

Minutes of the USTA NorCal Board of Directors
Wednesday, February 19, 2025
Video Conference

Directors Present: Leslie Airola-Murveit, Andrea Barnes (Vice President), Shaun Chaudhuri, Christine Costamagna (President), Anoosh Davoudzadeh, Nancy DeSchane (Treasurer), Mike Dickey, Cheri King, Mylene Martin, Andrea Norman (Secretary), David Panconi, Craig Pasqua (Parliamentarian), Caroline Sheu, Pam Sloan (Delegate)

Directors Absent: Samir Mahir

Advisory Director Present: Jack Walker

Legal Counsel Present: Jonathan Madison

USTA NorCal Staff Present: Summer Verhoeven (Executive Director), Darren Wenger (Director of Operations)

1. Call to Order

President Costamagna called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm and roll call was conducted. She then asked Ms. DeSchane to read the NorCal Mission and Vision Statements.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Board considered approval of the agenda, a copy of which was distributed with the meeting packet. There being no opposition, the agenda was announced approved as changed.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Board considered approval of the minutes of the meeting held January 15, 2025. Following discussion, the following motion was duly made by Ms. Norman, seconded by Ms. Sloan, and **approved** by a vote of 14 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the USTA NorCal Board of Directors held January 15, 2025, are hereby approved as presented.

Mr. Walker left the meeting for the duration of the Closed Session.

4. Closed Session

President Costamagna announced that the Board would be going into closed session. Following the conclusion of the closed session, President Costamagna announced all discussion held during the session was to remain confidential; however, it was agreed that the following would be reported in the public minutes:

- Plan to Amend & Restate USTA NorCal Bylaws. The following resolution was **approved** following a motion duly made by Ms. Norman and seconded by Ms. DeSchane. The vote was 14 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, the Constitution & Rules Committee is authorized to pursue the amendment and restatement of the USTA NorCal Bylaws in collaboration with NorCal non-profit legal counsel, out of funds currently allocated in the budget for legal fees, up to a maximum of \$4,500, which amendment and restatement will be proposed for adoption by the voting members at the 2025 USTA NorCal Annual Meeting.

- Transition of Adult Leagues to TennisLink The following resolutions were **approved** following a motion duly made by Ms. Norman and seconded by Ms. Airola-Murveit. The vote was 14 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the transition to exclusive use of TennisLink to administer Adult Leagues, the implementation will be delayed so that will now be effective with the:

- 2025 NorCal Adult 70 & Over Daytime League
- 2025 NorCal Combo League
- 2025 NorCal Combo Daytime League
- 2025 NorCal 55 Mixed & Over Daytime League

All of which have registration open dates of June 23, 2025.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That all aspects of the transition, including, but not limited to team registration, flighting of teams, initial schedule creation and publication to captains, managing adjustments to the

preliminary schedule by captains, and uploading the final schedule to TennisLink, will be managed by USTA NorCal staff.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Executive Committee is authorized to approve the funds needed to pay FIUYMI LLC dba Approach Tennis through the extended transition period.

- Amendment to Junior Team Tennis Regulations & Amendment to JTT/Local Play Charter. The following resolutions were **approved** following a motion duly made by Ms. Barnes and seconded by Ms. Sloan. The vote was 13 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions and one recusal by Craig Pasqua.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation II.C. is hereby amended as set forth below to permit a team or team captain to be disciplined by the USTA NorCal JTT/Local Play Committee in a manner that has a lesser penalty than preventing participation (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

II. GENERAL

- C. Compliance with Regulations.** As a condition of participation in NorCal JTT, all participants agree to be bound by the UJTTR and the USTA's standards of good conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship. Team captains are responsible for knowing the UJTTR. Team captains shall inform all team members of their obligation to be bound by the UJTTR. Team members shall indicate to their captains their consent to be bound by the UJTTR. Failure to with the UJTTR may be reported to the USTA NorCal JTT/Local Play Committee and shall not be excused on the grounds that one was misinformed by a USTA NorCal staff member or volunteer. USTA NorCal reserves the right to refuse any team and/or team captain from participating in the league or to discipline a team and/or team captain in any manner it deems appropriate. Team captains at matches shall be responsible for their actions and the actions of their players and spectators.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal JTT/Local Play charter is hereby amended as set forth below to add to the list of delegated authority, the ability for the Committee to impose the authority described in USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation II.C. (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

Delegation of Authority

The only authority specifically delegated to the Committee by the Board is set forth below:

