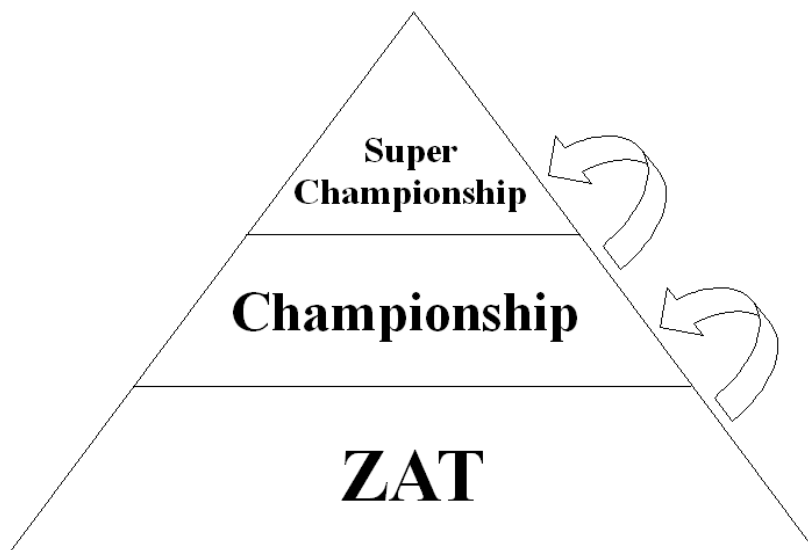


## 2014 Junior Know the Rules

The purpose of this document is to:

- Foster the development of junior tennis players in the Texas Section;
- Meet the competitive needs of juniors at every skill level;
- Divide players into groups to make tournaments more manageable and matches more competitive;
- Encourage improvement by offering advancement opportunities to higher skill levels;
- Extend competitive play throughout the year;
- Provide recognition of more players; and
- Address as much as possible the concerns for school attendance and financial expenditure in pursuit of the sport.

\*It is the player's and parent's responsibility to be familiar with USTA Texas junior player regulations.



- Beginner players qualify from the ZAT level to the Championship level by accumulating points in ZAT tournaments.
- Championship players qualify to the Super Championship level by accumulating points in Championship Major Zone tournaments.
- Please refer to each section for more details.

# All Levels

## 1. What age division can I compete in?

- a) Divisions available are:
  - i) 10s: Birthdates in 2003 until first day of the month of 11<sup>th</sup> birthday; all birthdates in 2004 and younger.
  - ii) 12s: Birthdates in 2001 until first day of the month of 13<sup>th</sup> birthday; all birthdates in 2002 and younger.
  - iii) 14s: Birthdates in 1999 until first day of the month of 15<sup>th</sup> birthday; all birthdates in 2000 and younger.
  - iv) 16s: Birthdates in 1997 until first day of the month of 17<sup>th</sup> birthday; all birthdates in 1998 and younger.
  - v) 18s: Birthdates in 1995 until first day of the month of 19<sup>th</sup> birthday; all birthdates in 1996 and younger.
- b) Boys are eligible only for Boys' divisions and girls are eligible only for Girls' divisions.
- c) ZAT players (12's-18s) may compete in any older ZAT divisions. Points earned in multiple age divisions are not combined.
- d) Championship players cannot play up in Championship Major Zones, but may choose to re-qualify through ZAT in the older division up to 2 months prior to their birthday month. See "How to re-qualify?" on page 4. In a sanctioned "other" tournament, Championship players may compete in older age divisions. See page 6 for more information.
- e) Super Champ players may compete in any older Super Champ divisions. Points earned will count down in all younger age divisions that they are still eligible for. Super Champ players may also choose to re-qualify through Championship level in the older age division up to 2 months prior to their birthday month. See "How to re-qualify?" on page 4.

## 2. What types of tournaments are available?

- a) ZATs (10s-18s): ZAT qualifying points are awarded. See "ZAT 10s" section for more information.
- b) Championship Major Zones (CMZ) Singles and Doubles: Championship qualifying points and Championship ranking points are awarded.
- c) Super Championship Major Zones (SCMZ): Super Championship standing points are awarded. National standing points are awarded for selected "A" draws (see page 12, Super Champ Level section for details).
- d) Other (Jr) (10s-18s): Championship ranking points and Super Championship standing points may be awarded. It is mandatory for these tournaments to offer 10 & under divisions.
- e) Non-Sanctioned: These tournaments are not sanctioned by USTA Texas Section and are conducted by the regulation of each hosting organization. USTA points are not awarded.

