

Minutes of the USTA NorCal Adult Leagues Committee Meeting Monday, July 27, 2026

NOTE: All resolutions in these minutes were approved by the USTA NorCal Board as of August 19, 2026.

NOTE: These minutes were approved on August 24, 2026.

Andrea Barnes, Chair of the Adult Leagues Committee (the "Committee"), called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm and roll call was conducted. The meeting was held by Google Meet video conference.

Committee Members Present: Andrea Barnes (chair), Leslie Airola-Murveit, Anoosh Davoudzadeh, Damon Levy, Marilyn Morrell-Kristal, Tuesdai Powers

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

Guests Present: Sarah Robinson

1. **Approval July 13, 2026 Minutes.** The Committee considered for approval the draft minutes of the meeting held on July 13, 2026.

The following motion was then **APPROVED** by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions

RESOLVED: That the minutes of Adult Leagues Committee meeting held July 13, 2026 be approved as presented.

2. **2027 Adult League Calendar Corrections.** Staff informed the ALC that there were a couple of date typos when the 2027 Adult League Calendar was reviewed and approved and presented the adjusted dates.

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

RESOLVED: That the following dates on the 2027 Adult League Calendar be corrected as follows (stricken through language is proposed deletion and underline language is proposed addition)

- Adult 65 & Over League Sectionals: May ~~189-201~~, 20276
- Adult 18 & Over League Playoffs: June ~~245-278~~, July ~~89-112~~; July ~~156-189~~, 20276
- Adult 18 & Over Daytime League Sectionals: August ~~245-267~~, 2027

Rationale: The typos in the original 2027 calendar that were passed are being corrected to the correct dates. All dates are still in the same date block.

Fiscal Impact: None

3. **2027 Flex League Calendar.** The proposed draft of the 2027 Flex League Calendar was presented to the Committee for review. Staff confirmed that the date blocks are the same as the 2026 calendar just adjusted to 2027 dates. One committee member inquired if there are areas with lower participation where there may need to be adjustments made to the dates to get more participation. Staff informed the ALC that they would look into the lower participating areas. It was also reported that NorCal has surpassed the number of registrations for 2025 with one season left for the remainder of the year. In 2025, NorCal ended the year with 2,226 registrations. As of July 25, 2026, the year-to-date registrations number is about 2,486. For the summer season, there were 860 unique players.

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

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, the following 2027 Flex League Calendar be approved:

2027 Flex League Calendar

11 Week Season /6-8 matches depending on the number of players in the area

- Season Dates: January 18 – April 4
- Registration: December 14 - January 10

11 Week Season/6-8 matches depending on the number of players in the area

- Season Dates: April 12 - June 27
- Registration: March 1 - April 4

11 Week Season/6-8 matches depending on the number of players in the area

- Season Dates: July 5 – September 19
- Registration: May 24 – June 27

11 Week Season/6-8 matches depending on the number of players in the area

- Season Dates: September 27 – December 12
- Registration: August 16 – September 19

Rationale: The 2027 proposed schedule mirrors the schedule we had in 2026. Flex League has grown in 2026. In 2025 NorCal ended the year with 2,226 registrations. As of July 25, 2026, the year-to-date number for Flex Leagues registrations is 2,486. Players for the fall season haven't registered yet; conservatively, that could be another 450-600 registrations, putting Flex at about 2,800 registrations by year-end 2026.

Fiscal Impact: None

- 4. Continuation of First League Free Promotion.** The ALC reviewed the current First League Free Program that allows players to play in their first NorCal league for free. Staff presented numbers to show its current success. Based on the players who signed up for this promotion in 2025, 218 players took advantage of the first league free promotions and played their first NorCal league. Of the 218 players, 159 have continued to play which is a 73% return rate. Some have even played multiple leagues.

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

RESOLVED: To extend the First League Free Program through the end of the 2027 season to provide a free registration to any USTA member participating in a USTA NorCal League for the first time.

Rationale: This program has been in effect since 2023. It allows players to try their first adult league for free. If NorCal gets new players to sign-up, hopefully, they will play more leagues. In terms of success, in 2025, 218 players took advantage of the first league free promotions and played their first NorCal league. Of the 218 players, 159 have continued to play which is an 73% return rate. 71 players have played on 5 or more teams. 10 players have played on 11 or more teams. One player has played on 21 teams. Having this program in place helps staff to identify the new players and their retention and also helps staff to be able to know and reach out to those that have only played the one league.

