



EASTERN

POINT PENALTY SUSPENSION SYSTEMS

(For USTA Eastern Sanctioned Junior Tournaments & Eastern Tennis Association Players)

1. All USTA and USTA Eastern rules, regulations, standing orders and other applicable USTA Eastern governing documents are to be enforced at all USTA Eastern sanctioned events without regard for level of play or age division. In addition all play will be governed by The Code.
2. It is the obligation of the tournament director or assistants to monitor play and to enforce all rules, regulations and The Code; and to assess penalty points against a player or players for unsportsmanlike conduct during a USTA Eastern tournament such as, but not limited to:
 - ▶ Unreasonable delays after the warm-up period, between points and when changing ends, and otherwise unreasonably delaying a match;
 - ▶ Violently or with anger hitting, kicking or throwing a tennis ball, racquet or other equipment;
 - ▶ Loud, profane or abusive language;
 - ▶ Visible obscenity;
 - ▶ Verbal (directly, or indirectly) threat or physical abuse of any official, opponent, spectator or other person at a USTA Eastern tournament site;
 - ▶ Coaching by a coach, parent or any other accompanying person (see Coaching Rule);or
 - ▶ **Cheating and/or being overruled by an official more than two times.**Where applicable, the above unsportsmanlike conduct will also apply to all spectators and may result in their immediate **removal** from the premises and possible further disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension from attending Eastern events. If said behavior is directed towards a player, either before, during or after a tournament, it will result in an automatic and immediate suspension of that spectator's right to attend USTA Eastern tournaments, for a period of time. This will be determined by the Junior Competition Committee upon review of any complaints and/or reports.
3. The use of the following Point Penalty System is **mandatory** for all USTA Eastern sanctioned junior events, regardless of tournament level. It must be enforced by all tournament directors or their designees and any action must be reported at the conclusion of each tournament.

The following is the point penalty schedule for any violation during a match (not cumulative matches):

- ▶ First offense Point
- ▶ Second offense Game
- ▶ Third offense Default

The foregoing point penalties should be assessed by the chair umpire, roving umpire, referee, tournament director or assistant.

The Point Penalty System Schedule for lateness must be enforced at all USTA Eastern sanctioned tournaments. It is as follows:

- ▶ 5 minutes or less =1 Game + loss of toss
- ▶ 5:01 - 10 minutes = 2 Games + loss of toss
- ▶ 10:01 - 15 minutes =3 Games + loss of toss
- ▶ More than 15 minutes = Default

Suspension points will not be assessed for game penalties due to lateness for a match.

While the loss of game formula must stay in place for lateness by the tournament director, at his/her discretion may hold the default up to 45 minutes for extenuating circumstances. According to USTA regulations, an extension is **never allowed** beyond 45 minutes.

4. The referee, chair umpire, roving umpire, tournament director or assistant may, at his/her sole discretion, may declare a default for any flagrantly unsportsmanlike act. If the default is levied by an umpire, the player may appeal to the referee or to the tournament director, who shall have the final authority to affirm or rescind an immediate default.

5. Suspension Points: USTA Eastern Suspension Points will be assessed against players for violations in two categories; defaults and Point Penalty System action as follows:

Defaults

- ▶ **Default by a player with less than 18 hrs notice before the start of his/her first scheduled match – 1 point**
- ▶ **Default by a player from any other round – 1 point**
- ▶ **Not appearing for a scheduled match (Default no show) – 3 points**
- ▶ **Failure to notify the tournament desk with at least 4 hours notice of withdrawal– 2 points**
- ▶ Refusing to continue to play a match until completion – 3 points
- ▶ Default due to late arrival for a match - 1 point
- ▶ Entering concurrent tournaments in contradiction to the current USTA Eastern rules – 2 points
- ▶ Entering & playing in concurrent tournaments in contradiction to the current USTA Eastern rules – 4 points
- ▶ Providing false or misleading information to the referee, tournament director or tournament staff could lead to additional penalties, to be determined by the JCC.

Suspension points will remain on a player's record for one year from the date of the tournament when the suspension points were assessed.

Point Penalty System Action (see Section 3 above)

For each offense in the Point Penalty System Schedule the following suspension points will be assessed:

Point – 1 suspension point

Game - 1 suspension point

Default - 1 suspension point

(Suspension points will not be assessed for game penalties due to lateness for a match.)

