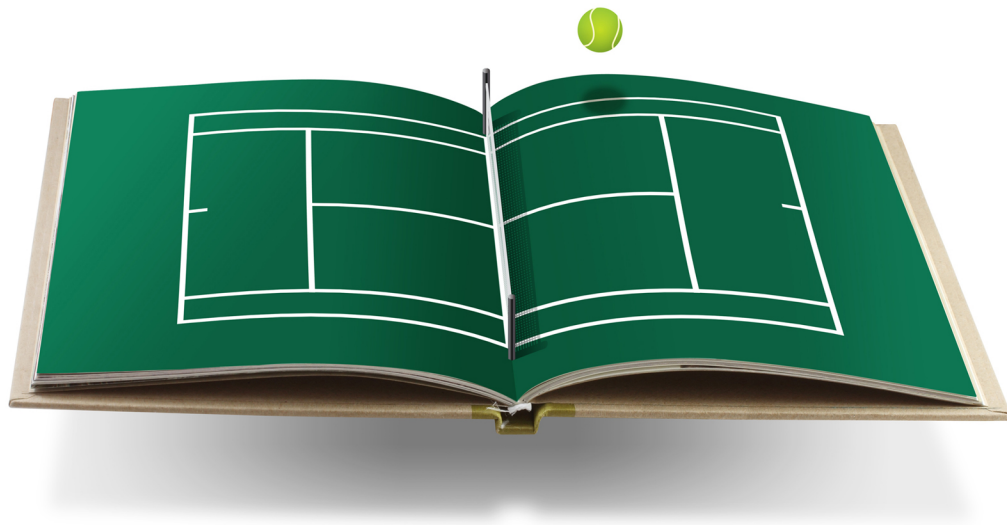


junior development

GUIDEBOOK

entry - intermediate - advanced - elite



MIDDLE STATES

MIDDLE STATES

USTA Middle States junior development pathway



the guidebook

In an effort to improve the experience for thousands of young players throughout the USTA Middle States Section, this new booklet has been designed to maximize a player's competitive experiences, whether that be at Play Days, Junior Team Tennis events or tournaments.

Players will advance to higher levels as they earn their way through the pathway. This booklet gives an overview of the entire competitive structure which include District, Sectional and National.

Middle States

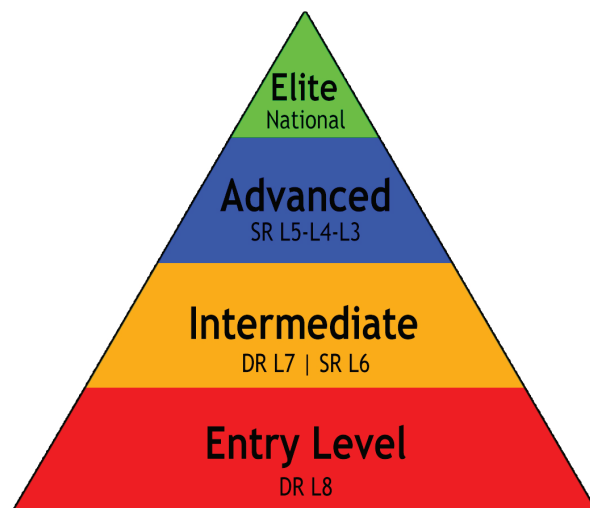
The USTA is organized geographically into 17 sections. The USTA Middle States section encompasses Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey (exclusive of a 35-mile radius around New York City) and northwestern West Virginia.

A volunteer-based, not-for-profit organization, USTA Middle States is dedicated to carrying out the goals of the national association within its region, particularly with respect to promoting tennis opportunities for juniors and adults of all abilities and cultural backgrounds. The volunteer board of directors has full exercise and administrative authority for the section. A professional staff, headed by the executive director, carries out the day-to-day operations. Association policy is formed through, and much of the section's work is executed by, a volunteer structure.

