



**FLORIDA**

**2019 JUNIOR  
REGULATIONS**  
USTA Florida

Florida Junior Tournament Rules & Regulations, Florida Residency Requirements,  
Ranking Procedures, and Tournament Standards

Note: These Regulations are subject to change during 2019.brown\2019 jr regs new.doc updated Jan 2019

# USTA Florida Junior Regulations



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# USTA Florida Junior Regulations



## I. Player Eligibility

### A. USTA Membership (Enrollments)

All players (except for foreign players presenting a current membership card in their own country's tennis association) must be current members of the USTA. Online registration ([www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com)) or toll free phone (800-990-USTA) are available for new members to apply.

### B. Age Divisions

#### 1. Age Eligibility Definition

Under the USTA rule as established in 1999, juniors may play an age division until the month in which they age out of the division. This means players who are 10, 12, 14, 16, or 18 years old may continue, if they choose, to play in their respective age division until the month in which they turn 11, 13, 15, 17 or 19 respectively. The birth date of each entry will now be very important. If a tournament carries over into the next month, the starting date of that event will determine the player's eligibility.

#### 2. Limitations

- a. The age divisions for boys and girls offered for ranking are 18s, 16s, 14s, and 12s.
- b. A player may not play in more than one age division in the same tournament.

### C. Residency

1. Florida residency is recommended for Level 8 & 9 Tournaments (entry level tournaments).
2. Florida residency is not required for Level 7 and Level 6 tournaments.
3. Florida residency is required for all Junior Level 5, Level 4, and Level 3 tournaments.
4. The USTA Florida has mandated a strict enforcement of the Florida Residency Requirement for Florida Level 5, Level 4, and Level 3 tournaments, endorsement to USTA National events, and Intersectional and Zonal teams. For all these events, USTA Florida follows the USTA Florida's residency eligibility rule for endorsement to USTA National tournaments.
5. All Junior players who wish to obtain Florida Residency status and appear on the Tentative Ranking List and appear on the National Endorsement List; **MUST** take the following steps to satisfy the above requirements:
  - a. Native Born players must mail a copy of their birth certificate to the USTA Florida office.
  - b. Foreign born players must mail a copy of a valid alien registration receipt card and a certified birth certificate to the USTA Florida office. More information may need to be submitted (see #6)
  - c. Transfer the player's valid USTA membership card to the USTA Florida.
  - d. The **parents** of the player must obtain a Declaration of Domicile from the Florida county where they reside. The domicile may be obtained from the county courthouse. The player's eligibility depends upon the Florida domicile of the parents.
  - e. As of January 1, 2019, there will be a \$30.00 per player filing fee for administration of this procedure. This check must be in the office before the player will be placed in the ranking system.

6. **All players born in foreign countries:** If the player's birth certificate is from a foreign country, the player must ALSO Submit any one of the following to establish residency status in the U.S. or also known as permanent residents:
- An Alien registration card, also known as a permanent resident card or "green card";
  - An I-551 stamp – temporary evidence of permanent residence in the U.S; An Immigrant Visa Stamp in the foreign passport.
  - A United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) I-797 Approval Notice showing approval of a green card application or petition; OR
  - USCIS I-797 receipt for the green card application or petition.

Visa Stamps alone do not satisfy as evidence of U.S. permanent resident status. Only the above documents can satisfy this requirement of U.S. legal permanent resident status.

7. These documents need to be on file in the USTA Florida office by the Tuesday before the deadline of Level 5, Level 4, and Level 3 tournaments in which a player intends to participate including the \$30.00 per player filing fee. To be selected to Intersectional and Zonal teams, or if you ever intend to enter a USTA National event, these documents must be on file in the USTA Florida office.
8. Questions or clarification on USTA Florida Residency requirements contact the USTA Florida Section office.

