based on where the matches are put into TennisLink since all Play-offs must be set up in the Championship module.<br><br>Flight Play-off in Local League is part of the Local League. Local League Play-offs should be set up in the Championship module. Sections can determine the number of matches required in order to enter the Local League Playoff structure.<br><br>District Championship: any event that occurs between the completion of the Local League Play-offs and the Sectional Championship.<br><br>See Regulations: <b>1.04D(1), 2.01C(1) and 2.03A(1)</b> |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>10/28/08           | Can a Sectional Association increase the minimum number of players necessary to form a team?                                                                                                                                                                                    | No. A Section may not increase the minimum number of players on a team. They may state "minimum of 8, preferred minimum of 10."<br><br>See Regulation: <b>1.04D(5) and table that follows</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1/27/11<br>8/22/13<br>9/23/14           | What happens when a team that has qualified for a National Championship chooses to move up and play at the next higher level. However, at the next higher level there are only two teams participating. Does the 40% rule apply?                                                | The team will be exempt from the 40% rule for the next year ONLY if the majority of the team moves up to the next higher level.<br><br>See Regulations: <b>1.04D(5) and 2.06A</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>1/24/09<br>9/23/14 | If USTA Membership expiration expires during Championships competition, and is not renewed prior to such expiration, will such player become an ineligible player?                                                                                                              | Yes. Note: If it is determined that a player does not have a current USTA membership, the player can and must immediately renew the membership or be disqualified.<br><br>See Regulations: <b>1.04E(2) and 2.03A</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 5/25/00<br>Updated                      | Can a player register and play in an Early Start League if he/she has not reached the                                                                                                                                                                                           | TennisLink will prevent the registration of an age-restricted player (18 & Over, 40 & Over or 55 & Over)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

[illegible]

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| Updated<br>02/04/09                 | qualified at a higher level, can they then elect to participate at the higher level during that same Championship? | See Regulation: 1.04G(6)                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/02/2013<br>1/29/2016<br>8/4/2016 | Is USTA League play permitted on tennis courts with Pickleball lines?                                              | USTA recommends all USTA League matches be played on courts with permanent tennis lines, which includes blended 36' or 60' tennis lines. <b>The final decision to allow play on court with Pickleball lines is up to the Section.</b> |