To better serve local needs, USTA Middle States section is further subdivided into six districts: Allegheny Mountain (Pittsburgh, Erie; Wheeling, WV), Central Pennsylvania (Lancaster, Harrisburg, Hershey, York, Williamsport, State College), Delaware (state of Delaware), Philadelphia Area (Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Delaware, Chester Counties), Eastern Pennsylvania (Reading, Allentown, Wilkes-Barre) and New Jersey (state of New Jersey).



middlestates.usta.com



ENTRY LEVEL

USTA Middle States junior development pathway



PROGRAM INFORMATION

ROGY PROGRESSION | The Junior Pathway promotes play in Red, Orange, Green and Yellow ball events. This level of competition is structured in a way that will allow young players to remain at the appropriate level until they are granted advancement by way of age or participation.

PLAY DAYS | Players are introduced to competition in a low-pressure setting where the emphasis is on fun. Play Days allow players to play quick matches with players of similar age and skill so they can transition to team tennis and tournaments.

Find events in your area at playtenniswithus.com

JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS | Enables kids to learn strategy and tactics through organized match play.

The USTA has adopted a “month of birth” age eligibility for junior players competing in sanctioned tournaments: Junior players may continue to play in the 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 age divisions until the month they turn 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 respectively. Players competing are expected to know the rules of tennis and comply with the Code of Conduct of the USTA ([www.USTA.com](https://www.usta.com)).

ENTRY

DR - L8 Tournaments | District Level 8 ROGY

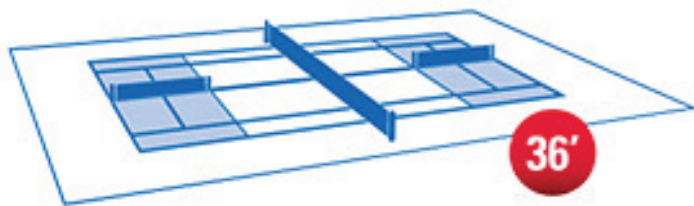
DR is the abbreviation for District Tournaments. This is an entry-level, one-day tournament for junior players who want to play tournaments close to home. These are non-ranking events open to ages 6-18.

Enter tournaments at middlestates.usta.com | Sign up for USTA membership at usta.com/membership

Court Breakdown - ROGY Progression

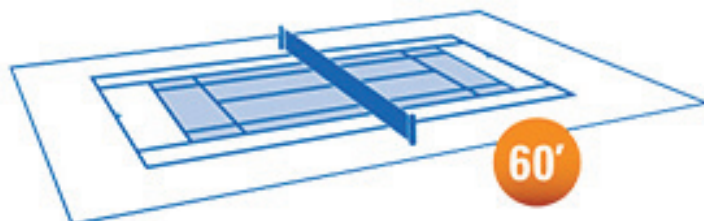
Red-ball: 36' Court | 8 and Younger | 19-23 inch racquet

Participation Credits: 5 (advance after 25)



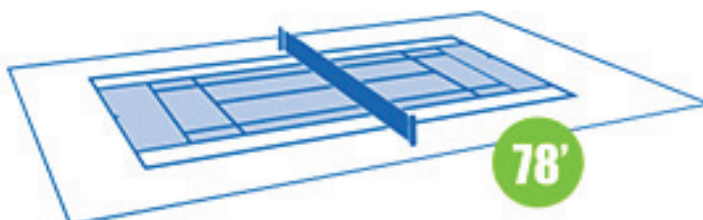
Orange-ball: 60' Court | 10 and Younger | 23-25 inch racquet

Participation Credits: 5 (advance after 25)



Green Ball: 78' Court | 11 and Older | 25-27 inch racquet

Participation Credits: 5 (advance after 25)



INTERMEDIATE COMPETITION

USTA Middle States junior development pathway



PROGRAM INFO

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS (JTT) - Intermediate

Designed for developing players to bring them together as teammates to play other teams and gain valuable experience playing singles, doubles and mixed doubles matches.

DR-L7 JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS - District Level 7 - Intermediate

DR-L7 is the abbreviation for District Ranking tournaments. These tournaments are designed for the developing player who is pursuing a district and/or sectional ranking. Check your District Ranking Requirements.

Rankings and Standings — Points Per Round

Players shall earn points for winning rounds at the district tournament that are set forth on the Ranking Points Tables.

