



PACIFIC NORTHWEST

2010 Rule Change Synopsis for
USTA Pacific Northwest
adopted June 15, 2009

1. Senior Mixed Division – USTA Pacific Northwest Senior Mixed Doubles Leagues will follow the USTA Adult Mixed Doubles rules as outlined in the National League Regulations 5.00. See PNW Sectional Rule 1.6
2. Early Start Ratings are published at the conclusion of the Senior/Super Senior Sectional Championships to notify players of a change, or probable change, in their year-end rating. See PNW Sectional Rule 2.1
3. **PNW Residency Rule.** In Adult, Senior, Mixed and Sr. Mixed Doubles divisions, 50% of the players on a team roster must reside (using the address registered with Tennis Link) in the local area as outlined in the USTA Pacific Northwest year book.. Go to pnw.usta.com and link to About Us and link to Organizational Members to view a complete list of the boundaries. Waiver exceptions to the boundaries are: Northern Oregon: Hood River and The Dalles clubs and residents compete in Eastern Washington; SW Washington: Bainbridge Athletic Club and Bainbridge residents compete in NW Washington; NW Washington: Bally's Federal Way and residents of Algona, Auburn, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Milton and Pacific compete in SW Washington. All matches played by an ineligible player will be scored as a default. An ineligible player is determined by his or her registration date and is the last player(s) who resides out of area. Super Seniors are exempt from the PNW residency rule. See PNW Sectional Rule 3.1
4. **Team Progression to Sectionals** – The Sectional Tournament Director will determine the size of the Sectional Tournament draw for each Division, Gender and NTRP Level. The provisions of the USTA National Rule 3.03 (Area, Section and National Championships) will be followed.
5. Local Area Champions will be included in the progression. If the Local Area Champion team is unable to attend, then the Local Area Finalist will be the alternate team advanced to Sectionals. Should the Local Area Finalist be unable to attend the Sectional Tournament, then that place in the draw will be filled by the next eligible team from the Sectional Wild Card Chart.
6. The Sectional Tournament Director has the authority to limit the Sectional Tournament Draw size for each Division, Gender, and NTRP level, as long as the above guidelines are met.
7. In the event that all attempts to field a second team within an Area fail, every effort should be made to have the single team play in another Area local league **to fulfill their local league eligibility requirements**. Match results from the out of area team **will count** towards the final **standings** of the **host's local** league. The out of area team will not participate in the host local league playoffs, unless approved by the local league tournament committee. The out of Area team will ~~then~~ be allowed to advance to Sectionals representing their initial area as long as all local league requirements have been met. See PNW Sectional Rule 5.2.
8. **Championship NTRP Disqualification** – The PNW Section will run dynamic NTRP calculations and produce ratings throughout the championship when possible. Through the conclusion of the championship event, the PNW Section will notify and disqualify those players that meet the criteria for NTRP disqualification. Following disqualification, the player may not play at the disqualified level of play (and any lower level of play) for the remainder of the championship league year and for the succeeding league year. All matches played by the disqualified player will be considered 6-0, 6-0 losses for a round robin tournament. The last match played by the disqualified player will be considered a 6-0, 6-0 loss in a single elimination tournament. See National Rules 3.04A(2), 3.04D(2), See PNW Regulation 5.3
9. If as a result of Dynamic NTRP rating recalculations, a S -self-rated, T – Tournament rated player, M – Mixed Exclusive, D – Dynamic Rated, AA -Automatic Appealed, AM - Medical Appealed, AX – Automatic Appeal Mixed Exclusive player reaches the disqualification level three times, the player will automatically advance to the next higher level and all matches played at the disqualified level will be considered as a loss. C- Computer Rated and B-Benchmark Rated players are not subject to Dynamic Disqualification. See PNW Regulation 8.2.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST

2010 USTA Pacific Northwest League Rules and Regulations adopted June 15, 2009

The rules below are supplementary and subordinate to the 2010 National USTA League Tennis Regulations and apply to all teams playing in the Pacific Northwest Section. **These Regulations may change during the 2010 season if approved by USTA Pacific Northwest League Committee due to corrections or necessary rule clarifications. Please contact your Local Area Coordinator for information about the latest changes.** The USTA Rules of Tennis and The Code also fully apply.

As a condition of your participation in the USTA League Tennis Program you agree to abide and be bound by the rules and regulations and to the standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship.

Information pertaining to **Match Start times, Late Arrival, Order of Play, Court Time Constraints, Match Rescheduling, and Reporting Match Scores** is found in your Captain's Letter. Official Time used will be the time indicated by cellular phone.

