



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (Interpretations)

For 2009 League Year

(updated 11-10-08)

(most recent change/additions are underlined and in blue)

And placed at beginning of topic area)

The questions and answers in this document are interpretations or clarifications of the USTA League Tennis Regulations. The sections 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	SECTION	Start Page
CHAMPIONSHIPS PROCEDURES	A.....	2
ELIGIBILITY	B.....	6
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES	C.....	10
LOCAL LEAGUE PROCEDURES	D.....	14
MATCH PLAY	E.....	17
NTRP DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	F.....	20
NTRP RATINGS	G.....	22

CHAMPIONSHIPS PROCEDURES		
5/1/08 Also under NTRP Disqualification	<u>We play our section championships for Adult and Senior back to back (or at the same time)</u> <u>How does this situation impact my ability to advance to nationals if I am dynamically disqualified at either of these two Divisions?</u>	<u>When two championships are held during the same weekend, or immediately following, they are deemed to be contiguous and an individual dynamically disqualified from either Division will not be permitted to advance to national championships for either Adult or Senior.</u>
2/1/07	USTA Super Senior Division National championships have been moved to a spring timeline. Since year-end ratings are published in November, what rating will the players be using for this national?	Individuals advancing to any championship held after the publishing of the NTRP year-end ratings will participate at the level appearing on their local league roster prior to year-end publishing, be it higher or lower than their year-end rating. If advancing from an Early Start League for the championship year, the players will follow the option selected by the section. Exception to this is a player who has reached the DQ level with their year-end rating - he or she must adjust his/her playing partner to not exceed the combined rating level. (See NTRP Rating segment for those options)
1/1/98 Updated 8/1/2007	Can a player play on only one team in a given championship? And <u>We require players to choose which team they will play on prior to advancing to sectionals. Does National require a player to chose?</u>	AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL <u>At national championship, if a player qualifies for two or more teams at the same NTRP level for an event, the individual must declare which team he/she will represent. In the absence of a declaration, the first match played will determine which team he/she will represent.</u> At Mixed national championships hosting more than one NTRP Level (e.g. 6.0 and 8.0) the Tournament Committee for that event will state in writing whether an individual may play on more than one team at different NTRP levels. BELOW NATIONAL LEVEL Players who qualify on more than one team for championship competition <u>below the national level</u> , may be required by their sections to choose which team they will represent. If the section uses this authority and their regulation states that the player's decision is final and binding and that they may not re-join

		<p>another team advancing to another championship, it is the District/Section’s responsibility to advise the next level of championship of that player's ineligibility for a given team.</p> <p>If the Section permits participation on more than one team, no consideration shall be given by the tournament staff in scheduling matches.</p> <p><i>See Regulations 3.01H(5) d & e, 5.01H(5)d & e and 6.01H(5)d & e</i></p>
<p>1/1/98</p> <p>Updated 1/25/04</p>	<p>When a player is disqualified during a championship, is only the player's last match considered a loss, or are all previous matches considered as losses?</p> <p>For questions dealing with Local disqualification - See either Local Procedures or NTRP Disqualification.</p>	<p>It depends on the basis for the disqualification during the championship. (See Local League Procedures Section for how the same issues are handled at the Local level.)</p> <p>Eligibility DQ: Regulations 2.02D(4)c states “during round robin,” all matches played by the disqualified player; 2.02D(4)d states “in single elimination” the last individual match played by the player .</p> <p>Dynamic DQ: The scoring procedure is determined by the option chosen by the section regarding disqualification <u>during or after</u> the championships. The section option should be provided to all captains. See Regulation 3.04D(2)</p> <p>Grievance upheld involving other issues – the Grievance Committee may direct the correction of any violations by reasonable means, including suspension of a player or team. . .</p>
<p>1/1/98</p>	<p>If as a result of a default a player is credited with a 6-0, 6-0 win, and if such player is subsequently dynamic NTRP disqualified, would such win then become a loss?</p>	<p>Yes, if the 6-0, 6-0 win occurred during the championship round robin competition. No, if the 6-0, 6-0 win occurred during single elimination competition, since only the last individual match played shall be considered a loss.</p> <p><i>See Regulation: <u>3.03K</u></i></p>
<p>1/1/98</p>	<p>May a section association permit a team, other than the winning team at a specific level of competition, to participate in the next level of competition?</p>	<p>Yes. If the winning team cannot participate in the next level of competition, a section association may select the second place team; and if the second place team is unable to participate, then a section association may select another team which in the judgment of the section association is best qualified.</p> <p><i>See Regulation: 3.02C</i></p>

