

**General & Experienced Player Guidelines  
Supplement to the NTRP Guidelines**

	7.0	6.5	6.0	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5
<b>NTRP General Characteristics</b>	<i>You are a world-class player.</i>	<i>You are currently playing USTA circuit events in hopes of a professional tennis career.</i>	<i>You have had intensive training for national tournament competition at the junior and collegiate levels and have obtained a sectional and/or national ranking.</i>	<i>You have mastered power and/or consistency as a major weapon. You can vary strategies and styles of play in a competitive situation and hit dependable shots in a stress situation.</i>	<i>You have good shot anticipation and frequently have an outstanding shot or attribute around which a game may be structured. You can regularly hit winners or force errors off of short balls and can put away volleys. You can successfully execute lobs, drop shots, half volleys, overhead smashes, and have good depth and spin on most second serves.</i>	<i>You have developed your use of power and spin and can handle pace. You have sound footwork, can control depth of shots, and attempt to vary game plan according to your opponents. You can hit first serves with power and accuracy and place the second serve. You tend to overhit on difficult shots. Aggressive net play is common in doubles.</i>	<i>You have dependable strokes, including directional control and depth on both forehand and backhand sides on moderate-paced shots. You can use lobs, overheads, approach shots and volleys with some success and occasionally force errors when serving. Rallies may be lost due to impatience. Teamwork in doubles is evident.</i>	<i>This player has achieved improved stroke dependability with directional control on moderate shots, but still lacks depth and variety. This player exhibits more aggressive net play, has improved court coverage, and is developing teamwork in doubles.</i>	<i>This player is fairly consistent when hitting medium paced shots, but is not comfortable with all strokes and lacks execution when trying for directional control, depth, or power. Most common doubles formation is one-up, one-back.</i>	<i>This player is learning to judge where the ball is going although court coverage is weak. Can sustain a short rally of slow pace with other players of the same ability.</i>
World Class Players (top 400 in world)	Current	Age 35 and under	Age 40 and under	Age 41 to 50	Age 51 to 60	Age 61 and over		<b>Players in wheelchairs</b> should use these same General Characteristics to determine their NTRP skill level. The only difference observed is mobility and power on the serve based on the severity of the injury. The very best World Class players in wheelchairs have an NTRP rating in the low 4.5 range.  For more details concerning specific playing characteristics, see NTRP Specific Characteristics on <a href="http://www.usta.com/leagues">www.usta.com/leagues</a>		
Satellite, Futures, Circuit Players (over # 400 in world)	Current	Age 35 and under	Age 36 - 45	Age 46 to 55	Age 56 and over					
Div. 1 Top 75 ranked college team or player		Age 30 and under	Age 31 to 40	Age 41 to 50	Age 51 to 60	Age 61 and over				
Div. 1 unranked college team or player; NAIA, Div. 2 & 3 top ranked college team or player		Age 30 and under	Age 31 to 45	Age 46 - 55	Age 56 and over					
Domestic or foreign Junior 18's ranked in top 150 nationally or in a section in the top 20		Age 30 and under	Age 31 to 45	Age 46 - 55	Age 56 and over					
Domestic or foreign Adults ranked in the top 20 nationally or in a section in the top 10		Age 30 and under	Age 31 to 45	Age 46 - 55	Age 56 and over					
NAIA, Div. 2 & 3 unranked college team player -program with no scholarships (not much stronger than High School tennis); Junior College player; Former Juniors who had national (foreign or domestic) rankings but did not tour or play in college		Age 35 and under	Age 36 and over							
Tennis Professionals							<b>Minimum level</b>			
High school tennis athlete may not self-rate below 3.0 and should consider their high school experience when self-rating								Successful High School Experience	High School Experience	
Players new to tennis who have had competitive experience in other sports should consider the rapid improvement anticipated and not rate below 3.0									Athletic ability	

The USA League Tennis Committee has approved these guidelines as a tool for accurate self-rating and NTRP Self-rate Grievance decisions. These guidelines will be advertised to players and captains and will be considered fair warning to players and captains who commit or condone future self rating abuses. USA League Tennis Grievance Committees may suspend captains for condoning self rating abuses. Grievance committees have the authority to dismiss complaints or alter the application of these guidelines when they deem appropriate. The USA League Tennis Committee asks all players, captains, coordinators, tennis professionals and volunteers to join the campaign to maintain the integrity of the NTRP Rating System! 2003, 2004 and Current college team rankings for Div 1, Div 2, Div 3, NAIA and Junior colleges may be found at [www.itatennis.com](http://www.itatennis.com). Click on tab at top of website titled "College Tennis Online" for individual player searches. updated November 2005