1.0 General Information.

- 1.1 Format - All Leagues will play best of 2 sets with a match tie-break in lieu of a third set (first to 10 by 2), when needed.
- 1.2 Levels of Play – All Leagues follow the National Championship format. National 3.01E, 4.03., 5.01E and 6.01E.
- 1.3 Local League Season. - The local league season will end after the last match scheduled for a flight is played, or, after the last match is played at local league playoffs, whichever occurs last.
- 1.4 Registration Fee Refund Policy – Player registration fees will be refunded for medical reasons only.
- 1.5 Team Defaults – Refer to National Regulations 3.03L, 4.03L, 5.03L, and 6.03L.
 - 1.5(a) Team Defaults occurring during Local League and at the Sectional Championships will be considered Sportsmanship violations and will be referred to the Section Grievance Committee for appropriate action(s).
 - 1.5(b) The team incurring a Team Default may not be advanced to next level of championships.
 - 1.5(c) Scoring of team Defaults in Multiple Round Robin flight:
Regardless of which round of the multiple round robin season the Team Default occurs in:
 - i. The team incurring a Team Default will have its matches removed for that particular round of play, as determined by the match date (e.g. the earliest match date will be considered the first round robin, the second match date, the second, in order). The defaulted team will have its matches count in the non defaulted round robin play, and the results would affect standings.
 - ii. The team incurring the Team Default is also subject to penalties imposed by the Section Grievance Committee.
 - 1.5(d) Scoring of Team Defaults – Refer to National 3.03M, 4.03M, and 5.03M. 6.03M.
- 1.6 Senior Mixed Division – USTA Pacific Northwest Senior Mixed Doubles Leagues will follow the USTA Adult Mixed Doubles rules as outlined in the National League Regulations 5.00.

2.0 Early Start Ratings (ESR).

- 2.1 Early Start Ratings (ESR) are published in **Aug at the conclusion of the Senior/Super Senior Sectional Championships** **ust** to notify players of a change, or probable change, in their year-end rating. Players who receive an ESR must use this rating when registering for any league whose season begins prior to the publication of the year-end ratings. A player may continue to play on a team using their ESR through the completion of the ES League.

3.0 Eligibility.

3.1 PNW Residency Rule.

3.1(a) In Adult, Senior, Mixed and Sr. Mixed Doubles divisions, 50% of the players on a team roster must reside (using the address registered with Tennis Link) in the local area as outlined in the USTA Pacific Northwest year book.. Go to pnw.usta.com and link to About Us and link to Organizational Members to view a complete list of the boundaries. Waiver exceptions to the boundaries are: Northern Oregon: Hood River and The Dalles clubs and residents compete in Eastern Washington; SW Washington: Bainbridge Athletic Club and Bainbridge residents compete in NW Washington; NW Washington: Bally's Federal Way and residents of Algona, Auburn, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Milton and Pacific compete in SW Washington. All matches played by an ineligible player will be scored as a default. An ineligible player is determined by his or her registration date and is the last player(s) who resides out of area. Super Seniors are exempt from the PNW residency rule.

3.1(b) For USTA Adult League only, a team that has five (5) or more players residing outside the local area must play an equal number of local area players a minimum of one match each. Violations are subject to local area grievance and disqualification.

3.2 NTRP Level.

3.2(a) Players may play in a league at their NTRP level or one level higher.

3.2(b) **Returning USTA League Players.** Players returning to league play who are prompted to self-rate when registering **may** self-rate no lower than .5 of their previous NTRP rating. Violations are subject to local area grievance and disqualification.

3.3 50% In Level Rule.

3.3 [a] Adult and Senior Leagues Only: Unless otherwise waived, the PNW limits the number of players that appear on a team roster at a specific NTRP level. At the time of the first local league match and all subsequent matches 50% of the players on the team roster must be rated "in level." All matches played by an ineligible player will be scored as a default. An ineligible player is determined by his or her registration date and is the last player or players who are under-level. Teams that have advanced to National Championships are exempt from complying with the 50% **in level** rule for one year.

3.4 Playing on Multiple Teams.

3.4(a) The Section authorizes players to compete at more than one NTRP level within a division in the same season and local league area provided they are at different levels.

3.4(b) The Section authorizes players to play on more than one team within a division in the same season provided it is in separate local leagues.

3.4(c) When local leagues are divided into flights, players may not play in more than one flight at the same level.

3.4(d) Players who qualify on more than one team for Sectional Championships may compete on one or all teams; no special scheduling will be done to accommodate the player.

- 3.5 **Player Identification.** Players should be prepared to show Government Issue photo I.D. when asked.

4.0 Roster Additions.

- 4.1 Players may be added to a roster up and until the registration deadline date specified by the Local League Coordinator in the Captain's Letter. The player must meet all other eligibility requirements.
- 4.2 A players name must be listed on the TennisLink team roster prior to participating in any match.
- 4.3 Players who have been advanced to the next level by DNTRP disqualification may be added to a team after the registration deadline provided they meet all other eligibility requirements.

5.0 Advancement Qualifications.

- 5.1 **Player Eligibility.** A player is eligible to progress to Sectional and then to National competition(s) if that player has played the required number of matches shown in the chart below:

Number of Matches Needed to Meet Eligibility Requirements. All numbers are Minimum numbers.	Player is on the roster prior to the first match. <u>Matches played at the Local League playoffs may be counted.</u>	Player added to roster after the first match is played. Matches must be played <u>prior to Local League playoffs.</u>	# Of defaults that count towards Sectional eligibility.	# Of matches to play thru Sectionals to be eligible at Nationals. <u>Defaults do not count toward eligibility.</u>
Adult League	2	2	1	3
Senior League	2	2	1	3
<u>Super Seniors</u>	0	<u>1</u>	1	2 (1 default counts)
<u>Adult Mixed</u>	2	2	1	<u>3</u>
Senior Mixed	1	1	1	N/A

- 5.2 **Team Progression to Sectionals –** The Sectional Tournament Director will determine the size of the Sectional Tournament draw for each Division, Gender and NTRP Level. The provisions of the USTA National Rule 3.03 (Area, Section and National Championships) will be followed.