## 2.00 USTA League Regulations

|                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>2/10/09<br>2/14/12    | What occurs if a player(s) is on the wrong court in an individual team match?                                                                                                                                         | If the discovery occurs before the first game of all matches affected has been completed, players are to go to the correct courts and begin the matches over. If the discovery occurs after the first game is completed, the matches will be completed as started and count as matches played in good faith.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>9/23/03<br>9/23/14    | How should "known defaults" be handled both at the local level and at championships?                                                                                                                                  | In the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play, it is recommended that the opposing team(s) should be advised of a known default. The defaulting captain will still be able to designate at what position (2nd singles or 3rd doubles) a known default will occur.<br><br><b>At a championship if the opponent has turned in their scorecard, they will be allowed to change it if the defaulting team did not advise their opponent in advance.</b><br><br>See Regulations: 2.01C(5) and 2.03F                                                                                                                                             |
| 2/1/07<br>Updated<br>12/16/11              | When a match is postponed following the exchange of line-ups, do the original line-ups stand for the make-up match?                                                                                                   | If the Section speaks to this issue the Section/District rule would be followed.<br>Otherwise, the line-up would stand only for those positions that had already started (first service attempt) their match. All other positions, even those that were in warm-up may be changed including defaulted courts.<br><br>See Regulation: 2.01C(5)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>2/16/09<br>12/16/11   | What happens when two players on a team don't show up that are members of two different doubles teams?                                                                                                                | The Sectional Association or Championship Committee has latitude based on the language found in 2.01C(5) and 2.03F which states except under such further circumstances as the Sectional Association or Championship Committee authorizes. The objective is to avoid additional defaults to the degree possible.<br><br>For example, if the two players came from the number one doubles team and the number three doubles team, these players could play at number one doubles, the number two doubles team could remain the same and the default would occur at the number three doubles position.<br><br>See Regulation: 2.01C(5) and 2.03K |
| 1/23/13<br>10/31/13<br>1/29/16<br>8/4/2016 | If there is just one plus player registered on a 5.0+ team or just one or two players registered on a 4.5+ team and a 5.0 (or 4.5) player is DQ'd what happens to his/her matches? Can the player remain on the team? | <b>If the player has played <u>all</u> of his/her matches at the #1 singles or #1 doubles positions, his/her matches do not have to be reversed.</b> If the player played any matches at the lower positions, all local matches are reversed based on Section option (See 2.04E(1)). For Championship play, Regulation 2.04E(2) applies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Yes. The player can remain on the team.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 10/31/13<br>1/29/16 | If there are already two plus players registered on a 5.0+ team or three plus players on a 4.5+ team, and a 5.0 (or 4.5) player is DQ'd can the team choose which player comes off the roster or does the DQ'd player have to be removed?       | The DQ'd player must be removed unless one of the other plus players is unable to continue play and agrees to be removed. Local matches are reversed based on Section option; see 2.04E(1). For Championship play, Regulation 2.04E(2) applies.                                                               |
| 1/23/13             | Two 5.5 players play in a three line 5.0+ match. (Only one is allowed to play) If one player plays #1 Singles and the other plays #1 Doubles, does that captain get to choose which match becomes the ineligible match? How is it scored in TL? | No, the #1 Singles position must be defaulted.<br><br>Coordinators must use the DQ function in TennisLink so the match counts as a match played for the opponent and the match counts for NTRP calculations. The match of the disqualified 5.5 players should NOT count towards advancement to Championships. |
| 3/28/13             | Are "timed matches" permitted at the Sectional, District, Area or Local Level?                                                                                                                                                                  | "Timed Matches" are compatible with the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System, and thus Sections may authorize such match formats within their section, or may delegate that authority to the Districts, Area, or Local Leagues.                                                                                   |

## 2.02 PROGRESSION

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| 1/13/99<br>Updated<br>9/1/02     | If a Local League or District has only one team in a Division (e.g. Adult, Mixed) can they go directly to the District or Sectional Championships?                                                                                                                                                                           | NO.<br><br>They must play a Local League first. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If there is only one team in each of the Local Leagues, they could play their Local League at the District Championships and the winner advance. Those advancing must meet the minimum requirements.</li> <li>If there is only one team in each of the Districts they could play their Local League at the Sectional Championships and the winner advance. Those advancing must meet the minimum requirements.</li> </ul> See Regulation: 2.02A(1) |
| 1/23/13<br>8/14/2015<br>8/4/2016 | A player plays a local league match and after the match is completed, it is determined that the player is ineligible (e.g. not registered on TennisLink). If the player subsequently becomes eligible, does the match count for advancement purposes for the ineligible player, his/her partner, and the opposing player(s)? | No. The match with the ineligible player should be marked as "DQ and Ineligible". Clicking the DQ box will reverse the match results; clicking the Ineligible box will remove the match played from the ineligible player and his/her partner but will leave it as a match played for their opponents.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

