

Minutes of the USTA NorCal Board of Directors Wednesday, August 20, 2025 Video Conference

Directors Present: Leslie Airola-Murveit, Andrea Barnes (Vice President), Christine Costamagna (President), Anoosh Davoudzadeh, Mike Dickey (Treasurer), Mariko Fritz-Krockow, Mylene Martin, Andrea Norman (Secretary), David Panconi, Craig Pasqua (Parliamentarian), Caroline Sheu, Pam Sloan (Delegate)

Directors Absent: Shaun Chaudhuri, Cheri King, Samir Mahir

Advisory Director Present: Jack Walker

Legal Counsel Present: Jonathan Madison

USTA NorCal Staff Present: Summer Verhoeven (Executive Director); Omar Ahmad, Director of Operations and Strategy; Essie Elsakkar, Senior Manager of Marketing & Communications; Jesus Cortez, Manager of Information Technology

Guest Present: Jason Scalese, Chair of the Constitution & Rules Committee

1. Call to Order and Introduction of New Staff

President Costamagna called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm and roll call was conducted. President Costamagna then asked Ms. Airola-Murveit to read the NorCal Mission Statement and Vision Statement.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Board considered approval of the agenda, a copy of which was distributed with the meeting packet. Ms. Costamagna noted that the agenda incorrectly states the October 15 meeting will be by video conference; it will be in person. There being no opposition, the agenda was announced approved as changed.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Board considered approval of the minutes of the meeting held June 18, 2025. Following discussion, the following motion was duly made by Ms. Norman, seconded by Ms. Airola-Murveit, and **approved** by a vote of 12 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the USTA NorCal Board of Directors held June 18, 2025, are hereby approved as corrected.

4. Introduction of New Staff

Summer asked each of the three new staff members to introduce themselves:

- Omar Ahmad, Director of Operations & Strategy
- Essie Elsakkar, Senior Manager of Marketing & Communications
- Jesus Cortez, Manager of Information Technology
- Mr. Elsakkar and Mr. Cortez left the meeting.
- Mr. Walker and Ahmad left the meeting for the duration of the Closed Session.
- Mr. Scalese joined the meeting for the duration of the Closed Session related to the discussion of the Restated Bylaws proposal.

5. Closed Session

President Costamagna announced that the Board would be going into closed session. Following the conclusion of the closed session, President Costamagna announced all discussion held during the session was to remain confidential; however, it was agreed that the following would be reported in the public minutes:

• Restated Bylaws. The Board unanimously approved the proposed Restatement of the USTA NorCal Bylaws, upon motion made by Mr. Panconi and seconded by Ms. Airola-Murveit. Such Restated Bylaw proposal will be distributed with the notice of the 2025 USTA Annual Meeting. Pursuant to Bylaw X.B., and because the Board is in support of the restatement, all proxies made out in blank or to NorCal, will be voted to support the Restatement.

Mr. Scalese left the meeting following the discussion of the Restated Bylaws proposal.

• <u>Legal Updates</u>. The Board heard updates on outstanding legal issues.

Legal Counsel Jonathan Madison left the meeting following the Closed Session.

Mr. Walker and Mr. Ahmad returned to the meeting following the Closed Session.

6. Delegate's Report: USTA Call Items for 2025 USTA Semiannual Meeting

Ms. Sloan announced that the Delegates Committee meeting to review the call items was held August 18, at which time a discussion of the proposed Call Items for the 2025 USTA Annual Meeting was conducted. Ms. Sloan presented an overview of the purpose for the Call Items to amend the USTA Bylaws and USTA Regulations.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made by Ms. Norman, seconded by Ms. Sloan, and **approved** by a vote of 12 in favor, 1 opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, as currently drafted, the USTA NorCal Delegate is directed to vote in favor B1, the Bylaw amendment proposal eliminates the requirement that a detailed two-year budget for the succeeding calendar years be distributed to the USTA Board and Executive Council by August 15 of each odd-numbered year, and replaces it with a requirement that a preliminary budget for the succeeding year be presented on January 2 of each year; the requirement that the final budget for a calendar year be distributed by January 2 of each year remains.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That, as currently drafted, the USTA NorCal Delegate is directed to vote in favor R1, the proposed amendment to the USTA Regulations to add provisions related to Para-Standing Tennis.

RESOLVED FURTHER: Should any substantive changes be made to the Call Items before adoption, the Board hereby delegates authority to the Executive Committee to determine how to instruct the Delegate to vote.

7. Volunteer Task Force Update

Ms. Sloan, chair of the Task Force updated the Board on the work of the group. Those serving with her are Silvia Duenas-Bielser, Jana Klein, and NorCal staff Cherryl Silva.

The focus of the project will be on recruitment, retention and training. In order for NorCal to meet the 35x35 growth it is responsible, it needs to have more manpower to both broaden the reach to the entire tennis community, and to allow volunteers to help run events that currently pull staff from all departments to put on.

Actions taken to date include re-starting the work of a previous volunteer committee that was halted by past leadership, and making adjustments so that it fits into the needs of NorCal today This work includes a volunteer manual, ambassadors program, mentoring, and incentives/rewards for participation.

The Task Force has also surveyed the Committee Chairs and Staff Liaisons to better gauge where volunteers can assist. The survey included questions related to: the numbers of volunteers needed for various projects, the level of commitment required, and the level of expertise preferred. The survey response data will be is being evaluated by our new Manager of IT. The next step will be to develop a volunteer platform that will be easy to use, and provide full descriptions of the open volunteer positions.

Ms. Sloan concluded by emphasizing that the Task Force will be developing a mentor program to ensure education, development and retention, as well as an incentive program that will be tied to the length of service.

8. Executive Committee Report. President Costamagna announced that on July 18, the Executive Committee approved the Junior and Adult tournament sanctions below. Most of these sanctions were considered urgent as registration for these tournaments have start dates so close to the next board meeting, that waiting for approval would likely limit the ability of the organization to properly plan for the events. For the remainder, the Executive Committee felt there should not be a delay in approval as this would only serve to delay the Organizations from beginning their planning, and many of these later date tournaments are being run by the same organizations who have been awarded sanctions being held on an earlier date.