- The Junior Team Tennis/Local Play Committee is authorized to impose penalties to the extent permitted in the USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulations.
 - The Junior Team Tennis/Local Play Committee is authorized to select USTA NorCal's nominee for the USTA Janet Louer Award, for which the USTA has established the criteria for nomination.
 - The Junior Team Tennis/Local Play Committee is authorized to provide feedback to USTA NorCal staff when the USTA requests input that will affect decisions that impact the overall USTA Net Generation structure; *provided that* feedback that seeks approval of a potential or formal amendment to the USTA Net Generation Regulations, including the regulations governing USTA Junior Team Tennis Regulations, must first be submitted to the Board for approval, and any other feedback must copy the President and Executive Director when submitted. This delegation of authority does not include the authority to submit a proposal to amend the USTA Net Generation Regulations, including the regulations governing Junior Team Tennis, which must first be submitted to the Board for approval.
 - Pursuant to the USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulations, the Committee is authorized to determine whether Playoffs and/or Championships are held for Travel Leagues.
- Notwithstanding this delegation of authority, any time a decision involves a conflict of interest, the action must be submitted as a recommendation to the USTA NorCal Board of Directors for approval.
- Approval of Adult Tournament Sanctions. The sanctions for Adult Tournaments listed on Exhibit A were **approved** following a motion duly made by Ms. Airola-Murveit and seconded by Mr. Panconi. The vote was 13 in favor, none opposed, and one abstention, and one recusal by Craig Pasqua.
 - Approval of Junior Tournament Sanctions. The sanctions for Junior Tournaments listed on Exhibit A were **approved** following a motion duly made by Ms. Sheu and seconded by Mr. Dickey. The vote was 13 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, and one recusal by Craig Pasqua.

Ms. Verhoeven and Mr. Wenger left the meeting following the approval of the junior tournament sanctions..

- Annual Performance Review of Executive Director. Ms. Sloan, chair of the Employee Relations Committee, gave a presentation on the annual performance review of the Executive Director and a compensation package was approved.

Ms. Verhoeven and Mr. Wenger returned to the meeting following the discussion of the annual performance review of the Executive Director.

Legal Counsel Jonathan Madison joined the meeting following the discussion of the annual performance review of the Executive Director.

- Legal Updates. The Board heard updates on outstanding legal issues.

Legal Counsel Jonathan Madison left the meeting following the legal updates.

Mr. Walker returned to the meeting following the Closed Session.

5. Executive Committee Report

- Approval of Junior Tournament Sanctions. President Costamagna announced that on January 15, the Executive Committee approved the Junior tournament sanctions listed on Exhibit A. These sanctions were considered urgent as registration for these tournaments have start dates so close to the next board meeting, that waiting for approval would likely limit the ability of the organization to properly plan for the events.
- Amendment to Junior Team Tennis Regulations. President Costamagna also announced that on January 15, the Executive Committee approved the following amendment to the Junior Team Tennis Regulations, which was considered urgent as registration for the next the season for JTT had opened.

V. USTA NORCAL JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Players who meet the eligibility requirement for NorCal JTT are not guaranteed placement onto a team. Players who are on a team are not guaranteed a minimum number of matches.

D. Division Eligibility Based on ITF World Tennis Number (“WTN”). NorCal JTT will be using [ITF World Tennis Number](#) to promote level-based play and differentiate divisions.

- 1. WTN Benchmarks.** Singles WTNs will be used to determine the division a player may enter. Prior to each Travel League Season or Team Tournament, the USTA Staff, in consultation with the NorCal JTT/Local Play Committee, will determine the highest and lowest singles WTNs permitted for each division and publish these benchmarks in Table 1.

League	Division	Highest Permitted Singles WTN*	Lowest Permitted Singles WTN*
Travel League	10U Orange Ball	No maximum	No minimum
	10U Green Ball	No maximum	No minimum
	12U Green Ball	No maximum	No minimum
	12 & Under Yellow Ball - <u>Intermediate</u>	28 - <u>32.00</u>	No minimum
	14 & Under Yellow Ball - <u>Intermediate</u>	27 - <u>31.00</u>	No minimum
	18 & Under Yellow Ball - <u>Intermediate</u>	24 - <u>30.00</u>	No minimum
Team Tournaments	18 & Under Intermediate (Yellow Ball)	27 - <u>31.00</u>	No minimum
	18 & Under Intermediate (Yellow Ball)	24 - <u>30.00</u>	No minimum
* <u>For Advanced Divisions, there is no minimum or maximum WTN cutoff for players (1-40 are eligible).</u> WTN Confidence Factor is a consideration determining eligibility. WTN Benchmarks as of January 18, 2024 <u>1, 2025</u>			

2. Singles WTN at Registration Determines Eligibility. [unchanged]

3. Confidence Factor. [unchanged]

- Inside Tennis. President Costamagna also announced that on January 27, the Executive Committee approved the following arrangement with Inside Tennis. The Executive Committee believes addressing this request of Inside Tennis as soon as possible was in the best interest of the organization.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal formally poses no objection to the use by Inside Tennis of the membership database last provided as a part of its contract (approximately 2019) with USTA NorCal, and that as a contractual condition to use of the database, which shall be evidenced in writing:

- Inside Tennis will remove any person on the USTA NorCal membership database list from the Inside Tennis mailing list that requests to no longer receive the publication, and
- Inside Tennis waives all liability with respect to our organization as it relates to the use of the list.

