



2006 USTA JR. TEAM TENNIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS HANDBOOK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	GENERAL MISSION / GOALS	2
2.	NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SITES AND DATES	2
3.	FORMAT OF PLAY	2 - 3
	Team Structure	
	Order of Play	
	Levels of Play	
4.	RULES, REGULATIONS, SCORING AND COACHING	3 - 4
	Rules and Regulations	
	Scoring	
	Coaching	
	Flight Set Up	
	Umpires	
	Rain Schedule	
	Awards	
	Entry Fees	
5.	Player and Tournament Details	4 - 5
	Player Gift	
	Player Party	
	Player Travel Stipend	
	Player Gift Exchange	
	Photos	
	Website	
	Tournament Conference Calls	

Note:

This handbook is meant as an abbreviated description of the 2006 USTA Jr. Team Tennis Rules and Regulations and an informational source for the 2006 National Championships. Please consult your USTA Section Coordinator or the National USTA Jr. Team Tennis National Manager for all eligibility requirements.

General Mission / Goals

In USTA Jr. Team Tennis, the team concept emphasizes fun, fitness, and friends. The focus in this kind of play is enjoying the exhilaration of exercise and refining the skills that make tennis fun for players of all ages and levels of competition.

All participants get to play on a team, practice with friends, and play matches together. All participants have the opportunity to advance to district, section, and national competition. Players in the Intermediate and Advanced Divisions may qualify for the National Championships, the USTA National event for USTA Jr. Team Tennis, typically held in November.

The Championships introduce young players to national competition in which competitive stress is minimized and competitive learning opportunities are maximized. The emphasis is on the fun aspect of tennis and team spirit. The Championship Events are also designed to: (1) provide a competitive opportunity for maximizing each player's physical and emotional development, (2) promote the spirit of competition and camaraderie which will enhance and strengthen a player's self-esteem (3) provide a national competition climate that focuses more on personal development and less on competitive outcomes.

2006 USTA JR. TEAM TENNIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SITES AND DATES

(PLAYERS FROM THE INTERMEDIATE - NTRP 3.0 AND BELOW - LEVEL OF PLAY)

October 19-22, 2006--Play begins Friday, October 20 (approximately 8:00 am). *Dates and time are tentative.*

Tennis Facilities:

Hilton El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort
10000 N. Oracle Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85704
(520) 544-5000
www.hiltonelconquistador.com

El Conquistador Country Club
10555 N. La Canada Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85737
(520) 544-1800

Host Hotel:

Hilton El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort
10000 N. Oracle Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85704
(520) 544-5000
www.hiltonelconquistador.com

(PLAYERS FROM THE ADVANCED – NTRP 3.5 AND ABOVE - LEVEL OF PLAY)

October 27-30, 2006--Play begins Friday, October 27 (approximately 3:30 pm).

Tennis Facility:

Barnes Tennis Center
4490 W. Point Loma Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92107
(619) 221-9000
www.barnestenniscenter.com

Host Hotel:

Doubletree Hotel San Diego Mission Valley
7450 Hazard Center Drive
San Diego, CA 92108
(619) 297-5466
<http://www.doubletree.com/en/dt/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=SDGO-DT>

FORMAT OF PLAY

Team Structure

National Championships

- The National Championships will host a maximum of one (1) team per Section in the following divisions:
14 & Under, and 18 & Under, -Intermediate and Advanced Divisions
- Each team must have a minimum of three (3) boys and three (3) girls who must participate in each and every individual team match. (Only one girl and one boy may "double up" for each individual team match. Match of said doubling is at the discretion of the tournament director.) Teams that arrive to the event without the minimum number of participants must default the slot in which they are short a participant.

Order of Play

The order of play shall be at the discretion of the tournament director. Typically, the order is Boys and Girls Doubles, Boys' and Girls' Singles, and then Mixed Doubles.

Participants Level of Play

- USTA Jr. Team Tennis use the NTRP rating system to determine placement of eligible teams/individuals in proper divisions.
- All individual team members must be from the appropriate level of play.
- If a team is found to be out of level, it will continue to play in the championships. However, the team will not be eligible for any awards or medals. If the ineligible team were to win, then the second- and third-place teams will automatically move up to the first- and second-place slots.

RULES, REGULATIONS, SCORING, AND COACHING

Rules and Regulations

- USTA rules and regulations will be enforced during championships.
- All match lineups must be submitted to the tournament desk by the coach/captain at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the match. Penalties will be enforced at the tournament director's discretion. (I.e. Every individual match will start 1 game down for every five (5) minutes the line up is late.)

Scoring

All scoring formats are determined by the USTA National Office but may be altered at the tournament director's discretion depending on facility size, championship play duration and weather conditions. Please refer to the 2006 USTA Jr. Team Tennis Regulations.