1/1/98	Does the use of a wild card team in area or section championships conflict with any USTA League Regulation?	No. In accordance with the guidelines set forth in the League Championships Wild Card Procedures, a section association may adopt wild card procedures for its area and section championships. <i>See Regulation: 3.03A(1)</i>
1/1/98 Updated 1/1/04	In the event that a tournament uses two different scoring methods and a tie develops, how does the championships committee break the tie?	TennisLink will only accept one scoring method during a championship event. In the event the Championships 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.
1/1/98	Within USTA League Regulation dealing with Scoring a Team Default, what is the definition of "in contention?"	Interpretation: "In contention" has been defined as "Any team that has a mathematical chance to win or place second in the event at the time the default occurs."
1/1/98	Can a team advance to a championship level from a "team tournament"?	Yes, in order to allow a team to advance to a championship level from a "team tournament", they must meet the requirements of a local league. Of course teams/players must also meet the basic requirements of age, membership, match requirements, or NTRP computer rating.
1/13/99 Updated 9/1/02	If a local league or area/district has only one team at a Division (e.g. Adult, Senior) can they go directly to the District/Section Championships?	NO. They must play a local league first. If there is only one team in each of the districts they could play their local league at the section championships and the winner advance. As above, those advancing must meet the minimum requirements.
8/5/02 also found in Sect. B-Eligibility 11/3/08 Clarified	What happens when a team has finished an Early Start League for the following season before they compete in the current year section championships and then win the section championship and the opportunity to advance to Nationals? Regulation 3.03A(6) and 3.06C require that team split up for the next year – in this	The team won their next year's early start local league before their current year section championships. They win sections and advance to current year national championships. As the team <u>may not have known</u> they would be advancing to nationals the Section <u>may</u> request a waiver for them to stay together following this national championship year. <u>If the waiver is granted they must split up for the next available championship league year.</u>

	case the next year is almost finished.	<u>If the waiver is not granted, the team may select the three (2 for some divisions) to remain and must cease to play all other players with a BN 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 section championship and those removed will be eligible to join the team next year as if they had sat out for the year.</u>
1/1/02 updated 11/15/05	How many matches may a team play per day during championship?	Championships using best of 2 tie-break sets with a 3 rd match tie-break may schedule no more than three matches per day per team. A minimum of 30 minutes rest (Senior Divisions – 1 hour) will be provided between matches. If weather or unforeseen circumstances impact the completion of the event the Tournament Committee may use shortened formats and require more matches. If a team/player enters more than one Division or event then these limitations shall apply separately to each. No consideration shall be given by the tournament staff in scheduling matches. <i>See Regulations and Procedures Implementation of Set or Match Tie-break in Lieu of a Third Set.</i>
8/5/02	We have a two-team league; both teams have the required amount of players registered. The one team defaults all their matches to the other team. May the team receiving the defaults progress to championship?	No. No league has actually taken place. This is all paper with no attempt to play.
7/29/02 Updated 1/25/04	If an individual is <u>dynamically</u> disqualified at a championship in which (s)he had also qualified at a higher level, can they then elect to participate at the higher level during that same championship?	Yes, IF the section permits participation on more than one championship team per event. <i>See regulation 3.01H(5)d, 5.01H(5)d and 6.01H(5)d</i>