**2.03 AREA, SECTION AND NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

|                                            |                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| 4/10/99<br>Updated<br>12/11/06<br>12/16/11 | What happens if more than the allowed number of players who were on the roster at a National Championship appear on a given roster the next year? | <p>If a team violates USTA League Regulations by submitting a roster with more than the allowable number of players that were on any roster in that Division at a National Championships the previous year, any player, registered beyond the three (2 for 2.5, 5.0) allowed, who has not participated in a match, including defaults received, for the team will first be removed from the roster (last person to register on the team will be first off unless another player agrees to come off.) If the team still does not meet the requirement then the last National Championship individual rostered will be disqualified and all matches played by the player will be considered losses and so on until the three player requirement is reached.</p> <p>If the team roster includes the minimum number of players still eligible to play, the team will be permitted to finish the local season with the adjusted roster.</p> <p>Resulting defaults will count towards eligibility requirements for advancement to Championships below the National level. Actual scores of defaulted matches will be input for the purpose of generating NTRP ratings.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p> |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>2/5/11                | What is the difference between a Local League Play-off and a District Championship?                                                               | <p>Local League Play-Off: Part of Local League competition.</p> <p>Any decision regarding whether the Play-off is part of the Local League or part of the Championships is not based on where the matches are put into TennisLink since all Play-offs must be set up in the Championship module.</p> <p>Flight Play-offs in Local League is part of the Local League. Local League Play-offs should be set up in the Championship module. Sections can determine the number of matches required in order to enter the Local League Play-off structure.</p> <p>District Championship: any event that occurs between the completion of the Local League Play-offs and the Section Championship.</p> <p>See Regulations: 1.04D(1), 2.01C(1) and 2.03A(1)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1/1/98                                     | Does the use of a wild card team in District or Sectional Championships conflict with any USTA League Regulation?                                 | <p>No. In accordance with the guidelines set forth in the League Championships Wild Card Procedures, a Sectional Association may adopt wild card procedures for its District and Sectional Championships.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.03A(1)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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| 7/12/99<br>Updated<br>12/8/99<br>12/16/11 | If a player is winning 4-2 in the first set and then retires, does this count for the person's eligibility to advance and their computer rating?"                  | <p>ADVANCEMENT: The match will count for advancement for all players involved regardless of how many points/games were played.</p> <p>NTRP YEAR-END RATING: No. Defaults or retirements in which neither player(s) wins six or more games are not part of the rating calculation. In the case stated the match would not count as a match played in order to receive a year-end rating.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>1/24/09              | If USTA Membership expiration expires during Championships competition, and is not renewed prior to such expiration, will such player become an ineligible player? | <p>Yes. Note: If it is determined that a player does not have a current USTA membership, the player can and must immediately renew the membership or be disqualified.</p> <p>See Regulations: <i>1.04E(2) and 2.03A</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1/1/02<br>Updated<br>11/15/05             | How many matches may a team play per day during Championship?                                                                                                      | <p>Championships using best of three tie-break sets with a match tie-break in lieu of a third set may schedule no more than three matches per day per team. A minimum of 30 minutes rest will be provided between matches. If weather or unforeseen circumstances impact the completion of the event, the Tournament Committee may use shortened formats and require more matches. If a team/player enters more than one Division or event then these limitations shall apply separately to each. No consideration shall be given by the tournament staff in scheduling matches.</p> <p>See: <i>FAC Table 9</i></p> |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>1/1/04               | In the event that a tournament uses two different scoring methods and a tie develops, how does the Championships Committee break the tie?                          | <p>TennisLink will only accept one scoring method during a Championship event. In the event the Championship Committee alters the format from regular scoring to a pro-set or other acceptable format so there is a combination of the two scoring methods and a tie develops, all matches will be converted to best of 2 or 3 tie-break sets using the Conversion Chart Procedures provided by the National office. The converted scores as published in TennisLink will be the official score and tie-break process.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03C</i></p>                                                      |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>9/23/03<br>8/4/2016  | How should "known defaults" be handled both at the local level and at Championships?                                                                               | <p>In the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play, the opposing team(s) should be advised of a known default. The defaulting captain will still be able to designate at what position (2nd singles or 3rd doubles) a known default will occur.</p> <p><b>At a championship if the opponent has turned in their scorecard , they will be allowed to change it if the defaulting team did not advise their opponent in advance.</b></p> <p>See Regulations: <i>2.01C(5) and 2.03F</i></p>                                                                                                                          |

