

## GLOSSARY

**Appeal:** Request for reconsideration of a previous decision, determination or finding.

**Area:** [See District.](#)

**Appeal:** Request for reconsideration of a previous decision, determination or finding.

**Benchmark Rated Player:** [A player by whom other players' NTRP computer ratings are calculated. This includes any player who participates in an 18 & Over or 40 & Over Adult Division match at the local playoffs, participates in championship play, or who is dynamically disqualified. Additionally, on teams in the 18 & Over and 40 & Over Adult Division that qualify for a championship event and/or are on the schedule at a championship but the team does not participate and the team is not replaced by another team, all rostered players who played one or more matches become Benchmark players.](#)

**Benchmark Rating:** A computer rating determined by the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System for a player using a combination of their dynamic rating and their rating derived [at a local league playoff or at](#) championships.

**Championship Level:** Any USTA League competition held after local league competition or playoffs.

**Championship Year:** The timeframe beginning with the first local league including Early Start League and ending with the conclusion of the National Championship.

**Coman Tiebreak Procedure:** An alternative procedure that may be used with the Set Tiebreak or Match Tiebreak where ends are changed after the first point, then after every four points, and at the end of the Tiebreak. The scoring is the same as a traditional Set or Match Tiebreak. Beneficial in doubles as players continue to serve from the same side as during the set. (See FRIEND AT COURT – Part 3: USTA Reg. I.E.(1)c.)

**Computer Rating:** A rating assigned to players that reflects level of ability.

**Competitive:** A match where the outcome is unpredictable.

**Compatible:** A match where the outcome is predictable, with the higher rated player winning routinely.

**Default:** When a player or team fails to appear or is removed by an administrator or tournament official for misconduct or violation of regulations.

**Disqualification:** Action taken to remove from a team, a player deemed ineligible to participate.

**District:** [Geographic boundaries fixed by a Sectional Association within their Section that represents a subdivision of the Sectional Association. This term may be interchanged with the terms Area, State, Region and Territory.](#)

**Division:** National League Programs (Adult and Mixed) offered and administered by the USTA and any other USTA sanctioned program offered in a Section, District or Area, identified as part of TennisLink and entered as part of the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System.

**Domicile:** A legal concept involving residency. It is that place where a person has a true, fixed permanent home or that person's home for the indefinite future. A person can only have one domicile at a time.

**Dynamic Rating:** A rating associated with a player who has the potential to change with every match played by the player.

**Early Start League:** A local league season that commences prior to January 1 of the league year.

**Early Start Rating:** [A player's dynamic rating on a specific date to govern eligibility for registration on an Early Start League team.](#)

**Eligibility:** [Requirements](#) to play.

**Flight:** A group of teams competing at a specified NTRP level within a local league or championship competition where every team in that group plays every other team to declare a winner. When flights are established, a playoff must be held at championship level to determine a champion in that NTRP level. Below championship level, the playoff may be held to determine a champion in that NTRP level.

**Forfeits:** See Default

**Grievance:** A written formal complaint regarding an alleged violation of a regulation or procedure.

**Inaccurate self-rating:** [A self-rating that occurred as a result of no willful intent on behalf of the player whether by the player or one acting on behalf of the player \(i.e., captain, coach, etc.\).](#)

**Inappropriate self-rating:** A self-rating that occurred as a result of willful intent to misrepresent a player's level of play, whether by the player or one who condones or acts on behalf of the player (i.e., captain, coach, etc.).

**Individual Match:** Any singles or doubles match played as part of a team match.

**League Coordinator:** A person appointed or hired to implement and administer the League.

**League Progression:** Local league team winners have the opportunity to advance through District/Area, Sectional and National Championships competition.

**League Type:** Age groups within the Divisions of the USTA League Program.

**Level of Play:** NTRP skill levels offered in the USTA League Program.

**Local:** Geographic boundaries fixed by a District within their District.

**Local League:** A team competition in a specified geographical area that applies specific local league regulations and consists of NTRP level(s) with a minimum of two or more teams per NTRP level. A local league may choose to divide any or all NTRP levels into flights. Where flights are used, a local playoff structure may be established to determine a champion.

