

# USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS Q&A 2023

INTERPRETATIONS – 3/5/23

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## INTERPRETATIONS - 2023

Interpretations apply to application of regulations for Championship Year 2023

(changes/additions are in red)

The questions and answers in this document are interpretations or clarifications of the USTA League Regulations. The Sections, District and Local Leagues are required to abide by these interpretations.

If a Section, District or Local League does not have a regulation in place to handle an issue and there is a National Championship regulation on that issue, the Section, District or Local League must follow the Championship regulation.

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1.00 General

2/2/2023	1.04B(3)a references “Section League Coordinators” – what if our Section doesn’t have a person with that title?	“Section League Coordinator” refers to the person(s) appointed by the Sectional Association as the individual(s) responsible for the implementation and administration of the USTA League program. Specific titles are at the discretion of Sections and may vary.
2/2/2023	1.04B(3)b references “District/Area/League Coordinators” and 1.04B(3)c references “Local League Coordinators” – what if that title doesn’t exist in our area of play?	The person(s) appointed by the Sectional Association, District Association, or Designee as the individual(s) responsible for the implementation and administration of the USTA League program. Specific titles are at the discretion of Sections, Districts, or Designees and may vary.
1/13/2000 8/4/2016	Can a Section or District require play in order of strength?	No. A local rule requiring playing in order of strength is in violation of the National Regulations. Any rule dealing with this issue needs to be removed from the Sectional, District, or local rules.
1/29/2015	1.04B(5) states that “At least one member of the Championship Committee shall be in attendance at all times during play.” Does this mean that the USTA Certified Referee or Umpire does not have to be at the championship and could be “on call” remotely to govern the event?	No, the intent of the referenced sentence was to allow the committee members to individually leave the site if necessary, for meals or other errands as required. In order to govern the event the committee members should be on site at all other times. If the tournament is using multiple sites, the Referee or Umpire may be stationed at one site but must be available to travel to an alternate site if needed.
8/9/2007 2/10/2009	Under what date and time should a match that was interrupted be entered into TennisLink (some positions completed while others were not) by rain or other situations?	Use the date of the last outstanding individual match to be completed.  See Regulation: <i>1.04C(2)</i>
1/1/1998 10/28/2008 1/14/2020	Can a Sectional Association increase the minimum number of players necessary to form a team?	No. A Section may not increase the minimum number of players on a team. They may state “minimum of 8, preferred minimum of 10.”  In the Adult 40 & Over Age Group, at the Sectional level and below, when playing 5-line matches, a minimum of 8 players may be required for 2 singles, 3 doubles or 9 players required for 1 singles, 4 doubles.  See Regulation: <i>1.04D(4) and table that follows</i>
1/27/2011 8/22/2013 9/23/2014	What happens when a team that has qualified for a National Championship chooses to move up and play at the next higher level. However, at the next higher level there are only two teams participating. Does the 40% rule apply?	The team will be exempt from the 40% rule for the next year ONLY if the majority of the team moves up to the next higher level.  See Regulations: <i>1.04D(5) and 2.06A</i>

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<p>5/25/2000 02/04/2009 1/14/2020</p>	<p>Can a player register and play in an Early Start League if they have not reached the required age (18, 40 or 55) but will become eligible during the league year?</p>	<p>TennisLink will prevent the registration of an age-restricted player (18 &amp; Over, 40 &amp; Over or 55 &amp; Over) until January 1<sup>st</sup>. Players must be 18 at the time league play begins and will not be allowed to register before they are 18. The Section will have to leave registration open past January 1st if they wish to allow these individuals to participate. No waiver will be given to allow participation before reaching the required age.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>1.04E(3)</i></p>
<p>4/24/2003 2/10/2009 12/16/2011</p>	<p>What rating can I use when registering for a league?</p>	<p>TennisLink only recognizes one NTRP or self-rate at a time. Players must use their most current rating on file when registering for any league.</p>
<p>5/22/2017 3/5/2019</p>	<p>I'm not happy with my NTRP rating. Can I purchase a new membership and self-rate again?</p>	<p>If you have more than one NTRP rating, your records will be merged, and you will be assigned the highest rating. Additional penalties may be applied.</p>
<p>1/1/2008 9/16/2021</p>	<p>A player self-rates to enter a combined NTRP league, e.g. Mixed, and plays at that level. The player later decides to appeal UP and play at a higher NTRP level in another league, e.g. Adult. Can they continue to play on the first team at the lower level?</p>	<p>No. Once the player is granted an appeal of their NTRP level up the player has declared they should be playing with that rating. They must play at the higher appealed self-rating until it is replaced by a valid Computer rating (or expires). The player may continue to play on the first team if using their higher rating, they can combine with a partner and together not exceed the team NTRP level.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>1.04F(1)b</i></p>
<p>1/27/2011 1/4/2012 1/29/2016 9/16/2021</p>	<p>If a Mixed exclusive rated player registers for a Mixed team and then, as required, self-rates to join an Adult team and receives a higher self-rating, can the player continue on the Mixed team with the lower rating?</p>	<p>Yes, if they already have registered (for a Mixed team) prior to the higher self-rating being assigned, they are able to continue to play at the lower rating in Mixed.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>1.04F(1)b</i></p>
<p>9/16/2021</p>	<p>If a self-rated player registers for an Adult team and then, because their current self-rating expires, self-rates for a Mixed team and receives a higher rating, can the player continue on the Adult team with the lower rating?</p>	<p>Yes, if they already have registered for an Adult team prior to the higher self-rating being assigned, they are able to continue to play at the lower rating in the Adult Division.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>1.04F(1)b</i></p>
<p>12/7/2017 5/10/2019 1/14/2020 9/16/2021</p>	<p>A computer-rated player is registered on an early start Adult league team when year-end ratings are published. The player appeals their rating up; can they continue on the early start team at the lower rating level?</p>	<p>No. Once the player is granted an appeal of their NTRP level up the player has declared they should be playing with that rating. They must play at the higher appealed rating until it is replaced by a valid Computer rating (or expires).</p>
<p>1/14/2020 9/16/2021</p>	<p>A computer-rated player is registered on an early start mixed or other combined-rating league team when year-end ratings are published. The player appeals their rating up; can they continue on the early start team at the lower rating level?</p>	<p>No. Once the player is granted an appeal of their NTRP level up the player has declared they should be playing with that rating. They must play at the higher appealed rating until it is replaced by a valid Computer rating (or expires). They may continue to play on the team if, using their higher rating, they can combine with a partner and together not exceed the team NTRP level.</p>