**NOTE:** *Falsification of birth date information will result in a minimum one-year revocation of junior tennis privileges in Florida.*

## D. Domicile

**The player's residency shall be the domicile of that player's parents, or in the absence of a parent, the player's legal guardian. Domicile is hereby defined as the bona fide, true and permanent home of the player's parents.**

- In the event of a dispute as to the eligibility of a player under this section, based upon the domicile of the player's parent, the following factors shall be used to determine the true domicile:
  - Where the head of household (primary wage earner) resides, and is employed.
  - Address on the parents' federal income tax return.
  - Affidavit of domicile executed by the head of the household.
  - Intent to permanently reside in Florida notwithstanding the eligibility of the player to qualify for closed tournaments.
  - Siblings declared residence for higher education tuition aid.
  - Residence of dependent children of player's parents.
- The above list is not intended to be definitive or all-inclusive and other factors may be considered by USTA Florida, or submitted by the player's parent, in determining the issue of domicile. USTA Florida may request any documents reasonably believed to be necessary in the determination of a player's eligibility.

# USTA Florida Junior Regulations



3. In the event of a claim that the player's parents are divorced or legally separated, the legal custodian and parent who in fact reside with the player, shall be presumed to be the player's parent for domicile purposes.
4. Upon the determination of ineligibility based upon this section, the parent or guardian of the player may request reconsideration by USTA Florida.
5. All reconsideration requests shall be in writing and filed with USTA Florida within 10 days after the receipt of notice of ineligibility. Any additional documents requested by USTA Florida shall be submitted within 30 days after their request.
6. The player and/or parent may submit any additional documents at any time prior to the reconsideration review by the USTA Florida. The reconsideration shall be considered based upon all documents submitted to USTA Florida.
7. A request to appear in person before USTA Florida shall be in writing within 30 days from the notice of ineligibility, along with the name, address, and phone number of any additional persons who desire to appear and be heard on the issue.
8. Players who have made a declaration of citizenship to a foreign country or who have accepted endorsement from another federation to an ITF Junior or Open tournament shall not be eligible to participate in USTA Florida's Level 4, Level 3 or Level 5 events and shall not be endorsed by the USTA Florida Section to any national or team event. Players may ask for reinstatement in writing to USTA Florida and USTA Florida shall vote on the outcome.

Note: These Regulations are subject to change during 2019.

## II. Standards of Excellence for Junior Tournaments and Chart of Tournament Levels

### A. **Standards for all Tournament Levels Level 9, Level 8, Level 7, Level 6, Level 5, Level 4, and Level 3.**

#### 1. **Administration of the Tournaments**

- a. Tournament sanction applications are submitted online using the rules set by USTA Florida.
- b. All tournaments pay the tournament sanction fee
- c. Host organization, agency or facility must have a current USTA organization membership through the last day of the tournament's sanction.
- d. Tournament Director must be a current member of the USTA through the last day of the tournament sanction.
- e. Tournament Director must be registered on [Net Generation](#) and have passed the Safe Play background check.
- f. All players must have current a USTA membership (Exception: Level 9 players are not required to have USTA membership.) Players can go to [www.usta.com/membership](http://www.usta.com/membership) to join online or call 800-990-USTA (8782)
- g. Players will enter tournament online with the USTA Tennis Link registration.
- h. Tournament director must use TDM to manage the tournament, make draws, and publish on the USTA website.
- i. Some more populated Florida regions may have "split" age divisions (exceptions can be made for the Level 9 and Level 8.

#### 2. **Minimum Site Requirements for Tournaments**

- a. All tournament sites and tournament literature must display USTA Florida identification (such as the USTA Florida banner)
- b. Ice and water readily available at all sites where matches are played.
- c. Bathroom facilities at all sites where matches are played.
- d. Seating on court for players.
- e. Score tenders or alternative scoring keeping devices on all courts (as simple as pen and paper must be provided)
- f. Awards and player recognition

### B. **Chart of Tournament Levels** – This chart list the details of each level tournament offered in the USTA Florida tournament system for junior players. [Click here for more information.](#)

## III. Tournament Rules and Procedures

### A. Preparing and Planning

#### 1. Apply for Sanction

- a. Sanction applications are online at [www.ustaflorida.com](http://www.ustaflorida.com) / [Tennis Link Home Page](#)
- b. Tournament sanction applications will be accepted online beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- c. The tournament sanction application deadline is September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- d. No mail, phone or fax applications will be accepted.
- e. **Any tournament/director in violation of sanctioning requirements, including publishing and reporting deadlines and outstanding fees, for the current year will not be considered for a tournament the following year.**
- f. Sanctions must be paid by credit card upon application.
- g. The host Club or Organization must be a current member of the USTA, and continue the current membership through the last day of the sanctioned tournament.
- h. The tournament director must be a current member of the USTA, and continue the membership through the last day of the sanctioned tournament.
- i. Tournament Director must be registered on [Net Generation](#) and have passed the Safe Play background check.
- j. The Tournament Director Comprehensive Test must be completed and submitted for the sanction application to be considered for sanctioning the following year.
- k. Tournament Agreement (Memorandum of Agreement) must be signed by the tournament site for the site to be considered for hosting a sanctioned tournament.

