

18. **APPLICABILITY**

System shall be used at all championship levels and is recommended for local league.

A. **Section Adult Programs Committee**

The Section Adult Programs Committee shall consist of a Chairman, appointed by the ITA President, and committee members, which may include a District League Coordinator that is recommended by the Chairman, and appointed by the ITA President.

B. **Section League Coordinator**

The Executive Director shall, with the approval of the President, hire a Section League Coordinator to implement and administer the USTA League Tennis Program. The Section League Coordinator shall be responsible for promoting league activity throughout the Section at all levels of play; building and maintaining a strong and competitive USTA League Tennis Program, which is in compliance with all USTA guidelines and regulations; communicating with the Section Adult Programs Committee; District League Coordinators and District NTRP Oversight Group regarding USTA League Tennis matters; assisting Districts with local leagues; conducting the USTA League Tennis Section Championships; representing the Section to the USTA regarding league matters; reporting to the ITA at its Annual Meeting; engaging in additional activities at the direction of the Executive Director, and performing other duties specified elsewhere in this Standing Order.

C. **District and Local League Coordinators**

Districts may, with the approval of the Section League Coordinator, designate District and Local League Coordinators, who may be either District employees or volunteers, to implement and administer the USTA League Tennis Program.

D. **Local/District League Competition**

1) **Eligibility**

a) **USTA membership**

All individuals who compete in the USTA League Tennis Program must be current members in good standing for the local league season as defined by the District. Any individual who progresses to championship level in the USTA League Tennis program must be a current member through each championship progression.

a) **Organizational Membership**

Any team which competes in the USTA League Tennis Program in the Intermountain Section must be affiliated with a club or organization of the USTA in good standing. An independent team may itself become a member organization for this purpose.

2) **Reporting of District Participation**

District League Coordinators must review a report of player participation in their District showing numbers of teams and numbers of players at each level for men and women containing both state totals and breakdowns for

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geographic areas. This report must be reconciled with the Section League Coordinator.

3) Local League Regulations & Operating Procedures

- a) As per regulation 1.00 in the USTA League Tennis National Regulations, the ITA delegates authority to Districts in certain matters including, but not limited to:
 - (1) Establishing deadlines and procedures for registering teams for local league play on TennisLink in compliance with regulation 1.04C(1).
 - (2) Establishing deadlines for the initial entry of local league match scores into TennisLink in compliance with regulation 1.04C(2).
 - (3) Determining dates for the local league seasons and district championship events in compliance with Section deadlines and regulations 1.04D(3) and 1.04D(4).
 - (4) Establishing NTRP self-rate appeal committees for local league play in compliance with regulation 1.04F(1)g.
 - (5) Authorizing usage of other USTA -approved scoring methods compatible with the USTA League NTRP Computer Rating System for local league play and district championship events in compliance with regulations 2.01C(3) and 2.03C.
 - (6) Establishing rules to determine when a full team default occurs and for scoring of full team defaults in local league play in compliance with regulations 2.03K and 2.03L.
 - (7) Appointing an NTRP Dynamic Review Committee for local league play in compliance with regulation 2.04D(1).
 - (8) Determining what actions to take when the combination of individual match defaults by the two teams in a team match would result in a situation where a majority of individual matches would not be played in compliance with regulation 2.01C(2).
 - (9) Developing procedures for additional matches within flighted leagues in compliance with National Regulations 2.01C(1)a, 2.01C(1)b, and 2.01C(1)c.
- b) Each local league shall have a written set of operating procedures that are consistent with and reflective of those set forth in this Standing Order; they may include rules specific to the needs of the league provided that they do not conflict with the USTA League Tennis Regulations or this Standing Orders.
- c) Each District League Coordinator shall submit to the Section League Coordinator, for review prior to the start of the league season, copies of all such operating procedures applicable to league competition within his/her District.

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- d) The District League Coordinators shall ensure that every player who participates in USTA League Tennis competition is given an opportunity to read all operating procedures, USTA League Regulations and ITA league regulations, which apply to him/her. They shall do so, either through direct distribution of said materials to all players, or by written provision in those operating procedures requiring each team captain to distribute them to all team members.

E. Grievance Procedures

1) Section League Grievance and Appeal Committees

The Section League Coordinator shall appoint a grievance committee consisting of no less than three members, including a chairperson. The committee shall be responsible for grievances in accordance with USTA League Tennis Regulation 2.00 Grievance Procedures. The Section League Coordinator shall also appoint a League Grievance Appeal Committee, composed of not less than three members including a chairperson, to hear appeals of decisions made by the League Grievance Committee. An individual may not simultaneously serve on both committees. All grievances must be filed in writing and forwarded to the USTA Intermountain Tennis Association. In addition, an administration fee of \$50 shall be simultaneously sent to the USTA Intermountain Tennis Association in care of the Section League Coordinator. The fee shall be refunded if the grievance is upheld.