Following the report of the action taken, the Directors had neither questions, comments, nor objections to the actions taken by the Executive Committee.

Mr. Mahir joined the meeting following the Executive Committee Report.

6. Consent Calendar

President Costamagna directed the Board's attention to the Consent Calendar that was distributed with the meeting packet and noted that there are:

- 3 recommendations being made by the Adult Tournament Committee
- 5 recommendations being made by Junior Team Tennis/Local Play Committee

President Costamagna explained that any Director may unilaterally request that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for individual consideration apart from the Consent Calendar. She also noted that simple questions, clarifications, or short amounts of dialogue relative to an item on the Consent Calendar may be discussed after the motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

President Costamagna asked if any Director intended to pull any recommendation. There being no interest in doing so, a motion to adopt the Consent Calendar was duly made by Ms. Sloan and seconded by Ms. Martin. Following discussion, the following motion was **approved** by a vote of 15 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That items listed on the Consent Calendar attached as Exhibit B are hereby approved.

7. Delegated Authority Decision Report

Ms. Norman directed the Board's attention to the report of decisions made by Committees that were within the clearly defined scope of authority that the Board has delegated to the Committees in the applicable Committee Charters, a copy of which was distributed with the meeting packet. She noted that the report contains the following decisions:

- Consideration of 7 grievances filed with the Adult Leagues Grievance Committee
- Consideration of 2 appeals filed with the Adult Leagues Grievance Appeals Committee
- Consideration of 100 NTRP Self-Rate appeals filed with the NTRP Self-Rate Appeals Committee
- Consideration of 2 Adult Leagues medical appeals filed with the Adult League Medical Appeals Committee
- Consideration of 1 appeals and 2 grievances filed with the Sportsmanship Committee
- Assignment by the Adult Tournament Committee of Level 4 designation to one tournament and the approval of awards in six categories.

Ms. Norman explained that if the Board disagrees with any action, it may consider taking further action as it deems appropriate. Following the presentation of the Report, the Directors had neither questions, comments, nor objections to the actions taken by the Committees.

8. New & Returning Organization Members

Mr. Wenger presented the report of 7 new and 16 returning Organization Members since the last time the Board met on January 15, 2025, so that the Board may fulfill its obligation to review such report pursuant to USTA NorCal Bylaw III.D.

9. Treasurer's Report & Resignation

Ms. DeSchane directed the Board's attention to the financial statements distributed with the meeting packet, which included the financials for November and December 2024.

- The cash/cash equivalents balance as of December 31, 2024 was \$5,374,091 versus the September 30 2024 balance of \$5,552,421.
- Net income for the month of December 2024 was \$186,684 versus the September 2024 balance of - \$207,982.
- The income statement December 2024 YTD actual net income amount was \$85,138.

There was discussion and no objection to change the frequency with which detailed variance notes on the income statement from monthly to quarterly reporting. Any substantive monthly variances will be addressed at each Board meeting.

Following her report Ms. DeSchane announced her resignation from the position of Treasurer and from the Board, effective with the adjournment of this meeting, noting the time constraints of a new professional opportunity would make it too difficult to fulfil her role as an officer and director of NorCal.

10. Election of Treasurer

Pursuant to the NorCal Bylaw VII.L., whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of director, the Board of Directors may nominate and elect a new director at the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors to fill the unexpired term. The new director must meet the eligibility requirements of the Bylaws, including having been off of the Board for a full two full years to be considered for election. Additionally, the period served will be considered a full term for the purposes of determining term limits. The unexpired term remaining for Ms. DeSchane is through the first Board meeting following the early-November Annual Meeting. Following discussion, the President announced steps would not be taken at this time to fill the vacancy.

The Board next took up the vacancy in the Treasurer position. A nomination was made by Ms. Sloan for Mike Dickey to be elected Treasurer, who accepted the nomination. The motion was seconded by Ms. Norman. There being no other candidates, Mr. Dickey was elected Treasurer by unanimous voice vote, with the exception of Mr. Dickey who abstained. Upon his election, Mr. Dickey resigned as chair of the Audit Committee, a position that may not be held by the same person serving as Treasurer. President Costamagna announced that Mr. Walker has accepted the position as Audit Committee chair.

11. President's Report

President Costamagna gave an overview of the topics covered at the recent meeting of the USTA Presidents Committee including:

- A discussion related to Red Ball Tennis, including statistics on pilots which involved approximately 22,141 players in 477 programs. The 2025 target to reach is 200,000 players with a focus on, among other things, a social play experience, accessibility, affordability, and retention.
- Results of the Physical Activity Council survey, including the 25.7 million tennis players in 2024 which has trended up over the past 5 years. With respect to the 35 x 35 Goal (35 million players by 2035), the need for targets and identifying strategies will be critical to success.

President Costamagna encouraged the Directors to review her full report in greater detail.