#### 2. Tournament Data Manager System (TDM)

- a. TDM must be used for all USTA Florida sanctioned tournaments.
- b. All tournaments must be published within 2 days of the last day of the sanction.
- c. Tournaments not published within 2 days of the last day of the sanction will be fined \$50.00.

#### 3. Entry Fees

- a. Tournaments having a combined entry fee for singles and doubles must also have a separate fee for a double's only player.
- b. All tournament entry fees are at the discretion of the USTA Florida.
- c. All fees must be specified on the sanction application

#### 4. Entry Deadline

- a. Entries cannot be closed prior to the deadline.
- b. Every entry submitted on time must be considered for acceptance. The turndown procedure must be adhered (#10 a.- d.)
- c. The entry deadline must also be specified on the sanction application.
- d. Entry deadlines cannot be changed without the consent of USTA Florida.
- e. See entry deadline for tournament levels in [Chart of Tournament Levels](#).

#### 5. Changes in Sanctions

Note: These Regulations are subject to change during 2019.



- a. There shall be no changes unless approved in advance by the USTA Florida staff.
- b. Divisions with a minimum of 2 players **must** be played. It is recommended that the players be contacted under these situations.
- c. Divisions are not to be dropped or combined because of small entry numbers.

## 6. Cancelled Tournaments

- a. USTA Florida sanctioned tournaments may be canceled by a representative of the host facility, tournament director, Adult/Junior Sanction and Schedule Chairman with consultation from the USTA Florida Director of Competitive Tennis Division or USTA Florida staff personnel for any reason deemed necessary to maintain the integrity and standard expectations associated with USTA Florida tournaments.
- b. Tournament cancellations should be displayed publicly by stating cancelled in the title of the tournament on the web site.
- c. Cancellations may be made anytime up until the start of the tournament.
- d. USTA Florida is not responsible for any player expenses incurred due to the cancellation of a tournament such as travel costs, hotel fees, etc.

## 7. Match Format

- a. Format of Play, Draw Format, Maximum Matches per Day, and Rest Period for each age division is listed in the [Chart of Tournament Levels](#).
- b. Play in all matches is governed by the USTA Code; USTA Florida Rules; USTA Florida Tournament Regulations, with the current USTA Point Penalty System in effect for all matches.

## 8. Shortening Matches: Inclement weather, health concerns, or safety concerns may force the Referee to take steps to shorten the tournament to keep the tournament on schedule, including, but not limited to:

- a. Switch to no-ad scoring. The Referee may switch to no-ad scoring for any complete round.
- b. Switch to 10-Point Match Tiebreak in lieu of final set or switch to shortened sets. The Referee may switch to the 10-Point of a deciding final set or to shortened sets for any complete round.
- c. Strictly enforce pre-match warm-up time and breaks between sets.
- d. Tighten court usage. Use "to be followed by" scheduling and have players waiting at courtside as soon as matches finish.
- e. Cancel matches in the following order:
  1. consolation doubles
  2. consolation singles
  3. main draw doubles
  4. main draw singles

## 9. Balls:

- a. A minimum of three (3), new USTA approved tennis balls shall be furnished for each main draw match, each consolation match, and each doubles match. In all tournaments excluding 10 & under matches where green, orange, or red ball is being used.
- b. The ball change pattern will be determined by the Tournament Committee prior to the start of the tournament.
- c. The referee may alter the ball change pattern when, in their opinion, abnormal conditions warrant doing so.