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| 8/4/2016                                                                    | Can a section require captains to exchange scorecards prior to match time?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>No. If a player or players are missing they must have the benefit of the 15-minute default rule per "Friend at Court".</p> <p>See Regulation 2.01C(5).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 7/14/03<br>Updated<br>12/16/11<br>8/4/2016                                  | What happens locally when a captain expects/states that the #1 position (singles or doubles) will be there shortly, so the opposing captain permits the other positions (#2 and/or #3) to go on the court and start/complete matches, and then the team(or person) doesn't show up and a default is recorded at the #1 position?                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>If both captains agreed to begin the match with positions missing, all courts stand as played.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.03K</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 8/19/09<br>Updated<br>03/01/10<br>12/5/12<br>1/23/13<br>10/31/13<br>3/24/15 | What happens if some individual matches are played in a team match in which one or both teams don't have enough rostered players available to meet the minimum requirements as outlined in the table in 2.03K?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>If both teams did not have enough players available to meet the minimum requirements as listed in table 2.03K, the entire team match will be considered a double default. Any individual matches (and scores) entered into TennisLink must be removed.</p> <p>If only one of the teams had enough players to meet the minimum player requirements as listed in table 2.03K, that team will be credited with a team win. Only those players who were there and ready to participate will be credited with a "win by default", which will also count toward advancement to all levels of Championship, except for National Championships.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.03K</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 8/5/02                                                                      | We have a two-team league; both teams have the required amount of players registered. The one team defaults all their matches to the other team. May the team receiving the defaults progress to Championship?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>No, the league has not actually taken place. This is all paper with no attempt to play.</p> <p>See Regulation: 1.04D(1), 2.01C(1)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 12/3/99<br>Updated<br>02/22/11<br>1/16/13<br>9/23/14                        | <p>Regulation 2.03L Championship Scoring of a Team Default states: "If a team defaults an entire team match for any reason during round robin play, that team is ineligible to continue play at that championship. All matches of the defaulting team already played shall be null and void when determining standings but will be used for ratings and advancement purposes."</p> <p>Is the Local League required to follow this regulation if no alternative rule is in place at the Section, District or Local level?</p> | <p>Yes. If the Section, District or Local League does not have a specific rule in place to cover a full team default it must follow the National Championship regulation.</p> <p>The objective is to play the match. The Section is encouraged to put a procedure in place.</p> <p>If the Local League elects to use the Championship rule, they should be aware that if all teams with a mathematical chance to advance have played the defaulting team – those scores will stand.</p> <p>For example, if the first place team defaults an entire team match (unable to contest the match for the team point), and the Sectional, District or Local League have elected to use the Championship rule, that team is subject to the regulation in place for Championships (The other teams that have a chance to win the competition should be credited with the matches played against this team.)</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.03L</p> |

