



USTA BOYS' 18 NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS
JULY 29 – AUGUST 1, 2017
B18: Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

Players representing USTA NorCal shall exhibit the highest ideals of good sportsmanship both on and off the court. Players shall also adhere to the rules and policies set by the Team Coach and Team manager. The Team Coach and/or Team Manager shall have the discretion to remove a player from the team during the competition for one or more remaining matches if the player exhibits poor sportsmanship or violates the rules and policies.

NorCal fields one team of 7 boys to compete at this tournament. The USTA permits a Section to send a team of 6 to 7 boys with the 7th player designated as the alternate. The alternate plays each day and the USTA has a specific policy for how this takes place. Please read below under Policy for 7th Team Member for more information.

ELIGIBILITY: Players must meet the USTA national age eligibility and citizenship requirements to be selected. Players must also meet the USTA NorCal Residency requirements as described in Rule 3 of the USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rules.

ENTRY & PAYMENT: To be considered for this event, each player must complete the following steps:

- Read **ALL** of the tournament information on this document
- Register Online – [Tennislink](#) (**deadline is Monday, June 19th**)
- Complete **ALL** of the six (6) online waivers (**see links below – right click on each link and go to "open link in new tab"**)

1) [2017 Medical Information Form](#)

2) [2017 Player Information Form](#)

3) [2017 Rules of Player Conduct](#)

4) [2017 NorCal Release & Waiver Form](#)

5) [USTA Release & Waiver](#)

6) [2017 Authorization for Release of Protected Health Information](#)

*Selected players will receive a separate link to make the required online payment of **\$150** to confirm their spot on the team. Players will be charged after getting selected for the team. This fee includes coaching throughout the event.

USTA NorCal covers the team application fee, ground transportation, uniform, hotel and/or housing for the players.

Team selection, including alternates, will be announced to all applicants by the end of **Friday, June 23rd** via email. Alternates do not travel to the event.

RANKING POINTS: Players will receive sectional and national ranking points for each win in singles and doubles.

For USTA NorCal, each player will receive 150 sectional ranking points for each win in singles and doubles, regardless of the position of the player on the team.

For USTA, national ranking points will vary since ranking points earned are based on the playing position of each player on the line-up. Any Bonus Points earned will be added to the total for national rankings.

PLAYER SELECTION: Seven boys will be selected from the applicants as follows:

- The winner of the USTA NorCal Sectional Championshipsup to 1 player
- A player not yet selected with the highest ranking among the applicants on the most recently published USTA NorCal Combined Final Ranking List (B18)up to 1 player
- Up to 2 Wildcard players may be selected up to 2 players
- Players not previously selected that are in the top 100 of the most recently published National Standing List (B18) AND who have played to completion at least one USTA NorCal Championship, Super Series, or Excellence Tournament in any division within the immediately preceding 6 months, selected by order of standing.*
- Vacancies will be filled with players from the most recently published USTA NorCal Combined Final Ranking List (B18), selected by order of rank.

Notwithstanding the selection process described above, players with a history of poor sportsmanship may be excluded from selection.

** Playing the tournament to completion means a player must not have withdrawn from the tournament without playing a match. Matches won by withdrawal, walkover, default and retirement count as playing a match.*

POLICY FOR 7TH TEAM MEMBER: Every team member must play in at least one official Team Match per day and at least one official team singles match during the entire competition. For example, the #7 player can play doubles every day, except one day on which that player must play singles.

TEAM LINE-UP: Line-ups will be ordered as follows:

- Players in the top 100 of the most recently published National Standings List of the division will be ordered first, in the order of their standing.
- Remaining players are ordered by rank using the most recently published USTA NorCal Combined Final Ranking List (B18).
- Wildcard recipients will be placed in the lineup as determined by the Selection Committee.
- Notwithstanding the line-up procedure above, the Selection Committee may order a player higher or lower if justified by the ratings of all selected players.

Line-ups will be announced to the participants as soon as possible after selection and line-up order is determined.

WILDCARDS:

- To be considered, a player must submit a timely entry to USTA NorCal no later than the entry deadline - note that this is not the tournament entry deadline by which Sections must submit their teams to the tournament, but the published deadline set by NorCal for being eligible for consideration for selection.
- Players may submit a request to be considered for a Wildcard, but this request is not required.
- The Selection Committee shall be comprised of the Manager of Player Development, Player Development Specialist, Junior Competition Coordinator, and Chair of Junior Council.
- Wildcards do not have to be awarded.
- There is no specific selection criteria for the Wildcards, however the purpose of awarding Wildcards (if any) shall be for NorCal to field the strongest teams possible.