## 10. Turn Down Procedures: If the entry limit for any division has been exceeded at deadline time, then the players shall be accepted using the following procedure:

- a. Every player properly entered by the deadline time must be considered equally (first come first served will have no bearing).
- b. Players accepted for the draw will be selected strictly by the latest ranking/standing list.
- c. Level 6 turn down procedure as follows: 1). Age division by ranking; 2). Top 75 ranking in the next lower age division; 3). Top 300 ITF ranking; 4). Unranked in the natural age division; 5). By lot.
- d. **Note:** *Any exceptions to the above procedures must be approved in advance by USTA Florida. Players who have been turned down must be notified at least two (2) days before the tournament is due to start.*

## 11. Refunding of Entry Fee

- a. There are no refunds after the deadline for any level tournament.
- b. There is no refund of entry fees as stated above regardless of whether the tournament committee subsequently adds a replacement player.
- c. If a division is canceled and a player has not played his or her first match, the entire entry fee must be refunded minus the Active.com registration fee.

## 12. Seeding

- a. The Tournament Director is responsible for acquiring, prior to the draw, the necessary information for seeding.
- b. The latest information on Florida players can be obtained by visiting the USTA Florida web site at [www.ustaflorida.com](http://www.ustaflorida.com).
  - i. Level 7 and Level 6 tournaments use the most recently published "Standing List."
  - ii. Level 5, Level 4, and Level 3 tournaments use the most recently published "Tentative Ranking List"
  - iii. In 2018 a pilot program using UTR (Universal Tennis Rating) to seed players was initiated. This pilot will continue in 2019 if USTA Florida finds it accurate and UTR accessible to continue with pilot.
- c. If obtaining the latest information via the web site is not possible, then contact the USTA Florida Section Office.

## 13. Draws

- a. In Level 9, Level 8, Level 7, and Level 6 tournaments, the draws should be completed at least 2 days prior to the scheduled starting time of the tournament.
- b. Level 5, Level 3, and Level 4 tournaments:
  - i. The draws should be completed at least 4 days prior to the scheduled starting time of the tournament.
  - ii. The Tournament Director, Referee, and/or Deputy Referee MUST be present when the draw is done.
  - iii. The place and time when the draw will be done must be made public.
- c. The draws are to be made per USTA regulations.
- d. A copy of the draws should be posted online with the player's first and last names, and the city, state or country noted next to the names.
- e. The draws should be posted to the public can look at it during the hours of tournament play.
- f. Scores should be entered in a reasonably prompt fashion.

## 14. First Match Time

- a. It is the player's responsibility to contact the tournament or check Tennis Link for their first match time.
- b. First match times must be available at least 1 day prior to the start of the tournament for Level 9, Level 8, Level 7, and Level 6.
- c. First match times must be available at least 3 days prior to the start of the tournament for Level 5, Level 4, and Level 3.

## B. During the Tournament

1. **Chart of Tournament Levels (refer for specific regulations per level)** – [Click Here](#)
2. **Play Under Lights**
  - a. 10 age divisions may begin or resume play no later than 7:30pm.
  - b. 12 & 14 age divisions may begin or resume play no later than 8:00pm.
  - c. 18 & 16 age divisions may begin or resume play no later than 10:00pm.

**Note:** For events where a shortened format is used for doubles matches, play may begin up to 30 minutes later. A player must be given a minimum of twelve (12) hours before his or her first match the next day.

## 3. Officials

- a. In a non-officiated match, a player may leave the playing area for contacting the referee or director.
- b. An umpire may be furnished when requested by a player after some dispute or alleged infraction of rules has occurred during the match being played. If there

is a shortage of umpires, then an "observer", preferably an adult, may be assigned to report back to the referee any further infractions or misbehavior on the part of either player or team.

- c. Umpire requests made prior to the start of a match need not be honored.
- d. All umpires should familiarize themselves with the USTA Florida Rules, the USTA Code and the USTA Florida Tournament Regulations.
- e. The current Point Penalty System, as authorized by the USTA Florida Section, will be in effect in all USTA Florida sanctioned tournaments.

## B. Coaching and On-Court Infractions

- a. The umpire must act as soon as he or she becomes aware that coaching, advice, or instructions (either verbally, by signals, or electronic device of any kind) is being given to a player. If the umpire is unaware "coaching" is being given, a player may make a quick visit to the desk to notify the referee or tournament official that coaching is being given to his or her opponent.
- b. The umpire must take immediate action if a player becomes unsportsmanlike and continually stalls; makes bad line calls; foot faults; uses profanities and/or obscenities; abuses the racquet, equipment or balls, etc. If the umpire is unaware of this situation, the player may make a quick trip to the desk to advise the referee or tournament official that these infractions are both audible and visible violations by his opponent.