## 3. How to find tournaments on the Internet?

- a) The tournament homepage contains important information posted by the Tournament Director. Contact information for the tournament, registering for the tournament online, match times, playing sites, maps and driving directions may all be found on the tournament homepage.
- b) Go to [www.texas.usta.com](http://www.texas.usta.com)
- c) Under "Juniors Tennis" along the top side, scroll over "tournament/rankings"
- d) Select "Searchable Schedule"
- e) If you know the ID number for the tournament, enter that into the "Quick Search" box and click "Find It!"
- f) If you don't know the ID number, select "Texas" as the National/Section/District
- g) In the Keyword field:
  - i) Use "ZAT" to find ZATs
  - ii) Use "CMZ" to find Championship Major Zones
  - iii) Use "SCMZ" to find Super Championship Major Zones
  - iv) Use "Jr" to find "other" junior tournaments - please note that a limited number of non-sanctioned tournaments may appear in this search, these tournaments can be clearly identified by the words "Non-Sanctioned" in the tournament name
- h) Select the month and the year for which you are trying to find a tournament
- i) Click "Find It!"

## 4. How to register for a tournament?

- a) Click on "Click here to register online" in the middle of the tournament homepage.
- b) You will need to have your USTA membership number and credit card information to complete the registration.
- c) ALL entries must be submitted completely and successfully prior to entry deadline. **Late entries are not accepted for any Super Champ Designated Tournament.** Late entries are not accepted by all other sanctioned junior tournaments after the Entrants Lists have been submitted to the Section office.
- d) To verify your registration was completed successfully:
  - i) Print the confirmation number issued at the end of a successful registration.

- ii) Check the Applicant List on the left-hand side of the tournament homepage.
  - iii) Contact the Tournament Director with your confirmation number if there is any problem with your registration.
  - e) Mail-in entries (where accepted) must be in the hands of the Tournament Director by the entry deadline.
  - f) Phone and email entries are generally not accepted. Please check the tournament homepage for details.
- 5. How many tournaments can I play per month?**
- a) Players can compete in as many sanctioned "other" tournaments as your schedule permits.
  - b) All players can only compete in one ZAT/CMZ/SCMZ singles event each month.
- 6. How to withdraw from a tournament?**
- a) To withdraw via the Internet BEFORE ENTRY DEADLINE, go to the tournament homepage, select "Edit Registration (on left hand side)," then click on "Withdraw" on the left side menu, follow the instructions. Suspension Points WILL NOT be levied for withdrawal before entry deadline.
  - b) To withdraw AFTER ENTRY DEADLINE, please contact the tournament official listed on the tournament homepage by email and by phone.
- 7. What are Suspension Points?** – Suspension Points are assessed to a player for acts detrimental to the integrity of tennis. Once a player accumulates ten suspension points within a 12-month period, he/she will be suspended from play in USTA sanctioned tournaments.
- a) Suspension Points can be assessed to a player's record in the following ways:
    - i) Point Penalty System- During tournament match play, any Code Violations will result in one suspension point.
    - ii) "Sportsmanship Ambassadors" may notify USTA Texas of acts of unsportsmanlike behavior, and, upon approval from the USTA Texas Discipline and Grievance Committee, the player will be assessed suspension Points. "Sportsmanship Ambassadors" are USTA Texas Committee Members and staff, and are **not permitted** to assess Code Violations during play.
    - iii) 4 suspension points will be automatically assessed for all default no-shows.
    - iv) 3 suspension points will be assessed for withdrawals and walkovers for singles or doubles in all Super Championship Designated Tournaments. The Texas Section has adopted a zero tolerance policy. These points may NOT be appealed.
    - v) The Discipline and Grievance Committee may also assess additional points or opt to suspend a player for infractions at a sanctioned tournament, based on **substantiated** complaints from tournament personnel, Officials, or players.
  - b) Suspension points remain on a player's record for a rolling 12-month period, or until a suspension is levied. In which case, the player's record will be cleared of the suspension points that caused the suspension.
  - c) Withdrawals and walkovers in all tournaments other than SCMZ's will not be assessed suspension points.
  - d) Retirements during a match are not assessed suspension points.
  - e) Players are strongly encouraged to review their draws following a tournament, to verify the results have been properly recorded.
  - f) For specific details, please refer to the "Standing Orders", ARTICLE IX, posted on [www.texas.usta.com](http://www.texas.usta.com), select "Resources" (at the bottom of the left navigation bar) then select "Rules and Regulations".
- 8. What is the lateness penalty clock?**
- a) A player is deemed to have arrived when the player checks in at the place designated for checking in and is properly clothed, equipped and ready to play.
  - b) The lateness penalty clock starts when the match is scheduled and called, a court is available and the player has not arrived. The Referee is not required to keep a court open while awaiting a player.
    - i) 5:00 minutes or less: Loss of toss plus 1 game.
    - ii) 5:01 – 10:00 minutes: Loss of toss plus 2 games.
    - iii) 10:01 – 15:00 minutes: Loss of toss plus 3 games.
    - iv) More than 15 minutes: Default. (While the penalty still stands, the match may be reinstated at the discretion of the tournament referee.)
- 9. How to find my player record on the Internet?**
- a) Go to [www.texas.usta.com](http://www.texas.usta.com)
  - b) Under "Juniors Tennis", scroll over "tournament/rankings" then select "Rankings"
  - c) Select "Junior Divisions" under Divisions and select "Texas" under National/Section/District
  - d) Under List Type, select
    - i) "Standing List"- for qualifying point total and Super Champ Standings
    - ii) "Qualifier List"- new qualifiers from each month will be listed here
    - iii) "Preliminary Ranking"- for 10s ZAT divisions and Championship players who are aging up