- 5.2(a) Local Area Champions will be included in the progression. If the Local Area Champion team is unable to attend, then the Local Area Finalist will be the alternate team advanced to Sectionals. Should the Local Area Finalist be unable to attend the Sectional Tournament, then that place in the draw will be filled by the next eligible team from the Sectional Wild Card Chart.
- 5.2(b) The Sectional Tournament Director has the authority to limit the Sectional Tournament Draw size for each Division, Gender, and NTRP level, as long as the above guidelines are met.
- 5.2(c) In the event that all attempts to field a second team within an Area fail, every effort should be made to have the single team play in another Area local league to fulfill their local league eligibility requirements. Match results from the out of area team will count towards the final standings of the host's local league. The out of area team will not participate in the host local league playoffs, unless approved by the local league tournament committee. The out of Area team will ~~then~~ be allowed to advance to Sectionals representing their initial area as long as all local league requirements have been met.

- 5.3 **Championship NTRP Disqualification –** The PNW Section will run dynamic NTRP calculations and produce ratings throughout the championship when possible. Through the conclusion of the championship event, the PNW Section will notify and disqualify those players that meet the criteria for NTRP disqualification. Following disqualification, the player may not play at the disqualified level of play (and any lower level of play) for the remainder of the championship league year and for the succeeding league year. All matches played by the disqualified player will be considered 6-0, 6-0 losses for a round robin tournament. The last match played by the disqualified player will be considered a 6-0, 6-0 loss in a single elimination tournament. See National Rules 3.04A(2), 3.04D(2),

- 5.4 The PNW Section endorses the USTA National Championships Procedure to determine the fourth team for semifinal play in a three flight Round Robin. (See National Regulations document)

6.0 Move-up/Split-up Rule.

The Section enforces the move-up/split up rule for all leagues including Super Seniors and Senior Mixed Doubles. See National 3.03A(6) for Adult, 4.04B(2) for Senior, 5.03A(6) for Mixed and 6.03A(6) for Super Senior League(s) information. Teams affected are restricted to (3) players who were on the final roster at the conclusion of local league play who may play together on the same team the following year at that level.

7.0 Self-Rate Guidelines for players age 30 and under with high school playing experience.

The Sectional Grievance Committee provides the following qualification guidelines to assist players 30 years and under who have/had high school playing experience but did not go on to play tennis in college and are self-rating for USTA League Tennis. This information is supplemental to the General & Experienced Player Guidelines chart found on TennisLink.

No Post-Season Play	Recommended Minimum entry level	3.0
Advanced to "First Tier" Post-Season Play*	Recommended Minimum entry level	3.0
Advanced to "Second Tier" Post-Season Play*	Recommended Minimum entry level	3.5
Advanced to State Championship	Recommended Minimum entry level	3.5
Finished in Top 8 in a State Championship	Recommended Minimum entry level	4.0
Finished in Top 4 in a State Championship	Recommended Minimum entry level	4.5
Finished in Top 2 in a State Championship	Recommended Minimum entry level	5.0

	First Tier	Second Tier
Oregon	District	None
Western Washington	All-comers, Kingco, Metro	District
Eastern Washington	District	Regionals

8.0 DNTRP Disqualification.

8.1 National Regulation 3.04. League NTRP Disqualification and Review Procedures will be enforced.

8.2 If as a result of Dynamic NTRP rating recalculations, a S -self-rated, T – Tournament rated player, M – Mixed Exclusive, D – Dynamic Rated, AA -Automatic Appealed, AM - Medical Appealed, AX – Automatic Appeal Mixed Exclusive player reaches the disqualification level three times, the player will automatically advance to the next higher level and all matches played at the disqualified level will be considered as a loss. C- Computer Rated and B-Benchmark Rated players are not subject to Dynamic Disqualification.

9.0 Sportsmanship.

- 9.1. Any player may request up to two Line Assistants to stand, silently, one at each net post, to assist in line calls. The duties of the Line Assistant are restricted to confirming or over-ruling line calls and may do so ONLY when asked by a player on the court. Line Assistants cannot unilaterally over-rule line calls. If two Line Assistants disagree on a call a let is played.
- 9.2 Zero Tolerance/Ineligibility – Examples of player ineligibility which do not require a grievance to be filed include, but are not limited to:
- Players who are not current members of the USTA.
 - Players who do not appear on the official team roster.
 - Players who play a match under another player's name.
 - Players who falsify or omit information when self rating.

10.0 Grievance and Grievance Appeal Procedures – Refer to National 2.00

10.1 Local League Grievance Fee; \$50. Local League Appeal Fee: \$20.

10.2 Appeals must be filed within 24 hours from notification of the grievance decision.