## C. Abusive Conduct

- a. No person shall abuse an official or player. The chair umpire, referee and any other official responsible for ensuring that a match is played under conditions that are fair to all players shall make certain that no parent, relative, coach or other person associated with a player abuses an official or player.
- b. A player who enters a sanctioned tournament or match consents to being penalized under the Point Penalty System for abusive conduct by a person who appears to be associated with the player. If the official observes such conduct, he or she shall suspend play and request that the person desist. If the abuse continues, the official may direct the person to leave the tournament area. In a flagrant case, the official may immediately direct the person to leave without requesting him to desist.
- c. If the person refuses to follow the instructions to leave, then the official may penalize the player associated with the person under the Point Penalty System.
- d. The USTA Suspension Point System will be implemented in Level 5, Level 4, and Level 3 events.

D. **Retirements**- A retirement occurs when a player is unable or unwilling to continue play after a match has commenced. When a player retires, it is a loss for the player retiring and a win for that player's opponent.

E. **Disciplinary Defaults** - When a player is defaulted for disciplinary reasons, it is a loss on his or her record and a win for his or her opponent. A disciplinary default in the main draw precludes a player from further competing in the tournament (singles, consolation or doubles,) Tardiness is not considered to be a misconduct infraction.

- F. **Completion of Suspended Matches** – When a match is carried over from a previous day, it should be counted as a match if the player so elects and if 16 or more games of singles or 20 more games of doubles are required to finish the match.
- G. **Heat Index Rule** - Whenever the temperature and humidity are expected to be 90(F) or higher; and humidity 30% or higher the Referee may invoke the Heat Index Procedures:
- Defined:* Heat Index is the combination of temperature and humidity that could result in a serious combination of dehydration and overheating within the body.
  - Procedure:* Activation of the Heat Index Rule simply means that everyone will take a mandatory ten-minute rest before starting a third set.

*Note: This applies to the 12, 14, 16, and 18 age divisions who normally get a three minute.*

- When the Heat Index Rule is put into effect, it will apply to all singles and doubles matches already in progress. It will remain in effect for all matches that started under the Heat Rule even if rescinded by the Referee during the match. (If you start with it – you finish with it).
  - The ten-minute rest is mandatory for everyone even if the match format requires a Match Tiebreak in lieu of a third set.
- H. **Lightning Procedures:** Referees should be prepared for immediate cessation of all matches if lightning is sighted. All activities should stop and everyone should seek appropriate shelter.

*The 30 – 30 rule may be used*

- If lightning is sighted and the thunder occurs in 30 seconds or less, clear all court activity and seek shelter.
  - Dividing the number of seconds from “flash to bang” by 5 gives the distance of lightning in miles. (Ex. 30 seconds equals 6 miles).
  - Court activity should not resume until a minimum of 30 minutes has elapsed since the last lightning was seen.
- I. **Video Recording Junior Player:** Videotaping must be unobtrusive to the players and not constitute a hindrance to players or the match. During a USTA Florida junior tournament match, videotaping may occur by a parent, coach or third party if agreement is obtained in writing, in advance, from:
- All players
  - Parent/Guardian of player under 18 years of age
  - Tournament Director AND Tournament Referee

The video/audio obtained during match play as approved by player/parent/guardian will only be used for personal and/or educational purposes. The video/audio cannot be modified, republished, posted, distributed, or used in any other manner or for any other purpose without the express written consent of all players/parents/guardians.

## C. After the Tournament

1. Display the tournament results using TDM in Tennis Link.
  - a. Before publishing, be sure to check the draws for accuracy including the player's name, city, state (or country), phone #, birth date & USTA # with expiration date and any missing scores, defaults, retirements, etc.
  - b. The tournament must be published within 2 days of the last day of the sanction.
2. Submit to USTA Florida within two (2) days of the completion of the tournament:
  - a. Grievance Forms (if necessary)
  - b. Input the Suspension Points on Tennis Link for Level 3, Level 4, and Level 5 tournaments (if necessary)
3. Violation of Tournament Regulations - Junior tournaments violating any one or a combination of the above regulations will be placed on probation by USTA Florida and may lose their sanction for the following year.
  - a. Tournaments/Directors who fail to publish within 2 days can be fined \$50.00
  - b. Tournaments/Directors who submit inaccurate player data and/or scores can be fined \$50.00.