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| 9/15/06 | <p>A flight has a triple round robin scheduled. If there is a full team default, would all matches in the triple round robin be considered null and void?</p> <p>A District has decided to follow the Championship Regulation 2.03L for scoring of full team defaults for their Local League.</p> | <p>No.</p> <p>The key word here is CHAMPIONSHIP rules. There is usually only one round robin played during a given Championship while a flight may play 2 or even 4 round robins in their Local League. Each of those RR's makes up a tier/segment of the Local League season. Each individual tier/segment will be considered separately for purposes of a full team default.</p> <p>If there is a full team default in a triple round robin only the RR tier/segments that have the full team default will be impacted. Each of the 3 Round Robin segments will be treated as whole and separate within the Local League flight. If the first RR was finished and the full team default occurred during the 2nd RR then all matches for the first RR would stand.</p> <p>Also remember that if all teams in contention had played the defaulting team (2.03L), those matches would stay in the system.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.03L</p> |
| 1/16/13 | <p>Is it the intent of Regulation 2.03L that teams be allowed to continue to play in the championship if they have defaulted an entire team match?</p>                                                                                                                                            | <p>No, once a team defaults an entire team match they are no longer part of the championship The Tournament Committee may allow the defaulting team to continue to play if other teams wish to play the matches, however, the opposing teams cannot be required to play. The results of such matches will not be entered in TennisLink.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.03L</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## 2.04 LEAGUE NTRP DISQUALIFICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| 8/25/03<br>Updated<br>12/1/04 | <p>What can you do when an individual self-rates low (3.5) and then starts play at a higher level (4.0) that produces 3 strikes at the lower level? Do you have to wait until he/she rosters and plays a match to DQ?</p> | <p>Regulation 2.04B states an individual will be disqualified if they reach the disqualification level 3 times based on all matches reported in the national database for the Adult Division.</p> <p>TennisLink will identify on the "At DQ" report an individual that has acquired 3 strikes at his/her Self-rated level regardless of being rostered at that level on any team. The Sectional Association will notify the individual that a promotion has occurred at the self-rate level and that the Sectional Association has adjusted the player's self-rating. The individual must now participate at that adjusted self-rate level or higher. This is not an NTRP disqualification as the individual never participated at that level. It will be handled as an "appeal to move up" requested by the Section.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.04B</p> |
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| 8/18/99<br>Updated<br>2/10/09<br>12/16/11           | The rules state that NTRP Dynamic Disqualification is not part of the Mixed Division. If a player is disqualified in the Adult Division, are they allowed to participate at the DQ'ed level in the Mixed Division for the remainder of the Championship year? | <p>No. Even though the Mixed Division does not allow Dynamic Disqualification, it must follow the rules (Reg. 2.04B(3)) in relation to playing at the correct level. A player who has been moved up as a result of a disqualification in the Adult Division must immediately adjust his/her NTRP level of play in the Mixed Division. The player will have two options:</p> <p>Option #1:<br/>If on a combined NTRP level team, he/she may continue on that team by adjusting the levels. (9.0 combined team—DQ'ed 4.5 player now at 5.0 must play with no greater than a 4.0 player)</p> <p>Option #2:<br/>If on a straight NTRP level team, he/she must move up to the appropriate NTRP level or sit out the balance of that season depending on the Section's regulations. (A player on a combined NTRP level team may also choose to move up if the Section allows.) If the player can combine with another player and meet the 1.0 differential, they may participate.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04B(3) and NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Table</i></p> |
| 5/1/08<br>Updated<br>1/24/09<br>12/16/11<br>1/16/13 | We play our Sectional Championships for our Adult Division back to back (or at the same time). How does this situation impact my ability to advance to Nationals if I am dynamically disqualified in any of these League Types?                               | <p>An individual dynamically disqualified from any League Type will not be permitted to advance to National Championships for any Adult Division except in the Combined Adult 55 &amp; Over League Type if they are able to combine and remain within level.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04B(3)</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1/25/02<br>Updated<br>2/10/09                       | Just how far back does an NTRP Disqualification go during a Local League play-off? What matches need to be reversed?                                                                                                                                          | <p>Any disqualification occurring during separate tiers of a Local League Play-off flight(s) will affect only matches in that particular tier Play-off flight. No matches will be reversed in previous tier Play-off flights.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04E</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>02/09/09<br>12/16/11           | During local round robin competition a player is disqualified. Is that player's last match considered a loss, or are all previous matches considered losses?                                                                                                  | <p>It depends on the basis for the disqualification during the Local League play. (See Championship Procedures Section for how the same issues are handled during Championship.)</p> <p><b>Eligibility DQ:</b><br/>See Regulations 3.03B(4) a,b. Review this Section as penalty varies based on stage of Local League.</p> <p><b>Dynamic DQ:</b><br/>See Regulation 2.04E(1) which states that each Section will establish what, if any, matches shall be considered losses.</p> <p>See Scoring of Eligibility Disqualification and NTRP Dynamic Disqualification for Championships in Regulations 2.04E(2) and 3.03C(4)a.b.c</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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| 3/21/01<br>Updated<br>2/10/09<br>12/16/11<br>12/5/12 | If a player is NTRP Dynamically Disqualified during play in any Adult Division League Type, does that disqualification apply across all League Types? | <p>If a local NTRP disqualification occurs during concurrent Adult Division seasons, the disqualification shall affect the matches played by the disqualified player in all League Types.</p> <p>If the seasons are not concurrent or over-lapping, the NTRP disqualification shall affect the matches played by the disqualified player in the season in which the NTRP Dynamic Disqualification occurred.</p> <p>If a player is disqualified in 18 &amp; Over, 40 &amp; Over or 55 &amp; Over League Types while playing in a Mixed League below the Section Championship level, the player shall immediately play at the higher level.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.04E(1)</p> |
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## **2.05 YEAR-END NTRP COMPUTER RATINGS AND APPEAL PROCEDURES**

