

USTA Arkansas

Sanctioned Adult Tournament Guide

1. Classifications

- a) **Open Division** – Any player may enter an Open Division event.
- b) **Age Divisions** – An adult player is considered the age reached on his/her birthday in the current calendar year and may play in any adult age division designated for that age or younger.

- c) **NTRP Divisions** –

- 1. USTA Southern requires all players to have a NTRP rating in order to participate in any NTRP tournament in the Southern section.
 - a. Players with a current NTRP rating must participate at their rated level or higher.
 - b. Players without a current NTRP rating will be required to complete the self-rate process.
 - c. Players' ratings can be checked on the alphabetical entry report in your tournament online sanction form.

- ***NEW--- Penalty for Unrated Players*****

- The USTA Arkansas Board of Directors approved the following penalties for tournaments that allow unrated players to participate in NTRP events:

- 1) A penalty will be added to the tournament head tax invoice for each unrated player:
 - An amount equal to the unrated player's entry fee will be collected with tournament head tax
 - 2) Second Offense—loss of future tournament sanction
 - 2. Any player not participating in USTA League Tennis and ranked #1 in a division must play in a higher division the next ranking year.
 - 3. Any doubles team having players not rated at the same NTRP level must play in the division of the higher-rated player.
 - 4. Players must be 18 or older (at the time of the event) to participate in NTRP tournaments.

- d) **Eighteen (18) Year Olds Playing NTRP**--Players that are **currently** 18 years old are eligible to play NTRP events in AR (just as in USTA League). These players will have to be "forced" into TDM since TennisLink/TDM is still set to accommodate the parameters for the 19-year-old eligibility rule.

- e) **NTRP Mixed Doubles** --The rules for Mixed Doubles in tournament play shall be the same as the current USTA Mixed Doubles League guidelines. Each individual player's rating may not be more than 1.0 apart (example-- a 3.0 player and a 4.0 player may play 7.0)

2. Draws/Scheduling

a) Seeding

- Maximum ratio of one to three
- Number of seeds must equal a **power** of two (2, 4, 8, 16)
- Post seeding method on tournament homepage
- Be consistent throughout each division
- Use the most recent published Arkansas standings list (Southern-Arkansas).
- Doubles seeding—Use auto seed and then go to the Tournament Seeding Report; use info provided in the report to calculate your seeds.
- For more seeding info, consult The Friend at Court.
[Click here](#) to view the FAC.

b) Schedule equal rest for both sides of the draw.

c) Any changes to scheduled match times should be updated in TDM as soon as possible. All players involved should be contacted to verify that they are aware that their match time has been changed---a little work upfront, but it will save you lots of headaches in the long run!

d) Two entries do make a draw (consult the players involved before cancelling division or moving players---possible round robin, best two out of three)

e) Fewer than five entries should be a round robin (consider making draws of 5 round robins---players would appreciate it!)

f) Late Entries---Acceptance of late entries into a tournament is at the discretion of the tournament director. No late entries may be accepted that would affect seeding.

g) Recovery Rule---must offer two hours rest between matches when playing three full set format

3. Match Format/Scoring for Adults

a) Formats should be posted on each tournament homepage:

- Consolation---First Match Loser, Feed-in, Single Elimination, etc.
- Full three sets or 10 point tiebreak in lieu of the 3rd set

b) No pro sets are allowed for singles (pro sets are not accepted for singles standings/rankings)

c) A one set match format can only be used in one day tournaments

d) Scoring in TDM

1. Third set tiebreak scores should be recorded as follows---1-0(8)
2. Withdrawal---a player pulls out of the tournament before playing (make sure TDM moves the withdrawing player to conso)
3. Walkover---a player pulls out of the tournament after having played
4. Retirement---a player pulls out of the tournament during a match (a partial score should be posted)

e) Inclement weather scoring--Adults

No ad scoring would be the first option for singles; Short sets could possibly be used under extreme circumstances (contact USTA Arkansas before changing to short set format)

- [Click here](#) for the **TDM on the Web Intro**
- [Click here](#) for **Violations and Penalties info**, FAC pages 103-116

General Info for Adult Tournaments

- Please take the time to go over the sanction forms of the tournaments you have copied to make sure everything copied over and is correct--- TD and referee contact info, t-shirt sizes, notes, etc.
- **Adding Adult tournaments to the calendar--** If there is already an adult tournament on the calendar for the date(s) you want to host a tournament, you will need to get the ok from that tournament director to have your event on the same weekend. If they agree, please ask them to notify the USTA Arkansas office in writing that they have no objection.
*****100 Mile Rule: Adult tournaments will only need approval if the facilities are less than 100 miles apart.**
- Players wishing to withdraw from a tournament before the entry deadline should withdraw online.
- **Round Robin Ties---“View Order of Finish” in TDM---** Easy way to figure out tied round robins----don't forget to enter the correct scoring method
- Tournament results should be updated often in TDM during your tournament.
- Be sure to include day/time on any posted messages regarding tournament delays—this will prevent any confusion caused by old messages.
- Remember that head tax fees are due 30 days from the date of the statement.
- Questions??? Call or email Cindy at the USTA Arkansas office:

Cindy Curtis

cindy@arktennis.com

Office: 501-227-7611

Cell: 501-681-3177

Rest Periods between Matches

TABLE 11 Minimum Rest Between Matches The Referee, Sectional Association, or District Association should permit additional rest when any of them concludes that the length of a match, heat, humidity, total time on the court during the day, or other condition justifies more rest. *See also Recovery Rule		
Divisions	All Best of 3 and 5 set matches	Pro set formats
Juniors	60 minutes <i>except</i> 30 minutes in doubles only tournaments*	30 minutes
Senior 35-45 & Parent-Child	60 minutes*	30 minutes
Senior 50-90	90 minutes*	45 minutes
Parent-Child with minimum parental age		
Grandparent-Grandchild		
Husband & Wife (Combined Ages)		
Wheelchair	- Match of 60 minutes or less: 30 minutes* - Between 60 & 90 minutes: 45 minutes* 90 minutes or more: 60 minutes*	- Match of 60 minutes or less: 30 minutes - Between 60 & 90 minutes: 45 minutes 90 minutes or more: 60 minutes
NTRP without age restrictions	60 minutes*	30 minutes
NTRP 35-45	60 minutes*	30 minutes
NTRP 50-90	90 minutes*	45 minutes
All other divisions	30 minutes*	30 minutes
Red, Orange, or Green Ball Tennis formats: The tournament shall offer the players reasonable rest, which in many cases will be no more than 15 minutes.		
For any other format, the rest is at least 30 minutes.		
A player is governed by the amount of rest allowed for the division in which the player plays.		
Players who participate in more than one division are entitled to at least 30 minutes rest between matches in different divisions, unless the Recovery Rule applies in which case the Referee shall offer the player a rest of two hours.		
When more than one match format is played, the match format of the preceding match shall govern the minimum rest.		
*Recovery Rule: The Recovery Rule requires the Referee to offer a player two hours of rest after a singles match that uses a format consisting of the best of three tiebreak sets or more if the player's next match is singles. The regulation does not apply to short set matches, matches that play a tiebreak in lieu of a final third set, nor to any indoor match that lasts less than two hours.		

Consult *The Friend at Court* for details on Rest between Matches and Set Breaks. [Click here](#)

Rest Periods in Inclement Weather Situations:

Scoring formats and scheduling guidelines are subject to change during inclement weather situations; however, the rest period between matches and maximum number of matches allowed per day is not subject to change.