



US OPEN OFFICIALS SELECTION GUIDELINES

US Open Selection Committee:

The US Open Selection Committee (“Committee”) is responsible for a full review and the subsequent selection of all United States and International Line Umpire applicants for the US Open. The Committee shall advise the US Open Referee and Chief Umpire on Chair Umpire selections and on pre-tournament assignments of Line Umpires.

Members:

- USTA Director of Officials and Chief Umpire, US Open (currently Richard Kaufman)
- USTA National Chair of Officials (currently Lois Huggins)
- Coordinator(s), USTA Officials Department (currently Anthony Nimmons and Julio Echavarria)
- Assistant US Open Chief Umpire (currently Phyllis Walker)
- USTA Certified Official appointed by US Open Chief Umpire (currently Ernie Mosby)

The general selection process at the US Open:

1. A list of all umpires who timely applied to the US Open is sent to the selection committee with the following additional information included:

- USTA certification
- USTA evaluations
- USTA Trainer/Evaluator feedback
- ITF badge level
- ATP rating average for the previous two years
- ATP rating average for the current year which also shows number of evaluations
- The US Open Chief Umpire rating that was used for assigning umpires at the previous year’s US Open. This rating determines an umpire’s assignment each day based on evaluations from the USTA evaluators, feedback from the chair umpires and previous work record
- Previous US Open evaluations

Prior to the Committee meeting, feedback on Line Umpires from the United States is collected from:

- National Trainer/Evaluators
- Section Chairs
- US Open Chief Umpire Staff

Prior to the Committee meeting, feedback on International Line Umpires is collected from:

- ITF Officiating Department
- Grand Slam Chief Umpires
- Lists from International Federations rating their officials who applied

2. All feedback is sent to the Committee for their review.

3. A chart is created that provides the anticipated number of officials required for each day of the US Open Qualifying Event and Main Draw. This is based on the following information:

- The Match Schedule Plan (MSP) issued by the Referee of the US Open
- The projected number of courts used each day
- The crew configuration needed for the type of matches being played
- Number of spares needed
- Number of Chair Umpires required for all matches

4. The Committee will meet in April/May to make selections for Line Umpires and recommendations for Chair Umpires. Applicants who applied after the application deadline are added to the list of officials not selected to create an “alternates list” should positions become available at a later date.

The selection process for Chair Umpires at the US Open:

Chair Umpires at the US Open (other than the US Open Junior Championships, US Open Champions Invitational and US Open Wheelchair Competition), require an ITF White Badge Chair Umpire Certification or higher. All United States and International Chair Umpire selections for the US Open are determined by:

- Feedback provided to the Referee and Chief Umpire by Grand Slam Supervisors and the Committee
- Tentative selections are made by the US Open Chief Umpire and US Open Referee with final approval by the US Open Referee as per the Grand Slam Rulebook

The selection process for Line Umpire positions at the US Open:

Note: USTA certification levels, from high to low, are Professional Line, National Line, USTA Line, Sectional Umpire, and Provisional Umpire.

1. Officials from the United States who are certified as Professional Line and National Line are generally approved for selection unless one or more of the following reasons apply (listed in no particular order):

- Lack of working assignments in the current year
- Late application
- Officials Code of Conduct violation(s)
- Poor performance based upon evaluations at other professional events
- Previous less-than-satisfactory US Open evaluations

2. All officials from the United States that are certified as USTA Line, Sectional Umpire, or Provisional Umpire are reviewed based upon:

- Strong work record
- Satisfactory evaluations
- Information reviewed including:
 - Availability
 - Work record
 - USTA and ATP evaluations and ratings
 - Timely application
 - Feedback from:
 - USTA National Trainer/Evaluators
 - ITF Chief Umpires on the US Open Chief Umpire staff
 - Sectional Chairs

3. The Committee seeks an overall consensus in order to select an official. No one member of the Committee can select or reject an official.

4. The Committee reserves the right to assign some Line Umpires to work the US Open Qualifying Event who have adequate evaluations but who lack experience. During the Qualifying Event, these officials are evaluated. Line Umpires with strong evaluations from the Qualifying Event and proficiency working the baseline may be selected (depending on need) to work the Main Draw of the US Open.

5. All International Line Umpire applicants are reviewed by the Committee based upon:

- Grand Slam work record within the last two Grand Slam cycles
- Strong recommendations by the ITF Officiating Department, National Federations and Grand Slam Chief Umpires
- ATP ratings for those who have worked ATP tournaments in the United States
- Recommendations from selected ITF and ATP chair umpires
- Recommendations from the US Open Chief Umpire's Staff

6. Tentative selections for all Line Umpires are made by the Committee with final approval by the US Open Referee as per the Grand Slam Rulebook

Initial assignments of selected officials:

1. During the selection and assignment process in April/May, tentative assignments of Line Umpires for the final days of the US Open are determined by ratings from the previous year's US Open and recent USTA and ATP evaluations/ratings.

2. The Committee leaves days for assignments for Line Officials to be extended from the Qualifying Event into the US Open Main Draw as determined by the Committee at the conclusion of the Qualifying Event.

Assignments for the final days of the US Open

1. Line Umpire assignments for the final days of the US Open are based on Line Umpire evaluations from that year's and the previous year's US Open from:

- USTA National Trainer/Evaluators
- Gold and Silver Badge Chair Umpire evaluations during Main Draw
- US Open Chief Umpire Staff

2. Chair Umpire assignments for the final days of the US Open other than the Men's and Women's Singles/Doubles and Mixed Doubles matches are based on chair evaluations from that year's and the previous year's US Open from:

- USTA National Trainer/Evaluators
- US Open Chief Umpire Staff
- Gold and Silver Badge ITF Chair Umpire evaluations during Main Draw

3. All Chair Umpire assignments for Main Draw Men's and Women's Singles/Doubles and Mixed Doubles matches (including the final days of the US Open) are determined by the US Open Referee in consultation with the US Open Chief Umpire. All other Chair Umpire assignments are determined by:

- Current year's US Open chair evaluations from Grand Slam officials;
- Current year's US Open USTA Trainer/Evaluator chair evaluations;
- Overall chair experience.

The US Open Referee, in consultation with the US Open Chief Umpire, is the final authority on all daily assignments as per the Grand Slam rulebook.

There is no guarantee that any individual Chair or Line Umpire (either previously assigned or extended) will be assigned to a match(es) in Arthur Ashe Stadium.

**These US Open Officials Selection Guidelines are subject to change at the discretion of the USTA. Any changes will be posted accordingly.*

The USTA does not permit discrimination on the basis of gender, race, or any other prohibited basis in the selection and assignment of umpires to tournaments and matches.

All qualified Umpires will be afforded equal opportunities to officiate men's and women's matches regardless of their gender. The USTA Officials Department, where it has the authority to do so, will seek to assign qualified female umpires to men's tournaments and matches in numbers approximating their representation in the qualified pool of applicants available for such tournaments and matches.

All qualified Umpires will be afforded equal opportunities to officiate tournaments and specific matches regardless of their race. The USTA Officials Department, where it has the authority to do so, will seek to assign qualified minority umpires to matches, including late round matches, in numbers approximating their demographic representation in the qualified pool of applicants available for such matches.