District (DR L7) Ranking Points Per Round

Main Draw Points Per Round Won	20
Consolation Draw Points Per Round Won	10

*The winner receives 30 bonus points and the finalist receives 20 bonus points.
For District "Designated" tournaments, the points per round value will be double.*

SR-L6 JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS - Section Level 6 - Intermediate

SR-L6 is the abbreviation for Sectional Ranking tournaments. SR events count toward USTA MS sectional ranking and are designed for the progressing player.

Sectional (SR) Combined Ranking and Standing — Players shall earn points associated with the last round the player won in the tournament set forth by the Ranking points table.

ENTRY INFO

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS - The Intermediate level consists of unranked players or players with sectional rankings outside of the top 40 for players in the 12-and-under division or outside of the top 70 for age groups 14-18 and under divisions (Benchmarks).

There are two tracks for Junior Team Tennis:

1. Local (non-advancing) Track - Junior Team Tennis-Intermediate
2. National Championship Track - Junior Team Tennis-Intermediate

The age cutoff for Junior Team Tennis Championship track is August 31 of that championship year.*
(i.e. A player may participate in 14-and-under division if they remain 14 through August 31 of the championship year)

DR-L7 JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS - Intermediate | Order of Entry

- (1) Players within the District in the order of District ranking
- (2) Players residing in that District
- (3) Players within USTA MS Section in order of Sectional ranking
- (4) All other USTA MS members, then any eligible USTA member.

*Players in an age division with a sectional ranking of > 20 may not participate in that age division.

SR-L6 JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS - Intermediate | Order of Entry

- (1) Players with rankings of 100 or better on the most recent National Standings list.
- (2) With a maximum of only three, consideration will be given to players with rankings of 50 or better on the most recent National Standings list in the division one level beneath the division in question, and secondly, to players ranked in the top 10 on the most recent published Sectional Standings list in the age division one level beneath the division in question.
- (3) The next set of players shall be those USTA MS players on the entry list who have applied to a previous SR level 6 in the segment (the four quarters of a year) and have been rejected in the same age division as the tournament in question
- (4) Players on the most recently published sectional standings list of the age division.
- (5) All other USTA MS members, then any eligible USTA member.

Enter tournaments and learn about JTT at middlestates.usta.com

CHAMPIONSHIP INFO

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS - Championship Track - Intermediate

Each of the six districts hold a district championship in July. Only the eligible winning team from each League is guaranteed to advance to the District championship in their respective Districts. Winning teams from the 12 and under, 14 and under, and 18 and under divisions advance to the USTA Middle States Section Championship in August. Winning teams in the 14 and under and 18 and under Sectional championships will be eligible to advance to the National Championships in October.

Eligibility Requirements to Advance to District/Section/National Championships: A player is eligible to progress if:

- (1) The player has met all Middle States section benchmark requirements for intermediate levels of play
- (2) Participated on a team that is from an age validated advancing program within TennisLink Team Tennis
- (3) Played on an advancing team (Championship Track) in at least 2 team matches over 2 separate days during the local USTA Jr. Team Tennis season
- (4) The results of the 2 minimum matches must be recorded in TennisLink Team Tennis. A retired match can count towards the two-match requirement, but not defaults,

ADVANCED COMPETITION

USTA Middle States junior development pathway



PROGRAM INFO

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS (JTT) - Advanced

Designed for advanced players to bring them together as teammates to play other advanced teams in singles, doubles and mixed doubles matches.

SR-L5 JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS - Sectional Level 5 - Advanced

These events count toward section ranking but their primary purpose is to provide competition among the outstanding USTA MS juniors who are pursuing a high sectional ranking.

SR-L4/L3 JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS - Section Level 3 & 4 - Advanced

These events count toward section ranking and national ranking but their primary purpose is to provide competition among the outstanding USTA MS juniors who are pursuing USTA national tournament eligibility.

Sectional (SR) Combined Ranking and Standing – The last round the player won in the tournament is the only points the player receives. Combined rankings are based on the best four Sectional (SR), District (DR-L7) and one national tournaments in a 12 month period. Combined Rankings are calculated using 100 percent of the singles points awarded and 15 percent of the doubles points awarded.

ENTRY INFO

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS - The advanced level consists of experienced players in the 14 and under and the 18 and under age divisions.