ELIGIBILITY		
1/1/2008	<p><u>A player self-rates to enter a combined NTRP league, e.g. Mixed and plays at that level. He/She later decides to appeal UP and play at a higher NTRP level.</u></p> <p><u>Can he/she continue on the first team at the lower level?.</u></p>	<p><u>No, they must immediately adjust their playing partner on the combined team. Once the player has made the choice to correct/adjust his/her NTRP self-rate that will be their adjusted self-rate for the balance of the championship year.</u></p>
1/1/98 Updated 8/1/2007	<p>Can a player play on only one team in the same local league season?</p>	<p>Regulations 3.01H(5)c controls this topic. Much flexibility is provided to the Sections by either allowing them to set up different local leagues during the same time if they wish players to be able to play on multiple teams or setting up as one league thereby able to restrict to only registering on 1 team per NTRP level</p>
1/1/98 Updated 9/15/06	<p>Who is subject to the Move-up/Split-up regulation? What if some team members had never played a match for the team?</p> <p>Example: Two players advanced to area champs but did not go to section or national champs – are they subject to Move-up/Split-up?</p>	<p>National championship team members that did not play a match on that national team, including defaults received, are not subject to the move-up split-up regulation. (their name was just on the roster)</p> <p>All other players on the national team, INCLUDING those with only defaults received are subject to the Move-up/Split-up regulation.</p> <p><u>Move-up/Split-up applies to Mixed Doubles national teams as of play in 2009. They must split up for the 2010 season.</u></p> <p>No national regulation requires Move-up/Split-up Super Senior Divisions. However, some sections do require split-up and you should check your section regulations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>See Regulation: 3.03A(6), 4.04B(2), 5.03A(5) and 6.03A(4)</i> <i>See Regulation 4.04B(2)</i> CHECK REFERENCES</p>
1/1/98 Updated 1/2/02	<p>Can a team play at a national championships in the adult division and not have to split up if the same team</p>	<p>Yes. The split up regulation only applies if the team is participating in the same division. However, two adult division teams merging</p>

	qualifies for senior division the next year or visa versa (naturally, the NTRP ratings must allow for this to happen.)?	together could have no more than 3 players total whose names appeared on final local league rosters of teams at national championships. <i>See Regulation 3.03A(5)</i>
4/10/99 Updated 12/11/06	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>If a team violates USTA League Tennis Regulations by submitting a roster with more than the allowable number of players that were on the roster at a National Championships the previous year, any player, registered beyond the three (2 for 2.5, 5.0) allowed, <u>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.)</u> If the team <u>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 3 player requirement is reached.</u></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 two match eligibility requirements for opposing players. Actual scores of defaulted matches will be input for the purpose of generating NTRP ratings. (See Regulations 3.03A, 3.06C and 4.05)</p>
5/25/00 Updated 2/23/03	Can a player whose league has a waiver to start early (before January) register and play if he/she has not reached the required age (19, 50 OR 60) but will turn eligible during the league year?	<p>TennisLink will allow the registration if the league match start date is on or after January 1st. TennisLink will prevent the registration of an age-restricted player (19-Adult, 50-Senior or 60-Super Senior) if the match start date is before January 1st. The section will have to leave registration open past January 1st if they wish to allow these individuals to participate. A waiver to start the league season early is in effect for most of the sections. No waiver has been requested or given to allow participation before reaching the required age.</p> <p><i>See Regulations: 3.01C; 4.01, 5.01C and 6.01C - Age</i></p>
1/1/98 Updated	If USTA Membership expiration occurs during championships	Yes. . . <u>but all efforts should be taken to secure the membership thus making the player eligible.</u>

