



USTA NORTH CAROLINA

2021 USTA NATIONAL JUNIOR TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

The recent confirmation of the 2021 National Junior Tournament Structure will greatly impact tournament participation at all levels.

OCTOBER 23, 2019

USTA North Carolina Members and Constituents,

USTA North Carolina is using this letter to notify you that there will be some changes ahead in the USTA Junior Tournament Structure that will become effective on a national scope January, 2021. From USTA National Executive Director, Gordon Smith:

"I'm pleased to share with you some exciting news regarding important changes to our Junior Competitive Structure. These changes, now approved by the USTA's Junior Competition Committee, were made after reviewing considerable research and data and promise to re-shape and revitalize junior competition throughout the U.S.

For the first time, competitive junior events throughout each of the USTA's 17 sections will have a standardized structure and ranking system, allowing for more players to compete more easily across sections and providing a consistent distribution of points at every event, regardless of where it is held. There will be seven levels of events, ranging from Level 7 (Intermediate) through Level 1 (National Championships), as well as an increased number of "open" events, providing more playing opportunities for juniors. Another exciting part of this plan is the new "Net Generation Circuit," a series of non-ranking events where the emphasis will be on age-appropriate competition, skills development and fun."

The USTA NORTH CAROLINA Player Development and Tournament staff will be posting updates that will be affecting our slate of North Carolina events. These changes, recently approved by USTA NORTH CAROLINA's Junior Tournament and Sanction and Schedule Committees as well as the USTA NORTH CAROLINA Board of Directors, reflect the 2021 national tournament structure. These rules and formats will be in effect for USTA NORTH CAROLINA beginning January 2020:

- NC Level 1: 12U -18U events, all yellow ball, 10U green events only;
- Tar Heel Qualifier participation not required to qualify for Southern Closed events
- NC Level 2/STA L3: STA L3 rules and regulations will be followed
- NC Level 3 singles: 16-player draws,, 12U-18U yellow ball, 10U green ball
- NC Level 3 Doubles-only Tournaments: 16-draw brackets, 12U-18U yellow ball, potential 1-day formats, no standing required

- NC Level 4: 16-player draws, 12U-18U yellow ball, 10U green ball, traditional 2-day format
- NC Level 5: All One-day events, 12U-18U yellow ball, 10U green ball, 8-player draws, reverse selections, tournaments may be added throughout the year
- NC Level 6: These half-day non-ranked events will include a variety of fun and family-friendly team-centered formats throughout the state, and will include age and skill appropriate activities within the Net Generation Circuit.

Other Important Notes for 2020:

- All of the NC tournament formats will continue to utilize the current USTA NORTH CAROLINA Points Table through 2020.
- Late Entries will not be accepted after posted registration deadline in any NC tournament (exception, current STAL3)
- Standings will be utilized for selections only in NC L1, L3, L4 events, but are not required for participation.
- NC L5 events will select non-ranked players over players with standings if space is limited.
- Standings will continue to be run twice monthly
- Any players under 11 years of age must be "Mission Complete" within the Youth Tennis Progression to be eligible for any 12U yellow ball event.
- The only 10U tournament participation will be in Green Level 1, and progression credit will be earned in 10U events played.

The USTA NORTH CAROLINA Player Development and Tournament Staff will be offering many educational opportunities and will be posting some options at nctennis.com very shortly. Look for webinar registrations in appropriate tabs, i.e. Parent Resources, Tournament Director's, Net Generation pages. We also welcome you to contact us at either of the following emails:

Teresa Boylan— teresa@nctennis.com

Joanna Scott— joanna@nctennis.com

Abby DeBerry— abby@nctennis.com

We thank you for all you do for your children! We want them to have a great experience and play throughout their lifetime! Tennis is for fun, fitness and friends and can provide a plethora of life lessons along the way. We are here to help you navigate the pathway!

Sincerely,

Kelly Gaines, Executive Director
USTA North Carolina