- iv) "Bonus Points List"- for a list of Super Champ players in the top 50 for each month
- v) "Endorsement List"- for National Championships selection at Super Champ level
- e) The list can be identified for each level by looking for the keyword in parenthesis that corresponds with each level of competition.

**10. What happens to the points when a tournament is rained out and/or cancelled?**

- a) ZATs/CMZs/SCMZs are not rescheduled when it is cancelled due to inclement weather.
  - i) ZATs will not be cancelled before Sunday.
  - ii) CMZs will not be cancelled before Sunday.
  - iii) SCMZs do not have specified cancellation guideline. Decision will be made by the Tournament Referee and the USTA Texas Director of Competitive Tennis.
  - iv) In extreme weather conditions, the Tournament Committee in consultation with the Director of Competitive Tennis, may make decisions outside existing guidelines.
- b) Tournament Directors will try their best to complete as many rounds of the tournaments as possible, depending on the weather forecast.
- c) When a tournament is cancelled, players will receive points for matches completed and won before the cancellation.
- d) No refunds are required to be given after the entry deadline of a tournament.
- e) The qualifying window for ZAT and Championship remains the same.

**11. What is aging up?**

- a) Qualified players (in Championship and Super Championship level) go through an aging up process on the first day of the month that they turn 13, 15 or 17.
  - i) Championship players who are either in the top **35%** or ranked 35 or better on the Championship Preliminary Ranking List published the month prior to aging up will retain their qualification. Players who did not fulfill the criteria will re-qualify from the ZAT level in the next older age division.
  - ii) Super Championship eligible players **Boys' and Girls' 12s and 14s** who are either in the top **35%** or ranked 35 or better on the Super Champ Standing List published the month prior to aging up will retain their qualification. Super Championship eligible players **Boys' and Girls' 16s** who are in the top **35%** of the Super Champ Standing List published the month prior to aging up will retain their qualification. Players who did not fulfill the criteria will re-qualify from Championship level in the next older age division.
- b) Aging up players **MUST** check the "Aging Up" lists posted each month on the Internet after monthly results have been processed and updated as tournaments are completed until the end of the month:
  - i) Go to [www.texas.usta.com](http://www.texas.usta.com)
  - ii) Under "Juniors Tennis" along the top side, scroll over "tournaments/rankings"
  - iii) Select "Documents"
  - iv) Select the link for "Age Up Lists"
- c) ZAT players do not need to go through this aging up process. All non-qualified players may compete in any age division they are age eligible for.

**12. How to re-qualify?**

- a) Qualified players who are aging up may choose to re-qualify in the lower level, in the older age division no more than two (2) months before aging up. By doing so, the player would immediately forfeit their status in the higher level.
  - i) Championship players may attempt to re-qualify through the ZAT level in the older age division, in the two months immediately prior to aging up.
  - ii) Super Championship players may attempt to re-qualify through the Championship level in the older age division, in the two months immediately prior to aging up.

