

Adult Tournament Rules and Regulations

USTA New England

January 2016

The rules and regulations, tournament schedule, listing of sectional & designated tournaments, and other information may be updated during the year on the USTA New England web site:

www.ustanewengland.com > Adults Players > Adult Tournaments

Substantive changes to rules and regulations for 2016 are in red.

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REGULATIONS

I. ADULT TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

A. ENTRY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

1. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

a. Membership – All players participating in tournaments sanctioned by USTA New England must show proof of membership in the USTA. Individual, family, multi-year, and life memberships are available. A player may join the USTA by calling USTA Member Services at 1-800-990-USTA, or join online. www.ustanewengland.com > Membership > Individual Membership

Tournament directors are instructed that, in cases where the tournament director cannot determine membership and a player cannot provide proof of membership, the player should be referred to Member Services. The player is excluded from entering the tournament until proof of membership is provided.

b. Out-of-Section Players – Out-of section players may compete in all USTA New England sanctioned tournament events.

2. DIVISIONS OF PLAY - Men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles, and mixed doubles, are offered to USTA members in the following divisions of play:

a. Open Divisions – Open events are the most competitive events offered, and provide a high level of competition for experienced players. Any USTA member can enter an Open division event.

b. Senior Divisions (35, 45, 50, 55*, 60, 65*, 70, 75, 80*, 85*, 90*) – Senior division events follow USTA National age groupings and are open to any player who is at or older than the age level of the event, or turns that age within the calendar year. Players may play in a younger age group, but are not eligible to play in an older age division. Men's divisions only are offered in ages with an asterisk (*).

Mixed doubles divisions for senior divisions are offered as follows:

- Mixed 35 doubles – men and women 35 and above
- Mixed 45 doubles - men and women 45 and above
- Mixed 55 doubles - men and women 55 and above
- Mixed 65 doubles - men and women 65 and above

c. Family Divisions (Father/Son, Parent/Child) – Family doubles events are open to USTA members of the same family without age restriction.

d. NTRP Divisions (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 Singles and Doubles, and Combined Mixed 6.0, 7.0, 8.0 & 9.0 Doubles) - The National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) classifies players in specific skill categories (NTRP ratings) to ensure competitive competition. The following criteria and procedures apply:

- Players must enter NTRP events at or above their NTRP rating. (Example: a 3.5 singles player may play in 3.5 and 4.0 events, but not in 3.0 events.)
- In men's and women's doubles, both players must enter events at or above their NTRP rating. (Example: a 3.5 and 4.0 doubles team may play in 4.0 events, but not in 3.5 events.)
- In mixed doubles, both players must enter events at or above their combined NTRP rating, and their NTRP ratings must be within one point. (Same as USTA League rules. Examples: a 4.0-4.0 doubles team and a 3.5-4.5 doubles team may enter a Combined Mixed 8.0 or 9.0 event. A 3.0-5.0 doubles team may not enter any combined mixed event.
- A player must be 18 years or older in the calendar year of the event to play in an NTRP tournament. A player less than 19 years old may need to register manually with the tournament director.
- A rated player can determine his or her TennisLink NTRP rating at the following web page: www.ustanewengland.com > Adults Players > USTA Leagues > TennisLink
- An unrated player can self-rate before entering an NTRP event. www.ustanewengland.com > Adults Players > Adult Tournaments > Login or Create Your USTA Account.
During self-rating the player must review the General Characteristics of NTRP Playing Levels, the General & Experienced Player Guidelines, and the Player Background History form. These documents are available during the self-rate process and also at the following web page: www.ustanewengland.com > Adults Leagues > USTA League > NTRP Ratings/Appeals
- The USTA or tournament director may request that the Player Background History form be completed and submitted before or after the tournament, for the purpose of confirming that a player is registered or has played at an appropriate NTRP level. Following review of available information, the Adult Players Committee may rule that a self-rated player who has not registered for League play is self-rated out of level, and may remove the player from the event before play has begun. The APC may also issue sportsmanship penalties per Section II of the regulations. There is no NTRP disqualification from an NTRP tournament during the event.