| Junior Tournament Sanctions | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------|--------|-------|
| Date | Level | Divisions | Events | Organizer | Director | Location | Courts | Limit |
| August 3 | Level 7 | BG12-14 | Singles | Kim Grant Tennis Academy | Kim Grant | Woodside | 5 | 8 |
| August 10 | Level 7 | BG12-14 | Singles | Kim Grant Tennis Academy | Kim Grant | Woodside | 5 | 8 |
| August 16 | Level 7 | BG12-14 | Singles | Cudny Tennis Academy | Enny Cudny | San Jose | 6 | 8 |
| August 16 | Level 7 | BG12-18 | Singles | NextGen Sports | Lokesh Sisodiya | Lathrop | 8 | 8 |

| Junior Tournament Sanctions | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|------------|----------|--------|-------|
| Date | Level | Divisions | Events | Organizer | Director | Location | Courts | Limit |
| August 30 | Level 7 | BG12-14 | Singles | Cudny Tennis Academy | Enny Cudny | San Jose | 6 | 8 |
| October 11 | Level 7 | BG12-14 | Singles | Cudny Tennis Academy | Enny Cudny | San Jose | 6 | 8 |
| October 11 | Level 7 | BG12-14 | Singles | Kim Grant Tennis Academy | Kim Grant | Woodside | 5 | 8 |
| November 8 | Level 7 | BG12-14 | Singles | Cudny Tennis Academy | Enny Cudny | San Jose | 6 | 8 |
| November 8 | Level 7 | BG12-14 | Singles | Kim Grant Tennis Academy | Kim Grant | Woodside | 5 | 8 |

| Adult Tournament Sanctions | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Date | Level | Divisions | Events | Organizer | Director | Location | Courts | Limit |
| August 25-27 | Level 6 | Age Group 60+, 70+, 80+ | MS, WS, MD, WD | Mission Hills Racquet and Swim Club | Max Taylor, James Bacud | Fremont | 12 | 8 |
| August 30-31 | Level 6 | NTRP 18+ 2.5- 5.5 | MS, WS, MD, WD, MX | Lafayette Tennis Club | Hunter Gallaway | Lafayette | 9 | 8 |
| September 28 | Level 7 | NTRP 18+ 2.5-5.5 | MS, WS, MD, WD, MX | NextGen Sports | Lokesh Sisodiya | Lathrop | 8 | 16 |

9. Consent Calendar

President Costamagna directed the Board's attention to the Consent Calendar that was distributed with the meeting packet and noted that there are:

- 8 recommendations being made by the Adult Leagues Committee
- 1 recommendation being made by the Adult Tournaments Committee
- 4 recommendations being made by the JTT/Local Play Committee
- 2 recommendation being made by the Hall of Fame Selection Committee

President Costamagna explained that any Director may unilaterally request that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for individual consideration apart from the Consent Calendar. She also noted that simple questions, clarifications, or short amounts of dialogue relative to an item on the Consent Calendar may be discussed after the motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

President Costamagna asked if any Director intended to pull any recommendation. Ms. Barnes and Ms. Airola-Murveit expressed concerns over the Adult League Committee's proposal remove the ability for a computer rated player to appeal their rating down but keep the ability for a player to appeal their rating up. This is a recommendation being made to the USTA to consider this amendment. These types of proposals are not yet due to the USTA and additional time can be taken to reconsider. With no objection, the item was pulled from the Consent Calendar without objection.

Following the removal of the Adult League Committee item, a motion to adopt the Consent Calendar was duly made by Mr. Dickey and seconded by Ms. Martin. Following discussion, the following motion was **approved** by a vote of 12 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That items listed on the Consent Calendar attached as Exhibit A are hereby approved.

10. Action Item: Reimbursements to Teams Qualifying for League National Championships

Ms. Barnes presented the Action Item proposed by the Adult League Committee. She reminded the Board that the FAQ being proposed for amendment was last changed in March to have the funds go towards a National Team dinner upon submitting receipts as NorCal was given information at the time that this could be considered an expense that is not reported to the IRS. This item was also discussed at the June Board meeting and referred back to Committee for further discussion.

Since the June Board Meeting, the NorCal Accounting Department re-confirmed with the auditors that stipends and meal reimbursements for captains/players are taxable income because the qualifying national teams are not attending League Nationals on business.

The proposed NorCal League Rules FAQ makes it clear that a captain must submit a W-9 to USTA NorCal before the funds are paid out, so that if a captain receives over \$600 in a year, USTA NorCal will already have a W-9 on file.

Following discussion, and adjustments made to the language to allow flexibility to how the payments are made, the following motion was duly made by Mr. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Panconi, and **approved** by a vote of 12 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, the language in the NorCal League Rules FAQ be amended as follows (stricken through language is proposed deletion and underline language is proposed addition):

Expenses for Qualifying National Teams

Q: Does USTA NorCal help with the expenses of taking a team to Nationals?

A: Yes. USTA Northern California provides an allowance contributes towards the expenses of a team dinner for qualifying teams that participate in USTA National Championships. For five-line leagues, NorCal will provide a per diem allowance up to contribute \$650; for four-line leagues, NorCal will provide a per diem allowance up to contribute \$550; for three-line leagues, NorCal will provide a per diem allowance up to contribute \$450. Per diem allowances Contributions are paid directly to the individual listed as captain of the team, or other individual(s) identified by the captain, for use by the captain and teammates, on the date of the national championships and-will be mailed at the conclusion of the USTA National Championships for each league, upon the captain (or other individual(s) identified by the captain) submitting a request for a per diem, or by submitting receipts, a W-9 to USTA NorCal, if payments exceed \$600.

11. Delegated Authority Decision Report

Ms. Norman directed the Board's attention to the report of decisions made by Committees that were within the clearly defined scope of authority that the Board has delegated to the Committees in the applicable Committee Charters, a copy of which was distributed with the meeting packet. She noted that the report contains the following decisions:

- Consideration of 16 grievances filed with the Adult Leagues Grievance Committee
- Consideration of 2 grievances filed with the Adult Leagues Grievance Appeals Committee
- Consideration of 148 NTRP Self-Rate appeals filed with the NTRP Self-Rate Appeals Committee
- Consideration of 1 medical appeals filed with the Adult Leagues Medical Appeals Committee
- Consideration of 2 appeals and 2 grievances filed with the Sportsmanship Committee

Ms. Norman explained that if the Board disagrees with any action, it may consider taking further action as it deems appropriate. Following the presentation of the Report, the Directors had neither questions, comments, nor objections to the actions taken by the Committees.

12. New & Returning Organization Members

Mr. Ahmad presented the report of 3 new and 3 returning Organization Members since the last time the Board met on June 18, 2025, so that the Board may fulfill its obligation to review such report pursuant to USTA NorCal Bylaw III.D. NorCal currently has 345 Organization Members.

13. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Dickey reported that the financial statements for June 2025 were distributed with the meeting packet. He reported the following:

- Year-to-date, income is exceeding the budget by a \$57K and expenses are lower than budget by \$204K, resulting in a net income year-to-date of \$270K.
- The forecast for 2025 is also positive, with income projected to exceed the budget by \$48K and expenses to be lower than anticipated by \$109K, resulting in a projected \$176K in net income for the year.
- Operationally, transitions to Rippling Payroll and Rippling credit card system and Quickbooks are largely complete.
- The 2026 Budget process is underway.