## ZAT (10s) Level

Please refer to the full 10s regulation located at [www.texas.usta.com](http://www.texas.usta.com); under "10 and Under Tennis," then click on "10 and Under Texas Rules."

## ZAT (12s-18s) Level

**1. Who can play in the ZAT level?**

- a) All non-qualified junior players with permanent residency in Texas.
- b) ZAT players may compete in any older ZAT divisions. Points earned in multiple age divisions are not combined.
- c) Championship players who are re-qualifying. See page 5, "How to re-qualify?".
- d) Super Championship players and out-of-section players (including foreign exchange students) **CANNOT** compete in ZATs.

## **2. What events are offered?**

- a) Boys' and Girls' 12s, 14s, 16s and 18s singles are qualifying events held on Saturday and Sunday with:
  - i) 2 out of 3 sets
  - ii) No-ad scoring
  - iii) 10-point Match Tiebreak in lieu of third set
  - iv) Draws of 32. Any event that has more than 32 players will be split in random, into equal draws of 32 players or less.
  - v) "First Off" Consolation Format
- b) Doubles are not offered at ZAT level.

## **3. How are points awarded?**

- a) Qualifying points are awarded at ZATs for players to qualify to the Championship level. See Table: "ZAT Level Point Chart" for details.
- b) Total Standings points are calculated based on the best four (4) tournaments in a rolling twelve-month period.
- c) "Other" sanctioned tournaments do not award ZAT qualifying points.
- d) Players must win an actual match against an opponent to receive any points. Byes do not qualify as wins. Defaults, retirements, walkovers and withdrawals qualify as wins for the advancing player only when an actual match was played and won.
- e) Retirements count as a win for the advancing player.
- f) Players must complete the ZAT to earn points. The Junior Tennis Council has ruled that in extreme cases, when a player is unable to finish a tournament due to injury, illness or emergency, the player may appeal to the Council with medical documentation. An appointed sub-committee will review the appeal.
- g) Defaults, withdrawals or walkovers, for whatever reason, will result in loss of any points earned in that tournament.
- h) Players will not earn points in both the Main Draw and Consolation.
- i) ZAT points carry over from one calendar year to the next as long as they remain in the window under calculation.
- j) ZAT points **do not** carry over from one age division to another and ZAT points **do not** carry over to the Championship level.

## **4. How to find my player record on the Internet?**

- b) Go to [www.texas.usta.com](http://www.texas.usta.com)
- c) Under "Juniors Tennis", scroll over "tournament/rankings" then select "Rankings"
- d) Select "Junior Divisions" under Divisions and select "Texas" under National/Section/District
- e) Under List Type, select
  - i) "Standing List"- for qualifying point total (calculated based on best four (4) tournaments in rolling 12-month period)
  - ii) "Qualifier List"- new qualifiers from each month will be listed here

## **5. How to qualify to the Championship level?**

- a) Players must accumulate a minimum of 65 ZAT qualifying points.
- b) Qualifying points are calculated based on the best four (4) tournaments in a rolling twelve-month period.
- c) When ZAT players qualify to Championship Level:
  - i) A qualifier packet and certificate from the Texas Section office will be mailed by the end of the month in which they qualify.
  - ii) The first Championship Major Zone they may enter is the one held in the month **after** qualification.
  - iii) If they wish to play "other" tournaments in the month they qualify, they may do so as long as they meet the entry deadline for the tournament. Players will be placed into the correct draw depending on their level at the time of the deadline.

ZAT (12s-18s) Level Point Chart	Player Result		Qualifying Pts
	Champion	1	65
	Finalist	2	32
	Semi-finals	3-4	16
	Quarter-finals	5-8	8
	R16	9-16	4
	Points per round earned for each consolation round won		4

## Championship Level

### 1. Who can play in the Championship level?

- Texas Section resident junior players who have qualified through the ZAT level.
- New resident players who have been approved by the Texas Section office.
- In CMZs, Championship players **MUST** compete in their current qualified age division. They may not play up in older age divisions.
- In a sanctioned "other" tournament, Championship players may compete in older age divisions in singles and/or doubles. Players may also compete in different age divisions for singles and doubles in the same tournament. Championship players **MUST** compete in the Championship or Qualified division if offered. If the Championship or Qualified level is not offered, Championship players may play in "Open" or "Regular" events. Championship players will earn ranking points if playing in their age division.
- Super Champ players who are re-qualifying. See page 5, "How to re-qualify?".
- Out-of-section players (including foreign exchange students) **CANNOT** compete in CMZs.