12. Executive Director's Report

In addition to the NorCal program statistics and written report included in the meeting packet, Ms. Verhoeven's in-meeting presentation included the following:

- Tennis Participation Report. Ms. Verhoeven reported on the significant participation growth to 27.5 million players as appeared in the annual Tennis Participation Report, the 5th consecutive year of growth. Other notable highlights included:
 - ≈ Participation rate (percentage of the population who played at least once) increased from 7.7% to 8.3%. This translates to 1 in 12 people, the highest ratio on record.
 - ≈ Player retention (players who played in 2023 and also played in 2024) increased from 74.8% to 79.4%.
 - ≈ Core players (those with 10+ play occasions) increased 11% to 13%.
 - ≈ Nearly half of the 1.9mm increase in players came from the 18-34 age cohort.
 - ≈ Player diversity continued to increase, with growth among Black/African American players (+23%) and Hispanic players (+15%) significantly outpacing overall growth.A more NorCal-specific report, based on this data, will be available soon.
- Presidential Executive Order Related to Transgender Women and Girls Participating in Women's and Girls' Sports. Ms. Verhoeven reported that the recently signed Executive Order signed by President Trump applies to educational institutions that receive Federal funds, and it effectively bans transgender individuals from competing in girls' and women's sports in K-12 schools and universities. Because neither the USTA, nor any of its Sectional Associations, is an education institution, and receives no federal funding, the Executive Order does not apply to or affect the USTA's Transgender Inclusion Policy.
- Electronic Line Calling ("ELC"). Ms. Verhoeven reported that a new ELC Subsidy Program was created to help accelerate the roll out of ELC across all Sections, having proven successful in significantly improving the player experience at our events. A total of \$2.5 million has been allocated to the Program, from which each Section will receive a proportional allowance that can be applied toward the lease and/or purchase of qualifying ELC systems. USTA NorCal will receive a total of \$112,896. The approved systems are Baseline Vision, PlayReplay, SwingVision, and Zenniz.
- USTA Agreement with UTR. Ms. Verhoeven reported that the USTA has signed a three-year USTA Connect agreement with UTR Sports that includes data sharing, Safe Play compliance by all UTR youth tennis providers, and the usage of UTR aggregated data. This agreement does not affect the USTA's ongoing

commitment to the ITF WTN project, nor does it imply any endorsement of UTR ratings. WTN remains integrated in the USTA, ITA, and ITF competition pathways and is the sole rating system for USTA tournament competition. This agreement underscores the USTA's dedication to collaborating with organizations that foster the growth of tennis in the United States.

Ms. Verhoeven asked the Directors to review her written report for other important information, including important events happening during the next several months.

13. Delegate's Report & USTA Call Items for 2025 USTA Annual Meeting

Ms. Sloan announced that the Delegates Committee meeting to review the call items will be held February 24, at which time a discussion of the proposed Call Items for the 2025 USTA Annual Meeting will be conducted. Ms. Sloan presented an overview of the purpose for the Call Items to amend the USTA Bylaws and USTA Regulations.

Following discussion, the following motion was duly made by Ms. Norman, seconded by Mr. Dickey, and **approved** by a vote of 14 in favor, 1 opposed, and no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, as currently drafted, the USTA NorCal Delegate is directed to vote in favor B1, the Bylaw amendment proposal that clarifies that binding arbitration for all Individual and Organization Members is any controversy involving governance or management is required.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That, as currently drafted, the USTA NorCal Delegate is directed to vote in favor B2, B3, B4, B5, and B6, the Bylaw amendment proposals that bring the Bylaws into conformity with the requirements of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee with respect to:

- Independent Director requirement on the USTA Board of Directors;
- Required representation on the USTA Board by an organization should the USTA authorize such organization to conduct national athletic competitions on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of athletes to represent the United States in protected competitions (such as Olympic Games, Pan American Games, ParaPan American Games, Paralympic Games, or World University Games);
- Affiliate representatives on the USTA Board;
- The election of athlete representatives to the USTA Board and USTA Nominating Committee; and
- Athlete safety and sport integrity.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That, as currently drafted, the USTA NorCal Delegate is directed to vote in favor B7 and R1, the amendment proposals that brings the Anti-Doping provisions of the USTA Bylaws, and USTA Regulations, respectively, into conformity with the requirements of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That, as currently drafted, the USTA NorCal Delegate is directed to vote in favor R2, the USTA Regulation amendment proposal that permits the use of Electronic Line Calling ("ELC") in tournaments, and sets forth the conditions under which ELC can be used.

RESOLVED FURTHER: Should any substantive changes be made to the Call Items before adoption, the Board hereby delegates authority to the Executive Committee to determine how to instruct the Delegate to vote.

Following the vote, the Board discussed in more detail the opportunities and challenges of rolling out ELC.