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1/9/2018	What qualifies a local league as an Early Start League? Is it the date that registration opens, or the date that play begins? Can a player who is moved up at year end play at the lower level in a league in which registration opens prior to year-end rating publication date and match play begins after January 1st?	An Early Start League is one in which match, begins (i.e. commences) before January 1 of the League Year, NOT the date at which registration opens. The current USTA League Regulations glossary definition of an Early Start League is: "A local league season that commences prior to January 1 of the League Year." A player who moves up at year-end must play at the higher level on any team that commences play after January 1st, regardless of registration date.
3/14/2013	A player played one match on a 7.0 Mixed 18 & Over team. It was then determined they were the 4 <sup>th</sup> player from last year's National team to register for this current team. Can the player be removed from the team and allowed to register for another team in the same league, at the same level, in the same division?	Yes, the match should be treated as a default and the player removed from the team. It is not the intent of <i>1.04G(2)</i> to prevent a player from moving to another team in this circumstance.
5/10/2019 9/16/2021	A player registered on an Early Start Mixed team or Early Start 55 & Over team receives a lower year-end computer rating. Can they begin playing at their lower rating as soon as the ratings are published?	Yes, the coordinator should change the player's rating on the roster for any teams currently playing or advancing teams if the season is complete.
5/10/2019 9/16/2021	A player registered on an Early Start Mixed team or Early Start 55 & Over team receives a lower year-end computer rating. Can they begin playing at their lower rating as soon as the ratings are published?	Yes, the coordinator should change the player's rating on the roster for any teams currently playing or advancing teams if the season is complete.
7/8/2015	Q: Can Red, Orange, or Green balls be used for League play in programs listed in table 1.04?	No. For all league programs not listed in table 1.04, red, orange, or green (ROG) balls may be used. Sections may restrict the type of balls used for programs that advance to Sectional championships. For League programs listed in table 1.04, only standard Type 2 balls can be used (no transition or red, orange, green balls).  See Regulation: <i>1.05</i>
12/7/2017	A player is dynamically disqualified based on play in an Early Start League. Will they be allowed to advance to National Championship with their team at the lower level?	No. Once a player is dynamically disqualified, they aren't allowed to compete at the lower level for the balance of the current championship year or the following year.  See Regulation: <i>2.04B(3)</i>
12/02/2013 1/29/2016 8/4/2016	Is USTA League play permitted on tennis courts with Pickleball lines?	USTA recommends all USTA League matches be played on courts with permanent tennis lines, which includes blended 36' or 60' tennis lines. The final decision to allow play on court with Pickleball lines is up to the Section.

**2.00 USTA League Regulations**

<p>1/1/1998 2/10/2009 2/14/2012</p>	<p>What occurs if a player(s) is on the wrong court in an individual team match?</p>	<p>If the discovery occurs before the first game of all matches affected has been completed, players are to go to the correct courts and begin the matches over. If the discovery occurs after the first game is completed, the matches will be completed as started and count as matches played in good faith.</p>
<p>1/1/1998 9/23/2003 9/23/2014</p>	<p>How should “known defaults” be handled at the local level?</p>	<p>In the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play, it is recommended that the opposing team(s) should be advised of a known default. The defaulting captain will still be able to designate at what position (2nd singles or 3rd doubles) a known default will occur.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.01C(2)</i>.</p>
<p>2/1/2007 12/16/2011</p>	<p>When a match is postponed following the exchange of line-ups, do the original line-ups stand for the make-up match?</p>	<p>If the Section speaks to this issue the Section/District rule would be followed. Otherwise, the line-up would stand only for those positions that had already started (first service attempt) their match. All other positions, even those that were in warm-up may be changed including defaulted courts.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.01C(5)</i></p>
<p>1/1/1998 2/16/2009 12/16/2011</p>	<p>What happens when two players on a team don't show up that are members of two different doubles teams?</p>	<p>The Sectional Association or Championship Committee has latitude based on the language found in 2.01C(5) and 2.03F which states “except under such further circumstances as the Sectional Association or Championship Committee authorizes.” The objective is to avoid additional defaults to the degree possible.</p> <p>For example, if the two players came from the number one doubles team and the number three doubles team, these players could play at number one doubles, the number two doubles team could remain the same and the default would occur at the number three doubles position.</p> <p>See Regulations: <i>2.01C(5) and 2.03K</i></p>