To apply for a wildcard, please go to our [2017 Wildcard Request Form](#).

Wildcard applications are due by **Monday, June 19th**.

FORMAT & SCHEDULE OF PLAY: A team match consists of a collegiate format of six (6) singles and three (3) doubles. Singles matches will be best of 3 tie-break sets. Doubles matches will be 8-game Pro Sets with a 7 Point Tiebreak at 8 games all. Singles matches will count as one point each. The team that wins at least two doubles matches out of the three will receive one point.

A Compass Draw will be used and each team will play at least one round per day for four days.

Match-play begins on **Saturday, July 29th** and ends **Tuesday, August 1st**. If selected, players should plan to arrive on **Thursday, July 27th** and must commit to the entire schedule. On the return trip, selected players should schedule departure for **Tuesday, August 1st** around the same time as the team coach and team manager to allow time to get to the airport!

The players that also plan to compete at the USTA National Championships in Kalamazoo need to make proper departing arrangements.

TRAVEL & MEALS: Players are responsible for the cost of airfare and meal expenses. Once a team coach has been selected, players will receive information about his/her itinerary to help arrange same flights or similar arrival/departure times. Some meals might be provided at the tournament site.

WITHDRAWALS & REFUNDS:

Withdrawals After Entry Deadline:

Immediately contact Beth Workeneh (510-263-0466/ workeneh@norcal.usta.com) if you need to withdraw from the tournament after entries close:

- If the withdrawal is due to an injury or illness, the USTA Regulations require the injured or ill player to submit written verification from a medical professional before the end of the day on July 5th (the last day of the tournament).
- If the withdrawal is due to a personal circumstance, the player must submit a written description of the situation no later than the end of the day on August 1st (the last day of the tournament) so that it can be determined whether or not the situation qualifies as a personal circumstance.

Please also include the date it was determined the player needed to withdraw and if there was a delay in notifying NorCal, please provide an explanation for the delay.

Written verification can be emailed or faxed to Beth Workeneh (workeneh@norcal.usta.com/ fax: 510-748-7377)

Entry Fee Refunds When Withdrawal Occurs After Entry Deadline:

Although the USTA Regulations do not require an entry fee refund for a national tournament after the entry deadline, NorCal has elected at its discretion to refund a player's entry fee:

- If the player immediately withdraws when circumstances arise that do not permit participation and
- The player's withdrawal is due to illness, injury, or personal circumstance as evidenced by the receipt of written verification as described above.

TEAM COACH: The USTA Northern California Section will select and send one (1) team coach to the event. The coach is responsible for the well-being of all players once the trip begins. The team coach may coach players at specific times during matches. Players' personal coaches and parents are **NOT** permitted to coach during this event.

PARENTS ATTENDING TOURNAMENT: Parents are welcome to attend, but the players **MUST** be with their team at all times and stay in the hotel and/or housing provided by the tournament. USTA NorCal would like to provide the players with an experience similar to an away college team match as much as possible. While parents may elect to attend the tournament, providing a Team Coach and/or Team Manager is intended to:

- Assist families in reducing the cost of additional travel arrangements;
- Create a true team atmosphere whereby players travel and stay together as a group (note that players are required to stay in housing/hotel with a teammate). This also ensures players are having similar opportunities and rules;
- Reinforce personal coaches and parents are not permitted to coach during this tournament

TEAM WORKOUT: **ALL** players selected are expected to attend a **MANDATORY** team practice with the team coaches on **Saturday, July 22nd** at **UOP – Eve Zimmerman Tennis Center**. The approximately 3-hour team workout event will include no less than 2 hours of tennis and a meeting prior to or following tennis. There is no charge for the team workout.

This team workout will be held by the team coaches and USTA NorCal staff for the participants in the USTA Boys' and Girls' 16, 14, and 12 Zone Team Championships, and the USTA Boys' and Girls' 18 National Team Championships. Attendance by the team coaches is mandatory. Attendance by the players is mandatory, unless clearance is given by USTA NorCal.

The purpose of this workout is to:

- Build team spirit and camaraderie
- Introduce the coaches to the players and parents
- Allow for time to review policies and rules prior to arriving at the tournament, with the opportunity to ask questions
- Finalize the arrival logistics of the coaches, team managers, and players
- Secure parents to volunteer (w/ managers) to organize meals, to better allow the coaches to concentrate on coaching

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES: If you are having any issues or technical difficulties with the registration/online waivers, etc. email Beth Workeneh at workeneh@norcal.usta.com or call 510-263-0466.