3. TOURNAMENT ENTRY - A player may register online at the tournament home page, or may register by contacting the tournament director per the information that is available on the tournament home page. If mail-in entries are allowed, send an entry with a check for the entry fee so that it will arrive before the entry deadline. A player should call the tournament director to confirm that his entry has arrived. Deadline dates and required methods of entry to events vary, and it is important to check each tournament individually.

www.ustanewengland.com > Adult Players > Adult Tournaments > Schedule

4. SEEDING AND RANKING (GENERAL INFORMATION)

a. Seeding, rankings, standings and NTRP rating are not equivalent. Seeding is a player's position in a tournament based on his current standing relative to other players in that tournament. The seeding at a particular tournament may not be the same as the current standings and a player with a higher published rating may be seeded lower than another player. The Seeding Chairpersons are listed on the Tournament Director Information page for contact by tournament directors and players as needed.

b. Points Per Round (PPR) standings and rankings are from computer data and give an order to players based on points provided for tournament wins in a specific division during the calendar year. Standings are the current order of players based on points provided for wins during the previous 52-week period. Each time the standings are updated the time period will reflect the most recent 52 weeks.

c. Tentative and final rankings are for tournaments with start dates in a calendar year. Notification of the tentative and final ranking process will be posted on the USTA New England web site in December. Tentative rankings typically are published in early January for the previous year and may be republished as needed without notification. TennisLink Final rankings will be posted on the USTA New England web site, and a listing of top ranked players will be published in an online yearbook.

d. An NTRP rating represents a player's ability level, generated by computer or self-rating, based on actual match scores and the opponent's skill level.

5. STARTING TIME CONFIRMATION - Players are responsible for obtaining starting times by reviewing the draw posted on the TennisLink tournament home page, or by contacting the tournament director via the information on the tournament home page.

6. ARRIVAL - A player should arrive and check in at the tournament desk at least 15 minutes before his scheduled playing time. There are penalties for late arrivals.

7. RULES - All players participating in USTA sanctioned events agree to be familiar with and abide by the USTA New England Adult Tournament Rules & Regulations, and the National rules of the USTA per Friend at Court. Friend at Court is posted online on the USTA Officials site, and is available for purchase at the USTA Shop.

www.usta.com > About USTA > Officials www.ustashop.com > Novelties > Books

B. ADMINISTRATION

1. ENTRIES AND SELECTION

a. Tournament directors must accept entries up to the stated close of entries. A draw that is limited must be published on the tournament home page by the tournament director before the Entries Open date.

b. If the number of applications for entry exceeds the size limit of the draw, the following procedure will be used: One-eighth of the draw may be selected at the discretion of the tournament director. The other seven-eighths must be selected in the following order:

- i. Anyone who would be seeded (after consultation with the proper seeding chairperson)
- ii. Other players with a standing
- iii. A lottery of all other players

c. All tournaments and events for which players register will be held, except **when only two players/doubles teams register for an event**. In that circumstance, the tournament director will contact both players/teams and give them an opportunity to decline to play the match. If a player/team does not provide contact information during registration, it is presumed they wish to play. If a player/team declines to play, players/teams will not be selected and tournament fees will not be charged.

d. Information for “Small Draws” – All draws with 4 or fewer players/teams award points based on Points per Win (PPW) – not Points per Round (PPR). A Level 2 win (below) awards more points than a Level 1 win. See the Points Table for details.

- i. **4 Players (RR Option)** – Event format is Round Robin (3 matches per player). Suggested score format is 8 game pro-set. Points – PPW Level 1.
- ii. **4 Players (FMLC Option)** – Event format is FMLC (First Match Losers Consolation). Suggested format is 2 out of 3 regular sets. Points – PPW Level 2.
- iii. **3 Players** – Event format must be Round Robin (2 matches per player). Suggested score format is 2 out of 3 regular sets, with 10 point match-tiebreak in lieu of 3rd set. Points – PPW Level 2.
- iv. **2 Players** – If held (see above), match is played using a scoring format of 2 out of 3 regular sets. Points – PPW Level 2.