### 2. What events are offered at Champ Major Zones?

- Boys' and Girls 12s, 14s, 16s and 18s singles are held on Saturday and Sunday with:
  - Main draw matches: 2 out of 3 sets with a 10-point match tiebreaker in lieu of the 3<sup>rd</sup> set through the quarterfinal round. Semifinals and finals will play a full two out of three set match.
  - Consolation draw matches: 2 out of 3 sets with a 10 point tiebreaker in lieu of the 3<sup>rd</sup> set
  - With ad scoring
  - Draws of 32. Any event with more than 32 players will be split in random, into equal draws of 32 players or less.
  - "First Off" Loser Consolation.
- There will be a Spring and Fall Segment of Doubles Only CMZ.
  - Qualifying points will be given for this CMZ.

### 3. How are points awarded?

- CMZs award CMZ Qualifying points for players to qualify to the Super Championship level. See Table: "Championship Level Point Chart", column CMZs Qualifying Points.
- CMZs also award Level 1 ranking points for Aging Up. See Table: "Championship Level Point Chart", column Level 1 CMZs.
- Sanctioned "other" tournaments award Level 2 ranking points for Aging Up. See Table: "Championship Level Point Chart", column Level 2 "Other".
- Players must win an actual match against an opponent to receive any points. Byes do not qualify as wins. Defaults, retirements, walkovers and withdrawals qualify as wins for the advancing player only when an actual match was played and won.
- Players will not earn points in both the main and consolation draw.
- Points carry over from one calendar year to the next as long as they remain in the window under calculation.

- g) Points do not carry over from one age division to another and CMZ qualifying points do not carry over to any other level.
- h) Certain eligible Championship Level 2 Ranking Points may carry over to the Super Championship level.
- i) Players must complete the CMZ to earn points. The Junior Tennis Council has ruled that in extreme cases, when a player is unable to finish a tournament due to injury, illness or emergency, the player may appeal to the Council with medical documentation. An appointed sub-committee will review the appeal.
- j) The Doubles-Only CMZ will award CMZ Qualifying points for players to qualify to the Super Championship level and will award Level 1 ranking points for Aging Up.

**4. How to qualify to the Super Championship level?**

- a) Boys' and Girls' 12s - Players must accumulate a minimum of **65** CMZ qualifying points.
- b) Boys' and Girls' 12s - Qualifying points are calculated based on the best **four** (4) tournaments in a rolling twelve-month period.
- c) Boys' and Girls' 14-18s - Players must accumulate a minimum of **80** CMZ qualifying points.
- d) Boys' and Girls' 14-18s - Qualifying points are calculated based on the best **three** (3) tournaments in a rolling twelve-month period.
- e) When Championship players qualify to Super Championship Level:
  - i) The results will be published on the Qualifier List.
  - ii) A qualifier packet and certificate from the Texas Section office will be mailed by the end of the month in which they qualify.
  - iii) The first Super Championship Major Zone that they may enter is the one held in the month **after** qualification. If they wish to compete in "other" tournaments in the month they qualify, they may do so as long as they meet the entry deadline for the tournament. Players will be placed into the correct draw depending on their level at the time of the deadline.

**5. What is the Championship Masters?**

- a) A one-day tournament immediately preceding the Super Championship Grand Slam.
- b) The top 16 Championship players (according to the most current Championship Standing List) to register per age division will be accepted into the tournament. If there is a point tie, then the section office will look at the Championship Standing List and choose the player(s) with the least amount of tournaments. If there continues to be a tie, the section office will use the Championship Preliminary Ranking List.
- c) All draws are single elimination.
- d) The top 4 finishers in each draw automatically qualify for Super Championship and are eligible to play in the Super Championship Grand Slam.
- e) There will be no points given for winning any of the rounds/matches.
- f) Championship players may participate in both the Championship Masters and one Championship Major Zone within the same month.

**6. What is the Championship Standing List?**

- a) Only results from CMZs are listed.
- b) Players must complete at least one CMZ and earn one (1) point to be listed as an eligible player.
- c) Boys' and Girls' 12s - Total points are calculated based on the best **four** (4) CMZ tournaments in a rolling twelve-month period.
- d) Boys' and Girls' 14-18s - Total points are calculated based on the best **three** (3) CMZ tournaments in a rolling twelve-month period.