14. Adjournment

Following the announcement that the next meeting by video conference on Wednesday, April 16, 2025. With no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Norman, Secretary

EXHIBIT A: Adult & Junior Tournament Sanction APPROVALS

Adult Tournament Sanctions Approved in Closed Session								
Date	Level	Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Courts	Limit
March 15-16	6	NTRP 18+ 3.0-4.5	MS, MD, WS, WD	Bay Area Wheelchair Tennis Association	RL Scott	San Jose	7	16
March 29-30	6	NTRP 18+ 3.0-4.5	MS, MD, WS, WD	Bay Area Wheelchair Tennis Association	RL Scott	San Jose	7	16
April 12	7	NTRP 18+ 3.0, 4.0, 5.0	WS, WD	Mission Hills Racquet and Swim Club	Carmen Pham	Fremont	12	8
April 12	7	NTRP 18+ 3.0 - 4.0	MS, WS	Sequoia Tennis	Alistair Jeffs	Redwood City	6	8
April 12	7	NTRP 18+ 2.5-4.5	MS, MD, WS, WD	Sierra Sport and Racquet Club	Stavro Sophocleous	Fresno	10	16
April 13	7	NTRP 18+ 2.5, 3.5, 4.5	WS, WD	Mission Hills Racquet and Swim Club	Carmen Pham	Fremont	12	8
April 13	7	NTRP 18+ 2.5-4.5	MS, MD, WS, WD	Sierra Sport and Racquet Club	Stavro Sophocleous	Fresno	10	16
April 26-27	6	NTRP 18+ 3.0-4.5	MS, MD, WS, WD	Bay Area Wheelchair Tennis Association	RL Scott	San Jose	7	16
May 3	7	NTRP 18+ 3.0, 4.0, 5.0	WS, WD	Seascape Sports Club	Rick Kepler	Aptos	12	8
May 4	7	NTRP 18+ 2.5, 3.5, 4.5	WS, WD	Seascape Sports Club	Rick Kepler	Aptos	12	8
May 17	7	NTRP 18+ 2.5-5.5	MS, WS	Arora Tennis & Fitness	Akshay Arora	Livermore	7	16
May 24-25	6	NTRP 18+ 3.0-4.5	MS, MD, WS, WD	Bay Area Wheelchair Tennis Association	RL Scott	San Jose	7	16
June 14	7	NTRP 18+ 3.0 - 4.0	MS, WS	Sequoia Tennis	Alistair Jeffs	Redwood City	6	8
July 6	7	NTRP 18+ 2.5-5.5	MS, WS	Arora Tennis & Fitness	Akshay Arora	Livermore	7	16
September 26-28	5	Open	MS, WS, MD, WD, MX	Modesto Fitness & Racquet Club; A Brenda Athletic Club	Brian Heiser	Modesto	9+7	64
September 26-28	6	Age Group 45+, 55+, 65+	MS, WS, MD, WD	Modesto Fitness & Racquet Club; A Brenda Athletic Club	Brian Heiser	Modesto	9+7	32
September 26-28	TBD	Wheelchair A, B, C, D	MS, WS, MD, WD	Modesto Fitness & Racquet Club; A Brenda Athletic Club	Brian Heiser	Modesto	9+7	16
October 25-26	6	NTRP 18+ 3.0 - 4.0	MS, WS	Sequoia Tennis	Alistair Jeffs	Redwood City	6	16

Junior Tournament Sanctions Approved in Closed Session								
Date	Level	Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Courts	Limit
August 16-17	Level 6	BG12-14	Singles	Marin Tennis Club	Anton Stryhas	San Rafael	4-6	16
May 10	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
March 30	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
May 4	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
June 15; 29	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
July 6; 13; 27	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8

Junior Tournament Sanctions Approved in Closed Session								
Date	Level	Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Courts	Limit
August 17; 31	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
September 14; 28	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
October 12; 26	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
November 9; 23	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
December 21; 28	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Equal Chance Foundation	Gulnara Fattakhedinova	Sunnyvale	6	8
April 12-3	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Del Rio Country Club	Biran Heiser	Modesto	7	8
October 18-19	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Del Rio Country Club	Biran Heiser	Modesto	7	8
April 5; 20	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Sierra Sports & Racquet Club	Stavro Sophocleous	Fresno	10	16
May 4; 18	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Sierra Sports & Racquet Club	Stavro Sophocleous	Fresno	10	16
June 1; 15	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Sierra Sports & Racquet Club	Stavro Sophocleous	Fresno	10	16
April 26-27	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Sierra Sports & Racquet Club	Stavro Sophocleous	Fresno	10	16
May 10-11; 24-25	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Sierra Sports & Racquet Club	Stavro Sophocleous	Fresno	10	16
June 7-8; 21-22	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Sierra Sports & Racquet Club	Stavro Sophocleous	Fresno	10	16
April 6	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Meadowbrook Swim and Tennis Club	Kim Grant	Seaside	8	8
May 18	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Meadowbrook Swim and Tennis Club	Kim Grant	Seaside	8	8
June 1; 7; 15; 21	Level 7	BG12-18	Singles	Meadowbrook Swim and Tennis Club	Kim Grant	Seaside	8	8
May 3-4	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Meadowbrook Swim and Tennis Club	Kim Grant	Seaside	8	8
June 28-29	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Meadowbrook Swim and Tennis Club	Kim Grant	Seaside	8	8
July 19-20	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Meadowbrook Swim and Tennis Club	Kim Grant	Seaside	8	8
April 12-13	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Rollingwood YMCA	Matt Brunner	Fair Oaks	10	16
May 31-June 1	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Rollingwood YMCA	Matt Brunner	Fair Oaks	10	16
June 12-13	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Rollingwood YMCA	Matt Brunner	Fair Oaks	10	16
July 12-13	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Rollingwood YMCA	Matt Brunner	Fair Oaks	10	16
August 30-31	Level 6	BG12-18	Singles	Rollingwood YMCA	Matt Brunner	Fair Oaks	10	16