2. SEEDING

a. Seeding in elimination tournaments is done to assure that players of recognized outstanding ability do not encounter each other in the early rounds. USTA New England has provided a seeding chairperson in Men’s divisions as listed on the seeding chair list on the USTA New England web site. The tournament director must contact the seeding chairperson and the recommended order of seeding must be followed. www.ustanewengland.com > Adult Players > Adult Tourn. > Tournament Director Info > seeding chair list

b. The seeding chairperson has the responsibility for maintaining a current list of players playing the best tennis within that division. The seeding in each tournament is based on this list and current standings, and is the seeding chairperson’s judgment of the players most likely to win. Results from head-to-head matches contested in other age divisions of USTA New England or USTA Sectional and National sanctioned tournaments will count for seeding provided that either player informs the appropriate seeding chairperson in writing within two weeks of the event. Any last minute changes, such as adding late entries, must also have the approval of the seeding chairperson.

c. Events without seeding chairs must be seeded by tournament directors using standings lists published by USTA New England, and knowledge of player ability per above.

3. MAKING AND POSTING THE DRAW

a. The draw shall be made by the tournament director using TDM in accordance with USTA tournament regulations. The draw may be limited in number of players accepted for entry due to the available court time. Refer to Sections II.F 1-7 of these rules for additional match scheduling regulations.

b. The tournament director will publish draws with match times for all events online on the tournament home page at least 48 hours before the start time of the first match of the tournament. Players must check the tournament home page to confirm their acceptance or non-acceptance, and starting times. Players may confirm information as needed with the tournament director per contact information on the tournament home page.

4. SEPARATING OPPONENTS - Players and teams from the same family, same school, same club or same town can be separated from their first match at the discretion of the referee or tournament director provided that a request has reached the tournament director before the draw is made. The discretionary procedure for separating opponents is in Friend at Court (USTA Reg. II.B.4.g). Singles players are not to be exempted from meeting each other because they are doubles partners.

5. COURT TIME AND CONTINUOUS PLAY

a. As a matter of general practice, tournament court time shall be continuous, with a minimum of interruptions by other activities (e.g., clinics, club matches, lessons). Reducing the available number of courts from five to one or two for the duration of a club activity is not continuous play. Nor is it continuous play when ample courts are provided for matches on Friday night, but no other tournament matches are scheduled until mid-afternoon on Saturday.

b. Any variation from continuous play is discouraged by USTA New England, and all anticipated interruptions must be published on the tournament home page by the tournament director before the Entries Open date. See also Sections II.F.4 and II.F.5.

6. CONSOLATION EVENTS (including “playoffs”)

a. General Requirements - Consolation matches posted on TennisLink will count for ranking purposes per the PPR table. **Tournaments are not to include 3rd/4th place playoffs, unless it is a Sectional or Slam event, or a USTA National Championship.** At the discretion of the tournament director, any consolation match may be an 8-game pro-set.

b. Sectional and Slam Events - All Sectional Championship and Slam events for both singles and doubles must offer consolation events for first-round or first-match losers. Sectional and Slams events with a draw size of 8 players/teams or more must also offer a 3rd/4th place playoff match.

7. TOURNAMENT PRIZES - Prizes for tournaments are awarded at the discretion of the tournament director.

8. TOURNAMENT RESULTS - All tournament results must be completed on TDM and uploaded to the USTA TennisLink tournament site daily if possible, and within one (1) day after the end of the event. Posted match results are reviewed by USTA New England and included in the rankings after being, typically within two weeks of being reported by the tournament director.

9. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AND UNOFFICIATED MATCHES

a. The tournament director or a designated tournament official (i.e., a court monitor - someone knowledgeable of tournament procedures and rules) must be on location and overseeing the tournament wherever and whenever matches are played. Use of the Point Penalty System is in effect for all events for applicable rule violations.

b. The tournament director may provide a certified official for the tournament. Most USTA New England tournaments do not have certified officials.

c. All unofficiated matches will follow Friend at Court's “The Code – The Player's Guide to Fair Play and The Unwritten Rules of Tennis.” See Section 1.A.7.

10. TENNIS BALLS

a. Three new regulation balls are to be supplied to players at the beginning of every main draw match. Tournament directors have the option of providing a new can of balls prior to the start of the third set. This should be conveyed to the players prior to the start of the match. If the tournament director has opted to provide new third set balls, the request of either player for a new can of balls to start the third set will be

granted.

b. If an alternative scoring method (less than two out of three complete sets) is used, requests for new balls are not permitted. For round robin events, a new can of balls should be provided after every three sets of use.