- ▶ Leaving the court during a match except to seek out the tournament director or referee when no umpire or linesperson is present on court – 1 point
- ▶ Not using her/his best efforts to win - 1 point
- ▶ Unsportsmanlike conduct at a USTA Eastern tournament site (on or off court) – 1 point
- ▶ Competing in a USTA Eastern sanctioned event while under suspension – 3 points
- ▶ Cheating = Unsportsmanlike Conduct – 1 point

If a Point Penalty System action is by-passed in order to assess a stronger penalty for a flagrant violation, suspension points will be assessed as if all by-passed penalties were levied.

Any penalties levied during any other (i.e., non-USTA Eastern) USTA sanctioned tournament, junior or adult, will be added to the player's USTA Eastern disciplinary record. Penalties levied against Eastern players at USTA national events will carry down to the section and will penalize ½ of the national penalty.

The USTA Eastern Junior Competition Committee may (at its discretion) assess additional or initial suspension points for violations not mentioned herein.

6. If a player accumulates three Suspension Points in the Point Penalty System action or five Suspension Points in the defaults category, he/she will be suspended from competing in USTA Eastern sanctioned events for a period of four weeks. The suspension is effective at the beginning of the next **Eastern Designated Closed** tournament that falls ten days or more after the date of the suspension letter. The player may not play in any USTA Eastern sanctioned events that fall within the four week suspension period. If a player gets suspended after the June Designated Closed tournament, the suspension will not begin until the start of the first September Designated Closed tournament. The imposition of a suspension will clear a player's record of the Suspension Points requiring the suspension. Points accumulated beyond these, and points accumulated in the other

category, will not be cleared (subject to the twelve month period set forth in Section 5) and will accumulate toward another suspension.

7. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained above, the USTA Eastern tournament Rules and Discipline Committee (the "TRDC") may, in accordance with Section 13 of the USTA Eastern Rules, Regulations and Standing Orders (the "RRSO") (copies available at the USTA Eastern office), administer disciplinary matters and impose suspensions (or other penalties including, without limitation, the imposition of Suspension Points) in connection with conduct occurring at USTA Eastern sanctioned events. The TRDC shall have the sole discretion to determine whether it shall act in lieu of the Junior Competition Committee in response to a disciplinary matter at USTA Eastern sanctioned events. For the avoidance of doubt, it shall not be required that tournament personnel first impose a point penalty (s) under the Point Penalty System Schedule as to the person the TRDC determines to take action against, provided, however, that the TRDC act only in accordance with Section 13 of the RRSO. The foregoing is not intended to diminish the powers set forth in Article VII (10) and Article VII (12) of the USTA Eastern Bylaws.

Note: Friend At Court, which includes The Code, the Rules of Tennis and other related governing documents, can be purchased at the USTA Bookstore by calling (888) 832-8291.

***** Effective Immediately: Please read new regulations regarding Eastern Concurrent tournament rule:**

· **Eastern:** No player may enter more than one Eastern sanctioned tennis tournament where the scheduled dates overlap unless the officially announced tournament starting dates are at least three days apart. **Note: First time offenders entering a L1 (+L1, L1 and L1B) status tournament will be given courtesy of a warning, but only if they are a first time violator. The courtesy will allow them play in one of the two tournaments however they will be subject to the 2 suspension points.** Allowable exceptions are: (1) Entering a tournament scheduled over successive weekends and another tournament through the intervening week, (2) Entering two tournaments where the player can reasonably expect (based on current standings or tournament homepage) to play the starting weekend of one tournament and reasonably expect to start play the following weekend for the second tournament. Only one of the 2 tournaments can be a +L1 Designated Closed event. A player must determine their match schedules as soon as the tournaments have it available, and if their match times for each tournament commences on the same weekend, the player must give notice of withdrawal to one of the tournaments within the following 24 hours. Failure to do so will result in the assessment of suspension points. A player who does enter properly under this exception, and plays in the first tournament, will still be subject to suspension points for defaulting that tournament to play the second tournament.

No junior player may play in two age divisions in the same tournament unless one of the age divisions is singles and one is doubles. The player must be age eligible for both divisions.

· **National:** Being entered, when entries close, into two or more sanctioned tournaments scheduled to overlap, unless each Tournament Committee approves the multiple entries in writing, will result 5 national suspension points. An additional 4 suspension points will be assessed if withdrawal from the tournament after entries close or for reasons other than illness, personal emergency or previously authorized entry into another tournament.