

# ENDORSEMENT INFORMATION

## USTA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

A player needs to retire and/or play a match in order for the tournament to count for endorsement purposes. In other words, a player who has not hit or received a single ball, cannot be viewed as having participated in the tournament.

The draws for the USTA Spring National Championships, USTA National Clay Court Championships, USTA National Hard Court Championships, USTA Winter National Championships and other national-status tournaments are limited. Quotas are set for each of the 17 USTA sections according to the number of enrolled juniors in each section in proportion to all of the juniors in the entire USTA. Eastern Juniors must meet Eastern endorsement requirements in order to qualify for these tournaments. No waivers of these requirements will be considered. In addition, players have the opportunity to gain entry directly into the USTA National Championships via the USTA National Open Championships preceding each event. If the player cannot qualify through either of these options then they must contact the USTA Eastern office and request a wildcard application.

Based upon 2011 information, our projected quotas for 2012 are as follows: USTA BG12-18 Spring and Winter National Championships, 4 players; USTA BG16-18 National Clay Court and Hard Court Championships, 7 players; USTA BG12-BG14 National Clay Court and Hard Court Championship, 4 players; USTA Zone Team Championship BG12-16, 24 boy and 24 girl players.

To be endorsed by the Eastern Section to any of these USTA events or to play in an **Eastern Designated Closed (+L1)** Championship tournament, a player must be a USTA member and a legal resident of USTA Eastern, Inc. (a "legal resident" is a player whose principal domicile lies within the boundaries of the USTA Eastern Section). **In addition, he/she must be a citizen of the U.S., a resident alien in possession of a valid alien registration receipt card, or an alien who has resided in the U.S. continuously for more than one year and is a member of a family of a person in the diplomatic or consular corps. The ranking chairperson may ask for proof of residency and/or verification of age.**

### TOURNAMENT FORMAT

1. In 2012, **Eastern Designated Closed** Championship tournaments will be held in each age division (BG12-18). Each endorsement period will consist of four (4) tournaments, called **+L1 Eastern Designated Closed** Championships, each scheduled over two weekends. All players must be available for play on both weekends. **A player seeks endorsement by playing (1) one or (2) two, depending on the National, out of the (4) four or (5) five +L1 Eastern Designated Closed Championships** just preceding the USTA National Championships in the age division they wish to be endorsed. In addition, they must be age eligible for that USTA National Championship. **Players will be allowed to play any Eastern Designated Closed events in any age division, but not in the same tournament, and must be age eligible. This means a player is eligible to enter any USTA tournament whose start date is no later than the last day of the month prior to their birthday month. However, players must keep in mind when entering into different age divisions in the endorsement tournaments (+L1) that they still must meet the endorsement requirements in the age division they will be age eligible for in the National events.**

Each **Eastern Designated Closed** Championship is marked with a (+).

## MAIN & QUALIFIER DRAWS

**Entries could possibly be limited to 120 or 96 at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Entry into the draw will be based on the current standings.**

a) For entries of 50 or more There will be a Main Draw of 32 players with 24 players selected directly, 8 players being seeded. The remaining participants will compete in the Qualifier Draw to determine the final 8 players selected.

b) For entries of 33 to 49  
There will be a Main Draw of 32 players with 28 players selected directly, 8 players being seeded. The remaining participants will compete in the Qualifier Draw to determine the final 4 players selected.

c) For entries of 32 or less  
a straight draw will be run.

d) In order to ensure a full main draw, the last-round losers in the qualifier draw will draw a number to determine the order of the "lucky losers." The lowest number will be the "lucky loser" to enter the main draw in the event a vacancy occurs. The next lowest number will become the second "lucky loser" and so forth. Once the first match of the qualifier draw has started, any defaults or withdrawals in the main draw can only be filled by "lucky losers."

## CONSOLATION DRAWS

a) Most **Eastern Designated Closed (+L1)** Championship main draw will also include a consolation draw. Play in all consolation events and positional play-offs is mandatory. Rule 11 of the Tournament Regulations will be applied.

i) A full feed-in championship (FIC) will be held during one Sectional Closed tournament per segment. The FIC will be played through the main draw quarterfinals and the winner of the FIC will be #5 and the finalist #6. In addition, semifinal play-offs will be played for positions #3 and #4.