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9/27/2021	<p>If during warm-up a player at one of the higher positions is injured, and no substitute is available, must the “Required Position(s) and Order of Match Defaults” under 2.03K still be followed, and if so, how?</p>	<p>After the team line-up has been exchanged, in the event of an injury (or illness or disqualification), a substitution (a rostered player not already listed in the line-up) may be made for that player, at that position only.</p> <p>If no substitute is available, that position will be defaulted, regardless of the Order of Match Defaults under 2.03K. An injury at No. 1 Doubles requiring a default before No. 2 Doubles, or No. 1 Singles before No. 2. Singles will be valid and accepted by TennisLink.</p> <p>The Required Position(s) and Order of Match Defaults under 2.03K guides defaults known, prior to the exchange of line-ups.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03K</i></p>
6/25/2020	<p>The Adult 18 &amp; Over Open 2.5 (men only) and Open, and Adult 40 &amp; Over 5.0 divisions are approved for local leagues and all Championships below National Championships. No National Championship is held for those divisions.</p> <p>Are Sectional Associations required to follow all the regulations for those divisions for which a National Championship is not held?</p>	<p>No. Sections may offer leagues that do not advance to a National Championship in the manner that they see fit and may delegate that authority to their Districts and Areas.</p> <p>Any league offered at the Section level and below that does not follow all the regulations under 1.04D(4), 1.04F(1), 1.04G, 2.01A, 2.01C, and 2.03A must administer the league in accordance with their OPT OUT choices (Adult Other, Flexible Format, etc.) to not impact year-end ratings.</p> <p>See Regulations: <i>1.04D(4), 1.04F(1), 1.04G, 2.01A, 2.01C, and 2.03A</i></p>
3/28/2013	<p>Are “timed matches” permitted at the Sectional, District, Area, or Local Level?</p>	<p>“Timed Matches” are compatible with the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System, and thus Sections may authorize such match formats within their section, or may delegate that authority to the Districts, Area, or Local Leagues.</p>
1/14/2020	<p>If a Mixed exclusive rated player registers for a Mixed team and then self-rates to join an Adult team does their new (S) rating mean that they must now play four matches (with no default counting) to be eligible to attend a mixed National Championship?</p>	<p>No. If they already have registered (for a Mixed team) prior to receiving the self-rating, they should be able to play under their previous M rating in the Mixed division. Playing under their M rating means that if they played on the same team in at least three matches at the same NTRP level in the same Age Group through Sectional Championships with a maximum of one default received by the player during local league or championship competition, they will be eligible.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03A(4) and 2.03A(5)</i></p>

<p>1/14/2020</p>	<p>A player self-rates to enter an Early Start League and receives a Year-End Rating. Which rating is valid for eligibility to advance to a National Championship?</p>	<p>The Year-End rating is valid for eligibility to advance, which means that if they played on the same team in at least <u>three</u> matches at the same NTRP level in the same Age Group through Sectional Championships, with a maximum of one default received by the player during local league or championship competition, they will be eligible.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03A(4) and 2.03A(5)</i>.</p>
<p>12/21/2021</p>	<p>Self-Rated (S) and Valid Computer Rated Appealed (A) players are required to play more matches than Computer Rated players (C) to be eligible for National Championships and may be required to do so to be eligible for championships below the National level.</p> <p>If a player is granted an appeal up to the next level of their rating, or the player is playing at the next NTRP level with their lower rating, do the increased match requirements still apply?</p>	<p>The increased match requirements do not apply to any player with an A rating <u>who has been granted an appeal up of their C rating</u>.</p> <p>The increased match requirements do apply to any player with an A rating <u>who has not been granted an appeal up of their C rating</u>, playing at their current or higher rating. The increased match requirements do apply to any player with an S or D rating, playing at their current or higher rating.</p> <p>The increased match requirements are intended to identify clearly above level players as quickly as possible. Players who have earned a C rating have a known history and if they are granted an appeal up and play at the higher level would be known to be playing at the right level.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03A(3)a and 2.03A(4)</i></p>

**2.02 PROGRESSION**

<p>1/13/1999 9/1/2002</p>	<p>If a Local League or District has only one team in a Division (e.g. Adult, Mixed) can they go directly to the District or Sectional Championships?</p>	<p>No. They must play a Local League first.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If there is only one team in each of the Local Leagues, they could play their Local League at the District Championships and the winner advance. Those advancing must meet the minimum requirements.</li> <li>● If there is only one team in each of the Districts, they could play their Local League at the Sectional Championships and the winner advance. Those advancing must meet the minimum requirements.</li> </ul> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.02A(1)</i></p>
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<p>1/23/2013 8/14/2015 8/4/2016</p>	<p>A player plays a Local League match and after the match is completed, it is determined that the player is ineligible (e.g. not registered on TennisLink). If the player subsequently becomes eligible, does the match count for advancement purposes for the ineligible player, his/her partner, and the opposing player(s)?</p>	<p>No. The match with the ineligible player should be marked as “DQ and Ineligible”. Clicking the DQ box will reverse the match results; clicking the Ineligible box will remove the match played from the ineligible player and his/her partner but will leave it as a match played for their opponents.</p>
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**2.03 AREA, SECTION AND NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