9/01/02	competition, and if no renewal application is filed prior to such expiration, will such player become an ineligible player?	<p>Note: If, of course, it is determined prior to the commencement of any competition that a player does not have a current USTA membership, the player can and must immediately apply for a membership renewal or be disqualified. TennisLink will supply the championship staff with a report of all participants needing renewal and the event staff should work to see no player is disqualified for this reason.</p> <p><i>See Regulations: 1.11C and 3.03A(4)</i></p>
1/1/98 Updated 9/1/02	If a player's name or domicile is misrepresented, or the player misrepresents or fails to disclose relevant facts relating to participation in the USTA League Tennis Program, does the player become ineligible and subject to disqualification?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>It is essential that a player truthfully disclose all facts relevant to USTA League Tennis Program participation. Failure to do so can result in disqualification.</p>
7/12/99 12/8/99	If a player is winning 4-2 in the first set and then retires, does this count for the person's computer rating?" This player already successfully completed one match earlier in the season.	<p>ADVANCEMENT: The match will count for advancement for all players involved regardless of how many points/ games were played.</p> <p><i>See 3.03A(2); 3.03O</i></p> <p>NTRP YEAR-END RATING: No. Computer Methodology states "Defaults or retirements in which neither player(s) wins six (6) or more games are not part of the rating calculation." In the case stated the match would not count as the 2nd match played <u>in order to receive a year-end rating</u>. The player would not receive a published year-end rating because the retired match did not have either player with 6 games won.</p>
7/27/99	We are considering implementing a rule that would limit the number of players returning on the same team that participated at Section champs the previous year, just like the National rule. Is this permissible under the rules?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>That would be an amplification and you could do it.</p>
8/5/02	What happens when a team has finished an Early Start League for the following season before they compete in the current year section championships and then win the section championship and the opportunity to advance to Nationals?	<p><i>Answer appears under Championship</i></p>

	Regulation 3.03A(5) and 3.07C require that team split up for the next year – in this case the next year is almost finished.	

<p>Updated 9/1/02</p>		<p>copied to all parties involved in the complaint. The decision of the League Grievance Committee shall be by majority vote.</p> <p>LEAGUE GRIEVANCE APPEAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>An important factor here is the League Grievance Appeal Committee does not have to meet unless the League Grievance Committee did not hold a hearing, in which case the League Grievance Appeal Committee must meet if requested in writing by <u>any of the parties involved in the appeal.</u></p> <p>The parties to the appeal have the opportunity to submit in writing the facts/ arguments in support of their respective position. <i>See Regulation: 2.03B(2)</i></p> <p>The League Grievance Appeal Committee has the power to affirm, modify or reject but may not impose any harsher penalty of the decision of the Grievance Committee, and a written copy of its final and binding decision shall be promptly sent to all interested parties. <i>See Regulation: 2.03B (3)</i></p>
<p>1/1/98</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 findings.</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. <i>See Regulation: 2.02D(3) and 2.03A</i></p>
<p>1/1/98</p>	<p>Who appoints the local, area and section league Grievance Committees and Appeal Committees?</p>	<p>Members for all these committees are to be approved by the Section League Coordinator.</p> <p>With the approval of the section association, a local league may appoint a Local League Grievance Committee and a Local League Appeal Committee. <i>2.01A(1) and 2.01B(1)</i></p> <p>If a section association has area league competition, it shall appoint Area League Grievance Committees and Area League Appeal</p>

	What controls the penalty phase of an eligibility disqualification?	
1/25/04 12/1/04 relocated from Self-rate question in this section	Can an individual play during a grievance and/or grievance appeal?	<p>Play during Grievance procedures: An individual may continue to play during any grievance investigation and hearing but must understand that if upheld, all matches played during that time may be defaulted.</p> <p>Play during Appeal procedures: If the grievance is upheld, the individual may not play during his/her appeal process. If the grievance is denied and appealed by the filer, the individual may play during his/her appeal process but must understand that if the decision of the Grievance committee is reversed all matches played during that time may be defaulted. <i>See Regulation 2.02A(6) and 2.03A(2) clearly state this issue.</i></p>