14. President's Report

- <u>Volunteer Engagement</u>. The Presidents discussed the new technology the USTA will be using to attract, engage, learning, connection, awards and recognition. Among these is Cornerstone which provides leadership training, and which NorCal will be looking into for its Directors.
- <u>35x35 Update</u>. Phase 2 of the project has begun with the formation of cross-section teams to create operating plans.
- <u>USTA Coaching</u>. USTA Coaching launched on August 13. The USTA is working with the Sections on funding report that will be needed for the Sections to fulfill their responsibilities as it relates to this initiative.
- <u>Section Reporting</u>. At the President's meetings, the Section Presidents will begin taking turns on updating the group on each's initiatives.

President Costamagna encouraged the Directors to review her full report in greater detail.

15. Executive Director's Report

In addition to the NorCal program statistics and written report included in the meeting packet, Ms. Verhoeven's in-meeting presentation included the following:

- <u>USTA Coaching</u>. USTA Coaching, which launched August 13 is a comprehensive platform designed to support tennis coaches at every stage of their journey. From parents picking up a racquet for the first time to coach their children, to seasoned professionals coaching top competitive players, we provide world-class resources, tailored education, and a welcoming community to help coaches gain confidence, grow and succeed. Ms. Verhoeven reported that NorCal Here is in the final phase of bringing on a dedicated staff member who will lead the implementation and coordination of all things Coaching. This new role will help NorCal deliver more resources, training, and opportunities to coaches at every level.
- <u>RIRG Report on State of Tennis Industry</u>. This report from the Racquet Industry Research Group (RIRG) and which is in the Board packet provides a comprehensive overview of the U.S. tennis industry in 2024, highlighting key participation trends, equipment sales, facility usage, and economic impact. It also includes an early look at Q1 2025 results, offering insights into how the industry is performing in the current year and identifying emerging patterns that may shape the growth and direction of tennis moving forward.
- Operationalizing 35x35. The USTA has formed teams dedicated to the 10 pillars identified by all sections. These teams will work together to refine the overall strategy, ensure alignment around the core pillars, and review the key initiatives already established within each. Their next step will be to align on a go-forward plan and develop a clear, digestible strategy to help sections operationalize the vision of reaching 35 million players by 2035. Attached you'll find the slides outlining the 10 pillars and their current prioritization. Additional updates will be shared as each team develops outcomes.
- Red Ball for All San Francisco Launch Event. USTA NorCal will be hosting an event in San Francisco to officially launch Red Ball Tennis. Red Ball courts will be set up on the turf fields, giving families and adults the opportunity to try out Red Ball Tennis in a fun and welcoming environment.
- <u>NorCal Staffing Updates</u>. NorCal is currently in the process of hiring for the USTA Coaching position and Community Programs position in Sacramento. Both roles are in the final phases of interviews, and should be filled by the end of this week.

Ms. Verhoeven asked the Directors to review her written report for other important information, including important events happening during the next several months.

16. Adjournment

Prior to adjourning, Ms. Sloan requested at a future meeting that an update on the projects NorCal is doing that is related to the Growth Catalyst Fund be presented. Ms. Verhoeven noted the growth in the numbers of officials that has been happening, and the launch of the mentoring program is nearing.

Also, Ms. Norman announced that Gus Grumet, one of NorCal's nominees for the USTA Bill Talbert Sportsmanship Award, was selected as a recipient of year's award.

Following the announcement that the next meeting will be by video conference on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, with no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Andrea Norman, Secretary



EXHIBIT A Consent Calendar USTA NorCal Board Meeting • August 20, 2025

This document contains all committee recommendations made (or not included) since the previous board meeting on May 21, 2025.

Adult League Committee

1. **Amendment to Adult League Committee Charter.** Approved at a meeting held June 30, 2025, by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

STRAW VOTE RESOLUTION: To add a Women's 8.5 and Men's 6.5, 7.5, and 8.5 divisions to the 2025 daytime Combo League as a pilot.

Rationale: It is good to offer the same divisions for both men and women. Additionally, adding more divisions where players have shown interest would be promoting play by adding more opportunities for players to play during the day. This will be piloted for 2025 and will be discussed again after team registrations has closed to determine the continuation of the added divisions for future years.

Note: This resolution was implemented immediately after adoption, but there was only enough interest for the Women's 8.5 league to be played (8 teams signed up). From a budget perspective, the addition of this League is operating at a net gain.

2. Amendment to Adult League Committee Charter. Approved at a meeting held June 30, 2025, by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, that #8 under Responsibilities of the Adult League Committee Charter be amended as follows (stricken through language is proposed deletion and underline language is proposed addition):

Responsibilities

- 1. To advise, assist, work and collaborate with the USTA NorCal staff, the USTA Network and overall tennis industry.
- 2. Monitor participation in USTA NorCal adult league programs to identify areas for growth and concerns related to retention.
- 3. Develop ideas for new Adult League product(s) offerings and analyze and make recommendations for retiring product lines where demand no longer supports the resources to host events. Explore WTN play opportunities for Adult League players.
- 4. Secure host sites and make recommendations on hosting League Championships, and the annual awards event.
- 5. Support entry-level growth, retention and customer service for adult league players at all levels.
- 6. Ensure clear and consistent rules and regulations and are compliant with the National League Regulations.
- 7. Support education and training for captains and players.
- 8. Develop, compile, review, evaluate and report on the results of the 2023 Player Surveys.
- 9. Collaborate with the Adult Tournament Committee to grow participation in NTRP National Championship Oualifiers and the NTRP National Championships and develop similar play opportunities.
- 10. Develop sportsmanship initiatives and recognition opportunities.

Rationale: #8 under Responsibilities on the Adult Leagues Committee Charter is currently out of date as it refers to the 2023 Player Survey. Amending this responsibility to remove the specific year will make the responsibility current as time goes on.

3. **Penalty for Lateness at Sectionals (FAQ).** Approved at a meeting held June 30, 2025, by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective with the 2026 Championship year, language be added to the NorCal League Rules FAQ to explain the lateness penalty at League Sectionals as follows (stricken through language is proposed deletion and underline language is proposed addition):

Q: What is the penalty for lateness?

A: Once a championship match has been assigned, all players must report to the desk and be ready to play within 15 minutes of the assigned time. Failure to do so will result in a default, and the match will be awarded to the opposing team or player. Submission of the lineup by the team captain serves as

confirmation that all listed players are on-site, available, and prepared to play. This rule applies regardless of whether courts become available before or after the originally scheduled match time.

Rationale: Currently, there is no written rule outlining lateness penalties for Sectional Championships. Adding a clear lateness policy to the Rules FAQ will ensure consistency, eliminate confusion, and support fair play across all matches. Captains are informed prior to the event that all players must be onsite and lineups must be submitted no later than 30 minutes before the published match time. Matches may begin being called as soon as the lineup is submitted, and all players listed must be present at that time. Establishing a defined lateness penalty reinforces the importance of timeliness and helps ensure that matches begin on schedule.