II. MATCH PLAY REGULATIONS

A. OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT - Once the draw has been made, the tournament is official.

B. WITHDRAWALS AND ASSOCIATED PENALTIES

1. WITHDRAWAL BEFORE CLOSE OF REGISTRATION - The player must withdraw online so the entry fee is not charged. If the player registered directly with the tournament director, the entry fee must be refunded. The withdrawing player receives **no suspension points**.

2. WITHDRAWAL AFTER CLOSE OF REGISTRATION AND BEFORE DRAW IS MADE – The entry fee may be refunded at the discretion of the tournament director. The withdrawing player receives **no suspension points**.

3. WITHDRAWAL/DEFAULT AFTER DRAW IS MADE AND BEFORE PLAY HAS BEGUN - If the player advises the tournament director that the player cannot play, the tournament director should enter a default or withdrawal code for the match per Friend at Court (or replace the withdrawing player with an alternate if one is available). The player is not due a refund, and receives **no suspension points if due to illness, injury, or personal circumstances and two suspension points for other reasons**.

4. WITHDRAWAL/DEFAULT AFTER PLAY HAS BEGUN - If the tournament is in progress and the player does not inform the tournament director that the player is not going to play a match, or the player refuses to play a match, the tournament director should enter a default, withdrawal, or walkover code for the match per Friend at Court (or replace the defaulted player with an alternate if it is the first match for the withdrawing player). The player is not due a refund, and receives **no suspension points if due to illness, injury, or personal circumstances and three suspension points for other reasons**.

5. PENALTY DEFAULT - A tournament director or official may assess a penalty default for conduct or related reasons. The tournament director should enter a default code for the match per Friend at Court. **The defaulting player receives four suspension points**.

6. RETIREMENT - If a player is forced to retire during a match (is unable to continue), the tournament director should enter a default code for the match per Friend at Court. The retiring player receives **no suspension points**.

7. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR NOTIFICATIONS - The tournament director will notify USTA New England in writing of withdrawals and defaults that are not recorded on the draw, and will provide a point penalty report for all point penalties and penalty defaults.

C. CONDUCT AND POINT PENALTIES

a. Sportsmanlike Conduct – Sportsmanlike conduct is expected of players at all times. Poor behavior or profanities shall be sufficient cause for default. If any such conduct requires disciplinary action to be taken, a full report should be made to USTA New England. Referees may assign umpires to a match

whether the players request it or not. The following is an explanation of the Point Penalties.

b. Point Penalties – Point penalties will be imposed against a player for unsportsmanlike conduct during a tournament per Friend at Court such as the following:

- Unreasonable delays after the warm-up period, between points and when changing ends, and otherwise unreasonably delaying a match
- Audible or visible obscenity
- Violently or with anger hitting, kicking or throwing a tennis ball, racquet or other equipment
- Verbal or physical abuse of any official, opponent, spectator or other person
- Disruptive behavior
- Coaching by a captain or any other accompanying person

c. Penalties for the Above Violations

- First offense – Point
- Second offense – Game
- Third offense – Default

d. Imposition of Penalties

i. The imposition of penalties is primarily a function of the Chair Umpire, but the Referee or tournament director may impose penalties in any umpired or non-umpired match on the basis of their own observations or those of their designated court monitors. If a line umpire observes a conduct violation or is the object of a conduct violation by a player, he shall, as soon as possible, without disrupting play in progress, inform the Chair Umpire, Referee or tournament director who will then make a decision under the Point Penalty System.

ii. While normally the imposition of penalties will be in accordance with the basic table, a flagrantly unsportsmanlike act may result in the imposition of an immediate penalty, even a default for a first offense. Such a default, if declared by a Chair Umpire or referees' assistant, may be appealed to the Referee or tournament director; if imposed by the Referee it may be appealed to the Tournament Committee.

iii. A player may not appeal to the Referee or tournament director a penalty imposed by an umpire until a default has been imposed on that player.

D. SUSPENSION POINTS

1. RECORD OF POINTS - Suspension points will be recorded against a player for the following reasons, and are applicable to main and consolation draws.