<p>4/10/1999 12/11/2006 12/16/2011</p>	<p>What happens if more than the allowed number of players who were on the roster at a National Championship appear on a given roster the next year?</p>	<p>If a team violates USTA League Regulations by submitting a roster with more than the allowable number of players that were on any roster in that Division at a National Championships the previous year, any player, registered beyond the three (2 for 2.5, 5.0) allowed, who has not participated in a match, including defaults received, for the team will first be removed from the roster (last person to register on the team will be first off unless another player agrees to come off.) If the team still does not meet the requirement, then the last National Championship individual rostered will be disqualified and all matches played by the player will be considered losses and so on until the three player requirement is reached.</p> <p>If the team roster includes the minimum number of players still eligible to play, the team will be permitted to finish the local season with the adjusted roster. Resulting defaults will count towards eligibility requirements for advancement to Championships below the National level. Actual scores of defaulted matches will be input for the purpose of generating NTRP ratings.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.06A</i></p>
<p>1/1/1998</p>	<p>Does the use of a wild card team in District or Sectional Championships conflict with any USTA League regulation?</p>	<p>No. In accordance with the guidelines set forth in the League Championships Wild Card Procedures, a Sectional Association may adopt wild card procedures for its District and Sectional Championships.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03A(1)</i></p>
<p>5/10/2019</p>	<p>My team is tied with four other teams but only four teams can advance to the semi-finals at national championships. How will head-to-head be applied?</p>	<p>Head-to-head is only considered as a tie-breaker if all teams that are tied played each other and one team defeated a majority of the teams. If all tied teams did not play each other the system will skip head-to-head and go to the next option, least sets lost. The system will not return to head-to-head once it is skipped.</p>



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<p>7/12/1999 12/8/1999 12/16/2011</p>	<p>If a player is winning 4-2 in the first set and then retires, does this count for the person's eligibility to advance and their computer rating?"</p>	<p>ADVANCEMENT: The match will count for advancement for all players involved regardless of how many points/ games were played.</p> <p>NTRP YEAR-END RATING: No. Defaults or retirements in which neither player(s) wins six or more games are not part of the rating calculation. In the case stated the match would not count as a match played in order to receive a year-end rating.</p>
<p>1/1/1998 1/24/2009</p>	<p>If USTA Membership expiration expires during Championships competition, and is not renewed prior to such expiration, will such player become an ineligible player?</p>	<p>Yes. Note: If it is determined that a player does not have a current USTA membership, the player can and must immediately renew the membership or be disqualified.</p> <p>See Regulations: <i>1.04E(2) and 2.03A</i></p>
<p>1/1/2002 11/15/2005 12/21/2021</p>	<p>How many matches may a team play per day during a Championship?</p>	<p>Championships using best of three tie-break sets with a match tie-break in lieu of a third set may schedule no more than three matches per day per team.</p> <p>See: <i>Friend at Court</i></p>
<p>12/21/2021</p>	<p>What is the appropriate rest time between matches for players playing in more than one division (e.g. a player is playing in both Mixed 18 &amp; Over 7.0 and Mixed 18 &amp; Over 8.0 which are held on the same weekend)</p>	<p>Each division is considered its own Championship therefore the only required rest time is what is required in Friend at Court. Sections or Districts may provide more time if they deem appropriate.</p> <p>See: <i>Friend at Court</i></p>
<p>1/1/1998 1/1/2004</p>	<p>In the event that a tournament uses two different scoring methods and a tie develops, how does the Championships Committee break the tie?</p>	<p>TennisLink will only accept one scoring method during a Championship event. In the event the Championship Committee alters the format from regular scoring to a pro-set or other acceptable format so there is a combination of the two scoring methods and a tie develops, all matches will be converted to best of 2 or 3 tie-break sets using the Conversion Chart Procedures provided by the National office. The converted scores as published in TennisLink will be the official score and tie-break process.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03C</i></p>

<p>1/1/1998 9/23/2003 8/4/2016 5/10/2019</p>	<p>How should “known defaults” be handled at Championships?</p>	<p>In the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play, the opposing team(s) should be advised of a known default. The defaulting captain will still be able to designate at what position (2nd singles or 3rd doubles) a known default will occur.</p> <p>If the opponent has turned in their scorecard, they will be allowed to change it if the defaulting team did not advise their opponent in advance.</p> <p>The Championship Committee has the authority to file a grievance and recommend the actions to take when multiple match default(s) given by one team result in a situation that may materially impact the championship’s standings. Team penalties may include but are not limited to, non-advancement, disqualification or suspension.</p> <p>See Regulations: <i>2.01E, 2.03F, 203I – L, 3.03A(7)</i>.</p>
<p>7/29/2002 02/04/2009</p>	<p>If an individual is dynamically disqualified at a Championship in which they had also qualified at a higher level, can they then elect to participate at the higher level during that same Championship?</p>	<p>Yes, If the Section permits participation on more than one Championship team per event.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>1.04G(6)</i></p>
<p>11/8/2021</p>	<p>Regulation 2.03L Scoring of Full Team Defaults states that “If a team defaults an entire team match for any reason during round robin play...” and concludes with “The Sectional Association may impose further penalties on the defaulting team.” Does this mean that if a full team default occurs at any point during a Championship that is not round robin play that no further penalties may be imposed on the defaulting team?</p>	<p>No. This regulation was originally written when nearly all Championships were round robin formats and to avoid a full team default by an out of contention team benefitting the recipient of the default vs. the rest of the field.</p> <p>Full team defaults impact the opponent receiving the default regardless of the impact on the rest of the field. Regardless of the format, or when in the Championship a full team default occurs, the Sectional Association may impose penalties on the defaulting team.</p>
<p>8/4/2016</p>	<p>Can a Section require captains to exchange scorecards prior to match time?</p>	<p>No. If a player or players are missing, they must have the benefit of the 15-minute default rule per “Friend at Court”.</p> <p>See Regulation <i>2.01C(5)</i>.</p>