Championship Flight Setup

- Teams will participate in a non-elimination round-robin format with playoff crossovers if applicable.
- Teams will be separated into flights/divisions depending on the size of the championship event.
- The winner of each flight/division will be determined by total games won.
- In the event that the flights are tied, a flight tie-break will be determined as follows:
 - (1) If two teams are tied, head-to-head results.
 - (2) If three or more teams are tied: the least number of sets lost, then the least number of games lost, then, finally, a spin of the racquet.
- **Championship/Playoff Match Tiebreak** – In the event that team scores are tied at the completion of a championship or playoff match, the teams will play a mixed doubles, 10-point match tiebreak to determine the winner of the overall match.

Coaching

All coaches must be 21 years or older.

Teams with more than one coach/captain must designate a “head” coach/captain for the duration of the individual match. The coach/captain may report infractions to the referee, who shall then take prompt and appropriate action. Only the designated coach/captain will be permitted to coach during the coaching period.

The tournament director reserves the right to change or alter the coaching rules of a championships event.

Umpires

There may be certified roving umpires present at all championship sites. Roving umpires may be positioned inside the fenced areas and will interfere with play as little as possible.

Players should be encouraged to play tennis without the need for umpires to be present for matches. In the case of disputed calls and upon the request of the player or coach/captain, a roving umpire may be supplied to oversee the match. The presence of a USTA-certified umpire is important to those players who have not previously been exposed to the umpiring world.

One of the goals of the championships is to teach players to play by *The Code* as they graduate to other competitions and to understand the role and availability of umpires. Their own misbehavior and/or inability to call lines or trust their opponents not only reflects badly on them but deprives their fellow players of a fair match and thereby requires umpiring supervision.

Rain Schedule

In the event of rain, please remain at the tournament site until the tournament staff informs you of the playing schedule. In the event of a long rain delay, it will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee to use an alternative-playing format. Winners will be determined by total games won and commonality among teams.

Cancellation

If the championship, or part of the championships is cancelled due to rain or unforeseen circumstances, the championship will not be rescheduled.

Awards

Championship Winners—Awards will be given to the teams that finish first and second in both the 14’s & 18’s divisions.

USTA Sportsmanship Awards—At the conclusion of the National Championships, a Boy’s and Girl’s USTA Sportsmanship Award will be awarded from each division of play. Coaches from opposing teams recommend a girl and boy for every individual match. Recommendations are tallied and a recipient is awarded.

Championship Entry Fees

- A \$225 team fee payable within the TennisLink Team Tennis system is required to participate in the National Championships.
- A \$250 deposit, per team, within the TennisLink Team Tennis system is required to participate in the National Championships. The deposit will not be charged as long as the team remains at the event throughout the entire event.

Player Gift

All players attending the National Championships will receive a player gift which will be given to the coach for distribution.

Player Party

Two evenings all players and coaches are invited to attend a sponsored player party. Teams will receive complimentary tickets based on players participating. All players attending must be chaperoned. Additional tickets are available for purchase at the tournament desk.

Player Travel Stipend

Each team will receive \$1,000.00 credit to cover the cost of player lodging. In order to receive the stipend, players must stay at the host hotel and must use team reservation form for booking.

Player Gift Exchange

Many teams bring "little" gifts for other teams. They should be inexpensive small tokens. Often the gifts represent their region or state. Examples are – state pins, magnets, key rings, candy, macadamia nuts and leis (Hawaii). These gifts are presented to the opponent before the first match. If you want to participate contact your local or state tourist/convention bureau. They may be able to provide you with small, promotional items. Typically, teams bring approximately 10 gifts per team.

Photos

Team photos will be taken throughout the weekend as well as candid shots. To schedule an appointment, coaches should make an appointment during the registration period on Thursday or Friday.

Website

Be sure to log onto usta.com and click Jr. Team Tennis for stories, photos and the latest tournament results throughout the weekend.

Championship Conference Calls

Conference calls will be conducted with coaches of participating teams to review any and all information regarding to the championships.

The following dates and times have been schedule for the championships conference calls: please dial 1-800-791-2345 enter code 25494# to enter your call at the appropriate time:

USTA Jr. Team Tennis National Championships – Intermediate Division (Tucson, Arizona)

14 & Under Age Division, 6:00 pm EST, September 19, 2006

18 & Under Age Division, 7:00 pm EST, September 19, 2006

Registration: Thursday 4:30 – 5:30 pm (prior to the first day of play) at a location TBD.
Coaches are required to turn in all forms during this time (which include photo release forms, medical release form, and coach contact information and tell us about your team form)

Mandatory Coach's Meeting: Following registration from 6:00 – 6:45 pm
Coaches and co-coaches are required to attend.

USTA Jr. Team Tennis National Championships – Advanced Division (San Diego, California)

14 & Under Age Division, 6:00 pm EST, September 20, 2006

18 & Under Age Division, 7:00 pm EST, September 20, 2006

Registration:

Friday 2:00 – 3:00 pm (on the first day of play) at a location TBD.
Coaches are required to turn in all forms during this time (which include photo release forms, medical release form, and coach contact information and tell us about your team form)

**Mandatory
Coach's Meeting:**

Following registration from 3:30 – 4:30 pm
Coaches and co-coaches are required to attend.