- Each point penalty imposed under the Point Penalty System (PPS) excluding unintentional time violations: **1 pt.**
- Unsportsmanlike conduct at a tournament site while not on-court: **1 pt.**
- Entering two tournaments at the same time without written permission from both tournament directors: **2 pts.**
- Leaving the court during a match without permission of the Umpire, Referee or tournament director except to get a linesperson: **2 pts.**
- Withdrawal or default from a tournament after the draw is made: **0-4 pts.** (per section II.B above)

2. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR NOTIFICATIONS - The tournament director will provide USTA with a point penalty report for all point penalties and penalty defaults levied against any player.

3. OUT OF SECTION AND NATIONAL SUSPENSION POINTS - Any suspension points received out-of-section and at national tournaments will be recorded in USTA New England.

E. SUSPENSION AND REQUEST FOR HEARING

1. NOTIFICATION TO PLAYER - A player will be notified and warned when he has received seven suspension points.

2. SUSPENSION - A player who receives ten or more suspension points during a 12-month period will be suspended from competing in USTA New England sanctioned events for eight weeks.

3. PROCESS - Upon receipt of a suspension notice, the player will have the right to a hearing before the USTA New England Adult Players' Committee. To request a hearing, a player must make a written request to the USTA New England Adult Players' Committee within five days following the receipt of the suspension notice. If requested, and if the suspension is affirmed by the Adult Players' Committee, the eight-week suspension will commence the day after the committee has made a decision affirming such suspension. If a hearing is not requested, the eight-week suspension will commence the day after the expiration of the five-day period.

4. NOTIFICATION TO USTA NATIONAL - USTA New England will notify the national USTA office with regard to a suspension issued by USTA New England.

5. SECOND SUSPENSION - A player who is suspended for a second offense of the Point Penalty System will be suspended from competing in USTA New England sanctioned events for six months.

6. THIRD SUSPENSION - A player who is suspended for a third offense of the Point Penalty System will be suspended from competing in USTA New England sanctioned events for a specific period of time, determined by the USTA New England Adult Players' Committee, greater than six months and up to permanent suspension.

F. MATCH SCHEDULING

1. MATCH FORMATS AND SCORING

a. Sectional and Designated events match format: All matches are best-of-three tiebreak sets and use regular scoring with 7-Point Set Tiebreak. Only in an emergency, such as a power failure, extreme weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstance, may a 10 Point Match Tiebreak (first to 10 points by a margin of two) be used in lieu of a third set.

b. Other events match formats: Matches for other events may be played per the format above. Matches may also be played by an alternative format if posted by the tournament director on the tournament home page before the Entries Open date (unless the alternative format is used in an emergency).

Alternative formats include but are not limited to No-Ad scoring, best-of three sets with a 10 Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of the third set, Pro Sets, matches consisting of one set only, and Short Sets. An objective of alternative formats is to increase participation by providing more predictable scheduling of play for players and tournament directors.

c. Coman Tiebreak Procedure: The Coman Tiebreak Procedure (change ends after the first point, then after every four points) may be used for set and match tiebreaks provided this is specified on the tournament home page before the Entries Open date. If not specified the regular procedure for changing ends will be used.

d. Additional information: Refer to Friend at Court for additional details – Part 1 ITF Rules of Tennis - Rule 10 and Appendix IV; and Part 3 USTA Regulations I.E.

2. START OF MATCHES

a. In any division of play, singles play will start on the second day of a three day tournament if there are 16 or fewer players. Singles will start on the first day of a two day tournament. See also Section II.F.4.d below.

b. In any division of play, doubles play will start on the second day of a three day tournament if there are 16 or fewer teams. Doubles may start on either day of a two day tournament.

c. Matches may be scheduled on other days (example: a draw with less than 16 players may start on Friday of a three day tournament), provided the information is posted by the tournament director on the tournament home page before the Entries Open date.

d. Matches may not start before 8 a.m. or after 10 p.m.

e. Summer weekend tournament matches (Friday of Memorial Day weekend to Monday of Labor Day weekend) may not start before 2 p.m. on a Friday; with the exception of the N.E. Men's Open Sectional Championship.

f. Winter weekend tournament matches may not start before 4:00 p.m. Friday.

g. Exceptions: Matches may be scheduled at other times by the tournament director provided that USTA New England approves of the exception. The starting times must be posted by the tournament director on the tournament home page before the Entries Open date.