## IV. Junior Ranking Regulations

- A. Overview** - The Florida United States Tennis Association uses a Points Per Round Combined Ranking System (PPR) to rank junior players and publish Standings Lists and Tentative Ranking Lists. Ranking Points are earned by winning singles and doubles matches at various types of USTA Florida sanctioned tournaments and certain National USTA tournaments. Ranking Points are combined (with greater weight placed on Ranking Points earned in singles) for a player's Ranking Point total and players are ordered based on this total.
- B. Objective** - To promote play, to make it easy to follow progress, to create a pathway through the age divisions, to establish fair value for accomplishments, and to enable players to calculate their individual rankings.
- C. Combined Ranking** - The USTA Florida publishes combined ranking, which includes results from singles and doubles; 25% of the doubles points are added to the singles ranking. The USTA Florida made this change to encourage players to play more doubles and to reward players for their success in doubles. Players receive credit for 100% of their singles points from their best eight (8) events along with 25% of their doubles points for their best eight (8) doubles events. See the example below:

<b>Example #1 Player with better results in singles than doubles</b>	
<b>Points</b>	<b>How Points Earned</b>
1500	100% of Ranking Points from Best 8 singles tournaments
300	25% of Ranking Points from Best 8 doubles tournaments (1,200 total points x 25% = 300)
= 1800	Total combined ranking points

  

<b>Example #2 Player with better results in doubles than singles</b>	
<b>Points</b>	<b>How Points Earned</b>
1200	100% of Ranking Points from Best 8 singles tournaments
375	25% of Ranking Points from Best 8 doubles tournaments (1,500 total points x 25% = 375)
= 1575	Total combined ranking points

Note: These Regulations are subject to change during 2019.

## **D. 20% Rule for Ranking in Florida**

Beginning March 1, 2017, the singles and doubles results for each player earned in a division for the previous 12-month period shall be counted as results in the next-older division at 20%. USTA Florida believes this amendment will facilitate the aging up process so that a player is less pressured to play in two age divisions (and possibly overplay) in advance of the player aging into an older division. By allowing a player to start in the next older division with more than 0 points, this should help ease the transition.

### **1. How does Counting Points Up Work?**

- a. Results in a younger division shall count in only the next-older age division. For example, 14 division results will count only in the 16 division, not also in the 18 division.
- b. Results in the younger division shall appear in the older division, regardless of whether a player has won a match in the older division.
- c. A player's results in the younger division that count in the older division shall be considered the same as all results that are played in the older division. They shall be eligible for the Best of 8 results if they are among the best eight results in either singles or doubles.

### **2. Does Counting Points Up Work the same way as Counting Points Down?**

- a. Counting Points Up works almost the same way as we currently Count Points Down. The differences are:
  - i. Points Count Up only one division (Points Count Down to all divisions)
  - ii. Points Count Up at 20% (Points Count Down at 100%)
  - iii. Points Count Up even if the player has no results in the older division (Points Count Down to a younger division only when a player has an on-court win in the younger division).

### **3. What happens to the Florida Lists on March 1, 2017?**

The first ranking lists published after March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 will include all results in the older division that were played in the younger division during the previous 12-month period. This means that the first USTA Florida ranking lists published after March 1st will look significantly different than the earlier lists of 2017 because all of the next-younger division players will be appearing on the next-older division lists with 20% of their points. This also means that next-younger division results will be a part of the selection process for *all USTA Florida* junior tournaments that use Standing or Tentative Ranking List.

### **4. Are there any other related changes?**

Yes. Because younger-division players will now be appearing on the USTA Florida ranking lists of the next-older age division even if they have no older-division results, USTA Florida has also changed the selection process for the USTA Florida Level 3, 4, & 5 tournaments:



# USTA Florida Junior Regulations



***Beginning May 1, 2017, players will be selected for USTA Florida Level 3, 4, & 5 Tournaments ONLY from the Tentative Ranking List of the division of the tournament; players will no longer be selected because they were a winner or finalist in the previous Level 3, 4, or 5 USTA Florida tournaments.***