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                           |
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| 6/6/03<br>Updated<br>4/01/08   | What year regulations and procedures are used to determine basis for appeal – year under which the rating was generated or year under which the rating will be used? | Sections will use the regulations and procedures in effect for the year in which the rating will be used. |
| 12/19/03<br>Updated<br>2/10/09 | Can a Dynamically Disqualified player appeal a Year-End Rating and be granted the appeal if the final Year-end NTRP number is within appeal range?                   | No. A Dynamically Disqualified player is ineligible for appeal.                                           |

**2.06A Move-up/Split-up**

|                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <p>4/10/99<br/>Updated<br/>12/11/06<br/>12/16/11<br/>9/25/14</p>                           | <p>What happens if more than the allowed number of players who were on the roster at a National Championship appear on a given roster the next year?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>If a team violates USTA League Regulations by submitting a roster with more than the allowable number of players that were on any roster in that Division at a National Championships the previous year, any player, registered beyond the three (2 for 2.5, 5.0) allowed, who has not participated in a match, including defaults received, for the team will first be removed from the roster (last person to register on the team will be first off unless another player agrees to come off.) If the team still does not meet the requirement then the last National Championship individual rostered will be disqualified and all matches played by the player will be considered losses and so on until the three player requirement is reached.</p> <p>If the team roster includes the minimum number of players still eligible to play, the team will be permitted to finish the local season with the adjusted roster.</p> <p>Resulting defaults will count towards eligibility requirements for advancement to Championships below the National level. Actual scores of defaulted matches will be input for the purpose of generating NTRP ratings.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p> |
| <p>8/5/02<br/>Updated<br/>02/04/09<br/>12/2/13<br/>9/25/14</p>                             | <p>What happens when a team is currently playing or has finished an Early Start League for the following season before they compete in the current year Sectional Championships and then win the Sectional Championships and the opportunity to advance to Nationals? Regulation 2.06A requires that the team split-up for the next year – in this case the next year is almost finished.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>The team may select the three players (two for some NTRP Levels) to remain and must cease to play all other players with a National Benchmark above the minimum number permitted in the Move-up/Split-up Regulation. No penalty will be imposed on any match played before completion of the Sectional Championship and those removed will be eligible to join the team next year as if they had sat out for the year.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <p>1/1/98<br/>Updated<br/>02/23/11<br/>03/14/13<br/>8/22/13<br/>10/15/2013<br/>9/25/14</p> | <p>Can players who competed at the National Championships in the Adult Division play the next year on a Mixed team, which already has three players who competed on a Mixed team at the National Championships?</p> <p>Can a team play at a National Championship in the Adult 18 &amp; Over Age Group and not have to split-up if the same team qualifies to play in the Adult 40 &amp; Over Age Group the next year?</p> <p>Can players who played on an Adult 4.0 team at the National Championships move down (if their NTRP level allows) and play the next year with players that played on an Adult 3.5 team at the National Championship?</p> <p>Can players who played on a 9.0 Mixed team</p> | <p>These players may combine and play at any level for which they are eligible in the Mixed Division.</p> <p>The team may play together in any Adult Division Age Group as long as the team moves up one NTRP team level.</p> <p>Players may move down to a lower NTRP team level and play in the same Division as long as the total number from the combined two teams does not exceed three players.</p> <p>Players may play in same Division and same NTRP</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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|                                 | <p>at the National Championships combine and play the next year with players from another 9.0 Mixed team that also played at the National Championships?</p> <p>Can players who played on a 9.0 Mixed team at the National Championships move down (if their NTRP level allows) and play the next year with players that played on an 8.0 Mixed team at the National Championship?</p> <p>Three players from a Mixed 8.0 team that competed at the National Championships want to remain together the following year. Can players from a Mixed 7.0 Team that also competed at the National Championships move up and join the three players on that 8.0 team.</p> | <p>team level as long as the total number from the combined two teams does not exceed three players.</p> <p>Players may move down to a lower NTRP team level and play in the same Division as long as the total number from the combined two teams does not exceed three players.</p> <p>As many players as wish to may move up from the Mixed 7.0 team and combine with 3 players from the Mixed 8.0 team. If players were registered on both teams, those players already registered on the 8.0 team would count towards the three allowed players.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p> |