3. SINGLES PRECEDING DOUBLES

In an event where one or more players is involved in both singles and doubles, it is recommended through the quarterfinals and mandatory for semifinals and finals, that in any given round, singles be played before doubles.

4. NUMBER OF MATCHES

a. No adult player shall be required to play more than five matches per day or more than three matches in any one event. Note specific exceptions that follow.

b. When counting the number of matches played in a day, in all divisions, any two consolation matches using an alternative match format will count as one match.

c. In the 35's through 65's divisions, a player shall not be required to play more than four matches in one day in the same division (including consolation and doubles). No more than two matches may be

singles.

d. In the 70's and above divisions, two rounds of singles may be played on the first day of play. Thereafter, only one round of singles may be played per day. However, an additional consolation match may be played when necessary. In any combination of singles and doubles (including consolations) the total matches played per day may not exceed two.

5. REST PERIODS - Allowable time between points, when changing ends, between sets, between matches, for medical and bleeding timeouts, and for other reasons shall conform to Friend at Court rules and regulations.

6. CONTINUITY OF PLAY - Play must be continuous. Under certain circumstances, play may be suspended, delayed or interfered with to enable a player to recover from natural loss of physical condition. The tournament referee must either employ the Point Penalty System or use his best judgment regarding unacceptable delay of the match. Players desiring water may not leave the court, but may have it brought to them.

7. POSTPONED AND INTERRUPTED MATCHES - The postponing and interrupting of matches because of weather, darkness or court conditions shall be at the sole discretion of the tournament referee. Interrupted matches shall be resumed from the point of interruption as soon as ordered by the referee. Matches that are rescheduled because of inclement weather should be rescheduled to accommodate the affected players while taking the court availability into consideration.

III. STANDINGS AND RANKINGS

A. STANDINGS - Standings are a type of ranking list that are calculated on a 52-week rolling calendar and are used as a guideline for seeding tournaments. Beginning 2014 all singles and doubles players who have tournament ranking points qualify for an eligible standing. Players not meeting eligible standings criteria are listed as "Ineligible Players." Standings are published on the USTA New England web site following the posting of each tournament's results by the tournament director.

B. RANKINGS

1. RANKING CRITERIA - The ranking year begins on January 1 and includes all tournaments that begin during the year. Rankings are based solely upon the player's record for one calendar year, and solely upon the results and ranking points awarded within the ranking division in which the ranking is given. Each division of play is ranked separately, and singles and doubles are ranked separately. End-of-year tentative and final rankings will be determined at the completion of the ranking year.

2. RANKING LISTS PUBLISHED ON TENNISLINK - Lists of Eligible Players will include all players who have competed in a ranking division in the calendar year and have at least one ranking point. A #1 listed player must have at least one on-court match win. Players not meeting ranking criteria are listed as "Ineligible Players."

3. RANKING LISTS PREPARED FOR YEARBOOKS AND AWARDS - Lists for yearbooks and awards will include Eligible Players above who are registered with USTA Member Services with a New England Principal Residence (see section III.A.1 below). Out-of-section players who have met eligibility requirements for a division are eligible for a ranking, and will be placed in the yearbook rankings in the proper order with an asterisk. USTA New England players will be ranked numerically in the yearbook as if the non-resident were not included. Lists may be truncated to meet publication requirements.

4. PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE - A player with principal residence in the USTA New England Section, as defined by USTA and USTA New England By-laws, is eligible for yearbook and awards ranking lists. If a question of the principal residence of a player should arise, the burden of proof shall lie with the player. A parent and child doubles team is eligible for ranking consideration if either member of the team has his principal residence in New England.

5. EVENTS INCLUDED IN RANKING - All matches in all USTA New England sanctioned events within any given ranking division, including consolation events, will be considered for ranking purposes. All matches in National Category I and II tournaments played in New England will be considered for New England ranking purposes (with Designated points as noted).

