

USTA Northern Adult Leagues Sectional Advancement Process

- **ALL TEAMS MUST APPLY ONLINE TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY AT SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.**
- Teams from Early Start and Winter seasons can apply now; Summer teams must apply as soon as their last match is completed AT THE END OF JULY AND NO LATER THAN AUGUST 3; 11:59 P.M.
- Applications will require a roster and a team registration fee, which will only be processed after the team is selected for Sectionals by the USTA Northern Sectional Championships Committee.
- Non-Flight winners (for “Lucky Loser” and Wild Card positions) may be selected based on winning percentage, independent of their flight (i.e. 2nd place in a flight no longer matters, winning percentage does.)
- Rosters must include enough eligible and unique players (i.e. no double-rostering within an age group and NTRP level.) Eligible players are those who have played two team matches; one may be a default, prior to Sectional Championships.

TWIN CITIES and OUTSTATE AREA FLIGHT WINNERS

- Flight winners are first place finishers in each season flight AND second place finishers in all flights with seven or more teams.
- **ALL FLIGHT WINNERS MUST COMPLETE THE APPLICATION PROCESS TO PLAY AT SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.**
- Captains with multiple Flight Winner teams (within the same division, age group and NTRP level) have three options:
 - Apply only one team for Sectionals;
 - Apply for multiple teams with rosters containing SEPARATE AND UNIQUE team members; **each team must have a separate application.**
 - Decline all Flight Winner teams for Sectionals.
- Note: There is one application at the link listed below. The application has options to choose “flight winner”, “lucky loser” or “sectional wildcard”.
- Flight winning slots that are declined become “Lucky Loser” slots.
- Wild cards may be awarded for the purpose of filling out draws.

TWIN CITIES AREA “LUCKY LOSERS”

- **ALL TEAMS MUST APPLY TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ANY POTENTIAL TWIN CITIES AREA “LUCKY LOSER” SECTIONAL SLOTS.**
- Number of Twin Cities Area “Lucky Loser” Sectional slots is based on number of flights and number of Flight Winners applying for available slots.
- “Lucky Loser” slots will be chosen by highest winning percentage REGARDLESS OF THEIR FLIGHT.
- 2nd place in a flight is NO guarantee of a slot at Sectionals.

SECTIONAL WILD CARDS

- Sectional Wild Card invitations are only offered at the discretion of USTA Northern Sectional Championships Committee, after all other Area qualifiers for Sectionals are determined. Only teams that have submitted an application will be considered.
- Committee will follow order of Wild Cards as defined in the Sectional Regulations. Here is a link to the Sectional Regulations: [2015 Northern Sectional Regulations](#) 2.02B(3) on pages 3 & 4 lists the order of wild cards
- If a Wild Card invitation is available to a Twin Cities Area team, that team will be selected from remaining Twin Cities Area “Lucky Loser” applicants.

SECTIONALS APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMING

- Captains will use TennisLink standings as the basis for the type of Sectional Championship Application they are submitting.
- Standings for Early Start and Winter Seasons have been confirmed in TennisLink. Summer standings will be confirmed as soon as the last matches are completed flight by flight on a daily basis at the end of July.
- For any flights of teams not having the same number of matches, the final standings will be adjusted in TennisLink to show Winning Percentage. (When that has been done, it will be shown in the flight name. For example, *4.0 MEN /Flight B - Winning Percentage* and team names in the standings will include the order of finish in the flight and the team’s winning percentage. For example, *Magnuson - PIT Panthers #2 (77.8%)*).
- Any teams in flights where standings were adjusted due to invalid matches, the adjusted standings are in TennisLink. However, the Winning Percentage for advancement purposes will be calculated based on the original flight standings (unadjusted.) If you are a captain in this situation, please contact Nancy Lundberg; lundberg@northern.usta.com; 952.358.3286 for clarification of flight standings.

ONE DOUBLES

- The deadline for Sectional Championship applications for ONE Doubles teams is November 6, 2015. Sectional Championships are December 3-5, 2015.

55 & OVER

- Due to the new procedures and the timing of the 55 & Over Sectional Championship, section staff will work with those 55 & Over advancing team captains to ensure a smooth transition to completing the application process and the scheduling of Sectional Championships.

DATES & DEADLINES

- **AUGUST 3, 11:59 P.M. :DEADLINE FOR ALL TEAMS TO SUBMIT SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS APPLICATIONS. THIS INCLUDES ALL TEAMS FOR ADULT 18 & OVER, ADULT 40 & OVER AND MIXED DOUBLES 18 & OVER.**
- August 4: Championships Committee will first fill all Winning Flight Positions. They will then fill all Twin Cities Area Lucky Loser Positions, if any. After that, the committee will determine whether to add any Wild Card positions.
- August 4: Process all team registration fees
- Complete and post championship schedules as soon as possible after August 4.
- Registration website for all teams:
<https://secure.jotformpro.com/form/50975655936976>
- Any questions? Please contact Nancy Lundberg; lundberg@northern.usta.com; 952.358.3286