**7. What is the Singles Preliminary Ranking List?**

- a) It is used primarily for aging up.
- b) Players must complete at least one CMZ and earn one (1) point to be listed as an eligible player.
- c) Championship Preliminary Ranking points are determined by the best five (5) singles (in any combination of CMZs or sanctioned "other" tournaments) in a rolling twelve-month period.
- d) Qualifying tournaments (from ZAT level) do not count. National tournaments (even if held in Texas) do not count.
- e) Players must win an actual match against an opponent to receive any points. Byes do not qualify as wins. Defaults, retirements, walkovers and withdrawals qualify as wins for the advancing player only when an actual match was played and won.
- f) A player who advances because of a default that takes place before the commencement of the first point in the match, or because the opponent is disqualified, shall receive points per round for advancing.
- g) Players will not earn points in both the main and consolation draw.
- h) A player, who is defaulted from a tournament for code violations under the Point Penalty System or misconduct, forfeits any points accumulated during the tournament. Players defaulted in

singles only lose points accumulated for play in the singles main and consolation draws, and vice versa for doubles.

- i) The first Preliminary Ranking List of each month will be published after the results from the first weekend of the months' tournaments have been processed and will be updated with the addition of sanctioned tournaments.

Championship Level Point Chart BG12s	Player Result		CMZs Qualifying Points	Ranking Points	
				Level 1 CMZs	Level 2 "Other"
	Champion	1	65	65	32
	Finalist	2	32	32	24
	Semi-finals	3-4	16	16	16
	Quarter-finals	5-8	8	8	8
	R16	9-16	4	4	4
	R32	17-32	N/A	N/A	2
	Points per round earned for each consolation round won		4	4	2
Championship Level Point Chart BG14-18s	Player Result		CMZs Qualifying Points	Ranking Points	
				Level 1 CMZs	Level 2 "Other"
	Champion	1	80	80	32
	Finalist	2	32	32	24
	Semi-finals	3-4	16	16	16
	Quarter-finals	5-8	8	8	8
	R16	9-16	4	4	4
	R32	17-32	N/A	N/A	2
	Points per round earned for each consolation round won		4	4	2
	Winner of consolation		16 (total)	16	N/A

## Super Championship Level

### 1. Who can play in the Super Championship level?

- Texas Section players who have qualified through the Championship Level.
- Out-of-section players must be approved by the Texas Section office to play singles and/or doubles.
- In a sanctioned "other" tournament, Super Championship players **MUST** compete in the Super Championship division when offered. If the Super Championship or Qualified level is not offered, Super Championship players may play in "Open" or "Regular" events.
- In Super Championship doubles events, only one doubles partner needs to be of the correct qualification.
- All Super Champ players must have a copy of their birth certificate on file at the Texas Section office to participate in Super Champ Designated Tournaments. Champ players who have qualified for Supers will have



2 months to send in required documents. They may play in the Super Champ Designated Tournaments during the 2 months but will not be allowed after that time.

**2. How to register for doubles in Super Champ Designated Tournaments?**

- a) Players must sign up for doubles in the same age division as singles.
- b) While it is still strongly encouraged to register together with a specific partner, players may now register for doubles individually. Any player who registers individually will be paired with another individual entrant in descending order from the Super Champ Standings List. Players may not make changes to this pairing unless a substitution is required from an original partner's withdrawal.
- c) Doubles substitutions for withdrawals are now allowed anytime before the doubles team's first round doubles match (the substitute player must still be entered in singles in that same age division).

**3. How to apply for Out-of-Section status?**

- a) The Out-of-Section application form can be downloaded from the Internet at [www.texas.usta.com](http://www.texas.usta.com), select "juniors news", look for the "Out-of-Section Application" article on the top of the page.
- b) The completed application form must be received by the Texas Section office at least two weeks before the entry deadline of the tournament you wish to enter.

**4. What are the criteria for non-resident Juniors establishing Out-of-Section/Residency status?**

- a) Out-of-Section application
  - i) Out-of-Section players who wish to compete at the Super Championship division must meet one of the following criteria for approval:
    - (1) Must be listed on the current USTA National Standing List at 500 or higher. This number is to be determined annually by the Junior Tennis Council. The listing may be current or within the last twelve months, and may be in the current age division or the next younger age division.
    - (2) Must be listed in the ITF rankings at 500 or higher, either currently or within the last twelve months.
    - (3) Must be listed within the top 25% of the national rankings of a foreign national federation.
  - ii) Any player approved under i) will be approved for a probationary period of three months, after which his or her record will be reviewed for final approval by the Director of Competitive Tennis.
  - iii) Players unable to meet any of the criteria outlined in i) or ii) may apply to the Director of Competitive Tennis for an individual evaluation.
  - iv) When the Director of Competitive Tennis is required to evaluate players, any information available may be used, including but not limited to information from coaches, tennis professionals, and personal observation.
  - v) Once approved, Out-of-Section players are approved for as long as they remain in the age division(s) for which they are approved.
- b) Residency application
  - i) Juniors who establish permanent or fixed, as opposed to temporary but active, residency in the Texas Section, and who wish to be placed on the Super Championship Standing List, must provide documentation as follows:
    - (1) Top 25% ranking in foreign national federation, Top 500 USTA national ranking or ITF ranking in the current or next younger age division.
    - (2) If the player holds a national ranking which falls below the criteria indicated, the player may be placed on the Championship Players List. Once placed on the Championship Players List, the player may move up to the Super Championship division only through the qualification process established for Texas junior players.
    - (3) Juniors who establish residency and hold no national or sectional ranking shall qualify through the qualification process established for Texas junior players.
- c) Out-of-Section players who hold a ranking in their home section may apply to compete in the Super Champ events in "other" sanctioned tournaments.
- d) Juniors who are U.S. citizens, of U.S. parents, who attend school full-time in the Texas Section, whose parents live outside of the United States, who have no residence or domicile in any other USTA Section, may qualify through the ZAT level.
- e) Non-resident juniors who hold no national or sectional ranking may play in Open divisions, but may not play in Championship or ZAT divisions.

**5. What events are Out-of-Section players allowed to enter? Effective January 1, 2014.**

- a) Approved Out-of-Section players are eligible for all junior other tournaments.
- b) Approved Out-of-Section players may participate in the following Super Champ Designated Tournaments:
  - (1) 2014 March Super Champ Major Zone
  - (2) 2014 July Super Champ Major Zone
  - (3) 2014 August Super Champ Major Zone
  - (4) 2014 December Super Champ Major Zone

6. Please refer to the Super Champ Designated Tournament spreadsheet for complete information regarding tournament descriptions. This is located at [www.texas.usta.com](http://www.texas.usta.com); under "Junior Tennis," then click on "Tournaments / Rankings," then "Documents / FAQ."
7. **What formats are used in the Super Champ Designated Tournaments?**
  - a) Feed In Consolation through the Quarterfinal Round (L3, L4)
    - i) Singles A Draw – Main Draw plays full two-out-of-three set matches except for 12 & under divisions which will play 10 point match tiebreak in lieu of third set. Consolation Draw plays 10 point match tiebreak in lieu of the third set. Feed In Consolation through the Quarterfinal Round. Play-off for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place.
    - ii) Singles B Draw – Main and Consolation Draw plays 10 point match tiebreak in lieu of the third set. Feed In Consolation through the Quarterfinal Round. Play-off for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place.
    - iii) Doubles A and B Draw – 8 game Pro-Sets with single elimination.
  - b) Singles Excellence
    - i) A, B and C draws will be compass draws. The D draw will be a round robin or a compass draw depending on the number of players. All matches will be best of two-out-of-three sets. All draws will be adjusted up until the first match begins as long as a match needs to be created. If a match needs to be created, then adjustments will be made up until the previous Thursday at 6:00pm. No adjustments will be made after play begins.
  - c) Doubles Excellence
    - i) A and B draws will be compass draws. The C draw will be a round robin or a compass draw depending on the number of teams. All matches will play a 10 point match tiebreak in lieu of the third set. All draws will be adjusted up until the first match begins as long as a match needs to be created. If a match needs to be created, then adjustments will be made up until the previous Thursday at 6:00pm. No adjustments will be made after play begins.
  - d) First Match Loser Consolation (March & December SCMZ)
    - i) Singles A & B Draw – Main and Consolation Draw plays 10 point match tiebreak in lieu of the third set. First Match Loser Consolation. Play-off for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place.
    - ii) Doubles A and B Draw – 8 game Pro-Sets with single elimination.
  - e) Grand Slam Feed In Consolation through Quarterfinal Round
    - i) Singles Draws – Main Draw plays full two-out-of-three set matches. Consolation Draw plays 10 point match tiebreak in lieu of the third set. Feed In Consolation through the Quarterfinal Round. Play-off for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place.
    - ii) Doubles Draws – Single elimination. 8 game Pro-Sets through the Quarterfinal Round and full two-out-of-three set matches for the Semifinal and Finals.
8. **How are the events split and seeded?**
  - a) The most current Super Champ Standing List available is used for all Super Champ Designated Tournaments splitting and seeding.
  - b) Singles in all Super Champ Designated Tournaments except for Excellence and Grand Slam:
    - i) The A draw will be based upon rank. The B draws will be waved (even) draws. The B draw must have a minimum of 16 players.
  - c) Singles in Excellence:
    - i) All Super Champ players are eligible. In each age group there will be an A draw, B draw and multiple C draws as needed. There will also be a D draw. The A draw will be the top 16 players, and the B draw will be the next 16 players. The C draw will consist of all other players, equally split into draws of 16 (maximum). The D draw will consist of the overflow players from the C draws and will have a minimum of 4 players.
  - d) Doubles in all Super Champ Designated Tournaments except for Excellence and Grand Slam:
    - i) The A draw will be based upon rank. The B draws will be waved (even) draws of 16. The last draw should have a minimum of 8 teams.
    - ii) Teams will be placed in draws based on the combined Super Champ Standings of each team. For example, if a player has a Texas standing of 11 and the partner has a standing of 17, the team's combined standing is 28.
  - e) Doubles in Excellence:

- i) In each age group there will be an A draw and multiple B draws as needed. There will also be a C draw. The A draw will be the top 16 teams. The B draws will consist of all other teams, equally split into draws of 16 (maximum). The C draw will consist of the overflow teams from the B draws and will have a minimum of 4 teams.

**9. Is there any special consideration for winning B draws?**

- a) Yes, in four tournaments only - winners of the B draws will be moved to the A draw in the next immediate SCMZ they are registered for (SCMZs are only March, July, August and December).

**10. How are points awarded?**

- a) Supers Championship Standings will be calculated based on a combined singles and doubles ranking.
- b) Total points are determined by the best five singles results and best five doubles results (in any combination of SCMZs or sanctioned "other" tournaments) in a rolling twelve-month period plus applicable singles bonus points.
- c) Doubles points are awarded based on the point charts in this document.
- d) There are five tiers of tournaments. Please refer to each point chart for details.
  - i) Tier 1: Grand Slam and Doubles Excellence
  - ii) Tier 2: Singles Excellence and Level 3
  - iii) Tier 3: Level 4
  - iv) Tier 4: SCMZs
  - v) Tier 5: Other Junior Tournaments
- e) National tournaments (even if held in the USTA Texas Section) will not count.
- f) Points earned in an older age division will be included in all younger age division(s) that the player is age eligible for.
- g) Players must complete at least one SCMZ to be listed as eligible on the Super Champ Standing List.
- h) Players must win a round to receive any points. Byes do not qualify as wins. Defaults and withdrawals qualify as wins for the advancing player, but do not earn Bonus Points. Retirements and walkovers do qualify as wins for the advancing player and will earn Bonus Points.
- i) A player who is defaulted from a tournament for code violations under the Point Penalty System or misconduct forfeits any points accumulated during the tournament, including both points per round and Bonus Points. Players defaulted in singles only lose points accumulated for play in the singles draws, and vice versa for doubles.

**11. How to earn Bonus Points?**

- a) Bonus points are awarded for wins in singles events, over players who are listed on the Bonus Points List published the month **prior** to the start of the tournament.
- b) A Bonus Points List is published at the end of each month and it includes the top 75 players from the Standing List in each age division.
- c) Byes, defaults and withdrawals do not earn Bonus Points for the advancing player.
- d) Retirements and walkovers do earn Bonus Points for the advancing player.

Bonus Points Chart	Standings of Opponent	Bonus Points Earned For Significant Singles Wins
	Top 5	175
	#6 Through #10	150
	#11 Through #20	125
	#21 Through #50	100
	#51 Through #75	50

**12. How to become Endorsed?**

- a) Players must complete at least one of the 13 Super Champ Designated Tournaments in order to be endorsed.

- ### **13. How are players selected for the USTA Team Championships?**

- ## 14. Financial Assistance

- 15. Which Super Champ Designated Tournaments award National Standing Points?**

- Questions about junior regulations should be sent to:**

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