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<p>7/14/2003 12/16/2011 8/4/2016</p>	<p>What happens locally when a captain expects/states that the #1 position (singles or doubles) will be there shortly, so the opposing captain permits the other positions (#2 and/or #3) to go on the court and start/complete matches, and then the team(or person) doesn't show up and a default is recorded at the #1 position?</p>	<p>If both captains agreed to begin the match with positions missing, all courts stand as played.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03K</i></p>
<p>8/19/2009 03/01/2010 12/5/2012 1/23/2013 10/31/2013 3/24/2015 12/4/2017</p>	<p>What happens if some individual matches are played in a team match in which one or both teams don't have enough rostered players available to meet the minimum requirements as outlined in the table in 2.03K?</p>	<p>If both teams did not have enough players available to meet the minimum requirements as listed in table 2.03K, the entire team match will be considered a double default.</p> <p>If only one of the teams had enough players to meet the minimum player requirements as listed in table 2.03K, that team will be credited with a team win. Only those players who were there and ready to participate will be credited with a "win by default", which will also count toward advancement to all levels of Championship, except for National Championships.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.01C(2)</i></p>
<p>8/5/2002</p>	<p>We have a two-team league; both teams have the required number of players registered. The one team defaults all their matches to the other team. May the team receiving the defaults progress to Championship?</p>	<p>No, the league has not actually taken place. This is all paper with no attempt to play.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>1.04D(1), 2.01C(1)</i></p>

<p>12/3/1999 02/22/2011 1/16/2013 9/23/2014</p>	<p>Regulation 2.03L Championship Scoring of a Team Default states: "If a team defaults an entire team match for any reason during round robin play, that team is ineligible to continue play at that championship. All matches of the defaulting team already played shall be null and void when determining standings but will be used for ratings and advancement purposes."</p> <p>Is the Local League required to follow this regulation if no alternative rule is in place at the Section, District or Local level?</p>	<p>Yes. If the Section, District or Local League does not have a specific rule in place to cover a full team default it must follow the National Championship regulation.</p> <p>The objective is to play the match. The Section is encouraged to put a procedure in place.</p> <p>If the Local League elects to use the Championship rule, they should be aware that if all teams with a mathematical chance to advance have played the defaulting team – those scores will stand.</p> <p>For example, if the first place team defaults an entire team match (unable to contest the match for the team point), and the Sectional, District or Local League have elected to use the Championship rule, that team is subject to the regulation in place for Championships (The other teams that have a chance to win the competition should be credited with the matches played against this team.)</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03L</i></p>
<p>9/15/2006</p>	<p>A flight has a triple round robin scheduled. If there is a full team default, would all matches in the triple round robin be considered null and void?</p> <p>A District has decided to follow the Championship Regulation 2.03L for scoring of full team defaults for their Local League.</p>	<p>No. The key word here is CHAMPIONSHIP rules. There is usually only one round robin played during a given Championship while a flight may play 2 or even 4 round robins in their Local League. Each of those RR's makes up a tier/segment of the Local League season. Each individual tier/segment will be considered separately for purposes of a full team default.</p> <p>If there is a full team default in a triple round robin only the RR tier/segments that have the full team default will be impacted. Each of the 3 Round Robin segments will be treated as whole and separate within the Local League flight. If the first RR was finished and the full team default occurred during the 2nd RR then all matches for the first RR would stand.</p> <p>Also remember that if all teams in contention had played the defaulting team (2.03L), those matches would stay in the system.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03L</i></p>

1/16/2013	Is it the intent of Regulation 2.03L that teams be allowed to continue to play in the championship if they have defaulted an entire team match?	<p>No, once a team defaults an entire team match they are no longer part of the Championship. The Tournament Committee may allow the defaulting team to continue to play if other teams wish to play the matches, however, the opposing teams cannot be required to play. The results of such matches will not be entered in TennisLink.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.03L</i></p>
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**2.04 LEAGUE NTRP DISQUALIFICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES**