## E. Published Lists

**Rankings are computer generated using a Points Per Round Ranking Program. All players with points will be ranked.**

- 1. Standing Lists** – Includes any players having played and won 1 match in a tournament USTA Florida takes into their ranking. This includes National Championships, which results in non-Florida residents being included in the list. This list is primarily used for tournament director seeding purposes. Players listed **solely** on the Standings list will not be allowed to play in Level 5, Level 4, Level 3, and will not be endorsed by the USTA Florida Section.
  - 2. Tentative Ranking Lists** – Player must have complied with the Florida Residency requirement by submitting the players birth certificate and the declaration of domicile of the parents to the USTA Florida office. Players on the Tentative Ranking list are eligible to play in all Florida section tournaments including the Level 5, Level 4, and Level 3. Players included on the Tentative Ranking list will also be eligible (if in good standing with the Florida Section) to be on the USTA Florida Endorsement list. (See I. C. Residency Requirements)
  - 3. Publish Ranking Schedule:** The Standing and Tentative ranking lists will be updated the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month and the Wednesday before the deadline for the Level 3, Level 4, and Level 5 tournament selection process. They will include 12 months of results ending on the last day of the previous month and will be available on the Internet.
  - 4. Endorsement List** - This list is published prior to each USTA National Championship, for selection purposes. Players on this list have met the USTA Florida endorsement policies listed in section V. Endorsement Procedures, A.
  - 5.** Player records are available for viewing and printing from the USTA Florida Web Site - [www.ustaflorida.com](http://www.ustaflorida.com) to [Tennis Link](#)
  - 6.** A player with points in the ranking system cannot request to be removed from the Tentative Ranking or Standings List.
- F. Correction Procedures** - Any corrections to player records must be made in writing via email: [brown@ustaflorida.com](mailto:brown@ustaflorida.com), however corrections to tournament results must be addressed to the respective tournament director.

## G. Ranking Guidelines

- 1.** Only matches in the main or consolation draws from the following tournaments will award ranking points to the winner:
  - a. USTA Florida sanctioned tournaments – Level 3 - 7
  - b. USTA National Clay Court, USTA National Hard Court, and USTA Winter Championships

Note: These Regulations are subject to change during 2019.

- c. All National Level 2 and Level 3 tournaments on the National schedule.
- d. Junior Orange Bowl - Coral Gables (12&14)
- e. Orange Bowl – (16 & 18)
- f. Eddie Herr
- g. Results from USTA Zone Team Championships

## 2. Points Per Round

- a. Main draw points are a fixed number; the round the players reach determines the points awarded.
- b. Consolation points per round are cumulative. First Match Loser, First Round Loser, and Modified Feed-in consolations are added to the main draw points. ([\*please refer to the point charts\*](#))

## 2. Defaults, Retirements & Byes

- a. If a player receives a retirement or a disciplinary default win during a match (main or consolation) the player is awarded points as if the player had won, the match.
- b. When a bye occurs, the player must win the next round to receive points.

## 3. Acceptance into a tournament will be based on the most current Tentative Ranking list or Standing List.

## 4. Best of 8 - This term refers to the number of singles tournaments and doubles tournaments that count for standing and ranking (effectively 16 total tournaments). A player may have more than 8 singles and 8 doubles ranking tournaments on their player record, but only the results from the best 8 of each will be used to in the PPR Calculation.

## 5. A maximum of four (4) national tournaments, (of the above mentioned), will count toward your best 8 tournaments in the ranking calculations.

## 6. Other Ranking Considerations –

- a. Results of workshops, exhibitions, or unsanctioned tournaments will not be counted toward the point tabulations.
- b. 25% of the total points earned in a doubles match win will be included in a player ranking results as long as it is one of a player's best 8 doubles results.

## 7. Ranking Certificates - USTA Florida ranking certificates showing player's name, division in which ranked and numerical rankings are available at the USTA FLORIDA office. Players who would like one (1) (or more) should write the USTA Florida Section and give name, address, division (state singles or doubles), month and year. There will be a \$5.00 charge for each certificate.

## 8. Ranking points earned in an older age division will count down to the player's natural age division only if the player has earned points in their natural age division in the last 12 months.