**Local Playoff:** Part of local league competition.

**Match Tiebreak:** First to 10 by a margin of 2. (See FRIEND AT COURT – Part 3: USTA Reg. I.E.1.b.)

**Mixed:** A team comprised of a man and woman who combine to play.

**New Player:** One who does not have a valid NTRP computer rating.

**NTRP:** National Tennis Rating Program

**NTRP Level:** Generic term advising the minimum NTRP level in increments of .5 at which a player may participate.

**NTRP Disqualification Criteria:** Having reached disqualification level three times, as designated in the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System Procedures, during the local league competition and/or any level of championship competition below the National Championships in the Adult Division.

**NTRP Computer Methodology Procedures:** The document establishing procedures governing the *USTA NTRP Computer Rating System*.

**Player:** The individual USTA Member who registers on a team.

**Plus (+) NTRP Level:** An NTRP level which allows a team roster to include a specified number of players from the next higher NTRP level.

**Plus (+) Player:** A player who is allowed to register on a specific NTRP Plus (+) level roster with a rating that is at the next higher NTRP level.

**Rating:** See Benchmark Rating, Computer Rating, Dynamic Rating, NTRP Level, Self-Rating.

**Remand:** To send the grievance back to either the original Grievance Committee or a new Grievance Committee, as the Grievance Appeal Committee deems appropriate, for reconsideration.

**Residency:** A place where a person is actually living, as distinguished from the person's domicile, or a place where one temporarily lives. Domicile and residence may coincide. A person can have more than one residency while he or she can have only one domicile.

**Rest Period:** A maximum of 10 minutes with coaching permitted between the second and third set when playing best of three tie-break sets.

**Retirement:** Occurs when an individual match has started and a player is unable to continue due to injury, loss of condition, emergency or refusal to play. Retirements are entered in TennisLink with the final game count for NTRP calculation purposes (e.g., 2-6, 1-3) and the system will automatically credit the individual receiving the retirement with sufficient games as to make them the winner of the match (i.e., 2-6, 6-3, 1-0) for determining standings.

**Round Robin:** Each team plays every other team in its flight.

**Self-Rating:** A rating for a new player entering the program determined in accordance with the *National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines* during the on-line player registration process.

**Set Break:** The 2 minute period between the completion of the last game of a set and the beginning of a succeeding set.

**Set Tiebreak:** First to 7 by a margin of 2. (See FRIEND AT COURT – Part 3: USTA Reg. I.E.1.a.)

**Start of a Match:** First service attempt on an individual court.

**Team:** Individuals rostered together including non-playing captains.

**Team Match: (Local Team Match)** Number of individual singles and doubles matches or any combination as determined by the local league. **(Championship Team Match)** Adult 18 & Over and 40 & Over League Type (3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5 NTRP Levels) - 2 singles, 3 doubles; Adult 18 & Over League Type (2.5 & 5.0 NTRP levels) - 1 singles, 2 doubles; Adult 55 & Over League Type – 3 doubles; Mixed 18 & Over League Type - 3 doubles.

**Tiebreak Procedures:** Process to determine the winner of a Round Robin or Single Elimination in the team competition if the teams are tied.

**Transition ball:** Any Stage 3 (Red), Stage 2 (Orange) and Stage 1 (Green) ball.

**USTA Section:** One of 17 defined areas that comprise the USTA.

**Valid Computer Rating:** An NTRP computer rating that has not expired and is based on accurate player history.

**Waiver of Claims:** As a condition of participation each player gives up the right to any demand for injuries sustained in traveling to or from or participating in the USTA League Program.

**Waiver of Rules:** Except where specifically permitted, no USTA League Regulation or Procedure may be disregarded.

**Willful Intent:** An act is done willfully and knowingly when the individual intends to do it and knows the nature of the act will achieve the intended result.

**Year-End Rating:** A published NTRP level generated at the end of the league year.