LOCAL LEAGUE PROCEDURES

1/1/98	<p>Can a section association limit the number of players who can play up on a single team?</p>	<p>Yes. The section association may limit the number of players that appear on a team roster and the number of players on that roster that are at a specific NTRP level. <i>See Regulations: 3.01B, 5.01B, 6.01B</i></p>
1/1/98	<p>Can a section association increase the minimum number of players necessary to form a team?</p> <p>Can the section decrease the number of players required on a team.</p>	<p>No. A section may not increase the minimum number of players on a team. They may state “minimum of 8, preferred minimum of 10.” A section association may only recommend such action, e.g., for the purpose of preventing defaults.</p> <p>No. Not without a waiver from the USTA League Committee.</p> <p><i>See Regulations: 3.01B, 3.06A, 4.02, 5.01B, 6.01B</i></p>
1/1/98	<p>Can a local league use a team match format consisting of five individual doubles matches?</p>	<p>Yes. Each team match in a local league shall consist of such number of individual matches of singles, doubles or any combination thereof, as determined by the local league. <i>See Regulation: 3.01H(2), 5.01H(2)and 6.01H(2)</i></p>
1/1/98 Updated 1/25/04	<p>In determining the winner of a team match and the winner of the competition, can the local league use methods different from the methods in championship competition?</p>	<p>Yes. The determination of such winners may be the same as that used in championship competition or other methods selected by the local league. However, the method needs to work within the TennisLink program. <i>See Regulation: 3.01H(2)</i></p>
1/1/98 1/25/04 Updated	<p>Can the section determine if players will be permitted to meet eligibility requirements during a local league playoff?</p> <p>What is the difference between a local league play-off and an area championship?</p>	<p>During a local league playoff, the section shall determine if players will be permitted to meet the requirements of participation in further championships (two (2) or three (3)match requirement).</p> <p>The difference is players may not qualify to advance during any championship competition. Any matches played as part of a local league playoff below area/district championship may be considered local league or part of championship, based upon the procedures published by the Section.</p>

		<p><i>See Regulations: 1.14 – players may not be added during local league playoff or any championship</i> <i>3.01A, 3.01H(1), 3.03A(1), 5.01A and 5.01H(1) and 6.01H(1)</i></p>
<p>2/23/00 Updated 12/1/04</p>	<p>Does a player have to choose which team (s)he will represent at a local league playoff if on 2 or more teams?</p>	<p>The Section (or District if passed down) may institute regulations restricting participation on more than one team in a local league playoff. You must check with your Section or District to determine whether they treat local league play-off as part of championship and restrict participation on more than one team. <i>See 3.01H(5)d</i></p>
<p>12/3/99 Updated 9/1/02</p>	<p>Regulation <u>3.03M</u> Championship Scoring a Team Default states: “If a team defaults an entire team match for any reason during round robin play, then all matches of that team, played or to be played shall be null and void. . . .” 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. Remember, the objective is to play the match. The Section is encouraged to put a procedure in place. If they elect to use the championship rule, they should be aware that if all teams in contention have played the defaulting team – those scores will stand.</p>
<p>1/1/98 Updated 12/1/04</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. (See Championship Procedures Section for how the same issues are handled during championship.) <u>Eligibility DQ:</u> Regulations 2.02B(4) a, b and c. Review this section as penalty varies based on stage of local league. <u>Dynamic DQ:</u> <i>Reg. 3.04D(1)</i> states that each Section will establish what, if any matches shall be considered losses and under what circumstances. The section option should be provided to all captains. <u>Remember, no dynamic DQ of either Computer or Benchmark rated players.</u> <u>Grievance upheld</u> involving other issues: The Grievance Committee may direct the correction of any violations by reasonable means, including suspension of a player or team. <i>See Regulation 2.02D(2)</i></p>

	<p>When does the local league season end? Important because of possible grievance penalties for eligibility issues.</p>	<p>The local league season ends on the date published in TennisLink as the League Season End Date.</p> <p>If a Grievance Committee does not render a decision on a self-rate (eligibility question) grievance prior to the end of the local season by more than 24 hours, the player's team may not be penalized by removal of matches.</p>
<p>9/15/06</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 scoring rules of full team defaults for their local league.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>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 (3.03M), those matches would stay in the system.</p>

MATCH PLAY		
8/9/2007	Under what date and time should a match be entered that was interrupted (some positions completed while others were not) by rain or other situations?	Use the date of the last outstanding individual match to be completed.
2/1/07	When a match is postponed following exchange of line-up, does the original line-up stand for the make-up match?	If your section speaks to this issue you will follow the section/district rule. 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.
1/1/98	If after the team captains have exchanged their team match cards, a player is injured during the warm-up in an individual match, can a substitution be made for the injured player?	Yes. A substitution can be made in this situation because the first point of the individual match had not been played. Even if another individual match in the team match had begun, a substitution can still be made in any individual match that has not begun when there has been an injury to, illness of, or a disqualification of a player or any criteria authorized by the section. A Section may authorize further situations in which a substitution may be made. <i>See Regulation: 3.01H(4)</i>
1/1/98 1/25/06 Updated	What happens when two players on a team don't show up that are members of two different doubles teams?	The section or championships committee may authorize the two players be able to play together at the higher position in order to avoid an additional default. For example, if the two players came from the number one doubles team and the number three doubles team, these players would play at number one doubles, the number two doubles team would remain the same and the default would occur at the number three doubles position. The key word is for the section to AUTHORIZE and this should be done in its section regulations. <i>See Regulation 3.01H(4)</i>

