

2008 LOUISIANA JUNIOR RANKING REGULATIONS, Amended **3/30/08**

Note: Changes are underlined, bold, and highlighted.

- 1
 - A Only USTA members in good standing at the close of the ranking year shall be considered for a ranking.
 - B Only players who have established a legal residency in the state of Louisiana, hold a current USTA membership card assigned to Louisiana, and are citizens of the United States or meet the resident alien requirements for a USTA National ranking are eligible to participate in any Louisiana closed tournament including Louisiana Junior qualifying. Resident alien requirements include resident aliens who have resided in the United States continuously for more than one year and are members of families of persons or the diplomatic or consular corps. In the case of a junior player, legal residency is that of the parents.
 - a Players who meet any of the following criteria may register their intent to participate in Louisiana closed tournaments and/or receive a ranking in the state of Louisiana in which their parents are legal residents;
 - b juniors going to school, college outside the state where their parents reside;
 - c junior who spend time with joint custody parents;
 - d players who live in more than one location during the year; and
 - e family members of the military.
2. The age eligibility and Ranking Year for all divisions correspond the dates adopted by the USTA. All rankings will cover matches played from January 1 through December 31.
3. Consistent with USTA and the Southern Section, the LTA has adopted a Points per Round Ranking System with Bonus Points earned at Louisiana sanctioned junior tournaments for wins over top 100 players. Please visit the junior page on the LTA web site (louisianatennis.com) for specifics. Points obtained from play across the Southern section will be calculated into Louisiana rankings. Additionally, points a player accrues in one higher age division will also be reflected in the player's lower age division ranking. The points earned in the higher age division will not be taken into account in the tournament selection process for lower age division tournaments.
4. Per rule #9, participation in the Supernationals, USTA Zone Team Championships or National Opens can be used to meet the tournament requirements. Points earned in those tournaments (Supernationals, USTA Zone Team Championships or National Opens) ~~HELD OUTSIDE LOUISIANA~~ will **NOT** be considered for a Louisiana ranking. Head to head play between two Louisiana players in any out-of-state event or any National/Sectional event held in Louisiana will only be considered for endorsement into Southern and/or selection for **Southern Junior Cup**. Participation in Supernationals, Zonals, National Opens and STA Bullfrog Designated Tournaments HELD IN **AND OUTSIDE** OF LOUISIANA will generate points for a Louisiana ranking.
5. Rankings shall be based on the Points per Round Ranking System. Final rankings will be based on each player's best six tournament results.
6. Only the following scoring systems will be considered for ranking:
 - A Best two of three sets
 - B Match Tiebreak (10 points) in lieu of the third set
 - C No Ad Scoring, best two out of three sets or No Ad Scoring with a 10-pt Match Tiebreak in lieu of the third set.
- 7 Only play in sanctioned tournaments, including sanctioned consolation rounds, will be considered. All unexcused defaults at any point in a tournament, including first round "no shows," will result in loss of credit for that tournament. In any default situation, the player advancing will receive the points per round but NOT the bonus points. Withdrawal of any event after the draw has been published will result in the loss of entry fee for the players.

A junior player defaulting for any reason except injury/illness from the main draw of a state championship or a state qualifier is ineligible to play the consolation draw. The tournament head referee will be responsible in making such determination.
- 8 Junior Ranking Requirements (B10, G10)
 - A Singles – Players must play in three Louisiana sanctioned tournaments, two of which must be designated **and/or Level 3 Louisiana tournaments** and one other sanctioned tournament. All players meeting these requirements will be ranked alphabetically.
 - B Doubles - will be ranked on the basis of records available from sanctioned tournaments. All players will be ranked alphabetically.
- 9 Junior Ranking Requirements (B12-18, G12-18)
 - A Singles - Must play in three (3) Louisiana sanctioned tournaments, two of which must be from the following "designated tournaments" **and/or Level 3 Louisiana tournaments**: **Franco's Junior State Closed Winter Warm-Up Championships, LA State Junior Open Championships (Shreveport), Louisiana State Closed Junior Qualifying (Lafayette), Pelican State Open Junior Championships (Alexandria), Bogage Junior State Open Championships (Baton Rouge), Louisiana Claycourt State Jr Open Championships (New Orleans) LA. Spring Championships, YMCA Junior Championships, the "Magnolia Classic" Junior Louisiana Championships** and one other sanctioned tournament. Playing in three of the

designated tournaments may also satisfy the requirement. Players participating in Super Nationals, Open Nationals or Zonals must play in two designated tournaments, but may substitute one Super National or Open National or zonal in his/her age division for each of the two other Louisiana sanctioned tournaments required for ranking. This substitution is a one-for-one substitution of the national tournament for the state tournament. ~~It shall also be the player's responsibility to report in writing to the LTA his/her participation in the national tournament intended to be a substitute for the state tournament for purposes of meeting state ranking requirements.~~ Players are urged to timely check the tentative rankings published in December each year to ascertain their ranking status.

- B** Doubles - must play two sanctioned tournaments, at least one of which are those listed in the designated event. ~~The Louisiana Doubles Tournament will count as a designated event.~~
- C** Waivers – No waivers will be given for junior designated tournaments with the exception of the following:
- a** A tournament eligible individual already attending college given a written verification from his/her college coach.
 - b** Any player suffering a death in his/her immediate family at any point during the duration of the event.
- All waiver requests are to be submitted in writing to the LTA to the attention of the chairman of the Junior Tennis Council.

c. To qualify for the Southern Closed, a junior player must play the Louisiana State Junior Qualifying Tournament. The only exception to this rule is that a player may be exempt only when his/her spring semester has not concluded at the time Qualifying commences. This does not mean a waiver would be granted for summer school, or any make-up course work that was required due to a player's failure to complete the course work during the regularly scheduled spring semester.

