

2020 Adult Regulations

DAILY PLAY LIMITATIONS FOR ADULT TOURNAMENTS

APRIL- OCTOBER

NOVEMBER- MARCH

DIVISIONS	MAX # MATCHES (for matches with 2 6 game sets with a deciding set or a match tiebreaker)	REST BETWEEN	MAX # MATCHES (for matches with 2 6 game sets with a deciding set or a match tiebreaker)	REST BETWEEN
Open, 30's, 35's, 40's, or 45's	2 Singles & 1 Doubles or 1 Singles & 2 Doubles or 3 Doubles	1.5 hrs/Singles & Singles or 1 hr/Singles & Doubles or 1 hr/Doubles & Doubles	2 Singles & 1 Doubles or 1 Singles & 2 Doubles or 3 Doubles	1 hr/Singles & Singles 1 hr/Singles & Doubles or 1 hr/Doubles & Doubles
50's or 55's and all NTRP divisions	2 Singles or 2 Singles & 1 Doubles or 2 Doubles	2hrs/Singles & Singles or 1.5 hrs/Singles & Doubles or 1 hr/Doubles & Doubles	2 Singles or 2 Singles & 2 Doubles or 3 Doubles	1.5 hrs/Singles & Singles or 1 hr/Singles & Doubles or 1 hr/Doubles & Doubles
60's or 65's	1 Singles & 1 Doubles	2 hrs	1 Singles & 1 Doubles or 2 Doubles	2 hrs/Singles & Doubles or 1.5 hrs/Doubles & Doubles
70's or 75's	1 Singles & 1 Doubles	2 hrs	1 Singles & 1 Doubles or 2 Doubles	2 hrs/Singles & Doubles or 1.5 hrs/Doubles & Doubles
80's, 85's, or 90's	1 Singles & 1 Doubles	2hrs	1 Singles & 1 Doubles	2 hrs
ALL DIVISIONS	When alternative match formats and scoring formats are used, the tournament director has the discretion to increase the number of matches per day.	Recommended 15 to 30 minutes	When alternative match formats and scoring formats are used, the tournament director has the discretion to increase the number of matches per day.	Recommended 15 to 30 minutes

I. Tournament Entries

- A. **Deadline:** Tournament deadline should not be less than two days prior to the scheduled starting time of the tournament. Entries cannot be closed prior to the announced entry deadline
- B. **Membership Requirements:** All players (except for foreign players holding a current membership in their own tennis association) must be current members of the USTA. For membership information online go to www.usta.com or phone at 800-990-USTA.
- C. **Conduct at Tournament Site:** No person shall abuse an official or player. The referee, tournament director or other official responsible for ensuring the tournament is played under conditions fair to all players and shall make certain no relative, coach, or person associated with a player abuses an official or player. Any player or persons associated with a player identified by any tournament official as using abusive conduct may be excluded from the tournament site.

II. Seeding

A. Number of Seeds:

The number of players seeded shall equal a power of two (for example, 2, 4, 8, 16, or 32). The maximum ratio of players seeded shall be one in three, *except* that any draw may have two seeds. The tournament director should bear in mind seeding merely represents a subjective rating of the various players' chances of winning the tournament. These ratings cannot be based on whim, caprice, or "hunches," but instead must be justified by a reasonable amount of factual evidence. The Tournament Director should consider all available evidence, including, but not limited to, year end and current year tentative rankings (including other divisions), current records and current points race standing (seeding list), types of surface, and particularly head-to-head encounters. The point's race should not be the sole determining factor in seeding.

B. USTA Florida Seeding List: On the first Wednesday of every month, USTA Florida publishes at ustafloida.com a seeding list based on results from Florida tournaments played during the previous twelve months. It is recommended tournaments should use "all factors method" for seeding which in addition to the seeding lists uses such things as head to head results and players with better records yet participating in fewer tournaments (thus having lower rankings). Also attempt to obtain the results from recently played tournaments not included in the seeding list.