7/14/03	<p>What happens 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>Regulation 3.03L Championship Procedures covers this issue as to how defaults are to be taken. The #2 singles before the #1 singles; the #3 Doubles before the #2 and the #2 doubles before the #1 doubles. Championship regulations/procedures apply unless a section has developed its own regulation/procedure.</p> <p>That said, if due to unforeseen circumstances, the captains allow (either by word or failure to prevent) a lower position to start out of sequence and later the higher match ends up a default – all matches stand as played.</p> <p>RATIONALE: The captains accepted the conditions under which the match was played when (s)he permitted the lower positions to start – All matches played in good faith stand.</p>
1/1/98	<p>Is coaching permissible in a league match? If so, when?</p>	<p>Coaching is not permitted if playing two sets with a match tiebreaker. When playing the best of three sets, coaching is only permitted between the second and third sets if there is a rest period between such sets. Such coaching is not in conflict with the Rules of Tennis. It is recommended that all matches be the best of two sets, with regular scoring and a set tie-break at 6-all in each set. In the event of split sets, a set or match tie-break shall be played in lieu of a third set with the two minute set break with no coaching allowed.</p>
1/1/98	<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 set has been completed players are to go to the correct courts and begin the matches over. If the discovery occurs after the first set is completed, the matches <u>will be completed as started</u> and count as matches played in good faith.</p>
<p>1/1/98 Updated 9/23/03</p>	<p>How should “known defaults” be handled both at the local level and 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>

1/13/00	Can a Section or District require play in order of strength? An individual team in the 8.0 Division which has a combined NTRP of 7.5 would play below other individual teams with an 8.0 NTRP.	<p>No.</p> <p>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 your section, area, or local rules.</p>
1/1/98 Updated 9/1/02	Are all matches in the USTA League Tennis Program, whether in local, area, section or national competition, sanctioned by the USTA?	<p>Yes. The USTA League Tennis Program has been approved by the USTA without any sanction application.</p> <p><i>See USTA Regulations IX. Sanctioning Regulations; C. Sanction Fees . 2 Tennis Leagues</i></p>
2/1/02	Can you do cross flight matches that will affect standings? Some teams from Flight A playing some teams from Flight B.	<p>Reg. 3.01H(1) Round Robin states “Each NTRP level within a local league shall play at least one round robin competition wherein every team plays every other team.</p> <p>Flights may not randomly select other teams to play. The principle of teams all having equal opportunity would come into dispute.</p> <p>A local league that is looking for more match play but does not have sufficient time to complete a 2nd full round robin segment may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the time for the local league and do a double round robin. • Do smaller flights that would allow a double round robin • Complete an initial full round robin and then have the top 4 teams (example) play an additional round robin and the bottom 4 teams play an additional accommodation round robin. • Do a local league play-off where the top 4 teams in two different flights play a full round robin and the last 4 teams do the same.