6. EVENTS NOT INCLUDED IN RANKING - The following events are not included in USTA New England rankings: Addie Cup, Atlantic Coast, Church Cup, Friendship Cup, Sears Cup, Talbert Cup, Thurston Cup, interscholastic and intercollegiate tournaments, USTA League Tennis play, US Open Qualifier tournament, out-of-sectional National tournaments, and non-sanctioned/non-ranking tournament events.

7. CORRECTION OF RECORDS - Players may provide corrections to their player record to a tournament director or USTA New England if the player feels that data has been overlooked or has not been properly entered.

C. ADULT TOURNAMENT RANKING SYSTEM

1. RANKING SYSTEM AND POINTS TABLE - Information is posted on the USTA New England web site that describes the system and lists the ranking points provided for match wins and participation points.

www.ustanewengland.com > Adult Players > Adult Tournaments > Standings/Rankings

2. SECTIONAL AND DESIGNATED EVENTS - A listing of Sectional and Designated events is posted on the Standings/Rankings page. Points for the three categories of events are weighted as follows:

- **Sectional Championship** events: 2.0
- **Designated events** (those which are not Sectional Championships): 1.5
- **Regular events** (those which are not Sectional or Designated): 1.0

3. CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS RANKING SYSTEM - The following points emphasize changes from ranking system used 2013 and earlier.

- **Minimum Number of Tournaments Required** – There is no minimum. A player who plays one or more tournaments will receive an end-of-year ranking. Ranking points are awarded for each match win, and points from the best three or four tournaments (depending on division) are included in total points.
- **Minimum Number of Sectional and Designated Tournaments Required** – There is no minimum. A player who plays one or more tournaments of any type will receive an end-of-year ranking.
- **Sectional Championship and Designated Events** – The PPR system provides ranking points for each match win per the PPR table. Players are encouraged to play Sectional and Designated events because they provide a higher number of points than Regular events per the PPR Table.
- **Must Compete in Two New England States** – Not required in any division.

D. PROTEST PROCEDURE AND RANKING REVIEW BOARD

1. PROTEST PROCEDURE - Any protest concerning the rankings 1) must be in writing after Tentative Rankings are published, 2) state the reason for the protest and 3) refer to the protesting player's entire record for the season. The protest must be directed to the Ranking Review Board in care of the USTA New England office within 10 days of the publication of the tentative ranking lists. The Ranking Review Board will review the case to arrive at a decision. A written decision will be provided to the protesting player within 14 days of the Ranking Review Board meeting, stating the reasons for the decision.

2. RANKING REVIEW BOARD - There shall be a Ranking Review Board consisting of a Chairperson and three additional members. The Ranking Review Board shall serve as the final review for any protests, as outlined in Section III.D PROTEST PROCEDURE and explained in Section III.B RANKING CRITERIA.

IV. USTA NEW ENGLAND GRIEVANCES AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES - USTA New England Grievances and Grievance Procedures can be found on the USTA New England web site. www.ustanewengland.com > Adults Players > Adult Tournaments > Grievance Procedures

V. INTERSECTIONAL TEAMS AND COMPETITIONS

A. INFORMATION - Information on the [Adult Cups and Intersectional Teams](#) is available on the USTA New England Web site. An application form for the teams is available on the USTA New England Web site at the time that end-of-year tentative and final rankings are published. Interested players should complete and return the form to USTA New England per the instructions and by the listed deadline. www.ustanewengland.usta.com > Adult Players > Adult Tournaments > Competitions

B. TEAM SELECTION - Team captains must use the following USTA New England requirements and guidelines in their selection process:

1. USTA Membership - All players must be current USTA New England members through the date of the competition.

2. USTA New England Tournament Play - All players must have played a match in at least one USTA New England sanctioned tournament, or in at least one National Category I or II tournament played in New England. The tournament start date must be during the previous calendar year or during the current calendar year provided that the tournament start date is two months or more before the start date of the team competition. A tournament that was used for team competition eligibility for the previous year cannot be used for eligibility for the current year. Any female player age 75 and over is exempt from this requirement.

3. Current standings and rankings

4. Information from Seeding Chairpersons

5. Knowledge about new players eligible for competition

6. Responsiveness to participating in the event

7. Ability to contribute to the team effort in other ways