C. Other Seeding Considerations: The tournament director should consider the rankings and computer listings for all divisions in which the player may have played. These constitute "factual evidence" for seeding. A complete list of all players, ranked and unranked, in all divisions is available on the USTA Florida website at www.ustafloida.com. The tournament director should contact the Adult Tournament Coordinator for assistance or the USTA Florida Office at 407-392 4061. USTA Florida can assist in the evaluation of players with insufficient data.

D. Consolation: It is mandatory a minimum 1st match consolation is offered at all adult tournaments with optional sign-up for the players. It is suggested that players have to physically sign up for consolation rather than automatically putting them in the consolation.

III. Draws

A. Singles: The tournament draw for the singles must be completed at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time. As a courtesy to players, tournaments involving significant out of area travel, such as the state or designated tournaments, should strive to complete the draw 48 hours in advance. If a seeded player withdraws before the start of the tournament, all efforts should be made to replace the withdrawn seed with a lower seed to the appropriate position and then replace the lower seed with a new seed.

B. Draw Regulations:

1. The draw is to be made strictly according to USTA Tournament Regulations
2. A copy of the draws should be posted (with the player's first and last names, and the city, state, or country noted next to their names) so that the public can look at it during the hours of tournament play. Scores should be entered not later than at the conclusion of play on a daily basis.

C. Late Entries: The referee or tournament director may accept a late entry or substitute a new player or team into the draw, if the referee or tournament director (preferably assisted by a tournament committee member) determines that the ability of a new player or team does not invalidate the seeding

IV. Changes in Sanctioned Divisions

Additions or deletions of divisions must be approved by USTA Florida Staff. Divisions are not to be dropped or combined because of a small entry or excessive rain. In the latter case, all sanctioned divisions including doubles and consolations should be moved forward until the end of the last sanctioned day of the tournament. An effort should be made to validate (play at least one match) each singles player and doubles team entered in the tournament. Full entry fees must be refunded to any players not validated and who were not defaulted. After the last sanctioned day, and not over one week later, matches may be scheduled and played. A player (or team) cannot be defaulted during this period except if he/she (or they) agree to play a match at a specific time and place, he/she (or they) can be defaulted for failing to show up unless there is a compelling reason.

V. Time and Schedule Notification

- A. Starting Time Notification: Starting times must be posted on line 24 hours prior to the start of the tournament.
- B. Next Match Time Notification: The tournament director should post times (usually written on the posted draws) for the next matches, so that a player can find out his/her next match time when his/her current match is completed. To the extent possible, the times for the entire day should be posted at the beginning of each day. Most players appreciate comfortable rest periods that exceed the minimum standards set forth in the rules, assuming the schedule and weather will permit it.

VI. Participants

- A. Competing in Different Divisions: No player shall compete in more than one division in singles and one division in doubles in a tournament containing singles and doubles and no player shall compete in more than two divisions of doubles in a tournament containing doubles only unless the tournament director decides that court facilities, length of tournament time and number of entries in the division affected will permit play in additional divisions. The tournament director's decision shall be final.
- B. Effect of Time Limitations: No player who has entered one singles and/or one doubles division in a tournament may be required to violate the limitations specified in the table listed at the beginning of this section.
- C. Mandatory Rest Periods: For all adult divisions, after the 2nd set in a best of 3 set match a ten-minute rest period is allowed at the option of any player. After the 2nd set when a match tiebreak is played in lieu of a 3rd set, a two-minute rest period is allowed at the option of any player.
- D. Balls: At least one can of new USTA approved tennis balls should be furnished for each match (singles, doubles, and consolation). The same brand and color of tennis balls must be used for all matches throughout the tournament.