Fiscal Impact

This program only affects the budget in terms of league revenue being collected (currently \$33 per player) and the \$3.15 Tennislink fee which NorCal pays to roster the player in Tennislink. However, the program is a good investment because it will hopefully improve retention.

- 5. Continuation of New Captains Promotion.** The Committee reviewed the New Captains promotion. This promotion provides a new captain and his/her mentor a "USTA NorCal Captain" ¼ zip long sleeve pullover at the end of the season. Staff presented numbers to show its current success. Based on the players who signed up for this promotion in 2025, 180 players signed up for the New Captains Promotion. Of the 180 players that captained their first league, 102 have continued to captain or co-captain which is an 62.2% return rate.

During discussion, the Committee requested that staff look into doing a similar or same promotion for players who have captained in the past but not in the last 10 years.

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

RESOLVED: To extend the New Captains Promotion through the end of the 2027 season to provide a new captain and his/her mentor a "USTA NorCal Captain" ¼ zip long sleeve pullover at the end of the season.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That \$8,000 be added to the 2027 NorCal Budget for the new captain/mentor pullover and shipping of the item.

Rationale: The results of the 2025 Adult League Player Survey confirmed that more captains are needed to help grow adult leagues and this program is a promotional tool to recognize new captains and to enhance their experience. NorCal would recognize the new captains and their mentors with a ¼ zip long sleeve pullover at the end of the season. In terms of success, in 2025, 180 players signed up for the New Captains Promotion. Of the 180 players that captained their first league, 102 have continued to captain or co-captain which is a 62.2% return rate. 7 new 2025 captains have captained 4 or more teams during this period and 1 captain has captained 7 times. The data is based on 2025 numbers because many of the new 2026 captains have just registered for the promotion and haven't had a chance to captain subsequent teams yet. Having this program in place helps staff to identify the new captains and their retention and also helps staff to be able to know and reach out to those that have only played the one league.

Fiscal Impact

\$8,000 to the budget. The budget impact would be approximately \$30 per new captain/mentor receiving a ¼ zip pullover. The \$30 covers the shirt and shipping cost. Staff is anticipating at between 100 to 150 new captains during 2027. Should more budget be needed, the Adult League Committee will submit another action item. The Committee is requesting \$8,000 to the budget for 2027 as opposed to \$4000 in previous years due to the high number of players who have taken advantage of this incentive in the last two years.

6. **2026 Adult League Awards Criteria.** Staff gave an update on the 2026 Adult Competition Awards and informed the Committee that NorCal is currently working with Blackhawk Country Club to host the dinner there on Saturday, February 27, 2027. The Committee also discussed minor proposed changes the criteria to three of the Adult League Awards which were removing the criteria of "Cannot win award 2 years in a row" and adding "Team count includes teams captains and co-captained" to Most Teams Captained. While discussing the awards, one committee member inquired about how NTRP ratings were generated as it relates to the Most Improved Player award. Staff informed the member of how the most improved player is determined but explained that there is a lot of proprietary information that NorCal staff does not know that goes into calculating ratings.

After discussion, the following motion was **APPROVED** by a vote of 5 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the Adult Leagues Awards and Criteria be approved as EXHIBIT A (stricken through language is proposed deletion and underline language is proposed addition).

Rationale: The Adult League Awards remain the same. No awards were added nor removed from existing criteria. Only minor adjustments have been made. Players work hard to play a lot of matches and captain a lot of teams. If they play the most matches or captain the most teams in a year, they should be recognized as such. Also, if someone is the most improved player two years in a row they should be able to receive the award. These are objective awards based on numbers. It is different from the League Facilities of the Year, Local League Area Coordinator of the Year, Service to Leagues, League Volunteer of the Year, Sportsmanship Award, and Adult League Captain of Year Award which is more subjective where there could be a number of great people.

"Team count includes teams captained and co-captained" was added as an eligibility criteria for the Most Teams Captained Award to clarify what is counted.

Note: The Captains Club has been added to this list as these awards will be presented at the 2026 Adult Competition Awards Dinner. It was already approved in 2023.

Fiscal Impact: None

7. **Adult League Areas Review.** It was explained to the ALC that a script was created and run to help review the current NorCal league areas. When the script was run, it considered geographic screening, operational validation (such as analyzing 2025 league participation by facility) and travel time optimization. The results were then discussed with staff before presenting it to the Committee. Overall, it was found that most of the areas were good as is with only a couple recommended changes.