Junior Tournament Sanctions Approved by Executive Committee and Reported to Board								
Date	Level	Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Courts	Limit
February 15	Level 7	BG14	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
February 16	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Cudny Tennis Academy	Enny Cudny	Fremont	5	8
February 22	Level 7	B14-18	Doubles	Crossover Tennis	Jana Klein & Lance Johnson	San Francisco	6	12
February 22	Level 7	BG12	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
February 22-23	Level 6	BG12-14	Singles	Cudny Tennis Academy	Enny Cudny	San Jose	8	12

Junior Tournament Sanctions Approved by Executive Committee and Reported to Board								
Date	Level	Divisions	Events	Organizer	Director	Location	Courts	Limit
March 1	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Cudny Tennis Academy	Enny Cudny	Fremont	5	8
March 8	Level 7	BG1	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
March 9	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Cudny Tennis Academy	Enny Cudny	Fremont	5	8
March 22	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Cudny Tennis Academy	Enny Cudny	Fremont	5	8
March 22	Level 7	BG14	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
March 23	Level 7	BG14	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
March 29-30	Level 6	BG12-14	Singles	Cudny Tennis Academy	Enny Cudny	San Jose	8	12
April 12	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
April 13	Level 7	BG16	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
April 19-20	Level 6	BG12-14	Singles	Marin Tennis Club	Anton Stryhas	San Rafael	4-6	8
April 24	Level 7	BG16	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
April 26	Level 7	BG12-14	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8
April 27	Level 7	BG16	Singles	Bay Club South San Francisco	Jason Thomas	Daly City	8	8

This document contains all committee recommendations made (or not included) since the previous board meeting on January 15, 2024.

Adult Tournament Committee

- 1. NTRP Tournament Level Designation.** Approved at a meeting held on January 22, 2025, by a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the following NTRP 18+ tournaments be designated as Tournament of the Year for 2025 September 20-21 - NTRP 18+ (Placer CTA)

Rationale: The selection was made based on the criteria with the tournaments meeting the criteria being considered first. The Committee considered geographic distribution, however, due to a limited number of tournaments held in the previous year that would meet the criteria, the Committee decided to designate more tournaments in the Sacramento area that meet the criteria to give players more opportunities to play in a Level 4 and Level 5 tournament to work on their ranking. This deviates from the previously approved criteria that permits one Tournament of the Year tournament and one Tournament of the Year in each region. At the time the tournaments were reviewed for Level 4 and Level 5 designations, there were no tournaments that applied in other areas that met the criteria to be designated a Level 4 or a Level 5 tournament.

- 2. Cancellation of Adult Tournaments.** Approved at a meeting held on January 22, 2025, by a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Regulation 25 is amended to read as follows (underlined language is proposed to be added; stricken through language is proposed to be deleted).

25. Cancellation of Tournaments. ~~The Tournament Committee shall not make the decision to cancel all matches for the remainder of the day until at least 12 Noon of the day in question, or the remainder of the tournament until at least 12 Noon of the last scheduled day of play.~~

a. Authorization by Staff to Cancel Tournament. Notwithstanding subparagraphs b. and c. below, USTA NorCal staff may, upon the request by the Tournament Committee, and when good cause is shown, authorize:

- The cancellation of a tournament; or
- The cancellation of one or more days of play, one or more days before the start date of the tournament.

b. Level 7 Tournaments. The Tournament Committee may make the decision to cancel all matches in an event or the entire tournament, no more than 24 hours prior to the start of the tournament. The Tournament Committee is responsible for notifying all registrants about the cancellation and processing refunds per the refund guidelines.

c. Level 6, 5, and 4 Tournaments. The Tournament Committee will not make the decision to cancel all matches for the remainder of the day until at least 12 Noon of the day in question, or the remainder of the tournament until at least 12 Noon of the last scheduled day of play.

Rationale: There are situations where a cancellation of the tournament is advisable before the tournament begins to assure player safety and to prevent them from unnecessary costs. Additionally, tournament directors may incur unnecessary expenses for court rental if not canceled in a timely manner. This change to the regulation is also consistent with the regulation found in the NorCal Junior Tournament Regulations

- 3. Adding Information to Tournament Webpages.** Approved at a meeting held on January 22, 2025, by a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That effective immediately, USTA NorCal staff will be adding the following information to all tournament pages

1. New Tournament Players

Are you new to USTA Adult tournaments? If this is your first time playing a USTA Adult Tournament, please reach out to Joanna Broda-Schunck, the Adult Tournaments Specialist at jbroda-schunck@norcal.usta.com with any questions or concerns you may have prior to your registration!