VII. USTA Florida Adult Tournaments

- A. Length of Tournament: State Closed and Designated tournaments are sanctioned for three days. **Tournaments hosting 60 & over age divisions must schedule only one match per day and no semis and finals on the same day.**

Alternative Formats

- 1. If there are three entries in a division, the round-robin format should be used.
 - 2. A tiebreak in lieu of the third set can be used. This information must be advertised on the tournament website.
 - 3. No ad scoring may also be used if advertised on the tournament website.
- VIII. Cancellation of Divisions: If there is only one entry in a division, a major effort should be made to line up an eligible opponent prior to canceling the division.
 - IX. Playing in Two Divisions: If a player plays in two divisions, the player is bound by the playing limitations of the younger division.
 - X. Prize Money: Prize money is encouraged. If a tournament is listed as a "Prize Money" event the distribution is a minimum of 25% of the entry fees (gross) for cash prizes to be qualified as a "Prize Money" tournament in the USTA Florida schedule. Number of participants may be set by the Tournament Director as to whether prize money will be given and must be listed on tournament home page.
 - XI. Cancellation of Tournament; 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 Adult Tennis or USTA Florida staff personnel for any reason deemed necessary to maintain the integrity and standard expectations associated with USTA Florida tournaments. Tournament cancellations should be displayed publicly by stating cancelled in the title of the tournament on the web site. Cancellations may be made anytime up until the start of the tournament. USTA Florida is not responsible for any player expenses incurred due to the cancellation of a tournament such as travel costs, hotel fees, etc.

- XII. Officials; A certified referee must be used for all state championship events.
- XIII. The Point Penalty System (PPS) applies to violations occurring or that occur during the warm-up and match in all USTA Florida and USTA sanctioned events.
- XIV. After Tournaments
 - A. Publishing Official Draw Sheets
 - 1. It is required that all tournaments use TDM (Tournament Data Manager) to run their event. The tournament director must have Internet access and must publish the results onto the Internet with the TDM software daily during the event.
 - 2. Player information must be current and updated in the TDM system before uploading tournament, i.e. USTA # and address must be current.
 - 3. All scores, defaults, retirements (stopped after the match started), withdrawals and walkovers, must be entered on the draws before uploading tournament. The tournament director must obtain any missing scores. This is required for all draws before uploading to the Internet.
 - B. Sanctioned Tournaments

Sanctioned tournaments must be held at a member facility. (The Adult Sanction Project Team may make exceptions on a case-by-case basis.)
 - C. Violations of Tournament Regulations

The Director of Adult Tennis may place adult tournaments violating any one or a combination of the above regulations on probation. A Grievance Committee will be assigned if corrective action is not taken after notification of probation, and to determine any penalties to be assessed.

Adult Ranking Regulations

- I. Ranking Season

The ranking season is from January 1, through December 31st.
- II. Requirements for Ranking
 - A. Registration

A player must hold a current USTA Membership card and must be enrolled from the USTA Florida Section.
 - B. Age Regulations

All senior divisions (30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, and 85) are open to players who have reached or will reach the minimum age limit of the division on or before December 31st. **For example, a player born in December will be age eligible in their respective age category on the 1st day of the year.**
 - C. Singles Rankings

Singles and doubles rankings are computer generated, using the USTA Florida Point Ranking System.
 - E. Exceptions

Any player who does not want to be ranked must notify the Adult Tennis Coordinator to the end of the ranking season (before December 31).
- III. USTA Florida Point Ranking System
 - A. Category 1 event 1000 Points
 - B. Super Category 2 event 500 Points
 - C. Category 2 event 400 points
 - D. Florida State Closed 400 Points
 - E. Women's Florida State Closed 300 points
 - F. Designated Tournaments 200 Points
 - G. Local Tournaments 100 Points

- H. Compressed events earn 10 points per match won.
- I. Point Table
 - a. Total points are accumulated by players advancement in each tournament played.
 - b. Players that enter a USTA Florida sanctioned tournament and play one match will receive 2 points for participation.
 - c. Players that retire during a match will receive participation points.
 - d. Seeding should be done by the Tournament Committee using all available data.
 - e. Point standings will be listed and updated once per month on the USTA Florida website.
 - f. Tournaments will be reviewed annually and evaluated for the coming year.
 - g. 75 points earned per singles match won in the "Florida Cup".
 - h. 10 points earned per match won in the "Compressed" events.
 - i. Appeal procedures will be in place solely to correct data input errors.