| 6/6/12<br>10/15/2013<br>9/25/14 | <p>What happens when a team that has qualified for a National Championship chooses to move up and play at the next higher level? However, at the next higher level there are only two teams participating. Does the 40% rule apply?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>The team will be exempt from the 40% rule for the next year ONLY if the majority of the team moves up to the next higher level.</p> <p>See Regulations: 2.06A and Table that follows.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 12/2/13<br>9/25/14<br>3/20/15   | <p>If a member of a team that qualifies for the nationals elects not to play at the nationals, are they still subject to the move up / split up rule?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>Yes. The rule applies to any player(s) who played in at least three (3) matches for that team during the championship year, excluding defaults received.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 12/2/13<br>9/25/14              | <p>If a 7.0 combined NTRP level team wants to play 3.5 men's together can they?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Only three can stay at the same level. .<br/>See Table following</p> <p>Regulation: 2.06A</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 12/2/13<br>9/25/14              | <p>Is 3.5 Straight NTRP team considered the same level as 7.0 Combined NTRP team?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>For purposes of the Move Up/Split Up rule, they are considered the same.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 4/18/2014<br>9/25/14            | <p>Three National Championship players move up to the next NTRP level; can they join with any other national championship players?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>Players may move up and combine with no more than three that participated at the next NTRP level. Those players who participated on the 2014 teams at both levels will be counted towards the three.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 4/18/2014<br>9/25/14            | <p>Can a team who went to the 18&amp;Over national championships move up and play at the next higher NTRP level in both 18&amp;Over and 40&amp;Over leagues?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Yes.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1/27/15                         | <p>If a team qualifies for national championships and chooses to not participate and an alternate team does participate, are both teams subject to move up/split up?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Yes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| 1/27/15 | If a player advances to the 4.5 nationals, is subsequently moved up to 5.0 and registers on a 4.5+ team to play as the + player, does he count as one of the three allowed national championship players?                                               | Yes. 2.06A(1) states a player counts as one of the three allowed players unless s/he moves up one NTRP <b>team</b> level.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1/29/16 | Four 3.5 level players play on a 3.5 level Adult 40+ National Championship team in 2015. For 2016 all four players get bumped up to 4.0 and they may all four play on a 2016 4.0 Adult 40+ team. No restrictions as long as they move up an NTRP level. | This is correct; they are moving up to the next NTRP level from the team that they advanced to nationals with. Had the same 3.5 players played up on a 4.0 40&Over team that advanced to nationals, they would count as one of the 3 allowed players on this year's 4.0 team just as they do on the 55&Over team.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1/29/16 | Four 3.5 level players play on an 8.0 Adult 55+ National Championship team in 2015. For 2016 all four players get bumped up to 4.0 but only three of them are allowed to play on the same 2016 4.0 Adult 40+ team.                                      | Correct. Had these same players advanced on a 7.0 team they could move up together; if your section used straight levels for 55&Over we wouldn't be having this conversation (prior example). Players on 7.0 teams are considered to be 3.5 for this purpose, players on 8.0 teams are considered to be 4.0, players on 9.0 teams are considered to be 4.5. Since you played on an 8.0 team you cannot play on a 4.0 team with more than 2 other national championship qualified players. We realize this can impact players who play up – if your 8.0 team decided to stay together and move up to 9.0 and your rating remained 3.5, you couldn't play up. That's not the case here – but something we considered. |

