

## 2009 GLOSSARY

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

**Area:** Geographic boundaries within a USTA section. May be interchanged with the terms District, State, CTA, Region, etc.

**Benchmark rated player:** A player, who advanced to championship or was disqualified, by whom other players' NTRP computer ratings are calculated.

**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 championships.

**Championship level:** Any USTA League Tennis Program competition held beyond local league competition or playoffs.

**Coman Tiebreak Procedure:** The same as the present Tiebreak except that ends are changed after the first point, then after every four points, and at the conclusion 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.

**Computer rating:** A rating assigned to Adult and Senior players in 100<sup>th</sup> of a point at year-end 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.

**Division:** Any one of the four National league programs offered and administered by the USTA (USTA League Tennis - Adult, USTA League Tennis - Senior, USTA League Tennis - Mixed Doubles and USTA League Tennis – Super Senior) and any other USTA Area, District or Section sanctioned program identified as part of TennisLink and entered as part of the USTA NTRP Computer Rating System.

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

**Eligibility:** Qualifications 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:** Written formal complaint regarding an alleged violation of a regulation or procedure.

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

**League coordinator:** Person appointed or hired to implement and administer the Program.

**League progression:** Local league team winners have the opportunity to advance through area, sectional and national championships competition.

**League year:** January 1 through December 31.

**Level of play:** NTRP skill levels offered in the Program.

**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 playoff structure may be established to determine a champion.

**Match tiebreak** – First to 10 by a margin of two. (See [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com) – Rules, #27)

**New player:** One who does not have an NTRP computer rating (generated within the last three years).

**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 or senior 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.

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

**Rest period:** A maximum of ten minutes with coaching permitted between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 or emergency. Retirements are entered in TennisLink with the final game count for NTRP calculation purposes (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 (2-6, 6-3, 1-0.)

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

**Self-rating:** An entry rating determined by the new player entering the program in accordance with the National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) Guidelines by the new player completing the on-line player registration.

**Set break:** The two 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 two. (See [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com) – Rules, #27)

**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 or any combination as determined by the local league. **(Championship team match)** Adult leagues - 2 singles, 3 doubles; Adult leagues (2.5 and 5.0 NTRP level) - 1 singles, 2 doubles; Senior leagues - 3 doubles; Mixed Doubles league – 3 doubles; Super Senior leagues – 3 doubles.

**Three match rule:** Each player advancing to national championship competition in the Adult or Senior Division must have reported scores in a minimum of three matches on the advancing team. None of the 3 matches can be defaults received.

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

**Two-match rule:** Each player advancing to any championship competition must have reported scores in a minimum of two local matches on the advancing team.

**USTA section:** One of seventeen defined areas that comprise the USTA.

**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 Program.

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