Note: USTA Florida has the right to modify the Point Ranking System during the year as it reviews the results obtained through the course of the year. Any such changes will be posted on the USTA Florida website as adopted.

IV. **Ranking Consideration**

- A. Basis for Rankings shall be based on the Point Ranking System (PRS). Comparative scores may be considered only when point totals are otherwise equal.
- B. USTA National Tournaments
Men's 50 and over, 45 and over, 40 and over, 35 and over, 30 and over and Men's Open divisions are eligible to count 2 National Tournaments played anywhere in the U.S. All other men's divisions and all women's divisions are eligible to count 2 National Tournaments, but they must be played in Florida.

- V. **Final Ranking Procedures** Rankings will be based on the following – the best of 5 tournaments for the Men's 55 and over, 60 and over, 65 and over, 70 and over, 75 and over, 80 and over and 85 and over divisions. The best of 4 tournaments for the Men's 50 and over, 45 and over, 40 and over, 35 and over 30 and over, Men's Open, all women's categories and all NTRP singles divisions. All doubles will be the best three (3) tournaments except for NTRP doubles which will be unlimited.

- A. Tentative Ranking

An online computer tentative ranking for Florida only residents will be generated throughout the year up until December 31st. On Jan 1st. barring appeals the tentative ranking will become the Final Ranking.

- B. Appeals

1. Anyone wishing to appeal his or her ranking must do so in writing to the USTA Florida Adult Competitive Tennis Coordinator, giving specific information as to the error in point totals by December 31st.
2. No other reason for appeals is applicable.

VI. **Ranking Certificates**

- A. USTA Florida Ranking Certificates showing player's name, division in which ranked and numerical ranking are available at the USTA Florida office.
- B. Players who want one (or more) should write the USTA Florida Section and give name, address, division (state singles or doubles), year and enclose check for five dollars for each certificate.

NTRP Tournament Regulations

I. Player Requirements

- A. Age 18 & over.
- B. Be a member of the USTA.
- C. A player must compete at their official NTRP level or a half point higher than their current NTRP level. (for example, a 3.0 NTRP rated player can play only up to the 3.5 level) An official NTRP rating is a Computer Rating. It is the player's responsibility to compete at his/her official NTRP rating.
- D. If a player does not have a Computer Rating, that player may compete at his/her own "self rating" level or higher. For assistance in determining your self-rating, please refer to the general characteristics of the NTRP and the Elite Player Guidelines posted on our website at www.ustaflorida.com and select the USTA League Tennis on the sidebar.

NOTE: Players who do not have a USTA computer generated rating are required to complete the self rate questionnaire in tennislink.usta.com in order to participate.

II. Standard Formats

- A. The standard 2 out of 3 sets format is accepted in NTRP tournaments. Please refer to Section VIII. USTA Florida Adult Tournaments, E. Alternative Formats for guidelines on acceptable alternative formats.
- B. For a maximum number of matches per day and rest period between matches, please see the "Adult Tournament Daily Playing Limitations" chart in the Adult Tournament regulations section.

III. Ranking Requirements

- A. The ranking season is the calendar year.
- B. Ratings are computer generated from all match results of sanctioned NTRP Tournaments. This is the responsibility of USTA Florida. A player must play a minimum of 3 matches against computer generated players in order to attain a year end rating.
- C. For additional ranking regulations, see the Adult Tournament Rules and Regulations.

IV. Final Ranking Procedures

The final ranking procedures are the same as for the adult age division tournaments. Please refer to that section.

- V. National Tennis Rating Program ratings system is in place that will adjust a player's self-rating if the computer system deems it to be inaccurate. Any player disqualified from the adult or senior division of USTA Adult League Tennis, may not play at the disqualified NTRP level of play in NTRP Tournaments.