<p>8/25/2003 12/1/2004</p>	<p>What can you do when an individual self-rates low (3.5) and then starts play at a higher level (4.0) that produces 3 strikes at the lower level? Do you have to wait until the player rosters and plays a match to DQ?</p>	<p>Regulation 2.04B states an individual will be disqualified if they reach the disqualification level 3 times based on all matches reported in the national database for the Adult Division.</p> <p>TennisLink will identify on the “At DQ” report an individual that has acquired 3 strikes at his/her Self-rated level regardless of being rostered at that level on any team. The Sectional Association will notify the individual that a promotion has occurred at the self-rate level and that the Sectional Association has adjusted the player’s self-rating. The individual must now participate at that adjusted self-rate level or higher. This is not an NTRP disqualification as the individual never participated at that level. It will be handled as an “appeal to move up” requested by the Section.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04B</i></p>
<p>8/18/1999 2/10/2009 12/16/2011</p>	<p>The rules state that NTRP Dynamic Disqualification is not part of the Mixed Division. If a player is disqualified in the Adult Division, are they allowed to participate at the DQ’ed level in the Mixed Division for the remainder of the Championship year?</p>	<p>No. Even though the Mixed Division does not allow Dynamic Disqualification, it must follow the rules (Reg. 2.04B(3)) in relation to playing at the correct level. A player who has been moved up as a result of a disqualification in the Adult Division must immediately adjust his/her NTRP level of play in the Mixed Division.</p> <p>The player will have two options: Option #1: If on a combined NTRP level team, the player may continue on that team by adjusting the levels. (9.0 combined team—DQ’ed 4.5 player now at 5.0 must play with no greater than a 4.0 player)</p> <p>Option #2: If on a straight NTRP level team, the player must move up to the appropriate NTRP level or sit out the balance of that season depending on the Section’s regulations. (A player on a combined NTRP level team may also choose to move up if the Section allows.) If the player can combine with another player and meet the 1.0 differential, they may participate.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04B(3) and NTRP Dynamic Disqualification Table</i></p>

<p>5/1/2008 1/24/2009 12/16/2011 1/16/2013</p>	<p>We play our Sectional Championships for our Adult Division back to back (or at the same time). How does this situation impact my ability to advance to Nationals if I am dynamically disqualified in any of these League Types?</p>	<p>An individual dynamically disqualified from any League Type will not be permitted to advance to National Championships for any Adult Division except in the Combined Adult 55 &amp; Over League Type if they are able to combine and remain within level.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04B(3)</i></p>
<p>12/7/2017</p>	<p>A player is dynamically disqualified based on play in an Early Start League. Will they be allowed to advance to National Championship with their team at the lower level?</p>	<p>No. Once a player is dynamically disqualified, they aren't allowed to compete at the lower level for the balance of the current championship year or the following year.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04B(3)</i></p>
<p>1/25/2002 2/10/2009</p>	<p>How far back does an NTRP Disqualification go during a Local League play-off? What matches need to be reversed?</p>	<p>Any disqualification occurring during separate tiers of a Local League Play-off flight(s) will affect only matches in that particular tier Play-off flight. No matches will be reversed in previous tier Play-off flights.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04E</i></p>
<p>1/1/1998 02/09/2009 12/16/2011</p>	<p>During local round robin competition a player is disqualified. Is that player's last match considered a loss, or are all previous matches considered losses?</p>	<p>It depends on the basis for the disqualification during the Local League play. (See Championship Procedures Section for how the same issues are handled during Championship.)</p> <p>Eligibility DQ: See Regulation 3.03B(4) a and b. Review this section as penalty varies based on stage of Local League.</p> <p>Dynamic DQ: See Regulation 2.04E(1) which states that each Section will establish what, if any, matches shall be considered losses.</p> <p>See Scoring of Eligibility Disqualification and NTRP Dynamic Disqualification for Championships in Regulations 2.04E(2) and 3.03C(4)a, b and c</p>



<p>3/21/2001 2/10/2009 12/16/2011 12/5/2012</p>	<p>If a player is NTRP Dynamically Disqualified during play in any Adult Division League Type, does that disqualification apply across all League Types?</p>	<p>If a local NTRP disqualification occurs during concurrent Adult Division seasons, the disqualification shall affect the matches played by the disqualified player in all League Types.</p> <p>If the seasons are not concurrent or overlapping, the NTRP disqualification shall affect the matches played by the disqualified player in the season in which the NTRP Dynamic Disqualification occurred.</p> <p>If a player is disqualified in 18 &amp; Over, 40 &amp; Over or 55 &amp; Over League Types while playing in a Mixed League below the Section Championship level, the player shall immediately play at the higher level.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.04E(1)</i></p>
<p>5/10/2019</p>	<p>I earned my 3<sup>rd</sup> strike at a National Championship. Will I be able to play at the lower level in subsequent Adult and/or Mixed National Championships?</p>	<p>Once a player is disqualified, they are required to immediately begin play at the higher level. You cannot play at an Adult 18 and Over or 40 &amp; Over Championship at the lower level but you may play at Adult 55 &amp; Over and Mixed nationals, if you are otherwise qualified, and if you can combine with a player and your ratings do not exceed the team level.</p>

**2.05 YEAR-END NTRP COMPUTER RATINGS AND APPEAL PROCEDURES**

<p>6/6/2003 4/01/2008</p>	<p>What year regulations and procedures are used to determine basis for appeal, the year under which the rating was generated or year under which the rating will be used?</p>	<p>Sections will use the regulations and procedures in effect for the year in which the rating will be used.</p>
<p>12/19/2003 2/10/2009</p>	<p>Can a Dynamically Disqualified player appeal a Year-End Rating and be granted the appeal if the final Year-end NTRP number is within appeal range?</p>	<p>No. A Dynamically Disqualified player is ineligible for appeal.</p>