In the event of such waiver, which can only be granted by a vote of the Junior Tennis Council, the player would not be endorsed in the Louisiana state's quota; rather, the player would be placed at the bottom of the state's alternates list. The player could be picked up in the STA quota if the section selects him/her.

The request to the JTC for a waiver must be supported by documentary proof from the player's school that he/she will still be in session past the date Qualifying commences. Waivers must be received prior to the start of Qualifying.

- D** Standings – are posted on the LTA web site (louisianatennis.com) throughout the year. These are standings, not rankings. Any corrections to player records must be submitted to the LTA by fax, E-mail or written letter. No phone calls will be accepted.
- E** Combined Rankings - National, Sectional and State Regulations: Junior national, sectional and state regulations will be based on singles and doubles ranking points. The Louisiana Tennis Association will follow the National and STA guidelines for combined rankings. Rankings will be calculated by taking 100% of the singles points of a player's best six tournaments plus 15% of the player's doubles points of the player's best six doubles events. These do not have to be the same six tournaments.
- F** SOUTHERN CLOSED – To qualify for the Southern Closed; a junior player must play the Louisiana State Closed Junior Qualifying tournament. For waivers, see "C" above.
- a** The four semi-finalists in the main draw and the winner (5th) and the runner-up (6th) of the consolation draw are automatically selected. Selection of the remaining eligible players for LA's quota will be based primarily on a player's tournament record (national, sectional, and state) **for the previous 12 months** against other Louisiana players in the age division under consideration. Other factors such as player exposure (number of matches and events played), head-to-head matches, the caliber of wins and the player's performance at the LA Qualifier may also be considered. *Current Southern Standings will also be considered.* Those players not endorsed, but who have submitted applications for endorsement, shall be identified as alternates.
 - b** Entry to the Southern Closed is through Tennis Link at www.usta.com It is the players' responsibility to timely enter ONLINE for the Southern Closed. However, only those players who have timely entered the Southern Closed online and been endorsed by Louisiana as part of its quota or otherwise accepted into the draw as alternates, will be allowed to compete in the Southern Closed. Players are urged to register early so as to allow for LA's quota to be filled and alternates moved up accordingly. It is the player's responsibility to timely enter online as well as thereafter inquire as to whether he or she has been endorsed for the Southern Closed or is accepted into the draw as an alternate. Endorsement lists will be posted on the LTA web site. No notification will be given to those players endorsed, as it is each player's responsibility to ascertain their status.
- c** Guidelines for Endorsement Committee:
- 1** The Junior Tennis Council Chairman shall appoint a committee comprised of four (4) individuals who shall determine those players to be endorsed plus any alternates. This committee shall, as practicable as possible, be comprised on individuals from various parts of LA.
 - a** The JTC Chairman shall also appoint one alternate to serve on the committee. This alternate will serve as a voting member only in those instances in which one of the committee members develops a conflict in the endorsement decision concerning a specific players(s).
 - b** If, at any time during the endorsement process, a player under consideration is related to or is a student of one of the committee members, then that member shall immediately so advise the committee. That committee

member shall be prohibited from any involvement in the deliberations/decision regarding that player. The alternate identified above shall then serve in the place of the excused committee member for the decision concerning the player in question.

- 2 A majority of the four members shall determine whether a player is to be endorsed. In the event the four-committee members are evenly split as to a specific player, the District Selector shall then cast the deciding vote.
 - 3 A record shall be kept of the committee's decision-making process. One member of the committee shall be designated by the JTC Chairman as the "Contact Person" responsible for responding to all inquiries concerning the endorsement process and the committee's decision. All inquires shall be directed to the "Contact Person", and committee members shall not disclose or discuss the committee's decisions with any non-committee individual.
- G** Any Louisiana player that by May 1st of the current year is in the top 24 on the USTA National Seeding Selection List will automatically be endorsed into Southern in his/her age division; allowing such player the flexibility to participate in any upper age division at the Louisiana Jr. Closed Qualifying tournament and if qualifying, (to qualify, this player will have to develop a good enough win-loss record at qualifying), this player may be endorsed into Southern in that age division giving him/her the choice of which Southern event to participate.
- 10** Southern Junior Cup criteria for selection will be as follows:
- A** The number of players as set forth by the USTA Southern Section will be chosen from each respective age and gender division with the highest ranking as listed in the USTA's National Standing (limited to the top 100 players), and thereafter those with the highest standing the USTA Southern rankings. The list of players in the top 100 in the Nation and the Southern Section standings will be based upon the most recent list published to the day set for selection by the Council.
 - B** Other factors for selection to the Southern Junior Cup which will also be considered by the Council will be head-to-head matches, exposure, and sportsmanship. Also, all residency requirements as set forth in the LTA Junior Ranking Regulations will be applicable.
 - C** A quorum of the Junior Tennis Council will handle all aspects of selection.
 - D** Situations that may arise which are not contemplated by these rules shall be addressed and decided by the Junior Tennis Council, by majority vote after a quorum is present.
- 11** Tentative rankings *will be posted on the LTA website, www.louisianatennis.com, in mid December.* Appeals of tentative rankings, accompanied by complete and accurate records, must be made in writing to the Louisiana Tennis Association office, "Attention Ranking Chairman" by the deadline date posted on the web site. Misrepresentation or omission of material facts is sufficient cause to deny protest. Final rankings will be published *on the web site in January and included in the LTA yearbook.*

Please check the junior page at www.louisianatennis.com, Junior Ranking Regulations, for updates/changes on a regular basis.