2) Local and District League Grievance Committees

Each local league may, subject to the approval of the Section League Coordinator, appoint a Local League Grievance Committee consisting of no less than three persons, including a Chair. The Committee shall be responsible for adjudicating grievances. Each District shall, subject to the approval of the Section League Coordinator, appoint a District League Grievance Committee, consisting of no less than three persons, including a Chair, to adjudicate grievances arising at District Championship. The members thereof may be the same as, or different in whole or in part from, the members of the Championship Committee for the District Championship.

3) Local and District League Appeal Committees

Subject to the approval of the Section League Coordinator, each local league may appoint a Local League Appeal Committee consisting of no less than three persons, including a Chair, to consider appeals from rulings of the Local League Grievance Committee. Each district shall, subject to the approval of the Section League Coordinator, appoint a District League Appeal Committee, consisting of no less than three persons, including a Chair, to consider appeals from rulings of the District League Grievance Committee. No member of an appeal committee may be a member of a Grievance Committee.

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- 4) Appeals
An appeal from a decision of a Local League Grievance Committee shall be filed with the Local League Appeal Committee. An appeal from a decision of a District League Grievance Committee shall be filed with the District League Committee through the District league coordinator.
- 5) Reporting of Grievance and Appeal Proceedings
District League Coordinators must file copies of all local and District league grievance and appeal proceedings with the Section League Coordinator.

F. Section Championships

- 1) Section Championships Committee
The Section Championships shall be directed by the Section Championships Committee consisting of a USTA certified referee or umpire, the ITA Adult Programs Committee Chairman and the Section League Coordinator.
- 2) Site Selection
 - a) The Section League Coordinator shall select the site for the Section League Championships and shall ensure that adequate courts, hotel accommodations, banquet facilities and transportation are secured.
 - b) Each year the Section League Coordinator will schedule and conduct a discussion of possible sites for the following years Section Championships with the Adult Recreation & Competition Committee.
- 3) Conducting the Section Championship(s)
The Section League Championship is conducted by the Section League Coordinator or appointed designee.
- 4) Scoring
For the USTA League Tennis Section Championships (Adult Division – 18 & over, 40 & over, 55 & over Age Groups and Mixed Doubles Division – 18 & over Age Groups) and the ITA Fall Mixed Doubles Section Championship all matches will be the best of two sets, with regular scoring and a set tiebreak (first to 7 points by a margin of 2) at 6-all in each set. In the event of split sets, a match tiebreak (first to 10 points by a margin of 2) shall be played in lieu of a third set with no rest period or coaching allowed.
- 5) District League Coordinator Attendance
All District League Coordinators shall be prepared to attend and assist with Section Championship events. Attendance will be on an as-needed basis, as determined and coordinated by the Section League Coordinator. The ITA will pay a per diem allowance plus travel and lodging expenses for the District League Coordinators asked to attend.
- 6) Eligibility
 - a) No individual player is eligible to compete for a team participating in the Section Championships unless he/she has met the minimum participation requirements specified.
 - b) Each team participating in the Section Championships must have

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- been the champion of the preceding level of competition in its NTRP rating category. However, if, for any reason that winning team does not compete in this Championship, the District League Coordinator may designate the second place team to compete in its place.
- c) Each team participating in the Championship must have available and eligible to play a minimum of eight qualified players (five for 5.0 and 2.5 teams) who were on the team's final roster. The Section Championships Committee has the authority, by majority vote, to reduce that number to not less than six (three for 5.0 and 2.5 teams).
 - d) Prior to the Section Championship, each District League Coordinator must forward to the Section League Coordinator the following for each team participating in the event from his/her District:
 - (1) A roster indicating the number of matches required for eligibility for the team and the number of matches played during the local league season by each individual on the roster.
 - (2) USTA Expiration Dates of all players on the roster.
 - (3) Captains contact information, including phone and e-mail address.
- 7) Team Notice of Intent to Play
- a) No Later than seven days after completion of District Championships or local league, each team qualifying to compete in the Section Championship must notify the District League Coordinator that it will or will not participate in the tournament. District League Coordinator must in turn, notify the Section League Coordinator of teams attending Section Championship.
 - b) Failure to Attend – If a team gives notice that it will participate but then fails to do so, penalties may be administered with the maximum penalty being disqualification of all of its members who had agreed to participate from all league play for the following year. The Championship Committee named for the event where the violation occurs shall decide upon the penalty. This decision may be appealed to the ITA Section League Grievance Committee.
 - c) Attendance with fewer than minimum number of eligible players – Any captain who attends a Sectional Championship without the minimum number of players able and eligible to participate may have a grievance filed against him or her which may result in suspension from league participation for the captain and/or any team members at fault as determined by the Championship Committee named for the event where the violation occurs. This decision may be appealed to the ITA Section League Grievance Committee.
- 8) Roving Officials
Roving USTA certified referees or umpires, appointed by the Tournament Director, shall be present throughout the Championship to ensure fairness

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of play and may apply the USTA Point Penalty System and may call foot faults, as may any Tournament official whom they deputize.