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

RESOLVED: To move the following facilities to the following league areas beginning with the 2027 Championship Season:

- 1) DE ANZA COLLEGE from Lower Peninsula to South Bay
- 2) MILLS HIGH SCHOOL from San Francisco to Upper Peninsula
- 3) LOS ALTOS GOLF COUNTRY CLUB from South Bay to Mid-Peninsula
- 4) HRT ACADEMIA DE TENIS from Sonoma-Mendicino to Marin
- 5) WILLOW GLEN MIDDLE SCHOOL from South Bay to Lower Peninsula
- 6) WILLOW GLEN HIGH SCHOOL from South Bay to Lower Peninsula

Rationale: After the application did its analysis, it found that 95% of the facilities were correctly aligned and it recommended that 8 facilities move to different areas to improve drive times. The recommended changes were shared with staff and they agreed with all proposed changes with the exception of Gilroy Tennis Center and Discovery Bay Athletic Club.

Willow Glen Middle School, Willow Glen High School and Wallenberg Park are right next to each other in San Jose. Currently, Willow Glen Middle School and Willow Glen High School are in the South Bay area and Wallenberg Park is in the Lower Peninsula area. In the past, captains have rescheduled matches from Wallenberg Park to Willow Glen Middle School, unintentionally breaking the rule of scheduling outside of the area. By consolidating them into the same area, we will avoid this issue. Lower Peninsula was selected because it was found that the driving time would be optimized if these three facilities were placed in the Lower Peninsula area.

We recommend leaving the following organizations in the current areas due to historical knowledge and experience. Since there have been very few concerns from the players at those facilities (if any), it is being recommended that we leave them in their current areas.

- 1) Leave Gilroy Tennis Center in the Monterey Bay area – it was moved in 2024 and has not caused any issues
- 2) Leave DISCOVERY BAY ATHLETIC CLUB in the Diablo North Area – staff recommends leaving due to lack of complaints and distance to some of the CV facilities (e.g. Modesto)

Fiscal Impact: None

- 8. Addition of Divisions to Adult 18 & Over Daytime League.** The Committee reviewed a proposal to add a Women's 4.5 and Men's 3.0 and 4.5 divisions to the Adult 18 & Over Daytime League as divisions offered beginning in 2027.

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

RESOLVED: That effective with the 2027 League Championship season, Women's 4.5 and Men's 3.0 and 4.5 divisions be added to the Adult 18 & Over Daytime League.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the following be added to the 2027 NorCal Budget for the addition of the new Adult 18 & Over Daytime Divisions:

Income:	
Regular Season Registrations: Based on 4 viable teams for each division: estimating 4 teams per division x 3 divisions x 15 players per division s \$33 per player	\$5,940
Sectionals Entry Fees: Based on two teams advancing per division) Estimating 2 teams per division x 3 divisions x \$165 per team	\$990
Total Income:	\$6,930
Expenses:	
Player Gifts (2 teams x 3 divisions x 15 players x \$12 per player)	\$1080

Captain's Gift (2 teams x 3 divisions x 2 captains x \$15 per captain)	\$180
Court Fees	\$900
Umpire Fees (\$250/day)	\$750
Awards: 3 teams x \$585 per team	\$1755
Total Expenses:	\$4,665
Net Income:	\$2,265

Rationale: Currently, only Men's 3.5 and 4.0 and Women's 2.5+, 3.5, and 4.0 divisions are being offered for the Adult 18 & Over Daytime League. Adding a Women's 4.5 and Men's 3.0 and 4.5 divisions will give players with these ratings another opportunity to play if they are available during the day. Adding more divisions where players have shown interest would be promoting play and align with the 35X35 goal by adding more opportunities for players to play during the day.

Fiscal Impact: Addition of \$4,665 to the budget. Based on 2 teams per division with 15 players on each team for 3 divisions, there would be a net income of \$2,265. If these divisions fill as in the chart, we would bring in \$6,930 and spend \$4,665.

9. **Addition of Divisions to Adult 40 & Over Daytime League.** The ALC reviewed a proposal to add a Women's 4.5 and Men's 3.0 and 4.5 divisions to the Adult 40 & Over Daytime League as divisions offered beginning in 2027.

