

1. WHAT ARE USTA JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS?

- a. Year round, single & multi-day, events that offer competitive play in singles & doubles for USTA member boys & girls ages 19 & under. The new tournament structure utilizes seven levels of events, ranging from Level 7 (Intermediate) to Level 1 (National Championships), as well as a national ranking system that will distribute points consistently across the country. Level 1-3 National events are included on the USTA National Junior Schedule and sanctioned by the USTA National Office. Sectional Level 3 - 7 and 10 & Under events are sanctioned by the USTA New England Section.
- b. [Watch a video on the new junior tournament structure.](#)

2. HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR A MEMBERSHIP?

- a. Juniors can now become members at no cost, to learn more [Click here](#) or go to usta.com/membership
- b. Becoming a USTA Member gives you access to USTA sanctioned leagues and tournaments, an opportunity to qualify for a national rating and ranking, and a chance to compete in local and national championships

3. WHAT AGE DIVISION DO I PLAY IN?

- a. There are four age divisions: 12, 14, 16 & 18 and under. You may play in your age division up until the last day of the month before you "age out". For example, if you are 12 years old & are going to turn 13 in May, you may play in the 12-and-under division until the last day in April. For 10 and Under players, visit our [Youth Progression](#) page for more info.

4. WHAT LEVEL DO I PLAY IN?

- a. Futures Circuit L7 tournaments are for players starting competition & aspiring to reach higher levels. Challenger Circuit L6 tournaments are for the more experienced tournament players. Championship Circuit L5, L4 & L3 tournaments offer the highest competitive level in the Section. To learn more about the formats in each level [Click here](#)

5. WHERE DO I FIND THE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE?

- a. To find the New England tournament schedule for Level 3 & 4 [Click here](#)
- b. To find the New England tournament schedule for Level 5, 6, & 7 [Click here](#)

6. WHAT IS A TOURNAMENT HOME PAGE?

- a. The tournament homepage outlines a summary of all information & details about a specific tournament. You'll see information such as the Tournament Director contact information, rules and regulations for the facility, formats used for the event, and much more.

7. HOW DO I REGISTER FOR A TOURNAMENT?

- a. First, make sure your USTA membership is current. From there, players will find and register for tournaments at playtennis.usta.com/tournaments. By registering for USTA Eastern tournaments players acknowledge that they know and understand, as well as agree to abide by all rules and regulations detailed in [Friend at Court](#). For more tutorials on the new tournament registration platform, [click here](#).

8. HOW ARE PLAYERS SELECTED?

- a. Depending on the level of the tournament, player selection may vary. For the Level 3 - 6 events, player selection is based on the most recently published National Standing list available, in descending order with the highest rankings players selected first.
- b. For Level 7 events, player selection is based on the most recently published National Standing list available, players (teams) are selected to flights in ascending order, from the bottom up with players with no standing first and then up the standings.
- c. For Level 3 and 4 events that are closed to only section players, selection is based on the most recently published National Standing list that is filtered to include only players who

are residents of the sectional association. Players are selected in descending order with the highest rankings players selected first.

9. WHAT IS A STANDING LIST?

- a. A standings list refers to a list of players & their current position within their age & gender division, based on tournament results received to date.

10. HOW DO I GET A STANDING?

- a. A player must meet the age eligibility requirements of the division.
- b. A player must have played at least one Junior Ranking Tournament in the division or the next-younger division.
- c. A player must have accumulated at least 1 Ranking Point as a result of an on-court win. An on-court win is one that takes place on-court after the start of the match. Matches won by withdrawal, walkover, default, or disqualification prior to the start of the match are not considered on-court wins. Matches won by winning a match point, or if the opponent retires or is defaulted after the start of the match are considered on-court wins.

11. WHERE CAN I FIND MY STANDING?

- a. [Click here](#) and select your age & gender division list.

12. HOW ARE STANDINGS CALCULATED?

- a. USTA uses a merit based Points-per round ranking program to compute standings. The round a player reaches determines how many points he or she receives. Standings are usually updated every Thursday & are calculated on a 12-month rolling basis,
- b. You may play 1 tournament or 30; only your best 6 results in a 12-month period will count towards a standing. Who a player beats, exposure & good wins & losses are not criteria in this system.
 - i. 100% of the singles ranking points from a players' 6 best Junior Ranking Tournaments.
 - ii. 100% of the singles bonus points earned at BG18 ITF Bonus-Point Only Events on the National Junior Tournament Schedule
 - iii. 15% of the ranking points from a player's best 6 doubles and/or mixed doubles Junior Ranking Tournaments player. When a team tournament is played and a player earns ranking points in both doubles and mixed doubles, the total points earned in doubles and mixed doubles at the tournament are used to determine whether the tournament is among the players best 6.
 - iv. Rankings points at the percentages listed above earned in an older age division tournament count towards a players' standing in one of more younger age divisions provided that a Junior Ranking Tournament has been played in the division and they are among the players' best 6 results.
 - v. 20% of the Ranking Points earned in a younger age division tournament count towards a players' standing in the next-older age division if they are among the players' best 6 results, regardless of whether a Junior Ranking Tournament has been played in that division.

13. ARE SOME TOURNAMENTS WORTH MORE POINTS THAN OTHERS?

- a. Yes, as your move from level to level, the points awarded increase [click here](#) to review the points table that make up each level of the tournament based on the format used.

14. HOW ARE TOURNAMENT DRAWS MADE?

- a. For all USTA New England events, the draws are made by the Tournament and Ranking Manager using software that has been developed for tournaments. First the seeds are determined and then the remainder of players are placed in random positions.

15. HOW ARE SEEDS DETERMINED?

- a. To determine the seeds in the singles draws, players are placed in order by their position on the most current USTA National Standing List at the time of the entry deadline.
- b. To determine the seeds in the doubles draws, the singles ranking for each player is added together to get a combined ranking. The team with the lowest combined ranking will be the number 1 seed.

16. WHAT RULES ARE USED AT TOURNAMENTS?

- a. USTA New England tournaments are governed by [The Code](#), ITF (International Tennis Federation), [USTA Regulations \(known as "Friend at Court"\)](#), and [USTA New England Junior Circuit Rules and Regulations](#).

17. WHERE CAN I, MY PARENTS OR MY COACH PROVIDE FEEDBACK ABOUT TOURNAMENTS?

- a. [Click here](#) to file a tournament feedback form, please let us know about your experience so we can continue to improve.

18. HOW CAN I CORRECT MY PLAYER RECORD?

- a. If you have questions relating to your player record, please contact Matthew Bejian, The USTANE Tournament and Ranking Manager, mbejian@newengland.usta.com .