There are two tracks for Junior Team Tennis:

1. Local (non-advancing) Track - Junior Team Tennis-Advanced
2. National Championship Track - Junior Team Tennis-Advanced

The age cutoff for USTA Jr. Team Tennis Championship track is August 31 of that championship year.* (i.e. A player may participate in 14-and-under division if they remain 14 through August 31 of the championship year.

JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS - Sectional Level 3, 4 & 5 | Order of Entry:

- (1) Players with rankings of 100 or better on the most recent National Standings list.
- (2) With a maximum of only three, consideration will be given to players with rankings of 50 or better on the most recent National Standings list in the division one level beneath the division in question, and secondly, to players ranked in the top 10 on the most recently published Sectional Standings list in the age division one level beneath the division in question.
- (3) Players on the most recently published sectional standings list of the age division.
- (4) All other USTA Middle States members by lottery.

Enter tournaments and learn about JTT at middlestates.usta.com

CHAMPIONSHIP INFO

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS - Championship Track - Advanced

Each of the six districts hold a district championship in July. Only the eligible winning team from each League is guaranteed to advance to the District championship in their respective Districts. Winning teams from the 12 and under, 14 and under, and 18 and under divisions advance to the USTA Middle States Section Championship in August. Winning teams in the 14U and 18U Sectional championships will be eligible to advance to the National Championships in October. Players will be awarded 10 points for a singles win and 1.5 points for a gender doubles win at the JTT National Championships in the Advanced division only.

Eligibility Requirements to Advance to District/Section/National Championships: A player is eligible to progress if:

- (1) Participated on a team that is from an age validated advancing program (Championship Track) within TennisLink Team Tennis
- (2) Played on the advancing team (Championship Track) in at least 2 team matches over 2 separate days during the local USTA Jr. Team Tennis season
- (3) The results of the two minimum matches must be recorded in TennisLink Team Tennis. A retired match can count towards the two-match requirement, but NOT defaults.

SR-L3 (JUNE) JUNIOR TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP – The level SR-L3 championship is held in June for the BG12-18 age divisions. This championship tournament features a 64 draw for singles and a 32 team draw for doubles. The winner of the singles division earns an automatic entry to the Level 1 National Hard Court Championship event.

ELITE COMPETITION

USTA Middle States junior development pathway



PROGRAM INFO

National Junior Tournaments

Access to the USTA National Championships will be primarily through the Section Endorsement which places much importance on achieving excellence at the Sectional level before advancing to regional and national competition.

The USTA Middle States Section endorses to the following National Championships, Team Championships and Closed Regionals. Players must apply in order to be considered for these events.

TEAM EVENTS

- USTA Zone Team Championships: Held in July for the BG12, BG14 and the BG16 divisions.
- USTA Intersectional Team Championships: Held in July for the BG14 divisions and BG16 divisions.
- USTA National Team Championship: Consists of 17 teams (one per section) for BG18, held in July.

These are national level team tournaments where players get to compete alongside fellow Middle States players against players from other sections.

TOURNAMENT EVENTS

- “Closed” Regionals (Region 3): Held in February and October for the BG12-18 divisions
- USTA National Clay Championship: Consist of 128 players for BG12-14, and 192 players for BG 16-18, held in July.
- USTA National Championship: Consist of 128 players for BG12-14, and 192 players for BG 16-18, held in August.
- USTA National Winter Championship: Consists of 128 players for BG12-18, held in December.

National Tournaments Endorsement System

Section endorsement into national tournaments is primarily based on a National Quota system which is a mathematical calculation that determines the number of players each Section endorses to National Championships, Team Championships and Closed Regionals. Endorsed players are selected based on specific dates and the creation of ranked standings lists on these dates or thereabout. The dates shall be as follows:

- January 12th for the February Regional (closed) Tournament
- June 1st for the July Clay Courts National Championships
- July 1st for the August Hard Courts National Championships
- September 1st for the October Regional (closed) Tournament
- November 30th for the December Winter National Championships

Below are the number of players endorsed from Middle States for each Boys and Girls age division into the Regional and National Championship Events:

National Championships	BG12s	BG14s	BG16s	BG18s
<i>Closed Regional</i>	6	6	6	6
<i>Clay Courts</i>	4	4	6	5
<i>Hard Courts</i>	4*	4*	5*	5*
<i>Winter National</i>	4	4	4	4

*June Sectional Level 3 Championships singles winner earns an automatic entry into the Level 1 National Hard Court Championship Event.