NTRP DISQUALIFICATIONS

<p>5/1/08</p> <p>Also under Championship</p>	<p><u>We play our section championships for Adult and Senior back to back (or at the same time). How does this situation impact my ability to advance to nationals if I am dynamically disqualified at either of these two Divisions?</u></p>	<p><u>When two championships are held during the same weekend, or immediately following, they are deemed to be contiguous and an individual dynamically disqualified from either Division will not be permitted to advance to national championships for either Adult or Senior.</u></p>
<p>8/18/99</p>	<p>The rules state that NTRP disqualification is not part of the Mixed Doubles Division. If a player is disqualified at the Adult or Senior Divisions, are they allowed to participate at the DQ'ed level in Mixed Doubles Division for the remainder of the league year?</p>	<p>No. Even though the Mixed Doubles Division does not allow disqualification, it must follow the rules (<i>Reg. 5.01E</i>) in relation to playing at the correct level. A player who has been moved up as a result of a disqualification in the Adult or Senior Divisions must <u>immediately adjust</u> his/her NTRP level of play in the Mixed Doubles Division.</p> <p>The player will have two options:</p> <p>Option #1: If a combined NTRP level team, he/she 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 a single NTRP level team, he/she 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.)</p> <p>In the Mixed Doubles Division, all matches played up until the notification of the disqualification will be counted. Any match played at the disqualified level following notification of the disqualification will be counted as defaults for the individual team match of the disqualified player and 6-0, 6-0 wins for the opponents in those individual matches.</p>
<p>1/25/02</p>	<p>Just how far back does a NTRP disqualification go during a local league play-off? What matches need to be reversed?</p>	<p>Each individual tier involved in a local league play-off progression will be considered a separate tier. Any disqualification occurring during these separate tiers will affect only matches in that particular tier. No matches will be reversed in previous tiers of the local league play-off.</p>

3/21/01	<p>If a player is NTRP disqualified during the Adult Local league, what happens to the matches in other Divisions?</p>	<p>If a local NTRP disqualification occurs during concurrent Adult and/or Senior local league seasons, the disqualification shall affect the matches played by the disqualified player in both Divisions.</p> <p>If the seasons are not concurrent or over-lapping, the NTRP disqualification shall affect the matches played by the disqualified player in the season in which the NTRP DQ occurred.</p> <p>If a player is disqualified while playing in a Mixed Division, below the Section Championship level, the player shall immediately play at the higher level.</p> <p>All of this is based upon the knowledge that the Section now determines the penalties to be imposed. <i>See Mixed Reg. 5.01D</i></p>
4/1/02	<p>Does the section have to hold a hearing on a Dynamic NTRP Disqualification where no error in match results or other missing information is provided?</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>The request for a “hearing” has officially been changed to a request for a review. Regulations clearly state that there will be no consideration of a review without proof of missing or incorrect information.</p> <p>If an individual or captain can produce missing or incorrect information that information will be reviewed and the player and captain notified of the impact of the additional information on the player’s ratings, either resulting in no change or the reversal of the NTRP disqualification.</p>
6/23/03 Updated 12/1/04	<p>What matches, if any, should be reversed during local league or championship play when an individual is NTRP disqualified during participation at a higher NTRP level.</p>	<p>Reversals will be based on the Section’s choices stated in the section regulations.</p> <p>If any match(s) are to be reversed, they will be at the DQ’ed level. If they opt to remove only the last match played, it will be the last match played at the DQ’ed level.</p> <p>Rational is that there would have been no DQ if the individual had not been playing at a lower level than their ability indicated.</p>
9/15/06	<p>Can a captain, administrator file a self-rate grievance against a player once he/she has been dynamically disqualified with 3 strikes?</p>	<p>A grievance involving eligibility can be filed at any time. That being said, you cannot prevent a grievance from being filed. However, once an individual has been dynamically disqualified, the section does not have to go back and consider a self-rate grievance that might impact the number of matches reversed.</p> <p>If the self-rate grievance was filed BEFORE the 3rd strike was recorded or even as a result of the match producing the 3rd strike, you would have to process that grievance and the decision of the Grievance Committee could be to remove all matches.</p>