4. 2026 Flex League Calendar. Approved at a meeting held August 4, 2025, by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, the following 2026 Flex League Calendar be approved:

- 11 Week Season /6-8 matches depending on the number of players in the area
 - Season Dates: January 19 April 5
 - Registration: December 15 January 11
- 11 Week Season/6-8 matches depending on the number of players in the area
 - Season Dates: April 13 June 28
 - Registration: March 2 April 5
- 11 Week Season/6-8 matches depending on the number of players in the area
 - Season Dates: July 6 September 20
 - Registration: May 25 June 28
- 11 Week Season/6-8 matches depending on the number of players in the area
 - Season Dates: September 28 December 13
 - Registration: August 17 September 20

Rationale: The 2026 proposed schedule mirrors the schedule we had in 2025. Flex League has grown in 2025. In 2024 NorCal ended the year with 1,442 registrations. As of July 22, 2025, the year-to-date number for Flex Leagues is 1,544. Players for the Fall season haven't registered yet; conservatively, that could be another 450-600 registrations, putting Flex at about 2,100 registrations by year-end 2025.

5. 2025 Adult Leagues Awards Criteria. Approved at a meeting held August 4, 2025 ,by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the Adult Leagues Awards and Criteria be approved as Exhibit A-1.

Rationale: The Adult League Awards remain the same. No awards were added nor removed from existing criteria. Only minor adjustments have been made.

6. Retirement at Sectionals. Approved at a meeting held August 4, 2025 by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, the following language be removed from the NorCal League Rules FAQ (stricken through language is proposed deletion):

- Q: What happens if a player retires from a match at a Sectional Championship?
- **A.** If a player retires during any portion of a Sectional Championship, they are ineligible to participate in any additional matches scheduled for the same day.

Rationale: Sections were notified by National that they are not able to have this rule because Friend at Court allows players who retire to continue playing.

- 7. Feedback to USTA on Proposed Amendments to National Adult League Regulations. The proposals below are the Committee's straw votes on feedback it has prepared for the USTA related to amendments the National Adult League Regulations.
 - **A.** Misrepresenting Identity (eg., intentionally registering under different names or versions of the same name, playing and entering scores under someone else's name). Approved at a meeting held August 18, 2025, by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

STRAW VOTE: The Committee *does not support* the League Suspension Point System proposal to change the wording for the Misrepresenting Identity Violation in the USTA League Suspension Point System.

Rationale: After reviewing the proposal, the Committee found it difficult to determine the specific changes being requested and recommends that the proposal be rewritten for greater clarity.

Following is the proposed change (language to be deleted in [brackets] and language to be added in "quotation marks.")

Misrepresenting identity "by registering under different names and/or versions of the same name or playing & entering scores" [(eg., intentionally registering under different names or versions of the same name, playing and entering scores under someone else's name)].

B. New Suspension Threshold & Suspension Period: 21 Points, 9-Month Suspension. Approved at a meeting held August 18, 2025, by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

STRAW VOTE: The Committee *supports* adding a new suspension threshold & suspension period of 21 points/9-month suspension.

Rationale: While both a three- and six-month suspension option is provided in the Table, there is no option for a grievance committee to consider a suspension time between the six- and 12-month time frame. Thus, a player who is assigned 18 points receives the same suspension time as a player who is assigned 23 points. If a committee has considered the facts and circumstances of an individual case and determined that the violation warrants more than 18 points, but the case doesn't rise to the level of a 12-month suspension, the committee should have the option to attach a suspension time commensurate with the increased point total. In addition, in cases involving multiple parties, it is not uncommon for a committee to distinguish the culpability of each party by varying the points assigned and associated suspension times. Again, the availability of a nine-month suspension in these types of cases would allow committees to distinguish situations and circumstances without being required to jump to a more long-term suspension.

It was also discussed that a six-month suspension may have little impact if a player participates only in a specific league that takes place at a certain time of year, beginning more than six months after the suspension is imposed.

C. Suspension of Non-Playing Captains. Approved at a meeting held August 18, 2025, by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

STRAW VOTE: The Committee *supports* proposal of adding a new violation category to enable USTA to assess suspension points to non-playing captains.

Rationale: Captains are participating in a USTA program by captaining an Adult League and should be held responsible for their actions and the actions of their players. The NorCal Local League Area Regulations state that team captains are responsible for knowing the ULR/LLAR and for informing all team members and spectators of their obligation to be bound by the rules. Team captains and/or their representatives at matches are responsible for not only their actions but the actions of their players and spectators. In NorCal, captains must be USTA members when registering a team. The USTA NorCal system currently verifies the captains USTA membership upon team creation.

Adult Tournament Committee

1. **Women's Intersectionals Wild Card.** Approved at a meeting held August 5, 2025, by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: Changes to the Women's Intersectional Player Selection Criteria be approved (underlined language is proposed addition, crossed out language is proposed to be removed)

Wild Cards. The Intersectionals Player Selection Committee may award one wild card per age division to accommodate a player who has not met the player selection criteria, including a timely application. To receive a wildcard, a player must be a Northern California resident and a member of the USTA. Wildcards will be awarded at the discretion of the Selection Committee. A timely application is recommended, but not required.

To receive a wild card, a player must meet all of the eligibility requirements, except that

Not enough eligible players to field a team: In the event that there are not enough eligible players to field a team from the players that applied by the deadline, players that have not met the Play Requirement will have until September 16 to meet this requirement to be eligible for a wild card.

Rationale: The updated criteria specifies that the wildcard can be used for any player that has not met the player selection criteria, including a timely application and that wildcards are awarded at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

JTT/Local Play Committee

1. No Safe Play Captain Present for a Team Match - Approved at the July 15, 2025 meeting by a vote of 8 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation IV.B.3. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

IV. USTA NORCAL JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS COACH ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS

Players who meet the eligibility requirement for NorCal JTT are not guaranteed placement onto a team.

- **A.** Safe Play. [unchanged]
- **B.** Badge Rules. Team Captains and designated Co-Captains will be issued a credential badge with their headshot, team name and/or program, and Safe Play expiration date to use during the season.
 - 1. [unchanged]
 - 2. [unchanged]
 - 3. Opposing Captain May Opt to Facilitate Match for Both Teams. If for any reason a verified Team Captain or Co-Captain is not able to attend a Team Match, the opposing Captain may agree to facilitate the match for both teams and scores will stand. This agreement must be confirmed prior to the start of the match; otherwise, the team with a verified Team Captain or Co-Captain present will automatically receive a default win. Prior to the match, the Safe Play approved Captain who cannot attend the Team Match will send their lineup to the opposing Captain. In such an event, Captains will also decide beforehand the grounds upon which teams will be coached (i.e. the provider is neutral, or the opposing team goes without coaching). If the opposing Captain declines to facilitate the team match, it will result in a default for the Team without a Safe Play approved Captain/Co-Captain.