9) Rain Schedule

The Section Championships Committee may make alternative plans to which it may resort in order to complete the Tournament on schedule in the event that weather or other conditions interfere. Such plans may include set tie-break in lieu of a third set, pro sets and no-ad scoring.

10) Section League Championship Grievance Committee

The Section Championships Committee shall appoint a Section League Grievance Committee, which shall adjudicate grievances arising during the Championship. The membership of the Committee may be the same as, or different in whole or in part, from that of the Section Championships Committee.

11) Section League Championship Appeal Committee

The Section Championships Committee shall appoint a Section League Appeal Committee, which shall rule on appeals from the Section League Grievance Committee. No member of the Section League Appeal Committee Section League Appeal Committee may be a member of the Section League Grievance Committee.

G. NTRP Procedures

1) District NTRP Committees

Each District may appoint a committee to review NTRP issues in district leagues not included in the Dynamic rating and disqualification processes.

2) NTRP Grievances at District and Section Championships

Any grievance against a player's NTRP rating will be adjudicated after the championship event.

2) Below the District Championships level (i.e. at the local level)

Any player that reaches the disqualified level three times shall be disqualified and will not progress to championship level of competition. All previous matches shall be considered a loss or losses and that individual match or all previous matches shall be considered a win or wins for the opposing player(s) doubles team(s) season.

3) Championship NTRP Dynamic Disqualifications

a) Dynamic ratings will be calculated for all Adult Division players through all District and Section Championship events. Through the conclusion of the championship event, any player meeting the criteria of NTRP Dynamic Disqualification will be notified and disqualified with matches reversed as appropriate. Refer to 18.G.3)b) and national regulations 2.04E(2)a and 2.04E(2)b.

b) In the event of an NTRP disqualification during a Championship event in single elimination competition, the last individual match played by the disqualified player or doubles team shall be considered a loss for that player or team and shall be considered a win for the opponent(s). In the event of such a disqualification during

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a Championship event in a round robin format, all matches played by the disqualified player or doubles team shall be considered losses for that player or team and shall be considered wins for the opponent(s).

- 5) NTRP Observers at District and Section Championships
Verifiers may only be assigned as observers, and administrators of the DNTRP system.

H. USTA League Tennis Adult Division – 18 & over, 40 & over, 55 & over Age Groups

All Age Groups within the USTA League Tennis Adult Division competition will comply with all USTA and ITA League Regulations. NTRP approved levels of play for all age groups shall correspond with USTA league regulation 1.04A. The 55 & over age group shall utilize combined NTRP levels. See chart; “USTA League Program Organization At The National Level”.

- 1) Participation
 - a) The District may authorize participation at more than one NTRP level within an Age Group in the same local league in the same season.
 - b) The District may authorize participation on more than one team within an Age Group at the same NTRP level in the same season provided it is in separate local leagues.
 - c) Players who qualify may advance to Section Championships on more than one team at different NTRP levels within one Age Group. Note: No special consideration for match scheduling will be given. It is recommended that the player choose a “primary” team. Players rostered on more than one team advancing to National Championships will be subject to national regulations.

I. USTA League Tennis Mixed Doubles Division – 18 & Over Age Group and 40 & Over Age Group

All Age Groups with the USTA League Tennis Mixed Doubles Division will comply with all USTA and ITA League regulations. NTRP approved levels of play for these age groups shall correspond with USTA league regulation 1.04A. See chart; “USTA League Program Organization At The National Level”.

- 1) Participation
 - a) A player may play on more than one team within this division in the same local league season provided that the teams are different NTRP levels.
 - b) Players who qualify to advance to championships on more than one team may continue through Section Championships on any team on which they are rostered, provided those teams are at different NTRP levels. Note: No special consideration for match scheduling will be given. It is recommended that the player choose a “primary” team. Players rostered on more than one team advancing to National Championships will be subject to national regulations.

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J. ITA Fall Mixed Doubles League Tennis

ITA Fall Mixed Doubles League Tennis will comply with all USTA and ITA general regulations as well as those outlined in 2.00 in the USTA League Regulations.

- 1) Levels of play for the ITA Fall Mixed Doubles League will be 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, and 9.5.
- 2) Minimum NTRP level for 5.5 is 2.5; 6.5 is 2.5; 7.5 is 3.0; 8.5 is 3.5; 9.5 is 4.0.
- 3) Players participating in both the USTA League Tennis Mixed Doubles Division and the ITA Fall Mixed Doubles League may advance to the Section Championships on both teams.
- 4) Teams will consist of a minimum of six players. Each player must play at least two local league matches during the local league season in order to qualify to compete with the team in the District League Championships, if held, and Section League Championships.
- 5) A player may play on more than one team within this division in the same local league season provided the teams are different NTRP levels.
- 6) Players who qualify to advance to championships on more than one team may continue through Section Championships on any team on which they are rostered, provided those teams are at different NTRP levels.