## V. Endorsement Procedures for USTA National Junior Tournaments

### A. USTA Florida Office & Player Responsibilities

1. To coordinate and oversee the selection of qualified Florida junior players eligible to participate in all USTA national tournaments.
2. To encourage and maximize participation of eligible Florida junior players in all USTA national tournaments throughout the calendar year.
3. Because all National Championships and National Selection Tournaments use online registration, all information regarding these events is online. The Florida Section will assist players and/or parents in obtaining all necessary information.
4. **It is the player's responsibility to check the published Florida Endorsement List to verify the player's name appears.** All players appearing on the Florida Tentative Ranking list will be endorsed provided they are in good standing with the section.
5. To communicate and coordinate during the year with USTA Florida officials, USTA officials, and the USTA National Tournament Committees as needed in obtaining and supplying necessary information and data in a timely fashion.
6. There will be no waivers issued for any situation.
7. USTA Florida communicates and coordinates during the year with USTA Florida officials, USTA officials, and the USTA National Tournament Committees as needed in obtaining and supplying necessary information and data in a timely fashion.
8. USTA Florida will withhold endorsement of an otherwise qualified junior player whose actions and behavior are deemed not to be at the standards required for representing the Florida Section at the national level, with the concurrence of the President of USTA Florida, the Chair of the Grievance Committee, and USTA Florida staff. Any player under suspension or probation during the current endorsement year can be denied endorsement to national tournaments.

### B. USTA National Championships

1. Quotas - The USTA Florida Section has a guaranteed quota based on 60% strength of section and 40% junior membership for all USTA National Championships. Because of the strength of USTA Florida junior players, it is sometimes possible for a small number of additional players to be accepted.
2. Eligibility - Only the top ranked players in their divisions are eligible to play in the USTA National Championships. To be considered for selection as one of the Florida quota to play in all USTA National Championships a player must be a Florida resident (see Residency C. #5, pg. 2) and listed on the Endorsement List.
3. USTA Nationals - Players interested in playing in the USTA National Tournaments or in any out-of-state tournament should keep a complete record of their tournament results (date, tournament, division, name of opponent, score). A schedule of all national USTA sanctioned events is available online at [Tennis Link](#)
4. Entry - Entry to all USTA National Championships Tournaments will be done via the online USTA Registration System at [Tennis Link](#)

**C. Team Events** - Florida players are selected to be part of "Team Florida" based strictly on the latest Florida Sectional Ranking List. Matches in the 12's Zonals, 14's Zonals, and 16's Zonals will count for Florida Section Ranking and National Ranking. Matches in the 16's Intersectional

# USTA Florida Junior Regulations



and 18's National Team Championships only count for National ranking.

1. *National Team Championships (18's)* - These events are National team championships presented by the USTA. The team format consists of six singles and three doubles in an elimination tournament with feed-in consolation. All matches are included on a player's national record. (7) Boys and (7) Girls. USTA Florida will provide one (1) coach for the event and the coach will also act as chaperone. There are no ranking points for USTA Florida in this event.
2. *Girls & Boys 16's Intersectional* - The Girls and Boys 16's Intersectional's are National team championships presented by the USTA. The team format consists of three singles and one doubles in an elimination tournament with feed-in consolation. All matches are included on a player's national record. (4) Boys and (4) Girls. USTA Florida will provide one (1) coach for the event and coach will also act as chaperone. There are no ranking points for USTA Florida in this event.
3. *16's Zonal Competition* - The best six (6) boys and the best six (6) girls in the 16-and-under age division that apply will be selected to participate in the USTA 16 Zonal Competition. All matches in this event will count toward national and sectional ranking. This event counts as a USTA Level 2 tournament. All matches are included on a player's national and Florida record. USTA Florida will provide one (1) coach for the event. Each player is required to provide his or her own chaperone.
4. *14's Zonal Competition* - The best six (6) boys and the best six (6) girls in the 14-and-under age division that apply will be selected to participate in the USTA 14 Zonal Competition. All matches in this event will count toward national and sectional ranking. This event counts as a USTA Level 2 tournament. All matches are included on a player's National and Florida record. USTA Florida will provide one (1) coach for the event. Each player is required to provide his or her own chaperone.
5. *12's Zonal Competition* - The best six (6) boys and the best six (6) girls in the 12-and-under age division that apply will be selected to participate in the USTA 12 Zonal competition. All matches in this event will count toward national and sectional ranking. This event counts as a USTA Level 2 tournament. All matches are included on a player's National and Florida record. USTA Florida will provide one (1) coach for the event. Each player is required to provide his or her own chaperone.