Rationale: For playoffs, players must stay with their chosen team through the rest of the season, including Championships. Additionally, teams dropping from the Travel League after the schedule is published will not receive refunds.

2. Player Rostered On More Than One Team, Travel League Refunds. Approved at the July 15, 2025 meeting by a vote of 8 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulations VI.C.and VI. F.1. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

VI. PLAYER REGISTRATION AND TEAM ROSTER REQUIREMENTS

- **A. Player Registration.** [unchanged]
- **B.** Players Must be on a Roster. [unchanged]
- C. A Player May Be Rostered on More Than One Team. A player may be on the Team Roster of more than one team during a Travel League Season so as long as the player is as they are in separate flights for the same division (i.e. 12U Green). If a player is rostered on more than one team that qualifies for a 1st/2nd Playoff and/or Championship Playoffs/Championship in the same division, the player must declare choose one team to represent in the Playoffs/Championships. Participating in a Playoff/Championship match for one team will automatically count as their declaration to represent that team. If a player competes for an additional team or teams during the Playoffs/Championship, all affected Playoff/Championship matches they participated in will be defaulted. Players may only participate in Playoffs for more than one team Playoffs and/or Championships if should they qualify in different divisions (i.e. 12U Green and 14U Yellow).
- **D.** Minimum Play Requirements Travel League Playoff and/or Championship. [unchanged]

E. Refunds.

- 1. Travel Leagues. A player may request and receive a NorCal JTT registration fee refund if the player has not participated in a match during the season and the request is made no later than seven days after the end of a Travel League Season. If a player participates in one or more matches during the season, no refunds will be given. If a Team withdraws after the Travel League schedule has been posted for 24 hours, the registration fee for all players will be forfeited.
- **2. Team Tournaments.** [unchanged]

Rationale: For playoffs, players must stay with their chosen team through the rest of the season, including Championships. Additionally, teams dropping from the Travel League after the schedule is published will not receive refunds.

3. Doubles Strength, Coaching Clarification, Line Calls & Double Bounces, Removing Court Monitors, Matches Cannot End in a Tie. Approved at the August 12, 2025 meeting by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation IX.. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

IX. TEAM MATCH REGULATIONS

- A. Team Match Formats. [unchanged]
- **B.** Order of Play [unchanged]
- **C. Start Times and Lateness** [unchanged]
- D. Team Match Line-Ups.
 - 1. Line-Up Must Be Based on Strength. Team Captains are expected to make a good faith effort to organize their lineup based on strength. Singles will be played in order of strength, #1-4, while doubles will be played in reverse order of strength, if possible. In a two court format, the less experienced weakest doubles teams will compete in the first earlier rounds; the stronger doubles teams will compete in the final round later rounds. This is a cooperative process undertaken by both Team Captains to promote players and teams of similar levels playing each other. In a three-court format, the weakest doubles team plays in Round 1, the strongest team plays in Round 2, and the second and third strongest teams play in Round 3. This is a cooperative process undertaken by both Team Captains to promote players and teams of similar levels playing each other.
 - **2.** Line-Up Exchange. [unchanged]
 - 3. Match Limits. [unchanged]
 - **4. Substitutions.** [unchanged]
 - **E. Match Formats.** [unchanged]
 - F. Recording Scores; Scorecards.
 - **G. Coaching.** The Team Captain (or the designated Co-Captain) is the <u>only</u> person designated as the coach for the Team Match. No other person may coach during a Team Match. Coaching is <u>permitted only</u> during the changeovers (i.e. 1-2, 2-3 of the game score) and must cease at the end of the 90 second changeover; however, no coaching is permitted during the tiebreaker of any set. A Captain is not allowed to stay on court after the changeover.
 - **H. Warm-Up.** [unchanged]
 - I. Cell Phones. [unchanged]
 - J. <u>Line Calls and Double Bounces:</u> Team Captains are expected to overrule their own players on double bounces or clearly incorrect line calls.

KJ. Court Monitors.

The Court Monitor's primary duty is to help both players in an impartial and unbiased manner in accordance with The Code and the ITF Rules of Tennis. The Court Monitor is to stand at the net post. When two Court Monitors are on a court, they stand at opposite net posts.

A player must request the Court Monitor(s) for assistance with line calls, foot faults, keeping score, and/or monitoring time between changeovers, points, and sets. If there is no request, the Court Monitor is to remain silent and not interject themselves into the match.

Use of a court monitor does not relieve players of their obligation to make calls in accordance with The Code. Players are expected, as always, to demonstrate good sportsmanship and give their opponent the benefit of the doubt on any calls where there is uncertainty.

When asked about a line call, the Court Monitor should only overrule if there is 100% certainty that the original call was an error. Otherwise, the original call should stand. If two Court Monitors are used, the one with the clearest and closest view of the play should make the

call, especially if along his/her sideline. In a situation in which both monitors believe they saw the play clearly, yet disagree on the call, the point shall be replayed.

- **LK. Medical Timeouts and Bleeding Timeouts.** [unchanged]
- **ML.** Determining All Team Match Winners and Travel League Standings; Qualifications for Championship and Playoff Matches
 - 1. Travel League Season.
 - 2. Determining Winner of a Travel League Season Playoff and Championship Matches. [unchanged]
 - **3. Treatment of Defaults**. [unchanged]
 - **4. Special Tiebreak Procedures When Time Matches Played.** Coaches are to refrain from warning players how much time is remaining in a timed match to avoid gamesmanship. If time is called while a match is in progress, players are expected to finish the point being played. Thereafter, the following procedures are used to determine who has won the match:
 - Whoever is leading in the game when time is called is awarded the game.
 - If the game is tied (example: 15-15 or 30-30) when time is called, one more point is played to determine the game winner. The player due to serve the next point shall serve the final point. one additional point will be played to determine the winner of the game or match. Deuce points will function as a regular no-ad point.
 - If the set is tied (example: 1-1, 2-2), the player due to serve the next point shall serve and whoever wins the point will be awarded one additional game. The person receiving the point can choose which side to receive the serve from as they would in a regular no-ad point.
 - If time is called and the set officially is tied (example: 3-3) with no additional point played yet, the match will be recorded as 3-3.