2. If you would like to receive the Adult Tournament Weekly Reminder about upcoming events, please sign up [here](#). The email contains a list of tournaments that will close their registration within the following two weeks.
3. After the tournament you will receive a message to fill out a survey – please take the time to answer it. We review the responses and reach out to tournament directors to deliver best quality events. We also use the survey results to designate Level 4 and Level 5 tournaments for next year.
4. If during the tournament you have encountered an amazing competitor, or a fellow player exhibited great sportsmanship – use the forms below to nominate them for 2025 Adult Tournament Awards
[Outstanding Competitor of the Year](#)
[Sportsmanship Award](#)
5. Learn the [USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Regulations](#)

Rationale: The information added to all tournament pages, aims to help new players learn about adult tournaments. It also encourages responding to the survey, aiming at increasing the response rate. It also gives players access to the forms to nominate players for Adult Competition Awards. The information will be added to the same message box where the waiver information is already added.

JTT/Local Play Committee

- 1. No Safe Play Captain Present for a Team Match.** Approved at a meeting held on February 6, 2025, by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation IV.B. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

IV. USTA NORCAL JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS COACH ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS

Players who meet the eligibility requirement for NorCal JTT are not guaranteed placement onto a team.

A. Safe Play. [unchanged]

B. Badge Rules. Team Captains and designated Co-Captains will be issued a credential badge with their headshot, team name and/or program, and Safe Play expiration date to use during the season.

1. Team Captain/Co-Captain Verification. A physical or digital badge must be presented to turn in a lineup and/or coach a match.

2. ~~If a physical badge is not available, a Team Captain or Co-Captain can display their name on the area's Captain Contact List and/or Safe Play Provider Search with a matching ~~ID~~ government-issued form of identification.~~

3. ~~Team Default.~~ If a Team Captain or Co-Captain ~~an unaffiliated person with the team~~ doesn't provide proof in the #1 ~~or #2 methods~~ above, ~~the match will not begin and the affected team without their verification badge/Safe Play approval will be defaulted, except as set forth in #3 below.~~

3. Opposing Captain May Opt to Facilitate Match for Both Teams. If for any reason a verified Team Captain or Co-Captain is not able to attend a Team Match, the opposing Captain may agree to facilitate the match for both teams and scores will stand. In such an event, Captains will decide beforehand the grounds upon which teams will be coached (i.e. the provider is neutral, or the opposing team goes without coaching). Prior to the match, a Safe Play approved Captain who cannot attend the Team Match will send their lineup before sending their team to the Team Match. If the opposing Captain declines to facilitate the team match, it will result in a default for the Team without a Safe Play approved Captain/Co-Captain.

C. Captain Required. [unchanged]

D. Travel Only Teams. [unchanged]

E. Certificate of Insurance. - Travel Leagues. [unchanged]

F. Co-Captains. [unchanged]

Rationale: The following proposal addresses what happens if a designated Team Captain is not able to attend a Team Match.

- 2. Clarifying Age Exceptions for Players.** Approved at a meeting held on February 6, 2025, by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation V.B.2. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

V. USTA NORCAL JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

B. Age Eligibility.

2. Maximum Age. A player may register for a division if the player meets the age requirement as of the official start date of the Travel League, and provided that any player who is or who will turn 18 or older during the season must be Safe Play approved. Players who age out before the Travel League season begins, may be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to allow that particular player to join a team. has not exceeded the maximum age by the last day on which the Travel League is scheduled to end, except that JTT staff can make age exceptions on a case-by-case basis to allow that particular player to join a team.

Rationale: This proposal clarifies when a player is eligible to play on their team based on age:

- As there are players who age out of season at various points of the season and we do make age exceptions, changing the age requirement to be at the start of the season would allow more players to participate and to be more transparent.
- This change would also allow less work on the backend of TennisLink.

3. **Allowing Players Playing On More than One Team.** Approved at a meeting held on February 6, 2025, by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation VI.C.3. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

VI. PLAYER REGISTRATION AND TEAM ROSTER REQUIREMENTS

- C. **A Player May Be Rostered on More Than One Team.** ~~A player may not be on the Team Roster of more than one team during a Team Tournament.~~ A player may be on the Team Roster of more than one team during a Travel League Season as long as they are in separate flights for the same division (i.e. 12U Green). If a player is rostered on more than one team that qualifies for a 1st/2nd Playoff and/or Championship in the same division, the player must choose one team to represent at the Playoff and/or Championship. Players may participate in Playoffs and/or Championships should they qualify in different divisions (i.e. 12U Green and 14U Yellow).