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

RESOLVED: That effective with the 2027 League Championship season, Women's 4.5 and Men's 3.0 and 4.5 divisions be added to the Adult 40 & Over Daytime League.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the following be added to the 2027 NorCal Budget for the addition of the new Adult 40 & Over Daytime Divisions:

Income:	
Regular Season Registrations: Based on 4 viable teams for each division: estimating 4 teams per division x 3 divisions x 15 players per division x \$33 per player	\$5,940
Sectionals Entry Fees: Based on two teams advancing per division) Estimating 2 teams per division x 3 divisions x \$165 per team	\$990
Total Income:	\$6,930
Expenses:	
Player Gifts (2 teams x 3 divisions x 15 players x \$12 per player)	\$1080
Captain's Gift (2 teams x 3 divisions x 2 captains x \$15 per captain)	\$180
Court Fees	\$900
Umpire Fees (\$250/day)	\$750
Awards: 3 teams x \$585 per team	\$1755
Total Expenses:	\$4,665
Net Income:	\$2,265

Rationale: Currently, only Men's 3.5 and 4.0 and Women's 2.5+, 3.5, and 4.0 divisions are being offered for the Adult 40 & Over Daytime League. Adding a Women's 4.5 and Men's 3.0 and 4.5 divisions will give players with these ratings another opportunity to play if they are available during the day. Adding more divisions where players have shown interest would be promoting play and align with the 35X35 goal by adding more opportunities for players to play during the day.

Fiscal Impact: Addition of \$4,665 to the budget. Based on 2 teams per division with 15 players on each team for 3 divisions, there would be a net income of \$2,265. If these divisions fill as in the chart, we would bring in \$6,930 and spend \$4,665.

10. Scorecard Submission Deadline. The Committee discussed the NorCal LLAR about reporting scores that states "Both captains have a duty to report scores to the USTA NorCal website by 11:59 PM on the day following the match, except that if a match is played on the last day of the local league season, the scores must be reported no later than 11:59 PM on the day the match is played. Either captain shall enter the scores. The opposing captain must verify online scores by 11:59 PM the day after scores are entered; if not verified by then, the scores will be auto-verified. Failure by either captain to report scores by the above stated deadline may result in a warning for both captains on the first offense and a grievance for further offenses." During discussion it was mentioned that historically NorCal has been lenient about making score card corrections after the deadline and there recently have been concerns about accepting scorecard changes after the deadline such as the impact it can potentially have on NTRP ratings and playoffs.

Following discussion the Adult League Committee agreed that the NorCal LLAR Reporting Scores rule should be followed. Moving forward:

- 1) Staff will remind captains of the Reporting Scores rule.
- 2) NorCal will be lenient of continuing to accept score card changes past the deadline through the end of 2026 if the match where the change is requested is still in the current segment of play and if it does not affect playoffs or sectionals. The captains will be warned to ensure that their scores are correct by the deadline going forward.
- 3) Beginning in 2027, NorCal will not be accepting any score card change requests after the deadline stated in the regulations.

There being no further matters to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

EXHIBIT A

Adult League Awards – Facility and Volunteers

Award Description	Eligibility Criteria	Process
League Facilities of the Year: Awarded annually to a League Facility	• Hosts at least 10 USTA NorCal Adult League teams during the year • Offers to host a League Sectional Event • Facility and teams playing out of the facility are 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	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i>
Local League Area Coordinator of the Year: Awarded annually to a Local Area Coordinator	• Assist with League emails and show initiative to resolve issues on behalf of the league staff. • Volunteer at League Events • Cannot win award 2 years in a row	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i>
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	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i>
League Volunteer of the Year Staff Pick	• Volunteer time/efforts to make improving Adult Leagues • Volunteer time/efforts to support leagues staff and help further the mission of USTA NorCal • Cannot win award 2 years in a row	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i>

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

Adult League Awards Criteria - Players

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 dynamically disqualified in the Championship season • Player must be considered in good standing as determined by USTA NorCal • Helped further USTA NorCal's mission • Volunteered time within the community	<i>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.</i>
Most Matches Played: Awarded annually to one male and one female league player in the following age brackets • 18-39 • 40-54 • 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	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i>
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	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria and nominations submitted</i>

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	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i>
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Adult League Awards Criteria - Captains

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 times advancing to Sectionals within a captain/co-captain role • Helping to further the USTA NorCal mission • 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.
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 NorCa • <u>Team count includes teams captained and co-captained</u>	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria and nominations submitted</i>
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	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i>
Captains Club Award Awarded to players who have captained 50+ League Teams	• Awarded in 50 team increments • 20% of the required number of a player serving in a co-captain position can be used in determining the number of teams captained	<i>Objective determination made by staff following a review of the players and eligibility criteria.</i>

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