## SINGLE ELIMINATION

a) The new **Eastern Designated Closed (+L1)** tournaments (Mar 2-11, June 15-24, October 12-21) will be using a single elimination format and will include doubles and semifinal playoffs. In this tournament format, once you lose, you are out and do not get to play any additional matches in the singles draw. This draw type will not include a qualifier draw.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

2. In the Eastern Section, the schedule is broken down into four (4) endorsement periods. **All players who have played the endorsement requirements listed below, corresponding to that USTA National Championship, in the age division seeking endorsement, and who have one win and accumulated points will appear on the endorsement list.** Endorsement lists will be based on, results in the age division seeking endorsement, the best six (6) tournaments played in the last twelve (12) months with a maximum of two (2) national events counting. In addition 15% of your doubles points, which include your best 6 (six) events, 2 (two) of which can be national, will be added to 100% of your singles points, which include your best (6) six events (2) two of which can be national, to create one final point value. Endorsement lists will be calculated after the completion of the fourth Designated Closed tournament from that period. **No waivers of these requirements will be considered.** However, wildcard applications are available on [www.eastern.usta.com](http://www.eastern.usta.com).

Eligibility requirements for nomination to USTA National events:

a) To be eligible for endorsement to the *BG 18 USTA Spring National Championships* a player must play:

**One (1) out of four (4) Designated Closed (+L1) tournaments** preceding this National Championship. These tournaments are **Oct 14-23; Nov. 4-12, 2011 and Jan 6-16 and Jan 27-Feb 6, 2012**. Remember, these requirements must be met in the age division seeking endorsement.

b) To be eligible for endorsement to the *BG 12-16 The Easter Bowl, USTA Spring National Championships* a player must play:

**One (1) out of four (4) Designated Closed (+L1) tournaments** preceding this National Championship. These tournaments are **Jan 6-16; Jan 27-Feb 6; Feb 10-20 and Mar 2-11; 2012**. Remember, these requirements must be met in the age division seeking endorsement.

c) To be eligible for endorsement to the *BG 12-18 USTA National Clay Court Championships, the BG16 USTA Intersectional Team Championships, the B18 USTA National Team Championships, the G18 USTA Junior National Team Championships and the BG12-16 USTA Zone Team Championships*, a player must play:

**Two (2) out of five (5) Designated Closed (+L1) tournaments** preceding these National Championships. These tournaments are **Feb 10-20; Mar 2-11; Mar 23-April 1; Apr 20-29; and May 18-28; 2012**. Remember, these requirements must be met in the age division seeking endorsement.

d) To be eligible for endorsement to the *BG12-18 National Hard Court Championships*, a player must play:

**Two (2) out of five (5) Designated Closed (+L1) tournaments** preceding these National Championships. These tournaments are **Mar 2-11; Mar 23-April 1; Apr 20-29; May 18-28; June 15-24; 2012**. Remember, these requirements must be met in the age division seeking endorsement.

e) To be eligible for endorsement to the *BG12-18 USTA Winter National Championships*, a player must play:

**One (1) out of four (4) Designated Closed (+L1) tournaments** preceding these National Championships. These tournaments are **Sept 7-16; Sept 28-Oct 8; Oct 12-21 and Nov 2-11; 2012**. Remember, these requirements must be met in the age division seeking endorsement.

**BG18 seeking endorsement to the 2013 BG18 National Spring Championships, you must play One (1) out of the following four (4) Designated Closed (+L1) tournaments preceding this National Championship will be:**

**Oct 12-21, 2012**

**Nov 2-11, 2012**

**Jan 4-14, 2013**

**Jan 25-Feb 3 2013**

3. Intersectional team event & Zone Team event selection will be made by ranking chairpersons. Selection will generally be made based on current records and endorsement list, **but may also include sportsmanship and team compatibility.**

4. Selection for endorsement will be made on overall combined performance and based on 100% of your the best six (6) singles tournaments played in the last twelve (12) months with a maximum of two (2) national singles events counting along with 15% of their doubles points from their best six (6) doubles events, two (2) of which can from national doubles events. No consideration can be given for geographical representation. Poor personal behavior, bad sportsmanship or any acts detrimental to the game, as defined in the Standards of Conduct of the USTA Standing Orders, will be factors which could prevent endorsement selection or cause the revocation.

**5. Any withdraws from team events may cost the player a spot on the team the following year, to be determined by the Eastern Junior Competition Committee. Any player who is a no show to a team event, could cost them their endorsement to any future National tournament, to be determined by the Eastern Junior Competition Committee.**

6. Approval pursuant to the foregoing by the Eastern Management Committee will be required before any endorsement becomes final.