NTRP RATINGS

<p>6/6/03 9/16/03 4/2007</p>	<p>What year regulations and procedures are used to determine basis for appeal – 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. This would also apply to Early Start Dynamic appeals. A published Early Start dynamic will replace the previous computer rating, including national benchmarks.</p> <p>With NTRP ratings remaining in effect for up to three years, any other Interpretation exposes players to a multitude of possible rule differences.</p> <p><u>Most appeals are now done electronically and the player will be advised immediately if the appeal is granted</u> – the player is either above or below the NTRP number allowing appeal to be granted.</p>
<p>12/19/03</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 the .05 appeal guidelines (or meets other established Methodology guidelines that may apply?)</p>	<p><u>Yes, but this will not happen very often for two reasons.</u></p> <p>1) <u>The sections are advised to automatically appeal down a DQ’ed player who was moved up two levels if they are within range of appeal. For example: a 2.5 player with a 3.04 dynamic DQ.</u></p> <p>2) <u>The DQ’ed player will be assigned the higher of the two numbers – DQ’ed or Year-end, making it unlikely that the year-end will be in appeal range.</u></p> <p>In either case the individual would not be brought down to less than one level above the start/self rate that produced the disqualification.</p>
<p>1/1/98 Updated 12/1/04</p>	<p>Who appoints local, area and section NTRP Review Committees?</p>	<p>With the approval of the section association, a local league may appoint a Local League NTRP Review Committee. If a section association has area championships, the section association may appoint Area League Championships NTRP Review Committees. Each Section Association shall appoint a Section League Championships NTRP Review Committee.</p> <p><u>See Regulation 3.04.C</u></p> <p>Members for all these committees are to be approved by the Section League Coordinator</p>
<p>1/1/98</p>	<p>In an Early Start League (before January 1st) what happens to players when the year-end ratings are published and they generate an above</p>	<p>Sections that begin league play prior to January 1 of the year in which they progress to the National Championships may adopt one of the following three options in reference to players who are found to have computer ratings which place them above the level at which they began to play:</p>

<p>Updated 2/1/07</p>	<p>level year-end rating?</p>	<p>Option 1: Players who are found to have valid computer ratings after the appeal process that place them above the level at which they are competing will be moved to the next level. Prior team matches played are valid</p> <p>Option 2: Players who are found to have valid computer ratings that place them above the level at which they are competing may continue their participation at that level UNLESS their year-end rating reaches the “clearly above level mark.” If it does, they too must adjust to that new level.</p> <p>Option 3: Players may continue their participation at the prior level through the conclusion of any early start league in progress or until such other date as determined by the section. They will not be permitted to advance to any championship level.</p> <p>All players will be subject to disqualification at all levels through Section championships.</p>
<p>5/9/02 2/1/07 updated</p>	<p>In local leagues where less than <u>40%</u> of the league has valid computer ratings do we assign all players a start rate?</p>	<p>Any player that has a computer rating will use it. Only assign the designated start rate (based on NTRP Computer Methodology) to those self-rated players in the specific flight within a local league that has less than <u>40%</u> computer rated players.</p>
<p>2/5/03</p>	<p>Can a section adjust a self-rating before match play begins?</p>	<p>The section does not have the authority to change an individual’s personal self-rating unless they personally request it. IF the player requests the change, Yes, using the Section’s best judgment.</p> <p>Rationale: There is nothing in the NTRP Computer Methodology denying this ability. It speaks only to "being lowered upon request if two matches were seen .10 below the next level down." If USTA League Tennis has not provided a regulation or procedure that would dictate or prohibit a Section's action, they may handle as they see fit.</p>
<p>2/5/03</p>	<p>Can the section adjust ratings of Mixed doubles players who do not produce a dynamic as a result of exclusive mixed play?</p>	<p>The section does not have the authority to change an individuals personal self-rating unless they personally request it. IF the player requests the change, Yes, the section can, using their best judgment. We have no way of producing Mixed Dynamic until the end of the league year. Current Methodology provides no</p>

		<p>means to establish their rating so again the section may handle as they see fit on a case by case basis.</p> <p>Where obvious abuse has occurred a Section administrator may file a grievance.</p>
4/24/03	<p>What rating can I use when registering for a league?</p>	<p>TennisLink only holds one NTRP rating at a time. Players must use their most current rating on file (be it early start dynamic or year-end) when registering for any league. Year-end computer ratings, established earlier than the usual November date, within a given section (example - Southern) must be used by that player in all Sections when registering for a league.</p>
8/25/03 Updated 12/1/04	<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 they roster and play a match to DQ them?</p>	<p>Regulation 3.04A states an individual will be disqualified if they reach the disqualification level 3 times based on all matches reported in the national database for Adult and Senior Divisions.</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 Section will notify the individual that a promotion/disqualification has occurred at the self-rate level and that the Section 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>