



Point Penalty Suspension Systems

For USTA Eastern Sanctioned Junior Tournaments and Eastern Tennis 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. The USTA EASTERN Section has adopted the USTA Suspension Point System and its schedule of suspension points. The USTA EASTERN Suspension Point System differs from the USTA Suspension Point System only in that notices required under the USTA EASTERN Suspension Point System are sent to and from USTA EASTERN administrators rather than USTA administrators) The USTA Suspension Point System is in effect at all USTA EASTERN Junior Section Tournaments and Regional Tournaments. The USTA EASTERN suspension system will include all suspension points assessed against a player (which player is subject to the USTA Eastern System) by the USTA, the USTA Eastern and by any other Section of the USTA.
3. **Persons Authorized to File Suspension Point Reports with the Referee.** The following persons are authorized to file suspension point reports with the Referee for offenses they personally witness:
 - Tournament Committee members;
 - Chief Umpire;
 - Deputy Referees;
 - On-court officials (including Roving Officials);
 - Court Monitors, if specifically authorized by the Referee;
 - Club or facility managers;
 - Hotel or dormitory managers;
 - Families housing players; and
 - Player development staff.
4. The referee, chair umpire, roving umpire, tournament director or assistant may, at his/her sole discretion, 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. 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.

6. Spectators

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, official or tournament staff, either before, during or after a tournament, it shall 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.

IV.C Standards of Conduct

IV.C.1. General. Players, persons who appear to be associated with a player (including, but not limited to, parents and coaches), officials and organizers of any tournament are under duty to encourage and maintain high standards of proper conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship. They are under obligation to avoid acts which may be considered detrimental to the game of tennis. Such detrimental acts include, but are not limited to; the acts set forth in **USTA Regulation IV.C.**

IV.C.10. no abuse of players or officials

- a. *No person shall abuse an official or player.* The Chair Umpire, Referee, and any other official responsible for ensuring that a match is played under conditions which are fair to all players shall make certain that no parent, relative, coach, or other person associated with a player abuses an official or player.
- b. *Official may request abusive person to desist or leave tournament area.* A player who enters a sanctioned tournament or match consents to be penalized under the Point Penalty System for abusive conduct by a person who appears to be associated with the player. If the official observes the conduct, the official shall suspend play and request that the person leaves the tournament area. In a flagrant case the official may immediately direct the person to leave without requesting the person to desist.



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- c. *Point Penalty System applies to abuse.* If the person refuses to follow the instructions to leave, then the official may penalize the player associated with the person under the Point Penalty System. (**USTA Regulation IV.D.8.** outlines the right to appeal)

Suspension Point System:

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

Suspension points received at any USTA sanctioned event are compiled into one database.

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.

1. **Application.** The Suspension Point System shall apply to tournaments listed on the USTA National Junior Tournament Schedule & USTA Eastern Junior Tournament Schedule. It applies to conduct:
 - during all matches (main draw, compass draw, consolation, qualifying, and doubles);
 - during tournament activities;
 - at tournament facilities; and
 - at facilities, such as hotels, dormitories, and homes where players stay.

2. **Suspension Points.** The USA Tennis Junior Competition Department & USTA Eastern Section Junior Competitive Department shall record suspension points upon being notified of the following violations:

	Violation	Suspension Points
Code Violation	Each code violation (point, game, or default) under the Point Penalty System (USTA Regulation I.P.) (excluding Time Violations for delay between points, after warm-up, after a 90-second changeover, after a Set Break), two points shall be assessed for the following:	2
Defaults	Default for a flagrantly unsportsmanlike act on or off the court	8
	Default for refusal to play or continue to play for any reason other than illness, injury, or personal emergency	5
	Defaults because of an adult decision	5
	Default for no-show	5
	Default due to late arrival for a match.	1
	Disqualification for ineligibility	3
	Default by a player from any other round	2
	Refusing to continue to play a match until completion	3



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Improper Entry Of Withdrawal	Entering concurrent “ranked” tournaments in contradiction to the current USTA Eastern rules Eastern Concurrent Tournament Rule .	5
	Entering two or more National tournaments, matches, or exhibitions scheduled to take place at the same time, in whole or in part, unless each Tournament Committee involved approves the multiple entries in writing	5
	Withdrawal from a tournament (singles or doubles) after entries have closed for any reason other than injury, illness, or personal emergency	4
	Entering & playing in concurrent tournaments in contradiction to the current USTA Eastern rules	4
	Default by a player with less than 18 hrs notice before the start of his/her first scheduled match	2
Unsportsmanlike Conduct	Cheating and/or being overruled by an official more than two times.	2
	Unsportsmanlike or inappropriate conduct off court at locations such as the tournament site, hotel, or housing	5
	Not using best efforts to win	2
Gross Misconduct	Physical act of violence against another person on or off the court by a player, parent, relative, coach, or other person associated with a player	10
	Illegal use of drugs or possession of illegal drugs	8
	Possession or consumption of alcohol beverages	8
	Gambling activity (as defined in USTA Regulation I.N.18.)	8
	Destruction of property	8
Playing Under Suspension	Competing in any sanctioned tournament while under suspension by the USTA or one of its Sectional Associations	10
ITF Suspension Points	Each suspension point assessed a player by the International Tennis Federation at tournaments not on the National Junior Tournament Schedule	1



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3. 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. Player Suspensions:

- First Suspension:** If a player receives 10 suspension points within a 12 month period, the player shall be suspended from competing in USTA-sanctioned tournaments for three (3) months. (If no USTA National Championship falls during the 3-month period, the player shall not be accepted into the USTA National Championship immediately following the 3-month suspension period.) Upon suspension these 10 points shall be cleared from the players record. All other suspension points shall remain on the players record and count towards a second suspension.
- Second Suspension:** If a player receives 8 suspension points within the 12 months immediately following the first suspension, the player shall be suspended from competing in USTA-sanctioned tournaments for six (6) months. Upon suspension these 8 points shall be cleared from the players record. All other suspension points shall remain on the players record and count towards a third suspension.
- Subsequent Suspension:** If a player receives 6 suspension points within the 12 month period immediately following the second suspension (and any suspensions subsequent to the second suspension), the player shall be suspended from competing in the USTA sanctioned for a period to be determined by the Director, The Chairperson of the Junior Competition Committee, and one additional member of the Eastern Junior Competition Committee to be appointed by the Chairperson. The suspension period shall not be less than one year and may be up to the remainder of the players junior career. These 6 points shall be cleared from the players record.

For more information on the Point Penalty System please visit Table 19 and the nearby pages in the 2013 Friend at Court.

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.

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.