

Minutes of the USTA NorCal Adult Leagues Committee Meeting Monday, July 13, 2026

NOTE: *The resolution to propose to add an additional category in the National League Suspension Point System was pulled by the Adult League Committee on July 28, 2026 through unanimous written consent before going to the USTA NorCal Board.*

NOTE: *These minutes were approved on July 27, 2026.*

Andrea Barnes, Chair of the Adult Leagues Committee (the "Committee"), called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm and roll call was conducted. The meeting was held by Google Meet video conference.

Committee Members Present: Andrea Barnes (chair), Leslie Airola-Murveit, Jennifer Holmes, Damon Levy, Marilyn Morrell-Kristal, Paul Startz

USTA NorCal Staff Present: Michelle Wilson (Sr. Manager, Adult Competition)

Guests Present: Sarah Robinson

- 1. Approval June 2, 2026 Minutes.** The Committee considered for approval the draft minutes of the meeting held on June 2, 2026.

The following motion was then **APPROVED** by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention (Holmes)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of Adult Leagues Committee meeting held June 2, 2026 be approved as presented.

- 2. Proposal to Add an Additional Category in the National League Suspension Point System.** The Committee discussed a proposal to add an additional category in the National Adult League Suspension Point System that allows a suspension from captaining only. It was explained that there is currently only one National League Suspension Point system. Under the current system if a player has trouble in the captains role and gets assessed suspension points, that player can be suspended from playing for his/her actions as a captain while they might not have any offenses as a player. It was also mentioned that a similar proposal was submitted and reviewed last year and was not approved. The committee requested that staff ask for the rationale.

After discussion, the following motion was **APPROVED** by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the following proposal be submitted to the USTA by its deadline of August 3, 2026.

Proposal:

An additional category in the Suspension Point System that allows a suspension from captaining ONLY. The player would NOT be suspended from playing on a League team, rather only from captaining. There could be a choice of suspension length. Minimum might be 6 months to cover various Leagues throughout the year. (This can be left up to Grievance Committees to match their league calendar.)

Reasoning:

There are grievance issues that pertain specifically to issues of team management, without any issue of sportsmanship. Examples include

- 1) registering a team and then failing to follow through/missing a deadline to withdraw a team.*
- 2) mismanaging the handling of rescheduled matches, resulting in problems for the opposing team as well.*
- 3) team defaults due to scheduling mismanagement and/or ignorance of the rules and procedures for re-scheduling. This also impacts the opposing teams.*

Justification:

Captains are the backbone of our League teams; we need them and we encourage players to take on the role. However, when mismanagement problems arise, an entire team is impacted (missed matches, defaults, etc.). There is no reason that the failed captain cannot play on a League team, but for the sake of both their players and their opponents, someone else should be in charge.

Benefit:

*Smooth running through the League season for players and their opponents.
More flexibility for Grievance Committees in assessing a team management issue.*

Rationale: There is currently only one National League Suspension Point system. Under the current system if a player has trouble in the captains role and gets assessed suspension points, that player can be suspended from playing for his/her actions as a captain while they might not have any offenses as a player. Having an additional category where captains would get suspension points for captain related issues may suspend the player from captaining but would still allow them to play as a player.

Fiscal Impact: None

There being no further matters to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.