Rationale: This proposal seeks to:

- Clarify the distinction between 2-court and 3-court doubles strength formats.
- Clarify rules regarding coaching during changeovers.
- Eliminate *Court Monitor* language, as many monitors are associated with players, creating potential bias, and it is difficult to verify Safe Play approval.
- Ensure individual matches cannot end in a tie, as ties affect WTN and Net Generation PlayTracker results.
- **4. Format Edits.** Approved at the July 15, 2025 meeting by a vote of 8 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis, Appendix A is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

10U Orange Ball

- 2 courts required per match
- 4 Players minimum required per team/match
- Any combination of boys and girls allowed (gender neutral format)
 - o If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and #4 doubles matches are defaulted
 - o If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 4 total singles and 4 total doubles matches per team match (Four 20 minute timed rounds)
 - 1 singles match and 1 doubles match per round (#1 singles, weakest doubles in round 1)
 - o 5 minute warm ups, 15 minutes of match play, total of 20 minutes per round
 - Play to completion of the set or until 15 minutes is called, whichever comes first
 - Both players may agree to skip the 5-minute warm-up. If so, team captains may immediately start the 20-minute match timer for that round.
- 4 game short set, no ad scoring. No A 7-Point Set tiebreak is played at 3-3; one more full game is played.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
 - Players cannot play singles more than once per team match
 - Doubles will be played in reverse order of strength if possible (weakest doubles in round 1), followed by stronger doubles towards the later rounds
 - Players can play a maximum of 3 individual matches
- Must be played with a 25" racquet or less
- Total games won determines the overall team match score. A team match may end in a tie.

10U Green Ball

- 2 courts required per match
- 4 Players minimum required per team/match
 - Any combination of boys and girls allowed (gender neutral format)
 - o If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and #4 doubles matches are defaulted
 - o If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 4 total singles and 4 total doubles matches per team match (Four 20 minute timed rounds)
 - 1 singles match and 1 doubles match per round (#1 singles, weakest doubles in round 1)
 - o 5 minute warm ups, 15 minutes of match play, total of 20 minutes per round
 - Play to completion of the set or until 15 minutes is called, whichever comes first
 - Both players may agree to skip the 5-minute warm-up. If so, team captains may immediately start the 20-minute match timer for that round.
- 4 game short set, no ad scoring. No A 7-Point Set tiebreak is played at 3-3; one more full game is played.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
 - o Players cannot play singles more than once per team match
 - Doubles will be played in reverse order of strength if possible (weakest doubles in round 1), followed by stronger doubles towards the later rounds
 - Players can play a maximum of 3 individual matches
- Total games won determines the overall team match score. A team match may end in a tie.

12U Green Ball

- 2 courts required per match
- 4 Players minimum required per team/match
 - Any combination of boys and girls allowed (gender neutral format)
 - If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and #4 doubles matches are defaulted
 - If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 4 total singles and 4 total doubles matches per team match (Four 30 minute timed rounds)
 - 1 singles match and 1 doubles match per round (#1 singles, weakest doubles in round 1)
 - 5 minute warm ups, 25 minutes of match play, total of 30 minutes per round
 - o Play to completion of the set or until 25 minutes is called, whichever comes first
 - Both players may agree to skip the 5-minute warm-up. If so, team captains may immediately start the 30-minute match timer for that round.
- 6 game short set, no ad scoring. No A 7-Point Set tiebreaker is played at 5-5.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
 - Players cannot play singles more than once per team match
 - Doubles will be played in reverse order of strength if possible (weakest doubles in round 1), followed by stronger doubles towards the later rounds
 - Players can play a maximum of 3 individual matches
- Total games won determines the overall team match score. A team match may end in a tie.

12U Yellow Ball - Advanced and Intermediate

- The <u>ITF World Tennis Number (WTN)</u> at the time of the registration will be used to determine player level for the 12U Yellow Ball Intermediate division. Highest Permitted Singles WTN:
 - 32.00 (32.00 and above would be eligible to play 12U Intermediate)
- There <u>are no WTN restrictions for 12U Advanced</u>, anyone with Singles WTN's of 1-40 are eligible to play
- 2 courts required per match
- 4 Players minimum required per team/match
 - Any combination of boys and girls allowed (gender neutral format)
 - If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and #4 doubles matches are defaulted
 - o If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 4 total singles and 4 total doubles matches per team match (Four 30 minute timed rounds)
 - o 1 singles match and 1 doubles match per round (#1 singles, weakest doubles in round 1)
 - o 5 minute warm ups, 25 minutes of match play, total of 30 minutes per round
 - Play to completion of the set or until 25 minutes is called, whichever comes first
 - Both players may agree to skip the 5-minute warm-up. If so, team captains may immediately start the 30-minute match timer for that round.
- 6 game short set, no ad scoring. No A 7-Point Set tiebreaker is played at 5-5.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
 - o Players cannot play singles more than once per team match
 - o Doubles will be played in reverse order of strength if possible (weakest doubles in round 1),

followed by stronger doubles towards the later rounds

- Players can play a maximum of 3 individual matches
- Total games won determines the overall team match score. A team match may end in a tie.

14U Yellow Ball - Advanced and Intermediate:

2 COURT FORMAT

- The <u>ITF World Tennis Number (WTN)</u> at the time of the registration will be used to determine player level for the 14U Yellow Ball Intermediate division. Highest Permitted Singles WTN:
 - 31.00 (31.00 and above would be eligible to play 14U Intermediate)
- There are no WTN restrictions for 14U Advanced, anyone with Singles WTN's of 1-40 are eligible to play
- 2 courts required per match
- 4 Players minimum required per team/match
 - Any combination of boys and girls allowed (gender neutral format)
 - If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and #4 doubles matches are defaulted
 - If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 4 total singles and 4 total doubles matches per team match (Four 30 minute timed rounds)
 - 1 singles match and 1 doubles match per round (#1 singles, weakest doubles in round 1)
 - o 5 minute warm ups, 25 minutes of match play, total of 30 minutes per round
 - Play to completion of the set or until 25 minutes is called, whichever comes first
 - Both players may agree to skip the 5-minute warm-up. If so, team captains may immediately start the 30-minute match timer for that round.
- 6 game set, no ad scoring. No A 7-Point Set tiebreaker is played at 6-6.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
 - Players cannot play singles more than once per team match
 - Doubles will be played in reverse order of strength if possible (weakest doubles in round 1), followed by stronger doubles towards the later rounds
- Players can play a maximum of 3 individual matches
- Total games won determines the overall team match score. A team match may end in a tie.

14U Yellow Ball – Advanced and Intermediate:

3 COURT FORMAT

- The <u>ITF World Tennis Number (WTN)</u> at the time of the registration will be used to determine player level for the 14U Yellow Ball Intermediate division. Highest Permitted Singles WTN:
 - 31.00 (31.00 and above would be eligible to play 14U Intermediate)
- There are no WTN restrictions for 14U Advanced, anyone with Singles WTN's of 1-40 are eligible to play
- 3 courts required per match
- 4 players minimum of any gender. It is recommended not to bring more than 6 players to a match to ensure each player can play twice during the team match.
 - If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and a doubles match are defaulted
 - You would play 1 singles and 1 doubles match per round in this case
 - o If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 6 game set, no ad scoring. A 7-Point Set seven point tiebreaker is played at 6-6.
- 5 minute warm ups, 25 minutes of match play, total of 30 minutes per round
- Play to completion of the set or until 25 minutes is called, whichever comes first
- Both players may agree to skip the 5-minute warm-up. If so, team captains may immediately start the 30-minute match timer for that round.
- 4 doubles matches and 4 singles matches per team match
 - Round 1: 1&2 singles and 4 doubles (weakest doubles)
 - Round 2: 3&4 singles and 1 doubles (strongest doubles)
 - Round 3: 2&3 doubles (2nd/3rd strongest teams)
 - One extra exhibition match (singles or doubles) can be played on the remaining open court in round 3 if both coaches agree and there are extra players available. This match will not count towards the match score and will not be reported online in TennisLink.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
- <u>Total games won format determines the team match winner</u>. A team match may end in a tie.

18U Boys and Girls (Same Gender) - Advanced and Intermediate: 3 COURT FORMAT

• The <u>ITF World Tennis Number (WTN)</u> at the time of the registration will be used to determine player level for the 18U Yellow Ball Intermediate division. Highest Permitted Singles WTN:

30.00 (30.00 and above would be eligible to play 18U Intermediate)

- There are no WTN restrictions for 18U Advanced, anyone with Singles WTN's of 1-40 are eligible to play
- 3 courts are required per match
- 4 players minimum. It is recommended not to bring more than 6 players to a match to ensure each player can play twice during the team match
 - If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and a doubles match are defaulted. You would play 1 singles and 1 doubles match per round in this case
 - o If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 6 game set, no ad scoring. A <u>7-Point Set seven point</u> tiebreaker is played at 6-6.
- 4 doubles matches and 4 singles matches per team match (no timed matches)
 - Round 1: 1&2 singles and 4 doubles (weakest doubles)
 - Round 2: 3&4 singles and 1 doubles (strongest doubles)
 - Round 3: 2&3 doubles (2nd/3rd strongest teams)
 - One extra exhibition match (singles or doubles) can be played on the remaining open court in round 3 if both coaches agree and there are extra players available. This match will not count towards the match score and will not be reported online in TennisLink.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
- Total **games** won format determines the team match winner. A team match may end in a tie.

Rationale: Appendix A was updated to allow players to skip warm-ups and begin their 20- or 30-minute rounds immediately, providing flexibility to complete matches. A 7-point tiebreak will now be used for all tied sets to ensure equal serve distribution across divisions.

5. No Safe Play Captain Present for a Team Match - Approved at the August 12, 2025 meeting by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstention.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation IX.D.3. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

IX.TEAM MATCH REGULATIONS

- **A. Team Match Formats.** [unchanged]
- **B.** Order of Play [unchanged]
- **C. Start Times and Lateness** [unchanged]
- **D.** Team Match Line-Ups.
 - 1. Line-Up Must Be Based on Strength. [unchanged]
 - **2.** Line-Up Exchange. [unchanged]
 - 3. Match Limits. A player can only play in three total matches in a Team Match. These matches can be either: one singles and two doubles matches or three doubles matches. If a player plays in more than the allotted number of matches, their additional match played will be recorded as a default. Two players cannot only play together as a doubles team twice during a three court format. Team Match. If the same doubles team plays two or more matches together in a two-court format, the additional matches will be recorded as defaults.
 - **4. Substitutions.** [unchanged]
 - **E.** Match Formats. [unchanged]
 - **F.** Recording Scores; Scorecards. [unchanged]

Rationale: Based on doubles strength for a three-court format, players may not participate in two or more doubles matches with the same partner to avoid perceived stacking issues and keep rules consistent with Sectionals and other team events.

6. Format Edits for 14U/18U Divisions - Approved at the August 12, 2025 meeting by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis, Appendix A is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

14U Yellow Ball – Advanced and Intermediate:

2 COURT FORMAT

• The <u>ITF World Tennis Number (WTN)</u> at the time of the registration will be used to determine player level for the 14U Yellow Ball Intermediate division. Highest Permitted Singles WTN:

- 31.00 (31.00 and above would be eligible to play 14U Intermediate)
- There are <u>no WTN restrictions for 14U Advanced</u>, anyone with Singles WTN's of 1-40 are eligible to play
- 2 courts required per match
- 4 Players minimum required per team/match
 - Any combination of boys and girls allowed (gender neutral format)
 - If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and #4 doubles matches are defaulted
 - If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 4 total singles and 4 total doubles matches per team match (Four 30 minute timed rounds)
 - 1 singles match and 1 doubles match per round (#1 singles, weakest doubles in round 1)
 - o 5 minute warm ups, 25 minutes of match play, total of 30 minutes per round
 - o Play to completion of the set or until 25 minutes is called, whichever comes first
 - Both players may agree to skip the 5-minute warm-up. If so, team captains may immediately start the 30-minute match timer for that round.
- 6 short game set, no ad scoring. A 7-Point Set tiebreak is played at 5-5 6-6.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
 - Players cannot play singles more than once per team match
 - Doubles will be played in reverse order of strength if possible (weakest doubles in round 1), followed by stronger doubles towards the later rounds
- Players can play a maximum of 3 individual matches
- Total **games** won determines the overall team match score. A team match may end in a tie.

14U Yellow Ball – Advanced and Intermediate: 3 COURT FORMAT

- The <u>ITF World Tennis Number (WTN)</u> at the time of the registration will be used to determine player level for the 14U Yellow Ball Intermediate division. Highest Permitted Singles WTN:
 - 31.00 (31.00 and above would be eligible to play 14U Intermediate)
- There are <u>no WTN restrictions for 14U Advanced</u>, anyone with Singles WTN's of 1-40 are eligible to play
- 3 courts required per match
- 4 players minimum of any gender. It is recommended not to bring more than 6 players to a match to ensure each player can play twice during the team match.
 - o If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and a doubles match are defaulted
 - You would play 1 singles and 1 doubles match per round in this case
 - If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 6 game short set, no ad scoring. A 7-Point Set tiebreaker is played at 5-5 6-6.
- 5 minute warm ups, 25 minutes of match play, total of 30 minutes per round
- Play to completion of the set or until 25 minutes is called, whichever comes first
- Both players may agree to skip the 5-minute warm-up. If so, team captains may immediately start the 30-minute match timer for that round.
- 4 doubles matches and 4 singles matches per team match
 - Round 1: 1&2 singles and 4 doubles (weakest doubles)
 - Round 2: 3&4 singles and 1 doubles (strongest doubles)
 - Round 3: 2&3 doubles (2nd/3rd strongest teams)
 - One extra exhibition match (singles or doubles) can be played on the remaining open court in round 3 if both coaches agree and there are extra players available. This match will not count towards the match score and will not be reported online in TennisLink.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
- Total games won format determines the team match winner. A team match may end in a tie.

18U Boys and Girls (Same Gender) - Advanced and Intermediate: 3 COURT FORMAT

- The <u>ITF World Tennis Number (WTN)</u> at the time of the registration will be used to determine player level for the 18U Yellow Ball Intermediate division. Highest Permitted Singles WTN:
 - 30.00 (30.00 and above would be eligible to play 18U Intermediate)
- There are no WTN restrictions for 18U Advanced, anyone with Singles WTN's of 1-40 are eligible to play
- 3 courts are required per match
- 4 players minimum. It is recommended not to bring more than 6 players to a match to ensure each player can play twice during the team match
 - If a team has 3 players, the #4 singles and a doubles match are defaulted. You would play 1 singles and 1 doubles match per round in this case

- o If a team has 2 players, it is an entire team default
- 6 game short set, no ad scoring. A 7-Point Set tiebreak is played at 5-5 6-6.
- 4 doubles matches and 4 singles matches per team match (no timed matches)
 - Round 1: 1&2 singles and 4 doubles (weakest doubles)
 - Round 2: 3&4 singles and 1 doubles (strongest doubles)
 - Round 3: 2&3 doubles (2nd/3rd strongest teams)
 - One extra exhibition match (singles or doubles) can be played on the remaining open court in round 3 if both coaches agree and there are extra players available. This match will not count towards the match score and will not be reported online in TennisLink.
- Players should compete in singles matches (1-4) in the order of strength as determined by the coach
- Total games won format determines the team match winner. A team match may end in a tie.

Rationale: Changing 14U and 18U matches to be short sets to 6, to avoid a team getting an extra game or 7th game in a tiebreak. A seven point tiebreak would be played at 5-5 instead. This is to keep the format consistent with Sectionals and other standalone JTT events.

Hall of Fame Selection Committee

1. Length of Time a Nominee Can be Considered for Selection. Approved at a meeting held August 18, 2025 meeting by a vote of 9 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, Section II.A. of the USTA NorCal Hall of Fame Selection Procedures are hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

II. Nomination

A. Nomination Form & Annual Deadline. Nominations must be made using the electronic form posted to the USTA NorCal website no later than August 1 of each calendar year (or such other date approved by the Committee); provided that any person nominated may be considered for induction by the Hall of Fame Selection Committee ("Committee") for up to 8-10 years following the year of nomination. After such time, the person can be voted on by the Committee to remain under consideration for an additional 10 years. If the person is not voted for consideration for an additional 10 years, a lapsed nominee may be considered only if a new nomination form is submitted.

Rational: The Committee is seeking to lengthen the time a person who has been nominated to the Hall of Fame can be considered for nomination without having to be re-nominated. The members feel the current 8 years is too short, given the small number of individuals in some categories that are inducted each year. All candidates would not have been nominated if they weren't worthy for consideration. This proposal lengthens that time to 10 years, and also provides that when warranted, the Committee can extend that time by an additional 10 years.

| Award Description | Eligibility Criteria | Process Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria. | |
|---|---|--|--|
| League Facilities of the Year: Awarded annually to a League Facility | Hosts at least 10 USTA NorCal Adult Leagues teams during the year Offers to host a League Sectional Event Facility and teams playing out of the facility are be in good standing with USTA NorCal Recipient cannot have been serving a probation or suspension within the last 12 months | | |
| | Cannot win award 2 years in a row | | |
| Local League Area Coordinator of the Year: Awarded annually to a Local Area Coordinator | Assist with League emails and show initiatives to resolve issues on behalf of the league staff. Volunteers at League Events Cannot win award 2 years in a row | Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria. | |
| Service to Leagues: Awarded annually to an individual who volunteers with Adult Leagues Staff Pick | Goes above and beyond to make Adult Leagues better (i.e. length of service to leagues, years played, regular volunteer at league sectionals, etc.) Cannot win award 2 years in a row | Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria. | |
| | | Objective determination made | |
| League Volunteer of the Year Staff Pick | Volunteer time/efforts to make improving Adult Leagues Volunteer time/efforts to <u>support leagues staff and help futher the mission of USTA NorCal increase Adult League numbers</u> | Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria. | |
| | Cannot win award 2 years in a row | | |

| Award Description | Eligibility Criteria | Process | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Impact Player of The Year Awarded annually to one male and one female league player | Must have played 15 matches in the calendar year (includes all NorCal Adult League programs excluding Flex Leagues.) Most times advancing to Sectionals Submission count and content of Sportsmanship awards Could not have been Dqed dynamically disqualified in the Championship season Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal. Volunteer time within the community Helpeding to further USTA NorCal's mission.grow tennis and the league program Volunteered time within the community Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal. | Based off nominations. After the nomination deadline, staff will review nominations along with criteria and submit eligible candidates to the Adult League Committee to vote on. | |
| Most Matches Played: Awarded annually to one male and one female league player in the following age brackets • 18-39 • 40-545 • 55+ | Player who played the most league matches played in the Calendar year up until Dec. 31. No Defaults Count Cannot win award 2 years in a row One male, One Female in 18 age division leagues, 40 age division leagues, and 55 age division leagues Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal | Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria. | |

| Most Improved Player: Awarded annually to one male and one female league player | C rating only Evaluated by start and end dynamics Cannot win award 2 years in a row Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal | Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria and nominations submitted |
|--|--|---|
| Sportsmanship Award Awarded annually to one male and one female league player | Eligibility based off blue ribbon report Cannot win award 2 years in a row Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal | Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria. Staff voted on these two recipients from a pool of 62 submissions. |

*** The Adult League Committee reserves the right to not select a recipient in any given category in any given year.

| Award Description | Eligibility Criteria | Process | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Adult League Captain of the Year: Awarded annually to an Adult League Captain in each league area. | Eligibility based off blue ribbon report Recipients must be current USTA member residing in Northern California. Recipient must captain a minimum of two league teams during the season Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal Consideration given to number of Most times advancing to Sectionals within a captain/co-captain role Helping to further the USTA NorCal mission grow tennis and the league programs Cannot win award 2 years in a row | Based off blue <i>ribbon</i> report. After the nomination deadline, staff will review nominations along with criteria and submit eligible candidates to the Adult League Committee to vote on. | |
| Captains who Captained the most amount of teams Most Teams Captained Awarded annually to one male and one female league player | Based on calendar year Based on number of teams captained Cannot win award 2 years in a row Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal | Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria and nominations submitted | |
| New Captain of the Year Awarded annually to one male and one female league player | Recipients must be current USTA member residing in Northern California Eligibility based off blue ribbon report First time captains Must have completed entire season they captained Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal | Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria. | |