**2.06A MOVE-UP/SPLIT-UP**

<p>4/10/1999 12/11/2006 12/16/2011 9/25/2014</p>	<p>What happens if more than the allowed number of players who were on the roster at a National Championship appear on a given roster the next year?</p>	<p>If a team violates USTA League Regulations by submitting a roster with more than the allowable number of players that were on any roster in that Division at a National Championships the previous year, any player, registered beyond the three allowed, who has not participated in a match, including defaults received, for the team will first be removed from the roster (last person to register on the team will be first off unless another player agrees to come off.) If the team still does not meet the requirement, then the last National Championship individual rostered will be disqualified and all matches played by the player will be considered losses and so on until the three player requirement is reached.</p> <p>If the team roster includes the minimum number of players still eligible to play, the team will be permitted to finish the local season with the adjusted roster.</p> <p>Resulting defaults will count towards eligibility requirements for advancement to Championships below the National level. Actual scores of defaulted matches will be input for the purpose of generating NTRP ratings.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.06A</i></p>
<p>8/5/2002 02/04/2009 12/2/2013 9/25/2014 12/4/2017</p>	<p>What happens when a team is currently playing or has finished an Early Start League for the following season before they compete in the current year Sectional Championships and then win the Sectional Championships and the opportunity to advance to Nationals? Regulation 2.06A requires that the team split-up for the next year – in this case the next year is almost finished.</p>	<p>The team may select the three players (two for some NTRP Levels) to remain and must cease to play all other players with a National Benchmark above the minimum number permitted in the Move-up/Split-up Regulation. No penalty will be imposed on any match played before completion of the Sectional Championship and those removed will be eligible to join the team next year as if they had sat out for the year.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>2.06A</i></p>

<p>1/1/1998 02/23/2011 03/14/2013 8/22/2013 10/15/2013 9/25/2014 12/4/2017 2/2/2022</p>	<p>Can players who competed at the National Championships in the Adult Division play the next year on a Mixed team, which already has three players who competed on a Mixed team at the National Championships?</p> <p>Can a team play at a National Championship in the Adult 18 &amp; Over Age Group and not have to split-up if the same team qualifies to play in the Adult 40 &amp; Over Age Group the next year?</p> <p>Can players who played on an Adult 4.0 team at the National Championships move down (if their NTRP level allows) and play the next year with players that played on an Adult 3.5 team at the National Championship?</p> <p>Can players who played on a 9.0 Mixed team at the National Championships combine and play the next year with players from another 9.0 Mixed team that also played at the National Championships?</p> <p>Can players who played on a 9.0 Mixed team at the National Championships move down (if their NTRP level allows) and play the next year with players that played on an 8.0 Mixed team at the National Championship?</p> <p>Three players from a Mixed 8.0 team that competed at the National Championships want to remain together the following year. Can players from a Mixed 7.0 Team that also competed at the National Championships move up and join the three players on that 8.0 team.</p>	<p>These players may combine and play at any level for which they are eligible in the Mixed Division.</p> <p>Yes, the team must only move up or split up in the same age division they advanced from; they may play together in any other Adult or Mixed age division.</p> <p>Yes, as long as there are not more than 3 players from the Adult 3.5 National Championship team.</p> <p>Yes, up to 3 players may combine.</p> <p>Yes, as long as there are not more than 3 players from the 8.0 National Championship team.</p> <p>As many players as wish to may move up from the Mixed 7.0 team and combine with 3 players from the Mixed 8.0 team. If players were registered on both teams, those players already registered on the 8.0 team would count towards the three allowed players.</p> <p>See Regulation: 2.06A</p>
<p>6/6/2012 10/15/2013 9/25/2014</p>	<p>What happens when a team that has qualified for a National Championship chooses to move up and play at the next higher level? However, at the next higher level there are only two teams participating. Does the 40% rule apply?</p>	<p>The team will be exempt from the 40% rule for the next year ONLY if the majority of the team moves up to the next higher level.</p> <p>See Regulations: 2.06A</p>

## USTA LEAGUE REGULATIONS Q&A - INTERPRETATIONS – 3/5/23

12/2/2013 9/25/2014 3/20/2015 12/4/2017 07/23/2020 11/8/2021 10/26/2022	If a member of a team that qualifies for the nationals elects not to play at the nationals, are they still subject to the move up / split up rule?	Yes. The rule applies to any member of that team eligible to advance (all players other than Self-Rated and Valid Computer Rated Appealed Players that played on the same team in at least three matches at the same NTRP level in the same Age Group through Sectional Championships (may include one default received), and all Self-Rated and Valid Computer Rated Appealed players that played on the same team in at least four matches at the same NTRP level in the same Age Group (no default received shall count).  See Regulation: 2.03A(4) and 2.06A
12/2/2013 9/25/2014 12/4/2017	If a 7.0 combined NTRP level team wants to play 3.5 men's together, can they?	Yes.  See Regulation: 2.06A
4/18/2014 9/25/2014	Three National Championship players move up to the next NTRP level; can they join with any other National Championship players?	Players may move up and combine with no more than three that participated at the next NTRP level. Those players who participated on the teams at both levels and qualified to advance to the National Championship will be counted towards the three.  See Regulation: 2.06A
4/18/2014 9/25/2014	Can a team who went to the 18 & Over national championships move up and play at the next higher NTRP level in both 18 & Over and 40 & Over leagues?	Yes.  See Regulation: 2.06A
1/27/2015	If a team qualifies for a National Championship and chooses to not participate and an alternate team does participate, are both teams subject to move up/split up?	Yes.
1/29/2016	Four 3.5 level players play on a 3.5 level Adult 40 & Over National Championship team. For the following year all four players get bumped up to 4.0. May they all play together on a 4.0 Adult 40 & Over team?	Yes, as they are moving up to the next NTRP level from the team that they advanced with to Nationals. Had the same 3.5 players played up on a 4.0 40 & Over team that advanced to Nationals, they would each count as one of the 3 allowed players on this year's 4.0 team.