### 3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>1/27/11              | If a player's name or domicile is misrepresented, or the player misrepresents, falsifies or fails to disclose relevant facts relating to participation in the USTA League, does the player become ineligible and subject to disqualification?                                                                                                          | Yes.<br>It is essential that a player truthfully disclose all facts relevant to USTA League participation. Failure to do so may result in disqualification at any time.<br><br>See Regulation: 3.02D, 3.03B(3)a and 3.03E(1)a.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 5/18/04                                   | Eligibility disqualifications are unique in that we handle an established penalty in two different ways – if within 24-hours of Local League season – remove all matches; if after conclusion of Local League by more than 24 hours, matches stand but individual may not advance. What controls the penalty phase of an eligibility disqualification? | Certain eligibility issues such as membership are cut and dry – you were a member or you were not, at the time the match was played.<br>NTRP Grievances require time to research. The date the decision is sent by the League Grievance Committee will control the penalty phase.<br><br>See Regulation: 3.03B(3)a, 3.03B(4) a.b and 3.03E(6).                                                                  |
| 1/1/98<br>Updated<br>02/09/09<br>12/16/11 | During Local round robin competition a player is disqualified. Is only such player's last match considered a loss, or are all previous matches considered as losses?                                                                                                                                                                                   | It depends on the basis for the disqualification during the Local League play.<br><br><b>Eligibility DQ:</b><br>Regulations 3.03B(4) a,b. Review this Section as penalty varies based on stage of Local League.<br><br><b>Dynamic DQ:</b><br>Reg. 2.04E(1) states that each Section will establish what, if any matches shall be considered losses.<br><br>See Scoring of Eligibility Disqualification and NTRP |

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|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Dynamic Disqualification for Championships in Regulations <i>2.04E(2)</i> and <i>3.03C(4)a.b.c</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1/1/98            | How soon after the Grievance Committee has rendered a decision must an appeal be filed?                                                                                                                                           | <p>The appeal must be filed within the time fixed by the League Grievance Committee in its decision.</p> <p>Generally speaking the time should not exceed such period of time as reasonably required by the appealing party to file a written notice of appeal containing facts and arguments in support thereof. Even more important is whether any delay will adversely affect the progress of a league or Championship event.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.03D(3)</i></p> |
| 2/9/11            | What grievance and grievance appeal documents and procedures are the parties entitled to see?                                                                                                                                     | <p>Decisions and documents of a public nature. Appropriate confidentiality should be observed when including but, not limited to, discussions, deliberations, votes and documents not of a public nature.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.03C(2)</i> and <i>3.03D(3)</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2/9/11<br>9/25/14 | Can an NTRP Grievance be filed against a self-rated player who was granted an appeal?                                                                                                                                             | <p>Yes, an NTRP Grievance may be filed against a self-rated player whose appeal was granted.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.03E(2)</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2/14/12           | If a Grievance Committee holds a hearing (which has been duly announced) and none of the parties to the grievance show up for the hearing, is the Grievance Appeal Committee required to hold a hearing, if requested in writing? | <p>No, the hearing is considered to have been held and the Grievance Appeal Committee is no longer bound to hold a hearing, even if requested in writing.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.04B(2)</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |