



## **SUMMARY OF 2020 USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS GOVERNING PLAY RESUMED AFTER COVID-19 SUSPENSION**

### **Background**

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a substantial impact on the USTA League Program. The purpose of the League Program is to provide organized recreational play, emphasizing local competition. Traditionally, there is an opportunity for advancement for winning teams from local competition to District/Area, Sectional and National Championships, culminating with USTA League National Championships.

As League staff and volunteers looked forward to being back on the courts, an evaluation of the League Program was conducted, including input from players, local USTA staff, facilities, teaching professionals and retailers. This evaluation resulted in some changes for the remainder of League Year 2020. The goal of these changes is to allow for the most opportunities for play, for the greatest number of players, to support facilities, professionals and retailers at the local level.

While there are some changes, it became clear that these groups value many of USTA League Program guidelines that help ensure fair and fun competition. Please see the following summary of what has changed and what has not for the USTA League Program for the remainder of League Year 2020 (including references to corresponding sections of the USTA League Regulations).

### **CHANGES**

- **No National Championships in League Year 2020**
- **No Sectional Association shall be required to advance local league teams to any championship, including Sectional Championships, in League Year 2020**
- **Round Robin and Progression Requirements**
  - 2.01C(1)d – Each Sectional Association may adjust the Competition Format requirements specified in 2.01C(1) to establish a local league champion for that NTRP level. These adjustments may take any form deemed most appropriate by that Sectional Association.
  - 2.02A(3) – Each Sectional Association may adjust the Progression requirements specified in 2.02A(1) Local League Competition and 2.02(A)2 Local League Champions. These adjustments may take any form deemed most appropriate by that Sectional Association to advance a team to the next level of competition if otherwise eligible, other than not advancing a team that had already won their specific level of local league competition prior to the suspension of USTA League play on March 13, 2020.
- **Required Matches**
  - 2.03A(3)a – In the Adult and Mixed Divisions Sections may decide eligibility to progress to championship level competition through Sectional Championships in any manner deemed most appropriate by that Sectional Association.



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### UNCHANGED

- **Team requirements** – regarding NTRP rating level (including between partners) and roster limits (1.04D(4) and 1.04F(1))
- **Player Participation Eligibility** – including playing in more than one Division during the same local season, on multiple teams, in multiple flights and at multiple NTRP levels (1.04G)
- **NTRP Levels of Play** – All Plus (+) league requirements remain the same (2.01A1)
- **Match Scoring and Formats** – Sectional Associations retain the option to authorize the use of any scoring method compatible with the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System for play at the Section level and below
- **Championship Competition Format** (Section Level Events and Below) – Sectional Associations shall determine the competition, team match and scoring formats for their championship competitions (2.03D)
- **Team Match and Scoring** – Sectional Associations may either follow the National Championships scoring format (remains in effect despite National Championships not being held in 2020) or determine a method of awarding points in order to determine the winning team of a championship competition (2.03E)
- **NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Procedures** – Dynamic ratings will be calculated for all Adult Division players during local league competition and at every level of championship competition; stated procedures will be followed for players that reach the NTRP Dynamic Disqualification criteria (2.04B)
- **Year-end Computer Ratings** – All current regulations including duration of validity of ratings, and requirements for Early Start League Players remain the same (2.05B)
- **Ratings Appeals** – the Appeal requirements and process remain the same (2.05C and 2.05D)
- **Promotion of Player 60 or Over** – All regulations remain the same (2.05E)
- **Move-Up/Split-Up** – 2.06A is no longer required. For Sections that advance teams to championships in League Year 2020, Sections retain the options stated in 2.06B.