<p>5/22/2017</p>	<p>If a Section has a regulation that limits the number of players on a roster that are at a specific level, the Section must suspend that regulation for one year for any team that advanced to, or qualified for, any National Championship the previous year and chooses to move up one NTRP team level. Can the team that advanced to a National Championship and chooses to move up a level combine with other lower level players who themselves did not advance to a national championship?</p>	<p>Yes, other players from the lower level can combine with the players who played at a National Championship. However, the additional players would be subject to the Section's limits on the number of players at a specific level.                  Example: 5 3.0 National Championship players move up to play on a 3.5 team; Section requires 50% at level; 5 additional 3.0 players may move up with them as long as at least 5 3.5 players also register for that team in order to satisfy that section's "at least 50% at level" requirement.</p>
<p>1/14/2020                  11/8/2021                  10/26/2022</p>	<p>If a self-rated player participated on a team that qualified for a National Championship, but did not play enough matches to be eligible to attend that National Championship, is that player still subject to Move Up/Split Up requirements?</p>	<p>No. Move up split up requirements only apply to <b>Self-Rated and Valid Computer Rated Appealed players that played on the same team in at least four matches at the same NTRP level in the same Age Group (no default received shall count).</b>                   See Regulation: 2.03A(4) and 2.06A</p>

**3.00 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

<p>1/1/1998 1/27/2011</p>	<p>If a player's name or domicile is misrepresented, or the player misrepresents, falsifies or fails to disclose relevant facts relating to participation in the USTA League, does the player become ineligible and subject to disqualification?</p>	<p>Yes. It is essential that a player truthfully disclose all facts relevant to USTA League participation. Failure to do so may result in disqualification at any time.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.02D, 3.03B(3)a and 3.03E(1)a.</i></p>
<p>5/18/2004 10/26/2022</p>	<p>Eligibility disqualifications are unique in that we handle an established penalty in two different ways – <b>up to a maximum of 14 days after the end of the local league season, but prior to any playoff (as determined by each Section)</b> –remove all matches; if after the <b>timeframe established by the Section</b> – matches stand but individual may not advance. What controls the penalty phase of an eligibility disqualification?</p>	<p>Certain eligibility issues such as membership are cut and dry – you were a member or you were not, at the time the match was played.</p> <p>NTRP Grievances require time to research. The date the decision is sent by the League Grievance Committee will control the penalty phase.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.03B(3)a, 3.03B(4) and 3.03E(6).</i></p>
<p>1/1/1998 02/09/2009 12/16/2011</p>	<p>During Local round robin competition a player is disqualified. Is only such player's last match considered a loss, or are all previous matches considered as losses?</p>	<p>It depends on the basis for the disqualification during the Local League play.</p> <p>Eligibility DQ: Regulation 3.03B(4) Review this section as penalty varies based on stage of Local League.</p> <p>Dynamic DQ: Reg. 2.04E(1) states that each Section will establish what, if any matches shall be considered losses.</p> <p>See Scoring of Eligibility Disqualification and NTRP Dynamic Disqualification for Championships in Regulations <i>2.04E(2) and 3.03C(4)a.b.c</i></p>
<p>1/1/1998</p>	<p>How soon after the Grievance Committee has rendered a decision must an appeal be filed?</p>	<p>The appeal must be filed within the time fixed by the League Grievance Committee in its decision.</p> <p>Generally speaking, the time should not exceed such period of time as reasonably required by the appealing party to file a written notice of appeal containing facts and arguments in support thereof. Even more important is whether any delay will adversely affect the progress of a league or Championship event.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.03D(3)</i></p>

<p>2/9/2011</p>	<p>What grievance and grievance appeal documents and procedures are the parties entitled to see?</p>	<p>Decisions and documents of a public nature. Appropriate confidentiality should be observed when including but, not limited to, discussions, deliberations, votes and documents not of a public nature.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.03C(2) and 3.03D(3)</i></p>
<p>2/9/2011 9/25/2014</p>	<p>Can an NTRP Grievance be filed against a self-rated player who was granted an appeal?</p>	<p>Yes, an NTRP Grievance may be filed against a self-rated player whose appeal was granted.</p> <p>See Regulation: <i>3.03E(2)</i></p>
<p>11/11/2019 11/8/2021</p>	<p>Regulation 3.03D(2) states “The USTA League Grievance Committee shall have the power to dismiss or deny a grievance or to correct any violations by reasonable means, including the suspension of an individual or team.”</p> <p>If a player or team has been suspended at the Section level, and has qualified for a National Championship that occurs during the time of that suspension, are they eligible to attend the Championship(s)?</p>	<p>No. Under 3.03D(4) “The decision of the USTA League Grievance Committee shall conform to the USTA League Suspension Point System, which shall be established prior to each League Year by the USTA National League Committee.”</p> <p>Under the system “The suspension begins on the date indicated in the written notice made to the player or Captain that a grievance has been upheld and the suspension points assessed have reached the threshold for suspension.”</p> <p>Suspension shall apply to all League Events, defined as “any events hosted by USTA League programs including, but not limited to, Local League Play, Championships at all levels, and Player and/or Captain gatherings for the time periods prior to and after such events.”</p>