Below are the dates and number of players endorsed from Middle States for each Boys and Girls division into National Team Championship Events. These are non-elimination, round robin National team championships:

- June 1st for the July Zone Team and Intersectional Team Championships
- July 1st for the July National Team Championships

National Team Championships	BG12s	BG14s	BG16s	BG18s
<i>Zone Team</i>	18	12	18	X
<i>Intersectional Team</i>	X	3*	3*	X
<i>National Team</i>	X	X	X	6*

*The Junior Competition Committee reserves the right, if it is deemed in the best interest of the Section, to select one (1) additional player.

Other National Tournaments: (Selection is based on the National Standings Lists):

- USTA National Selection Tournaments •USTA National Doubles Championship •USTA National Spring Team Championships
- National Warm Up Tournament •USTA National Sweet Sixteen •USTA “Open” Regional

For more information, visit: http://www.usta.com/Youth-Tennis/Junior-Competition/players_and_parents/

ENTRY and CHAMPIONSHIP INFO

USTA Middle States Ranking Points Tables - Effective 1/1/2015

Feed-in Championship through Round of 16

Sectional Ranking Points Tables

Description	Finish	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Champion	1	660	300	220	165
2nd Place	2	540	250	180	135
3rd Place	3	480	220	160	120
4th Place/SF	4	420	220	160	105
5th Place/QF Playoff Winner	5	390	175	130	98
6th Place - QF Playoff Runner-up	6	360	160	120	90
7th and 8th Place - Playoff Cons Losers	7-8	330	140	110	83
FIC Winner	9	330	140	110	83
FIC Runner-up	10	310	130	105	80
FIC Semi-Finalist	11-12	300	125	100	75
FIC Quarterfinalist	13-16	270	115	90	68
Reach FIC R16	17-24	240	95	80	60
Reached FIC R16 Qualifier	25-32	210	80	70	53
Reached FIC R32	33-48	180	65	60	45
Reached FIC R32 Qualifier	49-64	150	0	50	38
Reached FIC R64	65-96	120	0	40	30
Reached FIC R64 Qualifier	97-128	90	0	30	23
Reached FIC 128	129-192	60	0	20	15

USTA Middle States Ranking Points Tables - Effective 1/1/2015

Feed-In Through Quarterfinals

Description	Finish	Level 1	Level 3	Level 5
Champion	1	660	220	88
2nd Place	2	540	180	72
3rd Place	3	480	160	64
4th Place/SF	4	420	140	56
FIC Winner	5	300	130	52
FIC Runner-Up	6	300	120	48
FIC SF PL Winner	7	300	110	44
FIC SF	7-8	300	110	44
FIC Quarterfinalist	9-12	240	100	40
FIC Quarterfinalist Qualifier	13-16	240	90	36
Reached FIC R16	17-24	180	80	32
Reached FIC R16 Qualifier	25-32	180	70	28
Reached FIC R32	33-48	120	60	24
Reached FIC R32 Qualifier	49-64	120	50	20
Points Per Consolation	-	30	-	-

First Match Loser's Consolation (FMLC)

Description	Level 6	Level 7
Champion	56	33
2nd Place	46	29
3rd Place	41	21
4th Place/SF	36	16
Quarterfinalist	26	12
Reached R16	20	8
Reached R32	15	4
Reached R64	10	0
Reached R128	5	0
Reached R256	0	0
Consolation	10	1
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

Sectional Ranking Points Tables

Team Events Points Per Win

Description	Level 1 Intersectionals and Nationals	Level 2 Zone Team	Level 7 Junior Team Tennis
Position 1 Points/Win	100	50	10
Position 2 Points/Win	90	45	10
Position 3 Points/Win	80	40	10
Position 4 Points/Win	70	35	10
Position 5 Points/Win	60	30	10
Position 6 Points/Win	50	25	10