Rationale: This proposal updates when players are allowed to play on multiple teams:

- Players can play on more than one team as long as they are in separate flights for the same division (i.e. 12U Green). If both teams within the same age division advance to the 1st/2nd playoff round, they can only play on one team.
 - Players will also be allowed to participate in postseason play on more than one team if its separate age divisions (i.e. 12U Yellow and 14U Yellow).
4. **Doubles Strength of Order, Match Limits, Coaching Change.** Approved at a meeting held on February 6, 2025, by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation IX.D., E., and G. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

IX. TEAM MATCH REGULATIONS

A. **Team Match Formats.** [unchanged]

B. **Order of Play** [unchanged]

C. **Start Times and Lateness** [unchanged]

D. **Team Match Line-Ups.**

1. **Line-Up Must Be Based on Strength.** ~~A Team Captain is required to set their line up of players in order of strength. Team~~ Captains are expected to make a good faith effort to organize their lineup based on strength. similar level based doubles teams. Singles will be played in order of strength, #1-4, while doubles will be played in reverse order of strength, if possible. The less experienced doubles teams will compete in the earlier rounds; the stronger teams will compete in the later rounds. This is a cooperative process undertaken by both Team Captains to promote players and teams of similar levels playing each other.

2. **Line-Up Exchange.** [unchanged]

3. **Match Limits.** ~~A player can only play in three total matches in a Team Match. These matches can be either: one singles and two doubles matches or three doubles matches. If a player plays in more than the allotted number of matches, their additional match played will be recorded as a default be defaulted. Doubles partners can play together for a max of only two doubles matches together twice. Two players can only play together as a doubles team twice during a three-court format Team Match. If the same doubles team plays together for more than two or more matches in a two-court format,~~ the additional matches will be recorded as defaults be defaulted.

4. **Substitutions.** [unchanged]

E. **Match Formats.** Required match formats are published in the separate NorCal JTT rules and guidelines for each of the USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Competitions and incorporated by reference to the UJTTR and attached as Appendix A. A match format may be modified to protect the health and safety of the players provided that if this takes place in a Travel League regular season Team Match, the modified match format is agreed to by both Team Captains.

F. **Recording Scores; Scorecards.** [unchanged]

G. **Coaching.** The Team Captain (or the designated Co-Captain) is the person designated as the coach for the Team Match. No other person may coach during a Team Match.

Coaching is permitted only during the changeovers and must cease at the end of the 90-second changeover; however, no coaching is permitted during the first changeover tiebreaker of any set when the score is 1-0. A Captain is not allowed to stay on court after the changeover.

A Team Captain is not permitted to act in the role as a Court Monitor.

Rationale: This proposal addresses setting a lineup for doubles strength, match limits, and coaching:

- Based on feedback from captains, there needs to be a more straightforward process to follow when forming doubles lineups. When teams don't set their doubles lineups by level it will result in uneven matches.
- Match Limits have been clarified; a player can play up to one singles match and two doubles matches or no single matches and only three doubles. Doubles players will not be allowed to play doubles together twice anymore due to potential stacking issues.
- Coaching is now allowed after the first game and during all 90 second changeovers. This will allow more opportunities for captains to coach, especially in shorter match formats (i.e. 20 minute matches).

5. Determining League Winners/Playoff Positions Update. Approved at a meeting held on February 6, 2025, by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

RESOLVED: That, effective immediately, USTA NorCal Junior Team Tennis Regulation IX.L. is hereby amended as set forth below (stricken-through language is proposed to be deleted; underlined language is proposed to be added):

IX. TEAM MATCH REGULATIONS

L. Determining All Team Match Winners and Travel League Standings; Qualifications for Championship and Playoff Matches

1. Travel League Season.

a. Determining Winner of Team Match. [unchanged]

b. Determining Winner of Travel League Season. League standings will be based on a team's win/loss/tie record. In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken in successive steps as follows:

i. Head-to-head match result between the tied teams;

ii. Among the teams that remain tied, the winner of the most individual matches for the whole season;

iii. Head to head match results between the tied teams;

iv. Among the teams that remain tied, the winner of the most individual games won for the whole season;

v. Head to head match results between the tied teams.

2. Determining Winner of a Travel League Season Playoff and Championship Matches.
[unchanged]

~~**3. Determining Winner of a Team Tournament Match.** The team that wins the most overall individual matches wins the Team Match. When a tiebreak is played, the tiebreak counts as one game. If there is a tie, the winner will be determined by total games won for that team match. If the individual games won is tied, the Captains of each tied team shall designate two players from their team to play a doubles 10-Point Match Tiebreak to determine the winner.~~

Rationale: The proposal updates the criteria to determine winners for a league season or for playoff positions when teams are tied with the same win-loss-tie record

- If there is a tie between teams who have the same win-loss-tie record or total games won throughout the season, the winner will be determined by head-to-head results
- Removing **Winner of a Team Tournament** rule as it pertains to same gender team tournaments where individual matches won determine the team winner and not total games won as the criteria.